

# **TRANSFER OF RESIDENCY AND ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY**

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_

(Please Print)

*Parent / Guardian,*

*The Missouri State High School Activities Association has established clear guidelines to determine the eligibility of transfer students. To help us accurately complete your transfer paperwork with MSHSAA, please read the following definitions:*

## **Transfer of Enrollment Requirements:**

Students who transfer schools or do not meet the requirements of residency upon enrollment at the school are ineligible for 365 days unless their cases meet one of the 10 standards under the exceptions.

## **Residence and Transfer Definitions:**

### **Parent**

The term parent shall mean the student's: 1) natural parent; 2) adoptive parent; 3) foster parent, designated by court order; or 4) legal guardian designated by court order.

### **Residence**

Residence shall be defined as the place where the student and his/her parents have established their permanent home. This means that the family regularly eats and sleeps in a specific place of lodging. It is a place where the student and his/her parents are habitually present and to which when departing, they intend to return. The permanent home of a student with parents who are divorced or separated shall be the dwelling place where a student has resided with one of his/her parents for a majority of the overnight periods during the 365 consecutive days immediately prior to enrollment.

### **Change of Residence**

A change of residence under this rule shall consist of the moving of all household properties to the new address and the parents and student actually living there; a second family residence shall not meet the requirements of this standard.

### **District**

All member schools, both public and non-public, shall establish defined geographical attendance districts for athletic eligibility purposes.

### **Restricted Eligibility**

A transfer student who is granted restricted eligibility may participate in designated sports only at the subvarsity level of competition until the student has been in continuous attendance at the new school for 365 days from the date of enrollment.

## **Residence Requirements:**

A junior high or high school student may be eligible at the public or non-public school located in the district in which the student's parents reside.

**Undue Influence:**

Members of the Missouri State High School Activities Association must refrain from recruitment, inducement or other forms of persuasion and undue influence which would encourage a student to enroll in a school primarily for interscholastic activities purposes. Both the sending and receiving school will be asked by MSHSAA if they believe that undue influence is involved.

**Penalty for Student(s) and/or School(s) Involved in Undue Influence:**

**School:** The attempt to unduly influence a student to enroll in a school or transfer from one school to another by any person or group connected, directly or indirectly with a member school, may require the school concerned to forfeit participation in the district and state tournament(s) for the ensuing series competition. Further, the offending school's membership status in the Association.

**Student:**

The enrollment of a student in a school, or the transfer of a student from one school to another, because of undue influence shall cause the student to forfeit eligibility at the school concerned for a period not to exceed the remainder of his/her high school career and not to exceed 365 days at the member school from which the student transferred or, for an incoming freshman, the school(s) the student was eligible to attend under the Promotion Standard.

**Transferring for Athletic Reasons:**

A student will not be eligible to compete at a new school for 365 days if the transfer is for athletic reasons (dislikes the coach at former school, hopes for more playing time at new school, chance to be on a better team, hoping for more "exposure", etc). Both the sending and receiving school will be asked by MSHSAA if they believe that athletic reasons are involved in the transfer.

I have read and understand the above definitions and requirements:

Parent / Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent / Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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## RESIDENCY STATEMENT

PLEASE NOTE:

- Under the Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHSAA) regulations a student must be a resident of the Farmington R7 School District (District) AND a bona fide student of the District to be athletically eligible.
- Students who transfer schools are automatically ineligible to compete for 365 days unless they meet one of the 10 MSHSAA exceptions.
- Representing the District in athletic competition while not a resident AND a bona fide student will:
  - Impact the student's athletic eligibility - including being declared ineligible by MSHSAA for up to 365 days. This ineligible status would follow the student to any subsequent schools.
  - Cause the team to forfeit games in which the student competed.

**I hereby certify as follows:**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, am the parent/guardian of  
(Parent/Guardian Name)

\_\_\_\_\_, a student seeking to enroll in the  
(Student Name)  
Farmington R7 School District (District) and compete in athletics, and am legally authorized to make educational decisions for the student.

The student is a legal resident of the District as established by the following:

- I am a legal resident of the Farmington R7 School District
- I reside and am legally domiciled (have my permanent home) at the following address:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Street

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip

- The student resides with me at the foregoing address, which is also the student's permanent home.
- I have provided the following document(s) to establish that I am a legal resident of the District:

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

The District reserves the right to require additional information to determine legal residency if deemed necessary.

