

LADUE SCHOOL DISTRICT

STUDENT ELIGIBILITY STANDARDS

Student eligibility standards are based on the rules established by the Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHSAA), as well as additional standards established by the Ladue School District and Ladue Horton Watkins High School. Students wishing to participate in interscholastic athletics or other extracurricular activities, either during or outside of school hours, must meet the following criteria.

Ladue School District Eligibility Policy for Students in Grades 9-12

The eligibility rules of Ladue Horton Watkins High School have the following purposes:

1. To inform students of the eligibility rules required by the Missouri State High School Activities Association.
2. To establish for students the criteria for eligibility under MSHSAA and Ladue Horton Watkins High School requirements.
3. To provide a positive procedure through which students can maintain their eligibility.

Definitions

All activities associated with athletics, music, drama or speech will be subject to the eligibility standards as established by this high school and MSHSAA. In addition, any extra activity that is judged by the eligibility committee as competing with other schools shall meet the same eligibility standards. The following activities listed will be subject to all rules and regulations as mentioned:

1. All approved interscholastic athletic teams
2. Sideline Cheerleaders
3. Laduettes (Poms)
4. Speech/Debate/Journalism
5. Academic Team
6. All Theatre productions
7. Stage Band/Symphonic Band*
8. Orchestra*
9. All Choral groups*

*Must meet eligibility standards only when competing in MSHSAA events.

Eligibility Requirements

I. Ladue Regulations

A student may participate in interscholastic activities only if his or her grade report the preceding semester includes:

1. At least 3.0 earned units of credit.
2. No "U" (unsatisfactory) citizenship grades. Probationary status may be allowed for student cases of ineligibility resulting from one "U" citizenship grade. A student who requests probationary status in writing to the principal may be granted this status to participate in extracurricular and interscholastic activities. However, probationary participation is not automatic. Permission to participate

for a given length of time must be given by the principal following consultation with the student's teachers, counselor and assistant principal. Parents will be duly notified and consulted. Evidence of continued unsatisfactory conduct during the probationary participation period may result in summary suspension from any or all activities for the balance of the semester.

3. Any student with four (4), five (5), or six (6) "I" citizenship grades in a semester is ineligible but may request probationary status in writing to the principal. The principal may grant this probation to the student only after a conference has been held with the principal. If granted, probation lasts for one semester. Unexcused absence or major disciplinary action will result in being ineligible.
4. A student entering ninth grade who received two or more F grades or two or more U citizenship grades in the spring semester of eighth grade must request probation from the principal to be eligible for the fall semester of the ninth grade. If granted, this probation would require students to attend class regularly, on time, and exhibit good citizenship. Unexcused absence or major disciplinary action will result in being ineligible.

II. Previous Semester Units of Credit and Summer School Make-Up

1. Academic Standards—Grades 9 through 12

A student must earn at least 3.0 units of credit on the final semester report card in order to be eligible to participate the following semester. A student who earns less than 3.0 units of credit in the second semester of the school year may become eligible for the first semester of the next school year by earning sufficient credit in summer school to bring the total units of credit for second semester and summer school to 3.0. The course(s) taken in summer school must be required for graduation.

2. Citizenship Standards—Grades 9 through 12.

- a. If a student has received in the second semester an unsatisfactory citizenship and has not been granted a probationary status, the student has the following option: The student may attend a course(s) for up to one credit in the summer session and upon attainment of satisfactory grades in both the academic and citizenship areas, eligibility will be restored for the first semester of the next year. The course taken must be one of the same courses in which the citizenship difficulty was present, or an administratively approved course of equivalent credit.
- b. A student shall not be considered eligible while under suspension.
- c. A student who is expelled or who withdraws from school because of disciplinary measures shall not be considered eligible for 365 from the date of expulsion or withdrawal.
- d. If a student misses one or more classes without being excused by the principal, the student shall not be considered eligible on that date. Further, the student cannot be certified eligible to participate on any subsequent date until the student attends a full day of classes (or has an excused absence(s) from class) without an unexcused absence. (See MSHSAA by-law 212.0)

III. Transfer Students

Students transferring into Ladue schools must meet eligibility criteria for

interscholastic competition established by MSHSAA.

IV. MSHSAA Regulations

All students, teachers, administrators and parents within this school district are expected to comply with all rules and regulations of MSHSAA unless otherwise specified in this policy.

