

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Participation in high school athletics is a privilege. All students are expected to comply with local, state, and federal laws and the rules and regulations of the Anchorage School District. Students will be subject to denial of the ability to participate if they do not meet eligibility requirements, engage in behavior that is detrimental to the well being of the team or school, are in violation of the tobacco rule, are in violation of the drug and alcohol rule, or commit criminal acts as defined in the ASD Statement of Student Rights and Responsibilities. In all cases the Superintendent or his designee retains the right to review and revise any disciplinary action.

A student is eligible to participate in the interscholastic activities of only one member school per year, except as provided under the Transfer/Residency Rule (Section 9 of ASAA Handbook). That school shall be considered the School of Eligibility. A student who is simultaneously enrolled at more than one member school and who wishes to be eligible to participate in the interscholastic activities of one of those schools, must designate that school as the School of Eligibility. The School of Eligibility must ensure that the student meets all eligibility requirements before being permitted to participate.

A. To be eligible during a school semester for participation in interscholastic activities, a student must:

1. be properly registered in a 9-12 high school program in the ASD, an ASD charter school, ASD alternative school or program.
 - a. A student enrolling in an ASD charter school, alternative school or program during the first semester of ninth grade; and a student transferring from out-of-district who attends an ASD charter school, alternative school or program after the first semester of the ninth grade, must designate a member school within the district as the School of Eligibility.
 - b. The School of Eligibility of a student, other than a first semester freshman, who transfers to an ASD charter school, alternative school or program from another school within that district, will be the member school from which the student transferred.
 - c. A student attending an ASD school, charter school, alternative school or program who wishes to change his/her School of Eligibility without a corresponding parent move, will be ineligible for interscholastic competition at the new School of Eligibility for 180 days.
 2. To be eligible:
 - a. All first semester freshmen are immediately eligible at the beginning of the school year. At the end of the 1st quarter, they must have a 2.0 GPA to remain eligible for the remainder of the semester.
 - b. Second-semester freshmen, all sophomores, all juniors, and all seniors must have an overall 2.0 GPA during the previous semester and end of first and third quarters. Students who do not meet the GPA portion of this requirement may regain eligibility during the current semester by achieving and maintaining an overall 2.0 GPA at the end of the quarter or semester using the grades earned during the nine-week grading period.
 - c. Students who did not pass 5 classes the previous semester may regain eligibility by retaking and completing the course failed prior to the next grading period (which is at the beginning of each fall sports season and at the end of each quarter/semester). For purposes of this section, academic deficiencies may be made up through correspondence courses or summer school. (Correspondence courses must be completed and postmarked prior to the eligibility check. Athletes may begin participation once the final grade is posted.)
 - d. All freshmen, all sophomores, all juniors, as well as seniors who are not on track to graduate and/or who have not passed all parts of the High School Graduation Qualifying Exam (HSGQE) must be enrolled in a minimum of five (5) semester units of credit, or the equivalent** that lead to granting of credit toward graduation from the school district.
 - e. Seniors who are on track to graduate* and who have passed all parts of the HSGQE* must be enrolled in a minimum of four (4) semester units of credit, or the equivalent,** in the district or supervised by the School of Eligibility or its school district that lead to granting of credit toward graduation from the school district or the School of Eligibility. Full time seniors who are not required to take the HSGQE, and who are on track to graduate, must be enrolled in a minimum of four (4) semester units of credit, or the equivalent,* at their School of Eligibility.
- * Seniors who have a minimum of 17.5 credits at the beginning of their senior year may enroll in four classes first semester as long as they enroll in enough credits second semester to graduate.
- ** (UAA and APU courses may be used in determining the number of courses for enrollment. Non-ASD correspondence courses do not count in determining number of courses for enrollment. King Career Center courses will be counted as three (3) semester courses).
- f. Student eligibility is checked on the first day of the fall sports season. During the remainder of the school year, all students are eligible after school on the final student day of the quarter/semester until eligibility is checked on the second Monday of the new grading period. Students regaining eligibility may practice, but not play, until eligibility is formally determined on that second Monday.
3. To be eligible a student must be in regular attendance at school classes in which enrolled. A student athlete who is truant for one or more classes, or who is in attendance for less than half of his or her scheduled classes during school day, cannot practice or play in a contest on that day, unless excused by the principal. Student athletes who are truant or in attendance for less than half of their scheduled classes the day of a practice or who are truant the day of a game yet still participate will be suspended for two games on the first offense and will be removed from the team on the second offense.
- B. Students who do not meet the eligibility rules of ASD and ASAA to participate in interscholastic activities due to academic deficiency may have the ability to practice with the team for the remainder of the quarter as long as all of the required paperwork is submitted to the Activities office. The student will be able to practice only, they will not be issued a uniform to play in a contest until the end of the next grading period. After the next grading period, eligibility may be regained.

IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE:

1. A physician's clearance to play must be on file at the school. This clearance is good for one year but must not expire during the season of the sport in which the student is participating.
2. A High School Athletic Activity Participation form must be signed and on file, and participation guidelines must be acknowledged.
3. Students and parents must comply with the ASAA pre-participation guidelines.
4. All records must be in order and forms must be on file in the Activity Office before the student is eligible to participate in any athletic programs.
5. Students pay an activity fee per ASAA sport or apply for a fee waiver based on financial hardship through the school activity office.
6. a. All players must have ten (10) separate days of physical practice in the same sport activity prior to the first day of competition.
 - b. When a student is participating in a recognized high school sport activity that overlaps the beginning of another recognized sport season, the ASAA Executive Director may waive up to five (5) practices. Students may not have practices waived for entering the sports activities of football, gymnastics, hockey, wrestling (see exception for returning Alaska high school wrestlers who are also football players) or cheerleading due to safety considerations and to the nature of these sports.
 - c. If a student has completed the required practices but has not competed for whatever reason for less than two weeks, no additional practices are required before returning to competition with the concurrence of the coach. If a student misses between 2 and 4 weeks of practice and competition, 5 additional days of practice and the concurrence of the coach are required before returning to competition. If more than 4 weeks have been missed, the student must have ten (10) additional days of practice and concurrence of the coach before returning to competition.
 - d. Member schools permitting a student to participate in interscholastic competition without meeting the practice requirements of this section will be considered to be using an ineligible player and will be subject to penalty under Article 12, Section 1 of the ASAA handbook.
 - e. ASAA prohibits students from competing as a member of a non-school comp. or junior hockey team beginning with the first day of high school practice until a school team has completed its season. The prohibition on competing on a non-school team will be lifted during Thanksgiving and winter break vacations. Although this rule does not restrict practice on a non-school team during the high school season, no student may participate in a high school game on a day in which he/she has participated in a "comp" practice.

Conditions of Student Participation

A. ELIGIBILITY RULES

1. Athletes must meet all eligibility requirements of the Anchorage School district and the Alaska State Activities Association (ASAA).
2. Violation of the eligibility rules shall result in denial of participation.

B. DENIAL OF PARTICIPATION

1. An athlete who is removed from a team for disciplinary reasons will not be eligible to practice or play another sport during the season of that sport.
2. An athlete who is suspended from the regular school program for any reason will not be eligible to practice or play any sport during the period of suspension. A suspension ends at midnight of the final day of the suspension.
3. Any sanction imposed under these Conditions of Participation is separate and distinct from any sanction which may be proposed for violation of any other school disciplinary requirement.
4. During an appeal process the student shall not participate in the group's activities until the appeal process is completed.

C. DENIAL OF PARTICIPATION FROM TEAM ACTIVITIES FOR SPECIFIC CIRCUMSTANCES

1. A student athlete who is truant for one or more classes, or who is in attendance for less than half of his or her scheduled classes during school day cannot practice or play on that day without principal permission. Students in violation will be suspended for two games on the first offense, removed from the team on the second offense.
 2. Equipment issued to an athlete is his/her responsibility for return or replacement. If the equipment is not returned, replaced or paid for, no letter shall be awarded nor shall the student be permitted to participate in any sport.
 3. Denial from participating with the team for a period of time to be determined by coach/principal/and District administrators may result from the following:
 - a. Insubordination
 - b. Obscene gestures; swearing
 - c. Provocation
 - d. Fighting
 - e. Stealing/Theft
 - f. Hazing/Initiation
 - g. Other disciplinary situations which may arise
 4. With administrative approval, the coach may establish additional participation rules.
- D. The complete Tobacco, Alcohol and Controlled Substances (TAD) Policy follows.

