

IHSA Home School Fact Sheet



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IHSA By-laws do not prohibit participation in interscholastic athletics by home schooled students at IHSA member high schools. On the other hand, IHSA By-laws also do not mandate that member schools permit home schooled students to participate. The determination of whether home schooled children in a given community may or may not participate on their local school's interscholastic athletic and activity teams is the responsibility of the local school.

IHSA By-law 3.011 includes provisions which permit interscholastic participation by home schooled students at their local IHSA member school, under specified conditions. By-law 3.011 states:

*A student must attend a member school and may only represent in interscholastic competition the member school the student attends. For purposes of this by-law, the term "attend" shall mean that the student is enrolled at the member school, and is taking at, or under arrangements approved by the member school, a minimum of twenty-five (25) credit hours of work for which credit toward high school graduation will be granted by the member school upon the student's completing and passing the courses. The school which enrolls the student shall be exclusively responsible to verify the student's compliance with all of the eligibility requirements of all IHSA by-laws. **A homeschool student must be taking and passing at least one credit bearing course at the member school and enrolled in a program approved by the member school on a weekly and semester basis in which they are taking and passing a minimum combined total of twenty-five (25) credit hours of work.***

Under the provisions of this by-law, any student, including one who is home schooled, must meet five specific requirements to be eligible for interscholastic participation:

1. The student must be **enrolled** at the member high school; **this includes taking and passing at least one course offered by the member school each semester.**
2. The student must be taking and passing a minimum of twenty-five (25) credit hours of work (the equivalent of five .5 credit courses) at the member school or in a program approved by the member school on a weekly and semester basis. **At a minimum, one of the courses must be a course offered at the member high school.**
3. The student must be granted credit toward graduation by the member school for the work taken either at the member school or in a program it approved.
4. The student must be in compliance with all eligibility requirements of all IHSA By-laws. (Residence, Transfer, Scholastic Standing, etc.)
5. The student must pay applicable tuition and fees at the member high school. Since a student must be earning a minimum of 2.5 credits a semester, the student must pay for 2.5 credits worth of tuition. For example, if tuition is \$4,000 per semester and a full-time student can earn 4 full credits per semester, the full tuition cost is \$1,000 per credit. A student earning 2.5 credits would pay \$2500, a student earning 3 credits would pay \$3000, etc.