

WILLIAMSBURG JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITY GOOD CONDUCT RULES

The Board of Directors of the WCSD offers a variety of voluntary activities designed to enhance the classroom education of its students. Students who participate in extracurricular activities serve as ambassadors of the school throughout the calendar year, whether away from or at school. Students who wish to exercise the privilege of participating in extracurricular activities must conduct themselves in accordance with board policy and must refrain from activities that are illegal, immoral, unhealthy, or highly inappropriate. Participation in these activities is a privilege, conditional upon meeting the eligibility criteria established by the board, administration, and individual activity coaches and sponsors. The principal and athletic director shall keep records of violations of the Good Conduct Rule.

The board's policy and these rules cover the following activities:

Athletics, instrumental and vocal music performances, drama productions, speech contests, FCCLA, FFA, National Honor Society, all other co-curricular clubs (Spanish Club, German Club), all honorary and elected offices (Homecoming King/Queen/court, Prom court, class officer, student government officer or representative), state contests and performances for cheerleading and drill team, mock trial, or any other activity where the student represents the school outside the classroom.

To retain eligibility for participation in Williamsburg High School extracurricular activities, students must conduct themselves as good citizens both in and out of school at all times. Students who represent the school in an activity are expected to serve as good role models to other students and to members of the community.

Any student who, after a hearing at which the student shall be confronted with the allegations, the basis of the allegation, and given an opportunity to tell the student's side, if found to have violated the school's Good Conduct Rule, will be deemed ineligible for a period of time as described below. A student may lose eligibility under the Good Conduct Rule for any of the following behaviors:

- possession, use, or purchase of tobacco products, regardless of the student's age.
- possession, use, or purchase of alcoholic beverages, including beer and wine (having the odor of alcohol on one's breath is evidence of "use"; "possession" has been defined by the Iowa Supreme Court as being within reach of or in "close proximity to" the contraband {e.g. , alcohol or other drugs}).
- being in attendance at a function or party where the student knows or has reason to know that alcohol or other drugs are being consumed illegally by minors and failing to leave despite having a reasonable opportunity to do so.
- possession, use, purchase, or attempted sale/purchase of illegal drugs, or the unauthorized possession, use, purchase, or attempted sale/purchase of otherwise lawful drugs.
- engaging in any act that would be grounds for arrest or citation in the criminal or juvenile court system (excluding minor offenses such as traffic or hunting/fishing violations), regardless of whether the student was cited, arrested, convicted, or adjudicated for the act(s).
- exceedingly inappropriate or offensive conduct such as assaulting staff or students, gross insubordination (talking back or refusing to cooperate with authorities), serious hazing or harassment of others. NOTE: This could include group conduct!

If a student transfers in from another Iowa school or school district and the student had not yet completed a period of ineligibility for a violation of a Good Conduct Rule in the previous school, the student shall be ineligible.

1. Drugs - first offense of the illegal use, possession, or selling of controlled substance will result in dismissal from activities for one calendar year.
2. Other Offenses –
First Offense: Student is declared ineligible for 20% of athletic competition or regular season and/or one calendar day event for all other extra-curricular performance dates or service as an officer.
Second Offense: Student is declared ineligible for 60% of the competition or regular season and/or performance. One year ineligibility from serving as an officer
Third Offense: Student is declared ineligible for one calendar year and each succeeding Offense will result in an additional calendar year of ineligibility.
3. Scope of Rules – The Activity Good Conduct Rules are enforced all twelve months of the year.

4. Reduction in Penalty - If a student admits a violation of the Good Student Activity Rules to a coach, administrator, or activity sponsor prior to discovery by the principal the penalty will be reduced by fifty percent. This provision applies to the first offense only, and may not be applicable to rule regarding drugs or controlled substances.
5. Process - Each activity coach/sponsor will file with the activity director the number of events scheduled for their group for the duration of the year. Percentages for ineligibility will be calculated from the schedule events.

The period of ineligibility is immediately in effect upon a finding of a violation if the student is currently engaged in an extracurricular activity and, if not completed during the current activity, is begun or carried over to the time the student seeks to go out for the next activity or contest.

Ineligible students will practice and attend activity contests/performances with the group, but will not be able to participate in any way. No uniform or school paraphernalia of any kind will be worn by ineligible students.

