# Non-Traditional & International Students, Transfers, and Academic Eligibility Issues

In addition to the EL2, EL3, and OCPS forms required for all athletes, students in the following situations may require additional forms and approvals to participate in athletics:

- Students who have previously attended another high school
- Home, Charter, Private, Virtual, Alternative, or Special School Students
- Youth Exchange Students, International Students, or Immigrant Students
- Freshmen and Sophomores whose cumulative GPA has fallen below 2.0

## Students Who Have Previously Attended Another High School

- If this is your first time requesting to participate in athletics at Wekiva, complete <u>FHSAA Form GA4 Affidavit of Compliance with the Policies on Athletic Recruiting & Non-Traditional Student Participation</u>. You may either submit it when uploading documents in the online Athletic Clearance system or turn in a hard copy to the athletic office. This only needs to be done once.
- If you previously attended another high school during the same school year, Wekiva will need to complete
   FHSAA Form EL6 Notice of Transfer/Change of School on your behalf. In most cases, you may not participate
   in the same sport at multiple schools in the same school year. (See <a href="FHSAA Policy 9.3.2.2">FHSAA Policy 9.3.2.2</a> and <a href="Transfers">Transfers</a> for details
   and exceptions.)

#### Home School Students

The following forms must be completed **once** before the first time you participate in athletics at Wekiva:

- FHSAA Form EL7 Registration Form for Home Education Student (includes Form EL7V)
- FHSAA Form GA4 Affidavit of Compliance with the Policies on Athletic Recruiting & Non-Traditional Student Participation
- Provide one of the following:
  - o A driver's license in your parent's or guardian's name with an address zoned for Wekiva High School.
  - Two bills addressed to your parent's or guardian's home zoned for Wekiva High School.
  - o A lease or mortgage in your parent's or guardian's name for a property zoned for Wekiva High School.
  - If Wekiva is not the school you would be zoned to attend if you attended public school, complete FHSAA Form EL14 – Student Choice.
- Provide your original birth certificate, a passport, visa, green card, or EAD that lists your date of birth.

The following form must be completed *every year* before the first time you participate in athletics at Wekiva that year:

• FHSAA Form EL7V – Verification of Student Registration with Public School District Home Education Office

The following form must be completed **by the sixth day of the second semester** if you have already completed Form EL7V to participate in Fall or Winter sports and you intend to continue participating in Winter or Spring sports.

• FHSAA Form EL9 – Home Education Student Academic Progress Report

You may either submit these when uploading documents in the online Athletic Clearance system or turn in a hard copy to the athletic office. Please review <u>FHSAA Policy 16.6 and 16.7</u> and <u>FAQs on Home Education Student Eligibility</u> for additional information.

## Charter, Special, Alternative, and Virtual School Students

If the charter school you attend does not offer a sport, and you would otherwise be eligible, you may be able to participate in that sport at Wekiva. Or, if you attend Florida Virtual School, OCPS Virtual School, or an OCPS Special/Alternative School that does not offer sports, you may be able to participate in sports at Wekiva.

Home School Students who take FLVS courses have additional requirements – see "Home School Students" above.

The following forms must be completed **once** before the first time you participate in athletics at Wekiva:

- FHSAA Form GA4 Affidavit of Compliance with the Policies on Athletic Recruiting & Non-Traditional Student Participation
- Provide one of the following:
  - A driver's license in your parent's or guardian's name with an address zoned for Wekiva High School.
  - Two bills addressed to your parent's or guardian's home <u>zoned for Wekiva High School</u>.
  - A lease or mortgage in your parent's or guardian's name for a property zoned for Wekiva High School.
  - If Wekiva is not the school you would be zoned to attend if you attended public school, complete FHSAA Form EL14 – Student Choice.
- Provide your original birth certificate, a passport, visa, green card, or EAD that lists your date of birth.

You may either submit these as an "Additional Form" when uploading documents in the online Athletic Clearance system or turn in a hard copy to the athletic office. This only needs to be done once.

Please review <u>FHSAA Policy 16.6</u> and the FHSAA page for <u>Non-Traditional Students</u> for additional information about the eligibility of Charter, Special, Alternative, and Virtual School students.

