

NHSBA JJA-R STUDENT ATHLETICS AND DRAMA : ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY STANDARDS

In accordance with Policy JJA, the following academic eligibility standards will govern participation in school-sponsored activities and organizations such as sports and extracurricular activities. This policy does not pertain to co-curricular activities.

I. Elementary school students shall be eligible to participate in school-sponsored organizations and activities based upon age-appropriate criteria approved by the principal. Students/parents will be provided copies of such criteria prior to student participation. Any league requirements shall also apply.

II. Middle school students shall be eligible to participate in school-sponsored organizations and activities based upon age-appropriate criteria approved by the principal. Students/parents will be provided copies of such criteria prior to student participation and will be made available through the WRMS parent/student handbook. Any league requirements shall also apply.

III. High school students shall be eligible for participation in athletics and drama under the following guidelines:

These definitions pertain to the High School eligibility guidelines below:

- Good Academic Standing: A student has met the minimum of passing three classes at a grade checkpoint. If taking fewer than three classes then the student is passing all classes.
- Stage 1, 2, and 3: The three phases of status when students do not meet the minimum of passing three classes or all classes if taking fewer than three at a grade check point.
- Grade Check: The day when all student grades are reviewed to determine eligibility status.
- Passing a Class: Student has a minimum of a 71 numerical grade in the class.

1. All students participating in athletics and drama are required to be in good academic standing.
 - a. Eligibility is determined by the number of passing classes at each of the grade checks.
 - b. For any athletic or drama activity that begins prior to the first grade checkpoint, participation is determined by the previous end of year grades (year-long, semester, and quarter classes) and course recovery over the summer. By the extracurricular activity's start date, the student must have earned three credits in the previous semester.
2. Summer school, online class grades, and CTE (Huot) will be checked to determine eligibility.

3. Grades will be checked three times per quarter. The final check each quarter will be the quarter grades. If a student fails to meet the minimum requirement, the following will result:

Stage 1: First Time Not Meeting Requirement: Student is able to participate in all practices, games and, drama performances.

Stage 2: Second Time Not Meeting Requirement: Student is able to participate in practices, but not games or drama performances.

Stage 3: Third Time Not Meeting Requirement: Student is unable to participate in practice, compete, or perform for athletics or drama.

4. Whenever a student earns academic eligibility at a grade check, they return to good academic standing. If a student is on Stage 2 or 3, they may return to good academic standing between grade checks by following the procedure outlined on the Athletics/Drama Eligibility Form.
5. All students have grade checks. Students not participating in athletics or drama will follow the progression of stages.
6. Students at Stage 3 will not be permitted to tryout for an extracurricular or athletic activity.
7. Students must comply with the eligibility standards set forth by the by the New Hampshire Interscholastic Athletic Association (NHIAA).
8. Transfer students' academic eligibility for participation in an athletics or drama will be determined initially by their incoming transcript. All transfer students will have their grades reviewed on the first grade check after admission to WRHS. Transferred grades will be factored into each class's numerical grade. If the student is not in good academic standing, the student will be at Stage 1.
9. A special education student who is working toward a special diploma/certificate must make standard progress in those courses taken as determined by the student's Individualized Educational Program (IEP). A special education student who is working toward a standard diploma must meet the same academic standards for participation in athletic activities.
10. Any student/parent who believes that the district's policies/regulations or the State's law/regulations have not been appropriately or fairly interpreted may appeal as follows:
 - Submit a letter to the building principal stating the nature of the concern and requesting a hearing.
 - Within five (5) school days the principal will convene a meeting with him/herself, the student and/or parents, the coach/advisor, and a teacher(s), if ineligibility is due to failing grades or not meeting expectations.

- The student/parent will be given the opportunity to explain why they believe the student should be eligible for participation. Additionally, the student/parent may present information, documents or other material in support of their argument. Minutes of the hearing will be maintained.
- The principal will consider all the information available and will make a final decision within three (3) school days following the hearing. The principal will notify and inform the student/parents of his/her decision in writing. The principal's decision shall be final.