

- C. Any coach ejected shall not be involved in coaching to any degree during the suspended game and shall not be allowed into the facility (gymnasium, field, stadium, locker room or hallway, etc.) during the suspension period.
- 18.27.3 Should a participant be unable to complete a suspension during the sports season in which the ejection occurs the suspension shall be carried over into the participant's succeeding season of participation. In order for the suspension in the succeeding season of participation to meet this requirement, the participant must be a member of the team for the entire season for that sport.
- 18.27.4 The second ejection in the same sport and season shall result in ineligibility for the remainder of the season of that sport.
- 18.27.5 For aggressive physical contact with an official, the WIAA Executive Director has the authority to suspend the individual from further competition for a period not to exceed one (1) calendar year.

## WIAA RULE 18.0.0: STUDENT STANDARDS FOR INTERSCHOLASTIC ELIGIBILITY Q and A

### 18.1.0 Student Eligibility Criteria

1. **Must all eligibility criteria be met prior to a participant trying out for a particular sport or activity?**  
A student participant is not required to meet all eligibility standards to try out. The WIAA rules govern interscholastic participation; practices or tryouts are intraschool events and local schools may establish criteria that must be met prior to turnout participation.  
Note: A physical exam is required prior to the first practice. (17.11.0)

### 18.3.0 Players Eligible for Participation

2. **Is a basketball player who does not have the minimum number of practices to compete in an interscholastic contest allowed to be on the team bench in uniform during a contest?**  
NO, only players who are currently eligible to participate shall appear in the contest in uniform or occupy a position on the team bench.
3. **A high school volleyball team has nine players on the roster, but only six players on the court. The other three players are serving as line judges. One of the six court players becomes injured. Can one of the other players serving as line judge now play in the contest?**  
YES, the three students serving as line judges are eligible players. The fact that they are currently not occupying a spot on the team bench does not prohibit their participation in the contest, provided the players do not exceed the team and individual contest limitations for that day. (18.3.0)
4. **I competed in wrestling at my high school until January 25, and then switched to play basketball. Can I compete in the postseason basketball tournaments?**  
NO, you must have been on a school's team roster for at least 50 percent of the regular season in that sport in order to be eligible for postseason participation. (18.3.2)
5. **My family has lived in school district A for many years, then we moved to a new school district at the beginning of the second semester. It is near the end of my wrestling season. Am I eligible at my new school to participate in the remainder of the wrestling season?**  
YES, since your entire family unit has relocated, you have immediate eligibility at your new school, provided you meet all other eligibility requirements of participation.  
Note: Your new school and coaches will make the decision on the level and degree of your participation. You would be eligible for postseason competition because you have been on **A TEAM ROSTER** for more than 50 percent of the season in wrestling. (18.3.2)

### 18.4.0 Age Limits - High School

6. **Can a student who turns 20 years of age in July compete for a fall sport?**  
NO, at the high school level, a student must be under 20 years of age on September 1 for a fall sport, December 1 for a winter sport, and March 1 for a spring sport.

### 18.4.0 Age Limits - Junior High School

7. **Can a student who turns 16 in May of the previous school year compete on a junior high school athletic team?**  
NO, a student who turns 16 prior to June 1 cannot compete at the junior high level the next school year.

#### **18.4.0 Age Limits - Middle School**

8. **Is a student who turns 15 in April of the previous school year eligible to compete on a middle level athletic team?**  
NO, a student who turns 15 prior to June 1 cannot compete at the middle level the next school year. It may be possible for the student to participate at the high school level.
9. **Can an average middle level student compete on the high school team?**  
YES, a student who is ineligible to compete in the middle or junior high-level school athletics due to the age rule may participate in all sports in the public senior high school of the public school district, provided both the middle or junior high level and senior high school principals concerned approve the student's eligibility. (18.4.1)  
Note: This will be the first of the four consecutive years of eligibility at the high school level.

