



Independence High School NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY



Selection Criteria 2023-2024

The Independence High School chapter of the National Honor Society accepts students who excel in all four areas – scholarship, leadership, responsibility, and character. The scoring of the National Honor Society application is based upon the following rubric:

1. Scholarship (based on meeting GPA eligibility) (no points awarded)
2. Leadership (2 subcategories with 3 points possible in each)
3. Service (1 - 3 points possible)
4. Character teacher input (at least 2+ points possible)

A minimum of 7 points is required to be considered a viable candidate for final vote for selection into the IHS National Honor Society by the faculty council.

Application due date for the 2023-2024 season is May 5, 2023 4:18 pm. No late applications will be accepted.

An applicant will **not** be selected if:

1. Any section on the application is left blank (areas without signatures will not be counted.)
2. The application does not have at least one point in **EACH** pillar section/subsection (leadership personal statement, leadership activities, service and character).
3. There is a score of fewer than 7 points combined from the three pillars (Leadership, Service, and Character) in which points are awarded.
4. There is a **disciplinary** infraction on the student's record. (The faculty council will determine the seriousness of the infraction and may deny membership solely on this infraction even if the student has the total points needed. Cheating, plagiarism, suspension, and in school restriction are considered infractions.)

The scoring of each area is based upon the judgments made by the committee (with help of INDY teachers on character) and how each application fits the rubric. The following descriptors are taken from the NHS Handbook to give further help in definitions of scholarship, leadership, service and character.

Scholarship: Student has earned a cumulative 3.5 GPA or higher

Leadership: (Actively participates in several in or out of school activities)

- Demonstrates initiative in promoting school activities
- Exercises influence on peers in upholding school ideals
- Contributes ideas that promote civic life of the school
- Is able to delegate responsibilities
- Exemplifies positive attitude and inspires positive behavior in others
- Successfully holds school offices or positions of responsibility
- Demonstrates reliability and dependability
- Is a classroom leader, at work, and in other school or community activities
- Is willing to uphold scholarship

Service: (Performs unpaid volunteer service to school and community)- must have a minimum of 30 service hours since the summer prior to your freshman year of high school

- Student has volunteered and provided dependable, organized assistance
- Works well with others and is willing to take on difficult responsibilities
- Renders any service requested to the school
- Is willing to represent the class or school in inter-class and inter-scholastic competition
- Does committee and staff work without complaint
- Participates in some activity outside of school, for example, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, church groups, or volunteer services for the elderly

Character: (There are seven (7) traits that make up Character)

This score is determined through review of your disciplinary record and review of the faculty council.

- Student demonstrates respect, responsibility, trustworthiness, honesty, and citizenship
- Takes criticism willingly and accepts recommendations graciously
- Consistently exemplifies desirable qualities of behavior
- Upholds principles of morality and ethics
- Regularly shows concern, courtesy, and respect for others
- Demonstrates the highest standards of honesty and reliability
- Manifests truthfulness in acknowledging obedience to rules, avoiding cheating in written work (not only cheating off someone, but also allowing someone to cheat off you and/or knowing that cheating is occurring and not actively trying to deter it) and showing unwillingness to profit by the mistakes of other.

Scoring Rubric for Assessing Membership The NHS
Pillars (Scholarship is not scored)

CRITERIA	DESCRIPTION	EVIDENCE	POSSIBLE POINTS	SCORE
Leadership Leadership is based on Personal Statement and Student Activities form of application	Student demonstrates leadership through active membership in clubs, activities or sports. One of the activities must be a school activity. Leadership skills and involvement are clearly identified in activities over an extended period of time.	Personal statement EXCEEDS: Provides thorough explanation of leadership activity. MEETS: Statement shows relevant and sufficient examples of student leadership. BELOW: Statement does not relate to the question and contains no examples of leadership in action.	3 pts 2 pts 1 pt	
		Activities EXCEEDS: Student participates in 3 or more activities. At least 2 activities for a year or more. MEETS: Student participates in 2 activities. At least 1 activity is for a year or more. BELOW: Student participates in 1 or less activity and/or activity participation is for one semester.	3pts 2pts 1pt	
Service	Students shows evidence of service performed in school and/or community.	31+ hours Up to 30 hours Less than 30 hours	2pts 1pt 0pts	
Character	Student shows evidence of exemplifying the desirable qualities of character to include being respectful, mature, responsible, honest, trustworthy and a good citizen	Faculty input form used here. INDY teachers will be asked to select students they believe exemplify the desirable qualities of character. Student grade cannot be a factor in their decision, and they are encouraged only consider students they have interacted with. 2pts per teacher selection.		

A total of at least 7 points is expected for acceptance into the National Honor Society. Each applicant MUST accumulate at least one point in each of the following: leadership personal statement, leadership activities, service and character

