

To 6th, 7th, and 8th Grade Scholars:

Membership in the National Junior Honor Society is one of the highest honors awarded to a middle school student. You will have the opportunity to apply for membership in the Socrates Academy Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society after the first two quarters of the 2017-2018 school year. Here is what you need to know to apply for 2018-2019 membership.

FIRST: Make sure that you can keep up the academic and service requirements of membership. NJHS is a service organization and if/ when you become a member you will maintain an A average, attend weekly meetings, participate in service projects (both chapter sponsored and individual projects) on and off campus. You should consider the time and effort involved in membership before you apply.

SECOND: Keep an ongoing list of your accomplishments in the areas noted below so that you will be ready to list them on your NJHS candidate form. Use the "NJHS Activity Tracker" on the Socrates Academy web page. When you apply you will be asked to list up to four examples for each one and an adult who supervised you in this position.

Leadership Positions: Leadership positions are elected or appointed positions held in school, community, scouts or religious organizations. Only those positions in which you were responsible for directing or motivating others should be included. Examples: elected officer for the student body, class, or club; committee chairperson; team captain; newspaper editor; work area manager; or other community leader.

Service Activities: Service activities are considered individual or group service projects done either in or out of school for established non-profit and charitable organizations. List the estimated number of hours you invested while performing this service. The holiday season is a great time to accrue service experience. There is no specific hour total that is needed for service experience, however make sure you are only including service opportunities.

Other Student Activities: List and describe all other school-based activities or honors (not noted above) in which you have participated in school. Include clubs, teams, musical groups, etc., and any significant accomplishments in each. You can also include your helping with school sponsored events.

Other Community Activities, Recognition, and Awards: Note any other community activities in which you have participated and note any major accomplishment in each. These should be any activities outside of school in which you participated for the betterment of your community. For example: religious groups, clubs sponsored outside the school, Boy Scouts or Girl Scouts, community art endeavors, etc. Do not repeat participation already listed above. Although not a specific criterion for membership, list any honors, awards or recognition that you have received that support your endorsement for citizenship.

THIRD: Keep up your grades and display excellent behavior! You must have a minimum cumulative average of 92% of all core classes (math, Greek math, ELA, science, and social studies) and 90% in Greek language in order to be eligible. You will be notified at the end of second quarter in January 2017 if you qualify in this area. Your selection is NOT based only on grades. You will not be eligible to apply for membership if you have served any after school detention or have been suspended in any way.

FINALLY: If you receive a letter of eligibility February 1, 2018 please submit an application for membership. Complete your application before the March or April deadline listed on the application. No late applications will be accepted. Keep in mind that you will need to complete this application on your own. While it is advisable for you to have an adult review what you intend to submit, it is not something your parents can do for you. Please seek assistance from a current NJHS member for advice. There will be a sample application on the Socrates Academy web site. We will also hold informational meetings in January and February so that interested scholars can ask questions. Very detailed descriptions of your activities score the best. The committee that scores your application does NOT know who you are when they are scoring.

Please note that your selection is not based on the choices or opinions of any staff members. There is no appeal process. Applicants who are selected will be notified with a letter in late April. Selected applicants will be inducted in a special ceremony in May 2018 for the 2018-2019 school year. Accepted eighth graders will be inducted at Socrates Academy but serve as members at their high school chapters.

Thank you for considering NJHS membership. Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions you or your parents might have about our chapter of the NJHS and our selection policies.

Sincerely,

Ms. Jonni Hovan