#### **18.5.0 Student Member of a School**

10. **I attend a private high school without athletics. Can I compete in athletics at the public high school of my choice?**  
NO, you can only compete at the resident public high school that you would normally attend. (18.5.2)
11. **As a home school student, where can I compete in athletics?**  
A home school student has athletic eligibility in his/her resident public school of record. In order to participate in activities/athletics the student must be a registered home school student with the school district and must meet all the eligibility requirements for participation. (18.5.4C)
12. **As a home school student, can I transfer to another public school for athletics?**  
YES, but you need to be released by your public school of residence and then register with the nonresident school district as a home school student. In addition, your athletic participation will be subject to the transfer rule 18.25.3, and your participation will be limited to the junior varsity level for one year in those sports you participated in the previous year at the school, club or community levels.
13. **I attend two different high schools: I attend school A for 75 percent of the school day and school B for 25 percent of the school day. Can I compete for athletics at school B?**  
NO, you must be enrolled half time or more to be a member of a school and represent them in interscholastic athletic competition. Your athletic eligibility is at school A.
14. **My private school had to drop its soccer program one week into the season due to lack of participation. Where am I now eligible to play soccer?**  
Because your school no longer has a soccer program, you are eligible to play soccer at your public school of residence. If in a multiple high school district, then you are only eligible at the high school of your residence. (18.5.1 and 18.5.2)
15. **I attend an alternative school without athletics. Prior to this school year, I attended a traditional public school that offered athletics and I participated in basketball. Where is my eligibility this year?**  
You remain eligible at your public school of record.
16. **I am attending a private school that does not have a gymnastics program. Can I participate at the public school closest to my private school?**  
No, you may only participate at your resident public school that you would normally attend. (18.5.2)
17. **My resident public school does not offer the sport in which I want to participate. May I participate at another public school?**  
No, you must be enrolled half time or more to represent a school in interscholastic activities. (18.5.0)
18. **The private school I attend has not been offering a soccer program, and I have been returning to my public school of residence to participate in soccer. But next year, my private school will be starting a soccer program. Can I still participate for my public school of residence since I have already been playing on their soccer team?**  
You will have to start playing for your private school once it begins offering the sport. (18.5.1)
19. **I will be taking a Distance Learning Program offered by a school district in another part of the state. Where is my athletic eligibility?**  
Since you will be an out-of-district student taking courses from an alternative school without athletics, your athletic eligibility is at your public school of residence. (18.5.1 and 18.5.3)

20. **I attend a private high school without athletics. Can I compete in athletics at another private high school of my choice?**  
NO, you can only compete at the resident public high school that you would normally attend. (18.5.2)

#### **18.6.0 RUNNING START**

21. **I am a full time Running Start student. Where am I eligible for athletics?**  
Your athletic eligibility is at your high school "of record," which is your public school of residence. If you are a transfer student to another school district, your athletic eligibility would be subject to the transfer rules of 18.22.3 and all other conditions of athletic eligibility. (18.6.0)
22. **I take classes at the community college as part of the Running Start program and also take two classes at my high school. How do I compute my grades for athletic competition?**  
You will have a "blended" GPA of college and high school credits. Begin by determining how many class periods are in the normal semester/trimester class schedule and the credits that can be earned at your high school. Example: Your high school has a six-period day (six .5 credit classes). The WIAA minimum class load and number of classes that must be passed would be five class periods or the equivalent of 2.5 credits. A five-hour Running Start class equals 1 credit. If you take eight hours of classes at Running Start (the equivalent of 1.6 credits) blended with the two classes at high school (equivalent to 1 credit), you would have 2.6 credits for the semester. 2.5 credits or more would meet the WIAA standard in a six-period day. Be aware that most school districts have a more restrictive academic requirement that you must meet for athletic participation. (18.7.0, 18.6.3 and 18.6.4)
23. **I attend a private school and would like to access Running Start classes. Where is my athletic eligibility?**  
Running Start is a public school educational program offering. Your eligibility is at your public school of residence where you access the Running Start program. You will be considered a transfer student back to your public school of residence with possible restrictions on your athletic participation for one year. You could still compete athletically for your private school if you maintain enrollment at the private school for at least 50 percent of the school day at the private school.

#### **18.7.0 Scholarship**

24. **I am a senior who will graduate this year and am enrolled in one less class than required by the other students I my school. Will I still be eligible if I drop a full credit class?**  
No, seniors must maintain passing grades in all classes in which they initially enrolled in order to remain academically eligible. (18.7.1)  
**Could I drop a full credit class and add a TA class?**  
No, seniors may not drop or withdraw from a class in order to be eligible. (18.7.1)
25. **I was academically ineligible at the start of my first semester this year due to poor grades at the end of the second semester last year. Basketball is my first sport this year. Do I have to sit out the first five weeks of the basketball season?**  
NO, the academic suspension period for high school shall be from the end of the previous semester through the last Saturday of September in the fall and the first five (5) weeks of the succeeding semester/trimester. You can become eligible on the Monday of the 6<sup>th</sup> week of the semester, providing you are now passing the minimum number of classes required by your school and the WIAA for athletic eligibility. (18.7.6)  
Note: School districts can adopt a stricter scholastic policy.
26. **How should a school periodically monitor the academic progress of athletes to guarantee they are academically eligible?**  
Each member school must establish a periodic grade monitoring system to guarantee that all athletes are meeting the academic standards of the current semester. It would not be necessary to establish a GPA when monitoring students' academic progress. A school would need to determine if the student is eligible academically. School district standards may be more restrictive and could require a GPA. A monitoring system would check athlete's grades two or three times during each nine-week academic quarter or equivalent. (18.7.3)

