



## **Kennebec Valley Community College Psi Beta Chapter Bylaws**

### **Article I. Name**

The official name of this honor society in psychology, recognized by the Student Government Association, is the Kennebec Valley Community College (KVCC) Psi Beta Chapter.

### **Article II. Purpose**

The purposes of this organization are:

- To serve as a means of national recognition of the student's early interest in and dedication to the field of psychology and to scholastic achievement.
- To provide opportunities to become acquainted with and involved with the larger field of psychology.
- To provide a forum for developing one's perspective about psychology and for building a sense of community and identity with others in the field.
- To enhance leadership skills and encourage research.
- To provide greater opportunity for student/faculty interaction outside the classroom.
- To benefit the campus and community through programs and services.

### **Article III. Members**

Section 1. All full-time and part-time students enrolled at Kennebec Valley Community College are eligible for membership in the KVCC Psi Beta Chapter provided that they meet the following requirements:

- Have earned the cumulative grade point average standard for the college. The standard is based upon the cumulative average of 12 or more-degree applicable units that fall within the top 35% of the college's current full-time student enrollment, or a GPA of 3.25 – whichever is higher.
- Have earned a "B" or higher in a college psychology course.

- Have completed at least one introductory psychology course and 12 semester hours total of college credit.
- High standards of personal behavior and integrity.
- Have a 3/4 affirmative vote of the membership attending a regular chapter meeting.
- Have received a written invitation to membership from the official chapter.

Section 2. New members shall be registered at the national office annually and inducted in the fall and spring. The chapter may consist of up to five classes of members: active, inactive, faculty, honorary, and alumni members.

- Active members are students who have been registered and inducted into membership, have maintained eligibility requirements, have attended at least one Psi Beta meeting per semester, and are still enrolled at the college. Only active members may vote, hold office, and participate in Psi Beta's national competitions.
- Inactive members are students registered and inducted into membership, who have not maintained their GPA eligibility for Psi Beta. Inactive members cannot hold office or vote until they are in compliance with Psi Beta membership and chapter requirements.
- Alumni members are invited to all regular chapter meetings, programs and activities. They may not vote unless enrolled at the college and reactivated as a chapter member.
- Faculty members may register and be inducted the same as student members, but faculty members may not vote or hold office.
- Honorary members are nominated by the chapter and approved by the Psi Beta National Council. Honorary members are individuals who make unusually notable contributions to the chapter. They can be recognized during a special part of a chapter induction ceremony. There is no induction fee for honorary members and they do not become official members of Psi Beta.

#### **Article IV. Officers**

Officers shall be elected by a majority vote of the membership present at the first chapter business meeting in May and installed in the spring induction ceremony. Only active members are eligible to serve. The term of office shall be three successive semesters.

Incoming officers will be elected prior to the third semester with a 1-semester overlap of officers during the third semester in office. During this time, each outgoing officer shall mentor the incoming officer. If an officer cannot fulfill the duties of office, the officer must resign. The

chapter will elect a new officer, except in the case of the president who will be replaced by the vice-president.

All officers shall perform duties common to the role of the office.

- President shall plan agendas, preside at all meetings, appoint committees, communicate regularly with the faculty advisor and other officers, and vote in a tie.
- Vice-President shall take over all duties of the president during the president's absence and serve as Program Chair for the chapter.
- Secretary shall keep minutes and agendas of all business meetings in a notebook, handle all correspondence approved by the faculty advisor relating to the chapter, and maintain a list of all active members and committees in the notebook.
- The Treasurer shall collect all membership fees and dues, deposit the funds in the chapter (or school) account, keep financial records, disperse funds as directed by the faculty advisor, and submit monthly and annual reports to the chapter.

#### **Article V. Meetings and Activities**

##### Meetings

The chapter shall hold a regular meeting at least **once per month** during the regular semester schedule.

- Only active members can vote.
- The majority vote of active members attending a meeting shall determine the chapter vote for national elections/ballots.

##### Activities

- The chapter shall sponsor at least one campus-wide program per semester.
- The chapter shall sponsor at least one field trip (or virtual event) for chapter (and psychology club) members per semester.
- The officers shall participate in at least one leadership training workshop following their installation and preceding the first chapter meeting of the school year.

#### **Article VI. Executive Board**

The Executive Board shall consist of the elected officers and faculty advisor(s).

### **Article VII. Finances**

- New members must pay a once-in-a-lifetime, tax-deductible, current national membership fee to Psi Beta by the deadline, preceding the induction ceremony. The date of each induction is determined by the chapter.
- Inductees shall receive a membership certificate and a Psi Beta pin. The Psi Beta National Office will send these items directly and only to the chapter's primary advisor. At an induction ceremony, the primary advisor has the responsibility to distribute the certificates and membership pins to the student members, including students who are unable to attend the induction ceremony.
- The chapter will work cooperatively with Student Affairs to secure annual funding.

### **Article VIII. Parliamentary Authority**

All rules and regulations established by the national Psi Beta Charter, Bylaws and policies, the Student Government Bylaws, and KVCC's policies and procedures must be adhered to over and above the local chapter Bylaws.

### **Article IX. Amendments**

These Bylaws may be altered, amended, or repealed by a majority of the active members, following a second reading, so long as the changes are in compliance with the national Psi Beta Charter, Bylaws and policies and the institution's policies and procedures.