

Explaining MIAA eligibility versus Tahanto Academic Requirements:

When comparing the two policies below- MIAA rules for academic eligibility and the Academic Requirements from the Tahanto Athletic Handbook - it would appear as though Tahanto's academic requirements are in fact more stringent than MIAA. MIAA requires passing 4 traditional year long 'major' courses in a regular schedule and if utilizing a block schedule only requires passing 2 out of the 4 must be passing.

Tahanto students have a schedule with at least 7 courses scheduled. Students must take at least 5 major courses and 2 elective blocks (which often end up fulfilling the 'major' course requirement as identified by the MIAA (see below). Many students take 6 'major' classes and have one cycle that has PE and an elective which run full year but for 2.5 credits as opposed to 5 credits for a 'major' course.

It appears as though it is reading below that the MIAA allows far more failures than Tahanto does. In a block schedule, the MIAA allows ½ the schedule to be failing - or in other terms to be passing ½ their courses. Tahanto requires all but 1 course to be passing, which is essentially 6 out of the 7 cycles per day.

MIAA rules for academic eligibility (From the MIAA 2023-2025 Handbook)

58. Student Eligibility: Academic Requirements

58.1 A student cannot at any time represent a school unless that student is taking courses equivalent to four traditional year-long 'major' English courses.

58.1.1 Academic eligibility of all students shall be considered as official and determined on the published date when the report cards for that ranking marking period are to be issued to the parents of all students within a particular class.

58.1.2 When utilizing a 4 x 4 block schedule, a student must pass at least two of the four required 'major' courses (or equivalent) in each academic marking period.

Considerations for academic eligibility: How to determine 'major' course equivalency: • How many minutes per day/week/semester does this course meet?

• How many credits toward graduation as approved in advance by school committee policy will be offered for this course?

• Is this equivalent to past academic requirements?

If the school has a higher academic standard than the Association's academic eligibility rule:

- The Association recognizes this standard as the minimum academic eligibility requirement.
- Students eligible by the Association's standard but not by the school standard are ineligible.
- You may not, after the fact, declare such students who meet the MIAA standard as eligible for upcoming competition.

Tahanto Athletic Handbook:

C. Academic Requirements

- 1. A student must secure during the last marking period preceding the contest (e.g. second quarter marks and not semester grades determine third quarter eligibility) a passing grade (numerical grade of 65 or above) in at least all but one of the major subjects that he/she is taking. Major subjects are those classes that meet five days per week.**
- 2. Eligibility for fall sports is determined by the final year marks.**
- 3. Incomplete grades do not count as passing grades.**
- 4. The academic eligibility of all students shall be considered as official and determined only on the date when the report cards for that marking period have been issued to the parents of all the students within a particular class.**
- 5. Academic eligibility is required for a student to participate in any scrimmage or game.**
- 6. A student cannot count towards eligibility any subject taken during the summer, unless that subject has been taken and previously failed.**