



Ohio High School Athletic Association
4080 Roselea Place, Columbus, Ohio 43214

FLOW CHART FOR PARTICIPATION OF NON-ENROLLED STUDENTS IN SINGLE- HIGH SCHOOL/7-8th GRADE SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Developed and modified in conjunction with Scott Pringle, Hiland High School and Middle School assistant principal, during the 2020-21 school year.

For more robust guidance regarding non-enrolled students, please visit <https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/Eligibility/GuidelinesForNon-EnrolledStudents.pdf>

For frequently asked questions regarding non-enrolled students, please visit <https://www.ohsaa.org/Eligibility/CommonlyAskedQuestions>

Introduction:

Bylaw 4-3-1 states, "All students participating in a school-sponsored sport must be enrolled in and attending full-time in accordance with all duly adopted Board of Education or similar governing board policies of that school." There are currently seven exceptions to this Bylaw and this document will focus on the placement of students utilizing Exception Six (Home educated students, Community school students, STEM school students and Non-public school students) **WITHIN A SINGLE HIGH SCHOOL AND/OR SINGLE 7-8 GRADE SCHOOL DISTRICT.**

Students who attend community (also referred to as charter schools, many of which are digital/online schools) or STEM schools, whether sponsored by a school district or another sponsor (which are different than non-traditional/specialty schools), as well as those students who are home educated or attend a non-public school that does not offer a specific sport - are permitted to participate only in the district of residence of their parents as per Ohio law. There are exceptions for the home educated and nonpublic school student (see Notes B/C below). For non-enrolled students whose parent(s) live outside the district, school administrators will also need to ensure the student continues to have a parent who lives in Ohio to be in compliance with Bylaw 4-6-2.

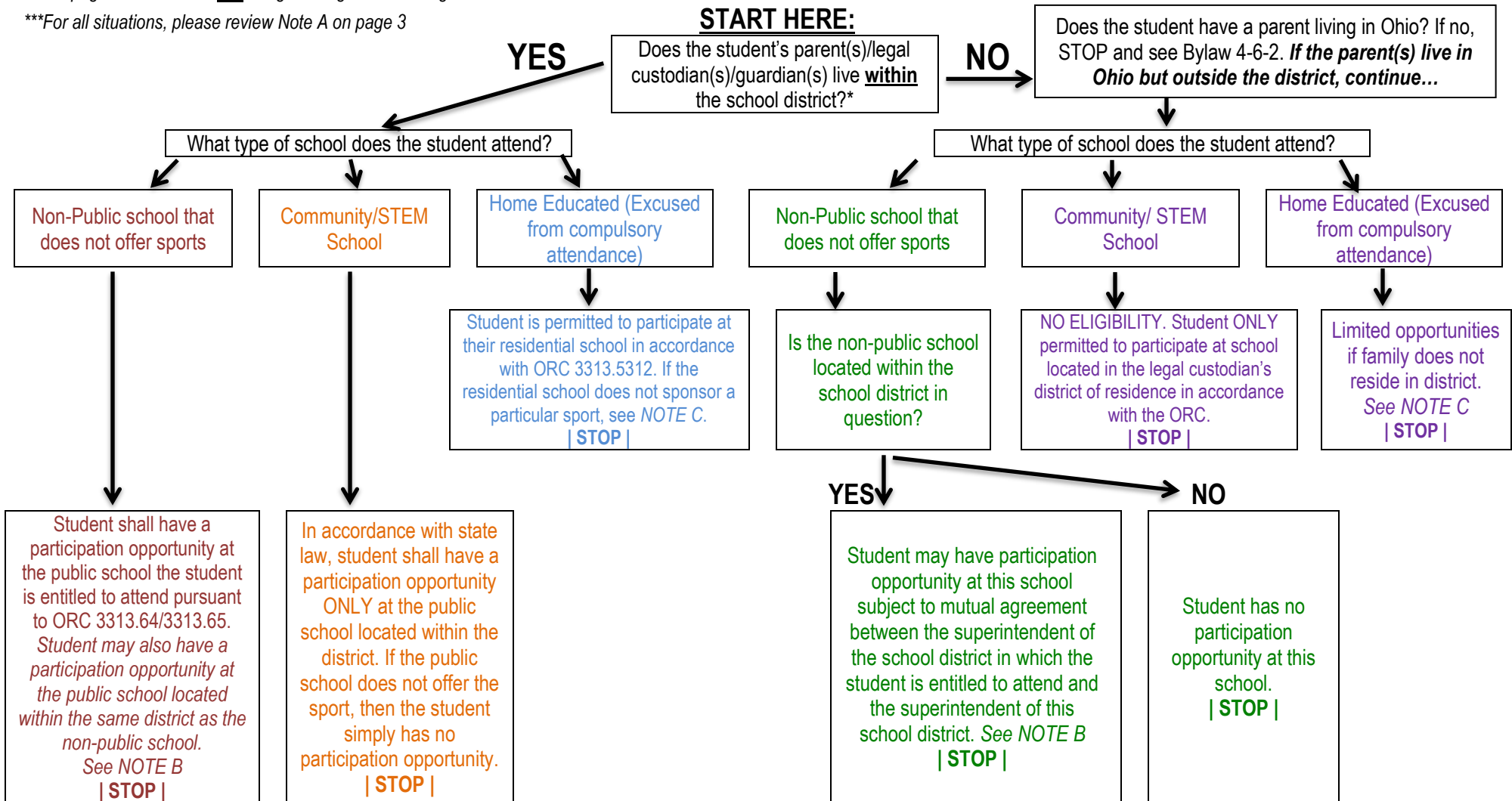
Please note that a student who is physically present in a brick-and-mortar member school building during the day but attends a non-traditional school with a different IRN number housed within that same building, has a participation opportunity at the school where he/she is physically present during the school day, regardless of his/her parent's place of residence (provided the residence is in Ohio). This eligibility option at the primary brick-and-mortar does not include students who attend a non-traditional school that primarily offers its curriculum through an online platform. In addition, a student attending a community or STEM school physically located in a brick-and-mortar school shall have a participation opportunity as set forth in the ORC, in which case the RESIDENCE of the parent(s) is paramount.

