



**CIF/CENTRAL COAST SECTION**  
[www.cifccs.org](http://www.cifccs.org)

## **CCS ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY POLICY**

(See [Article 2, CIF Bylaws](#); also see [Article VI, CCS Bylaws](#))

(Revised: 1/8/81; 1/12/84; 4/25/85; 6/6/85; 6/92; 6/94; 6/96;5/97; 6/07; 7/07; 10/07)

### **GENERAL STATEMENT:**

The CIF Constitution and Bylaws provide the framework for determining athletic eligibility for students as established by the Federated Council of the CIF. Several Articles of the CIF Constitution and Bylaws provide that CIF Sections may establish rules and procedures to make an exception to the CIF eligibility rules and/or make more stringent rules applicable to Section member schools. The Central Coast Section has established several such procedures which are included herein.

- It is the principal's or designee responsibility to make sure that all students who compete on any school team are eligible under all CIF, CCS, league, district and school regulations.
- If it is ascertained at the school site that an individual student-athlete's eligibility requires some action, as outlined in the CIF, CCS or league Bylaws by the League, it is the responsibility of the principal or designee to assist the student in completing and submitting any required eligibility application forms.
- It is the principal or designee's responsibility to coordinate the processing of any eligibility applications, forms or questions.
- It is the principal's or designee responsibility to communicate with the CCS and to do their utmost to prevent parents from circumventing the chain of command and communicating directly with the CCS Office.
- The CCS will make eligibility determinations in as timely a fashion as possible. Such applications will be reviewed by the CCS in the order in which they are received. Based on the volume of eligibility requests received, it should be expected to take one month from the date or receipt for any review of eligibility to take place. (This time period is extended significantly in the summer).

### **CIF BYLAW 206, 207, 208—TRANSFER STUDENT ELIGIBILITY (not including foreign transfers)**

Please reference the CIF/CCS Transfer Eligibility Administrative Handbook/Parent Handbook/Appeals Handbook available at [www.cifccs.org](http://www.cifccs.org) for complete details and copies of forms.

- These CIF bylaws are followed by the CCS. There is no provision for waiver of these bylaws at the section level, except as outlined within those rules themselves. The CIF Bylaws should be reviewed in their entirety to ascertain which bylaws apply to an individual student's transfer eligibility.
- ALL transfer students (those changing schools without making a valid change of residence with their entire family—(See CIF Bylaw 206.B for rules pertaining to students making a valid change of residence) MUST complete and submit for review and determination to the CCS Commissioner CIF/CCS Form 207 and Form 510. Such students are NOT eligible for any competition at any level in any sport until a determination is made by the CCS Commissioner.
- Per CIF guidelines such forms must be submitted to the CCS through regular U.S. Postal Service delivery.

## CIF Bylaws

### **208. HARDSHIP WAIVERS**

The California Interscholastic Federation recognizes that, in certain circumstances, students may transfer from one school to another due to a compelling need or situation beyond a student's control. In such cases the Section may waive the transfer limitation imposed on a student when the case meets the definition of a hardship. (See A. below.) Consideration of any hardship request under this bylaw requires documented proof of the hardship circumstance, and all facts to be considered must be submitted at the time of application. Consideration will be given to those situations in which there is no evidence of athletic motivation, undue influence, pending disciplinary action or falsification of information (See also Bylaw 202).

- A. A hardship is defined as an unforeseeable, unavoidable and uncorrectable act, condition or event that causes the imposition of a severe and non-athletic burden upon the student or his/her family. Sections may only waive the transfer limitation if the conditions of hardship are met, and there is sufficient documentation to support the hardship claim. Sections may not waive the applicable rule if the conditions of hardship are not met.
- B. Consideration of any hardship request to a Section requires documentation. Such documents may include, but not be limited to copies of current transcripts, financial documents, medical statements and/or supportive statements from the previous school attended.

Also see CIF Bylaw 208 Q & A's located in the CIF Bylaws or on their web page at [www.cifstate.org](http://www.cifstate.org)

