



OHIO HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

Doug Ute, Executive Director

Student Eligibility Guidance for High School Principals and Athletic Administrators

Residence Bylaw Guidance Bylaw 4-6-2, Exceptions 3-8

This document will focus on Exceptions 3-8 to Bylaw 4-6-2, which reads as follows:

Bylaw 4-6-2

A student whose parents, (biological or adoptive), reside outside the state of Ohio will be ineligible for interscholastic athletics in a member school. (See Bylaw 4-8-1 for eligibility requirements for international students).

Note: Students affected by this out of state residence bylaw may still be affected by all other eligibility standards in Bylaw 4 including the transfer provisions in 4-7 and the international provisions in 4-8.

EXCEPTION 3 (15 days in Grade 11)

If a student's parents move outside the state of Ohio at any time after the student has been enrolled and attending a minimum of 15 days at the beginning of the student's eleventh grade school year, the student may be declared eligible for the remainder of the student's high school career at the high school he/she was attending at the time of the parents' move, provided:

- a) the student's enrollment at that high school has been continuous following the parents' move; and*
- b) the student meets all other eligibility requirements of these Bylaws.*

To request a ruling on Exception 3: No ruling needed by the Executive Director's Office. A school administrator simply needs to verify that the student meets the requirements of this exception in order to have eligibility under this residency bylaw. Please contact Mrs. Kristin Ronai (kronai@ohsaa.org) with any questions.

EXCEPTION 4 (Continuous Enrollment K-6)

A student who enrolls at first grade level in a school consisting of grades 1-12 and who maintains continuous enrollment shall be eligible for interscholastic athletics in grades 7-12 in that school regardless of place or state of residence of parents.

To request a ruling on Exception 4: No ruling needed by the Executive Director's Office. A school administrator simply needs to verify that the student meets the requirements of this exception in order to have eligibility under this residency bylaw. Please contact Mrs. Kristin Ronai (kronai@ohsaa.org) with any questions.

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EXCEPTION 5 (Parents Employed in the District/System)

A student whose parent(s) has been continuously employed for a minimum of three years as a fulltime, licensed or classified employee in an Ohio school district or system, may be declared eligible in an Ohio school in that district or system where the parent is employed. Once eligibility is established at the member school/district, the student shall remain eligible under this exception for as long as he or she maintains continuous enrollment in that school. The student shall be ineligible until ruled eligible by the Executive Director's Office.

To request a ruling on Exception 5: The Principal or athletic administrator shall submit a letter request for a ruling to Kristin Ronai (kronai@ohsaa.org) stipulating the following:

1. Name of the student
2. Verification of the parents' out of state residence
3. Verification of the parent's employment history with the Ohio school district.

Please note the student is ineligible until a favorable ruling is issued by the Executive Director's Office. Furthermore, any student approved under Bylaw 4-6-2, Exception 5 may still be subject to the transfer consequence unless an exception can also be met to Bylaw 4-7-2.

EXCEPTION 6 (Parochial Schools in the Same Non-Public System)

A student who resides within the boundaries of a parochial school system consisting of grades 1-12 that has multiple sites organized into elementary schools (1-8) and secondary schools (9-12), and who has enrolled by the beginning of the fourth grade level of an elementary school in that system and has maintained continuous enrollment in that school system through grade 8, shall be eligible for interscholastic athletics in grades 9-12 providing the secondary school attended by the student is the school designated by the school system for the continuance of the student's educational program.

Note: The OHSAA does require that the superintendent of the non-public school system provide the Executive Director's Office with a list of any elementary schools under the system's jurisdiction that are located both inside and outside of Ohio.

To request a ruling on Exception 6: The Principal or athletic administrator shall submit a letter request for a ruling to Kristin Ronai (kronai@ohsaa.org) stipulating the following:

1. Name of the student
2. Verification of the parents' out of state residence
3. Verification of the name of the school or schools the student has attended continuously since 4th grade and confirmation that those schools are within the jurisdiction of the Ohio non-public system.
4. The student's transcripts for grades 4-8.

Please note the student is ineligible until a favorable ruling is issued by the Executive Director's Office. Furthermore, any student approved under Bylaw 4-6-2, Exception 6 may still be subject to the transfer consequence unless an exception can also be met to Bylaw 4-7-2.

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EXCEPTION 7 (Public School in Neighboring State)

A student who resides within the boundaries of a public school district in a neighboring state; and who attends an Ohio public school system under an arrangement through which the entire grade of the out-of-state student attends the Ohio public school system; and for whom the tuition or cost of education for said out-of-state student is paid by the neighboring state's school district of residence; and who will be eligible to receive a high school diploma from an Ohio public school system shall be eligible for interscholastic athletics in grades 7-12 at the schools designated by the Ohio school system for attendance by the students from the neighboring state. The student shall be ineligible until ruled eligible by the Executive Director's Office.

To request a ruling on Exception 7: The Principal or athletic administrator shall submit a letter request for a ruling to Kristin Ronai (kronai@ohsaa.org) stipulating the following:

1. Name of the student
2. Verification of the parents' out of state residence
3. Verification of the Ohio school that student attends under this agreement.

Please note the student is ineligible until a favorable ruling is issued by the Executive Director's Office. Furthermore, any student approved under Bylaw 4-6-2, Exception 7 may still be subject to the transfer consequence unless an exception can also be met to Bylaw 4-7-2.

EXCEPTION 8 (Boarding School)

A student who is enrolled in a member school that provides housing for the student and accepts the role of the parent in loco parentis. The student shall be ineligible until ruled eligible by the Executive Director's Office.

To request a ruling on Exception 8: The Principal or athletic administrator shall submit a letter request for a ruling to Kristin Ronai (kronai@ohsaa.org) stipulating the following:

1. Name of the student
2. Verification of the parents' out of state residence
3. Verification the student lives in residential housing on the campus of the member school.

Please note the student is ineligible until a favorable ruling is issued by the Executive Director's Office. Furthermore, any student approved under Bylaw 4-6-2, Exception 8 may still be subject to the transfer consequence unless an exception can also be met to Bylaw 4-7-2.

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