BUS DRIVER REQUIREMENTS, TRAINING, AND RESPONSIBILITIES

(INCLUDES BUS ASSISTANTS AND SUBSTITUTES)

Bus drivers and support staff employed by the District or employed by contractors who provide transportation services to the District shall comply with applicable provisions of the Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1986 and all applicable requirements of the state of New Mexico. Additionally, bus drivers and bus support personnel, where appropriate, shall perform their duties in a safe and efficient manner in accord with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations, department regulations, and district policies. Regulations 6.41.4.11 NMAC through 6.41.4.13 NMAC are made a part of this policy by reference as a means of emphasizing safety, records requirements, and safety equipment as they apply to all drivers and assistants.

Bus drivers and substitutes shall also maintain and provide their employer with a copy of the following:

- a current CDL with appropriate class and endorsements;
- a current DOT medical examiner’s certificate in compliance with federal and state CDL licensing requirements;
- a driving record obtained through the New Mexico motor vehicle division or the national driver register or other states’ motor vehicle division and printed annually; and
- a current first aid and CPR certificate which has been obtained from a course approved by the department.

School bus assistants and substitute assistants shall maintain and provide their employer with a copy of the following:

- a current first aid and CPR certificate pursuant to the requirements in Subsection A of 6.41.4.13 NMAC; and
- a physical examination renewed every 24 months from the date of the last examination or before as specified by a licensed medical professional.

Inservice Training: To remain qualified, school bus drivers, substitute school bus drivers, school bus assistants, and substitute school bus assistants shall complete a total of eight hours per semester of in-service training that has been approved by the transportation administrator.

Persons who do not complete the required hours of in-service training are disqualified from duty until those hours of in-service training are completed.
Adopted: date of manual adoption

LEGAL REF.: 6.41.4.11 NMAC
6.41.4.12 NMAC
6.41.4.13 NMAC

CROSS REF.: EE – Transportation Services
EEA – Student Transportation
EEAE – Bus Safety Program
DRUG AND ALCOHOL TESTING OF TRANSPORTATION EMPLOYEES

The District is committed to the establishment of a drug and alcohol misuse prevention program that meets or exceeds all applicable requirements of the Omnibus Transportation Employee Testing Act of 1991 (Omnibus Act). All statements in this document will be interpreted so as to conform to the Department of Transportation rules. The District, and each service agent who maintains records for an employer of a driver with a CDL, will make available copies of all results for DOT testing and other pertinent information gathered under the Omnibus Act to any officials or agencies with regulatory authority over the employer or any of its drivers. The following personal information shall be reported to the Commercial Driver’s License Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse (Clearinghouse), a database of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), in accordance with 49 CFR 382.601 and §382.705:

- A verified positive, adulterated, or substituted controlled substances test result;
- An alcohol confirmation test with a concentration of 0.04 or higher;
- A refusal to submit to a test in violation of §382.211;
- An employer’s report of actual knowledge, as defined at §382.107, of:
  - On-duty alcohol use pursuant to §382.205;
  - Pre-duty alcohol use pursuant to §382.207;
  - Alcohol use following an accident pursuant to §382.209; and
  - Controlled substance use pursuant to §382.213.
- A substance abuse professional’s (SAP) report of the successful completion of the return-to-duty process;
- A negative return-to-duty test; and
- An employer’s report of completion of follow-up testing.

This information and documentation as required by 49 CFR 382.705 shall be provided by the District or the service agent to the Clearinghouse by the close of the third business day following the date on which they obtained that information beginning in January, 2020. To submit or receive information from the Clearinghouse a party must register in accordance with 49 CFR 382.707.

Each employee of the District who is required to have a commercial driver's license (CDL) for performance of job functions shall not be allowed, required, permitted or authorized to operate a commercial motor vehicle during any period following one of these events:

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10/08/2020
• The driver receives a positive, adulterated, or substituted drug test result. [49 CFR 382.217]

• Reporting for duty or remaining on duty to perform safety-sensitive functions as defined in 49 CFR 382.107 while having an alcohol concentration of 0.04 or greater. [49 CFR 382.201]

• Being on duty or operating a commercial motor vehicle (school bus) while the driver possesses alcohol, unless the alcohol is manifested and transported as part of a shipment. This includes the possession of medicines containing alcohol (prescription or over-the-counter), unless the packaging seal is unbroken. [49 CFR 382.204]

