

PARTICIPATION IN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

1.0 Application

1.0 This policy applies only to interscholastic athletics, student government, and class officers, in grades 6-12. Excluded from this policy are co-curricular activities which are closely related to identifiable academic programs/areas of study and which serve to complement academic curricular activities, such as career and technical education, linguistic, mathematic, scientific, forensic, theatrical, musical, journalistic, and other similar co-curricular activities.

1.1 Eligibility

1.1.1 In order to participate in the extracurricular activities to which this policy applies, a student must:

1.1.1.1. Adhere to all state and local attendance policies.

1.1.1.2 Maintain a 2.0 average. A 2.0 average is defined as a grade-point average (GPA) of 2.0 or better on a scale where an "A" mark earns 4 points, a "B" is awarded 3 points, a "C" is worth 2 points, "D" is given a value of 1 point and an "F" is worth 0 points.

1.1.1.3 For purposes of achieving the clearest and most uniform application of the policy for those schools which use a numerical grading system, all numerical grades shall be converted to the corresponding letter grade. Each letter grade shall be assigned the appropriate value as set forth above, and the average thereof computed to determine whether the student is eligible. No enhanced value should be given for a "plus" or "minus" designation, such as B+ or C-; all grades with the same letter designation have the same numerical value in the 4.0 scale.

1.1.1.4 In computing a student's "grade-point average" (GPA) for purposes of this policy, all subjects undertaken by the student and for which a final grade is recorded are to be considered. Athletic practice may not be counted as a subject. The total number of classes taken is divided into the total number of "grade points" earned to determine the GPA. Classes for which a pass/fail is awarded will be included in computing the GPA only if the student failed the class.

1.1.1.5 The student's eligibility will be determined for each semester by his or her GPA from the previous semester (or, in schools which do not use the traditional semester approach, during the previous 18-week period).

1.1.1.6 If a student does not maintain a 2.0 average for the first semester, he or she will be ineligible for participation for the following semester. Students not meeting eligibility requirements shall be reviewed at the mid-point of the second semester (the nine-week point) to determine whether the student has achieved a 2.0 average.

1.1.1.7 If a student does not maintain a 2.0 average by the end of the second semester, he or she may attend summer school to raise the GPA to become eligible for participation at the beginning of the next school year. For purposes of computing the GPA after summer school, all the student's grades from the second semester plus his or her grades from the summer school will be used to determine the GPA.

1.1.1.8 A student who has not achieved a 2.0 GPA the previous semester may have his or her eligibility reinstated at mid-semester if the student has attained at least a 2.0 GPA. In schools where the traditional semester approach is not used, the nine-week point shall be utilized in place of the midsemester.

1.1.1.9 In the case of students with exceptionalities as set forth in W. Va. 126CSR16, Policy 2419, Regulations for the Education of Students with Exceptionalities, if grades are given, all grades received from placements in regular classrooms and special education classrooms should be included when computing the GPA. Exceptional students placed in ungraded programs will be eligible for participation in extracurricular activities if their records indicate that they are making satisfactory progress in meeting the objectives of their individualized education program (IEP).

1.1.1.10. Students who have had a break in public school attendance for any reason may be required to establish eligibility after re-enrollment in the public school. The credits/grades earned and transferred from the non-public setting shall be used in determining academic eligibility. Eligibility shall be gained at midsemester (nine-week point) if the student has attained at least a 2.0 GPA. In schools where the traditional semester approach is not used, the nine-week point shall be utilized in place of the midsemester. However, students who met the eligibility requirements set forth in W. Va. Code 18-2-25(d) in the semester prior to enrolling in public school shall be deemed eligible.

1.1.1.11. A student who is receiving home instruction pursuant to W. Va. Code §18-8-1(c), who is a participant in the Hope Scholarship Program, pursuant to W. Va. Code §18-8-1(m) and as provided for in W. Va. Code §18-31-1, or who participates in a microschool or learning pod, pursuant to W. Va. Code §18-8-1(n) is eligible to participate in interscholastic athletic events and other extracurricular activities if the student:

1.1.1.11.A. Has demonstrated satisfactory evidence of academic progress for each year in compliance with the applicable provisions of W. Va. Code §18-31-8(a)(4) or W. Va. Code §18-8-1(n)(4): Provided, That the student's average test results are within or above the fourth stanine in all subject areas;

1.1.1.11.B. Has not reached the age of 19 by August 1 of the current school year;

1.1.1.11.C. Is an amateur who receives no compensation but participates solely for the educational, physical, mental and social benefits of the activity;

1.1.1.11.D. Agrees to comply with all disciplinary rules of the West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission and the county board in which the student lives; and

1.1.1.11.E. Agrees to obey all rules of the West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission governing awards, all-star games, parental consents, physical examinations, and vaccinations applicable to all high school athletes.

1.1.1.12. The eligibility of students receiving home instruction pursuant to W. Va. Code §18-8-1(c), who are participants in the Hope Scholarship Program, pursuant to W. Va. Code §18-8-1(m) and as provided for in W. Va. Code §18-31-1, et seq., or who participate in a microschool or learning pod, pursuant to W. Va. Code §18-8-1(n) is limited to participation in interscholastic athletic events and other extracurricular activities at the public secondary school serving the attendance zone in which the student lives: Provided, That students who leave a school during the school year are subject to the same transfer protocols that apply to member-to-member transfers. Reasonable fees may be charged to the student to cover the costs of participation in interscholastic athletic events and other extracurricular activities.

1.1.1.13. Students enrolled in a private school shall be eligible to participate in extracurricular activities at the public secondary school serving the attendance zone in which the student lives if the extracurricular activity is not offered at the student's private school: Provided, the student meets the requirements of subsection 1.1.1.11.D. and 1.1.1.11.E.

Where it is not violation of the WV Secondary Schools Activities Commission, students may participate in more than one extracurricular activity per season as is appropriate.

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