



ATTENTION STUDENT-ATHLETES

Office of the Executive Director
Florida High School Athletic Association
Gainesville, Florida

This summary of FHSAA athletic eligibility guidelines should be posted in places conspicuous to potential student-athletes. Students must understand that these guidelines are general statements only. Complete eligibility regulations are contained in Article 9 of the FHSAA Bylaws in the FHSAA Handbook, which is available for download at FHSAA.org. **SEE YOUR PRINCIPAL, ATHLETIC DIRECTOR OR COACH IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS OR NEED FURTHER EXPLANATION OF DETAILS AND EXCEPTIONS OR CONTACT eligibility@fhsaa.org.**

PROTECT YOUR 2016-17 ELIGIBILITY

To Represent Your High School in an Athletic Contest, You:

1. Must be regularly enrolled and in regular attendance at your school. There are exceptions. (FHSAA Bylaw 9.2)
2. Must maintain a cumulative 2.0 grade point average on a 4.0 unweighted scale. (FHSAA Bylaw 9.4)
3. Must not have graduated from any high school or its equivalent. (FHSAA Bylaw 9.4.7)
4. Are eligible to participate at the school in which you first enroll, or at which you first take part **in an official FHSAA athletic practice**, at the beginning of the school year. (FHSAA Bylaw 9.2)
5. May transfer to another high school and retain eligibility provided you meet the FHSAA transfer regulations. (FHSAA Bylaw 9.3)
6. Must not have **enrolled in the ninth grade for the first time** more than four years ago. (FHSAA Bylaw 9.5)
7. Must be less than 19 years 9 months old to participate in high school; 16 years 9 months old to participate in junior high school; and 15 years 9 months old to participate in middle school. Students entering 9th grade in 2014-15 and thereafter must not turn 19 before September 1st, otherwise the student becomes ineligible to participate. (FHSAA Bylaw 9.6)
8. Must complete a pre-participation physical evaluation form (EL2) and be certified as being physically fit for participation, have consent to participate by completing the consent and release from liability certificate (EL3) prior to participating in interscholastic athletics. All forms must be on file prior to participating with the school. (FHSAA Bylaw 9.7 and 9.8)
9. Must be an amateur. This means you must not accept money, gift or donation for participating in a sport. (FHSAA Bylaw 9.9)
10. Must display good sportsmanship and follow the rules of competition **before, during and after** every contest in which you participate. If not, you may be suspended from participation for a period of time. (FHSAA Bylaw 7)
11. Must refrain from hazing/bullying while a member of an athletic team or while participating in any athletic activities sponsored by or affiliated with a member school.
12. Must not provide false information to your school or the FHSAA to gain eligibility. (FHSAA Bylaw 9.1.2.2)
13. **Falsifying documentation, accepting an impermissible benefit or talking to a coach about playing at his/her school before you begin attending that school is a violation and could result in:** (FHSAA Policy 36)
 - a. you being ineligible for a year;
 - b. the coach may be fined and suspended;
 - c. the school may face penalties including fines and not making the playoffs.