

9.3 TRANSFER REGULATIONS

9.3.1 “Transfer” Defined. A transfer occurs when a student makes any change in schools after he/she establishes residency at a school each year.

9.3.2 Transfer Student Not Eligible Until the Following School Year. A student who transfers from one school to another will not be eligible at the new school until the beginning of the next school year, unless the student qualifies under one of the following four exceptions:

9.3.2.1 Exception – Full and Complete Move to New Residence. A student who moves to a new home address due to a full and complete move by the student and the persons with whom he/she has been living for at least one calendar year that makes it necessary for the student to attend a different school and meets all other eligibility requirements as provided in Article 9 will be eligible subject to Bylaw 9.3.3. A student and his/her parents cannot occupy a residence at more than one address, and only the student’s current residence may be used for eligibility purposes.

9.3.2.1.1 Full and Complete Move Defined. The following items are evidence a move is full and complete:

- (a) The former residence is not occupied for any purpose at any time by the student or any of the persons with whom the student has been living; and
- (b) All personal belongings are moved from the former residence; and
- (c) Mail is received at the new residence; and
- (d) All utilities are transferred to the new residence; and
- (e) Driver’s license, voter registration and other forms of legal identification are changed to the new residence.

9.3.2.2 Exception – Necessary Relocation to Residence of Another Individual. A student who transfers because he/she has to move into the residence of another person who lives at a residence that makes it necessary for the student to attend a different school and meets all other eligibility requirements as provided in Article 9 will be eligible at the new school subject to Bylaw 9.3.3. This exception applies only to the following specific situations:

- (a) One of the persons with whom the student has been living dies;
- (b) One of the persons with whom the student has been living is imprisoned or committed by court order to a mental facility; or
- (c) The student is made a ward of the court or state and is placed in a foster home by a court of legal jurisdiction. In this case, a certified copy of the court order, a copy of the petition upon which the order was based, and other evidence the court had to consider in issuing the order must be provided to the FHSAA Office. Temporary guardianship that is granted without the approval of a court of legal jurisdiction does not meet this requirement.

9.3.2.3 Exception – Move to New Residence Following Marriage. A student who marries and immediately establishes a new residence with his/her spouse at a residence that makes it necessary for the student to attend a different school and meets all other eligibility requirements as provided in Article 9 will be eligible subject to Bylaw 9.3.3.

9.3.2.4 Exception – Reassignment by District School Board. A student who is reassigned during the school year to a different school by the district school board, as long as the reassignment is not for athletic or disciplinary reasons, and is not requested by the student or his/her parents, and meets all other eligibility requirements as provided in Article 9 will be eligible at the new school subject to Bylaw 9.3.3. In this case, the student may participate in interscholastic athletic competition at the public school where he/she is assigned or a private school he/she chooses to attend.

9.3.2.5 Need to Attend a Different School Defined. When determining whether a change in residence makes it necessary for a student to attend a different school as required in Bylaws 9.3.2.1, 9.3.2.2 and 9.3.2.3, the FHSAA Office will consider the following criteria:

- (a) Is the student not permitted to attend his/her old school by the district school board because the new residence is outside the school’s attendance zone?
- (b) Is public transportation from the student’s new residence to the old school not provided?

9.3.3 Qualifying Transfer Student Becomes Eligible on Sixth Day of Attendance. A transfer student who qualifies under one of the four exceptions in Bylaws 9.3.2.1, 9.3.2.2, 9.3.2.3 and 9.3.2.4 will be eligible for competition on the sixth school day of attendance at the new school if:

- (a) The school has received and evaluated the student’s official sealed transcript provided by his/her former school; and
- (b) The school has determined that the student meets all eligibility requirements.

9.3.3.1 Transfer Student Must Provide Academic Records. A student who transfers to a member school from a nonmember school after beginning high school must provide the member school with an official sealed transcript showing all grades he/she has received at all schools attended since beginning eighth grade. The student must also provide the school with all information the school needs to convert the student’s grades using the scale in Bylaw 9.4.2. The student cannot be declared academically eligible by the member school until all such information is received to its satisfaction.

9.3.3.2 Transfer Student’s Former School Must Verify Eligibility Status Upon Request. The member school formerly attended by a transfer student must verify the student’s eligibility status if requested to do so by the student’s new school.

9.3.3.3 Transfer Student Not Eligible for One Full Semester if Transcript Cannot be Obtained. A transfer student whose former school cannot or will not provide an official sealed transcript will not be eligible in the new school until he/she has been in attendance for one full semester and has established a cumulative GPA. The school must submit a written report to the FHSAA Office that includes the student's name, date of first attendance in the school, and the beginning and ending dates of the previous semester.

9.3.4 Ineligible Student Cannot Transfer to Become Eligible. A transfer student who is ineligible for any reason at the time of the transfer will not be eligible in the new school until the student has been in attendance for one full semester. Attending a new school at the beginning of the school year does not decrease or eliminate the period of ineligibility.

9.3.4.1 Students Under Expulsion. A student who has been expelled by a school district or school shall not be considered eligible at any member school during the length of the expulsion. If the student who chooses not to attend an alternative school, if offered by the school district or school, shall be ineligible to represent a member school for the next two consecutive "full" semesters. Attending a new school at the beginning of the school year does not decrease or eliminate the period of ineligibility.

9.3.5 Transfer Students Who Are Not Eligible. The following transfer students are not eligible in their new school even if they otherwise qualify under one of the four exceptions in Bylaws 9.3.2.1, 9.3.2.2, 9.3.2.3 and 9.3.2.4.

9.3.5.1 Student Who Transfers After FHSAA State Championship Series in a Sport Begins. A student who transfers to any school after the FHSAA State Championship Series in a sport begins will not be eligible to participate in that sport through the conclusion of that state championship series.

9.3.5.1.1 Student Who Participated in a State Championship Series in Another State. A student who attends a member school after having participated in a state championship series in a sport in another state is ineligible to participate in that sport for that school year.

9.3.5.2 Student Who Transfers After Participation in a Non-School Athletic Activities Affiliated with a School. A student who participates in any non-school athletic activity affiliated with a school that the student does not attend or did not attend in the previous school year and then transfers to the affiliated school within one calendar year of such participation will not be eligible in the new school until the student has been in attendance for one calendar year.

9.3.5.2.1 What Are Considered Non-School Athletic Activities Affiliated With a School? Non-school athletic activities affiliated with a school are any athletic activities not sponsored by the school but are organized, coached and/or supervised by a school employee, athletic department staff member, or representative of the school's athletic interests (as defined by FHSAA Policy 36.2.1.1), or in which the majority of participants are students who attend the school. Such activities include, but are not limited to:

- (a) club teams;
- (b) travel teams;
- (c) grade school teams;
- (d) recreational league teams;
- (e) personal instruction sessions; and
- (f) any other type of activity determined by the FHSAA to be an athletic activity.

9.3.5.3 Student Who Transfers Following Relocation of a Coach. A student who transfers to a school within one year of the relocation of any member of the coaching staff of the student's sport(s), on any level regardless of which level the student participated, will not be eligible to participate in the sport(s) coached by that coach until the student has been in attendance for one calendar year if said coach is in any way affiliated with the athletic program at the new school.