

## CIAC Rules of Eligibility—Eight Semester Rule Appendix B Pg 217

The rule .....

- A student has eight (8) consecutive semesters or four (4) consecutive years of eligibility from the date of entry into ninth grade to be eligible for interscholastic competition.
- **No student-athlete shall participate in the same branch of athletics more than four (4) seasons in grades 9-12 at any school.**
- Date of entry is defined as the first date of enrollment as a grade 9 student taking four (4) or more high school subjects.
- Students who are not eligible or elect to not participate do not preserve additional semesters for use at a later time.

Eight Semester Rule Appeals....

- Hardship waiver requests will be considered for unforeseen, unavoidable or unusual circumstances that were beyond the control of the student and **resulted in the student being unable to complete their academic requirements in four (4) years or eight (8) consecutive semesters.**
- All such requests must be well documented. Waivers for serious medical situations that are well documented will also be considered when it is demonstrated the student was unable to complete any significant schoolwork due to his/her medical condition and it is verified the school made every effort to provide an appropriate alternative program to the student.
- Injuries sustained in playing a CIAC-sponsored sport will not constitute grounds for a medical waiver for an additional semester/year of play in the sport in which the injury occurred.

The Appeal Process...

- The member school principal is the only person who can appeal the eligibility of a student. If the principal feels that the appeal is warranted, he/she writes a letter to the CIAC Eligibility Committee citing the rule that is being appealed and the reasons why the appeal should be granted. This letter should try to explain the unavoidable or unusual circumstances that were beyond the control of the student and resulted in the student being unable to complete their academic requirements in four (4) years or eight (8) consecutive semesters. All eight semester rule appeals should also include supplemental materials such as a complete transcript, a letter from the parent(if possible) giving a chronology of events and information surrounding the student's academic journey.