• Using alcohol while performing safety-sensitive functions. [49 CFR 382.205]

• Performing safety-sensitive functions within eight (8) hours after using alcohol. [49 CFR 382.207]

• Using alcohol within four (4) hours following an accident or prior to undergoing a post-accident alcohol test, whichever comes first. [49 CFR 382.299]

• Refusing to submit to an alcohol or controlled substance test as required under post-accident, random, reasonable suspicion or follow-up testing requirements in DOT rules. [49 CFR 382.211]

• Reporting for duty or remaining on duty, requiring the performance of safety-sensitive functions, when the driver uses any controlled substance, except when the use is pursuant to the instructions of a physician who has advised the driver that the substance does not adversely affect the driver's ability to safely operate a commercial motor vehicle. [49 CFR 382.213]

• Reporting for duty, remaining on duty, or performing a safety-sensitive function if the driver tests positive for controlled substances. [49 CFR 382.215]

• Used a controlled substance. [49 CFR 382.217]

A driver will notify in writing all current employers of such events (if employer will or did not administer a test) before the end of the business day following the day the employee received notice and before performing a safety-sensitive function. [49 CFR 382.415]

A driver will inform the supervising administrator of any therapeutic drug use. [49 CFR 382.213]

Drugs as used in this policy refers to controlled substances as covered by the Omnibus Act and to drugs circumscribed by the New Mexico Revised Statutes.
All drivers shall be subject to pre-employment/pre-duty drug and alcohol testing, including reasonable suspicion, random, and post-accident testing in accord with the regulations of the Omnibus Act. If applicable, return to duty and follow up testing shall be required in accord with regulations of the Omnibus Act. [49 CFR 382.301 et seq.] All testing shall include driver identification in accordance with 49 CFR 382.123.

All offers of employment with the District for drivers will be made contingent upon preemployment background information and test results. Employers shall request information from previous employers and all DOT regulated employers of the past 3 years for related information of the past 3 years from January 6, 2020, but must use the Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse in accordance with 49 CFR 382.701 as of January 6, 2023. If an employee has not completed all follow-up tests, the District must request the follow-up testing plan directly from the previous employer per Section 40.259(b)(5). An applicant testing positive for alcohol or controlled substances will not be employed. [49 CFR 382.505]

Each driver who engages in the conduct prohibited herein shall:

- Be advised of resources available to the driver in evaluating and resolving problems associated with drug or alcohol use, including the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of substance abuse professionals and counseling and treatment programs.
- Be evaluated by a substance abuse professional, who shall determine what assistance, if any, the employee needs to resolve drug or alcohol problems.
- Before return to duty in a safety-sensitive position, undergo a return-to-duty alcohol test with a result indicating less than 0.02 or a substance test with a verified negative result.
- If identified as needing assistance by a substance abuse professional, be evaluated by a substance abuse professional to determine if that driver has properly followed any rehabilitation program prescribed, and be subject to unannounced follow-up tests following return to duty in accord with federal regulations. [49 CFR 382.605]

The District shall assume the cost for the initial evaluation by a substance abuse professional to determine what assistance, if any, the employee needs in resolving problems associated with alcohol misuse and controlled substances use. Evaluation and rehabilitation of the employee, if the employee is allowed to return to work in any position, shall be in accordance with 49 CFR 382.605 and by a substance abuse professional paid by the employee.

The Superintendent is responsible for supervision of the District drug and alcohol misuse prevention program. The Superintendent will develop procedures for the implementation of the program in compliance with the applicable provisions and regulations of the Omnibus Transportation Employee Testing Act of 1991.

*Adopted:* date of manual adoption

**LEGAL REF.:** 49 U.S.C. 31306, (Omnibus Transportation Employee Testing
Act of 1991)
49 C.F.R. Part 40
49 C.F.R. Part 382
49 C.F.R. Part 395

CROSS REF.:  GBEC - Drug-Free Workplace
              GBECA - Nonmedical Use or Abuse of Drugs or Alcohol
Circumstances Under Which Tests for Drivers Are to Be Given

All information obtained in the course of testing of drivers shall be protected as confidential medical information. Except as required by law or expressly authorized or required in 49 CFR 382.405 as amended (2017), no information that is to be maintained pursuant to 49 CFR 382.401 shall be released.

