

National Honor Society Rules

MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the National Honor Society is both an honor and a responsibility. Students elected to membership are expected to continue to demonstrate the qualities of high scholarship, service, leadership, and character that are used to select members.

ELIGIBILITY FOR ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to students in the tenth, eleventh and twelfth grades at Sangre de Cristo High School. Candidates must have been in attendance at the school for one semester and must be carrying four academic solid subjects. Students may not apply for membership; they are selected by faculty or a faculty council.

SELECTION CRITERIA

SCHOLARSHIP. Candidates must have a cumulative scholastic average of at least 3.30 GPA or above. Teacher aide grades are not used in the computation of GPA.

LEADERSHIP. This criterion is regarded as highly important for membership selection. Leadership roles in terms of offices held both in and out of school, as well as less objective leadership positions, may be considered.

CHARACTER. This is probably the most difficult criterion to define. The positive aspects of character including honesty, responsibility, fairness, courtesy, tolerance and cooperation will be considered. Negative character traits may also be considered, but judgments will be free of hearsay and rumor.

SERVICE. The criterion of service is often defined in terms of performance. Valid questions are: What contributions has the candidate made to school, classmates, and community? What is the student's attitude toward service?

SELECTION PROCEDURE

Eligible students will be notified and must complete an activity information form. Candidates will be evaluated using the activity form and teacher input. Students will be rated in each of the four areas: scholarship, leadership, character and service.

DISMISSAL

Membership in the National Honor Society is both an honor and a responsibility. Students selected for membership are expected to continue to demonstrate the qualities of high scholarship, service, leadership, and character that are used to select members.

It is the responsibility of the chapter advisor to periodically review the standing of members for compliance with Society standards. The goal of the disciplinary measures shall be to reeducate the student to more appropriate behavior. Constructive discipline may lead to student improvement in areas of deficiency. If a member of National Honor Society fails to maintain the standards of the organization in relationship to scholarship, service, leadership, or character, it is the responsibility of any faculty or staff member to discipline the NHS member immediately. Written documentation of the incident warranting discipline is optional.

The student may be sent a letter of warning prior to the probationary letter if it is deemed appropriate. Only one warning letter will be issued per student per membership period. Each case will be treated on an individual basis.

When it is determined that the student's behavior warrants the consideration of dismissal (following a thorough investigation), these procedures shall be followed:

PROBATION: An appropriate probation period may be determined. Only one warning period is allowed during a student's membership. In the case of a flagrant violation of school rules or civil laws, a warning may not be given.

1. **The probation period when a student's GPA drops below the school requirements for NHS shall be one semester. If a senior student allows his/her GPA to drop below the requirement at the end of the 7th semester, he/she will be automatically dismissed from NHS.**
2. A recommended probation period for violations other than those for scholarship shall not be less than nine (9) weeks and not more than one semester. At the end of the probation period the status of the member in question will be determined.

WARNING LETTER: A written letter of warning shall be sent to the student upon probation.

1. The letter will briefly state the nature of the violation, the time period given for improvement, and the possible consequences of non-improvement.
2. Following the letter of warning, the student will meet with the chapter advisor to discuss the student's plan for improvement.

DECISION: When it is decided that dismissal is warranted, the member shall be notified in writing. The member will be allowed to explain the situation.

DISMISSAL: Upon dismissal, written notice of the decision is sent to the member, his or her parents or guardians, and the principal.

1. Once a member has been dismissed or has resigned, he/she is never again eligible for Honor Society membership.
2. The dismissed member must return his/her insignia and membership card.