

Subject: **POLICY GOVERNING STANDARDS FOR
ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY**

Amends: **Policy 9.79 December 3, 2012**

Effective: **December 3, 2012, Revised May 15, 2013**

Pages: **3**

Approved by: **Order of the Emergency Manager 2013 EMRR-24**

1.0 Purpose. To ensure uniform eligibility standards and academic performance requirements for students in grades 9 through 12 who wish to participate in school-sponsored athletics.

2.0 Policy. Student participation in competitive athletics and extra-curricular activities is a privilege, not a right. DPS students in grades 9 through 12 who wish to participate in school-sponsored athletics must satisfy the following academic performance and attendance requirements:

A. Academic Performance:

- (i) Academic performance will be determined on semester basis.
- (ii) The initial grade point requirement for a DPS student to be eligible for participation on an interscholastic athletic team shall be a minimum of 1.67 GPA in all classes for the previous semester and, thereafter, a student must maintain a minimum 2.0 GPA in all classes. A beginning freshman who has never attended any other secondary school will be eligible at once if entering at the opening of the semester.
- (iii) Summer School: Credits earned in summer school may be applied to previous semester requirements.

B. Attendance:

- (i) A student must attend all classes not less than ninety percent (90%) during the previous semester, during the season and all subsequent semesters to maintain eligibility.

- (ii) If the student has been counted in membership of a high school for ten (10) days or more during any semester, the student shall be counted as having been in attendance during that semester.
- (iii) If the student has been out of school for a semester or more, the previous semester shall be understood to mean the last semester during which the student was a member of a high school for at least ten (10) days.

C. Transfers/ Residency Changes

If a student transfers from one high school to another and/or changes residency, such student may not be immediately eligible to participate in an athletic program at the school to which the student transfers unless the student meets the requirements for an exception as set forth in the Michigan High School Athletic Association Regulations (MHSAA Rules). The MHSAA Rules shall be maintained in and enforced by the District's Office of Athletics.

D. Alcohol, Drugs and Illegal Substances

If a student athlete is found in violation of the DPS Student Code of Conduct Section B03 or charged with a violation of Section C09, or if a student athlete has consented to participate in the Random Drug and Alcohol Testing Program and is found to be in violation there under, the following specific sanctions will also be imposed.

First Violation: A participant shall be immediately ineligible for interscholastic participation for not less than two (2) weeks. In order to be eligible to participate in the sports season, the student shall meet with the coach and request approval. The coach shall recommend to the Principal appropriate action to be taken. The School Principal together with the Office of Athletics shall have the final authority as to the student's future participation in interscholastic sports.

Second Violation: A participant found in violation on a second occasion, at any time during eligibility, shall be ineligible for any interscholastic participation for a period of six (6) months from the date of the second violation. In order to be eligible to participate in any interscholastic activity, after the complete term of the suspension, the student shall meet with the coach and request approval. The coach shall recommend to the Principal appropriate action to be taken. The School Principal together with the Office of Athletics shall have the final authority as to the student's future participation in any interscholastic activity.

Third Violation: A participant found in violation for a third time shall be found permanently ineligible for any interscholastic participation for 12 consecutive months and must consent to submit to random drug tests before

requesting reinstatement of eligibility. In order to be eligible to participate in any interscholastic activity, after the complete term of the suspension, the student shall meet with the coach and request approval. The coach shall recommend to the Principal appropriate action to be taken. The School Principal together with the Office of Athletics shall have the final authority as to the student's future participation in any interscholastic activity.

For student athletes found to have been in violation of Section C09 of the Student Code of Conduct, eligibility shall be revoked for the remainder of high school.

Violations are considered cumulative for the duration high school eligibility.

In no instance shall participation in a school and/or community-approved assistance and/or treatment program excuse a student from compliance with these regulations. However, successful completion of an approved program may be considered when requesting reinstatement by the eligibility committee.

E. Non-Discrimination

DPS complies with all federal rules and regulations and does not discriminate in any programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, religion, veteran or military status, marital status, or age, and does not tolerate sexual harassment in any form. This holds true for all students who are interested in participating in educational programs and/or extracurricular school activities.

3.0 Procedures.

- A. Determination of Present Season Eligibility:** Eligibility shall be determined by a student's grades, school attendance and attendance in class and conduct during the school day. Bi-weekly progress report shall be submitted by each teacher of the student athlete to ensure that the academic requirements are being met.

A student who is failing one or more courses at the end of any two week period during the season shall be ineligible for the next week of competition.

A student who accumulates 2 or more unexcused absences during any two-week period during the season shall be ineligible for competition during the next week.

A student who is suspended from school for misconduct or subject to the loss of extracurricular activity privileges shall be ineligible for competition or practice during the term of the suspension or loss.

If a student is rendered ineligible for the next semester's season due to failed courses, the student may attend summer school to make up the failed courses and re-gain eligibility for the next semester's sport season. If he/she obtains passing grades which fulfill the eligibility requirements, he/she will be eligible for participation in the following semester.

The Chief Administrative Officer of the District shall from time-to-time establish and adopt additional applicable procedures governing the implementation of this policy.

Attachments to Policy: None

Legal References: MCLA § 380.1289
OAG 5974, 9/3/81

Other Sources MHSAA Regulation I