



# Antioch Community High School

## NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

### CANDIDATE CONTRACT

Membership in the National Honor Society is one of the highest honors that can be awarded to a student. Membership in NHS brings the accomplishments of students who possess outstanding scholarship, leadership, service, and character to the attention of parents, teachers, peers, and the community. Membership is an honor conveyed upon students; it is not a right earned.

### Standards

The four ideals that are the criteria used for selection to NHS are scholarship, leadership, service, and character. The National Honor Society strives to recognize the total student— one who excels in all of these areas. To be eligible for membership in this group, a student must be a sophomore or junior who has been in attendance at ACHS the equivalent of at least one semester and who meets the following criteria:

1. **Scholarship:** Must have a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.5 or better.
2. **Leadership:** Must demonstrate leadership. The student who exercises leadership:
  - Successfully holds school offices or positions of responsibility, conducting business effectively and efficiently, and demonstrates reliability and dependability.
  - Is a role model in the classroom, at work, and in school or community activities.
  - Is thoroughly dependable.
  - Is resourceful in proposing new problems, applying principles, and making suggestions.
  - Demonstrates initiative in promoting school activities.
  - Exercises influence on peers in upholding school ideals.
  - Contributes ideas that improve the civic life of the school.
  - Is able to delegate responsibilities.
  - Exemplifies positive attitudes.
  - Inspires positive behavior in others.
  - Demonstrates academic initiative.
3. **Service:** Must participate actively in school and/or community activities to the extent that the individual is involved in providing service throughout the year in several different ways. The student who serves:
  - Participates in activities in the school/community.
  - Volunteers dependable and well-organized assistance, is gladly available, and is willing to sacrifice to offer assistance.
  - Works well with others and is willing to take on difficult or inconspicuous responsibilities.
  - Cheerfully and enthusiastically renders any requested service to the school.
  - Is willing to represent the class or school in interclass and interscholastic competition.
  - Does community and staff work without complaint.
  - Shows courtesy by assisting visitors, teachers, and students.
  - Is willing to uphold scholarship and maintain a loyal school attitude.
4. **Character:** Must demonstrate qualities which society aspires to achieve and finds admirable. A student of character:
  - Takes criticism willingly and accepts recommendations graciously.
  - Consistently exemplifies desirable qualities of behavior (cheerfulness, friendliness, poise, and stability.)
  - Upholds principles of morality and ethics.
  - Cooperates by complying with school regulations concerning property, programs, office, halls, etc.
  - Demonstrates the highest standards of honesty and reliability.
  - Regularly shows courtesy, concern, and respect for others.
  - Observes instructions and rules, is punctual, and faithful both inside and outside the classroom.
  - Has powers of concentration, self-discipline, and sustained attention as shown by perseverance and application to studies.
  - Manifests truthfulness in acknowledging obedience to rules, avoiding cheating in written work, and showing unwillingness to profit by the mistakes of others.
  - Actively helps rid the school of bad influences or environment.

## **Selection Procedures**

Students are selected for NHS based on the above standards. Students may be selected during the second semester of their sophomore or junior year.

- Step one: Any sophomore or junior who has a cumulative GPA of 3.5 will be invited by letter to attend an informational assembly.
- Step two: At this assembly, the students will receive an explanation of the selection procedure, forms to complete, and deadlines to meet.
- Step three: Students must submit a completed Student Activity Information Form and an essay by the deadline established. The Student Activity Information Form must be signed by the student and the parent/guardian. Failure to turn in these materials by the designated deadline will indicate to the NHS Faculty Council that the student does not wish to be considered for membership.
- Step four: Names of those candidates who have completed steps one through three will be submitted to the faculty as a whole. The faculty will rate the candidates in the areas of leadership and character.
- Step five: The NHS Faculty Council, appointed by the principal, will review Student Activity Information Forms, essays, and the faculty rating data. They will select as inductees, by a majority vote, those students who demonstrate that they meet all four standards.
- Step six: Students will be notified of their selection. The inductee, their parent(s)/guardian(s), family, and friends will be invited to an induction ceremony. Students must take part in the induction ceremony in order to become a member.

## **MAINTENANCE OF STANDARDS POLICY:**

Membership is more than an honor. It incurs an obligation to continue to demonstrate the outstanding qualities that were considered for selection. It also incurs a responsibility to attend the NHS meetings, to volunteer community service hours, and to participate in the activities, including chapter projects and fundraisers sponsored by the NHS members. Any student failing to maintain the standards under which he or she was accepted may face probation and/or dismissal from membership in the society as per the guidelines set forth by the National Association.

The ACHS National Honor Society chapter has the responsibility of assuring the maintenance of the standards by which its members were selected.

ACHS NHS members are expected to maintain the standards of Scholarship, Leadership, Service, and Character by which they were selected.

All members and the parents of the members of the ACHS National Honor Society are hereby notified that each member's service, academic, and behavioral records will be reviewed by the advisor(s), and violations will be reported to a Maintenance of Standards Committee (MSC) which is a sub-committee of the ACHS NHS Faculty Council.

- Scholarship maintenance will be determined by reviewing the member's cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA.) A minimum cumulative GPA of 3.5 is required.
- Leadership and Service maintenance will be determined by reviewing their updated Student Activity Information Form, their record of community service, and their record of attendance at NHS meetings.
- Members are required to perform a minimum of 40 service hours during their membership.
- Members are required to attend the membership meetings which are held the 3rd Tuesday evening of each month during the school year and the induction ceremony.
- Character maintenance will be determined by reviewing any action taken by the Assistant Principals, Deans, or the Athletic Board.

The Maintenance of Standards Committee and/or the advisor(s) will perform the following:

- A. Review each active member's:
  1. Academic record.
  2. Discipline record.
  3. Attendance at NHS meetings and induction.
  4. Participation in ACHS NHS sponsored activities including service projects and fundraisers.
  5. Record of service hours.
- B. Follow up on reports of member violations as they are received from other outside sources.
- C. Submit findings of violations to the Faculty Council for further action.

D. Send out written warnings to members who are in danger of falling short of any standard(s).

The ACHS chapter of the NHS will follow the guidelines as written in the National Honor Society's Handbook Article X "Dismissal":

1. A written description of the dismissal procedure shall be available to interested parties.
2. Members who fall below the standards which were the basis for their selection shall be promptly warned in writing by the MSC and given a reasonable amount of time to correct the deficiency.
3. In the case of flagrant violation of school rules or civil laws, a member does not necessarily have to be warned before dismissal.
4. The Faculty Council shall determine when an individual has exceeded a reasonable number of warnings.
5. In all cases of impending dismissal, a member shall have a right to a hearing before the Faculty Council.
6. A member who has been dismissed may appeal the decision of the Faculty Council.