27. **I am participating in volleyball in the fall sports season. I was academically eligible at the beginning of the semester, but now four weeks into the season I am failing three of my six classes. Can I still compete in contests?**  
 NO, you must meet the WIAA and school minimum grade standards at all times during the current semester. You would be able to begin competition at any point in the semester that your grades improve and you meet the WIAA and school standards of eligibility. (18.7.0)  
 Note: Your school may have a policy that requires a period of ineligibility when you do not meet the minimum grade standards during the season and semester.
28. **Can a scholastically ineligible student participate in practices, but not compete interscholastically?**  
 YES, an ineligible student may practice subject to local school regulations.
29. **For scholastic eligibility purposes, is it necessary to check eighth grade transcripts for incoming ninth graders?**  
 YES, students must meet all eligibility standards. The second semester eighth grade transcript is used to determine first semester ninth grade scholastic eligibility.
30. **My high school has a pass-all-classes scholastic requirement for athletics. During the mid-term grade check, I failed one class. I meet the WIAA scholastic standard but do not meet the school district scholastic standard. Can I still participate in athletic contests?**  
 NO, you are an ineligible athlete because you do not meet your school district scholastic standard.
31. **I will be attending summer school. How are these grades used for my athletic eligibility?**  
 Summer school grades become part of the second semester grades of the previous school year.
32. **I am a senior and have almost enough credits to graduate. The WIAA member school rule indicates that I need to be enrolled half-time. My high school is on a six (6) period day, so does that mean I only need to take three (3) classes?**  
 NO, the WIAA scholastic rule indicates you must be enrolled in and passing five (5) classes in a six (6) period day schedule to be athletically eligible. (18.5.0 and 18.7.1)
33. **I attend a private school and go to my public school of residence to swim as my private school does not have a swim program. Which school's academic grade standard am I held to for athletic eligibility?**  
 You are held to the grade standard of the school that you academically attend. (18.5.1)
34. **I am on the football team but academically ineligible due to my second semester grades from the previous school year. Our football team has a jamboree prior to the start of school this year. Can I play in the jamboree?**  
 NO, the academic suspension period is from the end of the previous semester until the completion of the academic suspension period. (18.7.6A)
35. **I was academically ineligible at the start of my first semester this year due to poor grades at the end of the second semester last year. I will be a Running Start student beginning this fall and classes at the community college do not start until the third week of September. When does my suspension period end?**  
 Your academic suspension period will end after the last Saturday of September, providing you are now meeting the WIAA and school district scholastic standards

#### 18.8.0 PREVIOUS SEMESTER

36. **I dropped out of school with five weeks remaining in the semester last spring. Can I now play football this fall?**  
 If you were granted credit for the semester and you meet the academic standards, you are eligible. If you received NO academic credit the previous semester, you are ineligible until you have attained a previous semester.
37. **I overslept this morning and did not get to school until the start of 4<sup>th</sup> period. Can I play in tonight's game because I missed part of the school day?**  
 The WIAA does not have a rule on attendance the day of a contest. Many school districts and leagues have an attendance rule for practice and game days. Please check with your athletic director on your eligibility to compete in tonight's game.

38. **My family moved to a new school district at the end of the first semester of the school year. I did not do well academically at my old school and would have been ineligible at the start of the second semester due to my poor grades. At my new school district I would be eligible because its grade standard is not as restrictive. Which grade standard is applicable in my situation?**  
The grade standard of the school that issued the grades is the standard that you will be held accountable to at the start of the second semester at your new school. Your academic progress during the second semester will be under the academic standard of your new school. (18.7.0 and 18.8.0)

#### 18.10.0 RESIDENCE

39. **Do I need to own my home in order for my son to have athletic eligibility?**  
NO, home ownership has nothing to do with athletic eligibility. The important factor in establishing athletic eligibility is the school district where the entire family unit lives full time. (18.10.0)

#### 18.10.4 PRIVATE SCHOOL RESIDENCY

40. **Public school districts have established boundaries. What are the established boundaries of a private school?**  
The private school residence boundary is a 50-mile radius from the school.

