

National Honor Society Points System

In alignment with the National Honor Society's (NHS) four pillars—Scholarship, Service, Leadership, and Character—the Perryville High School National Honor Society Points System is designed to foster and evaluate these core values in our members. Below is an overview of the points system, with each section highlighting its connection to the respective pillars.

Membership Requirements:

To maintain active membership, members must earn at least 60 points each semester through participation in meetings, events, service projects, and leadership activities.

GPA Points:

All members of the National Honor Society are required to maintain a weighted GPA of at least 3.5 at the end of each semester.

- Students who have a weighted GPA of 4.0 or higher at the conclusion of each semester will be awarded 10 points

Pillar Connection:

Scholarship: Demonstrates a commitment to academic excellence, intellectual growth, and a strong work ethic.

Character: Reflects perseverance, responsibility, and integrity in maintaining high academic standards.

Chapter Involvement/Committee/NHS Service Project Points:

(minimum of 12 per semester)

Members are expected to attend all chapter meetings unless there is a legitimate excuse. Examples of legitimate excuses include sickness, field trip, family emergencies, Cecil College class, etc. Excuses are legitimized with a note from a parent/guardian/coach/supervisor/teacher. Only two excused absences from meetings will be accepted. Meeting dates are published in advance and will not run longer than one hour, so plan accordingly.

Being a part of a committee means planning ongoing events, or working throughout the semester to put together one big event.

- Attend a Chapter Meeting = 2 points (usually once a month/5 per semester)
 - Must be on time (no more than 5 minutes late) and stay for the entire meeting
- Wear your NHS shirt to service functions = 1 point per instance
- Helping at a PHS sponsored event (freshman orientation, back-to-school night, college fair, graduation, ushering the musical, etc...) = 1 point per event
- Reach out to an organization to set up volunteer opportunities for NHS members = 2 points
- Serve as a committee head = 5 points each semester
 - Leads committee meetings, reports agendas to NHS advisor, point person for questions, gives report at monthly chapter meetings (must demonstrate active participation)
 - You must submit an agenda and a list of members who attended the meeting
- Be part of a committee
 - Committee Meeting = 1 point per meeting (this counts for meetings that occur outside of normal chapter meetings)
- Make a Flyer for an event = 1 point per flyer
- Making or purchasing items for events, such as baked goods or drinks = 1 point per item (with advisor's approval)
- Attending an event for our chapter (Boo Bash, Winter Wonderland, Senior Citizen Dinner Dance) = 1 point per hour
 - *Each member is required to attend at least one NHS community service event*

Pillar Connection:

Service: Addresses specific needs within the community through organized efforts.

Leadership: Empowers members to spearhead initiatives and manage projects.

Character: Demonstrates dedication and follow-through in seeing projects to completion.

Community Volunteering (not with NHS):
(minimum of 5/maximum of 25 per semester)

- Volunteering in the community means helping others/organizations that support others in need
 - Community volunteering is not associated with school based organizations or activities
 - Helping family members/close relatives is not considered community service
 - When in doubt, speak with an NHS advisor (don't rely on adults not associated with NHS)
- 1 point for every hour spent volunteering in the community
 - Max of 25 points per semester
 - Members are encouraged to continue to document their involvement in the community above and beyond the 25 hours (for college applications and scholarships)

Pillar Connection:

Service: Promotes civic engagement and giving back to the community.

Character: Demonstrates compassion, responsibility, and ethical behavior by dedicating time to help others.

Leadership Positions:
(maximum 20 points)

- Attend a leadership or community service-related workshop, conference, or webinar = 1 point
 - Must provide a certificate of completion or supervisor/teacher sign off/email confirmation
- Be a team captain= 5 points (per sport)
- Be an assistant team captain= 3 points (per sport)
- Be a drum major for the marching band = 5 points
- Be a section leader in the band = 3 points
- Have a lead role in the musical = 3 points
- Hold an officer position in a different club/activity
 - President = 5 points
 - Vice President = 3 points
 - Secretary = 3 points
 - Treasurer = 3 points
- Hold a leadership position at work = 3 points
- Hold a leadership position in out-of-school activities = 3 points per activity
 - Coaches/ Club Advisors/work supervisors/etc... must sign off that you are in (or completed) the leadership position including dates of leadership
 - Leadership points can only be earned once in a school year (choose the semester it best applies)

Pillar Connection:

Scholarship: Expands knowledge and skill sets through learning experiences.

Leadership: Encourages initiative and the ability to guide peers.

Character: Demonstrates dedication to self-improvement and accountability in leadership roles.

