

GRADUATION HONORS

Honorary Awards

Valedictorian - The title of Valedictorian is an honor awarded to the student with the highest overall average in the graduating class. The overall, unrounded average is calculated based on IHL courses (<https://riseupms.com/apply/>) and is outlined the LCSD handbook (<https://www.lowndes.k12.ms.us/apps/pages/handbooks>). The student must have completed at least three advanced placement and/or dual enrollment courses. The student will receive a medal during Seniors Awards that may be worn at graduation. The Valedictorian will speak at graduation. In addition, a diploma seal is provided.

Salutatorian - The title of Salutatorian is an honor awarded to the student with the second-highest overall average in the graduating class. The overall, unrounded average is calculated based on IHL courses (<https://riseupms.com/apply/>) and is outlined the LCSD handbook (<https://www.lowndes.k12.ms.us/apps/pages/handbooks>). The student must have completed at least three advanced placement and/or dual enrollment courses. The student will receive a medal during Seniors Awards that may be worn at graduation. The Salutatorian will speak at graduation. In addition, a diploma seal is provided.

High Honors – Students graduating with an overall, unrounded 94 or better average in the IHL core courses (<https://riseupms.com/apply/>) will graduate with High Honors. Details are outlined in the LCSD handbook (<https://www.lowndes.k12.ms.us/apps/pages/handbooks>). The students will receive a medal during Senior Awards as well as a black and gold braided cord that may be worn at graduation.

Honors – Students graduating with an unrounded, overall 90 average in all credit-bearing courses, except driver's education, will graduate with honors. Details are outlined in the LCSD handbook (<https://www.lowndes.k12.ms.us/apps/pages/handbooks>). The students will receive a black and gold braided cord during Senior Awards that may be worn at graduation.

Academic Achievement Awards

Acceleration Honor Cord – This honor is given to students who complete a minimum of five AP and/or Dual Enrollment courses during their high school career and have an overall combined GPA, in AP and/or DE/DC classes, of 3.5 or 90 or higher. Students must complete and submit the Acceleration Honor Cord application by the deadline. These students will receive a gold cord during Senior Awards that may be worn at graduation.

Mississippi Scholars – This honor is given to students who complete the rigorous Mississippi Scholars Course of Study and other requirements outlined on the Mississippi Economic Council's website (<https://msmec.com/public-education-forum>). Students must complete and submit the Mississippi Scholars application by the deadline. These students will receive a medal during Senior Awards that

may be worn at graduation. In addition, a MS Scholar seal is placed on the permanent transcript and provided for the diploma.

Mississippi Tech Masters - This honor is given to students who complete the rigorous Mississippi Tech Master Course of Study and other requirements outlined on the Mississippi Economic Council's website (<https://msmec.com/public-education-forum>). Students must complete and submit the Mississippi Tech Masters application by the deadline. These students will receive a during Senior Awards that may be worn at graduation. In addition, a MS Tech Master seal is placed on the permanent transcript and provided for the diploma.

Honorary Organization Awards

National Technical Honor Society - To be eligible, students must have taken at least one career technical course in high school, pay all membership fees, maintain a 3.0 GPA, as well as complete community service hours, and attend meetings as outlined by the local chapter. DECA, FBLA, and FCCLA members are encouraged to join. The NTHS sponsor will present NTHS members a purple and silver cord during Senior Awards that may be worn at graduation. In addition, a diploma seal is provided.

Senior Beta – This honor is given to students who join the Beta Club; pay all membership fees; and complete 80 hours of community service and community service projects throughout the four years of high school. Members must maintain an overall average of 85 or higher. The Beta Club sponsor(s) will present Beta Club members a stole and a pin during Senior Awards that may be worn at graduation. In addition, a diploma seal is provided.

