



Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association

P.O. Box 319 - 3333 Lebanon Road - Hermitage, TN 37076

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ATTENTION ATHLETES!

DO YOU KNOW THE ELIGIBILITY RULES OF YOUR STATE?

A summary of TSSAA Eligibility Rules is provided for your information. Read these rules carefully and be sure that you understand them. **ALL ATHLETES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR KNOWING THE TSSAA RULES.**

- A student must earn five credits the preceding school year if less than 24 units are required for graduation or six credits the preceding school year if 24 or more credits are required for graduation. All credits must be earned by the first day of the beginning of the school year.
- A student must be enrolled before the 20th school day of the semester, in regular attendance, and carrying at least five full courses during the present semester.
- A student is permitted eight semesters of eligibility beginning with the ninth grade. Junior division students are permitted four semesters of eligibility beginning with the eighth grade.
- A student shall be ineligible in high school if he or she becomes 19 years of age on or before Aug. 1 or in junior high if he or she becomes 16 years of age on or before Aug. 1.
- Athletes must live at home with their parents.
- In order for a transfer student with an athletic record to be eligible at another school there must be a bona fide change of residence by the athlete's parents.
- All transfer students must be approved by the Executive Director of TSSAA before participating in any game.
- A student who engages in three or more days of practice - including spring practice - with a high school in which he or she is enrolled shall be ineligible in that sport for 12 months if the student enrolls in another school without a corresponding change in the residence of his or her parents.
- A student whose name is listed on the school eligibility report cannot participate in an independent game or meet until the season has closed in that particular sport. (This does not include golf, tennis or bowling.)

- A registered athlete cannot accept any money for athletic skills in any TSSAA sponsored sport.
- An athlete may accept a medal, trophy, high school letter, sweater, jacket, shirt, blazer or blanket for athletic participation but nothing else of commercial value, and these awards must carry the school's letter or other appropriate award emblem.
- All expenses to an athletic camp where specified instruction is offered must be paid by the athlete or his parents.
- When an athlete is charged tuition to attend a school, it must be paid by the parent or bona fide guardian or other family member.
- Any student repeating the 7th grade after having passed the 7th grade or repeating the 8th grade after passing the 8th grade shall not be eligible to participate in athletics during their 9th grade year.
- A student may not participate in an all-star game unless it is sanctioned by the TSSAA and unless he/she has completed high school eligibility in that sport.

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