

Policy

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Code JH Issued 3/16/22

The Board regards student activities at the elementary and secondary school level as a vital part of the total educational program as long as the schools safeguard the development and well-being of the students. Schools should use these activities as a means of developing wholesome attitudes and good human relations as well as knowledge and skills.

The Board sanctions student activities that traditionally have been a part of the overall school program, provided school personnel properly supervise and operate the activities in accordance with school policies and regulations.

The Board considers student activities to be learning experiences. The administration must develop, manage, and evaluate these activities with this purpose in mind. The Board considers student activities part of the total school curriculum. The administration should be included in regular curriculum planning, review and evaluation processes regarding these activities.

The principal will be responsible for the organization of all student activities. He/She will provide adequate supervision, administer student finances, and approve all student activities with the assistance of delegated members of the faculty.

Interscholastic Activities

Interscholastic activities include school-sponsored activities for which preparation occurs outside of the regular school day. Individuals or members of groups involved in activities which include out-of-school practice on more than one occasion weekly must meet eligibility requirements.

The Board is responsible for the monitoring of all interscholastic activities other than those under the jurisdiction of the South Carolina High School League. Rules of the South Carolina High School League govern interscholastic athletics.

Schools will determine academic eligibility at the beginning of each semester. Eligibility will be based on the previous semester's record of courses taken and grades achieved.

Charter School Student Participation in Extracurricular Activities

Charter school student participation in extracurricular activities will be consistent with State law. A charter school student is eligible to compete for, and if chosen, participate in any extracurricular activities not offered by the student's charter school which are offered at the resident public school he/she would otherwise attend, as well as any activities governed by the South Carolina High School League not offered at the charter school. Eligibility requirements and fees for these activities will be the same as those applied to full time students of the resident

school and the district may not impose any additional requirements for participation on charter school students that are not imposed on full time students.

Home School Student Participation in Interscholastic Activities

Home school student participation in interscholastic activities will be consistent with State law. A student residing in the district and eligible to attend schools of the district who has been taught in accordance with state law governing home schooling requirements for a full academic year prior to participating in an interscholastic activity may be eligible to participate in the interscholastic activities of the school where he/she is zoned to attend.

For purposes of this section, interscholastic activities are those extracurricular activities of the district involving participation or competition among or between schools, including drama productions, cheerleading, athletics, and other such extracurricular activities.

Middle School Participation in Interscholastic Athletics

Students in the seventh grade, eighth grade, and the first semester of the ninth grade are eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics if they meet the following academic standards:

- To participate during the first semester, a student must be academically promoted from the previous grade level.
- To participate during the second semester, a student must meet the requirements in the promotion policy requirements at the end of the first semester (second semester ninth grade students must meet the League academic regulations).

Second semester eligibility begins when the first semester ends and the student is added to the certificate of eligibility form signed by the principal.

Eligibility

The district will not allow an ineligible student to participate in any interscholastic and/or extracurricular activities.

Students diagnosed as disabled under the criteria established by the state Board of education and satisfying the requirements of their Individualized Education Program (IEP) as required may be eligible to participate in interscholastic and/or extracurricular activities.

Any challenge to a charter school or home school student's approval, denial, or revocation of the privilege to participate in an interscholastic or extracurricular activity will be subject to the review and appeal procedures, if any, pertaining to the activity involved.

Adopted 4/9/91; Revised 3/15/22

Legal References:

- A. Federal Law:
 1. Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEIA), 20 U.S.C.A. Section

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1400, et seq.

B. S.C. Code, 1976, as amended:

1. Section 59-38-10 - South Carolina Education Bill of Rights for Children in Foster Care.
2. Section 59-39-160 - Requirements for student participation in interscholastic activities.
3. Section 59-63-100, et seq. - Equal Access to Interscholastic Activities Act.
4. Section 59-63-425 - Student may transfer.

C. State Board of Education Regulations:

1. R43-244.1 - Interscholastic activities: academic requirements for participation.