## **CIF BYLAW 209 –STUDENT ELIGIBILITY FOR TRANSFERS FROM A FOREIGN COUNTRY**

- Students who transfer from a foreign county without a valid change of residence of their entire family are subject to the eligibility requirements of CIF Bylaw 209.
- All students who transfer from a foreign country **under the auspices of a CIF-approved foreign exchange program** MUST complete and submit a CIF/CCS Form 209 and Form 510 for review and determination by the CCS Commissioner. These students are NOT eligible for any competition at any level in any sport until a determination is made by the CCS Commissioner.  
**CIF Bylaw 209.A.**
- All students who are **NOT in a CIF-approved foreign exchange program but transfer** from a foreign country without making a valid change of residence with their entire family—(See CIF Bylaw 206.B for rules pertaining to students making a valid change of residence) MUST complete and submit a CIF/CCS Form 209 and Form 510 for review and determination by the CCS Commissioner. Such students are NOT eligible for any competition at any level in any sport until a determination is made by the CCS Commissioner. **CIF Bylaw 209.B.** According to CIF Bylaw 209.B.(2), CCS may approve foreign students under our policy. **The CCS Policy is as follows:**
  1. Demonstration and substantiation of a hardship as described in CIF Hardship Bylaw 208 OR
  2. The transfer student comes from a country which has no access to ANY foreign exchange program OR
  3. The transfer student enrolls in a CCS member high school under a formal "sister city" program that can be documented to have been formalized through the cities involved not for the purpose of athletic participation. Should a city have more than one high school, the student in the sister city program shall only be eligible at the school in whose attendance area, his/her host family resides unless a hardship can be documented meeting the criteria in 2.F- Family Hardships that applies to his/her need to attend a different school in that same city.

**CIF RULE 600—COMPETITION AGAINST NON-CIF TEAMS**

All aspects of CIF Bylaw 600 apply. CCS Board of Managers has approved the following additional restriction for all CCS student athletes.

**OUTSIDE COMPETITION--(PROHIBITION AGAINST JOINING TEAM AFTER LEAGUE HAS STARTED CCS Bylaws, Article VI****Section 11 OUTSIDE COMPETITION**

A student may not join a school Varsity team after the first league contest of that team if the student has competed on an outside team or in outside competition in the same sport during the school/league season of that sport except as provided for in CIF Bylaw ARTICLE VI. A newly enrolled student or one who could not participate due to illness or injury may join the team if he/she does not compete on an outside team subsequent to his/her enrollment or recovery from such illness or injury

**CIF Bylaw 203:AGE REQUIREMENT**, allows sections to make an exception to the 19-year old rule. The CCS Board of Managers has adopted the following waiver criteria:

**CCS Bylaws Section 8 WAIVER OF CIF AGE REQUIREMENT (19 YEAR OLDS)**

According to CIF Bylaw 203 criteria, a waiver of that bylaw regarding a 19 year old participating if her/her 19<sup>th</sup> birthday occurs prior to June 15 of the preceding year, may be considered by the CCS as follows:

1. Such waiver would not grant more than four years (eight consecutive semesters) of eligibility AND
2. Such a waiver would not grant more than four years participation in any sport, AND
3. A hardship exists, which in the judgment of the Section, requires a waiver. Hardship is defined as an unforeseeable, unavoidable and uncorrectable act, condition or event, which causes the imposition of a severe and non-athletic burden upon the student or his/her family. (CIF Bylaw 208) AND
4. The circumstances in the case are very extraordinary and singularly unique to the situation that this waiver could not be construed to set a precedent in a multitude of consecutive cases, AND
5. The physical size, strength or maturity of the individual in question would clearly not be a safety issue in the sport in which the student will be participating, either for the student him/herself or other students participating with or against this student, AND
6. The student will not turn 20 years of age during the season(s) in which she/she would be participating.

**CIF BYLAW 204-EIGHT CONSECUTIVE SEMESTER REQUIREMENT**

In accordance with CIF Bylaws 204.B., the CCS Board of Managers has approved the following waiver criteria for this eligibility rule. Students must complete and submit the CCS Form 204 to the CCS Commissioner, with all required documentation, for review and determination. Students are not eligible for ANY competition in any sport at any level after their 8<sup>th</sup> consecutive semester of high school as outlined in CIF Bylaw 204, until a determination is made by the CCS Commissioner.

**WAIVER OF EIGHT SEMESTERS**

Applications for a waiver of CIF Bylaw 204 under the provisions of CIF Bylaw 204.B. shall be considered by the CCS Commissioner according to the following guidelines:

1. The student is required to remain out of school for a significant portion (more than half) of any semester during their high school career due to an exceptional hardship. (See CIF Bylaw 204 and CIF Bylaw 208) **OR**
2. Documentation can be provided that substantiates that the student has extended their attendance beyond eight (8) semesters due to health or hardship circumstances without any athletic motivation **OR**
3. Documentation can be provided that substantiates that the student has been attending school out of the U.S. in a foreign exchange program, for a semester or a year and who has not participated in more than four seasons of any sport (including any season in which the student participated while out of the country). **AND**
4. The student meets all other provisions of CIF Bylaw 204.

**USE CCS FORM 204 REQUEST FOR WAIVER OF BYLAW 204 EIGHT SEMESTER RULE**