



## Columbia High School

### National Honor Society Candidate Information Packet and Application Directions

Please visit: <http://www.nhs.us>

Please read this packet carefully and follow the directions in it. Failure to meet deadlines or submission of an incomplete packet will render you ineligible for this year's membership in the NHS.

**Membership in the CHS chapter of the NHS is open to students who are currently juniors.** The induction GPA requirement is a cumulative grade point average of **3.5** earned during freshman and sophomore years.

Please submit all materials required for application to Mrs. Mason, Principal Aaron's secretary, by **3:30 pm on Friday, October 23rd**. Be sure to email Mrs. Mason at [jmason@somsd.k12.nj.us](mailto:jmason@somsd.k12.nj.us) with questions or reach her by phone at 973-762-5600 x1012 well in advance of that deadline should you have any questions.

Completed application materials will include:

- Your cover page
- Your personal statements in answer to questions below and information requested in this packet
- Your parent/guardian signed statement of understanding
- Your signed contract

The Faculty Council will review all membership materials in late October. It will make membership decisions before November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015. New members are required to begin their community service tutoring during lunch starting on November 16<sup>th</sup>. Tutoring sessions will be scheduled to coincide with members' lunch periods; no classes will be missed in order to fulfill your tutoring commitments.

Please create a cover sheet for your application that includes your:

**Name**

**Email address**

**Preferred Phone Number to Contact Student**

**Parent/Guardian Name**

**Preferred Phone Number to Contact Parent/Guardian**

Please answer each of the following questions. Offer as much explanation as you think appropriate.

## **ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE/SCHOLARSHIP**

1. What have you done to challenge yourself academically at CHS? Please describe how you **measure**, **value**, and **attain** academic excellence.

*Please attach one copy of your unofficial transcript updated through 2014-2015 school year to your application. Those may be obtained through our school registrar, Mrs. Bellini, Guidance Secretary, both located in our guidance office. Please do not expect immediate printing of your unofficial transcript. Please allow several school days for this request to be fulfilled.*

## **SCHOOL CHARACTER AND CITIZENSHIP**

2. In what ways do you demonstrate positive school citizenship and character?

2a. Describe an instance in which you experienced academic or another school-related challenge or frustration, and how you managed it and learned from it.

## **LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE**

3. Please explain ways in which you have demonstrated service and leadership. Those instances may be related to CHS or connected to activities that you have participated in outside CHS such as scouting, employment, community organizations, or faith-based groups in which you have worked.

## **REFERENCES**

4. Please identify three teachers who would serve as references for your record of academic excellence at Columbia HS. List them with the courses in which you were their students.

5. Please provide the name, contact phone number and email address for an adult outside of CHS (not a family member) who can serve as a reference for your other membership qualifications as an applicant for induction into the NHS. Please be sure to identify the capacity in which you know this person.

**The following page should be submitted with your typed application materials and transcript.**

## PARENT/GUARDIAN AND STUDENT STATEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING

*We understand that membership in the Columbia High School chapter of the National Honor Society is a privilege. We understand that the criteria for membership include student leadership, community service, scholarship, and character in accordance with the national organization.*

*We understand that completion of the application for membership places a student into consideration for membership. In accordance with the guidelines and charter of the NHS, the Faculty Council decisions are confidential and are final. Students who are not deemed eligible in an academic year in which they apply are welcome to apply in the next school year during the membership period. Applications for membership in the 2016-17 school year will be taken starting in summer 2016.*

### NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY CONTRACT

As a member of the Columbia High School National Honor Society, you must fulfill the following requirements:

1. Complete a minimum of 20 hours of NHS-based service mentoring/tutoring per semester.
2. Attend the induction for new members in December 2015 at CHS.
3. Attend NHS meetings (one per month).
4. Maintain a 3.5 unweighted or 4.1 weighted cumulative GPA.
5. Submit \$10 annual dues within 30 days of the induction ceremony. Financial need will not impact your eligibility to be a member of the NHS at Columbia. Please indicate any need for financial assistance for NHS membership to Mrs. Mason.

In accordance with our charter agreement with the National Honor Society, your membership in the Columbia High School chapter of the National Honor Society *may be revoked* by the Faculty Council of the chapter, in agreement with CHS administrators, in the event of

- failure to meet the above-listed requirements *and/or*
- conduct demonstrated by you that comprises one or more of the four values of the National Honor Society (as indicated in the guidelines of the national organization) *and/or*
- conduct by you that is grounds for disciplinary action, suspension or expulsion from CHS.

By signing this contract and participating in the induction ceremony of the National Honor Society, you agree to the standards for membership and to uphold the four values of the National Honor Society and Columbia chapter, which are to participate and demonstrate leadership in the areas of ***scholarship, service, leadership, and character.***

Student Name and Signature

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(Print)

(Sign)

Parent/Guardian Name and Signature

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(Print)

(Sign)

Name as you would like it to appear on your National Honor Society membership certificate:

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