

National Honor Society Criteria for Selection*
for
Damascus High School

The Honor Society chapter establishes rules for membership that are based upon a student's outstanding performance in the areas of scholarship, service, leadership, and character. These criteria for selection form the foundation upon which the organization and its activities are built.

Scholarship: Students who have a cumulative grade point average of 3.50 or a 3.750 weighted cumulative grade point average will meet the scholarship requirement for membership. We will use the end of the first semester grades of the junior year for admission. There will be a second installation based on final grades of the junior year for installation in the fall of the senior year. These students are then eligible for consideration on the basis of service, leadership and character.

Service: This criterion is defined as the voluntary contributions made by a student to the school and/or community, done without compensation and with a positive, courteous, and enthusiastic spirit.

Leadership: Student leaders are those who are resourceful, good problem solvers, promoters of school activities, idea-contributors, dependable, and persons who exemplify positive attitudes about life. Leadership experiences can be drawn from school or community activities while working with or for others. Each candidate will write an essay explaining how they demonstrate this qualification.

Character: The student of good character upholds principles of morality and ethics, is cooperative, demonstrates high standards of honesty and reliability, shows courtesy, concern, and respect for others, and generally maintains a good and clean lifestyle. Each candidate will write an essay explaining how they meet this qualification.

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RSVP Reminders: All RSVP's and essays must be submitted to Ms. Ward in the Media Center by the end of 7th period on the due date. No late replies will be accepted for any reason, even an excused absence from school. If there is an emergency closing of the school the day that the RSVP and essays are due they will become due by the end of 7th period on the next school day.

Each eligible student's name will be submitted to the Faculty Council of Damascus High School, the Guidance Department and the Administration for comment on eligibility based on these criteria and the candidates' written essay that address the criteria. There is no process for appealing because juniors who do not qualify for the spring induction may be tapped for the following fall induction, and seniors who do not qualify for the fall induction were already provided with a second opportunity to be inducted if the required grade point average was achieved.

*adapted from the official site of the National Honor Society <http://www.nhs.us>

National Honor Society R.S.V.P. Process

The National Honor Society defines its mission through four pillars: scholarship, service, leadership and character.

Step 1:

You have met the Scholarship and Service requirements to be inducted into the National Honor Society by having attained a 3.50 cumulative grade point average (scholarship pillar), or having attained a 3.750 weighted cumulative grade point average (scholarship pillar).

Step 2:

Before you can be inducted into the National Honor Society, however, you must tell us how you meet the **leadership, character and service** criteria for membership. Type a one-page, MLA, Ivanagoodgrad style essay addressing these three pillars.

Step 3:

Finally, please explain on a second typed page any **documented disciplinary action** taken against you in the last school year (example: a tardy detention). This does not preclude membership in NHS but will be reviewed by the Faculty Council to determine eligibility. If you have no documented disciplinary actions, write a complete sentence indicating that you do not have any documented disciplinary actions. If you do have documented disciplinary actions, explain in one poignant paragraph the circumstances, actions and outcomes.

Step 4:

Staple your Leadership and Character essay and disciplinary action page on top of this process sheet and submit Ms. Ward no later than the end of 7th period of the **R.S.V.P. date**.