#### 18.10.0 GUARDIANSHIP - FAMILY UNIT

41. **Are there any restrictions on legal custody and a student's athletic eligibility?**  
YES, the court established guardianship or legal custody must have been in effect for a period of at least one year when determining athletic eligibility.

#### 18.11.0 TRANSFER STUDENT

42. **What is the definition of a transfer student?**  
A transfer student is one who is attending a school district outside of the school district where his/her family unit resides. (18.11.0)
43. **What are the restrictions on athletic participation as a transfer student?**  
Transfer students are limited to junior varsity participation in those sports they participated in the previous year at the school, club or community level. Students regain full varsity eligibility after one year of continuous enrollment. (18.12.0 and 18.25.3)
44. **I am a basketball player, and my entire family unit moved from another state to Washington State over the weekend. Can I play basketball at my new school?**  
YES, you are immediately eligible as soon as you enroll in your new school and provide documentation to meet all conditions of athletic eligibility. (18.11.2A) Note: Subject to 18.5.0
45. **I have attended a high school outside of my resident school district the past two years. My family is moving again to another school district. Where is my athletic eligibility?**  
You actually have initial eligibility at two schools. 1) You can remain at your current high school with full athletic eligibility because you have more than one year of continuous enrollment. 2) You could move to your new high school and also have immediate athletic eligibility because your entire family unit has relocated. You must meet all other conditions of athletic eligibility. (18.11.2B and 18.11.3)
46. **My parents are legally divorced, and I have been living with my mother since the divorce. As a 10<sup>th</sup> grader I want to live with my father. What is my athletic eligibility?**  
You will have full residence eligibility when you move to live with your father, if you meet all other conditions of athletic eligibility. If you were to go back to live with your mother, you would be considered a transfer student with limitations on your athletic participation. (18.11.2C)
47. **My parents are not getting along and have separated to live in different school districts. I want to live with my father and attend school in a new school district. What is my athletic eligibility?**  
You would be considered a transfer student with limitations on your athletic participation at the new school, because the entire family unit no longer lives together and your parents have not obtained a court approved legal separation or divorce. (18.11.2C)

48. **I am a 7<sup>th</sup> grader and want to attend a school outside of my resident public school district, because it is easier for my parents to provide transportation. Are there any restrictions on my athletic eligibility?**  
You will have full athletic eligibility at your new middle school. There are no transfer restrictions at the middle level for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders. (18.11.2G)
49. **I have completed the 8<sup>th</sup> grade at my public middle school and now want to transfer to a local private school for the 9<sup>th</sup> grade. Will I have any eligibility problems?**  
By rule you are transferring at the break between the middle level and high school and will be eligible, provided you meet all conditions of athletic eligibility. (18.11.2H)
50. **I have been attending my private school for the past five years and just completed the 11<sup>th</sup> grade. I now want to transfer to my public high school in order to take more advanced placement classes. Will I be able to play on the varsity team as a senior?**  
NO, you would be considered a transfer student and limited to JV participation in those sports you participated in the previous year at the school, club or community levels, provided you meet all other conditions of athletic eligibility. (18.11.2H)
51. **I have been attending my resident high school for the past three years, but my parents are moving to another area of the state over the summer. I want to stay and finish my senior year at my current high school. Would I be athletically eligible?**  
YES, you have more than one year of continuous enrollment at your current high school. As long as you maintain continuous enrollment, you have full athletic eligibility, regardless of where your family unit resides, provided you meet all other conditions of athletic eligibility. (18.11.3)
52. **Our son attends an alternative high school in another school district. He wants to participate in sports this year. Can he participate at the nearest out-of-district high school?**  
There are two options for participation: 1) As an out-of-district alternative school student, you can return to your public school of residence and compete with full athletic eligibility, or 2) you can compete at one of the high schools in the school district of the alternative school you attend. If you choose option 2, you do so as a transfer student with the restrictions of 18.25.3 for your first year of participation.
53. **I have been attending an out-of-district alternative high school the past three years and now want to attend the public out-of-district high school for my senior year. I have not participated in athletics at any level the past two years and would like to be on the swim team for my senior year. Is this possible?**  
You will now be considered a transfer student at the out-of-district high school. Your athletic eligibility is subject to WIAA Rule 18.25.3, which limits your participation to the JV level for one year in those sports you participated in the previous year. Since you did not participate in any sports the previous year at the school, club or community level, you will have full varsity eligibility as a transfer student, provided you meet all other conditions of athletic eligibility. (18.25.3)
54. **My daughter has been struggling at her resident high school with her grades and we feel a change would be best for her. She will enroll in the neighboring school district next fall and wants to play varsity volleyball. She has been playing volleyball at the school and club level the past three years and is very talented. Will this change of schools impact her athletic eligibility?**  
YES, your daughter is now considered a transfer student and is subject to the transfer rule 18.25.3. Since she played volleyball last year, she will be limited to JV participation for one year. After one year of continuous enrollment, she would regain varsity eligibility, provided she meets all other conditions of athletic eligibility. (18.25.3)
55. **I am an out-of-district student attending a junior high as a 9<sup>th</sup> grader. I play junior golf, a sport not offered at the junior high school, and want to participate on the high school golf team. Are there any restrictions on my ability to play on the high school varsity team?**  
YES, you could participate on the high school golf team because the sport is not offered at the junior high school, but your participation would be limited to the junior varsity team because you are a transfer student, provided you meet all other conditions of athletic eligibility. (18.25.3)  
Note: If you have had continuous enrollment of more than one year at the junior high school, you would have full varsity eligibility on the high school golf team.
56. **I attend a K-7 non-high school district. Where is my athletic eligibility when I become an eighth grader?**  
Upon completion of the seventh grade in the K-7 non-high school district, you can choose any public or private school as your new resident school district. Once you make a choice, that school district becomes your resident school for athletic eligibility, and any further school changes would be with transfer student restrictions as per WIAA rule 18.25.3.

