



# NATIONAL CHAPTER AWARD PROGRAM

## 2026 HANDBOOK UPDATES

*Revised: January 23, 2026*

Please find details of the handbook updates made to the National Chapter Award Program for the 2026 award cycle. We will continue to evaluate recent delivery methods and adjust the programming as needed. We will announce the delivery methods and/or changes in a timely manner.

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### Handbook Updates

- Removed the “requirement” of being “rated gold at the state level can compete for national awards” and changed the National Chapter Award Handbook to say, “States may send three applications or the equivalent of 10 percent of the total number of chapters in the state. For example, a state with 150 chapters can submit 15 applications.” Removing the word “gold.” This change aligns with current practice.
- Added “National Finalist Scoring” Section

### Application Updates

No Changes