



National Honor Society

Braden River High School Chapter

Candidate Submission Guidelines



Criteria

Membership in the National Honor Society is an honor bestowed by the school. Membership is not a right of any student; it is a privilege that must be earned. The following membership requirements must be met by the student before membership will be considered by the school.

Scholarship

Students who have a cumulative unweighted grade point average of 3.5 (or higher) meet the academic requirement for membership. Although scholarship is an important criterion for NHS membership, it is but one of four equally important criteria.

Service

This quality is defined through voluntary contributions made by a student to the school or community, done without compensation and with a positive, courteous, and enthusiastic spirit. Service which is part of a student's coursework, completed for a relative, or is done for monetary gain is not eligible for consideration.

Leadership

Student leaders are those who are resourceful, good problem solvers, promoters of school activities, idea-contributors, dependable, and persons who exemplify positive attitudes about life. Leadership experiences can be drawn from school or community activities while working with or for others. Leadership experiences will be classified as either *major*, *intermediate*, or *minor* positions.

Character

The student of good character upholds principles of morality and ethics, is cooperative, demonstrates high standards of honesty and reliability, shows courtesy, concern, and respect for others, and generally maintains a good and clean lifestyle. **Having a disciplinary history will not automatically exclude you from NHS membership (depending on the nature of the incident). However, failing to disclose a disciplinary incident will cause students to be excluded.**

Process

1. Completing the form

The attached form, with all required signatures and documentation, must be completed legibly and fully. Students will be evaluated on the information presented on this form and any additional investigation pursued by the members of the Faculty Council. If you have more service activities than will fit on the form, attach a similarly formatted continuation of your service to your application. The number of hours documented in Focus is the number that will be used to score your submission. Service or leadership items submitted without providing the requested information will not be considered for membership qualification. **DO NOT SUBMIT ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS- copies only! The forms submitted become the property of NHS and will not be returned to the student.** It is your responsibility to obtain copies of any forms and attach them to your submission. Double check your form to be sure it is complete before it is submitted. Forms may not be modified or supplemented after they have been submitted.

2. Evaluation of the form

After the credentials are received, the NHS Faculty Council will review the submissions. Each submission will be evaluated and assigned a score based upon the evidence of scholarship, service, leadership, and character. Once all the submissions have been scored, the Faculty Council will submit to the principal a list of the candidates recommended for membership. The principal may approve or modify the recommendation list.

3. Notification

A final list of candidates to be issued invitations for membership will be posted outside the classroom of the Faculty Adviser, in Student Services, and on the school website.

4. Request for re-evaluation

After the list of candidates for membership has been posted, students who believe their submissions may have been incorrectly assessed may request a reconsideration. The request must be made in writing and submitted to the Faculty Adviser within three (3) school days of the posting of final candidates. The request must state the reason(s) for reconsideration and may only *clarify* information in the original submission, not *supplement* it.

The student's clarification will be reconsidered by the Faculty Council. If the Faculty Council determines that the student meets the minimum membership criteria established for the other candidates, the student will be issued an invitation for membership. If the Faculty Council determines that the student does not meet the minimum membership criteria established for the other candidates, the student will not be issued an invitation for membership and will be notified in writing of the decision. The student may appeal this decision to the principal within two school days. The decision of the principal is final.

At no time prior to receiving the written decision of the Faculty Council may the student or the student's parent(s) contact the principal or any member of the Faculty Council regarding the reconsideration. Failure to adhere to this policy will be considered evidence of questionable character and will result in immediate exclusion from any further consideration for membership for the remainder of the school year.

Invitations

After the list of candidates for membership has been posted, the Faculty Adviser will issue a formal invitation for membership to the candidates. It is then that students will receive information about the induction.

Perspectives

NHS membership is but one of many honors in life for people who work hard, live respectable, decent lives, and use their time and resources to provide service to others. Membership does, indeed, indicate that you are the best of the best. It does not mean, however, that you are the *only* "best".

If you are issued an invitation for membership, be proud of your accomplishments and take this occasion to renew your dedication to the principles of scholarship, service, leadership, character, and citizenship. View your induction as a challenge to better yourself and to make further positive contributions to your world. Celebrate your great accomplishment but remember that humility is a cornerstone of character.

Occasionally, a high-performing student with excellent character and work ethic is not issued an invitation for membership. If you are not issued an invitation, this does not indicate that you are not a part of *the best*- and you should not allow this temporary disappointment to define you. In being eligible to apply, you have already affirmed your commitment to scholarship and your drive for success. There is great honor in accepting disappointment and using it as an opportunity for self-reflection and betterment.

Good luck to you all!

-The Faculty Council