57. **I attend a K-8 non-high school private school. Where is my athletic eligibility as a ninth grader?**  
Upon completion of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade in the K-8 non-high school private school, you can choose any public or private school as your new resident school district. Once you make a choice, that school district becomes your resident school for athletic eligibility, and any further school changes would be with transfer student restrictions as per WIAA rule 18.25.3
58. **My father works in a different school district than where we live. If I attend the school where he works, it would be easier for my father to provide transportation, especially after practices. Will I lose eligibility if I transfer?**  
You will be a transfer student, subject to all transfer rules. (18.10.1)
59. **I transferred to a middle school outside my resident school district at the beginning of the second semester of my 8th grade year. How will this affect my high school eligibility at the out-of-district high school?**  
You are considered a transfer student for one year from the date you began attending the out-of-district school. During the second semester of your 8th grade year, this will have no effect on your athletic participation as there is no transfer rule for middle school students. But, as a high school student, you will be a transfer student with limitations on your athletic participation for the first semester of your high school season until you have one year of continuous enrollment in the school district. After one year of continuous enrollment in the school district, you will have full athletic opportunity. (18.11.1B) (18.11.1G)

#### 18.11.4 CULTURAL EXCHANGE (VISA) STUDENTS

60. **I will be coming to Washington State as part of a yearlong cultural exchange. Will I be able to participate in athletics at my host school?**  
YES, you will have one year of varsity eligibility as an exchange student as long as you have not graduated from high school in your home country. (18.11.4B)  
Note: Your host school will have to submit Form 6 of the WIAA Eligibility Packet to the WIAA District Eligibility Chairperson.
61. **I am a graduate of my high school in my home country and will be spending a year in a high school in Washington State. Can I participate in sports at my host school?**  
NO, you are a graduate of high school and have no further high school athletic eligibility. Your host high school may allow you to practice with the team, but you will not be able to participate in any level of interscholastic competition.
62. **I will be part of a Rotary Club Exchange for my junior year. I do not know if I will be able to participate in athletics in my host country, but want to be able to compete back at my resident public school when I return for my senior year. How do I make this happen?**  
You need to submit Form 6 of the WIAA Eligibility Packet to your WIAA District Eligibility Chairperson PRIOR to departure, and you will be eligible upon your return as long as you meet all other eligibility rules. (18.11.4A)
63. **When I was a sophomore, I participated in a cultural exchange program. I forgot to fill out Form 6 prior to leaving. Will I be eligible at my high school when I return?**  
You will have to apply for eligibility through the eligibility committee. (18.11.4)
64. **I am a cultural exchange student who graduated in my home country. At what level of competition will I be able to participate?**  
Since you have already graduated in your home country, you are ineligible to participate at any level of competition at the high school you now attend. (18.11.4B)
65. **I attended high school in the United States for three years before I left the country for a cultural exchange program. During my year abroad, I participated at the high school I was attending. I have returned home and want to attend high school for another year to finish credits. Will I be able to participate?**  
No, you have had four years of high school and have participated each of those four years. (18.11.4C)
66. **I am a foreign exchange student who has been reassigned to a new host family and a new school. Am I eligible to participate at my new school?**  
No, you are considered a transfer student, subject to all transfer rules.