State of Missouri Standards of Eligibility

1. A student must be a creditable school citizen. Creditable school citizens are those students whose conduct (both in school and out of school) will not reflect discredit upon themselves or their school.
2. A student must be currently enrolled in and regularly attending courses that offer a minimum of 2.50 units of credit (Ladue standard: 3.0 units of credit). A student must have earned 2.50 units of credit (Ladue standard: 3.0 units of credit) the preceding semester. Credits earned or completed after the close of the semester or in summer school will not fulfill this requirement. Summer school courses for academic eligibility may count provided the course is necessary for graduation and it is placed on the school transcript. A beginning 9th grade student must have been promoted at the close of the previous school year.
3. A student is eligible to participate in any sport for a maximum of 4 seasons. Any part of a contest played during a season counts as a season of participation. A student's eligibility to participate in high school activities begins when the student first enters the 9th grade and lasts for the next succeeding 4 consecutive years (eight consecutive semesters).
4. A student must not accept an award for competing in any high school sport except the award given by the school. A student may accept awards (symbolic in nature, such as medals, ribbons, trophies, plaques, etc.) for participating in a school athletic program. However, if a symbolic award is presented by a person or group other than your school, the school principal must approve the presentation in advance and the retail value of the award cannot exceed \$25. A student may accept awards for participating in non-school sponsored athletic competition only if the awards are symbolic in nature, such as medals, ribbons, trophies, plaques, etc.
5. A student who reaches 19 years of age prior to July 1 will be ineligible for the next school year.
6. Playing under an assumed or false name will make a student ineligible.
7. A student who transfers schools and whose parents do not have a complete move out of the current district and into the district of the new school will be ineligible for 365 days, unless the student meets one of the exceptions listed in the MSHSAA Residence and Transfer Rules.
8. A student is ineligible to participate after graduation from senior high school. Students who are granted an early release after their junior year are ineligible for further participation. Note: A student is eligible to participate in state events, which extend beyond the date of the school's graduation at the end of the spring semester of your senior year.

9. A student may not practice for or participate with a non-school team or in any organized non-school athletic competition and the school team in the same sport during the same season. A student may participate on a school team and a non-school team in different sports during the same season; however, the student may not practice for the non-school team or participate in organized non-school athletic competition on the same day as practice with or participate for the school team without prior approval of your school administrator. A student must receive approval in advance from the school principal in order to miss school time to practice for, travel to, or compete in an organized non-school athletic competition. A student will become ineligible in any sport in which he or she plays as a member of a junior college, college, or university team. A student may participate in international competition during the school year; however, the competition must meet the established criteria published in the MSHSAA Official Handbook and must be approved by the MSHSAA Board of Directors. Before a student joins a non-school team or enters any non-school competitive athletic event, the school principal or athletic director should be consulted to make certain these standards are met.
10. A student may participate in an “audition” or “tryouts” for a college team only after her or she has completed the last season of eligibility in the sport for which the student wishes to “audition” or “tryout.”
11. A student may not compete in an all-star game or contest before he or she completes eligibility in all high school sports. Participation in an all-star game or contest will result in the student becoming ineligible to participate in any high school sport.
12. The student will be ineligible for 365 days if he or she is influenced by a person or persons to attend upon promotion or transfer schools for athletic or activities purposes.
13. A student may attend a specialized summer athletic camp(s)/clinic(s) where he or she receives instruction or coaching from a member of the school’s coaching staff for a maximum of two calendar weeks in any one sport. A calendar week for sport camps is defined as any 7 consecutive days and any consecutive grouping of days shall be counted as one calendar week. A student may attend a non-school sponsored summer specialized sports camp(s) for as long as he or she wishes where the student does not receive instruction or coaching from a member of the school’s coaching staff. A student may attend a non-school sponsored specialized sport camp(s) during the school year provided it does not result in any loss of school time; attendance does not occur within 14 days of the start of the school sport season for the sport concerned; it is not a team camp; and no member of the coaching staff of the school you attend or will attend the following year is involved in any way. Before attending any specialized athletic camps or clinics, the student should consult with the school principal or athletic director to make sure it meets the criteria published in the MSHSAA Official Handbook.
14. A student who commits an unsportsmanlike act while participating in a high school event could become ineligible. A student whose conduct as a spectator is found to be unsportsmanlike could be barred from attending any high school athletic contests. The unsportsmanlike conduct of any spectator, regardless of age, could cause that spectator to be barred from attending school athletic contests.

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Cross Refs: Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHAA)
IGDJ, Interscholastic Athletics

Ladue School District, St. Louis, Missouri