

From the TSSAA Handbook, Pages 21-22

Article II Eligibility

Section 24: Special Cases Involving Hardship

Except for the eligibility rules in regard to age and to the number of semesters in school, TSSAA shall have the authority to set aside the effect of any eligibility rule upon an individual student when:

- (a) the circumstances causing the student to fail to satisfy the eligibility rule were unforeseen and unavoidable;
- (b) application of the rule to the student works an undue hardship in light of the unforeseen and unavoidable circumstances;
- (c) application of the rule would not accomplish the purpose for which the rule was intended; and
- (d) in the case of a change of schools, the change is for reasons unrelated to participation in athletics.

The burden of establishing each of these elements to the Executive Director's satisfaction is upon the school at which eligibility is sought. The individual student must meet the TSSAA definition of enrolled at the school where eligibility is sought in order for the Executive Director to consider the hardship case.

Any decision of the Executive Director on any request for a waiver of eligibility rules under this Section may be appealed de novo to the Board of Control at its August, November, January March or June meetings. **The Board of Control only considers appeals at the June meeting on behalf of students that meet the TSSAA definition of *enrolled* at their new school.** If the appeal to the Board of Control or any materials in connection with that appeal are received by TSSAA less than one full week prior to the scheduled Board of Control meeting, the member school at which eligibility is sought shall be responsible for all additional expenses associated with providing copies of that material to the Board of Control. A school appealing a decision of the Executive Director under this Section must have an administrator (principal, assistant principal, or athletic director) present at the Board of Control meeting.