If there is not a sufficient number of contests or performances in the scheduled season to fulfill the terms of the period of ineligibility for violation of good conduct, the ineligibility period will be carried over into the post-season (including any and all tournaments) and to the next season in which the student participates. If a student remains free of violation for one calendar year for the time of the last violation, he or she will return to the first violation state for any subsequent violation.

Students will not be allowed to join a sport in midseason to serve his/her period of ineligibility. If a student violates the Good Student Rules during his/her ineligibility period, the time for the infraction will be attached to the current ineligibility period being served by the student.

If a student drops out of an activity prior to the completion of his/her ineligibility period, the remaining time of the ineligibility period will be transferred to the next activity or sport the student joins.

6. Academic Eligibility (Athletic)

To be eligible for an activity, students participating in athletics must:

- a. Be enrolled and in good standing in a school that is a member or associate member in good standing of the organization sponsoring the event.
- b. All contestants must be under 20 years of age.
- c. All contestants shall be enrolled students of the school in good standing. They shall receive credit in at least four subjects, each of one period or "hour" or the equivalent thereof, at all time. To qualify under this rule, a "subject" must meet the requirements of 281-Chapter 12. Coursework taken from a postsecondary institution and for which a school district or accredited nonpublic school grants academic credit toward high school graduation shall be used in determining eligibility. No student shall be denied eligibility if the student's school program deviates from the traditional two-semester school year.

(1) Each contestant shall be passing all coursework for which credit is given and shall be making adequate progress toward graduation requirements at the end of each grading period. Grading period, graduation requirements, and any interim periods of ineligibility are determined by local policy. For purposes of this subrule, "grading period" shall mean the period of time at the end of which a student in grades 9 through 12 receives a final grade and course credit is awarded for passing grades.

(2) If at the end of any grading period a contestant is given a failing grade in any course for which credit is awarded, the contestant is ineligible to dress for and compete in the next occurring interscholastic athletic contests and competitions in which the contestant is a contestant for 30 consecutive calendar days.

- d. A student with a disability who has an individualized education program shall not be denied eligibility on the basis of scholarship if the student is making adequate progress, as determined by school officials, towards the goals and objectives on the student's individualized education program.
- e. A student who meets all other qualifications may be eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics for a maximum of eight consecutive semesters upon entering the ninth grade for the first time. However, a student who engages in athletics during the summer following eighth grade is also eligible to compete during the summer following twelfth grade. Extenuating circumstances such as health, may be the basis for an appeal to the executive board which may extend the eligibility of a student when the executive board finds that the interest of the student and interscholastic athletics will be benefited.
- f. All member schools shall provide appropriate interventions and necessary academic support for students who fail, and shall report to the department regarding those interventions on the comprehensive school improvement plan.
- g. A student is academically eligible upon entering the ninth grade.

- h. A student is not eligible to participate in an interscholastic sport if the student has, in that same sport, participated in a contest with or against, or trained with, a National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA), National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA), or other collegiate governing organization's sanctioned team. A student may not participate with or against high school graduates if the graduates represent a collegiate institution or if the event is sanctioned or sponsored by a collegiate institution. Nothing in this subrule shall preclude a student from participating in a one-time tryout with or against members of a college team with permission from the member school's administration and the respective collegiate institution's athletic administration. [This is NOT a substantive change; it clarifies the "college squad" rule].
 - i. No student shall be eligible to participate in any given interscholastic athletic sport if the student has engaged in that sport professionally.
 - j. The local superintendent of schools, with the approval of the local board of education, may give permission to a dropout student to participate in athletics upon return to school if the student is otherwise eligible under these rules.
 - k. Remediation of a failing grade by way of summer school or other means shall not affect the student's ineligibility. All failing grades shall be reported to any school to which the student transfers
 - l. Withdrawal ("W") will be considered a failure for ineligibility purposes unless otherwise specified by the building principal.
 - m. An incomplete grade ("I") will be considered a failed class or up to twenty days of eligibility starting with the first competitive date or until the incomplete is converted to a passing grade.
 - n. A final grade in block scheduling is any term grade.
7. Transportation – Unless prior arrangements have been made with parents, a student will not participate in a contest unless s/he rides to the event in a school vehicle. Under no circumstances may the athlete drive him/herself to a contest. The athlete may ride home only on the team bus or with his/her parents or guardians unless prior arrangements have been made with the principal.
8. Attendance at Practice – attendance at practice is mandatory and players who will be missing practice must make prior arrangements with the coach/sponsor. Unexcused absence from one practice will cause suspension from the next contest. This procedure will continue until three unexcused absences have accumulated in an activity. At this time the participant will be dropped from the team.

