



Student Eligibility Guidance for High School Principals and Athletic Administrators

Enrollment & Attendance Bylaw Guidance Bylaws 4-3-6, 4-3-7

This document will focus on the graduation bylaws outlined in 4-3-6 and 4-3-7, which read as follows:

BYLAW 4-3-6: *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.*

Guidance: 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: *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 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), the student may be declared eligible at a member school at the sole discretion of the Executive Director's office.*

Guidance: This bylaw 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. To request a ruling on this exception, please draft a letter outlining the details of the situation and submit to Kristin Ronai (kronai@ohsaa.org).

Please feel free to contact Kristin Ronai (kronai@ohsaa.org) or Ronald Sayers (rsayers@ohsaa.org) if you have any questions!