

## **NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY** *(Updated 7/2014)*

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Students are eligible to apply for acceptance into the OLSH Chapter of the National Honor Society in the spring of their sophomore year. Students may also apply in their junior year, but are not eligible to apply in their senior year.

Students will be notified by the school if they are academically eligible to apply for NHS. If the student is eligible and wishes to apply, he/she must:

1. Submit a completed activity sheet listing service, school, community, and leadership activities by the application deadline.
2. If the activity sheet is deemed acceptable according to the four pillars of NHS (see below), the student is scheduled for an interview with the members of the NHS Faculty Council. Evaluations will also be given to the faculty for further evaluation of the candidates.
3. Each student is then evaluated individually and the NHS Faculty Council casts votes. A simple majority is required for admission into the National Honor Society.
4. After all interviews have been completed, the students are notified of whether or not they have been accepted via first class mail.
5. If the student is not accepted, he/she may re-apply the following year provided he/she meets the basic criteria outlined above and acts on the recommendations for improvement suggested by the NHS Faculty Council. If a junior is not accepted, they cannot reapply in their senior year.

In each of the pillars listed below, the candidate must exhibit substantial strength and/or achievement, which will be assessed at the discretion of the members of the NHS Faculty Council. Students who fail to meet any of the NHS Pillars must appear before the Academic Council concerning probation or dismissal from NHS.

### **THE FOUR PILLARS OF NHS**

1. Scholarship
  - Members must maintain a cumulative QPA of 3.75 or better in accordance with the High Honor Roll guidelines at OLSH.
  - Plagiarism is unacceptable and grounds for dismissal for NHS.
  - Members must consistently be prepared for and participate in class.
  - Members must maintain attendance as outlined in the Student Handbook.
2. Character
  - NHS members must maintain a 93.0% or higher conduct grade per semester and cooperate by complying with school regulations.
  - Members must uphold principles of morality and ethics.
  - Members must take criticism willingly and accept recommendations graciously.
  - Members must constantly exemplify desirable qualities of personality (cheerfulness, friendliness, dependability, poise).
  - An NHS member demonstrates the highest standards of honesty, reliability, academic integrity, and respect for others.
  - An NHS member renders any requested service and is willing to take on difficult or inconspicuous responsibilities.

### 3. Service

- In the year of application, a student must have at least 30 documented service hours. A copy of the documented services hours (with signatures) must be given to the NHS moderator. Service sheets may not be signed by a parent/guardian.
- NHS members are required to tutor a maximum of two students and participate in all NHS sponsored activities.
- Members participate in activities outside of OLSH (ex. Girl/Boy Scouts; church groups; volunteer for the aged or disadvantaged; etc.)
- Members must gladly be available and willing to sacrifice to offer dependable assistance.

### 4. Leadership

- Members demonstrate pride in promoting all OLSH activities and exemplify a positive influence on others, inspiring positive behavior in their peers.
- Members must exercise influence on their peers in upholding school ideals.
- Members contribute ideas that improve the civic life of the school.
- Members are able to delegate responsibilities.
- Members successfully conduct business efficiently and effectively, and are reliable and dependable without prodding.
- Members take initiative in class work and in school and/or community activities.

Upon acceptance into the OLSH chapter of the National Honor Society, members are expected to:

- Maintain the four pillars of NHS as outlined above
- Attend and participate in all NHS meetings (held during activity B)
- Participate in any and all fundraisers (Turkey Bingo, Make-a-Wish, etc)
- Tutor OLSH students during study halls
- Participate in Adopt-a-Highway
- Complete 50 hours of service (from April 1, 2014 – March 30, 2015). Out of the 50 required service hours, 20 hours must be service to OLSH
- Demonstrate leadership skills in at least one organization