



Student Eligibility Guidance for High School Principals and Athletic Administrators

Transfer Bylaw Guidance Bylaw 4-7-2, Exception 12 – Return from a Domestic Exchange Program

This document will focus on Bylaw 4-7-2, Exception 12. 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 12 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 12: *A student returning from a domestic exchange program with whom the member school has partnered to the same high school the student attended immediately before entering into this domestic exchange program may be declared eligible insofar as the transfer bylaw is concerned if all of the following conditions have been met:*

- a) The domestic exchange program exists primarily for academic and educational learning experiences; and*
- b) The student receives credits that apply toward the student's graduation in the Ohio member school for the student's work in the domestic exchange program; and*
- c) In the event that student did participate in interscholastic athletics while enrolled in this domestic exchange program, the student's athletic participation was secondary to his/her academic and educational reasons for participation in the program; and*
- d) The domestic exchange program has, in its curriculum guide, a structured beginning and ending to the program itself; and*
- e) The Executive Director's Office in its sole discretion may waive all or part of the period of ineligibility upon submission of the appropriate documentation for 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 12, please complete the exception 12 form found here:

(https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/Eligibility/forms/4-7-2_Exc12Form.pdf). Within the form, you will be required to items a-d above.

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