

# Archbishop Alter High School National Honor Society

## Purpose

The National Honor Society (NHS) is the nation's premier organization established to recognize outstanding high school students. More than just an honor roll, NHS serves to recognize those students who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of scholarship, leadership, service, and character.

The purpose of The Archbishop Alter High School Chapter of the National Honor society is to create enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate a desire to render service, to promote leadership, and to develop character.

## Selection of Membership

**Criteria:** National Guidelines are followed. Applicants are rated in the qualities of (1) scholarship, (2) leadership, (3) service (4) extracurricular activities, and (5) character. All have equal weight. See Archbishop Alter NHS rating rubrics for specific criteria within each section. Applicants must achieve a minimum of 15 points to gain admission.

**Minimum Standards:** Students must have a 3.6 cumulative grade point average through the most recent grading period. Students must participate actively in school activities and/or community activities.

**Selection Process:** Students must submit a completed application, which is then reviewed by a selection committee comprised of faculty members.

## A complete application includes:

1. All portions of the NHS application completed thoroughly, neatly, and legibly.
2. List of extracurricular activities and/or employment with coach/ moderator signatures, printed name, phone number and email.
3. List of service activities with moderator signatures, printed name, phone number and email.
4. An essay describing how they have demonstrated leadership both in the community and in the school environment.
5. Alter Faculty Member Brief Summary and signature.
  - A signature from a faculty member indicates that said faculty member believes applicant to be worthy of committee's consideration. The faculty member must also include a brief summary stating reasons WHY the student should be considered for National Honor Society acceptance.
6. Student Signature
  - Signature from student indicates acknowledgement that submission of the application does not guarantee selection to the National Honor Society and that the information submitted is accurate. The student also acknowledges that the criteria presented for selection is the same criteria that expected to maintain membership in the National Honor Society.
7. Parent Signature
  - Parent Signature on the application verifies that the student's application is true and accurate. Parent's signature also acknowledges knowledge of the selection criteria and membership expectations.

**Expectations of Members:** All members of the Archbishop Alter High School Chapter of the National Honor Society are expected to continually demonstrate excellence in all areas of membership. Each member must document 12 NHS services hours per each year of membership, 4 of which must be within the NHS Tutoring Program.

**Questions?** Students only contact one of the following NHS Moderators:

Mrs. Barb Groene- [barbara.groene@alterhs.org](mailto:barbara.groene@alterhs.org)

Ms. CarrieAnn Sanders- [carriann.sanders@alterhs.org](mailto:carriann.sanders@alterhs.org)

# **Archbishop Alter High School National Honor Society Criteria Guidelines**

The following criteria and information taken from the National Honor Society Handbook will give further help in the definition of leadership, service, and character.

## **Leadership**

The student who exercises leadership:

- Is resourceful in proposing new solutions, 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 attitudes.
- Inspires positive behavior in others.
- Demonstrates academic initiative.
- Successfully holds school offices or positions of responsibility; conducts business effectively and efficiently; demonstrates reliability and dependability.
- Is a leader in the classroom, at work, and in other school or community activities.
- Is thoroughly dependable in any responsibility accepted.
- Is willing to uphold scholarship and maintain a loyal school attitude.

## **Service**

The student who serves:

- Volunteers and provides 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 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.
- Mentors persons in the community or students at other schools.
- Shows courtesy by assisting visitors, teachers, and students.

## **Character**

A person of character demonstrates the following six qualities: respect, responsibility, trustworthiness, fairness, caring, and citizenship. In addition, it can also be said that the 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.

## **Scholarship**

The student seeking membership in the Archbishop Alter High School Chapter of the National Honor Society has maintained a minimum 3.6 cumulative grade point average.

# Archbishop Alter High School National Honor Society Membership Application

Please type or print neatly. Completion of this form does not guarantee selection.

## Section I: Personal Data

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Year of Graduation: \_\_\_\_\_

## Section II: Extracurricular Activities/Employment

On the attached form, list all activities, inside or outside the school, in which you have participated during high school. Include clubs, musical groups, sports, and work experience, including present job, if applicable. The signature of the coach/moderator **of each activity** is required to verify involvement.

## Section III: Leadership Positions

A typed essay describing elected or appointed leadership positions held in school, community, or work AND at school. Include only those positions in which you were directly responsible for directing or motivating others.

## Section IV: Service Activities

Service generally includes those actions undertaken by the student that are done with, or on behalf of others without any direct financial or material compensation to the individual performing the service. In considering service, the candidate's contributions to the school, to classmates, and to the community are reviewed.

## Part V: Faculty Endorsement

Have a faculty member sign below who feels you deserve membership in the National Honor Society. Faculty member: please write a brief essay describing why you feel this student is eligible for the National Honor Society. Please place in Barb Groene's or CarrieAnn Sanders mailbox.

Faculty Member \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Part VI: Signatures

I understand that completing this application does not guarantee selection to the National Honor Society and that the information presented here is accurate. I also understand that the criteria for selection is the same criteria that I would be expected to maintain as a member of the National Honor Society.

Student \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

I have read the information provided by my student on this form and can verify that it is true, accurate, and complete in its presentation.

Parent \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**\*The Archbishop Alter Chapter of the National Honor Society, the principal, and the committee members are not obligated to share any specific information regarding the nonselection of a student.**

# Archbishop Alter High School National Honors Society Application Rubric

*Applicants must achieve a minimum of 20 points to gain admission.*

## Extracurricular Activities Rubric

Extracurricular activities include, but are not limited to, clubs, musical groups, teams, athletics, and work experience throughout high school career.

5	Participation in 5 or more extracurricular activities at school and/or in the community OR applicant is employed 15 or more hours per week.
4	Participation in 4 extracurricular activities at school and/or in the community OR applicant is employed 10-14 hours per week.
3	Participation in 3 extracurricular activities at school and/or in the community OR applicant is employed 5-9 hours per week.
2	Participation in 2 extracurricular activities at school and/or in the community OR applicant is employed less than 5 hours per week.

## Service Rubric

5	Applicant has accrued 25 or more hours of service per year at Alter.
4	Applicant has accrued 18-24 hours of service per year at Alter.
3	Applicant has accrued 12-17 hours of service per year at Alter.
2	Applicant has accrued 6-11 hours of service per year at Alter.
1	Applicant has accrued 5 or less hours of service per year at Alter.

## Scholarship Rubric

5	Applicant has achieved a 4.2 or greater cumulative grade point average.
4	Applicant has achieved a 3.9 to 4.19 cumulative grade point average.
3	Applicant has achieved a 3.6 to 3.89 cumulative grade point average.

## Character Criteria

Applicant is evaluated according to the National Honor Society standards for good character, which state the student is of character: takes criticism willingly and accepts recommendations graciously; consistently exemplifies desirable qualities of behavior; upholds principles of morality and ethics; cooperates by complying with school regulations; demonstrates the highest standards of honesty and reliability; shows courtesy, concern, and respect for others; observes instructions and rules; exhibits concentration and sustained attention as shown by perseverance and application to studies; manifests truthfulness in acknowledging obedience to rules, avoiding cheating in written work.

Character is automatically questioned by events leading to suspension from school, consistent lateness, cheating or other offenses brought forth by a member of the faculty or administration. Behavior record of applicant will be used to verify the aforementioned standards.