

**CIF/CENTRAL COAST SECTION**

6830 Via Del Oro, Suite 103

San Jose CA 95119

408-224-2994 www.cifccs.org

REQUEST FOR WAIVER OF CIF BYLAW 204**CIF BYLAW 204. EIGHT CONSECUTIVE SEMESTERS REQUIREMENT****A. Definition of a Semester of Attendance**

- (1) Enrollment and/or attendance for 15 school days or more shall count as one of the eight semesters.
- (2) Participation in one or more interscholastic athletic contests shall count as one of the eight semesters.

B. Eight Consecutive Semester Rule

A student who first enters the 9th grade of any school following the student's completion of the 8th grade in any school may be eligible for athletic competition during a maximum period of time that is not to exceed eight consecutive semesters following the initial enrollment in the 9th grade of any school, and said eligibility must be used during the student's first eight consecutive semesters of enrollment at that school or any other school. Each California Interscholastic Federation Section may, at its discretion, establish rules and procedures for waiving the limitation on semesters of eligibility, providing:

- (1) The student is required by the student's school principal to return to grade eight from grade nine and the student did not take part in an interscholastic contest while in the 9th grade, for the first time; OR
- (2) The student, because of mid-year completion of an 8th grade or a mid-year completion of the 9th grade in a junior high school, is required by the student's school principal to repeat a semester of work in order to conform to a school program having annual terms, AND that the student has not taken part in an interscholastic athletic contest while enrolled for the first time in the semester which the student's school principal required the student to repeat.

C. Other than paragraph (1) and (2) above, relief under this rule may only be granted when the conditions set forth in Bylaw 204.D. below are found to be present. Any other or past rationales or bases for relief under this bylaw are disapproved. (Approved May 2001 Federated Council)**D. Waiver of the Charge of a Semester of Attendance**

Each California Interscholastic Federation Section may waive the charge of one or more of the eight consecutive semesters of eligibility for athletic competition due to a hardship condition that causes the student's absence from school or to extend the student's attendance in school beyond eight consecutive semesters, PROVIDED:

- (1) That a hardship condition exists that, in the judgment of the Section, warrants a waiver. "Hardship" is defined in CIF Bylaw 208;
 - a. The hardship caused the student to remain out of school for more than half of any semester during his/her high school career; OR
 - b. The hardship is the direct and sole cause of the student extending his/her attendance beyond eight consecutive semesters even though the student was in attendance for those eight consecutive semesters. Further, the student's extension of his/her attendance beyond eight semesters has no athletic motivation.
- (2) That the student was eligible under all rules in the semester immediately prior to either his/her absence or the onset of the hardship condition that is the direct and sole cause for extending his/her attendance beyond eight semesters;
- (3) Such a waiver would not grant more than four years' participation in any sport;
- (4) All other eligibility requirements apply.

A decision to deny such a waiver by the Section Commissioner may be appealed only to the Section and in accordance with the provisions set forth in State CIF Bylaw 1100.

NOTE: Failure to satisfy the California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE), California course requirements (e.g. Algebra I), and/or end of course requirements shall not be considered a hardship.

208. HARDSHIP WAIVERS

The CIF 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.

CCS has established the rules and procedures as described on the BELOW for waiving the charge of one or more of the eight maximum semesters:

DOCUMENTATION, INCLUDING A COPY OF THE STUDENT'S TRANSCRIPT AND A COMPLETE, THOROUGH, SPECIFIC WRITTEN DESCRIPTION OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES CAUSING THE NEED FOR A WAIVER REQUEST MUST ACCOMPANY ALL 204 APPLICATIONS!!!!!!

CCS 8-SEMESTER WAIVER POLICY

Applications for a waiver of CIF Bylaw 204 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 205A.B. 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 over provisions of CIF Bylaw 204.

CCS FORM 204 IS ATTACHED



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APPLICATION FOR AN EXCEPTION TO CIF BYLAW 204—EIGHT SEMESTER RULE

A. STUDENT'S NAME: _____ CURRENT SCHOOL _____

B. STUDENT'S CURRENT ADDRESS: _____
 (street) (city) (zip)

TELEPHONE #: _____ STUDENT'S DOB: _____

C. DATE ON WHICH THIS STUDENT TURNS 19 YEARS OLD: _____/_____/20_____

D. DATE OF **INITIAL** ENROLLMENT IN NINTH GRADE _____ SCHOOL _____
 (mo/day/yr) (in which student first entered 9th grade)

E. Sport(s) in which the student intends to participate _____

F. APPLICATION FOR WAIVER IS BEING MADE UNDER THE FOLLOWING CCS PROVISION (SEE ABOVE)

- 1. **OUT OF SCHOOL DUE TO HARDSHIP**
- 2. **EXTENDED ATTENDANCE (9 OR 10 SEMESTERS) DUE TO HEALTH OR HARDSHIP**
- 3. **RETURNING TO PREVIOUS SCHOOL AFTER PARTICIPATION IN A FOREIGN EXCHANGE PROGRAM FROM: _____ TO: _____**
 (DATES)

G. PLEASE INITIAL ALL THAT APPLY:	STUDENT	PRINCIPAL
1. This student has not participated in more than three seasons of any sport listed in E. above during his/her collective semesters of attendance in any high school: (including any high school abroad)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. This student was eligible under all rules in the semester immediately prior to his or her absence (ONLY APPLICABLE IF F. #1 IS CHECKED ABOVE)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. This student meets all other age, and scholastic eligibility requirements.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

I certify by signature below that the information on this application is correct to the best of my knowledge. I understand that a written description and supporting documentation specifically outlining the circumstances causing this student to be in his/her ninth or tenth semester must be attached in order for application to be considered by the CCS Commissioner.

 Signature of Principal

 Signature of Student

You MUST include a copy of the student's transcript and a chronological list of school attendance as well as a detailed description of the circumstances that have directly caused the student extending their stay in high school beyond the allowed 8 semesters.

**RETURN COMPLETED FORM AND DOCUMENTATION TO THE
 CCS COMMISSIONER**

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