

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

In order that local eligibility standards reflect a greater emphasis on classroom achievements and with participation in athletics viewed as a privilege, the following are the Olentangy Local School District policies for athletic eligibility for grades 7-12.

STUDENTS ENROLLED IN GRADES 9-12

- 1) A student's eligibility will be determined according to his/her GPA (grade point average) for the immediately preceding nine week grading period. Semester and final exams are not to be calculated in the nine week GPA assessment because of the comprehensive nature of exams. A student's eligibility will be determined by examining each student's nine week grade independent of prior grading periods. Students must maintain a quarterly GPA of at least 1.5 (based on a 4.0 scale).
- 2) In the grading period immediately preceding, a student must receive a passing grade in a minimum of five (5) one-credit courses or the equivalent, which count toward graduation.
- 3) Incoming freshmen must be passing a minimum of five courses taken during the final grading period of their eighth grade year to be eligible and have a GPA of 1.5 for the fourth quarter. A student may apply for a one-time GPA waiver to be used during his or her freshman year. The passage of five (5) one-credit courses must be met, per OHSAA regulations, in order to make application. Application to the athletic director may occur after the 4th quarter of the 8th grade through the 3rd quarter of the freshman year.
- 4) A grade of "incomplete" will be considered a failing grade until work is completed per O.H.S.A.A By-law 4-4-1, exception 3.
- 5) Summer School and other educational options may NOT be used to substitute for failure to meet the academic standards during the last grading period of the school year.
- 6) A student enrolled in credit flex courses must, at the conclusion of the high school's grading period, provide proof of "passing" their credit flex course in order for this course to be counted toward the five-one credit (or equivalent) courses used to establish athletic eligibility.
- 7) Students who are being home-schooled and who desire to participate in athletics and extracurricular activities must fulfill the requirements as established by the Olentangy School District related to eligibility, attendance, enrollment, and participation guidelines (please refer to policy 2431.03).
- 8) Year-long on-line courses may not be used to compensate for a lack of courses taken in the preceding grading period.

STUDENTS ENROLLED IN GRADES 7-8

- 1) In order to participate in an interscholastic sport or to cheerlead, a student must be passing five courses and have a minimum 1.5 GPA in the preceding nine week grading period.
- 2) A student enrolled in the first grading period after advancement from the seventh to eighth grade must have passed a minimum of five of classes during the preceding grading period in which the student was enrolled.

- 3) A student enrolling in the seventh grade for the first time will be eligible for the first grading period regardless of the previous academic achievement. Thereafter, in order to be eligible, a student in grade 7 or 8 must be currently enrolled in school the immediately preceding grading period and received passing grades during that grading period in a minimum of five of those subjects in which the student received grades.
- 4) Students who do not meet the minimum eligibility requirements at the end of a quarter will be ineligible to participate for the entire following quarter.
- 5) Individuals declared academically ineligible may not attend practices, games or travel with the team during the period of ineligibility unless approved by the head coach and administration.

ADDITIONAL ACADEMIC STANDARDS FOR GRADES 7-12

- 1) The eligibility or ineligibility of a student continues until the start of the fifth (5th) school day of the next grading period, at which time the grades from the immediately preceding grading period become effective. **Exception: Eligibility or ineligibility of athletes for the first grading period begins with the start of the fall sports season.**
- 2) The following conditions will be established for a student who is ineligible for a grading period:
 - a. A student will be permitted to try out for any sport or activity in which the number of participants is restricted by team selection.
 - b. With approval from the athletic director/coach and parent/guardian/custodian, a student can practice with a team or group.
 - c. The student cannot participate in any athletic contest or scrimmage situations during the period of ineligibility, nor will activity fees be refunded.
- 3) A student who would become ineligible for two consecutive grading periods would lose all practice condition privileges and would be released from any athletic squad.

OTHER O.H.S.A.A. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

AGE LIMITATION – OHIO HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION RULE

When a high school student (grades 9-12) turns 20 years of age, he/she becomes ineligible for interscholastic athletics. There is an exception to this regulation, so please arrange a meeting with your principal or athletic administrator to review this exception.

RESIDENCE AND TRANSFER REQUIREMENTS

If the parent' district of residence is a multiple high school public school district (like Olentangy Local Schools), the student shall be eligible only at the public high school which is located in the attendance zone within which the parents' residence is located.

There are many complicated rules governing residence. Generally an athlete's parents or legal guardian must live in the Olentangy Local School District for the student to be eligible. If you have a residency or transfer question, discuss it with the principal/athletic director. All school district and O.H.S.A.A. by-laws apply.

O.H.S.A.A. transfer bylaws (section 7) have been developed which permits a student to become eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics when moving from one school district to another, from a private school to a public school or vice versa, and from different high schools in the same district insofar as the transfer bylaw is concerned.

- 1) When moving from one school district to another, a bona fide legal change of residence form must be on file with the new district and the O.H.S.A.A. to participate in athletics. Please note, merely signing a lease for an apartment/house in the new district does not constitute a *bona fide legal change of residence*. The form required for legal change of residence may be obtained from the OLSD New Student Welcome Center (NSWC), school athletic offices, or on-line at www.ohsaa.org
- 2) When moving from a private to public school, an O.H.S.A.A. Exception Form Six must be on file with the new district and O.H.S.A.A. in order to participate in athletics. This form may be obtained from the NSWC, school athletic offices, or on-line at www.ohsaa.org.
- 3) When moving from different schools in the same district, an Intra-District Transfer Request Application must be submitted by the district's required date of submission. Be advised that student's approved for an intra-district transfer may be denied participation in athletics for one calendar year.
- 4) In the event that a student's family moves from one attendance area to another within the Olentangy Local School District after the start of the school year, an Intra-District must be submitted as soon as possible. Be advised that students approved for an intra-district transfer may be denied participation in athletics for one calendar year.