

Application Process Opens for National Honor Society

Each year at National Honor Society Induction, candidates for membership are informed that this membership is the highest honor that MacArthur High School and its faculty can bestow.

Since 1921, NHS has recognized and encouraged academic achievement while developing character, service, and leadership. It has established a reputation for excellence and commitment and carries a great deal of cachet for college entrance.

Currently NHS is opening its application process to seniors. During the spring, the application process will open for the graduating class of '09. Students must have a cumulative 90 average, (course work includes all level and above level high school curriculum) in order to be invited to apply for membership. After the invitation is issued, grades are no longer considered in the application process. At the invitation meeting, candidates receive a Candidate Form to complete and return. The next step in the application process is having all teachers, counselors, and administrators award points for each student's character and leadership. The faculty council awards service points based on information submitted by each student's Candidate Form. The faculty selects the students who are assets to the community and to MacArthur, students who uphold principles of morality and ethics, and demonstrating the highest standard of honesty and reliability.

Mrs. Virginia Alford, the faculty advisor, is impressed by the outstanding quality of the student body; however, not everyone with a 90 average is selected. A Federal District Court in 1983 opined that no constitutionally protected interest is involved in non-selection. No student has the right to be selected, nor can one demand an honor bestowed by others. However, no student has ever been refused membership because one teacher gave low scores.

Applicants should be specific when they list community service and positions of leadership at MacArthur and in the community.

The faculty council studies the recommendations of the faculty, and selection of members is determined by a majority vote of the council.

Membership Obligations Include:

- Monthly chapter meeting
- Monthly chapter projects
- Individual service hours
- \$35 membership fee (includes national/ local chapter dues, t-shirt, and certificate)
- Fundraising project