



4048 Laurel St. #203, Anchorage, AK 99508 / Phone: 907-563-3723 / Fax: 907-563-3739 / Web: www.asaa.org

TO: High School Principals
Athletic/Activities Directors
Superintendents
School Board Presidents

FROM: Billy Strickland
Executive Director

DATE: November 6, 2024

RE: Proposed Bylaw/Policy Amendments—Article 12 Section 9.C.15

The Alaska School Activities Association (ASAA) Board of Directors proposes to amend Association bylaws at its meeting on December 4-5, 2023. Preceding the amendment is a short explanation of the proposal.

In amending the Bylaws, the Board of Directors will be using the following procedure:

Article 18, Bylaw Amendment, Section 1, Method, states:

“These Bylaws may be amended by a simple majority vote of the Board of Directors sitting in regular session provided that at least 30 days advance notice has been mailed to the general membership.”

Section 2, Effective Date, states:

“Unless otherwise specified, amendments to these Bylaws take effect 30 days after their filing.”

Please review these proposed changes and if you wish, provide written comment by letter or email billy@asaa.org, to the ASAA office prior to the meeting.

Explanation

This amendment would no longer require schools to submit a waiver request of the Semester Credit Rule if the student would have been otherwise academically eligible for the semester, they began an exchange/travel program.

Amendments Article 12 Section 9.C.15 currently states:

15. Alaska Students Involved in Exchange/Travel Programs: Alaska students involved in exchange/ travel programs, including but not limited to the American Field Study Service, Rotary International and Youth for Understanding, are eligible for interscholastic competition upon return to their home schools when a request for waiver of the Semester Credit Rule (Bylaw Article 12, Section 7) is made to the Association and waived by the Executive Director. The request for waiver must be submitted on the Alaska Student Foreign Exchange/Travel Program Waiver form. Alaska students involved in exchange/travel programs must be otherwise eligible by all other rules, including Article 12, Section 3, Maximum Participation.

Participation in interscholastic competition while involved in an exchange travel program will count toward the maximum years or seasons of participation in that specific competition as defined in Bylaw Article 12, Section 3.

Staff Recommendation:

Amend the language to read:

*15. Alaska Students Involved in Exchange/Travel Programs: Alaska students involved in exchange/ travel programs, including but not limited to the American Field Study Service, Rotary International and Youth for Understanding, are **(add) exempted from the Semester Credit Rule (Bylaw Article 12, Section 7) (delete)** eligible for interscholastic competition upon return to their home schools **(add) provided they would have been otherwise academically eligible for the semester they began the exchange/travel program. (delete)** when a request for waiver of the Semester Credit Rule (Bylaw Article 12, Section 7) is made to the Association and waived by the Executive Director. The request for waiver must be submitted on the Alaska Student Foreign Exchange/Travel Program Waiver form. Alaska students involved in exchange/travel programs must be otherwise eligible by all other rules, including Article 12, Section 3, Maximum Participation.*

Participation in interscholastic competition while involved in an exchange travel program will count toward the maximum years or seasons of participation in that specific competition as defined in Bylaw Article 12, Section 3.

The revised bylaw would read:

*15. Alaska Students Involved in Exchange/Travel Programs: Alaska students involved in exchange/ travel programs, including but not limited to the American Field Study Service, Rotary International and Youth for Understanding, are **exempted from the Semester Credit Rule (Bylaw Article 12, Section 7)** upon return to their home schools **provided they would have been otherwise academically eligible for the semester they began the exchange/travel program.** Alaska students involved in exchange/travel programs must be otherwise eligible by all other rules, including Article 12, Section 3, Maximum Participation.*

Participation in interscholastic competition while involved in an exchange travel program will count toward the maximum years or seasons of participation in that specific competition as defined in Bylaw Article 12, Section 3.