Membership Information

Welcome to Rho Alpha Mu, Gavilan College's chapter of Alpha Gamma Sigma. Alpha Gamma Sigma, or AGS, is the California Community College Scholastic Honor Society. The purpose of AGS is to foster, promote, maintain and recognize academic excellence through scholarships among its members and to provide opportunities for participation in community service activities.

Rho Alpha Mu Active Membership Requirements:

1. Qualify for Initial, Temporary or Continuing Membership
   - Initial membership: Requires a student to earn 12 semester units of credit in no more than three semesters in any recognized institution of higher education, with a grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.00.
   - Temporary Membership: All life members of the California Scholarship Federation and those who graduated with a minimum GPA of 3.50 at the high school level may be invited to become temporary members during their first semester in the community college. They shall, upon payment of dues, have all privileges of membership except that of holding state elective office.
   - Continuing Membership: After the initial membership semester, the initial member may achieve continuing membership by (1) achieving not less than a 3.00 GPA in courses of recognized college standing in the previous term and (2) maintaining a cumulative GPA of 3.00 or better in courses of recognized college standing. Continuing members will receive one semester grace period to recuperate a drop below 3.00 of GPA. There shall be no two consecutive grace periods.
2. Pay membership dues of $15.00 per semester
3. 10 hours of community service per semester*
4. 8 hours of club participation*
5. 2 hours of fundraising per semester*

*Email your hours at the end of each month to the vice president using the RAM hour log.

Permanent Membership: Members may apply for permanent membership during the semester in which they complete a minimum of 60 transferable units, with a minimum of 30 units completed at a community college (including Gavilan College). To be eligible for permanent membership, applicants who have been active members of AGS for at least one semester must have earned a cumulative GPA of 3.50 or better in all recognized college work; applicants who have been active members of AGS for two or more semesters must have earned at least a 3.25 GPA. If you qualify, please see the AGS advisor for additional information and a copy of the permanent membership application.
Member Benefits

Campus:

- Permanent members graduate with honors (gold cords or sashes) and receive special recognition during graduation ceremonies.
- Graduating diplomas of permanent members are embossed with official AGS gold seals.
- Membership is recorded on college transcripts for all members in good standing.
- All Permanent Members are enrolled as Lifetime Members of AGS.
- Official AGS pins, shirts and other logo merchandise are available only to members.

Scholarships:

- Rho Alpha Mu awards scholarships to select members every spring.
- The statewide AGS organization also offers scholarships for its members every spring.
- Some universities hold scholarships in reserve exclusively for AGS members.

Opportunities:

- Have a unique chance to meet other students, participate in AGS service projects, and attend statewide conferences.
- Have the opportunity to develop a community service record that will pay future benefits.
- Develop leadership skills as an officer or a committee member during AGS sponsored events.

Club Activities:

- Taste of Morgan Hill (September)
- Volunteer activities with Science Alliance
- Thanksgiving Turkey Drive
- Beach clean-ups
- Staff Recognition dinner (May)
- Fundraising (candy sales, flower sales, etc.)
- State and regional AGS conferences
- Club Meetings

Websites:

- Rho Alpha Mu website – www.gavilan.edu/ram
- AGS website – www.ags-honor.org