

National Honor Society Robert F. Kennedy Chapter Application Information

Members of the Junior and Senior Classes who meet the scholarship cumulative quality grade point average of 3.50 will receive a letter inviting you to fill out the application. Download the following application and keep a copy for your files.

Marian Catholic High School participates in the Robert F. Kennedy Chapter of the National Honor Society.

NHS members embody four important elements:

Scholarship: Students who have a cumulative **quality** grade point average of 3.50 or higher at the end of their Sophomore or Junior year meet the scholarship requirement. You will receive an invitation if you qualify academically. **This does not guarantee membership.** If you are a junior, and you feel that you cannot meet the requirements, you can apply in your senior year if your average is 3.50 or higher.

Character: The student of good character upholds principles of morality and ethics, is cooperative, demonstrates high standards of honesty and reliability, demonstrates courtesy, concern, and respect for others.

Leadership: Student Leaders are those who are resourceful, good problem-solvers, promoters of school activities, idea-contributors, dependable, and persons who exemplify positive attitudes about life. Leadership experiences should be demonstrated and can be drawn from school or community activities.

Service: This quality is defined through the voluntary contributions made by a student to the school, parish, and community, done without compensation and with a positive, courteous, and enthusiastic spirit. Students must complete at least 25 officially documented service hours to be eligible for consideration by the Faculty Council. These service hours must be completed no more than ten months (December) prior to submitting your application. Service that is done in September of this year indicates that the student does not make a habit of service but does it only to apply to the Society. All service hours must be completed by October 1. To maintain your membership, 20 additional service hours during the school year will be required. In addition, each member must participate in some way in all NHS sponsored projects (e.g. blood mobile, daffodil sale, food drives) and pay the required dues. ****See addendum for the 2020-21 school year concerning quarantine restrictions and the service requirements.*

The Induction date is scheduled for the school Mass on the second Wednesday in November.

All students who will be inducted will receive confirmation prior to this date informing them of the Faculty Committee's selection. Students will purchase their NHS stoles for \$25.00, which are to be worn at the induction ceremony and graduation.

All questions or inquiries should be directed to Dr. Fetter at kfetter@mariancatholichs.org

**Marian Catholic High School
National Honor Society
Robert F. Kennedy Chapter
Application for Membership**

Important notes:

Please read the entire application before you begin. Be sure to complete the entire application according to the directions. Only completed applications will be reviewed. Be sure to include all documentation, and check presentation and pagination before printing. Your submission should be professional. All applications are reviewed by the Faculty Council who will vote on the selection of members. The decision of the Faculty Council is final. If you are not selected, you may make an appointment with the advisor to discuss your concern. The advisor will speak to parents only after he or she has spoken to the student.

- Please print (or type) neatly in black or blue ink.
- Packets MUST be fully complete. Incomplete packets and packets that do not follow directions will result in automatic rejection!

Section One: Personal Information

Year _____ (Junior or Senior)

NAME: _____
(Last, First Middle)

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ (home) _____ (cell)

NAME OF PARENT(S)/GUARDIAN(S): _____

PARENT PHONE: _____

Section Two: Scholarship

In order to fulfill the scholarship requirement for membership into the National Honor Society, a student must possess a minimum cumulative **quality** grade point average (QPA) of 3.50. This average will be the cumulative QPA at the end of your sophomore or junior year. If inducted, this minimum QPA must be maintained in order to be a member in good standing. This is a requirement of the National Organization.

I, _____, hereby acknowledge that my academic transcript will be reviewed by the Faculty Council, and that I will be considered for membership only if my cumulative QPA is 3.50 or above. I pledge that, if inducted, I will maintain my academic standing at or above the level required for good standing.

