



Ohio High School Athletic Association

Friday, December 11, 2020

Scholarship Bylaw Update

TO: Member Schools' Superintendents, Principals and Athletic Administrators
FR: OHSAA Executive Director's Office

The following information was conveyed to member school administrators via the Administrator Update sent on Friday, December 11, 2020:

Bylaw 4-4 (Scholarship) Waived Through 2020-21 School Year Per Constitution Article 6-1-9

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and after much consideration, the Executive Director's Office has elected to utilize Constitution Article 6-1-9 and **waive the scholarship bylaws found in 4-4-1, 4-4-5 and 4-4-3 for the remainder of the 2020-21 school year**. We applaud the schools that have been able to uphold these standards thus far, and each school is still permitted to continue enforcing these scholarship bylaws, or any other modified version, if you believe your school/district has implemented effective educational delivery methods which would support a student's ability to meet the bylaw's requirements. However, this decision to waive the scholarship bylaw through the school year is being made because we recognize that quarantines, differing educational models, varying access to the internet, etc. have made this a very challenging school year for our STUDENT-athletes.

With this decision, all student-athletes will be eligible for the first grading period of the 2021-22 school year (unless your district elects to uphold the standard). After that time, students will then be required to pass the appropriate number of credits/classes in order to remain eligible for the second grading period of the 2021-22 school year. Please contact a member of the compliance staff if you have any questions (Kristin Ronai, kronai@ohsaa.org; Debbie Moore, dmoore@ohsaa.org).

NOTE: The OHSAA Office has no authority to waive ORC § 3313.535, which requires each district to set a minimum GPA standard for students to be afforded a participation opportunity.

Decision Timeline Regarding Waiving of Scholarship Bylaw in Accordance with Constitution Article 6-1-9

- Wednesday, May 20, 2020- Waived Scholarship Bylaw for first grading period of 2020-21 school year
- Monday, October 12, 2020- Waived Scholarship Bylaw for second grading period of 2020-21 school year
- Friday, December 11, 2020- Waived Scholarship Bylaw for the remainder of the 2020-21 school year