

## JJA-R

### STUDENT ATHLETICS AND DRAMA: ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY STANDARDS

*Students in the Winnisquam Regional School District grow and learn at different rates as they cycle through the learning process. Course competency statements and performance indicators drive instruction, inform assessment, and provide feedback based off student performance. Winnisquam Regional High School teachers recognize that students learn in different ways and may require multiple opportunities to demonstrate mastery. Therefore, students may be provided with additional learning opportunities in order to meet competencies. As such, the following steps will be used to determine eligibility.*

From Part III of **School Board Policy JJA-R**. High school students shall be eligible for participation in athletics and drama under the following guidelines:

These definitions pertain to the High School eligibility guidelines below:

- Good Academic Standing: A student has met the minimum of passing three classes at a grade check point. If taking fewer than three classes then the student is passing all classes.
  - Stage 1 and 2: The two phases of eligibility status come into effect when students do not meet the minimum of passing three classes or all classes, if taking fewer than three, at a grade check point.
  - Grade Check: The day when all student grades are reviewed to determine eligibility status.
  - Passing a Class: Student has a minimum grade of 2.0 in the class.
1. All students participating in athletics and drama are required to be in good academic standing. For any athletic or drama activity that begins prior to the first grade checkpoint, participation is determined by the previous end of year grades (year-long and semester classes) and course recovery over the summer. By the extracurricular activity's start date, the student must have earned three credits in the previous semester.
  2. Grades will be checked two times per quarter. The first check will be four weeks after the start of the quarter and the second check will be *one week before the quarter ends*. End of quarter grade/progress report will determine eligibility. If a student fails to meet the minimum requirement, the following will result:

Stage 1: First Time Not Meeting Eligibility Requirement: Students are able to participate in all practices. *The Athletic/Drama Eligibility Form must be completed and reviewed with the Athletic Director in order to participate in games/events.*

Stage 2: Second Time Not Meeting Eligibility Requirement: Students are unable to participate in practice, compete, or perform for athletics or drama until the student becomes eligible. *Students will regain eligibility as soon academic eligibility requirements are met.*

3. Whenever a student earns academic eligibility at a grade check, they return to good academic standing.
4. All students have grade checks. Students not participating in athletics or drama will follow the progression of stages.
5. Students at Stage 2 may be permitted to try out for an extracurricular activity.
6. Students must comply with the eligibility standards set forth by the New Hampshire Interscholastic Athletic Association (NHIAA).
7. Transfer students' academic eligibility for participation in athletics or drama will be determined initially by their incoming transcript. All transfer students will have their grades reviewed on the first grade check after admission to WRHS. Transferred grades will be factored into each class's numerical grade. If the student is not in good academic standing, the student will be at Stage 1.
8. A student with special education needs who is working toward a special diploma/certificate must make standard progress in those courses taken as determined by the student's Individualized Educational Program (IEP). A student with special education needs who is working toward a standard diploma must meet the same academic standards for participation in athletics or drama activities.
9. Any student/parent or guardian who believes that the district's policies/regulations or the State's law/regulations have not been appropriately or fairly interpreted may appeal as follows:
  - Submit a letter to the building principal stating the nature of the concern and requesting a hearing.
  - Within five (5) school days the principal will convene a meeting with him/herself, the student and/or parents/guardians, the coach/advisor, and a teacher(s), if ineligibility is due to failing grades.
  - The student and/or parent/guardian will be given the opportunity to explain why they believe the student should be eligible for participation. Additionally, the student and/or parent/guardian may present information, documents or other material in support of their argument. Minutes of the hearing will be maintained.
  - The principal will consider all information available and will make a final decision within three (3) school days following the hearing. The principal will notify and inform the student and parent/guardian of his/her decision in writing. The principal's decision shall be final.

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