

For many students, selection as a member of the National Honor Society is the pinnacle of their achievements in high school. This honor, recognized throughout the nation, is both the public recognition of accomplishment and the private commitment to continued excellence on the part of the new member.

National Honor Society Handbook, 18th ed.

The Philosophy of the Selection Process

The following recommendations come directly from the National Council, as found in the NHS Handbook.

1. Selection to NHS is a privilege bestowed upon students by the Faculty of the school, and not considered a right inherent to any student. Students do not apply for membership in the National Honor Society. Instead, they await an invitation to provide the information that supports their candidacy.
2. NHS is *more than an honor roll*. Each member must demonstrate not only good grades, but also strength in each of the remaining three criteria. This is not an election, nor is membership automatically conveyed simply because a student has achieved a specified level of academic performance.
3. The selection process should be public information. As such, the selection process of the **Bedford High School National Honor Society** is published in this document for clarity and communication with the Bedford community.

The Selection Process

1. **Review** The selection process is reviewed yearly by the five person Faculty Council, facilitated by the NHS adviser, approved by the building principal, and published to this document for the community.
2. **Academic Eligibility is Determined** In order to be eligible for membership to the BHS NHS, a student must have a 3.50 *weighted* GPA at the end of Semester 1 of his/her Junior year.
3. **Candidates are Notified** Students who are eligible per their GPA will receive a letter of invitation. This letter will inform the candidates that to be considered further, they must complete the assigned **Candidate Information Assignments**. Candidates will be invited to attend an informative meeting where the NHS adviser will be available for questions. *These assignments will have a strict due date which must be adhered to. Any assignments that are submitted late will be grounds for non-selection and the candidate will be allowed to submit an appeal.* The Candidate Information Assignments are as follows.
 1. **Completed Candidate Demographics Form (Google Form)**
 - i. This provides your name and school contact information. This also indicates your interest in being selected by the chapter.
 2. **Completed Leadership Reflection (Google Doc)**
 - i. In this assignment, you will identify one leadership role that is exemplary of your quality and write a reflection about it.
 3. **Completed Service Record (Google Doc)**
 - i. You will need to fill out information with community service that has been completed since the beginning of Freshman year and include screenshots from X2Vol.
 4. **Completed Faculty Evaluations (From teachers you invite)**
 - i. Each candidate is required to have three evaluations submitted from the faculty. Candidates should be professional and courteous in their requests.
4. **Review and Deliberation** The leadership, service, and character of all candidates is carefully considered by the Faculty Council. Students who receive a majority vote are to be invited to join the chapter. Those not selected are also notified.
 1. [Bedford Criteria for Leadership, Service, and Character](#)
5. **Results Delivered to the Principal** The lists of candidates selected and not selected receive approval and support of the administration.
6. **Notification** Candidates receive formal notification and instructions for attending the induction process. Students who are not selected are also informed.
 1. [The Appeals Process](#)
7. **Induction** New members are inducted in a public ceremony that recognizes their achievement and commitment.

Prerequisites

- **Enrollment** Only students who have attended school for one semester may be considered for membership. This is necessary for students to establish themselves at Bedford academically and become familiar to this community. Senior transfer students who were enrolled in another chapter of NHS should seek a letter of recommendation from their former chapter adviser so that the Faculty Council may waive the semester requirement.
- **Grade Level** NHS at Bedford High School is only open to eligible Juniors.