WE RESPECTFULLY REQUEST YOU MUTE YOUR AUDIO AND TURN OFF YOUR VIDEO FOR THIS MEETING



1

2020 OSSAA ELIGIBILITY WORKSHOP



ELIGIBILITY RECORD FORM

The Eligibility Record Form is designed to be a tool to aid you in determining athletic eligibility for students at your school.

All questions have a YES or NO answer.

Any question with the YES answer should be investigated further prior to allowing the student to participate.

3

ELIGIBILITY RECORD FORM

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AGE—UPDATED LANGUAGE

1. If entering 7th grade, will you be 14 before September 1? If entering 8th grade will you be 15 before September 1? If entering 9th grade will you be 16 before September 1? If entering 12th grade will you be 19 before September 1?

An overage hardship would be required for any student answering YES to this question.

No Waiver would be granted for:

ATHLETICS: A student is no longer eligible for athletic activities after reaching his/her 20th birthday.

NON-ATHLETICS: A student is no longer eligible for non-athletic activities after reaching his/her 21st birthday.

5

ACADEMIC ELGIBILITY FOR A SEMESTER

2. Did you fail any classes during the last 18-week grading period? SEMESTER ELIGIBILITY:

AT THE END OF A SEMESTER: A student must pass a minimum of five classes that count toward graduation at the end of a semester to be eligible for participation the following semester.

Students not meeting this requirement must sit out the first six weeks of the following semester. At the end of the sit-out period the student must be passing all courses to become eligible.



ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY DURING A SEMESTER

SEMESTER ELIGIBILITY DURING THE SEMESTER:

A student must be passing all subjects in which he/she is enrolled during a semester.

Weekly grade checks should be done on the same day each week. If a student is not passing all subjects on the day of the grade check, he/she will be placed on probation for the next one-week period. (beginning Monday and ending Sunday)

If a student is failing one or more classes, during the next week on the grade check day, he/she will be ineligible to participate during the next one-week period. (beginning Monday and ending Sunday)

7

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY FOR A SENIOR

Seniors must be enrolled in a minimum of 4 courses, and are only required to pass the courses they need for graduation.



STUDENTS ENROLLED IN SUPPLEMENTAL ON-LINE CURRICULUM AND FULL-TIME ON-LINE CURRICULUM

If a student is enrolled in supplemental on-line courses, those courses also are included in determining whether a student is enrolled in the required minimum number of courses, and in determining whether that student has passed or is passing all courses, as required to maintain eligibility under OSSAA Rule 3.

As with other courses, if the student withdraws from or drops a supplemental on-line course after the first three weeks of the semester, the student then will be ineligible for a three-week period. To regain eligibility at the end of that three-week period, the student must be taking the required minimum number of courses and must be receiving passing grades in those other courses.

A student enrolled in supplemental online courses may maintain athletic eligibility at a member school provided:

- a) The student is enrolled in the member school.
- b) The student is using the online curriculum approved by the local school board of the member school.
- c) The member school has a system in place to monitor progress and grades for the online course(s).
- d) The student is meeting the requirement to be enrolled in no less than 5 courses for grades 7-11 and no less than 4 courses for grade 12.
- e) The student must attend a minimum of one class per day on site at the member school.

Full-time virtual students shall not be permitted to participate in interscholastic activities and contests on behalf of member schools. A full-time virtual student is a student who is enrolled at a member school but receiving all instruction electronically at a location away from the member school's facilities. Full-time virtual students will not be counted in the school's ADM for classification purposes.

9

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY FOR STUDENTS ENTERING AFTER THE START OF THE SEMESTER

3. Are you currently failing any class? (Rule 3)

Students admitted with failing grades must sit 3 weeks to gain eligibility.



ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY AFTER DROPPING A CLASS

If a student drops an on-level course after the first three weeks of the semester, and enrolls in a different on-level course, then the student must sit out 3 weeks to regain eligibility.

At the end of the three weeks, the student must be passing all classes to regain eligibility.

A student dropping an AP or honors-level course can maintain eligibility provided the student was passing the course at the time he or she dropped the course, and provided the student enrolls in an on-level course in the same subject.

EXCEPTION: A senior may drop a class at any time and maintain eligibility, provided the class dropped is not required for graduation, and the student is still enrolled in the minimum number of classes required for eligibility and has passing grades in those classes.

11

HISTORICAL ACADEMIC STATUS FOR STUDENTS NEW TO YOUR SCHOOL

4. Were you ineligible to participate at any time during the last 18-week grading period? (Rules 3 and 4)

A yes answer to this question could indicate the student may have had week to week grade issues. Asking the student why he or she was failing would be helpful in making sure the student stays up with academic requirements.

