

NCHC Eligibility Guidelines

Home School Student-Athletes

National Christian HomeSchool Championships are designed to provide top-quality tournaments for HomeSchool Student-Athletes. There are a series of eligibility rules that are designed to ensure that every participant is a HomeSchool Student first and an athlete second. As HomeSchool sports continue to grow, it is the NCHBC's desire to make sure that the teams that participate in the HomeSchool division of the NCHBC tournaments do not have a resemblance of AAU-type teams or all-star teams. These rules are not only meant to keep the playing field level at the National Tournaments but are also designed to protect the reputation of HomeSchool teams on a national and local level.

Note: The following rules apply to both the National Championships and NCHBC-sanctioned Regional Tournaments.

Definition of a HomeSchool Student-Athlete

"Homeschooling" is defined to mean that a student's education is parent-directed.

As such, the parents shall be involved in their child's education by assuming the role of principal or headmaster, thereby (1) setting the date and requirements for high school graduation; (2) selecting and approving course materials and study schedules; and (3) selecting tutors, correspondence courses, videos, computer courses, and similar resources for their child's education. HomeSchooling would also include the person of legal responsibility of the student filling the role of a parent (see below)

The Role of Outside Institutions

College Classes

It is understood that a student may have the opportunity to take dual-credit college courses, particularly in his/her junior or senior year. The NCHBC encourages such enrollment by HomeSchool students, and the definition above shall not be construed to mean that such students are not homeschooled if the participating college admitted the HomeSchool student as a high school student. However, the student may not take enough courses to be deemed a "Full-Time Student" by the college or university. Additionally, the student must maintain at least 51% of his/her education from classes that meet the homeschooling definition.

Private and Public Schools

Full-time enrollment in a traditional public or private school is not homeschooling because the child's education in such schools is not parent-directed. A player that attends a private, public, charter, or university-model school full-time is not eligible in HomeSchool divisions. For part-time students at these types of schools, the student must maintain at least 51% of his/her education from classes that meet the homeschooling definition.

Coop and Umbrella Schools

The participation in a cooperative school, and/or an umbrella school can create some questions. In some states, "HomeSchool students" are required by law to attend a private school and, in such cases, cooperative or umbrella schools are formed for this purpose. These schools, whether called cooperative, umbrella, or "private," are characterized by significant and direct parental involvement, often simply representing different forms of homeschooling within a group of like-minded families. In such cases where the student-athlete meets the definition of HomeSchooling and is involved in a coop and umbrellas school, he/she is deemed eligible by the NCHBC.

Vocational Classes

In some states, "HomeSchool students" are permitted to take classes at vocational schools. A student may take classes at such schools as long as he/she maintains at least 51% of his education from classes that meet the homeschooling definition.

51% Rule

For clarification purposes, a normal course load for a full-time student is six (6) core courses; therefore, if a student-athlete is taking more than three (3) courses at a public, private, vocational, or college institution, he/she is not considered 51% homeschooled. If there are special circumstances, a student may apply for a hardship exemption.