

# National Honor Society Selection Guidelines

The Wheaton North National Honor Society strives to recognize students who excel in the areas of scholarship, leadership, service, and character. Although the National Honor Society does not induct students until their junior year, the selection process begins when students enter high school. In order to be considered for NHS membership, applicants must comply with several required selection guidelines during their high school years. These qualities are measured by the Wheaton North High School faculty committee in the following ways.

**Scholarship:** Any junior or senior NHS candidate must have a cumulative G.P.A. of 4.7 or above at the end of first semester. Additionally, students must have completed one semester at Wheaton North High School to be eligible. Juniors and seniors who have met this GPA requirement will be invited to pick up an application for membership at the beginning of second semester.

**Leadership:** Students are selected based on the leadership they have shown in the classroom and in their extra-curricular activities. This leadership is reported by the classroom teachers and extra-curricular sponsors and coaches. Students who apply for membership will be asked to get 2 recommendations from teachers, extra-curricular sponsors, coaches, or community members as to how they demonstrated leadership. At least one of these recommendations must come from WNHS.

**Service:** Students being considered for NHS are expected to have participated in service activities throughout each of their high school years. Generally speaking, service activities are those done for or on behalf of others (not including immediate family members) for which no compensation (monetary or other) has been given. Junior applicants need a minimum of 30 documented hours to be considered for membership. Senior applicants need a minimum of 50 documented hours to be considered for membership. These hours can accumulate throughout high school. However, any service hours reported on a member's application should not be ones that are required for another extracurricular activity (i.e. homecoming dance setup which is a requirement for student council membership).

**Character:** Like leadership, character is shown in the classroom and in students' participation in extra-curricular activities. Character is reported by the classroom teachers, extra-curricular sponsors and coaches, and by the students themselves through the selection process.

**\*\*Extra-Curricular Activities:** Finally, Wheaton North believes that much of students' character and leadership is demonstrated through their involvement in extra-curricular activities. Therefore, it is the committee's expectation that students being reviewed for selection will provide evidence that they were a **major contributor in at least 2 school sponsored extracurricular activities per year.** Being a major contributor means that the student attends regular meetings and/or practices as well as fulfills the activity requirements defined by the coach or sponsor. Participation in other non-school sponsored activities should be reported by students applying for membership as well, and will be used to gain additional information about the candidates.

All applications will be considered. Clear and detailed information provided by the student's application for each of these selection criteria help provide the selection committee with a total picture of the student being considered.

Once students are selected for NHS they are expected to continue their commitment to service by completing 20 hours of service during their senior year (10 first semester and 10 second semester). Students are also expected to uphold the standards of scholarship, leadership, and character for which they were selected. This includes following all school policies and regulations and remaining a law abiding citizen. Failure to do so could result in the student's dismissal from National Honor Society.

By following these procedures, Wheaton North hopes to recognize and continue the proud tradition of excellence demonstrated by our National Honor Society members.