AMATEUR STATUS

 Have you done anything to jeopardize your amateur status such as receiving cash or merchandise connected with an athletic activity? (Rule 5)

No monetary awards or prizes other than medals, plaques, rings or trophies of any nature shall be given to or accepted by students in recognition of participation, attainment or honor because of participation in interscholastic athletics.

The amateur rule does not apply to non-athletics.

13

MINIMUM COURSE LOAD REQUIREMENTS

6. Have you completed all 12th grade requirements for high school graduation? (Rule 6)

A student in 12th who has met ALL graduation requirements and is no longer enrolled in a minimum of 4 hours is not eligible to participate in OSSAA activities.



LENGTH OF PARTICIPATION

- 7. Have you failed any semesters since the time you entered the 7th grade?
- 8. Since entering 7th grade have you ever been home-schooled or had an interruption in consecutive semesters of the educational tract?

Once a student enters 7th grade, the student must maintain passing grades at the end of each semester to be eligible for the following semester.

15

CONTINUOUS ACADEMIC TRACT

9. Are you now or have you ever repeated any grade since entering the 7th grade? (Rule 7)

Students repeating 7th or 8th grade are *not* permitted to participate during the repeat year for *any* school. (member or non-member)

If a student repeats 7th or 8th grade, and does not participate, then the repeat year is NOT counted against the six consecutive years.

RESIDENCE ELIGIBILITY

10. Do you live with someone now other than whom you lived with last school year? (Rule 8)

If a student's residence has changed, or if they are living with someone other than with whom they lived last school year, the student's eligibility should be investigated further before they are permitted to participate.

17

BASIC RULE FOR ELIGIBILITY

11. Do you live with someone other than your parents? (Rule 8)

The basic rule of eligibility: a student establishes eligibility based on first participation at the 9th grade level or above, living with the parent or legal guardian. If a student lives with someone other than the parent/legal guardian, eligibility should be investigated further prior to allowing the student to participate.

Legal guardian = court appointed

STUDENT'S RESIDING WITH ONE PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN

12. Do you live with only one parent? (Rule 8)

A student may live with only one parent and maintain eligibility as long as it is the same parent the student was living with the previous school year. Should a change occur in with whom the student is living, then the student's eligibility should be investigated further prior to allowing that student to participate.

Legal guardian = court appointed



19

DETERMINING DISTRICT OF RESIDENCE

13. Do you live outside this school district? (Rule 8)

If a student lives outside the district in which the parent or legal guardian resides, the school is responsible for enrolling the student as a legal student in the district prior to allowing the student to participate at any level.

Legal guardian=court appointed



MORE THAN ONE RESIDENCE

14. Is more than one residence owned, rented or maintained by your parents or guardian? (Rule 8)

For the purpose of establishing or maintaining athletic eligibility, a student's parents or legal guardian may only maintain one residence.

This Rule effects varsity participation for students in grades 7-12. A family that moves into another residence in a different school district, or who moves in with another family or person(s) in another school district while continuing to own or rent the former residence is considered to be in a *dual residence* situation.

21

COMPLYING WITH DUAL RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS

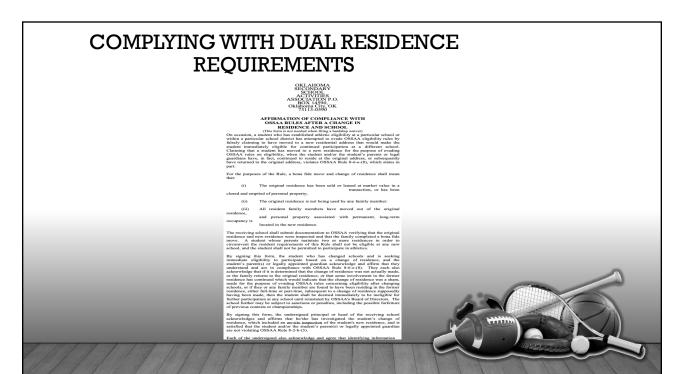
The family must agree that no family member will return to the former residence for an overnight stay.

