

Students

Eligibility for High School Athletics

ATHLETICS

1. A student who has an out-of-district transfer from one Stamford public high school or Stamford public charter school to another shall be ineligible for interscholastic competition for a period of 365 days commencing upon the date of registration at the high school to which the student transfers. If a student transfers due to admission to a special program (ECS, IB, JROTC, Agriscience, etc.) or has a change in residency impacting the districted home school and the transfer is approved by the district then the above rule may be waived.

2. Students in the freshman class must be enrolled in at least five credit-bearing courses to be eligible for a fall sport.

3. To participate in any sport a student must:

a) take at least five courses, and

b) pass and earn credit in five credit-bearing courses in the marking period previous to and during the sport (or the previous year to begin a fall sport), and

c) attain a minimum of 2.0 – 2.3 grade point average (GPA) in the marking period previous to and during the sport. Students under 2.0 will not be eligible to participate. Students between 2.0 – 2.3 will be required to attend academic support.

* Seniors who have already earned 21 or more credits may take a minimum of four credit-bearing courses to remain eligible.

4. Final year's grades (GPA) in a given year shall determine eligibility for the fall season, unless the student has successfully met the eligibility requirements by attending summer school during the same academic year. Any student who does not meet the 2.3 grade point average and falls between the 2.0 – 2.3 GPA range (GPA) will be deemed in need of academic support and will be required to attend the school's academic support program.

5. Students who receive more than one out-of-school suspension in a school year may be ineligible to participate in any sport for the remainder of that school year.

6. Each school principal or his/her designee or Athletic Director shall determine student eligibility prior to the start of each season's athletics. If a student becomes ineligible for an academic reason, the student shall be assigned to an academic support program (if between 2.0 – 2.3) or removed from participation (if below a 2.0).

a) Academic support is for students with a GPA between 2.0 – 2.3. Those students will remain in the academic support program until such time as their GPA is 2.3 or higher.

b) The principal or his/her designee or Athletic Director shall monitor the student's progress regularly in the academic support program and adjust supports as needed, which includes but is not limited to: academics, behavior, and attendance participation by the student in academic support. Coaches shall monitor attendance and participation for students participating in academic support, and shall communicate progress or lack of progress to the Athletic Director.

7. Board Policy 5118-R will be applied to all athletics.

8. These requirements are subject to review and modification by a Planning and Placement Team in situations involving students with disabilities or by a Section 504 team for students with a Section 504 plan.

9. Eligibility standards of the Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference (CIAC) shall apply whenever they are stricter than the requirements set out above.

10. During the 2021-2022 school year, in acknowledgement of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the students in Stamford and the need to be active after all of the COVID-19 restrictions and limited athletics during the 19-20 and 20-21 school years, a COVID-19 exemption will be provided to all students. If a student fails to meet the new 2.0 GPA requirement, but has at least a 1.7 GPA the quarter prior to the season, the principal and Athletic Director can apply one exemption for eligibility for one athletic season. This exemption will provide time for students to receive necessary supports to prepare for the increase in GPA requirement for athletic eligibility. The principal and Athletic Director must monitor academic progress and attendance weekly for all of the COVID-19 exempt students and provide additional support as required.

Definitions

“Eligibility” means a student has met all of the requirements as outlined in this regulation to participate fully in the athletic program.

“Academic Support” is support provided for student athletes who earn a GPA between 2.0 and 2.3. Academic support may include but is not limited to the following support areas: attendance, behavior, academics.

“Ineligible” means a student has not met all of the requirements as outlined in this regulation to participate fully in the athletic program. Student athletes who are ineligible may participate in practices and academic support but may not play in athletic contests or games.

STAMFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Stamford, Connecticut

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