

Participation of Alternative Instruction Students

The West Central School District will grant permission for alternative instruction students in grades 6-8 to participate in middle school extracurricular activities, and will permit alternative instruction students in grades 9-12 to participate in extracurricular and interscholastic activities under the guidelines of this policy.

Nothing in this policy confers any vested right in any alternative instruction student wishing to participate in an interscholastic activity to be selected for competition in such activity.

As a condition of participation in activities or athletics, the alternative instruction student in grades 7-12 must be a resident of, be enrolled in, and attend, a minimum of two academic class periods per semester at the West Central School District and maintain passing grades in both classes. The classes attended by the alternative instruction student must be classes that grant academic credit. The alternative instruction student must be enrolled in two classes during any subsequent semester in between the season or schedule of events for each activity.

Any student in middle school grades may also be considered at the high school level for athletic activities through the West Central petition-up process. As a condition of participation, the alternative instruction student enrolled in grades 7-8, who wishes to compete or is invited to compete in an individual interscholastic activity at the high school level must still be enrolled in, and attend a minimum of two academic class periods per semester at West Central Middle School, and maintain passing grades in both classes.

On the day of participation in any competition, the alternative instruction student must regularly attend all class periods including the day of contest in order to be eligible to compete in contests, which corresponds to the half day of class attendance for the non-alternative instruction student.

Further, as a condition of participation, the alternative instruction student must annually fulfill the following conditions:

- 1) Demonstrate compliance with Chapter, I, Part IV – Student Eligibility and Chapter II, Part I – Further Eligibility Requirements for Athletic Contests of the SDHSAA Bylaws (as applicable) by submitting the SDHSAA Eligibility Checklist for Alternative Instruction Students.
- 2) Provide documentation of the SDCL 13-27-3 Application for Public School Exemption Certificate Request and nationally standardized achievement tests in grades tested under the state testing program.

- 3) Comply with all the District's eligibility requirements with the exception of attendance requirements beyond those articulated in this policy. Scholastic/academic eligibility shall be verified per the District's administrative policy following the same procedure used to accept credits towards graduation when an alternative instruction student requests a transfer to the district.
- 4) Satisfy the responsibilities and standards of behavior and performance, including related class or practice requirements, as expected of other student participants as a condition for both the initial acceptance and continued membership in the activity including but not limited to:
 - a) All the Districts training rules and Codes of Conduct will be applicable
 - b) In order to be eligible to audition for and participate in Region Music Contest, All-State Chorus, All-State Orchestra or All-State Band, the student must be currently enrolled and attending the District's parallel musical organization (if one exists) i.e. vocal music, or instrumental music. (This is the same rule that applies to all students attending a SDHSAA member school.)
 - c) A student who is a member of a high school team may not participate in games, practice, tryouts, etc. in that particular sport during the same season on an independent or non-high school team or as a member of any "all-star" team, or completely unattached on an individual basis. (This is the same rule that applies to all students attending a SDHSAA member school.)
 - d) A student, who leaves an accredited school for any reason to enter an alternative instruction program, shall be ineligible for interscholastic competition for a period of one year, beginning on the date the student enters the alternative instruction program.

Adopted: 9-12-05

Revised: October 2006, 10-12-15

WEST CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT