National Beta’s only official criteria, per our constitution states that all students must be performing at or above grade level in order to be eligible for membership and they must display: (a) worthy, moral and ethical character; (b) exemplary achievement, and commendable attitude. Specific academic requirements for membership are not established at the national level, as local systems of grading and merit determination vary. Each local school and club may establish such academic requirements for membership that will ensure the selection of students of exemplary qualifications.

Following a survey of almost 1,000 Beta Club sponsors, we compiled information relating to different areas of Beta membership. Below you’ll find the data and examples we received.

**ACADEMIC CRITERIA**

- Of those clubs that use GPA as their main academic standard
  - 48% use 3.0 or higher
  - 48% use 3.5 or higher
  - 3% use 4.0 or higher
  - 1% use 2.5 or higher
- Of those clubs that use grades as their main academic standard
  - 61% use A/B Honor Roll
  - 23% use straight A’s
  - 16% allow B average
- Of those clubs that use a cumulative class average as their main academic standard
  - 67% require 90 or higher
  - 29% require between 80-89 or higher
  - 4% require 95 or higher
- <1% require a score of 3 or above/mastery on state end-of-year tests

**SERVICE**

Service is encouraged to demonstrate our motto: Let Us Lead by Serving Others.

- 68% of sponsors surveyed require service hours as part of their membership requirements
  - 41% require 10-19 hours
  - 24% require 1-9 hours
  - 24% require 20-29 hours
  - 8% require 30-39 hours
  - 3% require 40+ hours
Sponsors required hours to be completed in the following timeframes:
  - 62% per year
  - 29% per semester
  - 6% per month
  - 3% per grading period
  - <1% per week

Additional service options from fellow sponsors:
  - Require students to participate in a certain percentage or number of all service projects offered
  - Implement a service credit/point system where each service hour is worth a certain number of points along with other ways to earn points, such as fundraisers or meeting attendance
  - Consider dividing community service requirements into in-school “club based” hours and hours obtained outside of school
  - Consider requiring a certain number of service hours in order to attend a Beta event such as convention (if offered in your state)
  - Consider having students document an independent service project that documents a minimum number of service hours.
  - Consider requiring a different service hour requirement depending on grade level. i.e. if your club encompasses 4-8th grade members, you could require that 4-5th graders earn 5 hours per year and 6-8th graders earn 10 per year.
  - Consider setting an individual service goal or club goal. Students may not be penalized if the goal is not reached but are rewarded if the goal is reached at the end of the year.
  - Consider having elected officers to complete an additional number of service hours.

BEHAVIORAL REQUIREMENTS/PROBATIONARY MEASURES
Some clubs factor in behavioral requirements for students to maintain their membership. These include but are not limited to:
  - No disciplinary write-ups or office/bus referrals
  - No In-School or Out-of-School Suspensions
  - Teacher references/recommendations required
  - Regular school attendance

Some clubs choose to place students that fall below the required academic or behavioral standard on probation for a period instead of removing them automatically from the roster. Of these clubs, some choose to require additional service hours to those students on probation as opposed to putting them on full probation with no access to club activities. In addition, 11% of sponsors allow students with minor infractions to continue participating without placing them on probation. These infractions include but are not limited to:
  - No more than one offense within an academic year
  - Cell phone confiscation
  - Tardiness
  - School dress code

METHOD OF SELECTION
Some clubs choose to add additional requirements for membership selection. 12% of sponsors require some form of teacher and or administrative evaluation, recommendation, or approval of a student prior to accepting invitation to their club. This can include but is not limited to:
  - Requiring a minimum of teacher endorsements via signatures
  - Principal or other administrative personnel to review perspective students for behavior approval
  - Teacher recommendation forms
MEMBERSHIP FEES
While the national membership fee is not annual but a one-time collection of $15 per division (4-5th grade, 6-8th grade, 9-12th grade), clubs are at liberty to collect local dues if those dues do not prevent an eligible student from becoming a member. 78% of those clubs that charge either a returning member due, annual local fee or local dues above the National division due of $15.

- 25% charge $6-10
- 23% charge $1-5
- 17% charge $11-15
- 13% charge $16-20
- 10% charge $21-25
- 5% charge $26-30
- 5% charge $40+
- 2% charge $31-35

TIPS FROM THE NATIONAL OFFICE AND FELLOW SPONSORS
- Criteria/Club Management
  - Outline your bylaws and constitution and review annually. At the beginning of each year, have all members (returning and new) and their parent/guardian review and sign. This helps set a standard early. See the National Beta Membership Agreement to help you get started.
  - Be consistent with your procedures so that the invitation process is fair to all students.
- Consider meeting during students’ lunch time.
- Officer Responsibilities
  - Meet with your incoming officers either at the end of the school year prior to their term or prior to school starting to plan the year.
  - Have your officers meet separately a week or more before each club meeting to create an agenda.
- Looking to get members more involved? Create additional committees and committee chairs. Possible committees include: induction, service, promotion
- If possible, have several co-sponsors assist with your club. Even better, find a co-sponsor for each grade level.
- Club Communication/Promotion
  - Use the Remind App for ease of communication with your members (and their parents!)
  - Use Sign Up Genius or Google Forms to help coordinate service project duties
  - Have students manage social media and club news.
  - See if your school will allow a Beta Club area of the website so that all meeting agendas/notes and service project plans and sign ups can be posted in one location.
- Induction Ceremonies
  - Submit new member or re-print certificates at least 4 weeks prior to induction ceremony in order to have time to review certificates and make any changes, if necessary, before the induction ceremony date.
  - Hold a practice induction ceremony prior to the event to help students feel prepared.
  - Have the pledge and motto printed on slips of paper so that students can easily recite it during the ceremony.
  - Ask a photographer or individual with a good camera to take pictures for families. Upload the pictures in Google and provide a link to families free of charge. Be sure to have parents sign a photo permission form first.
  - Keep all induction materials in one storage area so they are easily accessible each year.
  - Virtual schools may consider holding a Skype or GoToMeeting induction.

SAMPLE CRITERIA - INDUCTION TOOLKIT
• For smaller clubs
  o If many schools in your district or feeder school also has a Beta club, consider holding inductions together to reduce the number of events that must be planned for or attended. This can also help reduce the total cost of holding a ceremony.
• For larger clubs
  o Instead of having members pinned onstage during their induction ceremony, simply hand the pin to them so that students can be recognized more quickly.
  o During an induction ceremony, have current members sit in one section. Have them stand as new members are called to receive their induction items.
• Service Projects
  o Break projects into smaller tasks so that more members can participate
  o Conduct a project with just one grade level of members
• Allow your students to have as much participation in your induction ceremony and club management as possible. It will teach your students how to prepare for activities and to deal with unforeseen circumstances.
• Have students recite the pledge at all meetings to remind them of the true purpose of their membership.