Student Signature _____

Parent or Guardian Signature _____

Section Three: Character

In order to fulfill the character requirement for the National Honor Society, a student:

- must display behavior that indicates respect for the principles of morality and ethics, both within the school environment and in the community-at-large.
- shall show courtesy, concern, and respect for others, and shall be reliable in personal commitments, both with respect to the Society and to other activities.
- shall show respect for and abide by the code of conduct of Marian Catholic High School, the laws of the State of Pennsylvania, and the laws of the United States of America.
- shall demonstrate academic integrity.

Any serious violation of any of the above requirements has the potential to disqualify a candidate, or if already a member, result in suspension or expulsion as an NHS member. Serious violations will be brought to the attention of the Faculty Council and the Council will vote on the issue.

Each member of the faculty, staff, and administration of Marian Catholic High School will be asked to comment on the character of each applicant to the National Honor Society.

I, _____, hereby acknowledge that character is an important part of my commitment to the National Honor Society. I affirm that I uphold all of the standards of character described above and will continue to do so as a member in good standing.

Student Signature _____

Parent or Guardian Signature _____

Section Four: Leadership and Service

Any questions regarding service should be addressed to Dr. Fetter before September 1.

In order to fulfill the service requirement of the National Honor Society, a student shall demonstrate leadership qualities and meaningful service at Marian Catholic High School and in the community and parish.

Part One:

School Service Hours should not be the same as your required school hours, nor can they all be from sports camps.

Deadline for completion of service is October 1.

Students applying for acceptance into the National Honor Society should demonstrate initiative, drive, and consistent dedication to service in the school, community, and parish. This service should fulfill a genuine need within the school, community, and parish, should go above and beyond accepted norms of social courtesy, and should be performed in conjunction with a recognized group or service organization and be completed by October 1st. A **variety** of service experiences are required.

Any type of fundraising, including “canning” for sports, and cleaning homerooms, or any other service done during school hours will not be accepted. Baking and hanging posters for school functions will earn partial credit (1/4 of an hour). Service must be for an official organization (i.e., not for family or relatives). Any service receiving monetary or academic compensation will not be considered.

Please list service completed in connection with school, community, and parish activities on the *Service Accounting Table* found on the next page. For those activities that occurred through an official club or organization, list the club name as well as the moderator. For those activities performed apart from an official club or organization, list the faculty/staff/coach who most closely supervised your work. Use only the space provided, listing in order of importance or number of hours earned.

Part Two:

Complete the *Service Accounting Table* and submit letters/forms/documentation and photos.

1. Completed *Service Accounting Table* (see next page)
 - o List and describe each service task, the dates and hours involved, and the contact person/supervisor with a phone number.

2. Official Documentation of Service Hours

- o All service must be officially documented by the director/supervisor of the program/activity on official organization letterhead or school form or similarly formal documentation in time to be submitted with the rest of your application. Deadline is October 1st.
- o Include a photograph of you performing at least one of your service projects. Photos must be labeled on the back with your name, date of service, and description of service performed and stapled at the end of the application.

I, _____, hereby acknowledge that I understand the service requirement is an important part of my commitment to be eligible and maintain membership in good standing for the National Honor Society.

Student Signature: _____

Parent or Guardian Signature: _____

Community Service Accounting Table

Student Name: _____ Total Hours: _____

**Note: The chart will expand as you type in the Google document to accommodate the information that you input. If you choose to complete the application long hand, you should expand the chart first OR create your own similarly. Your submission should be professional.*

[illegible]

Part Three: NHS Service

Once inducted, each member must commit to maintaining his/her service requirement consisting of at least 20 hours during the school year at NHS-sponsored events, as well as community and parish events. These additional hours must be distinct for NHS. They should not be limited to one activity. A minimum of three different activities is recommended. Documentation of these hours must be submitted on the form, *Section Four: Leadership and Service*, found on the application for new members on the school website under "NHS" and returned to Dr. Fetter during the first week of May.

I, _____, hereby acknowledge that I understand the importance of the continuing service requirements of the National Honor Society, and that I will maintain my strong commitment to service both in and out of school in order to remain a member in good standing.

