



# Passaic County Technical Institute

## NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY



### Selection Criteria 2023-2024

The Passaic County Technical Institute National Honor Society accepts students who excel in all **four** pillar areas – **scholarship**\*unweighted, **leadership**, **service**, and **character**. The scoring of the PCTI National Honor Society application is based upon the following rubric/criteria:

1. Scholarship (based on meeting 3.8 and higher GPA eligibility) (8 points awarded)
2. Leadership (1 - 4 points possible)
3. Service (1 - 4 points possible)
4. Character (1 - 4 points possible)
5. Essay – Character (1 - 4 points possible)

A **minimum** of **20/24** points is **required** to be considered a viable candidate for selection into the PCTI National Honor Society.

Each application must have completed Google Form, appropriate recommendation forms, Activities/Community Service Signature page, and mandatory essay. Application and essay materials must be typed.

Each application must be submitted on or before the due date as noted. **Late applications will not be accepted or considered beyond the deadline.**

An applicant will **not** be selected if:

1. Any section on the application is left blank (areas without all signatures/proper will not be counted.). All forms were not completed or submitted by the deadline.
2. The applicant does not demonstrate a score of 3 or higher in **EACH** pillar.
3. There is a score of eight (8) points or fewer combined from the four pillars (Leadership, Service, and Character) in which points are awarded.
4. There is a **disciplinary** infraction on the student's record. (The faculty council will determine the seriousness of the infraction and may deny membership solely on any infraction even if the student has a GPA of 3.8 or higher when there is an instance of cheating, plagiarism, insubordination, disrespect, and out of school suspensions are considered infractions that are noted on a student's record.)

The members of the PCTI Faculty Committee will complete the scoring of each area based upon the judgments made by the committee and how each application fits the rubric. The following descriptors are taken from the NHS Handbook to give further help in definitions of scholarship, leadership, service and character.

**Scholarship:** Student has earned a cumulative 3.8 GPA or higher

**Leadership: (Actively participates in several in and out of school activities)**

- Demonstrates initiative in promoting school activities.
- Exercises influence on peers in upholding school ideals.
- Contributes ideas that promote civic life of the school.
- Is able to delegate responsibilities.
- Exemplifies positive attitude and inspires positive behavior in others.
- Successfully holds school offices or positions of responsibility.
- Demonstrates reliability and dependability.
- Is a classroom leader, at work, shop, and in other school or community activities.
- Is willing to uphold the values of scholarship.

**Service: (Performs unpaid volunteer service to school and community)**

- Student has volunteered and provided dependable, organized assistance.
- Works well with others and is willing to take on difficult responsibilities.
- Renders service through events held or sponsored by the school.
- Does committee service with a positive and cooperative attitude.
- Participates in some related organized activity outside of school, for example, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, tutoring at the library, nursing home, church/religious group, or volunteer services for the elderly in their community.

**Character: (There are seven (7) traits that make up Character)**

This score is determined through review of your disciplinary record and review of the faculty council.

- Student demonstrates: respect, responsibility, trustworthiness, fairness, caring, and citizenship.
- Takes criticism willingly and accepts recommendations graciously.
- Consistently exemplifies desirable qualities of behavior.
- Regularly shows concern, courtesy, and respect for others.
- Demonstrates the highest standards of honesty and reliability.
- Manifests truthfulness in acknowledging obedience to school rules, avoiding cheating in written work (not only cheating off someone, but also allowing someone to cheat from your work and/or knowing that cheating is occurring and not actively trying to deter it) and showing unwillingness to profit by the mistakes of others.
- Students demonstrate honesty and humility in their relationships with others.

