



Establishment of a New Society

2016

When a group of alumni within a particular area is interested in being formally recognized as a West Point Society (WPS) they are encouraged to apply for formal status with WPAOG as long as it supports the ideals of WPAOG and USMA and does not compete with any other group already established.

WPSs are represented on the Advisory Council by the 18 regional advisors elected for 3-year terms.

WPSs are supported by the Society Support Department with some services being provided by the Alumni Events team if required (online registration and online membership).

Application process for WPSs:

- Confirm there is not competing group currently recognized.
- Group must provide 4-6 letters from graduates interested in starting the group and being part of the leadership. If they are unable to get 4-6 individuals interested in being leaders 8-10 letters from interested parties can be submitted instead.
- Group submits bylaws, a list of officers, and a strategic plan. Templates provided by WPAOG for convenience.
- Individuals interested in starting the group must acknowledge the policies, procedures, and expectations associated with formal recognition as a WPS in writing.
- The packet is submitted to the Society Subcommittee for approval.
- The Subcommittee votes on whether there is significant interest to start a group and whether the group is in line with the ideals and principles of WPAOG and USMA.
- Voting on new WPSs takes place once a quarter and is done via email or during the Advisory Council Meetings in the spring and fall.

WPSs are expected to:

- Maintain an annual program of activities.
- Maintain communication with USMA, WPAOG, the regional advisors, and their constituents.
- Maintain an organizational document or bylaws and strategic plan. A copy of the latest plan should be sent to WPAOG for recording for future leaders at least once a year.
- Allow your leadership's names and contact information to be published on the website under the Society Presidents and on the Society's mini-website.
- Identify your officers to WPAOG and keep us informed of updates to your members' contact information.
- Register on WestPointAOG.org and become familiar with the Society Leader Toolkit and Society Administration features.
- Maintain your mini-website on WestPointAOG.org.
- Remain financially self-sustaining. All activities, programs, and events should be supported by your treasury.
- Use West Point approved marks and images in your organization's correspondence and at events.
- Cooperate in informing your membership about WPAOG services and activities.



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WPSs are encouraged to:

- Get involved in West Point's Admissions Field Force.
- Support West Point through annual gifts.
- Compete for the annual Distinguished Society Award.
- Strive to engage all graduates in your area of interests through a variety of events and media.

WPSs will be provided by WPAOG:

- Approval to use certain trademarks as approved by the Licensing Director at USMA
- An email distribution service
- A mini-website on the WPAOG official page
- Lists of alumni in the Society's zip code radius
- Attendance at the Annual Alumni Leaders Conference
- Guidance in structuring bylaws, strategic plans, leadership, application for tax-exempt status, compliance with WPAOG's policies and procedures, event planning, and templates via the Society Leaders Tool Kit
- WPSs can compete for the annual Distinguished Society Award