

VIRGINIA HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUE HANDBOOK

28A-6-2 Exceptions:

(1) A student who interrupts his/her high school career in order to participate in a CSIET-approved foreign study program may have his/her eligibility extended for up to two semesters, provided the student does not participate out of country in sports he/she wishes to play upon his/her return, subject to approval by the District Committee prior to leaving for the foreign study, or upon returning and providing proof to the District Committee the student did not participate out of country, in that sport, while involved in the foreign study.

(2) The Executive Director shall waive the Semester Rule for designated students at non-public member schools the first year such schools are members in the public school division if the student participated in varsity athletics in 8th grade or because the student repeated a high school grade and therefore is, or in the future will be, a fifth-year senior. The Semester Rule waiver will apply to each designated student throughout his or her time in high school and is not a waiver of the Age Rule or Scholarship Rule.

28A-6-3 Interpretation:

(1) For the purposes of this rule, the eighth semester as applied to those completing their eighth semester at mid-year shall be defined as terminating the last day of classes of the first semester.

28A-7-1 TRANSFER RULE- *The student shall not have enrolled in one high school and subsequently transferred to and enrolled in another high school without a corresponding change in the residence of his/her parents, parent, or guardian. The original residence must be abandoned as a residence, that is sold, rented or otherwise disposed of as a residence, and must not be used as a residence by the immediate family. The entire family must make the change and take with them the household goods and furniture appropriate to the circumstances. The change must be made with the intent that it is permanent. The sending and receiving VHSL school principals are required to complete and file the VHSL Transfer Form, acknowledging that to the best of their knowledge the student has met all aspects of the transfer rule or its exceptions. Home instruction does not constitute enrollment in a public school. Home schooling is a process through which Virginia Code compulsory education requirements may be met, as is private schooling. Home schooling is the equivalent of school enrollment for Transfer Rule purposes, and determining whether the student has met Scholarship Rule requirements of having passed five academic subjects recognized by the Virginia Department of Education in the most recent prior semester.*

Note A: The provisions of the Transfer Rule apply to students transferring from one school to another, including transfers from a private school to a public school as well as transfers from one public school to another. For the purposes of this rule only, the phrase "high school" is defined as a school providing instruction at the ninth or tenth or eleventh or twelfth grade level(s).

Note B: Any student who transfers from a non-VHSL member school (i.e., a non-member VHSL non-public school, a home school or a school from a state outside Virginia) to a VHSL non-public member school shall be eligible immediately, provided that student was continuously enrolled in the school from which he/she is transferring for one calendar year prior to such transfer.

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Note C: Any student who transfers after a VHSL member receiving school's regular season, in that sport, has concluded is ineligible to participate in postseason play for that VHSL member school in postseason play, in that sport.

Note D: A student who attends one member school, transfers to another member school, and participates at the new school, is ineligible upon their return to the former school, in the same school year, for 365 days from the date of enrollment in the latter school, regardless of any move on the part of the parent/guardian.

PM 28A-7-1 (1) TRANSFER RULE/Move Requirement (1-71)-A student who moves from one school to another with no move on the part of his parents is ineligible. This student can become eligible immediately when his/her parents established residency in the zone served by the student's new school.

Note: A student who has established residence in a school attendance zone cannot move within that same school attendance zone and meet the qualifying criteria for PM 28A-7-1 (1).

PM 28A-7-1 (2) TRANSFER RULE/State Event Qualifier (5-94)-Students who transfer to another VHSL school after qualifying to the state tournament are not allowed to participate in cross country, wrestling, indoor and outdoor track/field, tennis, golf, gymnastics, speech and debate; parents or students may request a hardship based on the circumstances for the move.

PM 28A-7-1 (3) TRANSFER RULE/Site Designated Programs (5-15)-Students who have established eligibility in a school and subsequently change into or out of a site designated program (Academy, Speciality Program, etc.) in that school, will be ineligible for 90 school days.

28A-7-2 Exceptions:

PM 28A-7-2 TRANSFER RULE/Wise County Exception (5-11)-For the start of the 2011-12 school year only, a one-time transfer eligibility exception applies only to those students attending a Wise County school that closes due to consolidation and the student wishes to return to the school serving his/her parents' out-of-county residence. Students whose parents live in Wise County but who choose to transfer out of county without a corresponding move by their parents, or those who fail to meet the prescribed VHSL Transfer Rule or one of its Exceptions, would not be eligible and would need to file an application for VHSL Transfer Rule Waiver with the appropriate district committee. All necessary forms, appeals procedures and criteria for considering appeals are available on the VHSL website. No appeal will be heard in advance on a presumptive basis but only after a student becomes ineligible.

(1) A student shall become eligible for interscholastic competition after he/she has been enrolled in the school for 365 consecutive calendar days. Exception: If a student transfers during the summer and remains ineligible for the entire subsequent school year, he/she would become eligible beginning with the fall season of the following academic year.

(2) A student transferring from a school closed by executive or administrative order to the school serving the district in which his/her parent, parents or guardian reside.