

# NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

Villa Victoria Academy Selection Procedures - 2020-2021

The National Honor Society chapter of Villa Victoria Academy is a duly chartered and affiliated chapter of the prestigious national organization. Membership is open to those students who meet the required standards in four areas of evaluation: scholarship, service, leadership, and character. Students are selected for membership by majority vote of a five-member principal-appointed faculty council, which bestows this honor upon qualified students on behalf of the faculty of our school each October.

# Scholarship

Students in grades 11 and 12 are eligible for membership. For the scholarship criterion, a student must have a cumulative GPA of 3.8 or better on a 4.0 scale (no rounding will be considered).

# **Leadership and Service**

Each Fall Semester, those students who meet the Scholarship criteria are invited to complete a Candidate Form that provides the faculty council with information regarding the candidate's leadership and service. The Candidate Form requires the following information.

The following criteria will be considered:

## Leadership

- Students will submit an essay (500-750 words) that describes, in their own words, how they
  meet the criteria of leadership and character.
- Students will submit two examples of leadership experiences accompanied by a letter of recommendation from a supervising adult, if the leadership experience is outside of Villa Victoria (*Please note that letters of recommendation will be waived for Fall 2020 due to the coronavirus pandemic. Students need only provide contact information for the supervising adult*). These experiences do not necessarily have to involve formal positions held, and may include roles where the student demonstrates, in a substantial way, any of the following leadership skills:
  - Serving as a respected role model to other students (for instance, inspiring positive behavior)
  - Contributing ideas that positively influence school life
  - Participating actively in the classroom and demonstrating academic initiative
  - Engaging in service to others (for instance, serving as a peer tutor or club officer)



### Service

- Students will have completed all service hours as required by Villa Victoria Academy and stipulated in the Student Handbook.
- Students will have completed ten additional hours in volunteer service to school or outside organizations above and beyond the school requirement (this requirement will be waived for candidates for Fall 2020 due to the coronavirus pandemic).

### Character

- Students will demonstrate trustworthiness and respect by having a clean disciplinary record free of follow-up actions or charges of academic dishonesty. In cases where prior infractions have occurred, students must have demonstrated substantial growth as determined by the faculty council.
- Students will demonstrate responsibility by having exemplary records of attendance with no more than two incidents of counted absences/year with no excessive tardiness or early dismissals (see the Student Handbook for school requirements on attendance).
- o Student records of leadership and service will demonstrate caring and citizenship.
- Students will submit two letters of recommendation from outside of school which attest to their character and/or leadership abilities (*Please note that letters of recommendation will* be waived for Fall 2020 due to the coronavirus pandemic. Students need only provide contact information for the supervising adult).

Students meeting the minimum GPA requirement will be invited to submit their Candidate Forms for consideration. Any solicited faculty input and all Candidate Forms are then carefully reviewed by the faculty council to determine membership. A majority vote of the council is necessary for selection. Candidates are notified regarding selection or non-selection.

Following notification, a formal induction ceremony is held at the school to recognize all the newly selected members. Once inducted, new members are required to maintain the same level of performance (or better) in all four criteria that led to their selection. Members who fall below any of these guidelines have one semester to return to status.