#### 18.14.0 SEASON LIMITATIONS

67. **I had to repeat the eighth grade. I played sports in seventh and both years of eighth grade. Do I have four years of eligibility when I enter ninth grade at the high school?**  
If you are able to provide documentation from the school principal that you had to repeat eighth grade because of academic deficiencies, then you will have four consecutive years of high school eligibility. (18.14.0)
68. **I have had some academic difficulty and will not graduate with my class in June. I will return to high school next year to complete all my credits and want to participate in athletics. I have been a member of the high school football team all four years. Are there any limitations on my athletic participation as a 5<sup>th</sup> year senior?**  
YES, you have no athletic eligibility remaining; you have already participated for four (4) consecutive years since entering or being eligible to enter the 9<sup>th</sup> grade. Your high school can choose to allow you to practice with the team, but you cannot compete in any interscholastic contests.
69. **I was involved in a serious car accident when I was a sophomore and was hospitalized for an extended period of time. I was unable to attend school for most of my sophomore year and am behind in credits and will not graduate with my class. I will return to school for a fifth year to earn enough credits to graduate. Will I be able to participate in athletics?**  
You will need to appeal your athletic eligibility to your WIAA District Eligibility Committee. You will need to demonstrate a hardship beyond your control that caused you to be behind in credits and not graduate with your class.
70. **Our son will not graduate from high school this June with his class; basically he has just been lazy and has not earned enough credits to graduate on time. He will either take summer school or go back to school next fall to earn enough credits to graduate. We understand there is an appeal process for athletic eligibility. We want to complete the process this spring so we can make a decision on completing his credits. If he will have athletic eligibility next fall, he will return to school in the fall. If not, he will take summer school to earn his credits, then go to community college next fall.**  
Your son will not be able to appeal his eligibility until the fall when he becomes a fifth year student. You should base your decision on the best academic course of action for your son, not on his possible athletic eligibility.
71. **My family moved to a new school district at the end of the first semester. My old school played golf during the fall sports season. My new school plays golf in the spring season. Am I eligible to participate in golf at my new school, even though I have already played golf for a school this school year?**  
YES, if your move to a new school is a result of a relocation of your entire family unit, you can participate in golf in the spring season at your new school. If you had been a transfer student without a move of your family unit, you would not be eligible for golf in the spring season at your new school.
72. **I am a home school student in the eighth grade. My parents are going to hold me back as an eighth grader for an additional year. How will this affect my athletic participation?**  
If the seventh or eighth grade is repeated, and such repetition is based upon documented academic reasons by the school principal, the repeated year shall not count against your six (6) interscholastic competitive years. It will be the responsibility of your parents to demonstrate to the school principal that you are being held back for academic reasons, which would be comparable to the mainstream student being held back for academic reasons. (18.14.0)

#### 18.21.0 CONCURRENT SPORTS PARTICIPATION

73. My daughter is a very gifted athlete. We live in a very small town and our high school is in the "B" classification. She wants to play two sports during the spring season, softball and track and field. Is this possible?  
YES, students are limited to participation in only one sport per season, except in the "B" classification where, with school board approval, a student may participate in more than one sport in a season.

#### 18.22.0 NON-SCHOOL PARTICIPATION

74. **I am a select soccer player. Can I play on my select club team at the same time that I play on my high school team?**  
YES, you can participate on a non-school team at the same time you compete on your school team with a few restrictions. You cannot be given special treatment or privileges on a regular basis to enable you to participate on your non-school team, e.g., reduced practice times, special workouts, late arrivals or early dismissals. You also cannot compete in your school uniform at non-school events. (18.22.3 and 18.22.4)  
**REGULAR is defined as meaning more than one (if a student is released from a practice or game to participate in a non-school program).**
75. **A college is recruiting me and they have asked me to visit campus and practice with the team. Will this jeopardize my athletic eligibility?**  
NO, you are allowed to try out and/or practice with a college team. (18.22.1)  
Note: You need to check the NCAA regulations for any restrictions that may apply.
76. **I am a Running Start student and have started to play on the college basketball team. Can I still play on my high school basketball team?**  
NO, once you play on a college team, you no longer have high school eligibility in that sport. (18.22.0 and 18.6.0)

