

Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Student Eligibility

GENERAL ELIGIBILITY

1. **Can a student who is 19 prior to September 1 of the current year participate in TAPPS Extra-Curricular Activities?**
 - a. **TAPPS Constitution Article V.1**
 - b. **Students who have reached 19 before September 1 of the current year are ineligible.**
 - c. **See Eligibility Chart**

2. **Can a student who has repeated a grade in high school participate during their senior, or fifth, year in high school?**
 - a. **TAPPS Constitution Article V.2**
 - b. **Students who enrolled in the ninth grade more than four year prior to the current school year are ineligible.**
 - c. **See Eligibility Chart**

3. **Are there any appeals for over age or fifth year students?**
 - a. **There are no appeals for over age or fifth year students.**
 - b. **These students may not participate in TAPPS Extra-Curricular Activities**

4. **What is the penalty for playing an over age or fifth year student?**
 - a. **TAPPS Constitution Article VII**
 - b. **Forfeiture is required for any game in which the student participate.**

Schools may determine policies for student eligibility that are stricter than the policies presented in the TAPPS Constitution and By-Laws. Such policies should be in place at the beginning of each school year and apply to all students equally.

FULL TIME DAY STUDENT

1. Are students from other schools allowed to participate in TAPPS Extra-Curricular Activities for the member school?
 - a. TAPPS By-Laws Section 82.A
 - b. Students must be enrolled and full time day students to participate.
 - c. Students from other schools may not participate

2. Are home schooled students allowed to participate in TAPPS Extra-Curricular Activities for the member school?
 - a. TAPPS By-Laws Section 82.A
 - b. Students must be enrolled and full time day students to participate.
 - c. Home schooled students may not participate.

3. How many classes must a student be taking at our school to be eligible to participate in TAPPS Extra-Curricular activities?
 - a. TAPPS By-Laws Section 82
 - b. Four Academic Classes

4. Do the courses have to be taken at the school?
 - a. TAPPS By-Laws Section 82.C
 - b. Yes, at least four academic classes must be taken on the campus of the member school.

5. Do Dual Credit courses taken at a local college count towards the minimum requirement?
 - a. TAPPS By-Laws Section 82.D
 - b. TAPPS recognizes the value of the courses, however, if they are not held on the member school's campus they do not count.

6. Which courses count towards the minimum requirement?
 - a. TAPPS By-Laws Section 82.B
 - b. Academic Courses are those courses that:
 - i. Core Courses – Math, Science, History, English, etc
 - ii. Religion
 - iii. Fine Arts – Art, Music, Speech, Performance Arts, etc
 - iv. Technology
 - v. Other courses the school provides for which a grade is given and credit appears on the transcript.
 - vi. Study Hall, Teacher’s Aide and similar courses do not count towards the requirement

7. Are students allowed to be enrolled in more than one athletic class?
 - a. TAPPS By-Laws Section 136.D
 - b. Only one athletic period is permitted

8. Are students who graduate at mid-term and still be eligible for spring sports?
 - a. TAPPS Constitution Article V.3
 - b. High school graduates are not eligible to participate in TAPPS Extra-Curricular Activities.

9. What is the penalty for playing a student who does not meet the definition of a Full Time Day Student?
 - a. TAPPS Constitution Article VII
 - b. Forfeiture is required for any game in which the student participate.

NO PASS – NO PLAY

1. Does TAPPS have a minimum number of classes a student must attend on game days?
 - a. TAPPS does not address this issue
 - b. TAPPS supports the rules in place at each member school determines appropriate for all of their students.

2. Does TAPPS have a No Pass – No Play policy?
 - a. TAPPS Constitution Article V.5

3. Which students are covered under the No Pass-No Play policy?
 - a. Students participating in TAPPS Extra-Curricular Activities
 - b. TAPPS By-Laws cover only those activities governed by TAPPS

4. What if the school policy is stricter than the TAPPS policy?
 - a. TAPPS By-Laws allow for more strict policies
 - b. School policies may not be more lenient than the TAPPS By-Laws.

5. How often must a school check grades for eligibility?
 - a. TAPPS Member schools determine the reporting periods that best suit their educational needs
 - b. Typical reporting periods are 3 weeks, 6 weeks, and 9 weeks.

