

National Honor Society & National Junior Honor Society Information

- **What is the National Honor Society (NHS) and the National Junior Honor Society (NJHS)?**
 - The National Honor Society (NHS) was founded in 1921 by the National Association of Secondary School Principals as a means of honoring academic achievement, good character, and leadership potential in upper grade students. (For FCA, upper grades include sophomores, juniors, and seniors.)
 - The National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) was established in 1929 as a means of honoring academic achievement, good character, and leadership potential in middle grade students. (For FCA, middle grades include seventh and eighth graders, and freshmen.)
 - NHS and NJHS chapters can be found in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, many U.S. territories, and Canada. Chapter membership not only recognizes students for their accomplishments, but challenges them to develop further through active involvement in school activities and community service.
- **Who can become a member of FCA's NHS or NJHS Chapter?**
 - Becoming a member of the NHS or the NJHS is a privilege and not a right.
 - The NHS and the NJHS are not the same thing as an Honor Roll.
 - There are two minimum requirements that must be fulfilled before you can be considered as a candidate for NHS or NJHS membership:
 - Be a student at FCA for a minimum of one semester
 - Have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.5
 - If you meet those two requirements, you will be given a packet of information containing Candidate Forms, Student Response Questions, and Character Reference Forms.
 - If you wish to be considered for membership, you must complete the information packet and turn it in by the published deadline. A five-member Faculty Council will meet to review the information and vote on each candidate.
- **What are the additional requirements for selection consideration?**
 - **Scholarship:** For 7th graders, students who have maintained a 3.5 GPA or higher for the first semester of their 7th grade year are eligible; for 8th graders, students who have a cumulative 3.5 GPA or higher for 7th grade and the first semester of their 8th grade are eligible; and for 9th graders, students who have a cumulative 3.5 GPA or higher for 7th grade, 8th grade, and first semester of 9th grade are eligible.
 - **Leadership:** Students must give evidence of leadership roles held at school or in the community, and give the name of the adult who supervised these activities. Students must also answer questions addressing the topic of leadership.
 - **Service:** A candidate must demonstrate on his or her Candidate Form the completion of service hours undertaken at school or in the community. You may count community service hours that you turned in to FCA's Student Services Director as well as any other hours that have not been reported as long as you are able to list the name of the supervising adult for any hours that you include on your form. Students will also answer questions that pertain to the topic of service.
 - **Character:** Character is defined by the Honor Societies as "trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship." Students must provide character references from a church leader, a FCA faculty member, and an adult who is not a member of the applicant's family by using the Character Evaluation Form. The student must also answer the questions that address the topic of character.

- Christian Testimony: Students will be asked to define Christian testimony and to write their own testimony of faith. They will also be asked to explain why “Christian Testimony” is an important component of FCA’s NHS and NJHS.

- **Am I disqualified if I have received a detention?**

- Not necessarily. If a student has chronic or character defining situations whereby they have accumulated a number of warnings or detentions, they may not be considered for membership, and students who have had any disciplinary situations which resulted in suspension from school may not be considered for membership.

- **After the forms are turned in, who decides whether or not I can be part of the NHS / NJHS?**

- A Faculty Council of five (5) members will be approved by the Headmaster. The Council will meet to evaluate the candidate packet and the discipline record of each student candidate. The Faculty Council (not the Headmaster or the Chapter Adviser) will vote on each candidate, and those students receiving a majority vote will be invited for induction into the chapter.
- The date for the Induction Ceremony will be announced and it will be a time of celebrating and honoring all the new members.