The River Ridge High School Chapter of the National Honor Society

Please read this application in its entirety.

What is NHS? The National Honor Society is the frontrunner of organizations that promotes appropriate recognition for the students who reflect outstanding accomplishments in the areas of scholarship, character, leadership, and service. College admissions often regard National Honor Society membership as a valid indicator that the applicant will succeed at the post-secondary education level. The Honor Society prospect should already exhibit academic achievement, leadership, either overtly or covertly, honorable and admirable character, and service that demonstrates the prospect is willing to use talents and skills for the improvement of society. One must keep in mind that induction to the National Honor Society is quite an honor and accomplishment.

Application Information and Directions

- All sophomores and juniors who have a cumulative high school GPA of 3.5 or above may apply for admission to the RRHS Chapter of the National Honor Society

- Application forms can be found on the school website or from the adviser, Maria Cardo, for those students that meet the GPA requirements.

- **Admission is not automatic**. Applying does not guarantee admission into the organization. In addition to having the required GPA, applicants must demonstrate significant accomplishment and/or participation in **all** areas indicated on the application form. It is necessary to have some accomplishments in each area.

- All activities, accomplishments, etc. included in the application must have taken place during high school. Do not include anything that occurred before you were in high school. Doing so could jeopardize your chances for admission.

- Make sure your application is neat and legible.

- Alcohol and drug violations are in breach of National By-Laws. Do not apply if you have had any alcohol or drug violations.

- Please complete all sections. Do not be modest. Every bit of information that you provide may be used by the RRHS NHS Faculty Council to assist with the selection process.

- Be sure to document all hours and activities with a teacher signature or with official letterhead stationary (especially for non-school related activities).

- All application forms must be completed and returned **directly** to the adviser on February 25, 2022 no later than 1:30 PM. **Late applications WILL NOT be accepted.** NHS Induction Ceremony will be held in the RRHS Theater at a date to be announced later.

- If membership is denied, it may simply mean that all four requirements were not fulfilled. Furthermore, past disciplinary occurrences may prevent admittance to NHS based on the severity of the offense.

- Application must **NOT** be double sided.

PLEASE NOTE: The National Honor Society is a service organization. Membership is highly sought after, but it requires commitment to the ideals of the organization. Your acceptance of membership will indicate your willingness to participate in National Honor Society sponsored activities, service projects, and meetings. To maintain membership in NHS you must maintain your GPA, fulfill your service hours, be a good leader, show good character, and abide by the By-Laws. Failure to comply with any of these requirements will result in dismissal from the National Honor Society. If your behavior in school requires disciplinary action, your membership may be revoked. You are advised to review the Chapter By-Laws before you apply to make sure you are willing to commit to NHS. These By-Laws can be found on the RRHS website.

Student Name: _____
Last   First   M.I.

Address: _____
Street   City   Zip Code

Phone number: _____

Student I.D. Number: _____   Grade level: _____   Date of birth: _____

Have you ever been dismissed from an organization or been officially disciplined for academic dishonesty, lying, or cheating?   NO _____   YES _____

If yes, please explain on a separate sheet of paper.

_____

This application has 11 portions. Please ensure you have completed all sections before turning in your application.

1.   **SIGNATURE**: My signature certifies that all of the information I have provided is accurate and I understand that any misinformation will void this application.

Student signature: _____   Date: _____

Parent Name (printed): _____

Parent signature: _____   Date: _____

2.   **GRADE POINT AVERAGE**: Students must have a grade point average of 3.5 weighted or higher to be considered for induction. This section is to be completed and signed by the student's Guidance Counselor.

Cumulative GPA (weighted): _____   Cumulative GPA (unweighted): _____

Guidance Counselor Name (printed): _____

Guidance Counselor Signature: _____

3.   **CONDUCT:**

A. Have you ever received a referral or been officially disciplined for a violation of the student code of conduct?
NO _____   YES _____

If yes, please explain on a separate sheet of paper. Must include the year and grade that you were in when received.

B. Have you ever received a Level 3 referral or been officially disciplined for a violation of the student code of conduct involving drugs, alcohol, or weapons?   NO _____   YES _____

If yes, please explain on a separate sheet of paper. Must include the year and grade that you were in when received.

*Application continues on the next page

4. MEMBERSHIPS IN GOOD STANDING: List all activities in which have participated as a member in good standing during high school only. Include school clubs, teams, musical groups, honor societies, community organizations, Scouts, etc. List major accomplishments in each area. Have on-campus sponsor/coach sign each item. Off-campus sponsors must provide clear contact information (on second sheet if necessary) and verification on letterhead. In the absence valid signatures the listed activity will fail to count toward your final point total.

Activity	9th	10th	11th	Accomplishments (titles, awards, what years?)	Sponsor printed name	Sponsor title	Sponsor signature
Example: FFA	X	X		VP-10; Pres-11; Green Program Award-11			

5. **LEADERSHIP POSITIONS:** List all elected or appointed leadership positions held in school, the community or in work activities. Only positions held during high school will be acceptable. Only those positions in which you were responsible for directing or motivating others should be included, for example election to office in Student Council or club, District or State officer, Captain of a varsity team. However, you may also have leadership positions in areas outside of school; these may be listed as well. Have sponsor sign by each item. Off-campus sponsors MUST provide clear contact information & verification on letterhead.

