



Oregon School Activities Association

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April 9, 2026

TO: Superintendents, Principals and Athletic Directors
FROM: Peter Weber, Executive Director
SUBJECT: Summary of Delegate Assembly Action at the April 6, 2026, Meeting

At the meeting on April 6, 2026, the OSAA Delegate Assembly took the following actions:

- Approved the minutes of the October 6, 2025, Delegate Assembly meeting.
- Approved the minutes of the December 15, 2025, Delegate Assembly meeting.
- Received an update from staff on national and sectional recognitions awarded to members of the state throughout the year, including:
 - NFHS State Award for Outstanding Service – Christine Anderson, Dance Drill Coaches Association (DDCA)
 - NFHS National Coach of the Year – Steve Sheehy, Union HS, Boys Cross Country
 - NFHS Outstanding Music Educator Award – Oregon – Amber Yester, North Bend HS, Band
 - NFHS Outstanding Speech and Debate Educator Award – Oregon – David Barringer, Oregon City HS, Speech
 - NFHS Active Officials of the Year – Section 8 – Jim Alex, Portland Football & Portland Basketball
- Received a State of the Association report from Executive Director Peter Weber and staff.
- Received an update from Dr. Michael Koester of the Sports Medicine Advisory Committee (SMAC)
- Discussed the following questions in classification caucus groups and received reports back to the full Delegate Assembly.

OSAA State Championship Committee

What feedback/suggestions does your school/league/classification have for the Committee (i.e., playoff allocations, specific sport/activity feedback, venues, etc.)? They meet on Sunday, April 12 at OADA and then their final meeting is Monday, April 27 at the OSAA Office. The Executive Board will act on their recommendations at its Monday, May 11 meeting.

Support for Special Districts

How can the OSAA and OADA support gathering SOPs and Points of Contact by sport/activity for Special Districts? For example, utilizing the Google doc on the OADA website, etc.

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OSAA All-State Program

What feedback/suggestions does your school/league/classification have for OSAA on the new All-State Program (i.e., timing, certificates, nomination/voting process, # of students recognized, etc.)?

OSAA Ejection Policies

What feedback/suggestions does your school/league/classification have to adjust the ejection appeal process? Should students coming off the bench/out of the team area but not engaging in a fight be penalized the same way as students who actually fight?

Transfers

Current state statute (ORS 339.450) lists prohibited grounds for denying participation in interscholastic athletics as the following:

A school, school district, or association, whether public or private, may not deny any grade or high school student the right to participate in interscholastic athletics solely on the ground that the student:

- (1) Transferred between schools;
- (2) Attends a public charter school, as defined in ORS 338.005;
- (3) Participated in athletics at another school; or
- (4) Is eligible to attend school under ORS 339.115 (1) and is enrolled in a program to earn a certificate for passing an approved high school equivalency test, such as the General Educational Development (GED) test.

Does your school/league/classification support having different rules for 6A/5A/4A and 3A/2A/1A, where transfer rules would apply based on the classification of the school to which a student is transferring? Does your school/league/classification support the OSAA opening an investigation on a school based upon a certain number of transfers to a specific program and/or school for athletics? If so, what should be the threshold for investigation? Does your school/league/classification support utilizing transfer data as a factor when determining classification placement for a school?

- Voted to amend Article 8.6.3. – Exceptions to Fundamental Rule - Adjusts policies regarding OSAA review of International and McKinney-Vento student eligibility. Effective August 1, 2026. (attached)
- Voted to elect the following representatives to the Executive Board:
 - Iton Udosenata, Superintendent, Tigard-Tualatin SD as the 6A representative.
 - Shay James, Superintendent, North Clackamas SD, as the 5A representative.
 - Re-elect – George Mendoza, Superintendent, La Grande SD, as the 4A representative.
- Recognized outgoing members of the Delegate Assembly and thanked them for their service to the Association.
- Elected Jamie Ongman, Director of Human Resources & Title IX Coordinator, Klamath County SD, as the OSAA President for 2026-27.
- Received a reminder of upcoming meetings:
 - Executive Board – Monday, May 11, 2026 / 11am / OSAA Office, Wilsonville
 - Executive Board Summer Workshop – Monday-Wednesday, July 20-22, 2026 / Eagle Crest Resort, Redmond

A summary of actions is posted on the OSAA website following each Board and Delegate Assembly Meeting. Official minutes of the April 6, 2026, Delegate Assembly meeting are available from the OSAA upon request.

The April 6, 2026, Delegate Assembly meeting was live streamed on the OSAA's YouTube channel and a recording can be accessed at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/@oregonschoolactivitiesasso4025/streams>.