**I hereby certify that all information I have provided in the Residency Statement is true, accurate, and complete to the best of my knowledge.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent/Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent/Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



*Transfer students are automatically athletically ineligible for 365 days unless they meet one of the 10 Exceptions below. Check the exception, and circle the details, that you believe apply to your student's transfer situation. Initial to the left of each checkmark and circle:*



**Exception 1 - Corresponding Full-Family Change of Residence:**

If there is a corresponding change of residence of parents/family, from the attendance district of the school where a student has been enrolled to the new district, the student may be eligible as soon as the transfer of eligibility is approved by the MSHSAA office. The purpose of this section shall be to avoid any loss of eligibility when parents transfer residence to a new district for other than athletic reasons.

Note: If a student from a broken home moves from the residence of one parent to that of the other parent and transfers schools, eligibility may not be considered under this exception.

1. This change of residence must be simultaneous with the transfer of enrollment except when for educational reasons and awaiting occupancy of a new residence, a request is made to the MSHSAA office to permit the student to enroll at a new school at the beginning of a new year or semester and to become eligible as of the date the actual move takes place, such request shall be granted.
2. If parents move to a new district, the student, to retain eligibility without establishing a 365 days period of attendance, must transfer his/her enrollment simultaneously with the transfer of residence of parents, or no later than the beginning of the next school year.
3. If a student has lived with an individual other than a parent for 365 or more consecutive days, and then a change of residence takes place that necessitates a transfer of eligibility, this exception may be used to request eligibility.
4. In the case of a student whose parents are divorced or separated, this exception may only be used if the student has resided with the re-locating parent for a majority of the overnight periods during the 365 consecutive days immediately prior to enrollment.



**Exception 2 - Transfer at Promotion:**

Provided the transfer does not involve undue influence and is not for athletic reasons, a student may be eligible immediately at the school of his/her choice upon first entering when:

1. The student is promoted from the 6th grade to the 7th grade.
2. The student is promoted from the 8th grade to the 9th grade, provided the student is eligible in all other respects.



**Exception 3 - Transfer from a Non-Member School:**

A student is eligible upon his/her first transfer from a non-member school to a MSHSAA member school where he/she meets the Residence Standards contained in By-Law 3.10.2 provided the transfer does not involve undue influence and is not for athletic reasons.



**Exception 4 - Transfer From an Unaccredited Public School:**

A student may be eligible upon his or her first transfer from an unaccredited public school to an accredited public school where the student's tuition is required by state law to be paid by the home district provided the transfer does not involve undue influence and is not for athletic reasons.



#### **Exception 5 - Special Transfers:**

1. Any transfer within any school system ordered by the board of education, etc.
2. In case of reorganization, consolidation, or annexation of school districts, a student may be considered eligible at the designated school of the enlarged district immediately.
3. If a school is discontinued or closed to any group of students for reasons other than number two above, its students may be eligible immediately in the school of their choice provided the standards of residence are met.
4. A student who has established residence with one parent only, for 365 days or more, following the divorce of his/her parents may transfer schools one time without loss of eligibility to move to the residence of the other parent unless both parent residences are within the defined geographical attendance district of the receiving school, and provided the transfer does not involve undue influence and is not for athletic reasons. A copy of the custody agreement shall be submitted for review of the school's transfer request. The following situations shall not be reviewed under this exception:
  - (a) Transfers of enrollment due to subsequent changes of residency between the divorced parents after the first exchange, unless no prior exchange has been made since the student was promoted into the seventh grade.
  - (b) Transfers of enrollment where joint physical custody has been legally provided to both parents and the student lives part time with each parent.
  - (c) Situations where the residency of the receiving parent was established in the receiving school district less than 365 days prior to the transfer of schools. The student may be eligible as soon as the transfer of eligibility is approved by the MSHSAA office.



#### **Exception 6 - Boarding Schools:**

A student who has been attending a boarding school, provided it is not a specialized athletic/academy boarding school, and living in its dormitory under this provision may be eligible upon the student's first transfer to a school at which he/she meets the residence standards contained under By-Law 3.10.2 provided the transfer does not involve undue influence and is not for athletic reasons. \*For purposes of this standard, a boarding school is defined as a school which provides a residential community setting for students in which a full range of boarding services are provided (dormitory counselors, 24 hours a day supervision, a social program, 3 meals a day, etc).



#### **Exception 7 - Transfer Back - Approved Foreign Exchange Program:**

A student who transfers for the first time from a foreign exchange program that is listed on the Advisory List of International Educational Travel and Exchange Programs published by the Council on Standards for International Educational Travel shall have unrestricted eligibility under the following conditions.

