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*The WIAA Eligibility Team continues to review and address questions from both families and member schools in reference to eligibility rules and regulations as they relate to COVID-19. This memo is intended to provide guidance on Executive Board waivers to the rules as well as answering a series of frequently asked questions.*

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**WIAA Executive Board Waiver of Handbook Rules**  
**Below are the 3 rule waivers in effect for the 2020-21 school year.**

**18.7.0 Scholarship**

**Previous Semester 18.7.4** *A student shall have passed the minimum number of classes as listed in 18.7.0 in the immediately preceding semester/trimester in order to be eligible for competition during the succeeding semester/trimester.*

- \* 18.7.6 A has been waived to read: **In the fall of 2020, all students are not required to meet the previous semester scholarship rule in 18.7.4 provided they meet all other eligibility requirements. EXPIRED AS OF WINTER 2021**

**Incompletes 18.7.5** *Incompletes may be made up for credit during the first five (5) weeks of the subsequent semester/trimester. The student shall be ineligible for interscholastic competition until the incomplete(s) are cleared.*

- 18.7.5 has been waived to read: **Incompletes can be made up for credit during the first five (5) weeks of the subsequent semester/trimester. The student shall be ELIGIBLE as long as they are actively working toward having the incomplete cleared by the end of the 5-week window. The athletic director/designee would be required to monitor the progress weekly toward completion to maintain eligibility.**

**\*If the student, at the end of the 5 weeks, has not cleared the incomplete into a passing grade, the class would be declared as an F for athletic eligibility purposes and if academic suspension is required, it will begin immediately.**

**Academic Suspension 18.7.6 B** *The suspension period for high school students shall be from the end of the previous semester through the fourth (4th) Saturday in September in the fall or the first five (5) weeks of the succeeding semester/trimester. If the suspension period falls during a non-school week (as defined in 17.15.1) and the athlete is missing scheduled competition, the week may count toward the five (5) week suspension.*

- 18.7.6 B has been waived to read: **The suspension period for high school students shall be from the end of the previous semester/trimester through the third (3<sup>rd</sup>) Saturday or the first three (3) weeks of the succeeding semester/trimester. If the suspension period falls during a non-school week and the athlete is missing scheduled competition, the week may count toward the three (3) week suspension.**

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**18.26.3A - Due to COVID-19, the WIAA eligibility interpretation is that 2020 spring sports (no matter how many practices were completed or games played prior to COVID-19) will not be considered a season of participation.**

## WIAA Eligibility Rules - Q and A

***It is vital to remember that establishing student eligibility involves students meeting ten (10) general components. One of the requirements can not be looked at in isolation of the others. Until an athletic director has reviewed all aspects of a student's eligibility criteria, they are unable to make a full determination of eligibility.***

*As schools and families continue to navigate the ongoing challenges in participation as it relates to the pandemic, please note that the [WIAA Handbook Eligibility](#) rules are being utilized to address the issues that arise and the only waivers to the rules at this time, have been listed above.*

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<b>17.11.0</b>	Physical Examination
<b>18.4.0</b>	Age Limits
<b>18.5.0</b>	Student Member of a School
<b>18.7.0</b>	Scholarship
<b>18.8.0</b>	Previous Semester
<b>18.9.0</b>	Regular Attendance
<b>18.10.0</b>	Residence and Family Unit
<b>18.11.0</b>	Transferring Students
<b>18.13.0</b>	Residence Rule Waiver
<b>18.14.0</b>	Season Limitations

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*Below are a few Frequently asked questions in reference to the eligibility rules as written in the WIAA Handbook.*

**Question :** Due to covid-19 and the quality of education my student is receiving and the fact that they are young for their grade and/or have not had the opportunity to compete and get recruited, we would like to have our student “re-classify” and repeat this school year.

**Answer :** “Re-classify” is not a term used in high school athletics. Per WIAA rule 18.14.0 (Season Limitations), after entering or being eligible to enter seventh (7th) grade, students shall have six (6) consecutive years of interscholastic eligibility. Rule 18.14.0 explains the process for repeating 7th or 8th grade.

**Question :** If Washington State does not allow any sports to happen this school year, can my student reclassify and repeat this year of eligibility.

**Answer :** Per WIAA rule 18.14.0 (Season Limitations), after entering or being eligible to enter seventh (7th) grade, students shall have six (6) consecutive years of interscholastic eligibility. The WIAA Executive Board will continue to review handbook rules as needed based on the situation.

**Question :** Our family would like to move as a family unit to another state in order to compete in a sport they are offering. We intend to return next school year to our school in Washington. Will the student be eligible to compete upon their return.

**Answer :** The WIAA transfer rules indicate that when an entire family unit moves, students can meet the transfer rules. However, WIAA rules 18.13.3 indicates that there can be no evidence that the student transferred for the purpose of participating in interscholastic athletics. This transfer may result in a declaration of ineligibility due to rule 18.13.3.

**Please note, there are documents on our website intended to help navigate educational offerings ([AD's](#) and [Parents](#)) which may be of help as well as our initial [COVID document](#) in reference to eligibility.**