

NHS Frequently Asked Questions  
(FAQs)

***If my child was in NJHS at the middle school, will they automatically be in NHS at the high school?***

NO! Participation in NJHS is not an automatic “in” into NHS at the high school level. Entry into NHS is based on what the National Honor Society considers the “four pillars”: scholarship, leadership, service and character.

***My child is an incoming freshman, can they apply to NHS in their 9th grade year?***

No, NHS at the high school level is reserved for Juniors and Seniors ONLY. If eligible, students will be notified in the fall of Junior year and/or fall of Senior year and invited to apply. After the application is completed and reviewed, students will be notified of acceptance/non-acceptance into NHS.

***What “qualifications” does a student need to have in order to be invited to apply to NHS?***

Juniors or Seniors need at least a 3.5 GPA to be invited to apply. They will then fill out an application listing their service and leadership qualities, as well as an essay and teacher recommendations about their character. A junior with a 3.49 GPA will not be invited to apply, but if they pull up their grade to at least a 3.5 by their senior year, they may apply in their senior year.

***If my son/daughter is not accepted to NHS as a junior, can they reapply as a senior?***

Yes, many juniors who are not accepted as juniors can reapply in their senior year – as long as their grade point average is still a 3.5 or higher.

***What can my son/daughter do as an incoming freshman to help them get into NHS as juniors/seniors?***

There are many things. First, get good grades! Second, they should speak up in their classes, take control in group projects, etc. to demonstrate their leadership abilities. If they are active outside of school (extra-curricular sports, church, etc.) encourage them to take charge and even create their own fundraising program, etc. Leadership is one of the crucial elements of the NHS application, and frequently the reason most students do not get in.

***What is NHS?***

First and foremost, NHS is a service program. We help and service our school and our community.

***Is there a time commitment?***

Yes, students will be expected to volunteer as much and as often as possible. Aside from meeting every other week, students are expected to participate in at least 5 NHS events per year and complete 20 service hours.

***Do service learning hours count toward the 20 service hours for NHS?***

No. If a student is earning hours for their service learning requirement they can not “double dip” and use those hours toward their NHS requirement.

***Is there a fee for NHS?***

NHS members are required to pay \$20.00 dues at the beginning of each year.

***For more information:***

Please check out the National Honors Society website at [www.nhs.us](http://www.nhs.us)