



National Honor Society Chapter Bylaws

Great Lakes Adventist Academy maintains National Honor Society (NHS) chapter membership. A student's membership to NHS is granted at the invitation of the faculty. Applications are accepted for consideration without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, gender, or disability. As a Seventh-day Adventist institution, GLAA reserves the right to incorporate Christian principles, prayer, and faith-based service into chapter activities. A description of the eligibility requirements, examples of selection criteria, and the selection process follows:

Article I: Eligibility Requirements

1. Sophomores, juniors, and seniors are eligible to be members of NHS.
2. Students must have and maintain a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or higher.
3. Students must have attended GLAA for at least one semester prior to selection.
4. Students who meet these criteria will be invited to supply information regarding leadership, character, and service for Faculty Council consideration. Eligible students will be notified of eligibility at the beginning of the second semester following posting of first semester grades.
5. Eligible students are required to return completed forms by the announced date. Parent signatures and/or references may be required to verify service and/or leadership information.
6. Students hoping to be inducted into NHS at a future date should begin using InnerView to track service hours.

Article II: Selection Criteria & Procedures for Selection

1. Faculty Input: All GLAA faculty and staff have the opportunity to evaluate eligible candidates. This information is used by the NHS Faculty Council for input about each candidate.
2. Evaluation criteria: The council makes final selections based on the following criteria after reviewing the application forms.
 - **Leadership:** The leadership criterion is considered highly important for membership selection. Leadership roles in both the school and the community may be considered, provided they can be verified.
 - **Service:** Service is generally considered to be those actions undertaken by the student which are done with or on behalf of others without any direct financial or material compensation to the individual performing the service. In considering service, the contributions the candidate has made to the school, classmates, and community, as well as the student's attitude toward service, will be reviewed.
 - **Character:** A person of character demonstrates the following six qualities: respect, responsibility, trustworthiness, fairness, caring, and citizenship.

3. Voting: Selection to NHS occurs when a simple majority of the Faculty Council members vote to extend an invitation of membership to the student.
4. Notification: Students and their parents will be notified of Faculty Council decisions when all candidates have been considered.
5. Induction: A formal induction ceremony will be held during the second semester. A student becomes a member of NHS at the induction ceremony.

Article III: Induction & Retention

1. The induction ceremony is required for current and new members.
2. Membership includes required annual service projects as coordinated by the NHS chapter advisor. Additionally, students are expected to complete ten independent service hours each school year to maintain membership. Service hours must be outside of class/school requirements, must be done for no compensation of any kind, and must be done for individuals/organizations outside of the student's immediate family. Service hours must be recorded on InnerView via the student's online account. Hours completed during the summer may be counted toward the following school year.

Article IV: Discipline, Dismissal & Resignation

1. Members are subject to discipline/dismissal if they do not maintain standards of scholarship, leadership, service, and character that were used as a basis for their selection. When members fall below standards by which they were selected, advisors will inform the errant member in writing of the nature of the violation, the time period given for improvement, and provide warning of possible consequences of non-improvement. In some cases, such as flagrant violations of school rules/policies or the law, a warning is not required.
2. A member is never automatically dismissed for failing to maintain standards. A written notification and pre-dismissal hearing is called for and must be conducted by the NHS Faculty Council to dismiss the member.
3. If the council decides that dismissal is warranted, the member is allowed to be present at their pre-dismissal hearing before the council. If a member is dismissed, written notice will be sent to the member, their parents, and the principal.
4. Members have the right to appeal a Faculty Council decision when the member believes that school or NHS policies have been violated. Members who wish to appeal must notify the advisor within one week of receiving the Faculty Council's written decision and must submit a written appeal to the principal and Faculty Council adviser within one additional week. The principal's decision will be considered final.
5. If a student resigns from NHS, they will never again be eligible for membership or its benefits. Resignation from NHS requires a written statement dated and signed by both the student and their parent(s).

Article V: Chapter Student Officers

1. The chapter student officers are president, vice president and secretary and shall be elected annually by a majority vote of active NHS members. Officers serve a term of one school year. The adviser and chapter student officers together make up the NHS executive committee. In addition:
 - President: In conjunction with the adviser, assists with selecting the group service project and leads the NHS induction ceremony based on the script provided by the adviser.
 - Vice President: Assists the president with selecting and arranging the group service project and communicates with NHS members about the details of the service project.
 - Secretary: Takes notes during NHS meetings and executive committee meetings, sends them to the adviser, and assists the president with setting up the service project if requested.