

# University of Detroit Jesuit High School & Academy

## NHS Application Portfolio Winter 2018

Membership in NHS is granted to students who:

- Have a cumulative GPA of 3.5 by the end of the first semester of junior year
- Have not been suspended during the course of sophomore or junior year
- Have not had any incidents of academic dishonesty during the course of sophomore or junior year
- Can demonstrate a serious and on-going commitment to scholarship, leadership, character, and service

**VERY IMPORTANT:** Just because an applicant meets the minimum requirements does NOT guarantee him admission to NHS. All applicants need to demonstrate an on-going commitment to the four pillars of the organization (scholarship, leadership, character, and service), as determined by the Faculty Council.

Requests for membership are reviewed each winter by five faculty members selected by the Principal and the NHS Chapter Adviser; these five faculty members form the NHS Faculty Council. The NHS adviser will verify the first three requirements listed above, but it is up to you—the applicant—to show the Faculty Council how you have striven to exemplify NHS’s four pillars during your high school career.

Rather than simply completing a paper application which oftentimes limits your achievements to merely the number of service hours you have performed or the number of clubs you are involved in, applicants are instead requested to compile a portfolio of their achievements, accomplishments, honors, and life experiences that speak to the four pillars.

What this portfolio looks like is essentially up to you. But it does need to follow the basic guidelines listed below. **PLEASE NOTE:** The items in the “Required” box of each pillar must be included in your portfolio. Everything else is optional. It is important to be sure each section is thorough and complete, but ultimately the *quality* of your portfolio’s content is more important than the *quantity* of content.

### General Requirements

- Must be submitted in a one-inch binder
- The very first page inside your binder should be a complete résumé; you can format this as you see fit, but it should include a simple listing of your high school experiences (cocurriculars, athletics, memberships in special organizations, employment, service/volunteer work, etc.)
- All material submitted should be typed and in complete sentences
- Please include photocopies (NOT originals) of any awards, certificates, photos, letters, etc. that you choose to include in your portfolio
- There are no word/page requirements for the statements you need to provide in each section; your responses should be concise but should also demonstrate thoughtful reflection on the given topic

### Section I: Scholarship

Required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ A description of your favorite class in high school and what impact it had on you</li><li>▪ A brief statement of what excites you academically and what you plan to study in the future</li></ul>
Other things you can include:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Academic honors you’ve received</li><li>▪ Articles you’ve written that have been published (e.g., in <i>Cub News</i> or <i>Cub Annual</i>)</li><li>▪ Any other documentation that demonstrates your commitment to scholarship</li></ul>

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Section 2: Leadership	
Required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A brief statement of leadership positions you have held in and outside of school (think broadly—remember, true leadership does not always come with a title)</li> </ul>
Other things you can include:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Letters from coaches, employers, moderators, or volunteer coordinators that testify to your leadership abilities</li> <li>▪ Leadership awards or honors you have received</li> <li>▪ Any other documentation that demonstrates your commitment to leadership</li> </ul>

Section 3: Character	
Required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A brief statement on what character means to you</li> <li>▪ A statement about someone who, in your opinion, exemplifies the pillar of character (can be a famous individual or someone you know personally such as a relative or friend); share some biographical information on this person and explain why you look up to this person</li> </ul>
Other things you can include:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ An explanation of any lapses of character in your past (for example, if you had a large number of JUGs in freshman year, why was that the case and what have you learned from these experiences?)</li> <li>▪ Letters from coaches, employers, moderators, or volunteer coordinators that testify to your character</li> <li>▪ Any other documentation that highlights aspects of your character</li> </ul>

Section 4: Service	
Required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A list of all service work you have been involved in during high school; for each activity, please list dates, length of involvement, type of work performed, and supervisor contact information (phone or email)</li> <li>▪ A statement describing how your service work has impacted you or challenged your understanding of the world</li> </ul>
Other things you can include:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Letters from service supervisors that speak of your commitment to service</li> <li>▪ Service awards you have received</li> <li>▪ Any other documentation that demonstrates your commitment to service</li> </ul>

**Please note the following:**

- Integrity is critical to one’s character. The falsification of any information in this portfolio is grounds for immediate dismissal from NHS (should a student be accepted). The NHS Adviser reserves the right to verify any and all information submitted by a student.
- The “optional” components of each section listed above are just that, optional. Please feel free to add any other content that speaks of your commitment to a particular pillar. Be creative; you can include artwork, photos, letters of recognition, personal descriptions of significant events, newspaper clippings, awards, publications, academic work you’ve written that relates to a pillar, etc.
- In addition to your portfolio, the Faculty Council will also review each applicants’ high school conduct record, cumulative grade point average, and evaluations from faculty/staff.
- All students accepted but not yet inducted into NHS will be on a period of probation. Offers of membership will be rescinded to any student who engages in behavior that results in a suspension or academic integrity violation.

Your portfolio is due **Tuesday, February 27**. Please begin work on this project early. If you have any questions, you are welcome to stop by my office in the Student Affairs Office or to send me an email ([john.simmons@uofdjcsuit.org](mailto:john.simmons@uofdjcsuit.org)).

Mr. Simmons  
NHS Chapter Adviser