**Scoring Rubric for Assessing Selection For Membership  
The Four NHS Pillars**

<b>PCTI NHS Pillars</b>	4	3	2	1
Scholarship	No points are awarded for scholarship – student’s qualifying GPA meets minimum scholarship requirement.			
<p style="text-align: center;">Leadership</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;">           Student may be awarded points based on the significance of activity as well as the number of activities.         </div>	Student shows strong, effective leadership in formal and informal situations. S/he takes initiative in setting, and asserting direction toward goals. S/he is seen as a positive leader in the classroom. S/he is involved in 6 or more activities through her/his junior/senior years.	Student shows effective leadership in formal situations. S/he holds/has held office in a number of organizations, and has moved the organization forward with her/his role. S/he is involved in at least 4 or more activities through her/his junior/senior years.	Student shows or has shown tentative leadership activity. S/he may hold/has held office or displays leadership informally in class and other situations. S/he is involved in at least 2 or more activities through her/his junior/senior years.	Student shows very little evidence of leadership experience or ability that is <b>not</b> detected through junior/senior years.
Service	Student demonstrates consistent and sustained outstanding service and involvement to better or improve our school and community. A total of 10 or more hours of service have been rendered.	Student demonstrates service and involvement to better or improve our school and community on an ongoing basis. A total of 10-14 hours of service have been rendered.	Student demonstration of service and involvement is inconsistent. More one-time events than dedicated involvement. A total of 5-9 hours of service have been rendered.	How activities impact school or community is unclear, or activities are listed but verification signatures are missing. A total of 0-4 hours of service have been rendered and reflected on the application.
<p style="text-align: center;">Character</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; margin-top: 10px;">           This section’s score is derived from a combination of faculty/staff feedback as well as the student’s discipline record/letters of recommendation         </div>	Student shows strong evidence of exemplifying all qualities of character. Has had no visits to ISS, no discipline referrals,	Student shows good evidence of exemplifying most of the qualities of character. Has had no visits to ISS, no discipline referrals, etc.	Student shows moderate evidence of exemplifying most of the qualities of character.	Student has had discipline problems and/or referrals, the council has reservations based on the applicant.

**PCTI Pillars of NHS Essay  
Scoring Rubric**

Area	4	3	2	1
Content	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is well thought-out and supports the solution to the question</li> <li>Reflects application of critical thinking</li> <li>Has clear goal that is related to each pillar/topic</li> <li>Is accurate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is well thought-out and supports the solution to the question</li> <li>Has application of critical thinking</li> <li>Has clear goal that is related to each pillar/topic</li> <li>Is pulled from a variety of sources</li> <li>Is accurate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supports the solution to the question</li> <li>Has application of critical thinking</li> <li>Has no clear goal that is related to each pillar/topic</li> <li>Is pulled from a limited number of sources</li> <li>Has some factual errors or inconsistencies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provides inconsistent information for solution to the question</li> <li>Has no apparent application of critical thinking</li> <li>Has no clear goal that is related to each pillar/topic</li> <li>Has significant factual errors, misconceptions, or misrepresentations inconsistencies</li> </ul>
Conventions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No spelling, capitalization, grammatical, or punctuation errors</li> <li>Excellent/High-level use of vocabulary and word choice</li> <li>Follows MLA format</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Few (1 to 3) spelling, grammatical, capitalization, or punctuation errors</li> <li>Good use of vocabulary and word choice</li> <li>Follows MLA format</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimal effort reveals (4 to 6) spelling, capitalization, grammatical, or punctuation errors</li> <li>Low-level use of vocabulary and word choice</li> <li>Some evidence of MLA format</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>More than 6 spelling, capitalization, grammatical, or punctuation errors</li> <li>Poor use of vocabulary and word choice</li> <li>Lacks evidence of MLA format</li> <li>Poorly written not proofread before submission.</li> </ul>
Organization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information is clearly focused in an organized and thoughtful manner</li> <li>Information is constructed in a logical pattern to support the solution to the challenge or question</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information has focus and pattern</li> <li>Information supports the solution to the challenge or question</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information has focus but strays from it at times</li> <li>Information has pattern but is not consistent throughout</li> <li>Information loosely supports the solution to the challenge or question</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information is unfocused and haphazard</li> <li>Information has no apparent pattern</li> <li>Information does not support the solution to the challenge or question</li> </ul>