



National Honor Society



Selection Criteria

rev. 5/21/19

In accordance with the NHS National Constitution, students eligible for membership in Little Miami High School's chapter of NHS will already have met the four tenets: scholarship, leadership, service and character.

Scholarship:

Candidates must have a cumulative GPA of 3.5 (unweighted) or 3.75 (weighted) by the spring of their junior year.

Leadership:

Candidates must name two leadership roles at the school or in the community achieved since ninth grade, submit a one page essay describing these roles and what leadership means, and have an adult who supervised these activities listed on the information form.

Leadership is defined as an activity in which students have had an organizational role. Leadership may be demonstrated in the context of service (e.g., organizing a canned food drive), school or community activity (e.g., captain of a soccer team), or paid position (e.g., crew trainer at McDonalds).

A student shows leadership when he or she:

- Is resourceful in proposing new solutions and making suggestions
- Demonstrates initiative in promoting activities
- Contributes ideas that improve the civic life of the school or community
- Is able to delegate responsibilities
- Inspires positive behavior in others
- Demonstrates initiative
- Is dependable in any responsibility accepted

Service:

Candidates who have completed 30 hours of community service since grade nine will be eligible for membership. An adult supervisor must be listed on the information form.

Service is defined as an altruistic act undertaken on the behalf of others without any direct financial or material compensation. The faculty council will not consider leadership or service hours verified by a family member. All such must be independently verifiable.

The student who serves:

- Volunteers and provides dependable and well-organized assistance, and is willing to make sacrifices to offer assistance
- Works well with others and is willing to take on difficult or inconspicuous responsibilities
- Does committee and staff work without complaint
- Participates in some activity outside of school (for example, Boy Scouts, religious groups, volunteer services for the elderly, poor, or disadvantaged)
- Mentors in the community or students at other schools
- Shows courtesy by assisting visitors, teachers and students

Character

All candidates are assumed to be of good character unless there is evidence to the contrary. A list of candidates is emailed to the Little Miami faculty at the time of selection, allowing staff to register concerns should they have any. Such concerns are brought to the faculty council for consideration, and it is the faculty council (NOT the adviser) who renders a final decision as to the severity of the concern and to its effect, if any, on the candidate's suitability for NHS.

The student of character:

- Consistently exemplifies positive and desirable qualities of behavior (cheerfulness, friendliness, poise, stability)
- Cooperates by complying with all school policies and codes of student conduct
- Takes criticism willingly and accepts recommendations graciously
- Demonstrates the highest standards of honesty, academic integrity and reliability
- Regularly exhibits courtesy, concern, and respect for others
- Complies with instructions and rules, and displays personal responsibility

Voting Procedures for the Faculty Council

The number of faculty members serving as voting members of the faculty council is set at five. Maintaining an odd-numbered council ensures that voting will resolve questions with a majority or greater vote.

Once the council has discussed and deliberated over a candidate's information packet, the student's admission as an inductee is registered by simple majority vote.

Concern regarding the identity of members of the faculty council usually arises when parents of non-selected students wish to ask the council members why the student is not selected. Because the chapter adviser and principal are chiefly responsible for responding to parental concerns, the national office does not encourage such inquisitions and supports local chapter efforts to maintain the confidentiality of the faculty council.

In accordance with the National NHS Constitution, there is no automatic right of appeal in the case of non-selection. As has been established by the courts and by precedent, NHS membership is a privilege extended by the faculty to students it deems to have met a set of criteria, not a right to which non-selected students are being denied.

No candidates shall be considered by the faculty council after the submission deadline for packets.