

- 18.10.1 In order to be eligible to participate and/or represent a member school in an interscholastic contest, the student of that school must be residing within the boundaries of that school district and designated attendance area of the school. In the event a school does not have a designated attendance area, the WIAA Executive Board shall have the authority to designate an attendance area for such school. The WIAA Executive Board shall consider all relevant factors, including but not limited to, the natural or historical attendance area for such school, the geographical setting of the school in the municipality, and the nearby public school boundaries.
- 18.10.2 Unless otherwise provided, a student shall become varsity eligible at the school in which that student resides with the family unit, provided the student continuously attended that member school, or a feeder school of that member school, for a period of one (1) year.
- 18.10.3 A student who cannot meet the Residence Rule requirements would be eligible for all interscholastic competition below the varsity level, subject to 18.26.3.
- 18.10.4 Residence Area for private schools shall be a fifty (50) mile radius from the school address. NOTE: Refer to Article 3.1.1 for status of a private school district.

PHILOSOPHY OF TRANSFER - *The Transfer Rule is preventative in nature and is devised to eliminate the incentive to transfer schools when the motivation is for athletic purposes and after a student has initially chosen the school of his/her choice while he/she has been living with the family unit. The Transfer Rule protects students who have previously participated in athletic competition at a member school from being replaced by students who transfer for athletic purposes and further protects students at other member schools from the effects of "school shopping" by students and "recruiting" by member schools and their agents. The Transfer Rule encourages fair play, discourages the excesses and abuses of promotion, and protects the integrity of interscholastic athletic programs for the member schools and their students. While recognizing the educational experiences that each member school provides, the WIAA member schools support the right of parents and students to attend a school of their choice. The WIAA member schools believe that once an educational choice has been made, there must be a special set of circumstances as covered in the "hardship rule" to warrant athletic eligibility when a student transfer occurs without a commensurate move on the part of the family unit.*

18.11.0 TRANSFERRING STUDENTS - After registering with, attending, or participating with a middle level or high school, students changing enrollment to/from one school district to another school district or from one high school to another high school within a multiple high school district shall be considered transferring students. In order to be eligible for varsity competition, transferring students must meet the transferring student requirements of 18.11.1, 18.11.2, 18.11.3, or be granted a waiver under 18.13.0 and 18.26.3. This section shall also apply to those students receiving home based instruction. NOTE: Refer to Article 3.1.1 for the status of a private school district.

- 18.11.1 A student who is ineligible in a member school for interscholastic activities may not become immediately eligible at another member school without completing the conditions of ineligibility.
- 18.11.2 The following students who are attending a member school shall be deemed to meet the residence rule requirement and transferring student rule requirements:
 - A. A student whose transfer is based on a bona fide change of residence to a new school (district) due to an actual physical relocation of and with the entire family unit to a different residence and preceded by termination of all occupancy of their previous residence.
 - B. A student attending a school outside of his/her residence district for one (1) calendar year or more is eligible thereafter at that school provided the enrollment/attendance is continuous.
 - C. A student whose parent(s) or legal guardian(s) reside at different abodes as the result of a divorce or court approved legal separation is allowed one (1) transfer between parents or guardians after entering the ninth (9th) grade without being restricted to sub-varsity competition for one (1) year.
 - D. A student who is under commitment to the Department of Social and Health Services, a student who is on juvenile parole status and a student who has been adjudicated as a ward of a juvenile court where residence is the result of assignment by the government entity charged with his/her care.
 - E. A student who has a residence change because of the death of a member of the family unit or military deployment in order to reside with a relative.
 - F. A seventh (7th) and/or eighth (8th) grade student who transfers to a school without a corresponding change of residence by his/her family unit and who meets all other conditions of eligibility shall be eligible at the new middle school when properly enrolled. High school eligibility is subject to the transfer rule and one (1) year of continuous enrollment.
 - G. A student, except F-1 Visa students to a private school, upon enrollment to the initial first level of a private school within a 50-mile radius of the family residence from his/her public school of residence or his/her public school of residence from a private school within a 50-mile radius of the family residence.

If either the public or the private school declares its ninth (9th) graders as junior high athletes, the window of transfer is between the ninth (9th) and tenth (10th) grade years; if the school declares its ninth (9th) graders as high school athletes, the window of transfer is between the eighth (8th) and ninth (9th) grade years.