

ATHLETIC CODE Continued

- **FIRST VIOLATION:** Immediate ineligibility for the remainder of the current sports season.
- **SECOND VIOLATION:** Ineligible for a period of one (1) calendar year from the date of the second violation.
- **THIRD VIOLATION:** Permanently ineligible for interscholastic competition.

Schools may adopt additional athletic and student conduct code policies.

In addition, a student who is ineligible in a member school may not become immediately eligible at another member school without completing the conditions of ineligibility from the sending school.

RUNNING START

Running Start is a public school mainstream educational program. Your eligibility is at your public school of residence where you access the Running Start program. You could still compete athletically for your private school if you maintain enrollment at the private school for at least 50 percent of the school day at the private school.

EJECTIONS

Conduct resulting in ejection or disqualification from an interscholastic contest shall result in the following:

1. Disqualification for the remainder of the contest in which the ejection occurred. The student shall remain with the team and the coach is responsible for the student.
2. The ejected player is ineligible until he/she misses the next school contest in that sport at the same level of competition for which the person was ejected. The student shall not appear in the school uniform during the suspension period.

The second ejection in the same sport and season shall result in ineligibility for the remainder of the season of that sport.

FALSE INFORMATION

If it is determined that the student/parent/guardian provided the school false information which caused the school to declare the participant eligible, the student will be declared ineligible for interscholastic competition for a period of one (1) year.

Appeal Process

The WIAA provides a process by which a student, parent or guardian can appeal to have eligibility reinstated. Eligibility appeals are based upon hardship conditions beyond the control of the student that do not exist for the general school population. Your athletic director will provide you with the Student Eligibility Appeal Packet and can assist you with the appeal process.

The WIAA Q and A Booklet is available online at www.wiaa.com by clicking on Publications, Q and A Booklet. The last page of the eligibility section reviews the appeal process and answers many of the questions you may have prior to your eligibility appeal hearing.



**WASHINGTON INTERSCHOLASTIC
ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION**

**Washington Interscholastic
Activities Association**
435 Main Ave. S., Renton, WA. 98057
Telephone: 425-687-8585 866-545-8638
Fax: 425-687-9476
Web Site: www.wiaa.com
School year office hours:
Monday – Friday, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.

- **Always check with your principal or athletic administrator if you have questions on student eligibility.**
- **The entire text of the rules and regulations of the association is published in the WIAA Handbook and is posted on the WIAA Web site: (www.wiaa.com).**
- **You can also access the WIAA Eligibility Q and A Booklet online for answers to many eligibility questions.**

Eligibility Checklist for Student-Athletes

Before you play, you must be eligible. Please review the following checklist with your parents. Unchecked boxes may mean you are not eligible and will need to verify eligibility with your school. For eligibility questions, see your principal or athletic administrator.

- 1. I am officially enrolled in a WIAA member school.
- 2. I am enrolled in at least the minimum number of classes for athletic eligibility, generally five or more classes.
- 3. I received passing grades in the minimum number of classes in the previous semester, generally five or more classes.
- 4. I have not changed schools without a corresponding move of my entire family unit.
- 5. I reside with my family unit in this school district and school service area.
- 6. I have not been enrolled in high school for more than 8 semesters.
- 7. I did not turn 20 years of age before the start of each sports season.
- 8. I am an amateur in the sports in which I compete interscholastically, and I have not accepted cash or any award, equipment or prize valued greater than \$300 per sport.
- 9. I have not been recruited to attend this school.
- 10. I have had a physical exam within the past 24 months on file at the school.
- 11. If a Running Start student, I have completed the Running Start contract with my school administrator.
- 12. If a home school student, I have registered with the school district as a home school student.
- 13. If a transfer student, I have no conditions of ineligibility at my previous school.

ARE YOU ELIGIBLE???

2008-09

Guide to Student Athletic Eligibility



**WASHINGTON INTERSCHOLASTIC
ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION**

A Message to Student-Athletes

Participation in your school's interscholastic activities program will provide some of your most memorable and enjoyable moments. Your state association, the Washington Interscholastic Activities Association, has standards that must be met in order to be eligible to participate.

The essential eligibility requirements in this brochure are only a summary of the regulations affecting student eligibility. The entire text of the WIAA eligibility regulations is published in the WIAA Handbook, which can be found in the offices of your principal and athletic administrator and is also available on the WIAA Web site (www.wiaa.com). Your school district also has the authority to establish additional or more restrictive eligibility requirements and codes of student or athletic conduct.

