



# OHIO HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

Doug Ute, Executive Director

## Student Eligibility Guidance for High School Principals and Athletic Administrators

### Transfer Bylaw Guidance

#### Bylaw 4-7-2, Exception 11 – Death in Immediate Family Necessitating Transfer

This document will focus on Bylaw 4-7-2, Exception 11. For guidance on the full text of Bylaw 4-7-2, please visit (<https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/Eligibility/4-7-2Guidance.pdf>). Exception 11 reads as follows:

*If it is determined that one or more of the exceptions that follow represents an event which creates the need to transfer, i. e., creates a cause and effect relationship, then one or more of the following exceptions may apply:*

**EXCEPTION 11:** *If a student has experienced a death of an immediate family member (parent, grandparent, legal custodian, sibling) with whom the student was residing at the time of death, and because of this loss it becomes necessary for the student to transfer, if the transfer occurs within a reasonable time after the death, the Executive Director's Office, in its sole discretion, may waive all or part of the 50 percent period of ineligibility for one or more sport/sports seasons. In order to assist the Executive Director's Office in determining whether the transfer was necessary as a result of the death of the family member, the Superintendent of the school district from which the student transferred must certify to the Executive Director's Office that the transfer was necessary to protect the student's physical and/or mental well-being. Absent such certification from the Superintendent, the Executive Director's Office may not apply this exception.*

Until a student is declared eligible by the Executive Director's Office in accordance with this exception, they shall be ineligible for all OHSAA tournaments in those sports in which the student participated during the 12 months immediately preceding this transfer. In addition, the student shall be ineligible for all contests at all levels AFTER the first 50% of the maximum allowable varsity regular season contests have been competed in those sports in which the student participated during the 12 months immediately preceding this transfer.

To request a ruling under exception 11, please complete the exception 11 form found here: ([https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/Eligibility/forms/4-7-2\\_Exc11Form.pdf](https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/Eligibility/forms/4-7-2_Exc11Form.pdf)). Within the form, you will be required to provide proof of the death of the immediate family member with whom the student was residing including the date of that death. Please review item 3 for more information.

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