

# National Honor Society Application Rubric for Essay

**Applicant ID Number:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Score** \_\_\_\_\_

Directions: Circle the score that best describes the information provided in each section of the application. Then, add the scores and write in the overall score above.

Category	5 Points	4 Points	3 Points	2 Points	1 Point
<b>Introductory Paragraph</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Strong, compelling reason for joining NJHS.</li> <li>- Engages the reader with a thoughtful tone.</li> <li>- Aligns with NJHS values.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Clear reason stated but lacks depth or engagement.</li> <li>- Solid but less inspiring.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Vague or generic reason.</li> <li>- Limited reader engagement.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Weak reason for joining.</li> <li>- Disorganized or unclear.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Missing or minimal introduction.</li> <li>- Irrelevant reason.</li> </ul>
	<b>5 Points</b>	<b>4 Points</b>	<b>3 Points</b>	<b>2 Points</b>	<b>1 Point</b>
<b>Body Paragraph(s) (Volunteer Experience/Challenge)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Clearly describes specific experience or challenge.</li> <li>- Reflects on personal impact and NJHS criteria.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Describes experience or challenge with some reflection.</li> <li>- Limited depth in connection to NJHS criteria.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Experience or challenge mentioned but lacks detail or reflection.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Experience or challenge is vague, with little reflection.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Missing or unclear experience or challenge.</li> </ul>
	<b>5 Points</b>	<b>4 Points</b>	<b>3 Points</b>	<b>2 Points</b>	<b>1 Point</b>
<b>Summary Paragraph</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Strong explanation of why they'd be an asset.</li> <li>- Reflects on qualities aligning with NJHS criteria .</li> <li>- Compelling conclusion.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Explains asset value but lacks strong conclusion.</li> <li>- Limited alignment with NJHS criteria.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- General statement about being an asset with limited connection to NJHS criteria .</li> <li>- Weak conclusion.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Weak explanation of why they should be selected.</li> <li>- Little connection to NJHS criteria.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Missing or minimal conclusion.</li> <li>- No clear reason for selection.</li> </ul>
	<b>5 Points</b>	<b>4 Points</b>	<b>3 Points</b>	<b>2 Points</b>	<b>1 Point</b>
<b>Mechanics (Grammar, Spelling, Structure)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Free of grammatical, spelling, or punctuation errors.</li> <li>- Clear structure and transitions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Minimal errors.</li> <li>- Good structure and flow.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Some errors distract from content.</li> <li>- Adequate structure with limited transitions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Frequent errors.</li> <li>- Poor structure or organization.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Numerous errors interfere with understanding.</li> <li>- Disorganized.</li> </ul>

**Total Points:** \_\_\_\_\_/20