Spanish Honor Society – Students who have maintained an A average in at least Spanish I and Spanish II are invited to join the Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica, a national organization. Students must pay all membership fees. The SHS sponsor will present Spanish Honor Society members a blue and white cord during Senior Awards that may be worn at graduation. *Beginning with the entering freshman of 2019-2020, only students who enroll in Spanish I, II, and III will be invited to join.*

Special Senior Awards

Hall of Fame – The Hall of Fame is a prestigious honor voted on by faculty and announced at graduation. To be eligible for Hall of Fame students must attend NHH all four years of high school; have an overall 85 or better average on all academic work through the first semester of the senior year; participate in at least two extra-curricular activities each year; and have a clear high school disciplinary record. Students must complete and submit the Hall of Fame application by the deadline. Students selected for Hall of Fame will be presented an award at graduation.

Senior Recognition - These awards are nominated by and voted on by faculty. Students selected will be presented a certificate at graduation. The awards, listed below, are presented to one male and one female from the senior class.

- Best All Around
- Citizenship
- School Spirit

Lowndes County CTC Awards

Vocational Completer- Students who complete, with a passing grade each year, two years of a career technical program at the Lowndes County CTC will receive a medal at the CTC Awards Ceremony. Students may wear this at graduation.

CTC CPAS - Students who pass their respective CPAS exams will receive a green and gold cord at the CTC Awards Ceremony. Students may wear this at graduation.

CTC NCCER - Students who earn NCCER certification in their eligible and respective CTC program will receive a blue and silver cord at the CTC Awards Ceremony. Students may wear this at graduation.

Assessment Awards

STAR Student – The senior who earns the highest composite ACT, before the December testing date of their senior year, and meets the guidelines as set forth by the Mississippi Economic Council (<https://msmec.com/star-program>) will be New Hope High School’s STAR Student. This student will select a STAR Teacher. Both are invited to the Mississippi Economic Council’s luncheon where the student receives a certificate as well as a medallion that he/she may wear at graduation. NHH will present the certificate to the student at Senior Awards; the student presents the certificate to his/her STAR Teacher at Senior Awards.

ACT Achievement Cord - Students earning a composite ACT score of 25 or above, before the February testing date of their senior year, will receive a light blue cord during Senior Awards that may be worn at graduation.

ACT 30+ Club – This recognition is for students who earn a 30+ sub-score or composite ACT, before the February testing date of their senior year. Honorees will have their name permanently painted on The 30+ Club Wall at NHH. Students with 30+ sub-scores will be listed; students with 30+ composite scores will be listed and designated with bolding or shadowing. These students will also be recognized at Senior Awards.

MAAP Achievement - Students earning proficient or advanced on all four MAAP assessments by February of their senior year will receive a white cord during Senior Awards that may be worn at graduation. *This honor will begin the senior year of the 2019-2020 entering freshman; it does not impact early graduates.*

WorkKeys Achievement - Students earning a Silver or above score on WorkKeys assessment, given at NHH, will receive a silver cord during Senior Awards that may be worn at graduation.

ASVAB- Students earning an overall 40 or higher score on the ASVAB, given at NHH, will receive a navy blue cord during Senior Awards that may be worn at graduation.

Community-Based Awards

Any community-based medals, stoles, or cords must be approved by the administration before a student can wear such items at graduation. Listed below are those items that are currently approved.

Mayor's Youth Council - Students who participated in the Mayor's Youth Council during high school are awarded, by MYC, a cord that may be worn at graduation. MYC officials will present these at Senior Awards.

Military - Students who are entering the military may purchase, at their own cost, a cord or stole to wear at graduation. The student's recruiter or NHH staff will present the item at Senior Awards.

Scouting - Students earning the highest rank in Boy or Girl Scouts may purchase, at their own cost, a red, white, and navy blue cord to wear at graduation. A Scout representative will present the item at Senior Awards.

Athletic Awards

State Championship – Athletes who won a state championship in a NHH sponsored athletic activity, and who are awarded a medallion by MHSAA or its equivalent, may wear those medallions at graduation.