

INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION GUIDELINES

STUDENT PARTICIPATION

Student participation in interscholastic activities plays a significant role in personal and educational development and is used as a means of developing wholesome attitudes and well-rounded citizens who are better prepared to face the challenges of adult life as a result of their interscholastic experiences. **Such participation is a privilege, not a right.** Students earn the privilege to participate by adhering to high standards of personal conduct and academic performance. Personal conduct and attitude of Student participants must reflect high standards of respect, loyalty, attitude, and morality.

It is the responsibility of the Student and his or her Parent(s) or Legal Guardian(s) to be familiar with the rules and regulations of the New Mexico Activities Association and the Student's respective school standards of Student expectations/conduct.

A. Open Enrollment Choice

1. An 8th grade Student competing in interscholastic sports at the high school level has used his/her open enrollment choice. The Student may compete without reference to his/her immediate or previous scholastic record. The end of the 1st grading period in 8th grade establishes the beginning of the scholarship requirements for this Student.
2. A 9th grade Student who has not previously competed in interscholastic sports at the high school level has his/her open enrollment choice. The Student may compete without reference to his/her immediate or previous scholastic record in eighth grade (last grading period and/or semester, whichever is applicable). The end of the first grading period in 9th grade establishes the beginning of the scholarship requirements for this Student.
3. A 9th grade Student who begins the school year at a charter school is afforded Open Enrollment Choice. 9th grade Students entering charter schools during the school year and 9th grade Students who participated at the high school level as an 8th grader, have used their open enrollment choice. 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students are not eligible to make an open enrollment choice.

B. Academic Eligibility

1. A Student shall have a 2.0 grade point average with no more than one (1) F, based on a 4.0 grading scale, or its equivalent, either cumulatively or for the six or nine week grading period immediately preceding participation. Grades earned during a summer session must be placed on a student's transcript by the school registrar prior to the first day of the fall semester in order for the course to be utilized for eligibility purposes.
 - a. All class work counted for eligibility must be acceptable for graduation.
 - b. The GPA is based on a 4.0 scale with an allowance for consideration of honors points.
 - c. Cumulative provision
 1. The cumulative provision may be applied only at the beginning of a semester.
 2. Only semester grades can be used, and all semester grades starting with the 9th grade year must be utilized. (As cumulative grades start with the 9th grade year, the cumulative provision cannot be used for middle school/junior high Students.)
 3. The cumulative provision may not be applied if a Student has more than one "F" in the semester grading period immediately preceding participation.
 - d. Stricter guidelines may be imposed by the local school board/district.
2. SSLC students must be enrolled in at least four (4) classes and in regular attendance during the current as well as the previous grading period.
3. Eligibility for students enrolled in concurrent classes at post-secondary institutions (CNM, UNM, NM Tech.), who are taking less than four classes at Southwest Secondary, will be based on the previous semester.
4. Pursuant to State Statute 22-12-2.1.: Interscholastic extracurricular activities; student participation.
 - a. No student shall be absent from school for school-sponsored interscholastic extracurricular activities in excess of fifteen days per semester, and no class may be missed in excess of fifteen times per semester. Participation in state and national competitions are exempt.

C. Academically Ineligible Player

1. **Practice** - The student may practice with the team if he/she demonstrates academic progress towards eligibility as determined by his/her school's administration.
2. **Participation** - The Student CANNOT participate in any interscholastic event at any level of competition during the period of ineligibility.
3. **Travel** - The Student CANNOT travel to any interscholastic event or activity with the team during the period of ineligibility.

Make-Up Class in Summer School

A Student may make up one (1) class during summer school by earning a passing grade in that class from an accredited program. The new grade may be substituted for the original grade in that class providing the local school policy permits. Summer school is defined as an extension of the spring semester for that year only.

CHARTER SCHOOL STUDENT PARTICIPATION

Non-NMAA Member Charter Schools [SSLC]

An eligible Student attending a Non-Member Charter school may request through his/her parent/legal guardian or charter school to participate in athletics/activities at the public school in the Student's residence attendance zone. Participation with NMAA Member schools will be governed by all rules and regulations outlined in this Handbook. As with any other member, no Student is guaranteed participation, only the opportunity to try-out for a position on the team.

Southwest Secondary Learning Center Interscholastic/NMAA Participation Guidelines

Students are required to notify the SSLC administration of their intent to participate in these sports and activities. Students wishing to participate in NMAA sanctioned athletics and activities at their neighborhood schools are responsible for all NMAA compliance regulations in regards to academic and residency requirements. The SSLC administration will provide academic progress reports and eligibility status upon request. It is the student's responsibility to provide academic reports and documentation to their neighborhood school, coach and athletic director.

More eligibility information may be found at: http://www.nmact.org/forms/nmaa_handbook - Section 6 Eligibility (Bylaws)

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS SUMMARY

- 1] Student shall have a 2.0 grade point average with no more than one (1) F, based on a 4.0 grading scale, or its equivalent, either cumulatively or for the nine week grading period immediately preceding participation.
- 2] SSLC students must be enrolled in at least four (4) classes and in regular attendance during the current as well as the previous grading period.
- 3] E2020 course grades will be determined by the Actual Grade. Regular classes, Dual enrollment courses, Smart Lab and Physical Education classes will be determined by traditional standards.
- 4] Eligibility for students enrolled in concurrent classes at post-secondary institutions (CNM, UNM, NM Tech.), who are taking less than four classes at Southwest Secondary, will be based on the previous semester.

COLLEGE BOUND STUDENT ATHLETES

Information for athletic participation at NCAA schools and Universities can be found at:

https://web1.ncaa.org/eligibilitycenter/general/index_general.html

This Guide for the College-bound Student-Athlete will lead you through a number of important topics, including your academic eligibility, amateurism eligibility, registration with the NCAA Eligibility Center, financial aid and recruiting rules.