



KSHSAA transfer rules as they relate to boundary changes:

Transfer Initiated by the School District due to Boundary Change

Whenever a student is required to transfer due to a boundary change, they are immediately eligible to participate in KSHSAA athletics and activities as long as the transfer is to the new school in which their home has been assigned and the transfer happens no later than the opening of the school year following the official boundary change.

Also, when there is a boundary change and students are given the option to stay in their school or go to the new school, the students are also immediately eligible at both the new and old schools. However, once attending the new school, if they have a change of heart and want to go back to their former school they would be ineligible for 18 weeks when they return.

Basic KSHSAA Transfer Rule

You also asked about the general KSHSAA Transfer Rule. It is, by far, the longest handbook regulation (Rule 18) and is characterized by many exceptions. In general, the following is a Readers Digest version of the transfer rule:

- A freshman student is eligible under the transfer rule at any senior high school he/she may choose to attend when he/she enters senior high school for the first time at the beginning of their freshman year. In other words, students get one free pass. If they live in the Blue Valley North attendance area and begin 9th grade at BV Northwest, they enjoy immediate eligibility. However, per KSHSAA rules, if they attend a high school for even one day at the beginning of their 9th grade year and then transfer, they are ineligible for 18 weeks beginning the first day of attendance at the new school.
- A student who makes a bona fide move with his/her parents to a new permanent residence within the boundary of the school to which the student transfers is then immediately eligible as it relates to the transfer rule.
- A student changing schools without an accompanying move on the part of his/her parents will be ineligible for interscholastic extracurricular activities for eighteen weeks, beginning with the first day of attendance.
- A student may have possible sub-varsity eligibility with the approval of the principals (or their designee – usually the athletic director) of the schools involved during the 18-week period. This is called “Partial Eligibility” and is a recognition that the student didn’t transfer for “athletic” purposes and the importance of assimilating a student to their new school.
- At times, a student must transfer due to a hardship out of their control (divorce, other family issues, military assignment of parent, McKinney-Vento status, etc.). These students may receive immediate eligibility with KSHSAA’s approval.
- Of course, in addition to the transfer rule, students must meet all the other eligibility requirements such as Age, Academic Eligibility, Good Standing, etc.

Definition of 18 Weeks

- When a student must attend 18 weeks to become eligible, they can’t compete in a contest until they have attended classes on the first day of the 19th week.

- However, transfers can practice with a team during the 18 weeks (even though they can't compete during that time) as long as they have "potential future eligibility." In other words, a junior football player who transfers at the first of the school year could practice with the team because they still have the potential of their senior year to compete. However, a senior who transfers in August could not practice with the football team because they would never be eligible to play again the next year. Now to make it really confusing, a senior basketball player may be able to practice with the team first semester because they would have the potential of gaining full eligibility in early January.