

Oologah-Talala Public Schools Activity and Athletic Eligibility

Activity Eligibility

The following conditions apply to scholastic eligibility:

- All organized competitive events fall under the guidelines of the *Oklahoma Secondary School Activities Association* and require student scholastic eligibility for participation. School boards have the right to adopt policies that exceed the minimum criteria set by the Oklahoma Secondary School Activities Association and the policies adopted in the Oologah-Talala School District do exceed OSSAA minimum criteria.
- A student in grades 7 – 12 must be passing all subjects in which he/she is enrolled on the day eligibility is checked each week of the semester.
- At the end of the semester, students must have passed seven of the seven classes enrolled in to be eligible to compete at the beginning of the next semester.
- Students will be ineligible for competition during the first six (6) weeks of a new semester if they do not meet eligibility requirements in the preceding semester.
- Other school related activities that occur at random times such as field trips, club activities and civic or community activities, require scholastic eligibility for student participation.
- Scholastic eligibility is based on the cumulative semester grade. This grade would be awarded to the student if the semester would end on the day in which eligibility is checked.
- Students must be present in at least three (3) classes during the day of an activity in order to be eligible to participate. Unavoidable circumstances may be considered and must be approved by the administrator.
- Teachers' eligibility lists are due by noon on Friday. Eligibility runs Monday through Sunday.
- It is recommended by administration that teachers enter a minimum of two grades per week.

RULE 1 – AGE, PHYSICIAN AND PARENTS' CERTIFICATE

Section 1

Any student who reaches his/her nineteenth birthday before September 1 will not be eligible for athletic competition. Any student who reaches his/her sixteenth birthday before September 1 will not be eligible if enrolled in the ninth grade or below. Any student who reaches his/her fifteenth birthday before September 1 will not be eligible for the eighth grade or below. Any student who reaches his/her fourteenth birthday before September 1 will not be eligible for the seventh grade or below. Non-athletes: Any student who reaches his twenty-first birthday before September 1 will not be eligible.

Section 2

No student shall be eligible to represent his/her school in athletics until there is on file with the principal a physical examination and parental consent certificate. The form used shall contain the information on the standard OSSAA form. Other forms may be utilized, by the physician, physician's assistant, or an advanced practice nurse, if the information contained is compliant with the information on the OSSAA form. Any other information, depicting the athlete's previous history, can be added to this form for the purpose of clearance for athletic participation. A qualified physician, physician's assistant, or an advanced practice nurse covered by professional liability insurance shall give the physical examinations.

If you have questions concerning the qualifications or the insurance coverage of a health care practitioner offering to give examinations, it is suggested that you check with your school district attorney for an opinion. Physical examinations are required for students each year. All physicals given for ASSAA participation and before the first day of practice in that student's particular sport. The physical will be valid from the date of the physical given until the next required physical. Parent(s) or guardian(s) must sign the parental consent form each year before the student participants in any organized athletic practice session including contest participation.

Section 3

Each non-athletic activity organization which assists in the sponsorship of interscholastic activities may operate under a constitution, or set of rules, which complies with the Constitution and Rules of the Oklahoma Secondary School Activities Association. This constitution or set of rules should be approved by the Board of Directors of the Oklahoma Secondary School Activities Association.

RULE 2 – ATTENDANCE

A student who has not attended classes ninety percent of the time for the semester in a member school becomes ineligible. Exceptions may be made by the principal due to illness, injury, death in the immediate family, valid reasons for late enrollment, or late with the beginning of attendance. See Board Policy XLVI for supplemental on-line courses.

- Question: At what point in the school year does the attendance rule begin?
- Answer: Attendance for the semester begins with the first day of the semester, and continues throughout the entire semester. A student must be in compliance with the 90% attendance rule for each class in which a student is enrolled.

RULE 3 - SCHOLASTIC ELIGIBILITY

OSSAA scholastic eligibility standards are required of all students engaging in co-curricular activity programs. Local school boards may make exception for only those students participating in non-competitive activities. (OSSAA Board Policy)

Section 1 Semester Grades

- a. A student must have received a passing grade in all seven subjects to be counted for graduation that he/she was enrolled in during the last semester he/she attended fifteen or more days. If a student does not meet the minimum scholastic standard, he/she will not be eligible to participate during the first six weeks of the next 18-week grading period they attend.
- c. A student who does not meet the above minimum scholastic standard may regain his/her eligibility by achieving passing grades in all subjects he/she is enrolled in at the end of a six-week period.
- d. Pupils enrolled for the first time must comply with the same requirements of scholastic eligibility. The passing grades required for the preceding 18-week grading period should be obtained from the records in the school last attended.
- e. A student who drops a class after the first three weeks of the semester shall be ineligible for at least a three-week period. To regain eligibility after three weeks, the student must be enrolled in the minimum number of classes required for eligibility, and be passing all subjects in which the student is enrolled. An exception is allowed for a student who enrolled in an AP or honors-level course and wishes to drop that course. A student dropping an AP or honors-level course after the first three weeks of the semester may maintain continued eligibility provided that (i) the student had a passing grade in the AP or honors-level course at the time of withdrawal; and (ii) the student enrolls in a non-AP or honors level course in the same subject.

Section 2 Student Eligibility during a Semester

- a. Scholastic eligibility for students will be checked after three weeks (during the fourth week) of a semester and each succeeding week thereafter. School may choose to run eligibility checks on any day of the week. The period of probation and ineligibility will always begin the Monday following the day eligibility is checked. Methods should be devised to check weekly grades of Career-Tech students and all concurrently enrolled students. Schools may choose to run eligibility checks on any day of the week. The period of probation and ineligibility will always begin the Monday following the day eligibility is checked.
- b. A student must be passing in all subjects he/she is enrolled in during a semester. If a student is not passing all subjects enrolled in on the day of the grade check, he/she will be placed on probation for the next one-week period. If a student is still failing one or more classes during the next week on the grade check day, he/she will be ineligible to participate during the next one-week period. The ineligibility periods will begin on Monday and end on Sunday.
- c. A student who has lost eligibility under this provision must be passing all subjects in order to regain eligibility. A student regains eligibility under Rule 3 with the first class of the new one-week period (Monday through Sunday).
- d. "Passing grade" means work of such character that credit would be entered on the records were the semester to close at that time.

Section 3 Special Provisions

- a. A senior student maintains eligibility by passing the classes required for graduation. The number of classes which a student is enrolled can be no less than four. A junior or senior student who is concurrently enrolled in high school and college may use the college courses to meet the minimum number of subjects needed to maintain eligibility. These may be a combination of high school and college subject's equivalent to four high school units which are accepted by the Oklahoma State Department of Education.
- b. An ineligible student who changes schools during a semester will not be eligible at the new school for a minimum period of three weeks. A student may regain his/her eligibility by achieving the scholastic standard in Rule 3, Section 2-b at the end of a three-week period. (Any part of a week is considered a full week.)
- c. Incomplete grades will be considered to be the same as failing grades in determining scholastic eligibility. School administrators are authorized to make an exception to this provision if the incomplete grade was caused by an unavoidable hardship. (Examples of such hardships would be illness, injury, death in family and natural disaster.) A maximum of two weeks is allowed for make-up work.
- d. One summer school credit (1/2 unit or one subject) earned in an Oklahoma State Department of Education accredited program may be used to meet the requirements of Rule 3, Section 1-a, for the end of spring semester.

Section 4 Special Education Students

Special students, who are enrolled in special education classes, have an Individual Educational Plan and have been certified by the principal as doing a quality of work may, with the approval of the Board of Directors, be accepted as eligible under this rule.