



**National Honor Society  
Veritas Chapter  
The Ursuline School**

July 17, 2020

Congratulations! Since you have maintained a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.85 over the past two academic years, you are eligible to apply for membership into the Ursuline's *Veritas Chapter* of the National Honor Society. The National Honor Society is a national organization that recognizes students of good moral **character** who excel in **academics** and are committed to **service** and **leadership**. These are the four pillars of the National Honor Society.

If you wish to be considered for membership, you must complete an application for review by a faculty council. A revised application process was emailed in April to the entire sophomore and junior classes. You will find the same information below. There are three parts to the application: 1) profile, 2) service component, 3) essay. **Please read all of the following information carefully.**

If you intend to apply for membership, you must complete the profile for your application which is due **Friday, September 25, 2020**. By submitting a profile, you will make a commitment to service and declare intent to apply for membership. If you do not submit the profile by Friday, September 25, you will not be permitted to complete the rest of the application. If you are absent from school on the due date, you are still responsible to submit the profile by the deadline.

The second part of the application is the service component. If you can complete the entire application for the September due date, you are welcome to do so. For those of you unable to complete the service component by September 25, service projects will be offered on x2VOL and the service component of the application will be due **Friday, October 23**. This date is subject to change based on our fall schedule. We will try to organize a large group service project dependent on the schedule but this is not guaranteed. Any eligible senior who applies for membership will submit her service component by **Friday, October 16** and if accepted, will make a commitment to the National Honor Society in order to list membership on college applications before November 1. The formal induction for these members will take place along with the juniors.

- Service is defined as a completely selfless act that benefits a community and requires one to give their personal time for a charitable outcome. Service hours do not include favors and should be self-sacrificing. Rising juniors are required to provide documentation of forty (40) service hours completed since the beginning of freshman year (September 2018); rising seniors are required to provide documentation of forty (40) service hours completed from the beginning of sophomore year (September 2018). These hours can be completed either within one organization or between multiple organizations. There is no requirement that hours can not be completed in bulk. **No more** than twenty (20) hours will be permitted from internal Ursuline activities. Check x2VOL for opportunities to complete hours over the summer. The following chart is a guide to help you determine what hours count as service. **Service does not include helping a business that profits monetarily from your work with no greater selfless community impact, even if you are not getting paid. This includes a family or friend's business.** If you have any questions, please check with Ms. Dugan or Mr. Adamek before you submit the application. **All hours must**

**be completed and verified, not just listed, by the due date of Friday, October 23, 2020. Hours that are not verified will not be eligible.**

Service	Not service
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Volunteering at a nursing home/hospital/school/daycare center</li> <li>- Volunteering at a non-profit organization such as Hope Soup Kitchen, Meals on Wheels that serve a community's needs</li> <li>- Activities outside of the school day that require you to travel off campus and involve volunteer work</li> <li>- Babysitting ONLY through a non-profit organization</li> <li>- In-school: Open House and other weekend or afterschool activities</li> <li>- Writing letters to nursing home patients</li> <li>- Mask making or cooking or donating food for Ursuline's food drives during the COVID-19 school closure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Club meetings</li> <li>- Club activities within the school day (8-3, or for seniors after your last class when you are dismissed)</li> <li>- Performing at school concerts</li> <li>- Ring Day preparation (if you are accepted for membership as a junior)</li> <li>- Cantors and liturgy participation (except for practice)</li> <li>- Peer Leadership/Peer Ministry</li> <li>- Mandatory school activities</li> <li>- Girl Scout service if working towards an award (this can be discussed on a case-by-case basis)</li> <li>- Volunteering at a family/friend's business, or helping anyone make money</li> <li>- Game managers</li> <li>- Babysitting</li> <li>- Dog walking</li> </ul>

- Verification must accompany all hours. Log hours on x2VOL and indicate these activities on your application. It is your responsibility to make sure all hours logged by you on x2VOL are verified before the due date. Physical confirmation letters can be submitted but only if x2VOL verification is not possible; these hours should also be listed on your application. Physical letters should be official with a letterhead if possible and include specific dates, numbers of hours, responsibilities, and contact information.
- Your x2VOL profile will provide the details of your service. Please include a full summary of and relevant details to the listed activity on x2VOL. If no details or minimal details are listed, you will be contacted to clarify and a decision will be made to see if the activity is eligible.
- Indicate any other school or community activities in which you have participated, and leadership positions held.

The essay is the third piece of the application which focuses on the pillar of character. The essay should be an organized and focused personal reflection that adheres to the following: 1½-2-pages, double-spaced, size 11. The essay is due with the service component on **Friday, October 23**. Address the following questions in your essay:

- *How have you displayed good character?*
- *How have you been a role model for others?*
- *Has there been a time when you have not displayed good character? How have you rectified it?*
- *Why do you deserve to be a member of the National Honor Society?*

Do not be modest about your accomplishments; every piece of information is used in the selection process. You, along with a parent or guardian, must sign the last page of the form indicating that all information is accurate. If you choose to wait until the last few days, you accept the risk of missing the deadline. **If any of the preceding directions are not followed, the application will not be considered.**

**Due date reminders:**

- Friday, September 25, 2020 - profile (required to complete application)
- Friday, October 16, 2020 - service component and essay for seniors
- Friday, October 23, 2020 - service component and essay for juniors

If you are able to complete the entire application by September 25, you are welcome to do so. If you complete the full application, you do not have to submit a separate profile. The completed profile (or full application) should be sealed in a large flat envelope with your name and grade level written on the front. Place your profile in the collection box in the Tiered Room hallway (entrance to the library) on the second floor of the Old Building. Do not leave your profile on any desk in either the social studies office or classrooms. **Late profiles will not be considered. Completion of the profile does not guarantee acceptance into the National Honor Society.** A reminder will be sent out about a week before the due date for the essay and service component. Follow the same procedures to submit your full application. You do not have to wait until the deadline to submit any component on the application and are encouraged to submit it as soon as possible. All applications will be reviewed together by a faculty council using specified criteria based on the pillars of NHS and teacher recommendations. Any disciplinary record or question of character will be considered during the evaluation process and may be grounds for rejection. If selected as a member of the National Honor Society, you will be responsible for completing service hours throughout your junior and/or senior year(s); please take this into account when making the decision to apply. As we are unsure of the fall schedule, information on the Induction Ceremony will be announced later.

Congratulations again on your nomination. Please feel free to email us over the summer if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Ms. Dugan  
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Mr. Adamek  
[adamekc@ursulinenewrochelle.org](mailto:adamekc@ursulinenewrochelle.org)

Moderators of the *Veritas Chapter*

cc – Mrs. Rosemary Beirne, Principal  
Mrs. Denise Moore, Assistant Principal of Academics  
Mrs. Liz Lynch, Assistant Principal of Student Life