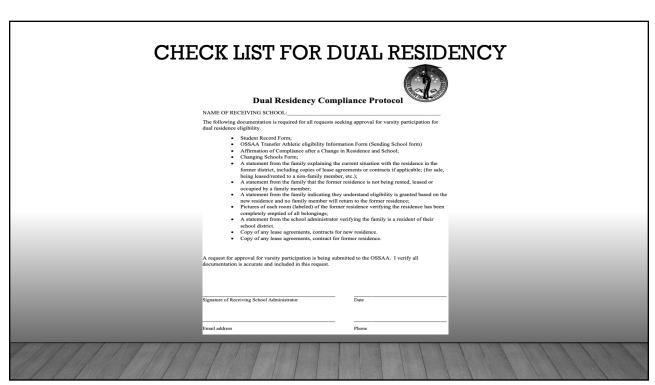
The former residence may not be rented or leased long term to another family member. It may be closed and left unoccupied, put on the market for sale, sold or leased to a non-family member.

Effect of Dual or Multiple Residences on Eligibility

A student whose parents (or custodial parent or court-appointed guardian with legal custody of the student) maintain two or more residences in circumvention of the requirements of this Rule shall only be eligible to participate at a sub-varsity level; the student shall not be permitted to participate in varsity level athletics until dual residence requirements have been met.

Should a subsequent move back occur to the former residence after eligibility has been established in compliance with dual residency requirements, the student will be limited to sub-varsity participation for a period of one year.





SIBLINGS ATTENDING DIFFERENT SCHOOLS

15. Are there other family members in grades K-12 attending a different school district other than the district you are now attending?

If all family members, of school age, are not attending the same school, the eligibility status of the student should be investigated further prior to allowing the student to participate.

25

DETERMINING PREVIOUS PARTICIPATION

16. Have you ever participated at any school outside the district in which both parents had a residence? (Rule 8)

If a student has established athletic eligibility away from their home district, and the student subsequently enrolls in the district of residence, the student is not eligible for a period of one year from the student's date of first attendance.

If the student and the student's parents complete a bona-fide move into a new district, and there is not a former residence in the previous district, the student may choose to attend the new district of residence or continue at the district where eligibility has been established.

RECRUITING

17. Have you, your parents, or your guardians ever been influenced in any manner by anyone in this school district to attend this school to engage in athletics? (Rule 9)

The OSSAA membership places great emphasis on maintaining a level playing field for participants in all athletic and non-athletic activities. Influencing an athlete to attend a school by anyone associated with the school, including but not limited to, boosters, coaches, counselors, teachers, parents, other students, is prohibited.

27

PREVIOUS WAIVERS GRANTED TO A STUDENT

18. Have you ever been granted athletic eligibility on the basis of an OSSAA hardship waiver? (Rule 20)

If a student has already been granted a hardship request for varsity eligibility, documentation must be provided to substantiate another request should be considered.

Waivers to rules will be a rarity, and seldom would one student receive two waivers throughout their varsity career

FOREIGN EXCHANGE AND INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

19. Were you on an approved foreign exchange program last year? (Hardship Waiver Manual-X)

Students attending member schools on a CSIET approved exchange program may be granted eliqibility for 365 days.

Application for eligibility must be submitted and approved prior to allowing the student to participate.

International student's eligibility status should be fully investigated prior to being allowed to participate at any level.

These students are on an F-1 Visa, not on an approved CSIET program, and they are not generally eligible by Rule. Contact the OSSAA office.

29

STUDENT CONDUCT

20. Were you suspended, expelled, or under discipline at the previous school attended?

A student changing schools who was ineligible or otherwise barred from athletics for any reason at the previous school, or who would have become ineligible if the student had remained at the previous school, is not permitted to participate in athletics at another school, unless and until the student satisfies or complies with the requirements that were or would have been imposed for reinstating eligibility at the previous school.

Disciplinary action can be imposed by the school, or by the coach of an athletic program.

A student who is suspended from an athletic program, or who would have become suspended if the student had remained at the previous school, will not be eligible at another school until the terms of that disciplinary action have been met.

CONFLICT AT PREVIOUS SCHOOL

21. Were you or your parents having a conflict with a coach, teacher, or administrator at the time you left your previous school?

If a conflict existed at previous school, the school should investigate the matter further.

A conflict between parents and a coach, administrator or teacher could result in the student only being eligible for non-varsity participation.

31

UNDUE INFLUENCE

22. Have you, your parents, or your guardians ever been influenced in amy manner by anyone in this school district to attend this school to engage in athletics?

No member of a school community, including coaches, administrators, counselors, booster club members, other students or teachers are permitted to entice a student to attend a school for athletic reasons. Additionally, no incentive may be offered to a student for the purpose of influencing the student to participate in activities.

AMATEUR STATUS

23. Have you done anything to jeopardize your amateur status such as recevie cash or merchandise connected with an athletic activity?

Awards for participation are limited to trophies, medals, plaques or rings. No monetary awards, merchandise or gifts may be accepted.

