



# How to Qualify for the National Honor Society

## Crossroads Christian School Chapter

Founded in 1921, the National Honor Society seeks to encourage and provide opportunities for high school students who have demonstrated a commitment to achievement, service, leadership and a positive lifestyle. National Honor Society members strive to maintain academic excellence, work in their communities, and model positive behavior and attitudes. In addition, they are eligible for a number of college scholarships.

If you are interested in applying for membership, you must meet a few key requirements based upon the four pillars of the National Honor Society: **scholarship, leadership, character, and service.**

## 1. Scholarship.

A candidate who meets the requirements for the pillar of scholarship must...

*Meet the grade level requirements.*

- Is a high school sophomore, junior, or senior to apply for membership in the National Honor Society.
- Has completed 3 or more semesters of high school to be considered (at least one of those semesters must be at the school of the local chapter of NHS).

*Has a cumulative GPA of 3.50 (unweighted) or higher.*

Once inducted, members must maintain a 3.50 unweighted grade point average (GPA) to remain in the NHS. GPA's are evaluated at the end of each semester; students who fail to maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.50 are placed on probation the subsequent semester and are reinstated only if their cumulative GPA reaches 3.50 again. If it does not, they face dismissal from the CCS chapter of the NHS. (A student who is dismissed or resigns is never again eligible for membership in NHS. – *National Honor Society Handbook*, 16<sup>th</sup> edition, © 2005 by the National Association of Secondary School Principals.)

## 2. Leadership.

A candidate who meets the requirements for the pillar of leadership must...

*Demonstrate leadership qualities in various ways.*

- Shows initiative in promoting school activities.
- Exercises positive influence on peers in upholding school ideals and spirit.
- Contributes ideas that improve the civic life of the school.
- Steps up to a challenge when it arises and motivates others to meet the challenge, too.
- Exemplifies positive attitudes & inspires positive behavior in others.
- Successfully holds leadership positions in school clubs, athletic teams, church-affiliated groups, etc.
- Is a leader in the classroom, at work, or in other school or community activities.
- Is dependable in any responsibility accepted.



### 3. Character.

A candidate who meets the requirements for the pillar of character must...

- Demonstrate a high standard of integrity and honor.*
  - Exhibits an optimistic attitude.
  - Possesses a strong work ethic, is punctual, and is faithful both inside and outside classroom.
  - Is honest.
  - Demonstrates reliability and responsibility.
  - Is able to take criticism willingly and accept recommendations graciously.
  - Shows courtesy, concern, empathy, and respect for others.
  
- Maintain a behavior record at school free of negative actions that would be detrimental to his/her character.*
  - Manifests truthfulness in acknowledging obedience to rules, avoiding cheating in all areas of school life, and showing an unwillingness to profit by the mistakes of others.
  - Observes instructions and rules faithfully, both inside and outside the classroom. (Candidates reported for cheating, plagiarism, lying, disrespect, etc. are automatically disqualified from the evaluation process.)

### 4. Service.

A candidate who meets the requirements for the pillar of service must...

- Demonstrate his/her willingness to serve others through individual and group opportunities.*
  - Is an active participant in high school organizations.
  - Participates in outside activities such as church group activities, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, community arts (theater, visual arts, etc.), volunteer services for the aged, poor, disadvantaged, etc.
  - Makes him/herself available and is willing to offer assistance to others (and is willing to make sacrifices to offer such assistance).
  - Renders requested services to the school cheerfully and enthusiastically and is willing to represent a class or the school in activities or competitions.
  - Does committee and club work without complaint.
  - Completes a significant number of documented, verifiable community service hours. (Community Service Forms are available on the school website or at the front office.)

*Community service activities are generally those done for or on behalf of others (not including immediate family members) for which no compensation (monetary or other) is given. Candidates being considered for NHS are expected to have participated in service activities throughout each of their high school years.*

## Selection.

Invitations to be considered for selection by the Faculty Council for the CCS chapter of the National Honor Society will be delivered at the end of the first semester of each school year to students with an unweighted 3.50 or higher cumulative GPA (high school courses only). The official induction ceremony is tentatively planned to take place in February/March of each year.