NCHSAA Home School Student participation rules

found in the 2022-23 NCHSAA Handbook pgs 20-22

1.2 ELIGIBILITY

1.2.1 Initial Entry: A student may participate in athletics at any member school upon initial entry into ninth grade provided they meet applicable NCHSAA and eligibility requirements. Initial entry is defined as the first day of classes that a student is in attendance and counted present or, if sooner, the first day a student practices or otherwise takes part as a member or potential member of a member school's athletic team prior to the start of the academic year (e.g., if a student participates in preseason football workouts prior to the beginning of the ninth grade academic year, this will be deemed the student's initial entry at this member school).

(a) Upon initial entry into ninth grade, transfer and boundary criteria shall apply as follows:

(1) The student must live within the member school's boundary as established by the local board of education (LEA); or

(2) If the student's member school does not have a boundary established by an LEA (e.g.,charter school, non-boarding parochial school, etc.), after initial entry, the boundary for the member school shall be considered to be:

(i) The entire county in which the member school is located; and

(ii) Any addresses within a 25-mile radius of the member school as measured by an NCHSAA designated computer program; or

(3) There will be no boundary limitation if the student is a member of a parochial church affiliated with a non-boarding parochial member school and submits an authorized pastor verification form.

(b) Home school students

(1) Documentation from the Division of Non-Public Education must be presented upon initial dual enrollment-attendance, immunization, transcript, school number, etc.

(2) Home school students must communicate athletic intent at a member school in which they are domiciled and follow the enrollment and assignment procedures/policies established by the local board of education.

(i) Notice to principal must take place at least ten (10) days prior to the first practice date of each sports season.

1.2.5 Attendance: A student-athlete must meet the LEA attendance policy during the previous semester at an approved high school.

(a) A student must, at the time of any practice and/or game in which he or she participates, be a regularly enrolled member of the school's student body, according to local policy. If there is no local policy, "regularly enrolled" is defined as enrolled for at least one half of the "minimum load."

(b) It is recommended that the student be in school the day of the contest.

(c) At the end of each semester, any participant who has failed to meet membership entity's attendance policy of that semester is immediately ineligible.

(d) **Home school students**:

(1) Must have been enrolled in a registered home school for 365 days prior to being eligible in a member school.

(2) Once deemed eligible at a member school, the student must maintain continuous dual enrollment.

(a) Unenrollment would render the student ineligible for 365 days.

(3) Must participate in a class schedule that is at least one-half of the school's instructional day.

(a) At least one class must be on campus each semester or meet PSU requirements.

1.2.6 Scholastic Requirements: A student must have passed a minimum load of work during the preceding semester to be eligible at any time during the present semester. The semester is normally considered half of the academic year. All students must also meet local promotion standards, set by the membership entity. **Home school students** must be on grade level according to a nationally standardized achievement test(s) indicating grade level.

(a) A minimum load is defined as five courses in the traditional school schedule and three courses for schools on the "block" format. If the school is on an A/B form of block scheduling, a student must pass six of eight courses during what would traditionally be defined as a semester. Any student, including seniors, must pass that minimum load, even if they need fewer for graduation. **Home school students** must pass **all courses** in which he/she is enrolled in the member school.