

NHSBA JJA-R

STUDENT ACTIVITIES/ORGANIZATIONS: ELIGIBILITY STANDARDS

In accordance with Policy JJA, the following eligibility standards will govern participation in school-sponsored activities and organizations:

I. Elementary and 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. Any league requirements shall also apply.

Middle School: Students with a failing grade in any class go on the warning list for one week. If he/she does not bring the grade up, he/she will go on the NPL (Non-Participation List) until passing.

II. Secondary school student shall be eligible for participation in school-sponsored organizations and activities under the following guidelines:

A. Academic

Eligibility for participation is based upon review of grades. A failing grade is defined as lower than a numerical grade of 65.

High School: Students must maintain an overall 70% average in all classes combined on prior report card and at mid-term. Students who do not meet this will be placed on a two week probation.

- Students may re-establish eligibility for fall semester organizations/activities through successful completion of an approved summer school program in the area previously failed.
- Some specific organizations (e.g. National Honor Society) may impose additional academic requirements.
- If he/she does not bring up the average in two weeks, he/she becomes ineligible for the rest of the quarter.
- If the student brings up the average in less than two weeks, he/she is off probation until the end of the quarter, but may participate in games and/or events at the coach/advisor's discretion.
- Students can participate in athletic practices, games, and/or co-curricular meetings and events during times of probation.
- Once students are deemed ineligible, they cannot participate in games or co-curricular events during a period of ineligibility. If a student chooses not to practice or attend meetings/events during time of ineligibility/probation, he/she will not be allowed to return to the team/group when he/she becomes eligible.

B. Conduct

- Conduct expectations for participation in school organizations and activities are specified in the behavioral and disciplinary policies established by the Board policies.
- Should serious or chronic behavioral infractions occur, students participating in school-sponsored organizations/activities will be subject to a probationary hearing. This hearing will be conducted by the relevant advisor/coach and attended by an administrator, the student and parent(s).
- Eligibility for further participation will be determined following the hearing.

C. Attendance

- Students participating in school-sponsored activities/organizations shall comply with all attendance requirements mandated by State law and regulation as well as Board policies.
- Should serious or chronic attendance infractions occur, students participating in school-sponsored organizations/activities will be subject to a probationary hearing. This hearing will be conducted by the relevant advisor/coach and attended by an administrator, the student and parent(s).
- Eligibility for further participation will be determined following the hearing.

D. Athletics

In addition to various eligibility requirements above, those students participating in school-sponsored athletics must comply with rules and standards established by the New Hampshire Interscholastic Athletic Association (NHIAA), the school district's policies regarding physical examinations and transportation and the school's athletic code.

E. Appeals

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.
- 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 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.