



NEHS Chapter of Distinction

Purpose

To recognize NEHS chapters that demonstrate a commitment to operational excellence and student engagement. This program serves as a year-end validation of chapter effectiveness and a roadmap for future leadership growth.

Eligibility

- Must be a duly chartered and affiliated chapter of NEHS.
- Affiliated NEHS chapter during current and upcoming school year.
- Compliant with the NEHS National Constitution and Handbook.

How to Apply

1. Audit:

- i. Adviser and students review the **Essential Standards** and **Areas of Distinction** to determine what documentation is necessary.
- ii. Adviser and student officers work together to gather all support documents (e.g. bylaws, selection process) for a collaborative review before presenting them to the school principal.
- iii. Chapters **do not submit documentation directly to NEHS**. Retain these records in chapter files for validation purposes.
- iv. Adviser and students reflect on the current year and student officers provide 3–4 sentence summaries to complete the **Chapter Snapshot**.

2. Validate:

- i. Hold a meeting with the school principal, adviser, and student officers to review the self-audit results.
- ii. Secure all three signatures in the Validation, which may be digital signatures or wet signatures that are scanned and uploaded, to provide proof that the chapter has met the requirements to earn Chapter of Distinction.

3. Submit:

- i. Complete the Chapter of Distinction online application on the NEHS website. Only the Validation form with signatures is uploaded, and no other documents are re-quired.
- ii. Include the name, title, and e-mail address of the three signatories (student officer, adviser, and principal) who will be notified of the results in September.



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Part I: Essential Standards

Complete this checklist to ensure 100% compliance with core operational requirements.

Bylaws: Local bylaws are updated, consistent with the National Constitution (Article XIV).

Faculty Council: A Faculty Council of the adviser and at least two voting members was appointed by the Principal to oversee selection and disciplinary actions (Article VI).

Selection Transparency: A written description of the local selection procedure is published and widely available to all students and parents (Article VIII).

Selection Criteria: All membership selection is based on the pillars of the Honor Society and is conducted through a fair, non-discriminatory process (Article VIII).

Member Obligations: All members have been provided with a written list of member obligations, including service, meetings, and dues (if applicable). (Article VII).

Chapter Service: The chapter planned and executed at least four (4) chapter-wide projects this year, including at least one service project that addressed a school or community need (Article XI).

Part II: Areas of Distinction

Select and verify at least **two** of the five areas of distinction. These reflect elevated practices beyond the essential chapter requirements.

Area	Distinction Criteria (Select 2 or more)
Student Governance	Student officers collaborated with the adviser to prepare agendas and lead portions of regular business meetings (Article XI).
Chapter Legacy	The chapter conducted a respectful induction ceremony for new members and a formal installation for new officers (Article VIII).
Local Engagement	The chapter publicized its service and student achievements through school news, social media, or local press to create enthusiasm for the values of NEHS (Article XII).
Administrative Transparency	Student leaders and the adviser met with the principal to ensure chapter activities and goals are approved and aligned with school policy, mission, and vision.
Leadership Development	The chapter conducted a leadership training session or orientation to prepare new officers for their duties.



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Part IV: Validation

Attestation that the student officer, adviser, and principal have met to review chapter documentation and have met the criteria to be named an NEHS Chapter of Distinction.

Student Officer:

"As a representative of our chapter, I confirm that our NEHS worked hard to meet these standards, and we have met the criteria to be named a Chapter of Distinction."

Name: _____ Officer Title: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Adviser Attestation:

"I verify that this chapter remains in good standing, operates according to the National Constitution, and that the evidence for this Chapter of Distinction is maintained in our chapter records."

Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Principal Validation:

"I have reviewed the chapter's self-audit and approve their designation as a Chapter of Distinction. I verify that the chapter operates with my approval and follows all local and national policies."

Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____