

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

Bishop Benitez Chapter • Episcopal High School

The National Honor Society at Episcopal High School recognizes those students who represent our School to the highest standard in academics, character, leadership, and service. The privilege of being in the National Honor Society is paired with the inherent responsibility of acknowledging the NHS member's role as a leader and role model for all other members of the EHS community. Therefore, members of the National Honor Society are held to a higher standard than what is expected of others in the community. Additionally, they commit to participating in the life of the chapter engaging, leading and/or attending NHS meetings, service activities, and events.

Application Periods: qualifying juniors apply spring semester and qualifying seniors apply fall semester.

Academics: Applicants must *have a minimum overall 3.7 GPA*. The overall weighted GPA is based on grades through the end of the first semester of junior year for junior applicants and the end of the junior year for senior applicants. The current grading period is not included in the decision process – only official transcript grades will be considered. Verification of the GPA is made after the faculty sponsors prior to sending the NHS Application Canvas invitation. NHS members are expected to maintain this GPA as a condition for continued membership.

Moral Character: Members of the National Honor Society *hold themselves to the highest standard* and always try to make the right decision, however difficult that decision may be. Because NHS members exemplify honorable moral character, infractions of the Honor Code or the Discipline Code of Conduct may prohibit the acceptance of applicants or revoke the membership of current members.

Leadership: NHS members are expected to *serve as leaders in the EHS community*. Students may exhibit leadership by serving as a leader in student government, active school clubs, sports teams, or performing arts organizations. A record of leadership in high school is submitted with your application. NHS members should also be leaders in the classroom. Students may act as leaders in the classroom by offering to help fellow students and the teacher, by active participation in class discussions and activities, and by acting as role models for their classmates.

Service: NHS members are expected to *recognize the importance of serving others* by actively giving back to the community. Service is a volunteer action for the benefit of others, whether performed as a school activity or with a church or community group. NHS applicants are expected to demonstrate a diversity of service involvements and to provide a detailed record of this service. Applicants are expected to have 20+ hours, the equivalent of 4 hours/semester, of volunteer service through nonprofit beneficiaries served between their freshman year and January 1 of their junior year. Current members are expected to sustain this commitment once inducted into NHS. Once selected for membership, students are expected to continue their previous level of service or increase it. Furthermore, NHS members are expected to participate in serving the community through actively engaging in NHS projects, events, and meetings. Inactive involvement in NHS may serve as grounds for dismissal from the organization.

Summary: *NHS members are role models for the EHS community*. They are students who enliven the School with their joy of learning and who share their understanding graciously with their peers. They are people of compassion, understanding their success is not a pedestal that sets them above their fellow students, but rather is a responsibility to be shared with others. They are young men and women who serve this community by working cooperatively to solve problems. They actively seek to live up to the values on which our School is founded, to strengthen its unity, and to further its mission.

