

What is the National Honor Society?

Founded in 1921, the National Honor Society has become the leader among organizations that promote recognition for student scholar/leaders. Scholarship, leadership, service, and character are the ideals that both anchor and drive our organization. With thousands of chapters chartered across the country, the Bowie chapter follows the NHS Constitution under the aegis of the National Association of Secondary School Principals. Chapters may set higher standards for membership than the NASSP has given us, and Bowie's chapter standards are among the highest in the Austin area.

What does NHS do?

NHS is an organization of and for excellent students. Our emphasis is leadership through community service. Every NHS member is required to work with NHS and on his/her own to earn at least 36 hours of community service during his/her senior year. NHS not only sponsors the two blood drives for Central Texas Blood and Tissue Center every year but also works all over Austin wherever volunteers are needed.

How do I join?

You don't. Second semester juniors who meet the following criteria are invited to apply for membership:

- At least 5 full semesters completed in American high school
- A minimum 3.75 GPA (cumulative)
- Documentation of at least 8 hours of community service completed in the six months prior to application

Applicants choose seven current Bowie teachers to rate them in the areas of leadership and character. In addition, all faculty members are encouraged to share knowledge pertaining to the character or leadership qualifications of applicants with the Faculty Council. All applications and ratings are evaluated by the Faculty Council whose decisions determine the selection of the membership. **Not all applicants may be selected for membership. An excellent GPA is only the first step and does not ensure a place in the National Honor Society!**