

Application for Candidacy

Marian Chapter of the National Honor Society

Throughout the year, members of the Marian Chapter of the National Honor Society serve as role models for other St. Mary's students and the community.

Chapter members must exhibit the following four pillars of the National Honor Society: Scholarship, Leadership, Service, and Character.

In order to gain acceptance into the National Honor Society at St. Mary's High School, each student must understand these pillars and meet an objective requirement centered around each:

1. *Scholarship:*

Scholarship is a commitment to learning. A student is willing to spend hours in reading and study, knowing the lasting benefits of a cultivated mind. Knowledge is one great element in life which leads to the highest success, and it can be acquired in only one way - through diligence and effort. Candidates have the charge to continually expand their world through the opportunities inherent in scholarship.

- **Applicants must have at least a 95.00 cumulative GPA.** Each applicant has *already fulfilled this requirement*, earning them the ability to go through the application process as a whole.

2. *Leadership:*

Leadership should exert a wholesome influence on one's school. In taking the initiative in class and school activities, a true leader strives to train and aid others to attain the same objective.

The price of leadership is sacrifice - the willingness to yield one's personal interests for the interests of others.

A leader has self-confidence and will go forward when others hesitate, even in the face of popular opinion.

- Applicants **must** hold at least one leadership position (or positions) at St. Mary's or in another capacity in their workplace, team, club, or community. The panel will only take positions held in high school into consideration – no positions held prior should be listed on the application.

3. *Service:*

Service can be described in various ways. Many opportunities arise every day to help others – be it in a formal, volunteer-based manner or just because it is the right thing to do. The willingness to work for the benefit of those in need, without monetary compensation or without recognition is a sought-after quality for National Honor Society members. To volunteer one's time and abilities towards the creation of a better tomorrow is paramount.

- Since service hour requirements have been relaxed the past two years because of the pandemic, applicants are not required to have a specific-hour requirement as in years past. Instead, applicants should have displayed *some* type of service commitment throughout their time in high school and list that service on their application. This service should be outside of familial obligations and no compensation should have been accepted for said service.

4. **Character:**

Character is the force within each individual which distinguishes that person from others. It is that without which no one can respect oneself, nor hope to attain the respect of others. It is the force of character which guides one through life and, when once developed, grows steadily.

Character is achieved and not received. It is the product of constant action, daily striving to make the right choice. By demonstrating such qualities as reliability, honesty, and sincerity, National Honor Society members lead by example and show the true value of character.

- Each applicant's **discipline record** will be examined.
- A **character reference** from a **St. Mary's teacher or staff member** is also required. Please see attached sheet for the reference.

