

FREDERICK COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS	Reg. No. 500-24
Subject: ACADEMIC STANDARDS FOR PARTICIPATION IN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES IN HIGH SCHOOL	Issued: 9/1/83
Preparing Office: Office of the Superintendent	Amended: 6/15/22

I. Policy 509

II. Definitions

A. Eligibility

Refers to standards regarding academic status that clears a student for participation in extracurricular activities.

B. Extracurricular Activities

School-sponsored activities beyond regular class activities in which the student represents the school, such as athletics, clubs/organizations, or class/club officers.

C. Co-Curricular Activities

Regular class activities (co-curricular) are those activities which are countywide expectations for a particular class and in which all students in the class must participate as part of their grade. These activities are designated in the course guide program overview, such as band, chorus, or drama.

D. Participation

Only those students enrolled and attending a Frederick County Public Schools (FCPS) high school are eligible for participation in extracurricular activities. Participation will be allowed and facilitated for students with disabilities as required by federal and state regulations.

III. Standards

A. Eligible

A student must earn at least a 2.0 grade point average (GPA) and no "F" or "WF"¹ grades in the term or semester as identified in the FCPS Academic Eligibility Chart (Section VI).

B. Ineligible

A student earns below a 2.0 grade point average (GPA) or earns a "F" or "WF" grade in the term or semester as identified in the FCPS Academic Eligibility Chart (Section VI).

C. Notification of Status

Each high school must develop a procedure to inform all students that are ineligible on the school system designated day for posting grades.

¹ Note: WF – withdraw failing

D. Appeal Process

When a student believes that a procedural error has occurred through a miscalculation, omission or an inaccurate reporting in the awarding of a grade, an appeal may be made to the school principal. The student in this situation must be prepared to demonstrate in their appeal the circumstances that may have created an incorrect grade.

- a. This appeal must be initiated by the student in writing within five (5) school days of the system designated day for posting grades for that marking period.
- b. Until a decision is rendered by the principal, the student remains ineligible. The principal will render a decision within five (5) school days.
- c. A student may further appeal to the Deputy Superintendent who serves as the Superintendent's designee and, thereafter, to the Board of Education in accordance with Board Policy 105 if the student is alleging a procedural or due process error.

IV. Conditions

- A. The student will become eligible/ineligible in accordance with the FCPS Interim and Report Card Processing Schedules.
- B. The policy becomes effective for ninth grade students at the posting date of term 1 Report Card Grades.
- C. The student may practice during an ineligibility period, but may not accompany the team/group or be excused from any class for the extracurricular activity concerned.
- D. If a student has made a schedule change, and if the student receives an interim report for either class involved in the schedule change, then the class in which the student has been enrolled for the greatest number of days (within the reporting period) will be used to determine the student's eligibility.

V. Determining Eligibility

- A. Grades used to determine eligibility are as reported in terms 1 and 3 or semester 1 and 2 only (grades from terms 2 and 4 do not determine eligibility).
 1. Except for impacting final semester GPA calculation, single term 1 and 3 course grades of "F" or "WF" will not factor into academic eligibility for end of semester 1 or 2.
 2. Single term 2 and 4 course grades will factor into the Final Course grades for the semester taken.
- B. Students who receive a grade of incomplete will remain ineligible until the grade has been changed and eligibility status verified.

- C. Only the student's unweighted GPA shall be used for eligibility/ineligibility purposes.
- D. Comprehensive high school course grades, Frederick County Virtual School grades, Dual Credit College grades, and FCPS Summer Session grades are factored into academic eligibility as indicated on the FCPS Academic Eligibility Chart (Section VI).
 - 1. Frederick County Virtual School (FCVS)
Virtual School grades impact eligibility in the term or semester they are completed.
 - 2. Dual Enrollment/Dual Credit
Grades earned in college courses *taken for FCPS credit* impact eligibility in the semester they are completed.
 - 3. Frederick County Public Schools (FCPS) Summer Session
Summer Session courses will not make a student ineligible; however, a course may be taken to regain eligibility (see E below).
- E. High school students who earn a final grade of "F"/"WF" or have a GPA below 2.0 at the end of the second semester will not be eligible to participate in Fall extracurricular activities.
 - 1. Students may choose to improve their GPA (and regain eligibility) by completing a course during the FCPS Summer Session. Summer Session courses will not make a student ineligible.
 - 2. A Summer Session grade from the appropriate alternative course will replace the lowest course grade from final semester 2 grades and will be applied to determine the student's eligibility status. This alternative course will replace the grade for eligibility purposes only; credit earned will be applied according to the course taken.

Sequential Priorities for Enrollment

If the second semester course the student failed is offered during Summer Session, the student should enroll in that course. If none of the fourth marking period courses in which the student received a "D" or failing grade are offered in Summer Session, the student will be allowed to take another course in the same subject area. If a course in the same subject area is not available, then the student and their counselor may decide on an appropriate alternative course.

VI. ACADEMIC STANDARDS FOR PARTICIPATION IN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES IN HIGH SCHOOL

FCPS Academic Eligibility Chart

Note 1: Frederick County Virtual School (FCVS) grades impact eligibility in the term or semester the courses are completed as indicated on the FCPS Academic Eligibility Chart below.

Note 2: Dual Enrollment/Dual Credit grades impact eligibility in the semester the courses are completed as indicated on the FCPS Academic Eligibility Chart below.

Note 3: A summer session grade may substitute for the lowest second semester final grade (for determining fall eligibility purposes only).

Note 4: Except for impacting final semester GPA calculation, single term 1 and 3 course grades of "F" or "WF" will not factor into academic eligibility for end of semester 1 or 2. Single term 2 and 4 course grades will factor into the Final Course Grades for the semester taken.

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY	Interim Report Term 1	Term 1 Report Card	Interim Report Term 2	Term 2 Report Card	Final Course Grade Semester 1	Interim Report Term 3	Term 3 Report Card	Interim Report Term 4	Term 4 Report Card	Final Course Grade Semester 2	Summer Session
Become ELIGIBLE Min. 2.0 GPA No "F" grades No "WF" grades	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Become INELIGIBLE Below 2.0 GPA OR "F" grades "WF" grades	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No

Approved:

original signed by

Michael Markoe
Interim Superintendent