Extra Curricular Activities:

- Be a part of another in-school club = 1 point per meeting (max of 5 points per semester)
 - Documentation of meeting attendance is required
- Participate in a full season of an in-school sport = 7 points per sport
- Participate as a manager for a full season of an in-school sport = 3 points per sport
- Participation in a full season of marching band or musical production = 7 points per semester
- Participate in out-of-school activities, such as dance, martial arts, musical lessons, scouts, etc... = 7 points per activity
 - These activities must be long-term activities
 - Proof of participation is required such as a letter from the director showing dates of participation
- Maintain a job of at least 4 hours per week = 4 points (max of 4 points per semester)
 - Proof of employment is required such as a letter from the supervisor showing dates of employment

Pillar Connection:

Scholarship: Encourages well-rounded development by balancing academics and extracurricular activities.

Character: Builds teamwork, dedication, and perseverance.

NHS Officer Points:

Holding an officer position requires dedication to Leadership and Service, as officers are responsible for organizing events, overseeing member involvement, and setting a positive example.

- **President-**

- Attend an Officer Meeting = 2 points (usually once a month/5 per semester/10 per school year)
- Run a Chapter Meeting = 2 points
- Reach out to an organization to set up volunteer opportunities = 2 points
- Write and give a speech at an event = 5 points

Pillar Connection:

Leadership: Guides the chapter by leading meetings and representing the organization publicly.

Character: Exhibits integrity and reliability in fulfilling presidential duties.

- **Vice President-**

- Attend an Officer Meeting = 2 points (usually once a month/5 per semester/10 per school year)
- Log Member Volunteer Hours = 1 point for every 15 minutes spent logging
- Reach out to an organization to set up volunteer opportunities = 2 points
- Fill in for President during Chapter Meeting = 2 points

Pillar Connection:

Leadership: Supports the President and ensures continuity in leadership.

Service: Assists in administrative tasks that benefit the chapter.

- **Secretary-**

- Attend an Officer Meeting = 2 points (usually once a month/5 per semester/10 per school year)
- Create Agenda for Chapter Meeting = 2 points
- Take Attendance at Chapter Meeting = 1 point
- Reach out to an organization to set up volunteer opportunities = 2 points

Pillar Connection:

Scholarship: Demonstrates organizational skills and attention to detail.

Character: Maintains accurate records, reflecting honesty and dependability.

- **Treasurer-**

- Attend an Officer Meeting = 2 points (usually once a month/5 per semester/10 per school year)
- Update financial spreadsheet = 1 point for every 15 minutes spent logging
- Set up fundraising opportunities = 2 points
- Reach out to an organization to set up volunteer opportunities = 2 points

Pillar Connection:

Character: Ensures financial integrity and transparency.

Service: Manages funds to support chapter initiatives.

Penalty Points:

- Each member and a parent/guardian must sign off on the NHS by-laws signature form before the first meeting of the school year. Failure to do so will result in one penalty point being added to your total amount of points needed for the first semester each school day that the handbook isn't signed by 3:00 PM. If the signature form is not signed after two weeks, the member will be placed on probation and cannot participate in any National Honor Society activities until the signature form is signed. The max number of penalty points for this is 10 points.
- When you sign up to do something, people are counting on you to do it. If you don't show up (or don't complete your part) without prior notice (at least 8 hours), you will receive a penalty of 4 points per occurrence.
- Failure to uphold the 4 pillars of NHS at school or in the community will result in penalty points:
 - Weighted GPA drops below 3.5 - loss of 5 points per semester (lack of scholarship)
 - Excessive tardiness to school - loss of 2 points per semester (lack of character and leadership)
 - Excessive tardiness is defined as 4 or more unexcused late arrivals to school
 - NHS advisors, all teachers, and administrators have access to your attendance records daily
 - Placement in MIP - loss of 2 - 5 points depending upon circumstances (lack of character and leadership)
 - Suspension from school - loss of 5 - 10 points depending on circumstances (lack of character and leadership)
 - Additionally, NHS members can be placed on probation for failing to uphold any of the four pillars (see the posted PHS NHS by-laws)

Why This System?

This system replaces traditional hour requirements with a points-based model that aligns with NHS's four pillars:

Scholarship: Encourages intellectual growth through leadership development and participation in academic clubs.

Service: Recognizes meaningful contributions to the community through organized projects and volunteerism.

Leadership: Rewards initiative, responsibility, and the ability to inspire others.

Character: Reinforces integrity, dependability, and ethical behavior in all aspects of NHS membership.

By using this system, members can tailor their involvement to their strengths while still upholding the National Honor Society's core values.