

NJHS Application Help

Here are some tips to help you fill out the NJHS application. *This is taken right from the official description of citizenship given in the NJHS handbook.*

1. The application is extremely important. This is the only way you have to show that you have the leadership, service, citizenship, and character that is required for an NJHS member. The application must show that you already have these characteristics. Take your time and take this application seriously.

2. There are two teacher recommendations and one community recommendation that need to be filled out on your behalf. Choose these people wisely. Also, give them the recommendation form right away along with an envelope so they can put the confidential recommendation in it before giving it back to you. Teachers can turn the recommendation directly in to the counseling office. Make sure the community form is filled out by someone who is not a relative.

3. Put as much detail as possible in the examples you give on the application. When your application is given to the faculty council to review, your name is taken off. You are chosen for membership into the O.L. Smith Middle School chapter of NJHS completely based on your grade point average, application, and recommendations.

4. Turn your application in on time. Also, it's important to follow up with the people you gave your recommendation forms to so that they get turned in on time as well.

Below, you will find exemplary examples of how you should fill out each section of the application. Keep in mind, your example must have the grade or grades you completed the activity, a description of the activity, and how it demonstrates the characteristic.

Leadership Example:

In 5th grade I was nominated for class president. As the class president, I held monthly meetings with the principal, wrote an article for the newsletter, and organized a school dance.

Notice that the description of what was done as class president is what truly proves leadership.

Service Example:

I have been a boy scout for troop #671 for the past three years. Our troop visits a local nursing home every month to spend time with the residents, play games with them, and listen to their stories.

When giving your service examples, it's important to make sure the events are actually service. Household chores or jobs you get paid to do are not examples of service.

Citizenship/Character Examples: Since this is the hardest category to prove, we have provided two examples.

In 6th grade, I was on time to all of my classes and after school activities. This proves that I observe punctuality both inside and outside of the classroom.

This gives an example that proves one of the standards given in the information section for character.

In 6th grade, I was a member of O.L. Smith School's student council. While in the student council, I attended many meetings and helped the new students who came to our school. This shows citizenship because it demonstrates mature participation and responsibility through involvement in school clubs.

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