Time period during which policy applies

The policy in this section applies to any student who is participating or has participated in interscholastic activities starting from the students' first participation in interscholastic activities, including formal practices which precede interscholastic competition after the initial signing of the *Student/Parent/Legal Guardian (TAD) Acknowledgement Form*, at any ASAA member school, and continuing until the student graduates from high school.

Students sanctioned under the TAD guidelines must complete ASAA education component before returning to play. Violations of this policy are cumulative and progressive throughout a student's high school years.

TOBACCO RULES-Violations of tobacco rules cumulative throughout school year. Students who violate the tobacco rules will be subject to the following sanctions:

- a. **FIRST OFFENSE FOR POSSESSION OR USE** - Suspended from interscholastic activities and practices for 10 calendar days. Fifty percent of the suspension will be forgiven and the student may return to practice if the student and parent/guardian complete the First Offense educational component.
- b. **SECOND OFFENSE FOR POSSESSION OR USE** - Loss of practice and athletic participation for forty-five calendar days.
- c. Students who violate the tobacco rules while under school jurisdiction are subject to suspension in accordance with Anchorage School District regulations and cannot participate during the length of the suspension.

E. DRUG/ALCOHOL RULES-

The actual or attempted sale of, use of, possession of tobacco, alcohol, inhalants, illegal drugs, substances designed to look like illegal drugs, substances purported to be illegal drugs, or drug paraphernalia shall subject the athlete to loss of practice and athletic participation.

Under School Jurisdiction

Students who violate the drug/alcohol rules will be subject to:

- a. **FIRST OFFENSE FOR POSSESSION OR USE** - Suspension or expulsion in accordance with Anchorage School District Regulations. Loss of practice and athletic participation during the suspension or expulsion, or for ten calendar days, whichever is greater. Fifty percent of the suspension from athletic participation will be forgiven and the student may return to practice if the student and parent/guardian complete the ASAA First Offense educational component.
- b. **SECOND OFFENSE FOR POSSESSION OR USE, OR FIRST OFFENSE FOR SELLING, DISTRIBUTING, OR ATTEMPTING TO SELL** - Suspension or expulsion in accordance with Anchorage School District Regulations - Loss of practice and athletic participation during the suspension or expulsion.

Not Under School Jurisdiction

Students who violate the drug/alcohol rules while not under school jurisdiction:

- a. **FIRST OFFENSE FOR POSSESSION OR USE** - Loss of practice and athletic participation for ten calendar days. Fifty percent of the suspension from athletic participation will be forgiven and the student may return to practice if the student and parent/guardian complete the ASAA First Offense educational component.
- b. **SECOND OFFENSE FOR POSSESSION OR USE, OR FIRST OFFENSE FOR SELLING, DISTRIBUTING, OR ATTEMPTING TO SELL** - Loss of practice and athletic participation for a minimum of forty-five calendar days.
- c. **THIRD OFFENSE FOR POSSESSION OR USE, OR SECOND OFFENSE FOR SELLING, DISTRIBUTING OR ATTEMPTING TO SELL** - Loss of eligibility for the duration of Anchorage School District attendance.

F. CRIMINAL ACTS

Students who commit criminal acts as defined in the ASD Statement of Student's Rights and Responsibilities will be removed from the team for the remainder of the season.

1. The school will conduct an investigation independent of the Police.
2. The student may appeal the finding of the investigation to the school principal.
3. The student shall not participate in the team's activities until the appeal process is completed.

This is not a complete list of all eligibility rules and regulations. If you have questions, please contact your activities principal.

See ASAA manual for definition of a bona fide move of parents or guardian.