



2014-15

**How to Maintain
and Protect Your**

High School

Eligibility

"Eligibility to represent a school in interscholastic activities is a privilege students may attain by meeting the essential eligibility requirements established by member schools through this association and any additional requirements set by a member school." *own students.*

Eligibility is not a student's right by law, and precedent-setting legal cases have affirmed this."

16. Transferring Schools

If you transfer schools, you will be ineligible for 365 days, unless your circumstances meet one of the exceptions listed in the MSHSAA Residence and Transfer Rules. Make an appointment with the school's athletic director to review these exceptions. Several, but not all, are described below.

Exception 1: If you move with your entire family to your new school district, you will be eligible at your new school provided you were eligible in all other respects at your former school and provided there are no other issues with the transfer. You and your entire family must move to the new residence at the same time *prior to* attending classes.

Always check with your school principal or athletic director before you transfer to determine whether it will affect your eligibility.

Discipline follows a student to a new school. Being expelled from a school also causes 365 days of ineligibility for a student.

Exception 2: A student may be eligible immediately at the school of his or her choice upon first being promoted from the 8th grade into the 9th grade, provided the student is eligible in all other respects.

Exception 10: Foreign Exchange Students are eligible for varsity competition for one year only and only if they are seniors (semester 7 or 8), provided they are participating in an exchange program listed by CSET. However, no member of the school's coaching staff for the sport concerned may serve as a host family. You shall become ineligible for 365 days if you transfer to another school for athletic reasons.

17. Graduated Students

You will be ineligible to participate after graduation from a senior high school. Students who are granted an early release after their junior year are ineligible for further participation. (NOTE: You are eligible to participate in state-senior events which extend beyond the date of your school's graduation at the end of the spring semester of your senior year.)



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NOTE: Before attending any specialized athletic camp(s)/clinic(s) or group sport instruction, you should consult with your school principal or athletic director to make sure it meets the criteria published in the MSHSAA Official Handbook.

13. College Auditions and Tryouts

- You may participate in a college tryout, audition or evaluation event for a specific sport outside the school season of the sport concerned.
- You may not miss school time to travel to or participate in the event unless your absence is approved in advance by the school administrator.
- You may not miss a MSHSAA-sponsored postseason athletic event to participate in or travel to and from the event.
- You may only attend one evaluation event by invitation per sport during the school year. You may attend any number of "open" evaluations outside of your school sport seasons.

NOTE: See your administrator before signing up and agreeing to attend any such events.

14. All-Star Games

- An all-star event is one in which an individual is invited to participate due to his or her high school achievements.
- You may not compete in an all-star game or contest before you complete your eligibility in the sport concerned. Participation in an all-star game or contest before ending your high school eligibility will result in you becoming ineligible to participate in any high school sport.
- A senior with no high school eligibility remaining for a specific sport may participate in no more than two All-Star games for that sport prior to summer. Discuss the event with your administrator before agreeing to play.

15. Residence Requirements

- A student may be eligible at the public or nonpublic school located in the district in which the students' parents reside. In the case of a public multiple-designated for the student to attend, based on parents' residence, by the board of education.

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12. Contact with Coaches

- You may participate on a school team and a non-school team in different sports during the same season; however, you may not practice for the non-school team or participate in organized non-school athletic competition on the same day that you practice with or participate for the school team *without prior approval of your school administrator.*
- You must receive approval in advance from your school principal or athletic director in order to miss school time to practice for, travel to or compete in organized non-school athletic competition.
- You will become ineligible in any sport in which you play as a member of a junior college, college or university team.
- Before you join a non-school team or enter any non-school competitive athletic event, your school principal or athletic director should be consulted to make certain these standards are met.

11. Camps, Clinics and Group Instruction

- During the school year outside of the school sport season, you may attend a non-school sponsored specialized sports camp(s) or group instruction, provided: it does not result in any loss of school time, attendance does not occur within seven (7) days of the start of the school sport season for the sport concerned, it is not a team camp, no member of the coaching staff of the school you attend (or will attend) is involved in any way.
- During the school sport season, you may attend a school or non-school sponsored specialized sports camp(s) or group instruction provided a school coach attends with you, camp attendance does not result in any loss of school time, it is not a team camp, there is no competition other than limited scrimmaging, and a school administrator approves your participation.
- You or your parents must pay all camp/clinic fees, tuition and other related expenses. A scholarship or waiver of fees shall result in the loss of your eligibility. The school may provide transportation at no cost during the summertime or during the school sport season.

■ MSHSAA ■ 1 N. Keene St. ■