



Santa Cruz City Schools  
133 Mission Street, Ste. 100  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060  
(831) 429-3410

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## ATHLETIC ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY STANDARDS

**Philosophy:** The top priority of all involved with student athletes will be academic achievement. Part of the student-athlete responsibility is learning how to plan ahead, prioritize and comprehend one's time limitations and responsibilities. When unavoidable conflict exists between athletics and academics, academics must take priority. This implies that the student athlete is responsible for any consequences for missing team activities.

In order for any student to remain eligible for athletic competition, he / she must remain in compliance with all of the following requirements. These requirements involve standards and expectations from CIF, CCS, and SCCS District.

This applies to co-curricular activities, including athletics and cheerleading. These activities are school-sponsored, out of class, administered by a paid or volunteer coach or adult advisor. These activities are authorized by the District and involve student participation on an ongoing basis.

To remain eligible for competition with an athletic team or with the cheerleading squad, an athlete must be in compliance with the following requirements for academic eligibility. These involve CIF, CCS, SCCAL and School standards.

Entering 8th grade students must have obtained a 2.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale for the final semester grades at the junior high school.

### **Section A: Posting Eligibility**

1. Athletic Eligibility will be determined by grades received at the end of progress\* and final term grading periods (quarter or semester).
2. Eligibility reports for all student athletes from all three comprehensive high schools (HHS, SCHS and SHS) will be posted:
  - a. On the Wednesday following the end of the #1, #2, #4, and #5 six week grading period
  - b. And at the end of each Fall and Spring Semester
3. SCHS will post eligibility lists on the same day as HHS and SHS based on the preceding progress report.
4. Eligibility will be determined only by grades posted at the indicated grading periods
5. Grades must be posted within the district computer system
6. Progress reports of any other type will not be used to determine eligibility
7. Grade changes, including Incomplete, can only take place at the end of each indicated grading period.
8. Grade changes for clerical errors on the part of the instructor may be made prior to the end of the following grading period.
  - a. This grade change may alter a student's eligibility status
  - b. Turning in late work will not change eligibility status until the following grading period eligibility checks have been completed
9. An Incomplete grade will be assigned the same value as an F (0 Grade Points) when determining GPA



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10. All discussions of any requested grade changes by an athlete that are tied to eligibility will originate in a meeting the athlete and / or parents and the Athletic Director
  - a. This preliminary discussion will not include the teacher.
  - b. All discussions regarding teacher's role and the changing of a grade will take place between the teacher and the Athletic Director

*\*Progress grades are received every 6 weeks at Harbor and Soquel High and every 5 weeks at Santa Cruz High.*

**Section B: Number of Current Units Required for Eligibility by Semester**

Every athlete must have earned a minimum number of units each term in order to be eligible for participation.

Total unit eligibility will be determined by the following schedule at *Soquel and Harbor High*:

<b>End of Term</b>	<b>Units Required</b>	<b>End of Term</b>	<b>Units Required</b>
<i>Semester 1</i>	30	<i>Semester 5</i>	110
<i>Semester 2</i>	30	<i>Semester 6</i>	135
<i>Semester 3</i>	55	<i>Semester 7</i>	180
<i>Semester 4</i>	85	<i>Semester 8</i>	205

Total unit eligibility will be determined by the following schedule at *Santa Cruz High*:

<b>End of Term</b>	<b>Units Required</b>	<b>End of Term</b>	<b>Units Required</b>
<i>Quarter 1</i>	15	<i>Quarter 8</i>	130
<i>Quarter 2</i>	30	<i>Quarter 9</i>	145
<i>Quarter 3</i>	45	<i>Quarter 10</i>	160
<i>Quarter 4</i>	60	<i>Quarter 11</i>	175
<i>Quarter 5</i>	75	<i>Quarter 12</i>	190
<i>Quarter 6</i>	90	<i>Quarter 13</i>	205
<i>Quarter 7</i>	105	<i>Quarter 14</i>	230



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Or student must have earned at least 60 units during the previous two terms (Plus summer school)

Cabrillo credits may be applied for eligibility and graduation if:

1. Credits taken at Cabrillo are only taken during the summer session to be counted toward eligibility
2. Credits taken during the normal school year are not offered at the SCCS school site

