



Ohio High School Athletic Association  
4080 Roselea Place, Columbus, Ohio 43214  
Telephone: 614-267-2502; Facsimile – 614-267-1677  
[www.ohsaa.org](http://www.ohsaa.org)

Guidance for 2020-2021–High School Principals and Athletic Administrators

**Bylaw 4-3—Enrollment and Attendance  
Overview – Graduates**

Section three of Eligibility Bylaw 4 “ENROLLMENT AND ATTENDANCE” contains seven (7) bylaws. **Bylaw 4-3-6** identifies that once a student has been declared a **graduate** of the high school, the student’s eligibility ceases. As the American high school changes and many seniors begin their postsecondary education earlier, it is important to note this bylaw. The exception within the bylaw permits the student to complete the remaining contests in a semester, and that exception has been primarily applicable to seniors who graduate in May prior to the conclusion of spring sports tournaments.

**Bylaw 4-3-7** addresses situations in which a student has received **education outside the United States** and permits some discretion in the event the student’s program does not meet NCAA Initial Eligibility Standards in regard to high school graduation.

**Bylaw 4-3-6** reads as follows:

A student is considered a graduate when the student has completed the work required for graduation and is declared a graduate by the Board of Education or a similar governing board. **Notwithstanding the fact the student may be age eligible and have semesters of eligibility remaining, a graduate** is no longer eligible for interscholastic sports except for participation in the remaining contests of that semester.

Please note that this bylaw applies to students in all educational options including those who attend community, STEM and non-public schools and students who are being home educated. Administrators who are certifying eligibility for these non-enrolled students must take care to evaluate both semesters of eligibility and graduation status before allowing those students to continue participation.

**Bylaw 4-3-7** reads as follows:

A student who has received his or her education outside the United States is considered a graduate when the student has completed the work required for graduation or has completed the requirements for compulsory education as mandated by that country in which the student received his/her education. Notwithstanding the fact the student may be age eligible and have semesters of eligibility remaining, such a graduate is no longer eligible for interscholastic sports except for participation in the remaining contests of that semester.

Exception: If it has been determined that a student who has been educated in a system outside of the United States has not met the substantive academic requirements of the NCAA initial eligibility center in regard to high school graduation (notwithstanding ACT/SAT scores, or English proficiency exams), **the student may be declared eligible at a member school at the sole discretion of the Executive Director’s office.**

**To request a ruling on 4-3-7, please forward all information to either Deborah Moore or Roxanne Price.**

**Please feel free to contact Deborah Moore or Roxanne Price if you have any questions!**