Proposal to Amend Rule 8.6.3 – Exceptions to Fundamental Rule

(Adopted April 6, 2026; Effective August 1, 2026)

QUESTION: Should the Delegate Assembly approve an amendment from the Executive Board to Rule 8.6.3. – Exceptions to Fundamental Rule to clarify rationale and outline processes that schools follow when determining eligibility?

RATIONALE: Following an eligibility appeal earlier this school year, OSAA legal counsel has suggested adjusting language to clarify rationale and outline processes for schools to follow when determining eligibility.

RULE CHANGE SPONSORED BY: OSAA Executive Board

NEXT STEP IF PASSED: Effective immediately unless otherwise stated in the motion.

POSSIBLE RULE CHANGES:

KEY: Add Delete

8.6. Transfer.

8.6.1. Fundamental Rule.

Rule: It is a Fundamental Rule of the Association that a student must attend the high school in the high school attendance boundary within which the Joint Residence of the student and the student's parents is located. Exceptions to this Fundamental Rule are to be narrowly construed.

Rationale: A transfer/residency requirement assists in the prevention of students switching schools in conjunction with the change of season for athletic or activities purposes; impairs recruitment; and reduces the opportunity for undue influence to be exerted by persons seeking to benefit from a student athlete or activities participant's prowess.

A transfer/residency requirement promotes stability and harmony among member schools by maintaining the amateur standing of high school activities participants; by disallowing individuals other than enrolled students to participate; and by upholding the principle that a student should attend the high school in the district where the student's parent(s) reside.

In addition, a transfer/residency requirement prohibits international students, other than students who are participants in an established foreign exchange program accepted for listing by the Council of Standards for International Educational Travel (CSIET), from ***being recruited and/or transferring to a member school for athletic purposes with the consequence of*** displacing other students from athletic and activities opportunities.

8.6.2. Eligible Student Transfer Certificate. [\(Eligible Student Transfer Certificate\)](#)

In connection with any student who has transferred but is eligible under the Rules of the Association, the school shall complete an Eligible Student Transfer Certificate in the form prescribed by the Association, properly signed by the superintendent, assistant superintendent, or principal of the high school the student enters, and maintain it at the school for inspection at the request of the Association.

1. Q. If a student transfers to a school, when is the principal required to file an Eligible Student Transfer Certificate?

A. The principal of the school to which the student transfers shall complete an Eligible Student Transfer Certificate and a copy maintained at the school for inspection at the request of the OSAA prior to the student's participation in interscholastic activities.

2. Q. Where should a transfer eligibility request be filed for a student in a sport divided into special districts?

A. The transfer eligibility request should be submitted by the school the student wishes to represent to the regular District Committee for that school.

8.6.3. Exceptions to Fundamental Rule.

- (a) **Entering 9th grade students.** Notwithstanding the provisions of sub-paragraph (c) below, a student is eligible to participate at a school other than the high school in the high school attendance boundary within which Joint Residence of the student and the student's parents is located when the student first enters the 9th grade.
- (b) **Students who are wards of the court.** A student who is otherwise eligible does not become ineligible by virtue of being made a ward of the court and placed in a residence (such as a foster home) in a different attendance boundary, except a student made a ward of the court under [ORS 419C.555](#) (Juvenile Code).
- (c) **International students on CSIET approved programs.** [\(CSIET List\)](#) [\(International Student Eligibility Checklist\)](#)

Rule: An international student who is on a CSIET approved program is eligible for one year from the date of enrollment if the following criteria are met:

- (1) The student is attending a school in the attendance boundary where the host family resides.
- (2) The student satisfies the OSAA age requirement.
- (3) The student has not completed the equivalent of twelve years of education (excluding kindergarten).
- (4) The student has not previously attended a high school in the United States.
- (5) Neither the school the student attends nor any person affiliated with the school has had any input in the selection of the student.
- (6) The host family is not a member (paid or voluntary) of the school's athletic department nor the coach/director of a non-athletic activity.
- (7) The student is not a "direct placement." A student is considered to be a "direct placement" for the purposes of this rule if the student was placed in a specific high school and/or with a specific host family as a result of a request from the student or the student's family.
- (8) The student has not been terminated from the CSIET program.

Rationale: An international student who comes to the United States without the accompaniment of their parents is analogous to a domestic student who transfers without being accompanied by their parents. The latter student is not typically granted immediate eligibility.

"Team shopping" is at odds with the high school model of academic primacy and is unfair to other students and other schools. ***Recognizing bona fide reasons to encourage exchange programs, this rule is intended to address differences and/or disparities in exchange programs.*** F-1 visa programs in particular are ripe for abuse in the transfer process. While a J-1 foreign exchange student in an approved program typically has little say in their school of enrollment, a student with an F-1 visa, absent a state association rule, could choose their school of enrollment based solely on immediate sports opportunity.