Random:

- A minimum of fifty percent (50%) of drivers shall be tested annually for drugs and twenty-five percent (25%) of drivers shall be tested annually for alcohol, subject to the Federal Highway Administration's administrator raising or lowering the annual percentage rate in accordance with regulations. [49 CFR 382.305] Random testing selection shall be as follows:
  - Employees are to be placed in and remain in a pool for random selection.
  - A valid random selection procedure will be used.
  - Tests will be given at least once each quarter.
  - Dates of testing will not be announced.
- Random drug and alcohol testing may be combined. For example, when testing at fifty percent (50%) drug random rate and twenty-five percent (25%) alcohol random rate, half of the randomly selected drivers chosen for testing could be tested for both drugs and alcohol, while the rest could be tested only for drugs.

Postaccident:

- Drivers are required to submit to drug and alcohol testing as soon as possible following a "Department of Transportation (DOT) accident" that involves the loss of human life or for which the driver receives a citation under state or local law for a moving traffic violation arising from the accident. [49 CFR 382.303]
- A DOT accident is defined as an occurrence involving a commercial motor vehicle operating on a public road that results in:
  - A fatality; or
  - Bodily injury to a person who, as a result of the injury, immediately receives medical treatment away from the scene of the accident; or
One (1) or more motor vehicles incurring disabling damage as a result of the accident, requiring the vehicle to be transported away from the scene by a tow truck or other vehicle. [49 CFR 390.5]

- If a driver is seriously injured and cannot submit to testing at the time of the accident, the driver shall provide the necessary authorization for obtaining hospital reports and other documents that may indicate whether there were any drugs or alcohol used by the driver prior to the accident. [49 CFR 382.303]

- A driver who is subject to postaccident testing shall remain readily available for such testing or may be deemed by the District to have refused to submit to testing. Nothing in this section shall be construed to require the delay of necessary medical treatment or to prohibit the driver from leaving the scene of an accident for a period necessary to obtain assistance in responding to the accident, or to obtain necessary medical care. [49 CFR 382.303]

- No driver required to take a postaccident alcohol test shall use alcohol for eight (8) hours following the accident, or until the driver undergoes a postaccident alcohol test, whichever occurs first. [49 CFR 382.303]

- The following actions are to be taken in a postaccident testing situation:
  - Treat injuries.
  - Work with law enforcement officials.
  - Explain the need for testing.
  - Obtain the driver's permission for testing, if possible.
  - Work with the medical facility to obtain the necessary documents and test information.
  - Collect specimens promptly.
  - Document events.

The results of a breath or blood test for the use of alcohol or a urine test for the use of drugs conducted by federal, state, or local officials having independent authority for the test shall be considered to meet the requirements for postaccident testing if the results are obtained by the School District. [49 CFR 382.305]

**Reasonable suspicion:**

- *Reasonable suspicion* is defined to mean that the District believes the behavior, speech, body odor, or appearance of a driver while on duty are indicative of the use of alcohol and/or controlled substances. The conduct must be witnessed by a supervisor or District official trained in the detection of probable alcohol and drug use by observing indicators in a person's appearance, behavior, speech, and performance, in accordance with 49 CFR 382.603. If it is at all possible, the witness should not conduct the alcohol test, in order to prevent the introduction of bias to the testing procedure.
• Alcohol testing is authorized only if the observations are made during, just before performing, or just after performing a safety-sensitive function. A written record shall be made of the observations leading to an alcohol and/or controlled substance test. This record is to be signed by the supervisor who made the observations.

• If a reasonable suspicion alcohol test is not administered within two (2) hours following the observations, the witness shall prepare and maintain on file a record stating the reasons the alcohol test was not administered promptly. In addition, if not administered within eight (8) hours, all attempts to administer the test shall cease. A record shall be prepared and maintained stating why the alcohol test was not administered. [49 CFR 382.307]

• Reasonable suspicion testing should include the following considerations:
  - Focus on safety.
  - Verify reasonable suspicion if possible.
  - Observe the employee's appearance, behavior, speech, and performance.
  - Inform the employee in private of any suspicion.
  - Inquire in private about any observations or suspicions.
  - Review the findings.
  - Upon concluding that reasonable suspicion exists, transport the employee to a testing site.
  - Document events.

