

*Eligibility
and
Extracurricular
Activities*

Department of
Physical Education, Health,
And
Family & Consumer Sciences



ELIGIBILITY for EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES (amended 5/06)

Eligibility for participation in all extracurricular activities is determined at the end of each marking period. To be eligible, a student must achieve a minimum grade of a C- average in all subjects. More than one failure (F) automatically disqualifies a student from participation. The year-end cumulative mark for each major and minor subject shall be used to determine eligibility during the first marking period of the following school year. Marks earned during the summer may be applied to improve the year-end cumulative marks, as provided for in the School Committee's Policy Manual and Rules and Regulations.

Waiver Requests: All students who are required to follow the policy that governs academic eligibility for extracurricular activities have the right to request a waiver of the policy from the Springfield School Committee. The School Committee may delegate such a request to subcommittee (the Student Relations Committee). Waiver Request for Athletic Participation should be submitted, on the appropriate MA Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA) form with the required supporting documents, to the principal of the school for review and recommendation. Waivers must be received by the principal by the established MIAA dates to be considered: Fall: September 15; Winter: December 15; Spring: April 1.

Non-Athletic Participation Waiver: Requests should be submitted to the principal for review and recommendation. The letter should include the following information:

- Activity for which a waiver is requested;
- Rationale for the waiver request;
- Statement on how the policy fails to accomplish its intended purpose;
- Copy of the student's transcript

The principal will forward the waiver request to the Student Relations Subcommittee with a recommendation. After review, if the waiver is supported the Student Relations Subcommittee will forward the waiver to the full School Committee. Eligibility for students to compete in interscholastic athletic contests is governed by rules of the MIAA. To be eligible, students must be enrolled in a secondary school for a minimum of two months (exclusive of summer vacation) and, unless entering from an elementary or middle school during the school year, must have received a report card preceding the contest. If a student leaves and later returns to the same school, the same rules apply. Students who transfer to a MIAA-member school are ineligible for a period of one year to participate in interscholastic contests at any level in all sports in which they participated at the varsity level during the one-year period immediately preceding their transfer. When students transfer from one school to another because of a change of residency, they are eligible immediately. There are certain other limited exceptions when immediate eligibility is permitted; questions about these should be referred to the school principal. To be eligible to participate in interscholastic contests, students must be under age 19. If a student's 19th birthday occurs on or after September 1 in any school year, the student may continue to compete for the remainder of that school year. Eligibility for interscholastic athletic competition is limited to twelve consecutive athletic seasons beyond grade 8.

Principals shall not permit students to represent their schools in extracurricular activities for a minimum of 2 weeks if their conduct or character results in a suspension during any particular season or event or if the student violates the Code of Conduct Group III (repeat violation), Group IV, V or VI. If the Group IV, V or VI violation comes under the provisions of state statute Chapter 71, Section 37H1/2, the principal shall exclude the student from any and all extracurricular activities until pending felony charges are resolved.