



GPA Fast Facts

1987 The year the Graduation Pledge Alliance was founded

Graduation Pledge Alliance has reached **10** countries on **4** continents (Asia, Australia, North and South America)

In 2008, the GPA reported over **100** active Pledge schools

Humboldt State University
in Arcata, CA founded the Graduation Pledge Alliance

125,000
college graduates have taken the Pledge

The GPA's current home is
Bentley University in Waltham, MA

Contact Us

For more information on GPA & its global efforts please visit our web site:

www.graduationpledge.org

For questions or to bring the Pledge to your school please e-mail us at:

gpa@bentley.edu



The Graduation Pledge Alliance is a project of the Bentley University Alliance for Ethics and Social Responsibility

Graduation Pledge Alliance



I pledge
to explore and take into account
the social and environmental consequences of any job I consider
and will try to improve these aspects of any organization for which I work

Each year, more than 1,000,000 students enter the work force. Imagine the impact on our society if even a small number of applicants and employees inquire about or attempt to change the ethical practices of their potential or current employers.

What if a small number of applicants turn down jobs and tell companies the ethical reasons why they did so? Shouldn't a job represent more than a paycheck? Shouldn't it be a place where one can feel good about both his or her own tasks and the general practices of the company?

We think so.

GPA: The Past

Founded at Humboldt State University in Arcata, California in 1987, the Graduation Pledge Alliance is currently coordinated by the Bentley University Alliance for Ethics and Social Responsibility in Waltham, Massachusetts. Traditionally the Pledge is taken by college seniors and is represented by green ribbons worn by graduates during commencement.

GPA: The Present

Students at more than 100 colleges and universities utilize the Pledge at some level. Schools involved include liberal arts colleges such as Elizabethtown College & Pacific University, state universities like Bloomsburg University & Indiana University, private research universities including Harvard University & University of Pennsylvania. Beyond the U.S., the Pledge is used internationally at schools in Canada & Taiwan. In addition to undergraduate programs, the Pledge is now used at graduate & professional schools as well as high schools.

The Pledge has garnered national attention appearing in USA Today, Business Week and The Washington Post. The Pledge has also been covered by The Associated Press.

GPA: The Future

GPA's advisory board and coordinators are constantly looking for ways to expand and reach an increasing number of schools. To become a Pledge coordinator at your school or to find out more about the Pledge efforts at your school please contact the Pledge at gpa@bentley.edu.

The Pledge At Your School

Interested in starting the Pledge at your school? Here are a few things to consider as you plan. Need more info? Visit www.graduationpledge.org.

Let us know! Let us help! Once you've decided to bring the Pledge to your school contact us. We would love to hear what you are doing & are always here to help!

Publicize, Publicize, Publicize! Print GPA posters from our web site to post around your campus to generate attention & garner support.



Spread the word about the Pledge. Get others involved. The Pledge is most successful on campuses where it's been endorsed by campus organizations. Work with your college media, student government and service groups to raise awareness for the Pledge.

Establish a "Pledge Signing Event". When you begin Pledge planning, it's important to designate a date, time & place for seniors to meet & sign the Pledge.



Distribute Pledge Cards & Green Ribbons. At the Pledge signing give out Pledge cards and green ribbons for graduates to wear on their robes during Commencement. Pledge cards can be printed from GPA's web site & you can choose to make or purchase the green ribbons.



Record signer's names & e-mail addresses. This will provide a way for us to keep in touch with graduates and send them information on improving the social and environmental aspects of their work place.

Include the Pledge in Commencement Work to incorporate the Pledge into your Commencement ceremony. Typically, Pledge signers are mentioned during the ceremony and/or the Pledge appears in the Commencement Program.

*Taking the Pledge is voluntary. If the commitment is made it allows students to determine for themselves what they consider to be socially and environmentally responsible