1. The transfer shall occur at the semester.
2. The student shall return to the previous high school attended prior to participation in the exchange program.
3. The student must meet the residence requirement in By-Law 3.10.2.
4. The student shall meet all essential eligibility requirements.
5. The transfer shall not be a result of undue influence or for athletic reasons.



### **Exception 8 - Hardship:**

The Board of Directors may grant eligibility to a transfer student who does not meet the Transfer Standards when sufficient evidence is provided to show that it was necessary for the student to transfer because of unforeseen, unavoidable, or unusual circumstances provided the transfer was not for athletic reasons and there was no undue influence.

1. Hardship requests for students in the 7th and 8th grades will be granted if the Principals of both the sending and receiving schools approve the request and indicate that they do not believe that the transfer was made for athletic reasons or due to undue influence.
2. A military officer who is deemed by the Department of Defense as “mission essential” and who is further required to live within the boundaries of the military base, may upon arrival enroll his/her child(ren) in a school district that is contiguous to the school of residency (as defined in By-Law 3.10.2) and such child(ren) shall be considered eligible under this exception. Once the child attends a school, he/she would then be eligible only at that school.
3. A student who is granted eligibility under this provision shall be eligible upon notification by the Executive Director.



### **Exception 9 - Waiver**

Even though a student transfers schools under circumstances which do not meet the terms of the Transfer of Enrollment Standards, he/she still may be granted eligibility to participate in interscholastic athletics as hereinafter restricted if the student qualifies under the following terms and conditions:

1. A student whose name has been included on a school eligibility roster at any level for a given sport during the 12 months preceding the transfer can be eligible only for sub-varsity competition in that sport(s) for 365 days. A student may have unrestricted eligibility in all other sports in which his/her name has not appeared on a school eligibility roster (at any level).
2. A student who has attended a school system that does not sponsor interscholastic athletics but who has participated in organized non-school competition during the 12 months preceding the transfer can be eligible only for sub-varsity competition in that sport(s) for 365 days. A student may have unrestricted eligibility in all other sports in which he/she did not participate.
3. Eligibility can be granted provided the athletic eligibility is approved by the principals of both the sending and receiving schools and the Board of Directors and further provided there is no athletic purpose involved in the transfer. The student shall be ineligible for all sports for 365 days from the date of transfer in the event that either or both principals or the Board of Directors decline to approve athletic eligibility.



### **Exception 10 - FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENT:**

1. A foreign exchange student is an international student who attends high school in the U.S. The foreign exchange program must assign students to host families by a method that ensures that no student, or his/her parents, school or other interested party may influence the assignment for athletic or other purposes. The foreign exchange student may not be selected or placed on any basis related to his/her athletic interests or abilities.
2. A foreign exchange student is considered to be placed with a host family when written notice of placement is provided by the exchange organization to the student and his/her parents, and to the host family.



Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_ Sports \_\_\_\_\_

List all schools the student has attended during the past 365 days:

_____	_____	_____
School	Enrollment Date	Withdrawal Date
_____	_____	_____
School	Enrollment Date	Withdrawal Date
_____	_____	_____
School	Enrollment Date	Withdrawal Date

What was the semester of enrollment as a Freshman at ANY high school:

Fall Semester  Spring Semester

What was the first school year of enrollment as a Freshman at ANY high school:

2021-22  
 2020-21  
 2019-20  
 2018-19  
 2017-18

Were you on ANY high school athletic team (Freshmen, JV, Varsity) prior to your Freshmen year of high school?

No  Yes

First Date of attendance at FMS/FHS \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Parent / Guardian \_\_\_\_\_

Parent / Guardian's Phone #'s \_\_\_\_\_

Address of Student Prior to Transfer:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Address where Child currently resides:

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Date the Child began living in the current residence: \_\_\_\_\_

Is the student transferring as a result of undue influence? Yes  No

Is the student transferring for athletic reasons? Yes  No

Why is the student transferring? \_\_\_\_\_

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What sports did you participate in the last 365 days for a school team?

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What sports did you participate in the last 365 days for a club team?

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**I understand and acknowledge that untrue or inaccurate information could cause my student to be ruled athletically ineligible for 365 days and cause my student's athletic team(s) to forfeit all contests my student participates in. I further understand and acknowledge that any ruling of ineligibility would follow my student to any MSHSAA school he/she transfers to during the period of ineligibility.**

**I hereby certify that all information I have provided is true, accurate, and complete to the best of my knowledge.**

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Signature of Parent/Guardian

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Date

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Signature of Parent/Guardian

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Date