PLEASE CALL A MEMBER OF THE OHSAA COMPLIANCE STAFF WITH ANY QUESTIONS OR TO DISCUSS A SPECIFIC SCENARIO.

*For a student residing in a residence **with** his/her legal custodian/guardian

See page 4 for students **not living with legal custodian/guardian

***For all situations, please review Note A on page 3



Supplemental Notes:

NOTE A: If the student in question has not been enrolled within their non-public, community/STEM or excused from compulsory attendance for home schooling purposes since the 9th grade, the student may be considered a transfer student and may have to meet an exception to become completely eligible insofar as transfer is concerned. If the student does not meet a transfer exception, the student shall be permitted to begin participation in contests, insofar as transfer is concerned. After the first 50% of the maximum allowable varsity regular season contests have been competed (regardless of the participation level of the student), the student shall then become INELIGIBLE for the remainder of the regular season contests at all levels. Furthermore, the student shall also remain ineligible to participate in the OHSAA sponsored tournament(s) in those respective sports until the one-year anniversary of the student's date of enrollment. Have a school administrator contact the OHSAA's eligibility department if you need assistance in determining which exception this student may be able to meet as well as how to configure the consequence if the student does not meet an exception. Please note, there is no transfer consequence at the 7th-8th grade level.

NOTE B: In addition to the residential district, non-public school students also have a participation opportunity at the public HS **in the district where the non-public school is physically located**. Once the student has established eligibility at one of those public HS options (where their parents live OR where the non-public school is located), any transfer of eligibility to the other option would require the student to fulfill the transfer consequence. **In order to have a participation opportunity in the district where the non-public school is located (when the student's family does not reside in the district) there must be a written agreement between the residential superintendent and the superintendent of the public school district where the non-public school is located.**

NOTE C: If the sport that a home educated student wishes to play is not sponsored by any school in the residential district, the student MAY be permitted to participate at another public school district subject to the sole discretion of that district's superintendent. Once the student has established eligibility at one of those public HS options (where their parents live OR in another district where their parents do not reside) any transfer of eligibility to the other option would require the student to fulfill the transfer consequence. **Consequently, the family of a home educated student should fully consider all potential ramifications of participating at a non-residential district school.** Note that if the residential district school offers a certain sport then, in accordance with ORC 3313.5312, the home educated student is permitted to participate in that sport at that school **ONLY**. Therefore, if a student participates at a non-residential school but is required by state law to participate in a different sport back at their residential district then the student will be held accountable to the transfer consequence each time the participation option changes (i.e. sitting out the second half of the season and the OHSAA tournament).

NOTE D (*For a student residing with an individual who is not his/her legal custodian/guardian*): If a student attends a non-traditional school and the student/individual with a POA/Caretaker Affidavit makes a move between attendance zones or moves closer to a different traditional high school within the district (for districts that do not have assigned attendance zones), the student is still NOT permitted to change his/her participation opportunity to a different school within the district. The student's eligibility shall remain at the school where he/she established initial eligibility.

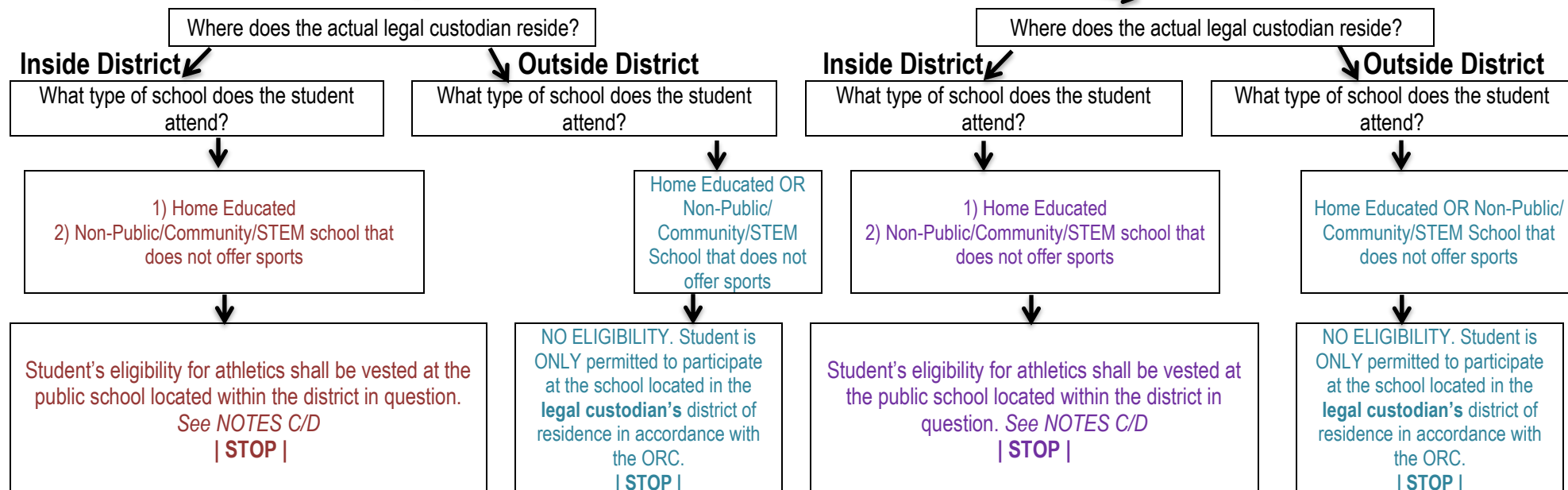
*For students residing in a residence without his/her legal custodian/guardian

Self-Support

START HERE:

How has the student established residency within the district?

Living with Individual with POA/Caretaker Affidavit



** These eligibility options using a POA and/or Caretaker Affidavit are done in accordance with ORC 3313.64, 3313.537, 3313.5312, 3313.531.