#### 18.23.0 AMATEUR STANDING

77. **I have become a professional in the sport of bowling. Can I still play on my high school teams in all other sports?**  
YES, you must be an amateur in the sports you participate in at the high school level.
78. **I will be instructing, supervising and officiating at a sports camp this summer and will be paid for these duties. Will being paid affect my amateur status?**  
NO, you can instruct, supervise or officiate for any organized youth sports program, recreation, and playground or camp activities without jeopardizing your amateur status. (18.23.3)
79. **I have been invited to attend one of the Nike Basketball camps this summer. As part of the camp, I will be given a pair of shoes and workout gear with a retail value of over \$400. Can I accept this merchandise without jeopardizing my amateur status?**  
NO, to maintain amateur status a student cannot accept merchandise or in-kind gifts of more than \$300 in fair market value per sport during any one calendar year August 1 through July 31. If the merchandise was part of the camp fee paid by the student, then he/she has purchased the merchandise and it will not affect amateur status. (18.23.1A)
80. **My son has been invited to participate in a large invitation track meet this summer in California. As part of the invitation the meet organizers have agreed to pay his transportation to and from the event, as well as provide housing and meals at the event. Is this allowable without jeopardizing his amateur status?**  
YES, you can accept payment for the actual expenses for the athletic trip. (18.23.1D)
81. **Our son won a car as a prize for a hole in one in a charity golf tournament. Will keeping the car affect his amateur standing?**  
NO, the hole in one contest is considered a game of chance by the PGA Golf rules, and the student would be able to accept the car without jeopardizing his/her WIAA eligibility. (18.23.1)

#### 18.24.0 COMMERCIAL ENDORSEMENTS

82. **The local newspaper prints a special edition of the paper for each sports season with pictures of the athletes, schedules, highlights of the upcoming season, etc. There is advertising from many of the local businesses as part of this special edition. Is this a violation of any WIAA rules or regulations?**  
Articles that are congratulatory in nature are permitted. The trademarks associated with the business may be included. Product reproductions are not permitted.

### 18.25.0 HARDSHIP

83. **My school does not offer German as a foreign language. I will be transferring to another school district in order to take German and other AP classes. Will I be able to play varsity sports?**  
NO, you will have automatic JV eligibility for one year in those sports you participated in the previous year if you meet all conditions of athletic eligibility. (18.25.3) Having or not having an academic or athletic program is not grounds for hardship by definition. (18.25.1B)
84. **I became pregnant last year and missed a year of athletic participation. Will I be able to participate in my fifth year?**  
In order to be granted a replacement year, you must show that you were unable to complete high school in four consecutive years as a result of a long-confining illness, an injury or a family hardship that prevented graduation in four years. (18.25.2C)
85. **Our son attends our resident public school, but it does not have a swim program and he wants to transfer to a neighboring school district that has a swim program. Can he go through the Eligibility Appeal Process to gain athletic eligibility?**  
NO, by definition, having or not having an academic or athletic program is not grounds for hardship. (18.25.1B)  
Note: The only way to participate in swimming would be for your school to enter into a combined or cooperative agreement with a school that has a swim program.

### 18.26.0 ILLEGAL SUBSTANCES

86. **I was caught in possession of illegal drugs at school. I have been told that I am ineligible for the remainder of the sports season. I have completed the drug and alcohol assessment process and have been attending the prescribed treatment sessions. Is there any way I can regain my eligibility this season?**  
YES, your eligibility may be re-instated for this violation for the current season by a recommendation from your school eligibility board, since you are currently participating in a treatment program and following the recommendations of the health care professionals. (18.26.2)
87. **I have had a drug violation in middle school and have again been involved in another drug violation at the high school. Are the violations cumulative or do they apply to the middle level and high school levels separately?**  
The repeat offenses for the use of illegal substances are specific to the middle level and high school level, thereby, making this your first high school violation, which is subject to local school district policies that may be more restrictive.
88. **My school district has a 365 day or all year athletic code prohibiting the use of illegal substances for all athletes, but my friends at a neighboring high school have indicated their school athletic code is for the season only. Why are the athletic codes different?**  
The WIAA requires a school district to have an athletic code that covers the sports season of participation. Schools and school districts have the right to have more restrictive athletic code rules that would cover the entire school year or the calendar year.
89. **Does a penalty for violation of use of illegal substances carry over from the middle school to high school?**  
NO, the penalties for use of illegal substances are specific to the middle level and the high school level as they relate to the first violation. (18.26.0)
90. **I had an athletic code violation at my resident school. I have transferred to a new school. Will I be subject to the athletic code restrictions of my old school?**  
Yes, A student who is ineligible in a member school may not become immediately eligible at another member school without completing the conditions of ineligibility (18.26.0 and 18.11.1)