33

DETERMINING ELIGIBILITY STATUS

If any questions on the OSSAA Eligibility Record Form have been answered "yes", the student's eligibility status should be investigated further prior to allowing the student to participate.

A written explanation is **required** on the OSSAA Eligibility Record Form for Students for any questions that have been answered "yes."

On occasion, students find themselves in circumstances beyond their control that would qualify him or her for a waiver to the rule(s) that prohibit their participation.

In those extreme circumstances a Hardship Waiver may be filed by the school on behalf of that student.

ELIGIBILITY FOR 7TH AND 8TH GRADE STUDENTS OR STUDENTS LIMITED TO SUB-VARISTY PARTICIPATION

Students in the 7th or 8th grade who choose to attend school outside their district of residence are considered to be ineligible for participation. To become eligible for 7th or 8th grade participation, the receiving school must submit the Changing Schools Form to the previous school. If the previous school agrees that the student was not influenced to attend the receiving school, indicates that the student was in good standing at the time the student left, and eligible in all other regards, The Changing Schools Form should be signed and returned to the receiving school, at which time the student will be eligible for participation.

35

CHANGING SCHOOLS FORM

WAIVER PROCESS

The OSSAA Board of Directors have established five (5) criteria that can be considered for a hardship waiver. You should be familiar with those criteria.

When a family inquires about a waiver, you should go over the criteria with them. If the circumstances meet one of the five (5) criteria, then you should guide them in proceeding with filing the paperwork.

If the circumstances do not meet criteria for a wavier to the rules, then the family should be counseled that the student (upon completion of the Changing Schools Form and meeting all other eligibility requirements) will be eligible for sub-varsity participation for a period of one year from the student's date of first attendance.

37

WAIVER REQUESTS FILED DUE TO BULLYING

As these requests become more frequent, emphasis needs to be placed on the required documentation.

A written statement from administration at the former school with first-hand knowledge of the issue, specifically stating the school was aware of the problem and after a reasonable effort was made to resolve the issue the school was unable to resolve the problem.

FORMS REQUIRED FOR A WAIVER REQUEST

There are 3 forms that must be completed to file a waiver request.

- Request of OSSAA Hardship Eligibility Clarification
- OSSAA Eligibility Record Form
- Transfer Athletic Eligibility Information Form

ALL FORMS CAN BE FOUND ON THE ELIGIBILITY LINK AT OSSAA.COM

When submitting a hardship waiver request, you should complete all necessary forms with the parents and student. Documentation describing the circumstance should accompany the forms.

A description of what needs to be included in the documentation is described below each criteria in the handbook.

39

RESPONSES TO WAIVER REQUESTS

Hardship requests are initially processed by 3 Staff members who independently evaluate whether or not the documented circumstances are in compliance with the established criteria. Any waiver that was denied by the initial 3 Staff members is also read and evaluated by the Executive Director.

Hardship Waiver requests require a minimum of 15 calendar days to be processed once all forms and required documentation have been received.

You will be notified by regular mail once a determination has been made.

Should the request be denied, there are two levels of appeals available to the school.

INTERMEDIATE APPEALS PANEL

The Intermediate Appeals Panel is a group of elected panel members whose sole task is to listen to appeals of hardship waivers. The Panel is comprised of a member from each quadrant of the State, and one member representing the multi-high districts.

The Panel will generally meet one week prior to each meeting of the Board of Directors. There is no cost to appeal to the Panel. All appeals must be scheduled no later than 4 p.m. on the Friday prior to the Appearance Meeting, meeting dates can be found in the OSSAA website.

41

APPEALS TO OSSAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Should an appeal be denied by the Intermediate Appeals Panel, the waiver request may then be appealed to the OSSAA Board of Directors.

All requests to appeal to the Board must be made by 4 p.m. on the Friday prior to the scheduled Board Meeting date, and there is a \$100 administrative fee.

Meeting dates are posted on the OSSAA website (OSSAA.com) and indicated in the OSSAA two-year planner.

REQUIRED SIT OUT AFTER THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

A student entering grades 7-12 who is not in class the first day of school, regardless of whether the student moved into the district, or transferred into the district, is required to sit out for 15 calendar days prior to being allowed to participate. The sit out period will begin on the first day the student attends the full school day of classes.

43

UPDATES TO OSSAARANKINGS.COM

Prior to the beginning of the school year, Athletic Directors should login to the OSSAARankings.com site and update the list of coaches for their school.

Please be sure to include cheer and academic bowl coaches.

The OSSAA uses this database to get very important information to coaches during the course of the school year.