Student Signature: _____

Parent or Guardian Signature: _____

******See addendum for the 2020-21 school year concerning quarantine restrictions and the service requirements.***

Section Five: Leadership Essay

In a typewritten essay of not less than 200 but no more than 225 words, please explain your leadership qualities and experiences, as well as your suggestions for types of service projects for the organization.

This essay should be double-spaced, 12-point font, black ink, with your name on top of the page, and stapled at the end of your submitted application.

Section Six: Returning Packets

All completed packets (including service documentation) **MUST** be returned by the first Monday in October. Hand the envelope directly to Dr. Fetter in Room 205 either before homeroom or after school until 3:00 PM. Please keep a copy of your entire submitted application for your own records.

All packets must be in a large envelope and labeled:

<Student Name>

Marian Catholic High School National Honor Society Application

Attn: Dr Fetter, NHS Moderator

Some important guidelines:

Do NOT fold this application or any attachments. You should staple together all of these pages, including the required essay, service verification letters and photographs.

Section Seven: Affidavit of Student and Parent

Upon signing, I confirm that everything contained within this application is accurate, thorough, and truthful. I also affirm that my application is fully complete, and that any incomplete aspect of this application will result in automatic rejection. I understand that this application is not a guarantee for selection.

Student Signature: _____

Parent or Guardian Signature: _____

Note: In order to complete this application as a Google document, you should “make a copy”, and rename the *copy* of the document. That should allow you to edit the document electronically with the least formatting issues. You might also “download” the document in Word, if that is your preference. If you choose to download into Word, you may have to manage more of the formatting.

*****Addendum for the 2020-21 School Year Concerning Service and Quarantine Responsibilities**

Although this time of quarantine has presented many challenges, it has also presented many opportunities, some novel occasions, to demonstrate those qualities that are the foundation of the National Honor Society, *Scholarship, Leadership, Character, and Service*. It is understandable that you may not have had the same opportunities for service as you had before quarantine, but leadership and character demand that we recognize the new opportunities born in adversity and difficulty.

If the “quantity” of service hours, as previously defined, has been a challenge to you during quarantine, you may **supplement** the “quantity” of service hours with an essay about service of no more than 250 words on ***how you positively contribute to your community during this time***. Students who choose to submit an essay in lieu of the required number of service hours might discuss:

- ❖ Traditional service hours/opportunities, and their meaning
- ❖ Matters of good citizenship
- ❖ Mastering a new skill or talent
- ❖ This time as an impetus for creativity or innovation
- ❖ Promoting self-care during this time, specifically as aspects of Respect for Life and Dignity of the Person
- ❖ Spiritual growth or opportunities for prayer
- ❖ The responsibility to meet the current challenges with grace and dignity
- ❖ How your service has made a difference or impacted others, and its meaning
- ❖ Service as an act of free will; given freely, without compensation or reward
- ❖ The habit of service as a defining characteristic.

Ultimately, service is about good citizenship, social conscience, contributing to your community, as well as concern and consideration for others. Your **Service Essay** should elucidate on ***how YOU positively contribute to your community at this challenging time***. If you choose to submit the **Service Essay** to supplement your “quantity” of required service hours, it should be labeled as **Service Essay** and included with your **Community Service Accounting Table** in **Section Four: Leadership and Service** of your application.

Alternatively, some students may have found the current situation enabled their completion of the service hour requirement in the traditional manner. In which case, the supplemental **Service Essay** would **NOT** be required. Ultimately, the National Honor Society’s emphasis on service is about positively contributing to your community, good citizenship, social conscience, and benevolence. Students may demonstrate their commitment to serving others in different ways.

As matters of Respect for Life and Dignity of the Person, we are called as servants of God to comply with quarantine and social distancing guidelines. It is also a matter of Social Justice, as Preferential Option for the Poor and Vulnerable. Actions that are contrary to our mission and beliefs cannot be defined as “service”.