Leadership position	9th	10th	11th	Activity/Organization	Sponsor printed name	Sponsor Title	Sponsor signature

6. **COMMUNITY SERVICE:** List community service activities in which you have participated during your high school years. These MUST be activities for the betterment of your school or community through **non-profit organizations.** Please note that if you were paid in any fashion, the service does not count towards this section. Please honestly report all service hours. Include volunteer groups, Scouts, etc. Have sponsor/leader sign by each item. Off-campus sponsors MUST provide contact information on second sheet if necessary. You must also provide official, signed letterhead documentation of off-campus volunteer hours not already in the school record. Family members may not authenticate these hours.

Community Activity	9th	10th	11th	Total Hours (all years combined)	Activity/Organization	Sponsor printed name	Sponsor Title	Sponsor signature
Ex: Sunday School	x	x		10 hours	Teacher/First Baptist NPR			

7. **WORK EXPERIENCE, HONORS, & RECOGNITION:** List below any job experiences, honors or recognitions you have received during high school that support your bid for membership in NHS. Please note that for school awards such as honor roll or student of the month (at RRHS) you do not need a signature. Furthermore, if you no longer work at the job listed and are unable to obtain a signature, please write your manager's name and a phone number to your previous job in the employer signature box.

Job, Recognition, or Award	9th	10th	11th	Group, Activity, or Employer	Sponsor or employer printed name	Sponsor or Employer Title	Sponsor or Employer signature

8. **ACADEMIC PREPARATION:** List all Honors, Advanced Placement and Dual Enrollment classes taken in high school. Check the year enrolled. Use an additional sheet if necessary. Please have counselor verify here:

Counselor name: _____

Counselor Signature _____

Course	Honors	Advanced Placement	Dual Enrollment	9	10	11	Final Grade
Example: World History		X		X			87 B

9. **MANDATORY ESSAY**: Please respond to one of the three prompts below with a typed and double-spaced organized ESSAY with a maximum of one page. Please note that failure to adhere to the requested format will work against you. Your essay must be submitted at the same time as your application.

   1) Share an event in your life that has influenced your character.

   2) Explain what services you have given to the community and/or school.

   3) Define your leadership role on campus as well as in the community.

10. **RECOMMENDATIONS**: A minimum of 5 teacher recommendations are required. Chosen teachers will score you based on the following criteria: Reliability, Responsibility, Work Habits, Cooperation/Attitude, and Attendance. In the space below, please list the names of the teachers you wish to be contacted for your recommendations. Please note: you are not responsible for acquiring the recommendation; you are simply responsible for acquiring the name and signature of the teachers you wish to serve as your recommender AND providing each with a form for completion. If you are attending PHCC or FLVS, please give forms to your most recent RRHS teachers. For ease of the teacher, please print their name and fill in their room number. If you are new to RRHS, please see Maria Cardo well before the deadline for information about teacher recommendations.

Teacher Name Printed	Teacher Signature	Teacher Room Number

11. **Professional Reference**: In addition to 5 teacher recommendations, you must have one professional reference / Letter of Recommendation from an outside source that knows you professionally and personally. This outside source cannot be a parent/guardian/family member. This letter must include how the person knows you and how/why you would be an ideal candidate for National Honor Society. This letter must be on official letterhead.

*Scoring Rubric on next page

NHS SCORING RUBRIC FOR MEMBERSHIP CONSIDERATION

Rubric: The total number of possible points is 15. The minimum number of points needed for consideration is 12. A maximum of 5 is available in categories of Character, Leadership, and Service. **There is no rounding up of scores**. (NOTE: You earn points ONLY under the current year column.)

---Scholarship -- **YES or NO**

Essay Submitted YES or NO

SCHOLARSHIP - Students with a 3.5 weighted GPA are eligible for membership consideration**.**

---Character -- **Score _____**

LOR Submitted YES or NO

CHARACTER – (Character Point Scale: 1-5)

These scores are based on Letter(s) of Recommendation and the average of teacher recommendations in the areas of reliability, responsibility, work habits, cooperation/attitude, attendance, and academic honesty. All teachers will have an opportunity to comment on candidates before selection is announced.

---Leadership -- **Score _____**

LEADERSHIP — Belonging to any clubs in high school demonstrates leadership qualities. One point will be awarded for active membership in the following: Interact, Student Council, Key Club, SADD, and other honor societies, church organizations, Scouts, sports, other clubs. One more point will be awarded for office held within the organization. Have club sponsor sign next to hours or have a letter documenting membership and leadership.

On each grade level, your points are on the left and the rubric points are on the right.

Soph. year	Rubric pts.	Junior year	Rubric pts.
5 points +	5	8 points +	5
4 points	4	6-7 points	4
3 points	3	5 points	3
2 points	2	4 points	2
1 point	1	3 points	1

---Service -- **Score _____**

SERVICE — One point will be awarded for every 10 hours of service for Sophomores and 15 hours of service for Juniors. Have a letter or signature documenting all hours. Official documentation on organization letterhead is required when service is completed through an off-campus agency.

Sophomore Year		Junior Year	
Hours of Service	Rubric Points	Hours of Service	Rubric Points
50+	5	75+	5
45-49	4.5	68-74	4.5
40-44	4	60-67	4
35-39	3.5	53-59	3.5
30-34	3	45-52	3
25-29	2.5	3 8-44	2.5
20-24	2	30-37	2
15-19	1.5	23-29	1.5
10-14	1	15-22	1
5-9	.5	8-14	.5
0-4	0	0-7	0

Again, each of the latter three sections has a maximum of 5 points, and the highest possible total score is 15. A student must have 12 or more points, a completed eligibility packet, and a well-developed essay to be considered for membership. THERE IS NO ROUNDING UP OF SCORES.

TOTAL POINTS:

_____

(Revised January 2021)