9. **Academic Eligibility (Speech and Music):**

All participants must be enrolled in good standing in a school that is a member or associate member in good standing with the Iowa High School Music Association. All participants must be under 20 years of age. All participants shall be enrolled students of the school and in good standing; they shall be enrolled in at least four full-credit subjects, each of one period or "hour" or the equivalent thereof, at all times. Coursework taken under the provisions of Iowa Code chapter 261C, postsecondary enrollment options, for which a school district or accredited nonpublic school grants academic credit toward high school graduation shall be used in determining eligibility.

Each contestant shall be passing all coursework for which credit is given and shall be making adequate progress toward graduation requirements at the end of each grading period. "Grading Period," graduation requirements, and any interim periods of ineligibility are determined by local policy. For the purposes of this rule, "grading period" shall mean the period of time at the end of which a student in grades 9 through 12 receives a final passing grade and course credit is awarded.

If at the end of any grading period a participant receives a failing grade in any course for which credit is awarded, the participant is ineligible to participate in any competitive event sanctioned by the IHSMA or any IHSMA sponsored event that is non-graded (event doesn't effect course GPA) within a period of 30 consecutive school days. The period of ineligibility will begin with the first school day following the day grades are issued by the school district.

A student with a disability who has an individualized education program (IEP) shall not be denied eligibility on the basis of scholarship if the student is making adequate progress, as determined by school officials, toward the goals and objectives on the student's individualized education program.

Sub rules h, i, j, k, l of the athletic scholarship statute also applies to the scholarship rules for music. All other guidance on the application of the rules shall be provided by the high school principal.

STUDENT CONDUCT AT EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Students are expected to act appropriately when in attendance at extra-curricular activities. Courtesy and respect shall be shown to the visiting guests, the opposing players and their coach, and the officials. Failure to follow these guidelines may result in the offending students being expelled from the contest and loss of the privilege of attending further contests for up to one year.

APPEAL PROCEDURES

Whenever a student is declared ineligible for any violation of the Student Conduct Rules, the following shall apply:

1. A student may contest the declaration of ineligibility or penalty by the principal. The student must submit in writing to the Appeals Board within three (3) days of the declaration a request to appeal the ineligibility or penalty. The Appeals Board shall consist of three members of the student council, three teachers and the principal.
2. A meeting may be held within reasonable time between the Activities Director, activity sponsor/coach, student and/or parents, and / or the building principal. The student will be given an opportunity to rebut the charges and any evidence.
3. The decision of the Activities Director and/or the principal may be reviewed by the superintendent.

DEFINITION OF CALENDAR COMPETITION / PERFORMANCE DAY

One calendar event day is defined as a day in which a contest is going on for that particular activity in which the participant would be participating.

DEFINITION OF 1/2 DAY

Students in extracurricular activities must be in school a minimum of 1/2 day on the day of an activity or practice in order to participate, unless prior approval for an absence has been made with the school.

A half (1/2) day is defined as the following:

Students must be at school from 8:15 – 12:00 or from 12:00 – 3:35.

Early release days students must be at school by 10:30 a.m.

STANDARD OF PROOF

Admission by the student of the offense, conviction in a court of law, or evidence presented by a reliable source including a coach, administrator, faculty member, police officer, or other responsible person of a nature which the coach and/or committee may reasonably conclude by a preponderance of the evidence presented that the student committed the offense shall be sufficient to warrant disciplining the student.

ACADEMIC CONSEQUENCE

There will be no academic consequences for the violation (e.g., detention, suspension, expulsion from school, or grade reduction/withholding) unless the violation of the Good Conduct Rule occurred (a) on school grounds, or (b) at a school event regardless of location, or (c) the violation has a direct and immediate negative impact on the efficient operation of the school despite occurring off school grounds/time.

VOLUNTARY TERMINATION

An athlete may not quit to switch sports mid-season unless both coaches give consent and have consulted with the Activities Director.