### ***Section C: Number of Classes required for each grading period***

1. All eligible HHS and SHS 9th , 10th and 11th grade athletes must be enrolled and attending a minimum of six classes on campus to be eligible
2. All eligible HHS and SHS 12th grade athletes must be enrolled and attending at least five classes on campus to be eligible
3. All eligible SCHS 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students must be enrolled and attending a minimum of three classes on campus to be eligible ROP Classes must be taken during the normal school day at an athlete's school site in order to count as an on campus class

### ***Section D: Probation and Ineligibility Status Defined***

1. Probation status is considered a warning:
  - a. Student can practice and compete at all team contests and at coach's discretion
  - b. Student must seek academic assistance to manage the eligibility issue
2. Ineligible status indicates that the student athlete cannot play in any team contests
  - a. Student athlete may practice at coach's discretion
  - b. Student must be attending after school tutorials and / or obtain other tutorial assistance
3. Student deemed to be ineligible may regain eligibility only when the next grading period has been posted, provided all eligibility criteria have been met
4. If an athlete is on probation, he/she must meet all eligibility requirements at the end of the next grading period or will be moved to ineligible status

### ***Section E: Rules and Standards for Eligibility***

1. Standards for eligibility are based on current grade point average, overall grade point average, total units earned by semester, and the presence of F's within current and previous grading periods
2. If the student athlete is above a 2.0 GPA and no F's within a grading period, and meets the total unit requirement by semester, as indicated in Section B, he/she is eligible to practice and compete
3. If a student athlete is below a 2.0 or has an F in the current grading period, he/she is on probation (See definition in Section D)
4. If the student athlete is below a 2.0 and has an F in the current grading period, he/she is ineligible with no probation period (See definition in Section D)
5. If the student athlete has two or more F's in the current grading period, he/she is ineligible with no probation period



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6. If the student athlete has any combination of being below a 2.0 GPA or a F in any two consecutive grading periods (current and previous grading period), he/she will be ineligible. In other words, a student that is on probation for two consecutive grading periods will be ineligible
7. If the student athlete fails to maintain the required number of units as outlined in Section B of this document, he/she will be ineligible with no period of probation
8. Transfer students from within the district must meet all eligibility guidelines for SCCS
9. SCS: Any student Athlete with a single F will be considered ineligible with no probation period. Student may not compete in games but may practice at coach's discretion.

### **Section F: Eligibility Appeal Process**

1. Each school site will develop an Athletic Appeal Board consisting of the Principal, Athletic Director, Counselor, and any teacher directly involved with any appeal process.
2. The purpose of the AAB is to hear and render decisions regarding all eligibility appeals
3. If an RSP or ELD student becomes ineligible, an IEP or ELRT team will convene to determine if the student's disability or lack of language skills is the cause of the ineligibility. The Athletic Director must be a part of this IEP or ELRT meeting
4. If the ineligibility of the RSP or ELD student is a result of a disability or language issue, the Athletic Appeal Board may reinstate eligibility status under a contract that meets all criteria established by the IEP or ELRT for the student to remain eligible.
5. All other ineligible student athletes are entitled to an appeal process. The appeal can be granted by the Athletic Director or the Principal. The Athletic Appeal Board will meet to determine if there were extenuating circumstances
6. If an appeal is granted, a contract may be established that exceeds the above standards to remain eligible.

### **Section G: Age Requirements**

1. A student whose nineteenth (19) birthday is on or before June 14th of the previous school year cannot participate or practice with any CIF team

### **Section H: Loss of Eligibility**

1. Any athlete that loses their eligibility due to grades, forfeits all rights and privileges to letters, awards and any credit due from an Athletic PE class that he/she may have been otherwise entitled to receive for that sport's season.

### **Section I: Re-Gaining Eligibility**

1. Individual students will not be declared eligible or off probation until a computer printout of all eligibility reports is generated at the end of each grading period has been completed
2. Summer school grades may not necessarily improve eligibility. The following factors are to be considered:
3. A summer class can replace a semester class grade only when the summer school class is an exact duplicate of the class taken during the normal school year.



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4. A summer class will be added to the semester class grades if it is not a duplicate class.
5. This additional grade will not eliminate a failed class grade.
6. The failing grade must be counted in total GPA in determining eligibility.

### ***Section J: Quitting a Sport***

1. If an athlete quits a team after making that team, he / she will not be eligible for another team until the current season is completed. This will include all post season play by that team.
2. Players must understand that they have made a commitment and should honor that commitment.