6. What is the minimum time a student will be ineligible?
 - a. TAPPS Constitution Article V.5
 - b. Two weeks is the minimum eligibility period

7. What determines when a student may return to participation?
 - a. TAPPS Constitution Article V.5
 - b. Must be failing no more than one (1) course at the end of the period of ineligibility

8. Are ineligible students allowed to practice with the team?
- a. **TAPPS does not restrict practice**
 - b. **TAPPS supports member schools that have a more strict policy in place which prohibits such practice**
9. Are ineligible students allowed to participate in a scrimmage?
- a. **TAPPS does not restrict scrimmages**
 - b. **TAPPS supports member schools that have a more strict policy in place which prohibits such practice**
10. Are ineligible students allowed to “dress out” with the team?
- a. **TAPPS Constitution Article V**
 - b. **Ineligible student may not dress out with the team**
11. Are ineligible students allowed to be on the team bench or in the team area during a game?
- a. **Ineligible students may be present**
 - b. **Ineligible students may not be in uniform, warm-ups, etc.**
12. Are ineligible students allowed to participate in pep rallies, homecoming and other activities?
- a. **TAPPS does not restrict such activities**
 - b. **TAPPS supports member schools that have a more strict policy in place which prohibits such practice**
13. Are ineligible students allowed to be introduced as member of the team?
- a. **The student may be introduced**
14. Are ineligible students allowed to participate in club or organization activities at the school?
- a. **TAPPS does not govern clubs or organizations**
 - b. **TAPPS supports member schools that have a more strict policy in place which prohibits such practice**

15. What is the penalty for playing a student who is ineligible due to grades?

a. TAPPS Constitution Article VII

b. Forfeiture is required for any game in which the student participates.

INTERNATIONAL / FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENTS

- 1. Are International and Foreign Exchange student eligible to participate in TAPPS Extra-Curricular Activities?**
 - a. TAPPS By-Laws Section 102**
 - b. Approval from the Foreign Student Committee is required prior to participation**

- 2. When are International and Foreign Exchange students eligible to participate in TAPPS Extra-Curricular Activities?**
 - a. TAPPS By-Laws Section 102**
 - b. Application must be submitted**
 - c. Submissions will be reviewed by the Foreign Student Committee**
 - d. Foreign Student Committee will notify school of student's eligibility status.**
 - e. Students are not eligible to participate in TAPPS Extra-Curricular Activities until approved by the Foreign Student Committee.**

- 3. Are there deadlines that affect International / Foreign Exchange students?**
 - a. See TAPPS Calendar**
 - b. Fall Foreign Student Deadline in September**
 - c. Spring Foreign Student Deadline in January**

- 4. Is there a fee for International / Foreign Exchange student applications?**
 - a. TAPPS By-Laws Section 102**
 - b. A fee of \$25 will be required for each of the first 10 school submissions**
 - c. A fee of \$10 will be required for each additional submission**

- 5. Does the school have to reapply each year for approved students?**
 - a. If no change in status, no additional submissions are necessary**
 - b. If a change in guardianship or other status is made a new submission is required**

6. Are International / Foreign Exchange students allowed practice with the team?
 - a. TAPPS does not restrict practice
 - b. TAPPS supports member schools that have a more strict policy in place which prohibits such practice

7. What is the penalty for playing an International / Foreign Exchange student who has not been declared eligible by the Foreign Student Committee?
 - a. TAPPS Constitution Article VII
 - b. Forfeiture is required for any game in which the student participate.

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Student Eligibility

The following chart offers a quick reference for determining student eligibility. This information does not replace the actual wording of the TAPPS Constitution or By Laws. Students who do not meet the criteria for eligibility are not eligible to participate in TAPPS Extra Curricular activities. There is no appeal available to the member schools nor opportunity for board review or relief.

School Year	Student is not Eligible if the Student Date of Birth Is Prior to *	Student is not Eligible if the Student Enrolled in Ninth Grade in **
2009-2010	9/1/90	2005
2010-2011	9/1/91	2006
2011-2012	9/1/92	2007
2012-2013	9/1/93	2008
2013-2014	9/1/94	2009
2014-2015	9/1/95	2010
2015-2016	9/1/96	2011

Constitution

Article V * 19 years old prior to September 1

** Four years from date of enrollment in ninth grade

By – Laws

Section 84 ** Four Year Normal Program of High School Courses

Section 88 Burden of Proof for Eligibility

