**Purpose**

The purpose of the Section 4 Awards is to recognize and honor Alumni, Actives, and Chapters for being exemplary examples of Leadership, Friendship, and/or Service.

**Requirements**

In general, individuals or chapters are eligible for any applicable award specified in the section description as long as an application nominating him/her/it is done by the application deadline. Below, the classifications will be explained including the awards they are currently applicable for.

***Chapters:***

All chapters in Section 4 in good standing that submit an application on the deadline or on that chapter’s behalf are eligible to earn:

* Leadership/Fellowship/Service/Overall Gold Pans
  + Only (1) of each award given per Spring Conference
  + A single chapter can receive (1) award per Spring Conference
* Most-Improved Chapter Award
  + Only (1) award given per Spring Conference
* Inter-chapter Award
  + Only (1) award given per Spring Conference
* Section 4 Man-Mile Award

***Actives:***

For the purposes of these awards, an Active member is a member whose status is listed as Active nationally during the period between sectional conferences. Active members are eligible for the following awards as long as an application is submitted nominating the Active by the application deadline:

* Bright Spot Award
* Ocho Award
* Joel Holmes and Daniel Updegraff Distinguished Service Award
* Chuck Cruz Distinguished Fellowship Award
* Blake R. Boer Distinguished Leadership Award

***Advisors:***

Advisors are considered as a superset of Alumni and are eligible for the following awards on top of those eligible by Alumni or other individuals.

* John W. Jones Excellence in Advising Award

***Alumni:***

Alumni are previous actives that are done with school. They are eligible for the following awards including those that can be awarded to other individuals:

* David A. Emery Distinguished Alumni Award

***Other Individuals:***

Any individual (such as petitioning groups and honorary members) is eligible for the following awards, regardless if they meet any of the individual categories listed above:

* Bright Spot Award
* Section Distinguished Service Key

**Procedure**

All applications for qualified candidates will be accepted from the time period and method announced by the Section 4 Chair and/or appointed Awards Chair ahead of each Section IV Conference or Section IV special meeting in absence of a Section IV Conference. Applications outside of this period and/or submitted the wrong way will not be accepted.

The criteria for each award is listed under each application. In addition to the specified criteria, additional relevant information will be considered for the qualification of candidate(s) for the award. In the event there are no Sectional Representatives for each chapter in the section, recipients will be determined solely by the provided application.

**Award Descriptions**

The following includes the descriptions of the various chapter and individual awards. The suggested criteria for these awards are listed within the awards application.

**Chapter Awards**

***Gold Pans***

The Gold Pans are presented to recognize chapters within [Section 4](http://www.apor10.org/wiki/index.php?title=Section_4) for exceptional efforts and/or achievements in the areas of Leadership, Fellowship, Service, and Overall Program. The Gold Pans intend to applaud a chapter's successful efforts to live the ideals of [Alpha Phi Omega](http://www.apor10.org/wiki/index.php?title=Alpha_Phi_Omega). Being four aspects that the Gold Pan Awards celebrate, there are four that are presented at every conference:

**Leadership Gold Pan Award**

**Fellowship Gold Pan Award**

**Service Gold Pan Award**

**Overall Gold Pan Award**

The first overall gold pan recipient was in 1965. The first recipients of the Leadership, Fellowship, and Service Pans were awarded in 1990.

***Most Improved Chapter Award***

This Most Improved Chapter Award is presented to an active chapter that has shown the greatest improvement in the last year. Any active chapter may be nominated for this award. Criteria for this award includes:

1. A significant increase in the number of leadership, service, and/or fellowship activities, and different types of innovative programs.
2. Improvement in the strength of the three Cardinal Principles within the chapter.
3. Increased participation in Section 4 and inter-chapter events.
4. Increase in recruitment/retention which results in a larger/stronger membership.

***Ernie Manfredini Chapter Resilience Award***

Ernie Manfredini is a [Gamma Beta](http://www.apor10.org/wiki/index.php?title=Gamma_Beta) alumnus who persevered to revive a nearly-inactive Gamma Beta in the late 1990s. Beginning in 1997, the chapter's membership had dwindled due to its members graduating and no new members joining to replace them. Only Dwayne Hearn and Ernie Manfredini remained, but they kept the chapter active and recruited six members in Fall 2000, marking a revival of Gamma Beta's membership.

This award is given to a chapter in [Section 4](http://www.apor10.org/wiki/index.php?title=Section_4) that has exhibited a particular resilience and strength in the face of substantial hardship. Historically, this is the only chapter award that isn’t given out annually.