ENTRY FORMS

Entry forms can be found on the OSSAARankings.com website. Entry forms may be submitted by the AD or the coach for the respective activity.

You will be able to see which have been submitted and which have not.

ACTIVITIES THAT REQUIRE AN ENTRY FORM

BASEBALL (FALL AND SPRING) VOLLEYBALL COMPETITIVE CHEER

GAME DAY CHEER FAST-PITCH SOFTBALL CROSS COUNTRY

SWIMMING SLOW-PITCH SOFTBALL GOLF

TENNIS TRACK AND FIELD

45

ENTRY FORM AND ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT DEADLINES

You can find a list of deadlines for Entry Forms and Academic Achievement forms on the homepage of OSSAA.com.



SPORTSMANSHIP

IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF EACH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT'S ADMINISTRATION TO MAINTAIN A CLIMATE OF GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP AT ALL LEVELS IN ALL CONTESTS.

UNRULY BEHAVIOR SHOULD NOT BE TOLERATED AND ANY INDIVIDUAL, COACH, PLAYER OR SPECTATOR SHOULD BE REMOVED FROM THE AREA IMMEDIATELY TO ALLOW THE CONTEST TO CONTINUE WITHOUT THE DISRUPTION OF DISTRACTING INDIVIDUALS.

THE OSSAA ENCOURAGES ALL SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS AND COACHES TO TAKE A STRONG STAND AGAINST UNSPORTSMANLIKE ACTS.

47

NFHS COACHES EDUCATION

ALL COURSES CAN BE FOUND AT WWW.NFHSLEARN.COM

CONCUSSION IN SPORTS

HEAT ILLNESS PREVENTION

SUDDEN CARDIAC ARREST

Many great courses for free at the NFHSLearn.com site, including sportsmanship, bullying, vaping, and a new COVID course.

BOARD POLICY CHANGES FOR 2020-2021

- OSSAA PLAY OFF PASSES
- INTERRUPTIONS OF EVENTS DUE TO PUBLIC HEALTH CONCERN

49

RULE CHANGES FOR 2020-2021

- BASKETBALL CLASSIFICATIONS
- PLACEMENT OF TENNIS AND VOLLEYBALL TEAMS DUE TO SUCCESS FACTOR

NFHS NETWORK

- REGULAR SEASON GAMES ARE AVAILABLE TO SCHOOLS TO BROADCAST
- ONCE THE POST-SEASON BEGINS, THE RIGHTS OF THOSE GAMES ARE UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE NFHS NETWORK
- IF YOU ARE NOT A NETWORK SCHOOL, YOU ARE REQUIRED TO SEEK APPROVAL FROM VAN SHEA IVEN (VSIVEN@OSSAA.COM)

51

USE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

AS EDUCATORS WE ARE IN A UNIQUE POSITION TO INFLUENCE THOSE IN OUR SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES.

USE THESE OPPORTUNITIES TO:

- COMMUNICATE THE IMPORTANCE OF RESPECT FOR OTHERS
- IMPACT LIVES
- BEGIN HEALING OUR COMMUNITIES
- CHANGE THE CULTURE

HOW YOU REACT IS KEY TO THE MESSAGING THAT CAN FACILITATE CHANGE

SUGGESTIONS FOR USING EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

- 1. EDUCATE YOURSELF—you cannot teach what you do not know
- 2. ADDRESS THE ISSUE—ignoring the issue does not send the right message
- 3. SHOW COMPASSION—find a way to relate to how people feel about and view the climate in the school and community
- 4. DO NOT ASSUME ONLY PEOPLE OF COLOR ARE AFFECTED—all people "feel" about the issue of racism; change the intolerance and promote inclusion
- 5. IMPLEMENT PLANS OF INCLUSION—tear down your cultural barriers and implement a plan that is inclusive of all people
- 6. REACT APPROPRIATELY—do not over-react; access the situation and react appropriately.

Never use a cannon to kill a fly. ~ Confucius

53

OSSAA STAFF

David Jackson—Executive Director djackson@ossaa.com

Mike Whaley—Associate Director mwhaley@ossaa.com

Amy Cassell—Assistant Director acassell@ossaa.com

Mike Plunkett—Assistant Director mplunkett@ossaa.com

David Glover—Assistant Director dglover@ossaa.com

Todd Goolsby—Assistant Director tgoolsby@ossaa.com

Grant Gower—Assistant Director ggower@ossaa.com

Office Phone: 405-840-1116



OKLAHOMA SECONDARY SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

SPORTSMANSHIP IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY...

