



Student-Athlete Eligibility Requirements

Adopted: August 6, 2025

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish clear academic and attendance-based eligibility requirements for students who wish to participate in school-sponsored athletic programs. Lighthouse Community Public Schools is committed to ensuring that student-athletes maintain satisfactory academic standing and school attendance while participating in extracurricular athletics.

Scope

This policy applies to all middle and high school students (grades 6–12) participating in athletic programs offered at Lighthouse Community Charter School, Lighthouse Community Charter High School and Lodestar: A Lighthouse Community Public School.

1. Minimum Academic Requirement

- To be eligible to participate in any athletic program, students must maintain a **minimum Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.0** on a 4.0 scale.

2. Initial Eligibility for Fall Sports

- For **Fall sports**, eligibility is determined using **final semester grades from the previous academic year**. This initial eligibility requirement applies to students entering **grades 10 through 12** only.

3. Expanded Eligibility Review

- After **Cycle 1** of the academic year, the 2.0 GPA requirement will apply to **all students in grades 6 through 12**, regardless of season or sport.

4. Ongoing Eligibility Review

- Academic eligibility will be reviewed at the **end of each grading cycle**.
- Students who fall below a 2.0 GPA at the end of a cycle will be **ineligible** for athletic participation.
- Ineligible students may regain eligibility at the **conclusion of the following cycle**, pending review of academic performance.

5. Attendance and Truancy Requirements

- In addition to meeting GPA requirements, students must maintain **satisfactory school attendance** to remain eligible for athletics.
- A student-athlete's eligibility may be **suspended** due to **chronic absenteeism or truancy** (as defined by school or state policy).
- Determinations related to suspension of eligibility due to attendance concerns will be made **in consultation with the School Principal, Athletic Director(s), and the MTSS Coordinator**, and communicated to the student and family in writing.
- Students suspended for attendance reasons may regain eligibility upon demonstrating improved attendance, as determined by the same review team.

6. Restoration of Eligibility

- Students may regain athletic eligibility by achieving a **GPA of 2.0 or higher** and/or **satisfactory attendance** during the next review period.
- Eligibility will be restored at the beginning of the next practice or competition period, following confirmation by school officials.

7. Notification and Support

- Students and families will be **notified in writing** when a student becomes ineligible.

- Academic and attendance support interventions will be offered, including access to tutoring, counseling, and MTSS supports.

8. Appeals Process

- A student or parent/guardian may submit a **written appeal** for special consideration due to extenuating circumstances (e.g., illness, family crisis).
- Appeals will be reviewed by a panel consisting of the **Principal, Athletic Director, and Director of Student Services**. Final decisions rest with the school administration.
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9. Implementation

The Principal, Athletic Directors, coaches, counselors, and MTSS team are jointly responsible for enforcing this policy. Communication and supports shall be documented to ensure equitable enforcement and access to resources for all student-athletes.