



Using Your OSS Membership Professionally

A professional guide to presenting, documenting, and using your Order of the Sword & Shield National Honor Society membership appropriately in academic, career, and professional settings.

This guide explains:

- where to list OSS membership professionally
- how to describe it on a résumé, CV, and LinkedIn
- when to use the verification link, credential ID, or supporting documents
- how to present OSS recognition clearly and appropriately

Order of the Sword & Shield National Honor Society
SecurityHonorSociety.org

1. Why OSS Membership Matters Professionally

Membership in the Order of the Sword & Shield National Honor Society represents recognized academic or professional achievement within the homeland security enterprise and related protective security disciplines. It may appropriately be included in settings where honors, leadership, service, or professional affiliation are relevant.

Appropriate Uses

You may present OSS membership in a résumé or CV, a graduate-school or employment application, a professional biography, a promotion or tenure dossier, a LinkedIn profile, or other contexts where honors, memberships, recognitions, or service are appropriately listed.

2. Where to List Your Membership

Résumé	Honors, Awards, Leadership, Professional Affiliations, or Activities, depending on your format.
Curriculum Vitae (CV)	Honors and Awards, Professional Memberships, Service, or Professional Activities.
LinkedIn	Licenses & Certifications for the verified credential; Activity/Post for the badge or induction announcement.
Professional Biography	A short mention in a bio paragraph or a list of affiliations, recognitions, or service roles.
Graduate School / Scholarship Applications	Honors, recognitions, extracurricular achievement, leadership, or service sections as appropriate.
Employment / Promotion Packet	Honors, recognitions, professional affiliations, service, or supporting documents appendix.

3. Sample Professional Wording

The best wording depends on your audience and the type of document you are preparing. Use language that is accurate, concise, and consistent with the rest of your professional materials.

Basic résumé / CV entry	Order of the Sword & Shield National Honor Society (Omicron Sigma Sigma), Member
Expanded résumé / CV entry	Order of the Sword & Shield National Honor Society (Omicron Sigma Sigma), Member — National honor society recognizing academic and professional achievement across the homeland security enterprise.
Professional affiliation line	Member, Order of the Sword & Shield National Honor Society
Coordinator / service line	Order of the Sword & Shield National Honor Society, Chapter Coordinator
Short bio sentence	He/She is a member of the Order of the Sword & Shield National Honor Society and has been recognized for academic and professional excellence in the homeland security field.

Tip

Use the shorter form in tight spaces such as a one-page résumé, and the expanded form where a little context improves the value of the recognition.

4. Using Supporting Documents

Membership Certificate	Display, recognition, or personal records.
Official Membership Record	Formal proof of core membership details such as member ID, chapter, affiliation, induction date, and standing.
Letter of Membership and Good Standing	When a school, employer, or organization requests a more formal written confirmation.
Member Achievement Transcript	To document OSS-related achievements, service, or distinctions maintained by the Society.
Verification Link / QR Code	When the recipient prefers direct online verification of your credential.

5. LinkedIn and Online Use

Your OSS digital credential can be presented in several ways online. The most formal method is adding the verified credential to LinkedIn's Licenses & Certifications section.

LinkedIn Guidance

Use the credential name, issuing organization, issue date, credential ID, and credential URL from your OSS digital credential record. LinkedIn generally displays a standard credential entry rather than the full badge artwork. The badge image is best shared separately as a post or other visual announcement.

Suggested LinkedIn Entry

Name	Order of the Sword & Shield Membership
Issuing Organization	Order of the Sword & Shield National Honor Society
Issue Date	Use the issue date shown on your digital credential.
Expiration	Does not expire
Credential ID	Use the credential ID shown on your credential record.
Credential URL	Use the verification link from your credential page.

6. Good Professional Judgment

Present OSS membership honestly and accurately. Use the level of detail appropriate to the audience. Use the verification link or formal documents when proof is requested. Mention chapter coordinator or volunteer service when that role is relevant.	Overstating what the membership means. Using different or inconsistent versions of the organization's name. Treating the badge image alone as proof when formal verification is needed. Listing outdated service roles without context.

7. Final Recommendations

Best Practice

Use OSS membership where honors, service, leadership, academic distinction, or professional affiliation are relevant, but tailor the wording to the setting. For formal verification, rely on the credential link, Official Membership Record, or Letter of Membership and Good Standing.

Need Assistance?

For questions about your digital credential, verification, or how to document your membership, please contact:

Order of the Sword & Shield National Honor Society

National Office

Membership@ossnhs.com

SecurityHonorSociety.org

Thank you for representing the Order of the Sword & Shield National Honor Society with professionalism and integrity.