

**CINCINNATI PUBLIC SCHOOLS
ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT
2651 BURNET AVENUE, CINCINNATI, OH 45219
PHONE: 363-9501 FAX: 363-9505**

TO PARENT(S)/GUARDIAN(S) OF INCOMING HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS:

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON SPORTS ELIGIBILITY

Each student in grades 9-12 who wishes to participate in a sport must be aware of the following requirements in order to be eligible to participate. These rules are requirements of the Ohio High School Athletic Association and cannot be waived. Each student in grades 9-12 who wishes to participate in a sport must have the proper forms on file prior to the beginning of conditioning or practice of any sport. These forms consist of:

1. Athletic Medical History/Consent & Physical Examination Form: Each student in grades 7-12 must have a OHSAA Physical Examination Form signed by a physician that provides proof of your individual physical fitness to participate. This physical is valid for **one year** from the date it is given.

2. Athletic Release of Liability, the Emergency Information Form, OHSAA Consent Forms, Concussion & Sudden Cardiac Arrest Information Form: These forms must be on file for each team member. Parent(s)/Guardian(s) will be asked for information on what to do in case of injury or if your child ever needs to be taken to a hospital. Students and parents must also acknowledge the risks associated with athletic participation. Parents and athletes have to read, sign and submit the Ohio Department of Health's Concussion & Sudden Cardiac Arrest Information Form prior to the start of each season.

*These forms are available from your coach, from the office at the high school or online at www.cps-k12.org under School Athletics. Make sure that you have this information completed prior to the start of practice.

Note: The school district has purchased insurance coverage for those who participate in our extracurricular programs. Medical expenses for accidental bodily injuries incurred during our supervised school extracurricular programs are considered. The insurance policy does not cover illnesses or conditions unrelated to an accidental injury. Our coverage is "in excess only" coverage which means that benefits are paid only after any insurance carried by your family has reached its maximum levels. If no medical insurance is currently available to your family, our policy will consider medical bills up to the limits of the policy.

Academic Eligibility Policy:

Per the OHSAA, any incoming 9th grade student-athlete that participates in school-sponsored athletics during the first quarter of the fall athletics season will be deemed academically eligible, regardless of what previous grading period grades were.

ALL OTHER STUDENT-ATHLETES PARTICIPATING IN 2023-24 ATHLETICS

Eligibility is established on a quarterly basis and is determined by grades received during the **preceding** quarterly grading period. **Semester, final grades, "fifth quarter" or rubric scores are NOT used to determine eligibility. Summer school grades may NOT be used to substitute for failing grades from the previous grading period or for lack of enough subjects taken during the previous grading period.**

Grades 10-12: Students in grades 10-12 must be currently enrolled and enrolled in school during the immediately preceding grading period. To be eligible by OHSAA standards, students must receive a passing grade in a minimum of five (5) one credit courses or the equivalent, which count toward graduation. Student-Athletes in Grades 9-12 must maintain a 2.0 Grade Point Average, or higher, on a 4.0 scale. **Any student eligible by O.H.S.A.A. standards with a cumulative G.P.A. of less than 2.0 during the immediately preceding grading period will remain eligible provided they actively participate in identified academic intervention programs as formally established by his or her school. In order to be eligible, each student must maintain a minimum grade point average (G.P.A.) of no less than 1.0.** These intervention measures may include weekly eligibility checks, tutoring sessions, study tables, etc. Failure to participate in these intervention programs will result in ineligibility until the conclusion of the quarterly grading period. (All courses are to be counted in the cumulative average and quarterly eligibility is independent of the eligibility status of previous quarters).

Grade 9: Students entering the ninth grade for the first time may participate in extracurricular activities for the first quarter of the school year provided they were enrolled in school during the immediately preceding grading period and received passing grades during that grading period in a minimum of five of those subjects in which the student received grades.

After the first quarter, continued eligibility will be determined by the criteria outlined above pertaining to all other high school students. Eligibility or ineligibility is based solely on quarterly grades from the immediately preceding grading period. Semester, final, rubric, "fifth quarter" or summer school grades have no effect on establishing eligibility.

Age Limitations: Once a student reaches the age of 20, the student will no longer be eligible for interscholastic competition regardless of where that 20th birthday falls in relation to the sports season. Note: **When you enroll in Grade 9 for the first time, you have eight (8) semesters of eligibility from that point whether you participate or not.**

Residence: Provided the parent(s)/legal guardian(s) reside within the boundaries of the Cincinnati Public School District, a student is eligible at a C.P.S. school which has allowed them to enroll assuming all other eligibility standards are met. Where there has been a change of legal custody, a student must live in the same school district with their legal guardian.

Transfer Policy: If a student transfers after the fifth day of the student's ninth grade year or participates in a contest prior to the start of school from a non-public to a public school, from a public school to a public school within the Cincinnati Public School District or from a non-public school to a non-public school, the student will be *ineligible for 50% of the maximum allowable regular season contests in which the student participated during the twelve months immediately preceding the transfer.* There are exceptions to this rule, so check with your school's Athletic Director or on [OHSAA's website](#) for more information about this important OHSAA transfer rule.

All students participating in athletics must read, sign and turn in this waiver to be involved in any school-sponsored gathering or work out. No exceptions.

Please call the High School you will attend for a complete list of all the activities and information on when practice and/or conditioning sessions will begin for fall sports. Many of the high schools have websites that may be another good source of additional information. We strongly encourage you and your children to participate in the athletic and non-athletic extracurricular programs offered at our High Schools.

[Please click here for the complete list of High School Athletic Coordinator Contact Information](#)