

J-4361                      JJIB-R  
INTERSCHOLASTIC ACTIVITIES

(ELIGIBILITY FOR ATHLETICS AND OTHER ACTIVITIES  
SPONSORED BY  
THE ARIZONA INTERSCHOLASTIC ASSOCIATION)

**Age Limit**

A student who becomes nineteen (19) years of age after September 1 is eligible to compete for the remainder of that school year. A student who becomes nineteen (19) years of age on or before September 1 is not eligible to compete for any part of that school year. A birth certificate or acceptable substitute is required of each student for varsity participation. Verification of birth can also be established when three (3) reputable sources of information acceptable to the A.I.A. agree as to date of birth.

**Enrollment**

A student must be enrolled in a minimum of five (5) courses the first six (6) semesters of high school. A senior student who has successfully completed sixteen (16) units prior to the senior year may enroll in a minimum of four (4) classes.

**Date of Enrollment**

In order to establish eligibility, a student's initial enrollment shall be no later than the fourteenth official school day of the semester. A student whose initial enrollment occurs after the fourteenth official school day of the semester is ineligible for that semester.

In case of initial enrollment after the first official school day and by the fourteenth official school day, a student shall have been in attendance for as many days as the student missed from the opening day of the semester before eligibility can be established.

**Approval by Parents**

For each school year of participation, before being permitted to practice for, or compete in, any interscholastic contest, parent/guardian written permission must be on file in the office of the principal, giving permission for the student to participate in interscholastic competition.

## **Attendance**

Absence for more than ten (10) consecutive school days, except for the disabling sickness of the student or a member of the student's immediate family, automatically makes the player ineligible for the remainder of the semester, or until the student has attended for a time period equal to the number of days of absence.

## **Residence**

A student is eligible to compete only at the high school in the attendance area in which the student's parents or guardians reside; or at the high school where the student's permanent records are maintained, if student and parents or guardians reside in a district that does not have a high school and student attends school in another district.

A student who is a ward of the court or state may participate in interscholastic activities by petitioning the A.I.A.

A foreign exchange student who is on a bona fide exchange program meeting domicile requirements is eligible to compete, with approval by the A.I.A.

## **Home Schooling**

A child who resides within the attendance area of a school and who is instructed at home may be allowed to participate in interscholastic competitions. Rules adopted by the State Board of Education shall prescribe procedures for the participation of such students, including, if necessary, requiring the student to take a nationally standardized norm-referenced achievement test or academic evaluation for verification of academic performance.

The School District shall not contract with any private entity that supervises interscholastic competitions if the private entity prohibits the participation of students instructed at home in interscholastic athletic competition.

## **Online Charter Students**

Online charter students may not participate in District interscholastic programs.

## **Amateur Standing**

In order to represent the school in any A.I.A.-sanctioned event, a student shall be, and shall remain, an amateur. A student player must always compete under the student's own name and receive no money for playing. However, a student may receive awards, expenses, certain types of fees, or other compensation and

still retain amateur standing, provided that all requirements for amateur standing stipulated in the A.I.A. bylaws are met.

### **Number of Semesters of Eligibility**

A student shall be eligible to participate in interscholastic competition for no more than eight (8) semesters after having first enrolled in ninth grade. The seventh and eighth semesters must be consecutive. If a student has been enrolled in classes for fifteen (15) or more school days of a semester, or plays in an interscholastic contest, then drops out of school, it shall count as a semester of attendance.

### **Physician's Statement**

Proof must be provided that a student has been properly examined by a licensed physician and found to be physically fit to compete before the student may practice for, or compete in, an interscholastic activity, event or contest during the student's first year of competition. Annually, thereafter, a health questionnaire (as stipulated by the A.I.A.) must be completed and signed by the student and the student's parent or guardian.

### **Playing on a Nonschool Team**

A member of a high school team cannot practice with or play on an outside (nonschool) team at the same time in the same sport during the interscholastic season of competition. For example, a member of a high school baseball team cannot be on a city baseball team from the time of the first regularly scheduled game until the final game of the school's baseball team.

### **Transfer**

After enrolling and attending one (1) or more classes, a student changing enrollment from one school to another school shall be considered a transferring student. The student shall be eligible to participate in interscholastic competition for the new school provided there is a corresponding change of domicile of parent(s) or guardian(s).

- Enrollment at the beginning of the semester. A student who transfers from a school that has completed its most recent semester shall be eligible to participate in interscholastic competition at the new school providing:
  - The student has completed one (1) day of attendance at the school to which the transfer was made; and
  - All other eligibility requirements are met.
- Enrollment during the semester. A student who transfers from a school during the semester shall be eligible to participate in interscholastic competition at the new school providing:

- The student has completed ten (10) days of classroom attendance at the school to which the transfer was made; and
- All other eligibility requirements are met.

## **Recruiting**

There shall be no recruiting of athletes. Recruiting is defined as the act of influencing a student to enroll in a school or to transfer from one school to another in order that the student may participate in interscholastic athletics. No school administrator, athletic coach, or employee of a high school district shall engage in recruiting either by direct contact with a student or indirectly through parents, legal guardians, common school employees, directors of summer athletic programs, or other persons who are in position to influence the student's choice of a school.

## **Auditions**

Students who participate in more than two (2) auditions in any nonschool sport during that sport's school season of competition shall become ineligible for the remainder of that sport's season of competition.

## **Dietary Supplements**

Pupils participating in interscholastic high school sports are prohibited from using dietary supplements containing any of the following:

- (1) Synephrine.
- (2) A prohibited substance enumerated by the United States Anti-Doping Agency Guide to Prohibited Substances and Prohibited Methods of Doping.