

Eligibility for Interscholastic Athletics – Grade 5-12

Students who desire to participate on interscholastic athletic teams do so on a volunteer basis with the understanding that it is a privilege and not a right to be a member of a school team. Students shall be allowed to participate in school-sponsored interscholastic sports on the basis of their physical condition, skill and desire, subject to appropriate, non-discriminatory selection procedures, such as tryouts, fitness tests, etc.

I. Eligibility: Before participating on any interscholastic athletic team (including any school-sponsored club team) students must meet and satisfy the following eligibility requirements.

A. General:

1. All standards of eligibility under rules or guidelines of the New Hampshire Interscholastic Athletic Association (NHIAA) or other such governing organization.
2. All standards of eligibility for co- or extracurricular activities as set forth in:
 - i. any rules that may be school, athletic program or team specific;
 - ii. applicable administrative regulations or procedures (e.g., JJA-R(1));
 - iii. applicable Board policies (e.g., JJA).

B. Registration Documentation:

1. Registration form with emergency contact and any special medical information,
2. Parental consent form,
3. Participation fee (parents may request a fee waiver), and
4. Student's original birth certificate:

For purposes of this policy, an "original birth certificate" is one issued at or near the time of the student's birth. If a copy is indicated as "modified", it must clearly show that any modification to sex related only to correction of a scrivener or clerical error.

If the submitted birth certificate does not appear to be the original birth certificate, or it does not indicate the student's sex at birth, then the student/parent/guardian must provide other evidence indicating the student's sex at birth. Such evidence may include such things as: hospital records, photo or video materials, newspaper, social or publications produced near the time of birth, notarized statements from the parent or guardian regarding the student's biological sex at birth. The student or the student's parent or guardian must pay any costs associated with providing such alternative evidence.

1. Physical:

1. A completed "Physical Pre-participation Evaluation" signed by a physician, nurse practitioner or physician's assistant in collaboration with a physician. The district may require additional information from a healthcare provider before allowing a student to participate in athletics if the district is aware of an injury or illness that could be exacerbated by participation.

2. Baseline Test - High School Students: All high school students must take an ImPACT Neuropsychological test prior to participation (including tryouts) in any school sponsored athletic teams, and any other NHIAA sport or sanctioned activity. The test must also be administered two years after the first. Generally, the tests will occur in the 9th and 11th grades, but may be different for transfer students, or students who first participate in the 10th grade.
2. **Academic:** In addition to the academic requirements set forth the requirements of the NHIAA, Board policy JJA and administrative procedure JJA-R, students must meet the following academic requirements below to participate in interscholastic athletics. Eligibility for each marking period is determined by grades received in the previous marking period. Semester and/or yearly grades have no effect on eligibility.
 1. Eligibility Requirements. To be eligible to participate in any extra-curricular activity, the student must be passing a minimum of four credit-bearing courses (not including driver education, ELO's, learning studios, or advisory) during the previous PMHS reporting period. An "incomplete" does not qualify as a passing grade.
 - A. Student must be "passing" the course;
 - B. For a semester (.5 credit) course, student must be:
 - 40% course completed by mid-semester (first or third progress report);
 - 100% course completed by end-of-semester.
 - C. For full-year (1 credit) course, the student must be:
 - 20% course completed by first progress report;
 - 40% course completed by second progress report;
 - 60% course completed by third progress report;
 - 100% course completed by fourth progress report.

"Passing" is defined by the granting of credit by the responsible institution. The progress report "snapshot" is taken at 8:00 a.m. on the "snapshot date" determined by the school administration.

 2. Ineligibility. A student who is considered ineligible may not participate or attend any activity, meeting, practice, or team event until the subsequent reporting period or the beginning of the subsequent season.
 3. Summertime Competency Recovery. Students must meet eligibility requirements at least one week prior to the fall season start date to be considered eligible.
 4. Transfer students' academic eligibility for participation in an athletic activity will be determined initially by their incoming GPA. These eligibility criteria will apply through and include the student's first marking period of attendance in the school district. Transfer students whose incoming GPA does not meet the academic requirements will be denied academic eligibility during their first marking period in the school district, after which, the academic requirements above shall apply.
 5. 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.

6. The Superintendent or his/her designee may develop additional procedures intended to monitor academic performance of student-athletes, with the object of early intervention.

III. Severability: If any provision of this policy is held to be invalid for any reason, such action shall not invalidate the remainder of this policy. If any provision of this policy conflicts with any provisions in any other Board policies, the provisions of this policy shall prevail, except to the extent such provisions contravene any applicable state or federal law.

IV. Records: The Superintendent shall establish regulations and procedures to ensure:

- A. records supporting a student's eligibility consistent with this policy are collected and maintained (in original or summary form);
- B. necessary data related to ineligible students is collected and reported as required by law;
- C. cultural traditions of students are considered when establishing or enforcing rules related to participation in extracurricular activities; and
- D. other requirements of this policy are met.

V. Co-Curricular Participation Guidelines:

Students are expected to be in good academic standing to be eligible for participation. Club advisors are expected to review each student's academic performance to ensure that good standing is maintained. Due to the missed instructional time required for participation in the ski club, members must meet the extra-curricular requirement by the first scheduled ski activity.

District Policy History:

First reading: October 2, 2025

Second reading/adopted: October 16, 2025

District revision history:

Policy to replace IGDJ

Legal References Disclaimer: *These references are not intended to be considered part of this policy, nor should they be taken as a comprehensive statement of the legal basis for the Board to enact this policy, nor as a complete recitation of related legal authority. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.*

NH Statutes	Description
RSA 193:41	School Athletics