



## **What You Should Know About High School Athletic Eligibility**

### **Academic Requirements**

If you are in the 11<sup>th</sup> grade or 12<sup>th</sup> grade, you must have a cumulative 2.0 grade point average on a 4.0 unweighted scale in all courses taken through the end of the previous semester. If you are in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade or 10<sup>th</sup> grade, you must have a cumulative 2.0 grade point average on a 4.0 unweighted scale in all courses taken through the end of the previous semester; OR you must have earned a 2.0 grade point average on a 4.0 unweighted scale in the courses taken in the previous semester alone, provided you sign an academic performance contract (FHSAA form EL5) with your school and attend summer school as necessary. (Article 9.4, FHSAA Handbook, Bylaws and Policies)

### **Ninth Grade Eligibility**

A student shall be eligible during the first semester of his/her ninth-grade year provided that it is the student's first entry into the ninth grade and he/she was regularly promoted from the eighth grade the immediately preceding year.

### **Residence**

A student will be eligible at the first school in which he/she enrolls, or participates in an athletic practice, at the beginning of each school year. The student will be eligible in his/her first school of choice each year as long as the student remains enrolled in that school (Florida Law 97-53). Additionally, home school students who are registered through Hillsborough County Public Schools and charter school students who are enrolled in a Hillsborough County registered charter school are eligible for athletic participation at their school of residence.

### **Transfers**

Per School Board Policy 2431.01, student-athletes who transfer are allowed to immediately participate in interscholastic athletics for their new school as long as they are enrolled prior to the start of a specific sport's season. Student-athletes that participate in a sport at their previous school during the same school year may not participate in the same sport unless they meet one of the following criteria:

- 1) Dependent children of active duty military personnel whose move resulted from military orders.
- 2) Children who have been relocated due to a foster care placement in a different school zone.
- 3) Children who move due to a court-ordered change in custody due to separation or divorce, or the serious illness or death of a custodial parent.
- 4) Authorized good cause established in this policy.

### **Age**

Students reaching the age of 19 before July 1<sup>st</sup> will be ineligible to participate in interscholastic athletics for that school year and beyond.

### **Limit of Eligibility**

A student shall be eligible for no more than four (4) consecutive academic years upon first entrance to ninth grade as defined by the pupil progression plan of the school in which the student is enrolled. A student who does not attend school, repeats any grade, is declared ineligible to participate, or otherwise fails to exercise the opportunity to participate for any reason for any length of time during this four-year period shall not be entitled to any additional period of eligibility.