Any questions you have concerning the WIAA eligibility standards or your athletic eligibility should be reviewed with your school principal or athletic administrator. Prior to a change of schools, you will want to check again with your principal or athletic administrator on the possible ramifications a change of school would have on your eligibility.

The eligibility standards of the WIAA have been adopted by the member schools and were accepted by your school when it became a WIAA member.

You are urged, as a student-athlete, to study these standards carefully, since you are responsible for compliance with these standards. Best wishes as you learn the valuable lessons that come with your participation in interscholastic activities.



Mike Colbrese, WIAA Executive Director

A Summary of the Rules

AGE

A high school student who turns 20 years of age prior to September 1 for fall sports, December 1 for winter sports and March 1 for spring sports is ineligible for interscholastic athletics.

A middle school student who turns 15 or a 9th grade junior high school student who turns 16 prior to June 1 of the previous school year is ineligible for middle school athletics but could participate at the high school level.

MEMBER SCHOOL

A student must be a regular member of the school he/she represents in order to participate in interscholastic activities. A student is a regular member of a school if he/she is enrolled half time or more. A Running Start student is a member of the high school from which he/she accesses the Running Start program.

A private school student may participate in athletics at his/her public school of residence when a sport is not offered at his/her private school.

A home school student becomes a member of the school by registering with the school district as a home school student.

SCHOLARSHIP

The student shall maintain passing grades from the previous and the current semester/trimester or the minimum grade standard, as determined by the school district, if more restrictive, in a minimum of

3 classes in a 4 period schedule or equivalent credits
4 classes in a 5 period schedule or equivalent credits
5 classes in a 6 period schedule or equivalent credits
6 classes in a 7 period schedule or equivalent credits
7 classes in a 8 period schedule or equivalent credits

RUNNING START:

One 5-credit quarter class equals 1.0 high school credit

SCHOLARSHIP Continued:

Schools must establish a grade monitoring system to check academic eligibility with periodic grade checks within each three to six-week period of the current semester/trimester.

A student in regular attendance, who did not meet the academic standard for the previous semester/trimester, shall be on suspension from the end of the previous semester through the last Saturday of September in the fall and the first five (5) weeks of the succeeding semester/trimester. The student shall be ineligible for interscholastic competition during the suspension period.

PREVIOUS SEMESTER/ATTENDANCE

To be eligible during the current semester/trimester, the student shall have been enrolled within the first 15 school days and taking the minimum number of required classes/credits.

RESIDENCE

A resident student is one who attends school in the public school district where the entire family unit resides.

TRANSFER

A transfer student is one who attends a school outside of his/her public school of residence. As a transfer student, there may be restrictions on athletic eligibility for the first year. The student will be restricted to junior varsity competition in those sports in which he/she participated the previous year at the school, community or club levels. After one year he/she regains varsity eligibility in those sports.

PHYSICAL EXAM

Prior to the first practice for participation in interscholastic athletics, a student shall undergo a thorough medical examination and be approved for middle level and/or high school interscholastic competition by a medical authority licensed to perform a physical examination. The physical examination shall be valid for twenty-four (24) consecutive months unless otherwise limited by local school district policy.

SEASON LIMITATIONS

After entering or being eligible to enter the seventh grade, a student shall have six (6) consecutive years of interscholastic eligibility.

If the seventh or eighth grade is repeated, and such repetition is based upon documented academic deficiencies by the school principal, the repeated year shall not count against the student's six (6) interscholastic competitive years.

After entering or being eligible to enter the ninth grade, a student shall have four (4) consecutive years of interscholastic eligibility.

CONCURRENT PARTICIPATION

A student shall not compete concurrently in more than one (1) interscholastic sport per season. The exception shall be for students participating in high schools of 'B' classification or schools that compete in an alternate season.

NON-SCHOOL PARTICIPATION

A student may participate on community or club level teams during the WIAA school year. A student may not be given special treatment or privileges on a regular basis to enable them to participate in non-school athletic activities, such as reduced practice times, special workouts, late arrivals, or early dismissals.

AMATEUR STANDING

A student who represents a school in an interscholastic sport must be an amateur in that sport. To protect amateur status a student shall never accept cash awards or accept merchandise or in-kind services of more than \$300 in fair market value during any one calendar year, August 1 through July 31.

ATHLETIC CODE

Each WIAA member school shall adopt reasonable rules and regulations pertaining to the use of alcohol or tobacco products. Penalties for use or sale of legend drugs and controlled substances are:

