

## **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](mailto: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**

2009-10

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 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 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 period 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 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: Scholastic failure cannot be made up for eligibility purposes in any manner until the next grade report. A student athlete may not regain athletic eligibility by making up academic deficiencies or failures of the regular school year during the summer months. Likewise, school year or after school academic/credit recovery programs cannot be utilized to regain academic eligibility.
- 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](http://www.ncaa.org)  
ACT, [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)  
The College Board, [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)



NEW HAMPSHIRE INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

TO: Guidance Directors, NHIAA Member Schools

FROM: R. Patrick Corbin, Executive Director *R. Patrick Corbin*

SUBJECT: NHIAA By Laws  
ACT & SAT Testing  
(2 Pages)

---

Please visit the NHIAA website to view the brochure explaining the NHIAA Scholastic Standing By-Law. Feel free to copy and reproduce this material for your staff members. I am hopeful it will be of assistance to you as you counsel your student athletes with regard to this standard. Schools may impose a higher standard but cannot supplant the NHIAA By-Laws. There are other by-laws you may wish to review. I suggest you contact your Athletic Director as a copy of the NHIAA Handbook may be available to you.

Also, each year there are conflicts arising over the SAT test date on the first Saturday in June and NHIAA tournament events in baseball, softball, lacrosse, and outdoor track. Whenever possible you are encouraged to advise your student athletes to take the test at the May test date to avoid any such conflicts.

For your planning, many of the 2010 spring tournaments will be held on Saturday, June 5, 2010. In the past, this date was also an SAT testing date. Tournament dates and times will not be changed. Please be sure your athletes take the SAT's in May to avoid potential conflict. Attached is a list of all of the **ACT and SAT** test dates for 2009-10.

Thank you in advance, to your prompt attention to this important matter.

RPC:klw

c: Principal and Athletic Director, NHIAA Member Schools

# ACT

Test Date	Registration Deadline	(Late Fee Required)
September 12, 2009*	August 7, 2009	August 8 – 21, 2009
October 24, 2009	September 18, 2009	September 19 – October 2, 2009
December 12, 2009	November 6, 2009	November 7 – 20, 2009
February 6, 2010**	January 5, 2010	January 6 – 15, 2010
April 10, 2010	March 5, 2010	March 6 – 19, 2010
June 12, 2010	May 7, 2010	May 8 – 21, 2010

# SAT

2009-10 Test Dates	Test	U.S. Registration Deadlines*		International Registration Deadlines**	
		Regular	Late (a fee applies)	Early (International only)	Regular
October 10, 2009	SAT & Subject Tests	September 9, 2009	September 10, 2009	August 19, 2009	September 9, 2009
November 7, 2009	SAT & Subject Tests	October 1, 2009	October 2, 2009	September 16, 2009	October 1, 2009
December 5, 2009	SAT & Subject Tests	October 30, 2009	October 31, 2009	October 14, 2009	October 30, 2009
January 23, 2010	SAT & Subject Tests	December 15, 2009	December 16, 2009	December 2, 2009	December 15, 2009
March 13, 2010	SAT only	February 4, 2010	February 5, 2010	N/A	N/A
May 1, 2010	SAT & Subject Tests	March 25, 2010	March 26, 2010	March 10, 2010	March 25, 2010
June 5, 2010	SAT & Subject Tests	April 29, 2010	April 30, 2010	April 14, 2010	April 29, 2010