



## When the Family Unit and Residence is Questioned Concerning WIAA Eligibility

Date \_\_\_\_\_

The purpose of this document is to record, in writing, the expectations of the \_\_\_\_\_ School District regarding the residence of \_\_\_\_\_ and the family unit; clarify any misinterpretations of the WIAA eligibility rules concerning residency and transfer; and finally, serve as a safeguard for the \_\_\_\_\_ School District against penalty and sanctions if the \_\_\_\_\_ family fails to meet the requirements of the residency rule at any time during enrollment at \_\_\_\_\_ school.

Expectations:

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ School District expects the \_\_\_\_\_ family to move residency of the entire family unit to \_\_\_\_\_ (address) as indicated by Mr. /Ms. \_\_\_\_\_. This move will include all family members currently living in the home. In accordance with WIAA regulations, the family unit is required to use the \_\_\_\_\_ (address) residency on a permanent basis, not on a partial week basis.
2. The process of moving residency for any family entails many responsibilities. When a family moves residence, the family address must be changed in order to provide verification of the new residence. Verification will be established when the new address is documented on driver's licenses, personal checks, voter registration.
3. It is the expectation of the \_\_\_\_\_ School District that the \_\_\_\_\_ family will make the necessary changes as verification of residency.
4. If these expectations are not met, the student/athlete's eligibility status will be changed to a TRANSFER STUDENT status. This would have limitations on the student's athletic participation according to WIAA Article 18.25.3 and may limit participation to the junior varsity level for one calendar year.

**Clarification of the WIAA Handbook**  
**The residency rule of the WIAA handbook states:**

**PHILOSOPHY OF RESIDENCE RULE:** *The WIAA residence rule is intended to create an equitable environment in which its member schools can compete, and at the same time prevent those abuses that taint the goals of interscholastic athletics. Primarily, the residence rule is intended to prevent athletic recruiting, prevent students from choosing schools for athletic reasons, and to promote the varied family units as the best environment for students to live in while attending school. Deterring students from running away from or avoiding imposed discipline, protecting school programs by discouraging athletic transfers and protecting the opportunities for bona fide resident students to participate are also viable reasons for the residence rule. AFFIRMATION OF GOALS 2.2.6 AND 2.2.7 OF THE ASSOCIATION. THEREFORE:*

**18.10.0 DEFINITION of RESIDENCE and FAMILY UNIT**

**RESIDENCE** - The place where the family unit has established its home and/or the place where the student is habitually present and to which, when departing, the student intends to return.

**FAMILY UNIT** - The adult(s) who has/have resided with, had legal custody, legal guardianship, or has/have acted in a parental capacity of the student and any siblings high school age or younger with whom the student resides for a period of at least one (1) year.

- 18.10.1 In order to be eligible to participate and/or represent a member school in an interscholastic contest, the student of that school must be residing within the boundaries of that school district and designated attendance area of the school. In the event a school does not have a designated attendance area, the WIAA Executive Board shall have the authority to designate an attendance area for such school. The WIAA Executive Board shall consider all relevant factors, including but not limited to the natural or historical attendance area for such school, the geographical setting of the school in the municipality, and the nearby public school boundaries.
- 18.10.2 Unless otherwise provided, a student shall become varsity eligible at the school in which that student resides with the family unit, provided the student continuously attended that member school, or a feeder school of that member school, for a period of one (1) year.
- 18.10.3 A student who cannot meet the Residence Rule requirements would be eligible for all interscholastic competition below the varsity level, subject to 18.25.3.
- 18.10.4 Residence Area for private schools shall be a fifty (50) mile radius from the school address. NOTE: Refer to Article 3.1.1 for status of a private school district.

By signing this agreement, the student and family agree to all terms of the agreement and understand, according to WIAA Article 28.4.1, which states in part: "... [if] it is determined that the participant/parent/guardian provided the school with false information which caused the school to declare the participant eligible ... the participant will be declared ineligible for interscholastic competition for a period of one (1) year."

Superintendent	Date
Principal	Date
Athletic Director	Date
Parent/Guardian	Date
Parent/Guardian	Date
Student	Date