



THE SELECTION PROCESS

The National Honor Society chapter of Austin Preparatory School is a duly chartered and affiliated chapter of this prestigious national organization. Membership is open to those students who meet the required standards in four areas of evaluation: scholarship, leadership, service, and character. Standards for selection are established by the national office of NHS and have been revised to meet our local chapter needs. Students are selected to be members by a five-member Faculty Council, appointed by the Headmaster, which bestows this honor upon qualified students on behalf of the faculty of our school each year. Students in the 10th, 11th, or 12th grades are eligible for membership.

As the first step in the process, students' academic records are reviewed to determine when students meet the required standard of 3.8 or better on a 4.0 scale. For the scholarship criterion at Austin Preparatory School, a student must have a cumulative GPA of 3.8 or better on a 4.0 scale, up through the first semester of the present year. Students who meet this criterion are invited to complete a Student Activity Information Form that provides the Faculty Council with information regarding the candidate's leadership and service; a history of leadership experiences and participation in school and community service is required as part of this form. Failure to submit this completed form prior to the deadline will result in being automatically removed from the list of candidates.

To evaluate a candidate's character, the Faculty Council uses three forms of input. First, school disciplinary records are reviewed. Second, members of the faculty are solicited for input regarding their professional reflections on a candidate's service, activities, character, and leadership. Please note that "service", as defined by the Faculty Council, is verifiable work done by one person or group through a recognized organization *that benefits another without a mandate or requirement being the reason for this work and without any compensation*, as would be the case with the required service project for Grades 10, 11 and 12 or for Confirmation programs through your church. Third, candidates must themselves write a one-page essay on a provided topic. These forms and the Student Activity Information Forms are carefully reviewed by the Faculty Council to determine membership. A majority vote of the Council is necessary for selection. Candidates are notified regarding selection or non-selection in the latter half of March.

Following notification, a formal induction ceremony is held at the school to recognize all the newly selected members. Once inducted, new members are required to maintain the same level of performance (or better) in all four criteria that led to their selection. This obligation includes regular attendance at chapter meetings held once per cycle during the school year, and participation in the chapter service projects(s), particularly peer tutoring. Students or parents who have questions regarding the selection process or membership obligations can contact the chapter adviser, Mrs. Eugenia Georges, by email at egeorges@austinprep.org or by phone at 781.944.4900.