

National Honor Society

Shelton High School Chapter



Application Process
November/December 2023

The Four Ideals of the National Honor Society

- Membership in the National Honor Society is a privilege, not a right.
- Students WILL NOT be chosen solely because of a high academic standing. The NHS recognizes a well-rounded student – one who excels in the areas of **scholarship, leadership, character, and service.**

Scholarship

- Applicants for the SHS Chapter must have a minimum cumulative weighted GPA of 3.67 .

Leadership

Leadership - highly important for membership selection.

- number of offices a student has held in school or community organizations.
- also exists outside elected positions including effective participation in other co-curricular activities.

Leadership roles in both the school and community may be considered, provided they can be verified.

Character

- A person of character demonstrates the following six qualities: **respect, responsibility, trustworthiness, fairness, caring, and citizenship.**

Please note that character issues will also be a factor in acceptance into the NHS. Any documented discipline issue may result in a deferral.

Service

- Service is those actions undertaken by the student which are done with or on behalf of others **without any direct financial or material compensation to the individual performing the service.**
- In considering service, the contributions this candidate has made to school, classmates, and community, as well as the student's attitude toward service can be reviewed.
- Include your participation in activity outside of school, for example, 4-H, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, church groups, volunteer service for the elderly, poor, or disadvantaged; mentors persons in the community or students at other schools;

Application Process

STEP I: Student is notified that they have achieved the academic average necessary to be a candidate for the National Honor Society

STEP II: Student will complete a student Activity Information Form that must be completed by the student and returned by a specified date.

- **STUDENTS WHO DO NOT RETURN THE FORMS TO THE N.H.S. ADVISORS BY THE DUE DATE WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED FOR INDUCTION!**

STEP III: The SHS Faculty Council will convene and review all applications. Acceptance into the NHS will be based on the information **AS IT IS PRESENTED** in the Activity Form.

STEP IV: Student will be notified of the Faculty Council's decision on acceptance.

ACTIVITIES

List all school-connected activities in which you have participated during high school. Include clubs, teams, musical groups, class projects, etc. and major accomplishments in each.

[illegible]

1

[illegible]

[illegible][illegible]

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

List community activities in which you have participated and note any major accomplishment in each. These should be any activities outside of school in which you participated for the betterment of the community. For example: church groups, clubs sponsored outside the school, Boy or Girl Scouts, volunteer groups, community endeavors or recreational sports.

[illegible]

Essay:

Choose 1 of the following topics and write an essay that gives the Faculty Council an idea of who you are – your ideals, your accomplishments, your personality. Your essay should be typed, double spaced, with a 12 point font (Times New Roman only) and **should not** exceed two pages.

Since the application process is anonymous, please do not include your name on or in the essay.

1. Think back to a situation in your life where you had to decide between taking a risk and playing it safe. Which choice did you make? What was the outcome of your choice? Would you have made the same decision looking back on the experience or would you have made a different decision?
2. What movie, poem, musical composition, or novel has most influenced your life and the way that you view the world? Why?
3. If you had the chance to have a 30-minute conversation with any person in human history (either living or deceased), who would be the person you choose? Why? What topics would you discuss with this person?

DO NOT WISH TO PARTICIPATE

If you do not wish to complete your application for the National Honor Society, please complete the following form and return it along with your entire folder to Ms. Coffin in room 121 or Ms. Macchia in room 127 by December 4, 2023. We must keep accurate records of all students who were asked to participate in this application process.

Name

(print): _____

Application #: _____

Your Signature:

Parent/Guardian Signature (required):

Pointers for Completing your Application

- You must have a valid signature for every activity in which you participate. **Activities without signatures will not be considered.** (Please note: If for any reason you cannot obtain a signature because of unavailability of the advisor, you must see Ms. Macchia or Ms. Coffin to explain the situation.)
- **Your parents CANNOT sign off on activities.** There are some exceptions, however. If your parent is your coach, your scout leader, or the head of an organization in which you volunteer, etc., they may sign, but should do so noting their title. (i.e. John Smith, Junior Achievement Advisor) If at all possible, have another advisor of the organization sign.

Pointers for Completing Your Application

- Faculty Council views all applications anonymously. **DO NOT write your name anywhere on the application.**
- Please be specific about the length of time you are involved in an activity. Often an applicant simply indicates 1 hour. Is this one-hour, one time? One hour per week? Per month? For example, if you volunteered in a soup kitchen once for three hours, write 3 hrs/one day. If you volunteer 2 hrs. per week in a nursing home, write 2 hrs/week since Sept. 2020. You can also indicate total hours. For example, 150 total hours from Sept. 2020-present. Whenever possible, please indicate TOTAL hours.
- Brief additional documents are welcome to show hours or level of commitment, provided they do not have your name included.
- **REMEMBER – FACULTY COUNCIL CAN ONLY MAKE THEIR DECISION BASED ON WHAT YOU PUT IN YOUR APPLICATION.**

- Please note that more credit will be given for long-term participation in an activity rather than a lengthy list of one-time activities.
- DO NOT list any awards or recognitions achieved prior to high school. If you were Student of the Month at SIS, it does not affect your application at SHS.
- If necessary, you may use the back of the application sheets to list additional activities or recognitions that do not fit in the space provided.
- Should you have any questions, please see Ms. Coffin in room 121 or Ms. Macchia in rm 127. **No applications will be accepted after 2:15 PM on the final deadline date.** Applications may be turned in prior to the deadline. Applications must be handed directly to Ms. Coffin or Ms. Macchia by the applicant (not left in our mailboxes).

Probation and Dismissal Procedures

Probation

- Academic Standards – National Honor Society members are required to maintain a cumulative weighted GPA of 3.67 or higher during their membership in N.H.S. Failure to maintain the required GPA will result in the member being issued a letter detailing the academic requirements and will be given one semester (or the remainder of the semester in cases where the GPA falls during a semester) to bring their grades up to meet the chapter's standards.
- At the end of the probationary period, if a student has not achieved the required GPA, they will be issued another letter and their membership status will go before the Faculty Council, at which time the Council may decide to extend another semester of probation or may decide to cancel the student's membership. The council will take into consideration the type and rigor of classes that are being taken by the member when making their decision as to whether to extend a probationary period or cancel the membership.

Dismissal

- Student Conduct and Character – A National Honor Society member is a leader of SHS and must display the proper citizenship skills and character, as well as the responsibility that goes along with their membership. They are representatives and role models for the school and the community. Activities that may lead to dismissal from the NHS include but are not limited to:
 - Usage or possession of tobacco, alcohol, or any other drug
 - Vandalism to school property
 - Theft
 - Bullying (including bullying via social networking sites)
 - Fighting on school property and/or whenever representing the school
 - Other criminal acts not specified in this policy
 - Other such actions that may bring dishonor to the National Honor Society or to the school, including academic dishonesty/cheating.

Dismissal Procedures

- A warning is not required for dismissal, but a hearing will be held. The hearing is a right of membership; is guaranteed as due process as identified by the 14th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution
- The chapter will notify the member of the action being contemplated, the reasons for the action, and the date and time of the hearing.
- The member will be allowed to appear before the Faculty Council and explain his or her view of the circumstances. A parent or guardian may be present with the member; however, it should be noted that the primary purpose and focus of the hearing is to allow the member to present his or her case.
- The member will be notified in writing of the Faculty Council's decision.
- A student who is dismissed or who resigns is never again eligible for membership in NHS.