### 18.27.0 EJECTION FROM A CONTEST

91. **As the only coach at the baseball game, I was ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct. The umpire called the game because there was no other adult school representative present to assume the coaching duties. Was this the correct action?**  
YES, when the coach is ejected and there are no other authorized adult school district personnel present to supervise the team, the contest is terminated and forfeiture declared. (18.27.1B)

92. **I was ejected from the basketball game because of offensive language directed towards the official. I was upset and wanted to leave the gym and get away from the game. My coach required me to stay on the team bench. Why?**  
Your coach is responsible for you until you return to your school after the game or are released to your parents by the coach. (18.27.1A)
93. **I had a player receive his first ejection from the varsity football game on Friday night. Can I play him in the junior varsity game on Monday and have him sit out the next varsity game?**  
NO, any ejected player or coach is ineligible for all contests until after the next school contest in that sport at the same level of competition from which the person was ejected. (18.27.2)
94. **I am a senior on my soccer team and was ejected in the previous varsity game. Can I suit-up and be on the team bench for the next varsity game?**  
NO, you may not appear in the school uniform, nor sit on the team bench during the suspension period. (18.27.2B)  
**Can I be in the stands watching the game?**  
YES, you can be in the stands as a spectator.  
**Can I be on the team bench as a manager and take stats for this game?**  
NO, an ejected student may not sit on the team bench during the suspension period.
95. **Our wrestling coach was ejected last night from the varsity match. He wants to attend tonight's match so he can scout the visiting team. Do the rules permit this?**  
NO, any coach ejected cannot be involved in coaching to any degree and is not allowed into the facility during the suspension period. (18.27.2C)
96. **My starting goalkeeper was ejected from the last soccer game of the season last spring. When does he have to sit out a contest?**  
If the athlete is unable to complete a suspension during the sports season in which the ejection occurred, the suspension shall be carried over into the participant's succeeding season of participation. (18.27.3)
97. **My son was ejected for the second time in last night's soccer game. What is the penalty for the second ejection?**  
The second ejection in the same sport and season results in ineligibility for the remainder of the season. (18.27.4)
98. **I lost my temper at last night's game and physically assaulted the official. I was ejected and will sit out the next game. Will there be any further penalties for my actions?**  
YES, the WIAA Executive Director has the authority to suspend an individual from further competition for a period not to exceed one (1) calendar year. In addition, the official involved could bring legal charges against you with the local law enforcement authorities. (18.27.5)
99. **I play select club soccer and have been suspended for a period of one year by the Washington State Youth Soccer Association for excessive violent conduct. Can I play this spring for my high school team?**  
NO, the WIAA and the WSYSA have a reciprocal agreement to honor all suspensions of six months or more.

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## 19.0.0 STUDENT APPEALS OF INELIGIBILITY

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**PHILOSOPHY OF STUDENT APPEALS OF INELIGIBILITY:** *The purpose of the appeal process is to provide students declared ineligible for athletic competition a clear explanation for their ineligibility and a procedure whereby they are afforded a full and reasonable opportunity to contest their ineligible status. AFFIRMATION OF ASSOCIATION GOALS 2.2.2, 2.2.4 AND 2.2.8. THEREFORE:*

- 19.1.0 **APPEAL PROCEDURE FOR STUDENTS** - The following sections are the procedures for a student to appeal ineligibility to participate in interschool activities.
- 19.1.1 For basis of an appeal, see Article 18.25.0, hardship cases.
- 19.2.0 **PURPOSE** - The purpose of these provisions is to prescribe in detail the procedure whereby a student who wishes to contest the reasons for his/her alleged ineligibility to participate in an interschool activity under eligibility standards established by the WIAA shall be afforded a fair opportunity to petition the appropriate governing board(s) of the WIAA to obtain a full and open review.