

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

The Aqsa School chapters of National Honors Society and National Junior Honors Society work to recognize the efforts of students and promote their growth in the areas of scholarship, leadership, service, and character.

Requirements for Eligibility: According to the Aqsa School Chapter of NHS, students who have attended Aqsa School for more than one semester, and have a cumulative GPA of 3.75 or above are eligible to apply to become members. However, freshmen (9th graders) in high school must have a 4.0 GPA to be eligible to become Honor Guards. As a privilege, Seniors with a GPA of 3.5 and above are also eligible.

According to the Aqsa School Chapter of NJHS, students in 7th and 8th grade who have attended Aqsa School for more than one semester and have a cumulative GPA of 3.75 are eligible to apply to become members.

The NHS and NJHS Application Process: Once students have met the eligibility requirements, they will be notified of their eligibility by a letter which includes an application to join NHS or NJHS. The process is as follows:

- 1) Students must complete the Candidate Form, which asks them to describe their qualifications, and return it to the NHS Advisor before the deadline. **Any late applications without valid reason will not be considered.**
- 2) The Faculty Council made up of 5 teachers representing variety of departments in Aqsa School will fill out objective evaluations of the students based on the characteristics highlighted by NHS and NJHS (scholarship, leadership, service, character, and additionally for NJHS, citizenship). This process is a rigorous one in which students' characteristics and their actions in relation to these characteristics are evaluated by the Faculty Council with input from many of their teachers and staff.
- 3) The Faculty Council will discuss the merits of each candidate and come to a majority consensus on whether a student will be accepted or not accepted into NHS or NJHS.
- 4) Students will be notified by letter of their acceptance, acceptance on probation, or non-acceptance into NHS or NJHS.

The Appeals Process: Students who are not accepted into NHS or NJHS may submit an appeal in writing within 2 days of the decision letters being delivered. Parents of students who wish to appeal must set up a meeting with the Principal and NHS/NJHS Advisor. Both sides will discuss the reasons given by the Faculty Council and the student's perspective on the decision. Once the meeting concludes, the Faculty Council will once again be petitioned to come to a new decision or maintain their original decision.

Probationary Membership: Students who are accepted into NHS or NJHS on probationary status will be subject to a monthly evaluation by their teachers in the areas identified by the Faculty Council as areas of concern. They will meet with the Dean of Students to discuss these teacher evaluations and strategies for improvement. If, however, the student fails to show consistent improvement in the areas of concern, they may be subject to removal from NHS or NJHS. Once removed from NHS or NJHS, a student will not be allowed to reapply for membership.

NHS Faculty Council for 2017:

Laila El-Amin - Religion Dept.
Heba Abdel-Latif - Science Dept.
Huda Baylin - English Dept.
Ghada Ali - Math Dept.
Layla Khayr - Academic Counselor

NJHS Faculty Council for 2017:

Zahia Damen - Religion Dept.
Sujud Ottman - Science Dept.
Stacee Hartin - English Dept.
Michelle Hale - Math Dept.
Hayat Msouty - History Dept.