



ATTENTION STUDENT-ATHLETES

Office of the Commissioner
Florida High School Athletic Association
Gainesville, Florida

This summary of FHSAA athletic eligibility guidelines should be posted in places conspicuous to potential student-athletes. Students must understand that these guidelines are general statements only. Complete eligibility regulations are contained in Article 11 of the FHSAA Bylaws. See your principal, athletic director or coach if you have questions or need further explanation of details and exceptions.

PROTECT YOUR 2007-08 ELIGIBILITY

To Represent Your High School in an Athletic Contest, You:

1. Must be regularly enrolled and in regular attendance at your school. If you are a home education student, or you attend a charter school that is not a member of the FHSAA or does not sponsor a sport you wish to play, you must declare in writing your intention to participate in athletics to the school at which you are permitted to participate prior to the first day of practice. (FHSAA Bylaw 11.1)
2. Must enroll in school within 10 days of the beginning of **each semester** to be eligible during **that semester**. If not, you must make up all work missed and be in attendance a minimum of one day for each day missed due to late enrollment before your principal can declare you eligible. (FHSAA Bylaw 11.1)
3. Must maintain a cumulative 2.0 grade point average on a 4.0 unweighted scale through the end of the previous semester as required by Florida Law. For sixth-graders, seventh-graders and eighth-graders, you must have been regularly promoted from the previous grade, carry a normal class load, do satisfactory classroom work and maintain a satisfactory conduct record. (FHSAA Bylaw 11.2)
4. Must not have graduated from any high school or its equivalent. (FHSAA Bylaw 11.2)
5. Must participate at the school in which you first enroll, or at which you first take part **in a summer athletic activity** or an athletic practice, at the beginning of the school year. (FHSAA Bylaw 11.3)
6. Must transfer from your previous school prior to the first day of permissible practice for the sport you wish to play and secure an "Application for Waiver of the Transfer Rule" signed by the principal of both your previous school and your new school. If you transfer on or after the first day of practice in a sport you cannot participate in that sport. If you transfer from a school at which you were ineligible because of disciplinary action or unsatisfactory conduct, you will be ineligible at your new school for one full semester. **If you participate in non-school athletics (i.e. AAU, American Legion, club settings, etc.) that are affiliated with or coached by a coach from a school other than the one you attend, or have attended, and then transfer to that school, you will be ineligible there for one year. If you transfer to a school that your coach has relocated to within the past year, you will be ineligible there for one year. You, your parents or legal guardians, as well as the principal and athletic director of the school to which you transfer must sign before a notary public an affidavit stating that you were not athletically recruited to attend that school.** (FHSAA Bylaw 11.4 and Policy on Athletic Recruiting)
7. Must not have **enrolled in the ninth grade for the first time** more than four years ago. If you are a sixth-grader, seventh-grader or eighth-grader, you must not have participated in an earlier year in the grade in which you are currently enrolled. (FHSAA Bylaw 11.5)
8. Must be less than 19 years 9 months old to participate in high school; 16 years 9 months old to participate in junior high school; and 15 years 9 months old to participate in middle school. On the day you reach one of these ages – regardless of when that day is – you become ineligible to participate on that level. If, however, you reach the maximum age during a state championship series (district, regional or state event) in which you are participating, you will be permitted to finish that state championship series. (FHSAA Bylaw 11.6)
9. Must get signed permission to participate from your parents or guardian on a form provided by the school. (FHSAA Bylaw 11.7)
10. Must undergo a preparticipation physical evaluation and be certified as being physically fit for participation in interscholastic athletics. **The physical evaluation IS VALID FOR ONE YEAR from the date that it was administered** after which time you must successfully undergo another physical evaluation to continue your participation. (FHSAA Bylaw 11.8)
11. Must be an amateur. This means you must not accept money, gift or donation for participating in a sport, or use a name other than your own when participating. (FHSAA Bylaw 11.9)
12. Must not participate in an all-star contest in a sport prior to completing your high school eligibility in that sport. (FHSAA Bylaw 11.10)
13. Must display good sportsmanship and follow the rules of competition **before, during and after** every contest in which you participate. If not, you may be barred from participation for a period of time. (FHSAA Bylaw 11.11)
14. Must not provide false information to your school or the FHSAA to gain eligibility. (FHSAA Bylaw 11.12)

If you are declared or ruled ineligible for violation of any one or more of these rules and you do not agree with the decision, you have the right to request that your school file for a hearing before the Sectional Appeals Committee on your behalf. If you violate one or more of these guidelines because of an unforeseeable, unavoidable condition or event which places a severe burden upon you or your family and are declared or ruled ineligible because of that, you have the right to request that your school file a request for a waiver of the rule or rules before the Sectional Appeals Committee on your behalf. See your principal, athletic director or coach if you believe one of these two situations applies to you.

