

**UIL Constitution and Contest Rules
Excerpts from Subchapter M Eligibility**

Section 400: STUDENT'S ELIGIBILITY FOR ALL UIL CONTESTS

Subject to the other sections of this subchapter, an individual is eligible to participate in a League varsity contest as a representative of a participant school if that individual:

- (a) is not a high school graduate (see Section 402);
- (b) is a full-time, day student in the participant high school the student represents (see Section 403, academic exception, Section 906 and Official Interpretations #2-5, Appendix I);
- (c) has been in regular attendance at the participant school since the sixth class day of the present school year or has been in enrolled and in regular attendance for 15 or more calendar days before the contest or competition (student becomes eligible on the fifteenth day) (see Section 404 and Official Interpretation #6, Appendix I);
- (d) is in compliance with rules of the State Board of Education; (see Section 401) and state law regarding credit requirements and grades (the school shall verify a student's grades on the basis of the official grade report and independently of involvement by the student);
- (e) has the required number of credits for eligibility during the first six weeks of school (see Section 409);
- (f) is enrolled in a four year program of high school courses (see Section 405);
- (g) initially enrolled in the ninth grade not more than four years ago nor in the tenth grade not more than three years ago (see Section 405 and Official Interpretation #7, Appendix I);
- (h) was not recruited (see Section 5 and section 406);
- (i) is not in violation of the Awards Rules (see Sections 480 through 482); and
- (j) meets the specific eligibility requirements for UIL academic competition in Section 420, for music competition in Section 430, and/or for athletic competition in Section 440.

Section 420: ELIGIBILITY - ACADEMICS

Subject to the other sections of this subchapter, an individual is eligible to participate in a League varsity academic contest as a representative of a participant school if that individual:

- (a) meets all the requirements of Section 400; and
- (b) did not change schools for the purpose of participating in a UIL academic contest.

Section 430: ELIGIBILITY – MUSIC

Subject to the other sections of this subchapter, an individual is eligible to participate in a League varsity music contest as a representative of a participant school if that individual:

- (a) meets all the requirements of Section 400; and
- (b) did not change schools for the purpose of participating in a UIL music contest.

Section 440: ELIGIBILITY – ATHLETICS

Subject to the other sections of this subchapter, an individual is eligible to participate in a League varsity athletic contest as a representative of a participant school if that individual:

- (a) meets all the requirements of Section 400;
- (b) is a resident of the member school district (see Section 442), and a resident of the attendance zone in which the participant school being attended is situated,
 - (1) Or has been continuously enrolled in and regularly attending the school for at least the previous calendar year if his or her parents do not reside within the school district's

attendance zone; see (5) (B) below for exception. Note: A student who has changed schools for athletic purposes may be declared ineligible for more than one calendar year. See Section 443 (f) (3).

- (2) Or the student is attending a school outside the attendance zone where the parents reside because the school board or other appropriate authority changed district or attendance zone lines.
- (3) Or is a transfer student from a public 8-grade ISD not containing a high school, who transferred at the first opportunity:
 - (A) to select a high school with geographical boundaries contiguous to his or her K-8 school; or
 - (B) to a high school for which the K-8 school attended receives state transportation funds; or
 - (C) to the high school located nearest the student's residence.
- (4) *Intra-District Transfers.* A student who has an option to attend more than one high school within a school district, rather than being assigned to a school according to attendance zones, is eligible at the school first selected if he/she transfers at the first opportunity. If a student subsequently transfers to another school, the student is not eligible for varsity athletic competition until he/she has been in and regularly attended that school for at least the previous calendar year.
- (5) *Foreign Exchange Students.*
 - (A) Foreign exchange students are ineligible for varsity athletic contests the first year they attend a participant school unless they are granted a waiver of the parent residence rule as outlined in Sections 465 and 468.
 - (B) Foreign exchange students who receive a foreign exchange waiver and participate in UIL varsity athletic contests during their first year in the host school may not participate in those same contests if they return for a second year to the host school. The student may, however, participate in any other UIL varsity sport.

See Official Interpretations #1 and 4, Appendix I.

- (c) is less than 19 years old on September 1 preceding the contest, or has been granted eligibility based on a disability which delayed his or her education by at least one year (see Section 446);
- (d) did not change schools for athletic purposes (see Sections 5 and 443);
- (e) is an amateur (see Section 441 and Official Interpretation #11, Appendix I); and
- (f) was eligible according to Section 400 (c) (fifteen calendar day rule) and Section 440 (b) (residence rule) at the participant school the student wishes to represent prior to the deadline for district certification (non-compliance results in ineligibility only in post-district competition in that sport).