

Freeport High School National Honor Society Chapter Bylaws

1. GENERAL RULES AND GUIDELINES

All members are required to:

- Attend regularly scheduled monthly NHS meetings and other called meetings.
 - Meetings are scheduled for the first Thursday of each month.
 - Meetings are held in room
 - If a member misses more than THREE meetings, he/she will be placed on probation
- Maintain a 93 cumulative GPA
 - Students whose GPA falls below a 93 will be placed on probation and given one semester to improve their grades.
- Participate in scheduled NHS service projects
 - All members are required to complete ten (10) hours of community service a term; failure to do so, will result in a member being put on probation and given one term to make up the hours.
 - Community Service Verification Forms are due at the end of each term. The advisors have the forms.

Community service is defined as:

- Service done outside of school (**students cannot receive credit or fulfill a component of a class as a result of this service**)
- Activities done in service of the aged, poor, or disadvantaged (activities done in association with Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Church groups, or other service groups are also acceptable)
- Fundraisers for non-profit events (Walk for Hunger, Relay for Life, etc.)
- Peer tutoring, peer mentoring, and other peer support groups (as long as the student is not receiving class credit for these services)
- Service should be outside of events planned and held by other clubs, teams, or classes

*Students who fail to attend scheduled meetings, complete service hour requirements, or who fail to uphold the high standards of character necessary for inclusion in the National Honor Society will be placed on probation. Serious or continued difficulties in these areas will lead to forfeiture of the privileges of membership in the NHS.

2. APPLICATION AND SELECTION

The selection criteria for NHS will be based on an evaluation of students' performance according to the four criteria: Scholarship, Character, Leadership, and Service. Any junior or senior who maintains a cumulative GPA of 93 or higher meets the criteria for Scholarship; the students must also be enrolled at FHS for at least one full year. The NHS Faculty Council will examine students' application and determine if students meet the criteria in Character, Leadership, and Service.

The Faculty Council will use the following criteria when applications are read and evaluated.

Character

- Exhibits the 6 Pillars of NHS Character: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship
- Courteous and respectful in all endeavors
- Actively works to overcome negative influences in and outside of school
- Consistently exhibits mature, moral, and ethical behavior

Leadership

- Exercises leadership both inside the classroom and outside of the school by having a positive influence on peers (as evidenced by: election or appointment to positions of responsibility, such as class representative, Student Council representative, sports team captain, etc.; participation in organizing/planning events; leadership in activities outside of school, such as work and other civic organizations); students should have multiple examples of leadership in both school and the community.
- Exemplifies positive qualities such as reliability and dependability
- Contributes to the overall improvement of the school by inspiring positive attitudes in others
- Leads by example by delegating responsibility or by assuming roles that others will not do
- Is resourceful in problem-solving and takes academic initiative

Service

- Has a minimum of 25 hours of community service; the service should be unpaid activities that were done to help the community. These hours should be completed during high school and should span several years; there should be a variety of activities completed.
- Demonstrates service to the school community (as evidenced by: active involvement in school activities, not only by membership but also by constant service; reliability in his or her service endeavors; taking on difficult or challenging roles; service that stretches continuously over the high school career)

Community service is defined as:

- Service done outside of school (**students cannot receive credit or fulfill a component of a class as a result of this service**)
- Activities done in service of the aged, poor, or disadvantaged (activities done in association with Interact Club, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Church groups, or other service groups are also acceptable)
- Fundraisers for non-profit events
- Peer tutoring, peer mentoring, and other peer support groups

3. ELECTION AND DUTY OF OFFICERS

This chapter of the National Honor Society will maintain the following officer positions:

President: It is the duty of the president to preside at the meetings for this chapter and to organize and send out service opportunities.

Vice-President: The Vice-President shall preside in the absence of the President and shall keep the record of member's contributions to leadership and service.

Secretary: The Secretary shall keep the minutes of meetings.

Treasurer: The Treasurer shall keep the record of chapter expenses, dues, and other financial transactions and of attendance at meetings.