
I. Policy: 909.01

II. Procedure:

A. Definitions

1. Academic eligibility period means the period of time during which a student may participate in interscholastic athletics and extracurricular activities. Academic eligibility periods are determined by the date of issuance of report cards reflecting grades earned during:
 - a. the first marking period;
 - b. the second marking period;
 - c. the third marking period; and
 - d. the fourth marking period.
2. Academic probation means the consequence that occurs when a student fails to maintain academic eligibility standards.
3. Academic probation period means the period of time during which a student may participate in interscholastic athletic practices or extracurricular clubs, meetings or rehearsals, but will not participate in interscholastic athletic contests or extracurricular contests or performances.
4. Academic ineligibility means the consequence that occurs when a student fails to meet academic eligibility standards at the end of an academic probation period or academic eligibility period.
5. Academic ineligibility period means the period of time during which a student is ineligible to participate in interscholastic athletic practices, interscholastic athletic contests, or extracurricular activities, contests or performances.

6. Interscholastic athletics means school approved, individual or team interscholastic athletic contests between two or more schools.
 7. Extracurricular activities means school approved non-interscholastic athletic activities for which a student does not receive a letter grade and which normally occur outside of the regular instructional day. This includes state, county and school elected and/or appointed officers of the student government.
 8. Partial schedule means school approved student academic schedules with fewer than six (6) scheduled periods per instructional day.
- B. *Determining Academic Eligibility for Interscholastic Athletics and Extracurricular Activities*
1. *The principal of a school is responsible for the certification of academically eligible students for participation in interscholastic athletics and extracurricular activities.*
 2. *At the end of each academic eligibility period the head coach or sponsor of each activity will notify the principal or the principal's designee of those students who have failed to meet academic eligibility requirements and who are on academic probation or who are academically ineligible. Following notification to the principal, the head coach or sponsor of each activity will notify promptly the affected students.*
 3. *The first day for student academic probation or academic ineligibility is the day that report cards are issued in a school.*
 4. *A senior high school student on academic probation may resume participation in interscholastic athletics and extracurricular activities at the conclusion of the 15th senior high school day if the sponsor of the activity notifies the principal that the student has corrected an academic deficiency and is now academically eligible. Students who are placed on academic probation may participate in interscholastic athletic practices or extracurricular clubs, meetings, or rehearsals provided the student attends academic assistance sessions approved by the principal and forwarded to the Assistant Superintendent for Instruction or designee for review.*

5. *Fall eligibility will be computed by using an equivalent number of grades appropriate to the number of classes scheduled in the school from the fourth marking period plus summer school.*
6. *Students who wish to participate in interscholastic athletics and their parents or legal guardians will be required to sign the county's Authorization for Participation in Interscholastic Athletics form attesting to the students' proper school attendance area.*

C. *Determining Academic Eligibility for Students with Disabilities*

If a student with disabilities receiving special education fails to meet academic eligibility standards to participate in interscholastic athletics or extracurricular activities, the student or his/her parent/guardian may contact the principal of the school to request the convening of an emergency admission, review and dismissal (ARD/IEP) committee meeting in order to determine whether or not the student's IEP has been implemented. Once a request for an IEP Review has been received by the school, the student will continue to participate fully in the extracurricular program pending the findings of the ARD Committee.

The ARD Chairperson will provide the parent with an explanation of procedural safeguards including all special education due process rights available under the Federal and State Law.

The ARD/IEP Committee will make a determination as to whether or not the student's IEP has been implemented. If the ARD/IEP Committee determines that the student's IEP has been met and the student has still failed to meet academic eligibility standards, the student will be ineligible and the requirements of the policy will be followed. The student will complete a fifteen day probationary period commencing the next school day subsequent to the findings of the ARD Committee.

If the ARD/IEP Committee determines that the IEP has not been implemented, the student will continue to be fully eligible for participation in interscholastic sports or extracurricular activities. The ARD/IEP Committee will order the immediate full implementation of the IEP.

Further, the parent/guardian will be informed to the established complaint procedure available for review of any class or grades that continue to be in dispute. The principal will be responsible for expediting this procedure.

- D. *The first day for student academic probation or academic ineligibility is the day the report cards are issued in a school.*
- E. *Failure to comply with these regulations or with any athletic rules promulgated for the public schools or the Maryland Public Secondary Schools Athletic Association may result in disciplinary action against the school, student and/or coach.*
- F. *Determination of academic eligibility as defined by this regulation may be modified by the aggravating or mitigating circumstances of a particular case as determined by the school principal.*
- G. *A student who withdraws and then re-enters at the same high school or any other county high school must satisfy academic eligibility requirements. Academic eligibility will be determined by the most recent, complete marking period or semester grade report.*