

Instruction

Academic Eligibility Requirements for High School Students Participating in Extra-Curricular Activities

Academic success for all students is a priority of the New London Public Schools. The district believes that the educational goals and objectives of the district are best achieved by a diversity of learning experiences, some of which are more appropriately conducted outside the regular classroom program.

Participation in extra-curricular activities is a privilege rather than a right. Extra-curricular activities are defined as activities that are optional and are not attached to any specific course/class that offers an academic grade on a report card and transcript. Such activities include clubs, athletics, and school-sponsored travel experiences. Activities that directly relate to a class and comprise course/class requirements for a grade are considered co-curricular activities. Such activities include the band and the NJROTC. The academic eligibility requirements do not apply to co-curricular activities.

Beginning with the 2012-2013 academic year, to participate in extra-curricular activities, students must maintain, at a minimum, a 1.7 (C-) simple GPA or 1.7 Weighted GPA if the student takes AP courses. In the 2013-2014 academic year, the 1.7 GPA will be replaced with a 2.0 GPA.

For all Student Athletes:

At the beginning of the season all students will be deemed eligible based on CIAC standards and a 1.7 GPA.

If a student does not meet CIAC standards the student will be deemed ineligible.

If a student meets the CIAC requirements but is below a 1.7 GPA he or she will be placed on academic probation.

Academic probation will last for 5 weeks after the forming of the team. All students on probation at the beginning of the season will have to be above the 1.7 mark at the end of the five weeks or the student will be deemed ineligible. That student will remain ineligible until the next official grading cycle is reported (end of the semester, or official school progress reports).

Progress reports must be as of a set date, saved and used as a determination for academic eligibility for extra-curricular activities.

At progress report time or at the end of the semester during a season, a student who was deemed eligible at the start of the season and is now below the 1.7 GPA mark but meets CIAC standards will have a 5-week probation period when he/she can still practice, but not play in games. At the end of that five-week period, if the student is still below a 1.7, then that student will be deemed ineligible.

All students on probation, whether it be at the beginning of the season or the five-week period during a season, will have to adhere to these parameters.

For other Extra-Curricular Activities:

For all other extracurricular activities, a student must maintain a 1.7 GPA to participate.

At the commencement of the activity in any academic year, if a student is below a 1.7 GPA he or she will be placed on academic probation.

Academic probation will last for 5 weeks after the commencement of the activity. All students on probation must be above the 1.7 mark at the end of 5 weeks or be deemed ineligible to participate in the extracurricular activity. The student will remain ineligible until the next official grading cycle is reported (end of semester or official school progress reports).

Progress reports must be as of a set date, saved and used as a determination for academic eligibility for extracurricular activities.

Academic Support for Academic Probation

Students on academic probation must:

1. Attend, be on time for and fully participate in all private academic support sessions from 2:30-3:30 run by staff other than coaches three times a week.
2. Be on time and present for all classes with no referrals.
3. Must complete all classroom assignments

Failure to comply with these rules will deem a student on probation ineligible for that week.

Eligibility for incoming students will be evaluated based on records received from previous school(s).

Incoming ninth graders who have at least a 1.7 GPA from their 8th grade final report card are eligible for fall and winter sports and extracurricular participation in fall activities.

In matters pertaining to academic eligibility requirements, students participating in extra-curricular activities shall comply with this policy. In all other matters, students participating in extra-curricular activities shall comply with the athletic eligibility rules and regulations of the CIAC.

The building principal or his/her designee shall be charged with the responsibility for implementing all provisions of this policy.

A “Mitigating Circumstances Committee” shall be created to review the personal and academic circumstances identified by their coaches, teachers and/or parents/guardians. This committee shall consist of the superintendent’s designee, principal or principal’s designee, coach/advisor of current activity, and teacher(s). The committee will have the authority to recommend a student’s participation in an extra-curricular activity to the Superintendent.