



Homeschool Student Participation in Public High School Activities

Please complete and return the form to the Assistant Superintendent’s Office, 909 South Ave. West, Building A.

STUDENT INFORMATION

Student Name: _____ Current Grade: _____ Age: _____
(Last) (First) (Middle)

Phone: _____

Academic Year Applying For: _____ Semester Applying For: Semester 1 Semester 2

Current Educational Institution (if applicable) or Homeschool: _____

Physical Address: _____
(Street Address Only) (City) (State) (Zip)

Student Attendance Area: *(Based on current address or new address if change of residence)*

☐ Big Sky High School ☐ Hellgate High School ☐ Seeley-Swan High School ☐ Sentinel High School

PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION

Parent/Guardian Name(s): _____ / _____
(Last) (First) (Last) (First)

Phone: _____ Email: _____

INTENTIONS FOR PARTICIPATION

School Participation is Requested:

☐ Big Sky High School ☐ Hellgate High School ☐ Seeley-Swan High School ☐ Sentinel High School

Please provide a brief statement explaining why your child wishes to participate in activities at _____. If you are re-requesting to participate in school other than your attendance area school, please indicate this here.

Please indicate the extracurricular activities your child wishes to participate in (e.g. sports teams, clubs, drama, music, etc.)

PROOF OF HOMESCHOOLING AND ELIGIBILITY

Homeschool students MUST be registered at the County Superintendent’s office.

Current Status: _____

Consent and Agreement: I understand and agree that my child will abide by all the rules, regulations, and policies of Missoula County Public Schools District #1 while participating in the designated activities. I understand that participation in any activity may be revoked if my child does not adhere to the school’s guidelines. I have read and understand the Eligibility Checklist - Nonpublic School and Home-school Participation information.

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

..... **School District use below this line:**

Administrative Action: _____

Assistant Superintendent Signature: _____ Date: _____

High School Principal Signature: _____ Date: _____

Eligibility Checklist – Nonpublic School and Homeschool Participation

Nonpublic or home school students who meet the requirements of 20-5-109 can participate in MHSA member school extra-curricular activities. 20-5-109. Nonpublic school requirements for compulsory enrollment exemption. To qualify its students for exemption from compulsory enrollment under 20-5-102, a nonpublic or home school:

- (1) shall maintain records on pupil attendance and disease immunization and make the records available to the county superintendent of schools on request;
- (2) shall provide at least the minimum aggregate hours of pupil instruction in accordance with 20-1-301 and 20-1-302;
- (3) must be housed in a building that complies with applicable local health and safety regulations;
- (4) shall provide an organized course of study that includes instruction in the subjects required of public schools as a basic instructional program pursuant to 20-7-111; and
- (5) in the case of home schools, shall notify the county superintendent of schools of the county in which the home school is located in each school fiscal year of the student's attendance at the school. The same standards (MHSA and Local School Policies) must be met as those required of full time students enrolled in the school (exception- enrollment in the school and transfer).

The same MHSA rules apply including age, semesters, academics (see below) and attendance area residence. Only enrollment is waived. Attendance Area - Student must live in your school's attendance area – the nonpublic and/or homeschool student's entire family must live in the attendance area of the school they are participate at. Nonpublic or homeschool students cannot transfer. Exception – Home school or nonpublic school students who resides in a school district with more than one high school can participate in extracurricular activities at any high school in their district if approved by the school district. Districts that enforce attendance area restrictions may enforce those restrictions with home and nonpublic school students. Once a student participates in any extracurricular activity in a particular school, that is the only school that student may participate at during the student's high school activities career.

Are incoming ninth grade NP or HS students eligible at any school they start at like regularly enrolled students? No, NP or HS students are only eligible at the school in their family's attendance area (see Exception in Attendance Area Information) above).

Academic Eligibility – Nonpublic school – the students' academic eligibility must be attested by the head administrator of the nonpublic school. Homeschool – academic eligibility must be attested in writing by the educator providing the student instruction with verification by the MHSA school principal.

- Grading Period – one semester (one half of a school year – approximately 18 school weeks or 90 school days).
- A participant must have received a passing grade and received credit in at least twenty hours of prepared class or work or its equivalent in the last previous semester in which he/she is enrolled.
- Participants who are academically ineligible cannot participate in any Association contest (varsity or sub varsity) for a period of one semester. They can practice if the school allows but they cannot suit up or participate in any games at any level of competition.

To meet the same standards as required in the law, a home school and/or nonpublic school student must demonstrate they have passed four half credit classes in the previous semester (90 school day period). This is meeting the same standard. Otherwise, students who are failing could transfer to home school and have their educator state they are passing in that semester to become eligible academically without verification of number of classes and passing work, etc. Also, the nonpublic school administrator or home school educator must demonstrate the student is on course to graduate complying with the MHSA semester and age rules.

Age Rule

A student who turns 19 after midnight August 31st is age eligible. Any 19 year old (who turns 19 on or before midnight August 31st) can file a waiver of the age rule if the following is proved by the student – 1) student does not create a safety risk, 2) student does not skew the overall competitiveness of the activity, 3) participation will not exclude others, and 4) the student meets all necessary criteria to participate in MHSA activities.

Semester Rule

Students are eligible for eight consecutive semesters and the semesters start to accrue after entering the ninth grade. The principal will verify when the student began high school coursework which will begin his/her semester accrual. (Eight consecutive semesters once they start ninth grade coursework and semester accrue whether they are attending school or not).

Dual Participation – No student may establish eligibility concurrently at two member schools. Dual enrollment is not recognized for the purpose of eligibility in MHSA activities. A homeschool or nonpublic school student who participates at a MHSA member school is not eligible to concurrently participate in the same sport/activity that he/she participates in at the member school in any other league (nonpublic or home school). This provision protects member schools and nonpublic and home school leagues regarding dual participation.

Physical Exams

Physical exams are required for students participating in MHSA sanctioned sports. The exam is valid for one school year and the MHSA form must be used. This examination must be certified by a licensed medical professional acting within the scope and limitations of his/her practice. Physicals performed before May 1st are not valid for the next school year.

Initial Required Number of Practices Rule

The initial required amount of practices (eight (8) for football, basketball, tennis, soccer, cross country, track) and field, softball, wrestling, and swimming and two (2) for golf for each individual must be completed as a comprehensive, regularly scheduled team practice with the full coaching staff present.