A student MUST abide by all of the eligibility standards of the New York State Education Department and the New York State Public High School Athletic Association. Please contact the Athletic Administrator at your school for a more detailed explanation of the eligibility standards.

A complete copy of the NYSPHSAA Handbook can be found at www.nysphsaa.org.

American Dairy Association and Dairy Council

Funded by dairy farmers throughout New York, American Dairy Association and Dairy Council is proud to support local athletes with products that supply great nutrition and taste. Low-fat and fat-free milk, cheese and yogurt provide a unique package of nine essential nutrients— including calcium and protein— that teens of all fitness levels need. And, a growing body of evidence suggests milk may be just as effective as some commercial sports drinks in helping athletes recover and rehydrate.
transfer
If you are planning to transfer or have transferred to a new school, please speak directly to the Athletic Administrator of your school to determine if the transfer will affect your eligibility.

bona fide student
All students must be registered in the school and must be taking at least four subjects including Physical Education.

health examination
A student shall receive an adequate health examination and health history update which is approved by the school physician before practicing or participating in interschool contests.

college
During the sport season, a student is not permitted to practice or compete against an individual or team representing a college in that sport or eligibility will be forfeited for that season.

foreign exchange or international students
Please speak directly to the Athletic Administrator of your school to determine your eligibility to participate in the interscholastic athletic program.

duration of competition
A student is eligible for four consecutive seasons of a sport upon entry into the 9th grade and prior to graduation. Students who have been promoted to the high school program by being Selectively Classified are eligible for that sport for five consecutive seasons of a sport upon entry in the eighth grade or six consecutive seasons of a sport upon entry in the seventh grade.

practice
A student must complete the sport specific required number of practices under the direct supervision of a certified and Board of Education approved coach to be eligible to compete in a scrimmage or contest.

recruitment and undue influence
A student will forfeit their eligibility for a period of one year if they are recruited or influenced to transfer schools for athletic purposes.

professional tryouts
A student may participate in tryouts and/or practice with a professional team or their affiliates ONLY during summer vacation.

national team and olympic development programs
A student may participate as an individual on a National Team or in an Olympic Development Program during the school year.

assumed name
A student must participate under their own name. Eligibility will be forfeited in that sport for a period of one year if a violation occurs.

representation
A student is eligible for sectional, regional and state competition when they have competed in six school scheduled contests during that season. In team sports, the student must have been an eligible participant on a team in that sport at that school for a minimum of six contests (Football – three contests). In individual sports, a student must have competed in six scheduled contests on six different dates prior to the conclusion of the team’s regular schedule.

sportsmanship
Students are expected to display appropriate behavior. Unsportsmanlike acts will not be tolerated. Students who are disqualified for unsportsmanlike behavior will be ineligible to compete in the next regularly scheduled contest. A second disqualification in the same sport in the same season will deem the student ineligible for two additional contests and a third disqualification in the same sport in the same season will cause the student to be ineligible for the remainder of the season.

age
A student shall be eligible for interschool competition in grades 9, 10, 11 and 12 until his/her 19th birthday. If the age of 19 is reached on or after July 1, the student may continue to participate during that school year.

senior all star contests
Only seniors who have completed their high school eligibility in that sport may compete in these contests. Students are limited to one Senior All Star contest per sport.

amateur
A student shall be an amateur in the sport. Students will forfeit their amateur status by:
1. Competing for money or other compensation (travel, meals and lodging expenses are permitted).
2. Receiving an award or prize which exceeds $250.00.
3. Capitalizing on athletic fame. Scholarships to institutions of higher learning are permitted.
4. Signing a professional contract.

maximum # of contests
Each sport is limited to a maximum number of contests. Student athletes or teams may not exceed the maximum number of contests or the team will no longer be eligible to compete for the remainder of the season.