

Common Questions about Academic Eligibility

Q. What does it mean to be eligible/ineligible?

A. In simplest terms, the Texas Education Agency (TEA) requires any student that participates in any extracurricular activity to earn a minimum grade of 70 in all enrolled coursework to be considered eligible to participate in the activity. The reporting grade will be determined at the official grading periods during the year. Students that do not meet this requirement are considered ineligible. This is also known as “No Pass, No Play”.

Q. What activities are affected by eligibility?

A. Any UIL sponsored activity such as football, band, theater and UIL Academics. Other non-UIL activities such as FFA, cheerleading and drill team are also affected.

Q. What are the official grading periods?

A. There are twelve (12) reporting periods for Allen ISD, six – 6 weeks report cards and six – 3 week progress reports.

Q. What is the difference between and report card and a progress report with respect to eligibility?

A. Students can gain or lose eligibility on a report card, but can only gain eligibility on a progress report.

Here are the three possible scenarios:

- 1) Student passes all classes on the six week report card – eligible for the next six weeks.
- 2) Student fails one or more classes on the six week report – ineligible for next three weeks.
 - a) Ineligible student passes all classes on next progress report – eligible until next report card.
 - b) Ineligible student fails any class on next progress report – remains ineligible until next report card.

Q. When a student fails a course at the end of a grading period, is that course the only subject the student must pass to regain eligibility within three weeks?

A. As Stated above, No. The student must be passing all enrolled courses not just the one previously failing.

Q. What is “grace week”?

A. “Grace Week” is the seven calendar days after each official reporting period including progress reports.

Example: If the grading period ends Friday at 3:40 p.m. then the student’s eligibility status will become effective the following Friday at 3:40 p.m.

Q. Under what conditions may a student receive an incomplete (I) grade and how does it affect eligibility?

A. A student with an “Incomplete” grade is ineligible at the end of the seven day grace period unless the “Incomplete” was replaced with a passing grade prior to the end of the seven day grace period. Students with an “Incomplete” grade either within or beyond the end of the seven day grace period may regain eligibility if the work is made up in accordance with district policy with regard to time allowed for make-up work and the conditions under which make-up work are allowed. **Incompletes extending beyond the 7 days need to be approved by the House Principal prior to the end of that 7 day period.**

Q. Can a student’s grade be changed for eligibility?

A. After a failing grade has been recorded, the situations in which a student’s grade may be changed to passing and eligibility restored are ONLY as follows: (a) an examination or course grade issued by a classroom teacher is final and may not be changed unless the grade is arbitrary, erroneous, or not consistent with school district grading policy. NOTE: Extra credit work or work (including re-test) turned in after the grading period or evaluation has ended **may not** be considered when determining a student’s eligibility for extracurricular activities except in the case of an “Incomplete” grade discussed above.

Q. Where can I find more information pertaining to eligibility laws?

A. You can access the TEA/UIL Side by Side Handbook at http://www.uil.utexas.edu/policy/side_by_side.html