Rules restricting participation by ~~such certain international~~ students promote amateurism, inhibit “power-loading” of select schools and impede the exploitation of students by coaches and boosters. Such rules discourage recruiting, prevent the over-emphasis of athletics, and maintain the focus of secondary schools on their primary purpose: the academic preparation of students for their adult lives.

1. Q. May a school administrator provide general assistance and information to assist CSIET approved programs in the placement of students in the administrator’s school district?
 - A. This Executive Board Policy is intended to prohibit undue school influence in the placement of international student-athletes at the school. Administrative input to CSIET approved program coordinators regarding such issues as available host families, number of placements available at the school and other input would not be a violation of the spirit of this policy so long as the input is unrelated to athletic participation.

2. Q. Who hears appeals involving international student eligibility?
 - A. All international student eligibility appeals are initially heard by the Executive Director.

(d) **Students whose parents are divorced, legally separated or unmarried.** A student who does not maintain a Joint Residence with both parents is eligible when:

- (1) The student moves to reside with a parent in a different high school attendance area at the time the parent initiates court proceedings seeking legal separation or divorce, or upon a change of custody by court order; or
- (2) Between school years, the student moves to reside with the other parent and transfers to the school within whose attendance boundaries the other parent resides.

1. Q. When the parents of a student legally separate and take up residence in different high school attendance areas, what is the eligibility status of the student?
 - A. At the time a student's parents initiate court proceedings seeking legal separation or divorce, the student may reside with either parent and be immediately eligible in the high school attendance area in which the parent resides. The student also retains eligibility for any transfer back to the other parent, so long as the transfer occurs between school years.

2. Q. If a student transfers from one high school to another high school, how long must that student attend the second high school before the second high school principal is not required to complete an Eligible Student Transfer Certificate?
 - A. The student shall be in attendance for one calendar year before it would not be necessary to complete an Eligible Student Transfer Certificate. Once an Eligible Student Transfer Certificate is completed for a student, another need not be completed for another sport if the student has attended the school less than one year.

3. Q. If a student moves with their parents from a high school in one attendance boundary to a high school in another attendance boundary, when will the student become eligible in their new school?
 - A. The student will become eligible when the student's parents physically move into and jointly occupy their new residence with the intent to reside there indefinitely and terminate all occupancy of their previous residence, and when the student is properly enrolled, and the principal has completed the Eligible Student Transfer Certificate.

4. Q. When does a student become eligible if the student transfers in advance of their parents?
 - A. If a student transfers to a high school in advance of the anticipated change of residence of the student's parents, the student shall become eligible at their new school when the parents physically move into and occupy the residence in that school district and the principal has completed the Eligible Student Transfer Certificate, or one year after enrolling in the new school.

5. Q. If a student's parents move in advance of the student to another school district, is the student eligible at the new school when they move?
 - A. No, to be eligible at the new school, the student must move at the same time as the parents.

(e) **Students who reside on campus at a member boarding school.** Unless the student was previously eligible under Rule 8.6.3.(c) “International Students on CSIET Approved Programs,” a student who transfers to reside on campus at a member boarding school between school years is eligible.

(f) **Students who transfer between school years.** A student who transfers between school years is eligible if:

(1) The student transfers to a full member private school, full member charter school, **full member magnet school**, or home school and maintains a Joint Residence. See **Rules, Rules 8.10., "Definitions"** for additional information.

(2) The student transfers to the public school within the attendance boundaries of Joint Residence and maintains a Joint Residence.

(3) The student transfers within a multiple high school district with the approval of the administration of the multiple high school district and maintains a Joint Residence.

(4) The student transfers between Oregon school districts under the terms of a Reciprocal Transfer Agreement and maintains a Joint Residence.

1. Q. When a student transfers under the terms of a Reciprocal Transfer Agreement during the school year, at what date does the student become eligible?

A. The student becomes eligible at the beginning of the next school year following the transfer.

2. Q. If a student enrolls in the 9th grade of a four-year high school and then transfers between school years to the 10th grade of a three-year high school, is that student eligible at the second school?

A. No, unless a corresponding move is completed by the student and their parents, or the transfer is under a Reciprocal Transfer Agreement.

3. Q. May a student who is attending a public high school transfer to a private high school without loss of eligibility if there is no corresponding move by the student's parents?

A. Yes, if the student continues to maintain a Joint Residence with their parents and the transfer is made between school years.

4. Q. May a student who is attending a private high school transfer to a public high school without loss of eligibility if there is no corresponding move by the student's parents?

