

KIRBYVILLE HIGH SCHOOL NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY GUIDELINES

The purpose of the NHS at KHS is to create enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate a desire to render service, to promote leadership, and to develop character in our students.

NHS Selection Procedures

- To be eligible for NHS, a candidate must have a GPA of 3.500 and meet requirements for character, service and leadership.
- A NHS information packet is given to freshman with a GPA of 3.250 or higher at the beginning of their spring semester. This packet will include current GPA and a full explanation of the requirements to be a candidate for NHS induction.
- A NHS candidate packet is given to sophomores, juniors, & seniors that are not current members with a GPA of 3.450 or higher at the beginning of their fall semester. This packet will include current GPA, a full explanation of the requirements to be a candidate for NHS induction, and a candidate response form to be returned to the office one week after the NHS packet is received.
- At the beginning of the spring semester, the chapter adviser will provide each member of the NHS Faculty Council a profile on each eligible candidate. Eligibility for NHS requires that a student must be a **sophomore, junior, or senior** with the requirements described below.
- Candidate profiles will be anonymous. NHS faculty council members will receive and vote on student profiles via an anonymous survey. In order for a student to become a member of NHS, a majority vote is required from the NHS Faculty Council. **The student profile includes** characteristics of **scholarship, character, service, and leadership.**

Scholarship

The following requirements must be fulfilled by all Kirbyville High School NHS candidates:

- A minimum high school cumulative GPA of 3.500. Grade point averages will NOT be rounded up.
- GPA will include Algebra I and Spanish I taken in junior high school considering these are high school credit courses.

Character

Character plays a major role in our school, community, and society. Therefore, a student's character is a major consideration when evaluating NHS candidates. NHS candidate's teachers from the previous semester will complete a survey evaluating each candidate based on qualities observed in the classroom. The teacher's survey will be anonymous to the Faculty Council.

Leadership qualities include:

accepts criticism	apologizes for mistakes
self-disciplined	consistent good behavior
follows instructions	obeys rules
honest	cooperates with school regulations
reliable	punctual
courteous	respectful
friendly	kind
patient	truthful
avoids cheating	avoids helping others cheat
has integrity	does not attack/under value others
keeps their word	thinks before speaking or acting

Teachers will be asked to rate the character of a candidate using a single number from the scale given below:

3	2	1	0	-1	-2	-3
Excellent			Good			Poor

Discipline records are considered when evaluating a candidate for NHS.

- The number of days assigned to Wildcat University during the fall semester will be considered by the Faculty Council.
- If a student has more than one (1) discipline referral during the current fall semester resulting in out of school suspension (OSS) or in school suspension (ISS), the candidate will NOT be eligible for NHS.
- If a student has a DAEP placement for the current fall semester, the candidate will NOT be eligible for NHS.

Any discipline record before the current fall semester will not be considered.

Service

Qualities of service are considered when evaluating NHS candidates.

The following service requirements must be met for NHS candidacy: Candidates must complete at minimum of 300 minutes (5 hours) of community service in the fall of the same school year.

- Community service must be completed during the current school year.
- All community service hours must be documented on the KHS NHS student community service log. The service log must be submitted the first week of the spring semester.
- Community service completed during the summer break will be considered but is not included in the minimum required minutes listed above.
- Community service completed from another school or community organization will be honored for NHS service credit.
- Half credit is earned for community service accomplished during school hours. For example, students who complete ten (10) minutes service will only receive five (5) minutes credit. Full credit is only earned for community service completed outside of school hours.

Examples of community service during school hours include:

- donating blood at NHS blood drives
- working the KHS Veteran's Day program

Examples of community service outside of school hours include:

- working a fundraiser for a non-profit organization like the East Texas Pregnancy Help Center
- tutoring an elementary, junior high or high school student
- doing yard work or housework for someone in need
- picking up trash along a roadway

Remember, service means working WITHOUT pay.

Leadership

Leadership is another characteristic considered for candidacy. The candidate's teachers from the previous semester will complete a survey evaluating each candidate based on qualities of leadership. The teacher's survey will be anonymous to the Faculty Council. Leadership qualities include:

resourcefulness	proposes solutions
applies fundamental truths	makes suggestions
demonstrates initiative	promotes school spirit
positive influence	delegates responsibility
positive attitude	inspires positive behavior
reliable	dependable
knows that words/actions impact others	accepts responsibility

Teachers will be asked to rate the leadership characteristics of the candidate using a single number given below:

3	2	1	0	-1	-2	-3
Excellent			Good			Poor

In addition to this evaluation, candidates will complete a survey of school and community organizations they are involved in and list specific leadership roles within these organizations. The survey must be submitted three (3) weeks after assigned.

Essay Requirement

At the beginning of the spring semester, candidates are required to submit an essay describing their understanding of the importance of scholarship, leadership, service and character. Essays must be no more than one page, handwritten (approximately 200 words) and submitted three (3) weeks after assigned.

Removal From NHS

KHS reserves the right to remove any NHS member from the program. Members are required to maintain character, scholarship, leadership and service requirements and failing to do so will result in probation. When a member is placed on probation, the following steps are taken.

- The member will receive a written notice identifying reason(s) for probation.
- The member will complete a Member Probation Form acknowledging the reason(s) they have been placed on probation and requirements to regain good standing with NHS.
- Probation will begin immediately.
- Member status will be reviewed by the NHS Faculty Council at the conclusion of the following semester.
- The probation status will be removed once the member has fulfilled the requirements to regain good standing.
- If the member has not fulfilled the requirements to regain good standing, the NHS Faculty Council will vote to remove the member from NHS. (A majority vote is required.)
- Seniors removed from NHS by the NHS faculty council will not be NHS recognized at graduation.

Once A MEMBER IS REMOVED, FOR ANY REASON, THEY ARE INELIGIBLE to be reinstated in the future.

Scholarship Removal

Any member that fails to meet the required 3.500 GPA at the conclusion of a semester will be placed on probation. The member must have obtained a 3.500 GPA by the end of the following semester to bring that grade point average back to a minimum of 3.500 or the NHS Faculty Council will review and vote on dismissal.

Character Removal

Members can be removed from NHS for not following the KHS student code of conduct. Placements in DAEP or expulsion from school will result in the NHS Faculty Council to vote on dismissal. Such offenses do not require a probation period.

Members will be placed on probation for receiving discipline referrals during a semester that result in punishment more severe than a warning or a Wildcat University placement. If a member has additional discipline referrals during the probation period resulting in punishment more severe than a warning or Wildcat University placement, the member will be reviewed for removal by the NHS Faculty Council.

Service Removal

- National Honor Society members are required to earn a minimum of 600 minutes (10 hours) of community service each semester. Hours will be accumulated during the school year, including school holidays. Service hours completed during the summer break will not count for NHS requirements.

Members that fail to earn enough community service hours will be placed on probation and will be required to make up hours not earned in addition to current semester requirements.

Members that fail to earn the required hours will be reviewed for removal by the NHS Faculty Council.

Leadership Removal

MEETING ATTENDANCE

NHS meetings are scheduled every other Tuesday morning from 7:20 to 7:40 a.m. During meetings, members will review probation and removal procedures and receive community service opportunity information.

Members **MUST** attend 50% of the scheduled meetings. Officers are required to attend 75% of the scheduled meetings.

Any member not meeting attendance requirements will be placed on probation and **MUST** attend 50% of the meetings the following semester. Any officer not meeting attendance requirements will be placed on probation and **MUST** attend 75% of the meetings the following semester.

At the conclusion of the probationary period, members not complying with the terms of probation, will be reviewed by the MHS Faculty Council for removal.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

If any NHS member has more than two (2) unexcused absences during a semester, they will be placed on probation. If a member has more than two (2) unexcused absences the following semester, the status of the member will be reviewed by the NHS Faculty Council for removal.