

BLOCK SCHEDULING

Block scheduling or double blocking does not change the calculation of credit equivalence as required by NHIAA by-laws. Therefore, if a student takes four courses during the first grading period, ninety minutes per day, and receives one credit for passing that course, that class carries an equivalency of two (2) units.

EXAMPLES OF BLOCK SCHEDULING

SUBJECT	CREDIT	GRADE
English 10	1 – First semester only	C
Spanish 2	1 – First semester only	C
Health	¼ - First nine weeks only	B
World History	1 – First semester only	F

ELIGIBLE FOR SECOND GRADING PERIOD

SUBJECT	CREDIT	GRADE
English II	1 – Second sem. only	C
Algebra II	1 – Second sem. only	F
Physical Ed. (3/wk)	¼ - Second sem. only	B
Spanish II	1 – Second sem. only	F

INELIGIBLE FOR SECOND GRADING PERIOD. (THE STUDENT DID NOT PASS THE EQUIVALENT OF FOUR UNITS OF WORK THAT MEETS FIVE TIMES PER WEEK.)

POINTS OF EMPHASIS

1. Be knowledgeable of all NHIAA eligibility requirements. The complete text of the Association's by-laws is published in the NHIAA Handbook, of which your school administration has copies.
2. Do not permit a student athlete to drop a course without first determining whether it will affect athletic eligibility.
3. Attempt to identify students who are or may become athletes when reviewing class schedules.
4. Insure that student athletes are taking enough courses to meet the Scholastic Standing requirements in order to be eligible for the next grading period.

5. Work closely with the high school coaching staff and contact your principal or athletic director on questions pertaining to student eligibility.
6. Students transferring to a school without a corresponding physical relocation of the entire family should serve as a "red flag" as to potential eligibility problems. Be sure the student, parents and school administration are made aware of such situations. The consequences for utilizing an ineligible player can be extremely serious.
7. A copy of these guidelines should be shared with your school guidance staff and registrar. **If you have a question, ask your principal and/or athletic director for an answer, or have them seek clarification.**

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
CONTACT:

**New Hampshire Interscholastic
Athletic Association
251 Clinton Street
Concord, NH 03301-8432
Phone: 603-228-8671
Fax: 603-225-7978
E-Mail: info@nhiaa.org
Office Hours:
Monday – Friday
8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.**



NEW HAMPSHIRE INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

GUIDELINES FOR STUDENT SCHOLASTIC STANDING ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY & GENERAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Prepared by the New Hampshire
Interscholastic Athletic Association

**For Guidance Counselors
& Registrars**

2014-15

You are a vital link of the NHIAA team in our efforts to promote academics and protect the eligibility of student athletes.

Information contained in this document will acquaint you with the NHIAA Eligibility by-laws. In addition to NHIAA standards, your high school may have additional standards that apply.

Any questions you have concerning NHIAA rules and regulations should be thoroughly reviewed with your principal and athletic director.

NOTE: The NHIAA By-Laws must be met **without exception** in order to maintain athletic eligibility. Schools who use ineligible players must **forfeit** all games/events/matches/meets in which the ineligible athlete participates.

NHIAA BY-LAWS FOR ALL STUDENTS

A. No pupil who has failed to pass four (4) units of work* during the school's previous grading period** shall represent the school in any interscholastic contest. A minimum of four (4) units of work per grading period is required for participation in interscholastic athletics. Schools utilizing alternative scheduling formats like block scheduling or trimesters should calculate and equate their system to meet the intent of passing four (4) units of work in a traditional format (i.e. in a 4 x 4 block program the student would need to pass a minimum of two (2) subjects to meet the standard). Recognizing that schools are increasingly moving away from the Carnegie Unit/seat time hours for instruction and grading, it is expected that the school principal will follow the intent of the By-Law when certifying academic eligibility for student athletes. For example, a student could meet this requirement through a virtual school, off site real world learning, on-line classes, etc. as long as the school officially recognizes and certifies the

activities to be academically legitimate and part of the school's educational program.

Definitions:

1. **Grading Period:** Not less than six (6) weeks.
2. **Previous Grading Period:** Indicates the last prior grading **quarter** of the school year (not semester grades)
3. **Passing Grade:** As determined by the NHIAA individual member high schools.

* A unit of work reflects a course that meets the equivalent of five (5) times per week in a traditional Carnegie Unit format.

** This is interpreted as the school's previous grading period, not the student's previous grading period.

- B. **Academic Make-Ups:** A student may regain eligibility by making up academic deficiencies, failures, or incompletes of the regular school year through academic/credit recovery programs completed prior to the first date to play in a sport as listed in By-Law Article XXXVII of the NHIAA Handbook. Individual schools may adopt more restrictive policies relative to academic make-up based on the school district philosophy and/or resources.
- C. **Incompletes:** Incompletes are not to be considered passing grades for purposes of eligibility.
- D. **Special Education Students:** Students receiving service under I.D.E.A., 89:313, R.S.A. 186: C and related State Board of Education regulations, to include students receiving service pursuant to Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, may be declared academically eligible by their principal provided that all other eligibility requirements are met.
- E. It should be noted that the NHIAA Scholastic Standing By-Law defines minimum standards only. There is no prohibition on schools adopting higher academic standards in determining academic eligibility.

EXAMPLES OF DETERMINING STUDENT ELIGIBILITY

SUBJECT	CREDIT	GRADE
English 9	1 All year	C
Spanish 1	1 All year	D
Health	½ First semester	C
Algebra	1 All year	D-
Computer	½ First semester	C

STUDENT ELIGIBLE FOR SECOND GRADING PERIOD

SUBJECT	CREDIT	GRADE
English	1 All year	C
Health	¼ First semester (meets 2/wk)	D
Typing	¼ First semester (meets 2/wk)	D
Building Trades	2 All year	F
Algebra 1	1 All year	C

STUDENT IS INELIGIBLE FOR SECOND GRADING PERIOD. (STUDENT DID NOT PASS FOUR UNITS OF WORK.)

NCAA

For student athletes planning to participate at the intercollegiate level care needs to be taken to ensure that this meets NCAA initial eligibility requirements. Schools must ensure that course changes (even if in name only) are properly filed with the NCAA.

Contact: NCAA Eligibility Center,
P.O. Box 7136, Indianapolis, IN 04627
(877-262-1492)

<https://web1.ncaa.org/eligibilitycenter/common>.

Schools and student athletes should also be aware of the very strict rules and timetables regarding contact between colleges and high school students.

Attention Helpful Sites

NCAA, www.ncaa.org
ACT, www.actstudent.org
The College Board, www.collegeboard.com