National Broadcasting Society
FAQs

1. What is the organization NBS all about?

The National Broadcasting Society is an organization created for students and professionals pursuing a career within the electronic media field or related area.

2. What is the purpose of NBS and AERho?

The purpose of the National Broadcasting Society is to help electronic media students make the transition to the professional world. NBS and AERho enhance the development of students by:

- Promoting excellence.
- Providing opportunities for ethical and responsible leadership.
- Providing exposure to the "electronic media" industries.
- Assisting in career preparation.
- Providing opportunities for and encouraging the development of members through advanced media education programs.
- Providing opportunities for and encouraging the participation of members in community service projects and activities.

3. What is the difference between NBS and AERho?

Alpha Epsilon Rho is the national honor society of electronic media students. All members of Alpha Epsilon Rho are members of NBS. However, you must meet national honor standards in order enter AERho. About 20% of NBS members enter AERho. In addition to NBS dues, there is a one-time $10 fee to join AERho.

4. What are some activities that my chapter can participate in on the local level?

Chapters can participate in as many activities as they choose. These media-related activities may involve the following:

- tours to broadcast stations and production companies
- host electronic professionals to speak on your campus
- sponsor electronic media events on your campus
- raise money for your chapter

Fundraising events are a large part of your chapter's events because this is how your chapter can defer the cost of attending regional and national events.
5. What are some activities that my chapter can participate in on the regional level?

The large event held every year is the Regional Convention in which a chapter holds a weekend convention involving seminars, speakers, and other activities. These are often held at Kutztown University in Kutztown, Pennsylvania with costs at around $60.00. Registration fee includes Friday night mixer, Saturday lunch, and Saturday night awards banquet. Typically SU and Dr. Newton will arrange transportation for members that wish to attend.

Chapters can also meet with other chapters in the region in order to share ideas and resources.

6. What are some activities that my chapter can participate in on the national level?

The national event is the National Convention held every spring. This convention involves speakers, tours, and seminars totally focused for college electronic media students and early electronic media professionals.

7. What competitions are available for students?

Electronic Media competitions are held on the Regional level in several of our regions. The National Electronic Media Competition offers opportunities to enter your work in more than 40 categories for production, scriptwriting, and website development. Forms for the National Competitions are available at the NBS national website. Competition is open to all college electronic media students but entry fees are deeply discounted for NBS members.

8. What forms must be turned into the National Office?

- A one-page monthly report should be sent by the 10th of every month (this is a summary of your chapter's activity for the month)
- The chapter's local constitution should be updated and sent by November 1
- A five-page annual report should be submitted by February 14
- A Community Service summary should be sent by February 14
- A Model Chapter report should be sent by February 14

Forms and more information for this correspondence can be found on the NBS website at [http://www.nbs-aerho.org/](http://www.nbs-aerho.org/)

9. How can my chapter compete for awards like Chapter of the Year?

The description of Society Awards and the nomination process can be found on the website. The key to being a national award winner, whether it's for Chapter of the Year, Member of the Year, or one of the other categories, is COMMUNICATION. Stay in regular contact with your District Director, Regional Director and the National Officers and let them know what your chapter is doing. In order for your chapter to be a national award winner in any category, your chapter needs to do more than hold regular meetings and have a few guest speakers. The Model Chapter form is an excellent guide for determining how well your chapter is doing. The Model Chapter form can be found on the website. The form will give you many ideas as to what a chapter should be doing.
The criteria on the Model Chapter form do not necessarily make your chapter a national award winner, but it's a very good place to start. Then, be sure that your District Director, Regional Director, or your chapter advisor nominates your chapter (or chapter member) for the awards. Submit a nominating form for the members or chapters that you think deserve an award. The Awards Committee (the national officers) needs to see specific documentation why someone should win an award. While a nomination form is important, the committee members will place more weight toward those they have heard from throughout the year. Again, the key is COMMUNICATION.

10. Who can I ask if I have any questions?

Your chapter advisor Dr. Newton at dmnewton@salisbury.edu would be the first person to ask if you have any questions. If the advisor is unable to answer, check with your chapter president. Our Regional Director and national officers are also available to help in any way possible. All of their e-mail addresses will be available online at the NBS website.

11. When do we pay membership dues?

Students who join in the fall have a November 1 dues deadline. Students who join in the spring should pay dues by February 14. Students who join in the summer have a July 1 deadline. Professionals need to renew their memberships by December 31 for the following year.

12. Can I use my credit card for membership dues and convention registration?

Yes, but please see your chapter president or secretary treasurer for more information. Checks are also welcome.

13. What can the NBS Convention do for me?

The NBS National Convention can offer you networking opportunities not available to you on your campus. You can interact with other members from across the country, talk to them about fundraising ideas, ways to attract new members (and keep old ones), and how to get area electronic media professionals more interested (and even involved) in your chapter. You'll also have the opportunity to hear from and meet professionals from a number of different areas such as news, sports, production, graphics, promotion, sales, and marketing, in radio, television, film, corporate production, internet technologies and other electronic media. You will hear what it takes to get that first job in the biz ... from setting up your resume to how to prepare for the interview. However, what you get out of the National Convention is entirely up to YOU. Your eagerness to learn through attending sessions, networking, interacting with professionals, and being willing to absorb will determine how much the convention will help your career. Attendance for members is voluntary, but officers are expected to attend.

14. What type of monetary assistance is available for conventions?

A number of grants are offered annually for the national convention and the forms are available online. The mailing deadline for the grants is November 23. Go to http://www.nbs-aerho.org/ for more information. Fundraising within your local chapter is highly suggested.
15. How much does the NBS Convention cost?

Before considering costs, also consider sources for funding convention costs. Many chapters receive funding from their Student Activities Board, Student Government Association, Major Department, or their Alumni Association. In most cases, you have to apply for this funding months in advance of the convention. So, total up your costs and apply for support as soon as possible. The cost varies; depending on

- What grants an individual student may receive
- Hotel rooms
- Transportation to and from the convention
- Food for meals not covered by the registration fee
- Additional entertainment and souvenirs
- When registration fees are paid

The first expense that you need to consider is the convention registration fee. The fee includes admittance to all sessions, breakfast on Thursday and Friday, and a reception on Wednesday night. Registration fees can be found on our convention information page. The fees have greater discounts the earlier you pay. Your convention registration fees will also be lower if you do not stay at the convention hotel.

The convenience and experience of staying at the convention site is often worth the additional cost. To reduce costs, most of our convention attendees share a room with one two or three others.

Transportation costs to convention city will vary dramatically. If you fly, airline prices can range anywhere from $59 to $2,000. Plan ahead and look for sales. Most airlines will have internet sales in the late fall and right after Christmas. Since the sale may only last for a few days, you must be ready to buy your tickets when the sale occurs. The key is to plan ahead.

So, add up the registration fees... figure in your room costs (your share)... and plan your transportation to and around Anaheim - Los Angeles (the site for 2008) and finally add in food and incidentals. You will then have the amount you need to raise through fundraising between now and March. For more information, see your chapter president or advisor.

It would be beneficial if all chapters could have at least one of their members present at the annual convention. If that is not possible, a chapter must represent us as a proxy delegate at the business meeting and have that chapter collect information for you. If we do not have a delegate or a proxy, we may be fined or suspended.

16. If I have any other convention questions, whom can I ask?

The website is the best place to look first if you have questions about the convention or about anything else regarding NBS. Many questions can be easily answered by looking through the website. However, if you do not find the answer to your question, ask your chapter president or advisor. If your advisor doesn't know, your district director, regional director and national officers are available by e-mail or by phone. You will find the numbers and addresses here on the NBS website.