***Inter-chapter Award***

The Inter-chapter (IC) Award is presented to the chapter of Section 4 that interacts the most with other chapters in Section 4. This award will be given to the chapter with the highest percentage of the active body to receive an Ocho Award. In the event of a tie, multiple awards can be given.

***Man-Mile Award***

The Man-Mile Award is given to the chapter that has traveled the greatest total distance to attend the sectional conference. The number of members attending the conference is multiplied with the number of miles traveled to attend the conference. The mileage used for the calculations will be from each participating chapter’s campus to the campus of the chapter hosting the current sectional conference.

**Individual Awards**

***Section Distinguished Service Key (DSK)***

The Section DSK is the highest award presented *(the highest honor is membership itself)* to an individual by the Section. It recognizes people who have contributed significantly to Section 4 in the areas of leadership, fellowship, and service. The award is rarely presented, and thus, the criteria are demanding.

The Sectional Distinguished Service Key is awarded to individuals who have demonstrated exceptional commitment to Section 4 through:

1. Long and distinguished service
2. Continuous service
3. Service to the section

***Blake R. Boer Distinguished Leadership Award***

The Blake R. Boer Distinguished Leadership Award is presented to an active individual who has provided an outstanding contribution to Section 4 in the area of Leadership. The criteria for this award are a demonstrated exceptional dedication and contribution to the Leadership programs in Section 4. Dedication and contribution to the programs of Section 4 can be demonstrated through work with and for the chapters of the section. Section 4 Staff presents this award, although anybody can present a nomination.

***Chuck Cruz Distinguished Fellowship Award***

The Chuck Cruz Distinguished Fellowship Award is presented to an active individual who has provided an outstanding contribution to Section 4 in the area of Fellowship. The criteria for this award are a demonstrated exceptional dedication and contribution to the Fellowship programs in Section 4. Dedication and contribution to the programs of Section 4 can be demonstrated through work with and for the chapters of the section. Section 4 Staff presents this award, although anybody can present a nomination.

***Joel Holmes and Daniel Updegraff Distinguished Service Award***

The Joel Holmes and Daniel Updegraff Distinguished Service Award is presented to an active individual who has provided an outstanding contribution to Section 4 in the area of Service. The criteria for this award are a demonstrated exceptional dedication and contribution to the Service programs in Section 4. Section 4 Staff presents this award, although anybody can present a nomination.

***David A. Emery Distinguished Alumni Award***

David A. Emery pledged in Fall 1978 at the Iota Phi chapter. He has served the fraternity on a Chapter, Sectional, Regional, National, and International level since he pledged. He has served on staff and as chair for Section 1 and Section 4. In the early 80s he helped found an Alumni Association for Section 4. He received the Sectional Distinguished Service Key in 1990.

The David A. Emery Distinguished Alumni Award is presented to an alumnus or alumna who has provided outstanding service to Alpha Phi Omega at the Sectional level. The criteria for this award are a demonstrated exceptional dedication and contribution to the Leadership, Fellowship, or Service programs in Section 4. Dedication and contribution to the programs of Section 4 can be demonstrated through work with and for the chapters of the section. Section 4 Staff presents this award, although anybody can present a nomination.

***John W. Jones Excellence in Advising Award***

The John W. Jones Excellence in Advising Award is presented to an advisor of a Section 4 Chapter who has provided outstanding contribution to Alpha Phi Omega and/or the community. The criteria for this award include a demonstrated exceptional dedication as an advisor to one or more chapters within Section 4.

***The Bright Spot Award***

The Bright Spot Award is presented to individuals who have done something special on a sectional level. This award allows for the section to recognize members who contribute their time to the section in their own way. These members are in a sense “Bright Spots” in our section because they show such great enthusiasm. Each chapter is asked to nominate members who are deserving of the award.

***The Ocho Award***

The Ocho Award is presented to active individuals who have visited 8 or different chapters in Section 4 within one year, measured from one Spring Sectional Conference to the next. Recipients of this award have proven that they have met the requirements.

***Other Awards***

Any other awards not listed here that are given out at any Sectional Conference, Event, or Meeting may be done by Section Staff or other organizers for the Sectional Conference, Event, or Meeting. These awards have not been approved by the chapters of Section 4. The purpose, criteria, and recipient for these awards are subject to the parties previously listed. Funds from the Section 4 cannot be used for these awards.