

**Administrative Procedures for Policy #3452 (Students) of the Board of Education  
Regarding Academic Eligibility for Athletic Programs**

I. Statement of Belief

- A. The primary mission of the Calvert County Public Schools is to ensure that all students demonstrate academic success. Athletic programs are also an integral part of a student's educational experience. The Board of Education has directed that in order to participate in secondary athletic programs; students must meet established academic standards to make satisfactory progress toward graduation.

II. Definitions

- A. Athletic programs – extracurricular activities at the middle and high school levels that are approved per Policy 3451 Regarding the Addition or Deletion of an Athletic Program and are included in the Calvert County Interscholastic Athletics Handbook per Policy 3450
- B. Eligibility period – the period of time from the date a report card is issued to the date the next report card is issued
- C. Failing grade – a numeric grade of less than 60% for high school courses, or a grade of "E" for middle school courses
- D. New students – students transferring into Calvert County Public Schools from another school district
- E. High School Grade Point Average (GPA) for Eligibility – calculation of the most recent marking period grades (current GPA) which is calculated out of 100. For the purpose of eligibility, any marking period grade between 0% and 39% will be given a minimum grade of 40%.
- F. Middle school Grade Point Average (GPA) - is the current GPA of the most recent marking period grades which is calculated on a 4.0 scale.

III. Academic Standards for Participation in CCPS Athletic Programs

A. High school

- 1. Students must maintain a 70% GPA for athletic eligibility with no more than one failing grade.
- 2. To calculate the high school GPA for athletic eligibility, AP course grades of 60% or above must first be weighted by adding 10 points to the grade (for example, 76% becomes 86%). Additionally, any marking period grade between 0% and 39% will be given a minimum grade of 40%. Then, all weighted AP grades and all unweighted non-AP grades are added together and divided by the number of courses (half credit/semester and one credit

courses will count once, two credit courses will count twice, and three credit courses will count three times).

3. The year-to-date and cumulative GPAs as defined in Procedure #3415.3 Regarding Grading Procedures: High School are not used for eligibility purposes.
4. Students who fail a course worth two or more credits will be deemed ineligible.
5. New students who were determined to be ineligible to participate in athletics at their former school will have the same ineligibility imposed at their new school.
6. Grades earned for specific dual enrollment courses taken on the high school campus will count towards eligibility.
7. Grades earned for dual enrollment courses taken at College of Southern Maryland (CSM) (whether on the CSM campus or virtually) will not count towards eligibility.
8. Students enrolled in the CSM Early College program must meet athletic eligibility requirements. Late winter and spring eligibility will be determined by 1<sup>st</sup> semester CSM grades. Spring semester grades will determine future fall and winter eligibility. Activities Directors will manually compute eligibility and provide final eligibility to the school principal or designee and the student.
9. Students with a grade of INC for any course will be deemed ineligible until either a grade is issued, or the principal determines eligibility.
10. Students shall not be permitted to withdraw (W) from a course for the sole purpose of athletic eligibility.

B. Middle school

1. Students must maintain a 2.0 middle school GPA with no more than one failing grade.
2. Middle School GPAs are calculated by converting each letter grade to a number using A = 4, B = 3, C = 2, D = 1, and E = 0 and finding the average.
3. New students must meet the same criteria as existing Calvert County students.

C. Marking period (MP) grades will determine fall, winter, and spring eligibility.

1. MP1 grades will determine continued eligibility for fall and initial winter sports.
2. MP2 grades will determine continued eligibility for winter and initial spring sports.
3. MP3 grades will determine continued eligibility for spring sports.
4. MP4 grades will determine initial eligibility for fall sports.

- D. Incoming 6<sup>th</sup> and 9th grade students are automatically eligible for the fall sports season.
- IV. Athletic Reinstatement
  - A. Interim reports may be used to reinstate a student's athletic eligibility.
  - B. Mid-semester grades reported to CCPS by CSM for Early College students will be used to reinstate a student's eligibility.
  - C. The Activities Director or his/her designee will verify the grades by examining the official interim report and calculating the GPA.
  - D. Students must meet the academic standards defined in Section III to be reinstated.
- V. Participation in Athletic Team Practice and Games
  - A. An athlete may try out and practice during periods of ineligibility.
  - B. An ineligible athlete may not accompany the team on trips, be excused from classes, play in games, or participate in team recognitions during the period of ineligibility.
- VI. Students with Disabilities
  - A. A student with a specialized education plan under the Individuals with Disabilities Act (Individualized Education Program or IEP) or Section 504 (504 Plan) is subject to the athletic eligibility standards outlined above.
  - B. A student's IEP or 504 Plan may require review to ensure the student has an equal opportunity to meet athletic academic eligibility standards.
- VII. Appeals of Athletic Eligibility Status
  - A. When a student believes that an error occurred in the awarding of a grade, he/she may file an appeal with the school's principal.
  - B. The student must demonstrate the circumstance that contributed to the awarding of an incorrect grade.
  - C. Appeals must be initiated within five school days of the issue date of the report card.
  - D. The student remains ineligible for athletics during the appeal process.
  - E. The school principal shall make a final decision within five school days of the appeal date.