

ESO (Epsilon Sigma Omicron) is an Honorary Reading Society

To become a member, you simply read! For each membership level you read books from the ESO reading list and write brief reports. Certificates are awarded at Convention to members that complete each level.



About our Symbol, the Crest



According to the GFWC ESO Handbook, the ESO crest was designed by Indiana artist Bertha J. Lacey in the form of a shield, an ancient symbol of protection.

Each section of the shield represents a different ideal: the American home and achievement, enlightenment, victory through effort, dedication to study, fine arts, the rewards of hard work, and knowledge represented by an open book.

Below the crest is the torsade bearing the name Epsilon Sigma Omicron, symbolizing a quest for learning. The dove of peace crowning the crest represents aspiration.



ESO Pin

The ESO pin was also designed by Bertha J. Lacey. The pin is shaped like a gold kite, symbolizing the desire to increase cultural knowledge. On a blue field, denoting truth, is a half-risen sun bearing the Greek letters ESO—Epsilon Sigma Omicron. The ESO pin may be worn by any member who has met the membership qualifications.

Join ESO Today!

To become a member, submit a completed Pledge Application.

After submitting your application, begin reading books from the ESO Reading List and writing brief book reports of at least 50 words each. As you continue reading and submitting reports, you will advance through various ESO membership levels.

ESO certificates are awarded annually at the May Convention in the following categories:

ESO Reading Levels

Pledge

Member has applied for membership and begun fulfilling the reading requirements.

Member

Awarded after reading and reporting on 20 books. Members select five categories from the reading list and read four books from each category by different authors.

After completing this level, members may purchase and wear the ESO pin available through GFWC.

Star Level

Awarded after reading and reporting on an additional 25 books, for a total of 45 books. Twenty books must come from the reading list, while five may be Free Choice selections.

Torch Level

Awarded after reading and reporting on an additional 30 books, for a total of 75 books. Twenty books must come from the reading list, and 10 may be Free Choice selections.

Century Award

Awarded after reading and reporting on 100 books total. Of the additional 25 books, 15 must come from the reading list and 10 may be Free Choice selections.

Diamond Award

Awarded after reading and reporting on 1,000 books. Additional recognition is given for each multiple of 100 books completed. Selections may come from either the reading list or Free Choice.

Report submission deadline: March 1

For additional information, forms, and reading materials, visit njsfwc.org and select the MATERIALS page under EDUCATION & LIBRARIES.