#### **Private School Students**

You may be able to participate in a sport at Wekiva if you attend a private school that is not a member of the FHSAA, has enrollment of 125 students or fewer, and does not offer the sport you wish to play.

The following forms must be completed **once** before the first time you participate in athletics at Wekiva:

- FHSAA Form EL12 Registration Form for Non-Member Private School Students (includes Forms EL12V)
- FHSAA Form GA4 Affidavit of Compliance with the Policies on Athletic Recruiting & Non-Traditional Student Participation
- Provide one of the following:
  - o A driver's license in your parent's or guardian's name with an address zoned for Wekiva High School.
  - o Two bills addressed to your parent's or guardian's home zoned for Wekiva High School.
  - A lease or mortgage in your parent's or guardian's name for a property zoned for Wekiva High School.
  - If Wekiva is not the school you would be zoned to attend if you attended public school, complete
     FHSAA Form EL14 Student Choice.
- Provide your original birth certificate, a passport, visa, green card, or EAD that lists your date of birth.

The following form must be completed *every year* before the first time you participate in athletics at Wekiva that year:

- FHSAA Form EL12V Verification form for Non-Member Private School Students
- Provide a copy of your official transcripts for all schools attended since entering 8<sup>th</sup> grade that have not already been provided.

You may either submit these as when uploading documents in the online Athletic Clearance system or turn in a hard copy to the athletic office.

Please review FHSAA Policy 16.6 and 16.7 for additional information about the eligibility of Private School students.

#### **International Students**

You are considered an international student if you have entered the United States from your home country on a Visa or Passport, and you do not currently have a Permanent Resident Status ("Green Card") for the United States.

The following items must be provided before the first time you participate in athletics at Wekiva:

- FHSAA Form GA4 Affidavit of Compliance with the Policies on Athletic Recruiting & Non-Traditional Student Participation
- Original Visa, Passport, or translated birth certificate to verify age.
- One of the following:
  - Form I-20 (for F-1 visa holders)
  - o Form DS-2019 (for J-1 visa holders)
  - o Form I-94 (for other visa holders)
  - o Form I-797 (for immigrants)
  - o **Employment Authorization Document**
- Original language and translated transcripts for all coursework completed since the beginning of 8<sup>th</sup> grade or equivalent.

You may either submit these when uploading documents in the online Athletic Clearance system or turn in a hard copy to the athletic office. Even if you upload them electronically, you must set up an appointment with the Athletic Director, who will sit down with you to complete FHSAA Form EL4 – Registration Form for Youth Exchange & Other International or Immigrant Student and the International GPA Calculator together. (You may review the calculator for reference, but there is no need to complete it in advance.) Please note that it can take up to 30 days for the school and the FHSAA to complete this process. Do not wait until just before tryouts to begin.

Please review <u>FHSAA Policy 17</u> and the <u>FHSAA International Eligibility Resources</u> for additional details about international student eligibility.

## Freshmen and Sophomores Whose GPA Has Fallen Below 2.0

The FHSAA requires that all student-athletes maintain a cumulative unweighted GPA of 2.0. There are two exceptions to this policy:

- Freshmen are automatically eligible in their first semester because they do not yet have a GPA.
- If a freshman's cumulative unweighted GPA falls below 2.0 at the end of the first or second semester, they are
  ineligible for the following semester. At the end of that ineligible semester, if the student's Semester GPA (only
  those courses taken during that ineligible semester) is at least 2.0 but the Cumulative GPA (all courses taken so
  far in high school) is still below 2.0, they may complete <a href="#FHSAA Form EL5">FHSAA Form EL5</a> Academic Performance Contract for
  Athletic Eligibility to temporarily regain eligibility.

**IMPORTANT:** The temporary eligibility granted by the EL5 contract expires at the end of the sophomore year. Once a student becomes a junior, only the cumulative unweighted GPA can be used, and there are no exceptions.

Please review FHSAA Policy 9.4 for additional information about academic eligibility.

## Converting Forms to Electronic Documents

To upload any forms or other documents to the Athletic Clearance system, they must be a single file (preferably a PDF). You may scan them or use an app on your phone such as Adobe Scan or Office Lens, or view additional help here.