A. Yes, if the student continues to maintain a Joint Residence with their parents and the transfer is made between school years and the public high school is located within the high school attendance boundary in which the Joint Residence of the student and the student's parents is located or the student transfers to another school district under the terms of a Reciprocal Transfer Agreement.

5. Q. If a student not maintaining a Joint Residence with their parents has been granted eligibility by a regular district committee, would that student remain eligible if the student were to transfer to another school between school years under the terms of a Reciprocal Transfer Agreement?

A. No. The student would be ineligible because the transfer would not satisfy the Reciprocal Transfer Agreement eligibility requirement that the student must maintain a Joint Residence with their parents.

6. Q. What is the period of ineligibility for a student that transfers mid-year from a full member public school to a full member private school?

A. Though a mid-year transfer typically carries a one calendar year period of ineligibility, a student in this situation may be eligible at the beginning of the next school year, provided they meet all other eligibility requirements, because the transfer would have been legal had it occurred between school years.

(g) **McKinney-Vento Students.** A student who does not meet the transfer / residency requirement but is otherwise eligible does not become ineligible to participate at a school if the student **meets the statutory and regulatory requirements to be** identified as a McKinney-Vento Student. The McKinney-Vento Act requires schools to enroll children and youth experiencing homelessness in school immediately, even if the student is unable to produce records normally required for enrollment or has missed application or enrollment deadlines during any period of homelessness [42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(3)(C)(i)]. The Act defines enroll and enrollment as "attending classes and participating fully in school activities" [42 U.S.C. § 11434a(1)]. ~~Therefore, students experiencing homelessness must be able to enroll in school immediately, including attending classes and participating in extracurricular school activities, such as sports, performing arts, and clubs.~~

- (1) **Identification of McKinney-Vento students and residency status.** A school district's McKinney-Vento liaison and the school's athletic director should **assess whether a transfer student meets the requirements of McKinney-Vento.** ~~work collaboratively to eliminate barriers to full participation when addressing the needs of students experiencing homelessness.~~ Once the school district's McKinney-Vento liaison has determined that a student is homeless and therefore eligible for McKinney-Vento services then **consistent with the OSAA's requirements for eligibility determinations, a school's athletic director must complete an Eligible Student Transfer Certificate, identifying the one (or more) criteria set forth below. The OSAA may then request additional information or evidence to support any such designation.** ~~the Joint Residence status of a student's individual eligibility should be waived. All other individual eligibility requirements would still need to be met for the student to be deemed eligible, including academic eligibility, eight-semester rule, age requirements, and affiliation policies.~~

The term "homeless children and youth" means individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence which could include:

- a. Children and youths who are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing; economic hardship, or similar reason; living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelters; or are abandoned in hospitals;
 - b. Children and youths who have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings;
 - c. Children and youths who are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations or similar settings;
 - d. Migratory children who qualify as homeless living in circumstances like previously described.
- (2) **Transfers of McKinney-Vento Students. Where a student has been finally determined to fall within the statutory definition(s) set forth above, the following rules establish how eligibility will be determined:**
- a. **Between School Years:** A McKinney-Vento student who transfers between school years to another full member school, will have eligibility determined through the collaborative process between the school district's McKinney-Vento liaison and the school's athletic director, **which the OSAA may confirm (as set forth above)** as described above.
 - b. **Mid-Year Transfers:** A McKinney-Vento student who transfers during the school year would need to be identified as a McKinney-Vento student by the new school district's McKinney-Vento liaison **which the OSAA may confirm (as set forth above)**. Once that determination is made, the student would be eligible to represent the school provided that all other individual eligibility requirements are met.
 - c. **Dispute Process:** If during a transfer process, the school district from which the student is transferring from disputes the McKinney-Vento determination of a student, then the receiving school district would need to seek McKinney-Vento determination from the Oregon Department of Education (ODE). ~~Once~~ **If** ODE confirms the student's designation as a McKinney-Vento student, **and the OSAA has confirmed such eligibility based upon the information submitted to it,** then the student would be eligible provided all other individual eligibility requirements are met. If ODE denies the student's designation, then the student is ineligible and would need to seek eligibility through the hardship appeal process.

- (3) **Appeal Process:** Homeless students should not expect to undergo a hardship appeal except when the McKinney-Vento liaison for a school district is unable to gather enough information to adequately determine the student's residency status, academic standing, or age, ***and/or if the information submitted to the OSAA is inadequate to make such determination and the absence of information is consistent with the student's circumstances.*** If a hardship appeal is necessary due to missing/incomplete information for a McKinney-Vento student, the OSAA and the District Committee will work together to ensure an expedited hardship appeal process.