



NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY OVERVIEW

The National Honor Society (NHS)

Established in 1921

The National Honor Society (NHS) is the nation's premier organization established to recognize outstanding high school students. More than just an honor roll, NHS serves to honor those students who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of Scholarship, Leadership, Service, and Character. These characteristics have been associated with membership in the organization since their beginnings in 1921.

Today, it is estimated that more than one million students participate in activities of the NHS. NHS and chapters are found in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, many U.S. Territories, and Canada. Chapter membership not only recognizes students for their accomplishments, but challenges them to develop further through active involvement in school activities and community service.

Four main purposes have guided chapters of NHS from the beginning: "To create enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate a desire to render service, to promote leadership, and to develop character in the students of secondary schools." (from the NHS Constitution) These purposes also translate into the criteria used for membership selection in each local chapter.

Fairfield Christian Academy National Honor Society Bylaws

ARTICLE II - SELECTION OF MEMBERS

Section 1. To be eligible for membership, the candidate must be a member of the sophomore, junior, or senior class. Candidates must have been in attendance at the school the equivalent of one full year.

Section 2. Candidates must have a cumulative grade point average of 3.50 (sophomores), 3.25 (juniors), and 3.25 (seniors). Candidates shall then be evaluated on the basis of service, leadership, and character.

Section 3. The criteria of service are defined in terms of contribution to the school, classmates, and the community. The student who strives to serve must have shown active and consistent participation in school activities as well as outside volunteer activities.

Section 4. The leadership criterion is considered highly important for membership selection. Students demonstrate this leadership by successfully holding offices or positions of responsibility in the school and the community. A leader works toward developing the skills to exercise influence on peers in upholding school ideas. A leader endeavors to be a positive role model in the classroom.

Section 5. The student of character is one who consistently works toward demonstrating high standards of honesty, responsibility, fairness, courtesy, tolerance, and cooperation. He does not cheat and shows unwillingness to profit from the mistakes of others. He consistently works to comply with school regulations. The student of character is a positive role model both in school and in the community.

Section 6. Students who are scholastically eligible for consideration will be notified in person and through the mail by the chapter advisor. For consideration by the Faculty Council, students shall provide the following to the Chapter Advisor within 10 school days of notification of academic eligibility: The Student Activity Information Form signed by sponsors of activities and an essay to the Faculty Council stating why he/she feels he should be selected for membership. The Faculty Council will not consider students who do not return the Student Activity Information Form and essay within 10 days for membership. Students should understand that providing the above information does not guarantee membership.