**Return-to-duty testing:**

• A driver who has been prohibited from performing a safety-sensitive function after engaging in conduct regarding alcohol misuse or controlled substance use prohibited by U.S. Department of Transportation regulations, and before returning to duty, shall undergo a return-to-duty test, which must indicate a concentration of less then 0.02 for breath alcohol and/or a negative result for controlled substances. [49 CFR 382.309 and 382.605(C)]

• When a driver has been determined to be in need of assistance in resolving problems associated with alcohol misuse and/or controlled substance use, the driver will be subject to unannounced follow-up alcohol and/or controlled substance testing. The driver will be subject to a minimum of six (6) follow-up tests in the first twelve (12) months. The follow-up testing period shall not exceed sixty (60) months. Follow-up testing for alcohol shall be administered only when the driver is performing, just before performing, or just after performing a safety-sensitive function. [49 CFR 382.311 and 382.605(C)]
Referral:

- Each driver who engages in conduct prohibited by 49 CFR 382.201 et seq. shall be evaluated by a substance abuse professional, who shall determine what assistance, if any, the employee needs in resolving problems associated with alcohol misuse and controlled substance use. [49 CFR 382.605]

Driver Training

A copy of materials explaining the requirements of the Omnibus Act and the District's policies and procedures with respect to meeting such requirements will be distributed to each driver prior to the start of alcohol and controlled substance testing and to each driver hired or subsequently transferred into a driving position. The District shall provide written notice to representatives of employee organizations of the availability of this information. [49 CFR 382.601]

These materials shall include detailed discussions of at least the following:

- The identity of the person designated to answer employee questions about the materials.
- The categories of employees subject to this part of the regulation.
- Sufficient information about safety-sensitive functions performed by such drivers to make clear what part of the work day a driver must be in compliance with the rule.
- Specific information concerning driver conduct that is prohibited by the rule.
- The circumstances under which a driver will be tested for alcohol and/or controlled substances by rule.
- The procedures that will be used to test for the presence of alcohol and controlled substances, to protect the driver and the integrity of the testing processes, to safeguard the validity of the test results, and to ensure that the results are attributed to the correct driver.
- The requirement that the employee submit to alcohol and controlled substance tests administered in accord with Omnibus Act regulations.
- An explanation of what constitutes a refusal to submit to an alcohol or controlled substance test and the attendant consequences.
- The consequences for drivers found to have violated the rule, including requirements for removal from duty.
- Consequences for a driver having a concentration of 0.02 but less than 0.04 in a breath alcohol test.
- Information concerning the effects of alcohol and controlled substance use on an individual's health, work, and personal life; signs and symptoms of an alcohol or controlled substance problem (the driver or a co-worker); and available methods of intervention, including confrontation and referral. [49 CFR 382.601]
Policies, regulations, and consequences based on the District's independent authority outside of the Omnibus Act shall be presented and clearly and obviously described as being based on independent authority [49 CFR 382.601]. All such references shall be placed in bold within the document and shall contain applicable statutory citations.

Each driver must provide a signed receipt for the materials. [49 CFR 382.401(c)(5)(iii)]. Written notice of the availability of this information shall be provided to representatives of employee organizations. [49 CFR 382.601(a)(2)]

**Supervisor Training**

Persons designated to determine whether reasonable suspicion exists to require a driver to undergo reasonable-suspicion testing shall receive at least sixty (60) minutes of training on alcohol misuse and at least an additional sixty (60) minutes of training on controlled substance use. The training shall cover the physical, behavioral, speech, and performance indicators of probable alcohol misuse and use of controlled substances. [49 CFR 382.603]
DRUG AND ALCOHOL TESTING OF TRANSPORTATION EMPLOYEES

(Records Retention)

The District shall maintain records of its alcohol misuse and prevention program in a secure location with controlled access. The records are to be kept as indicated below.

**How long is the employer required to keep records? [49 CFR 382.401(c)(1)]**

- **Five years:**
  - Records of alcohol test results showing concentrations of 0.02 or more.
  - Records of driver-verified positive controlled substance tests.
  - Documentation of refusals to take required tests.
  - Calibration documentation.
  - Driver evaluation and referrals.
  - A copy of each annual calendar year summary.

- **Two years:**
  - Records related to the alcohol and controlled substance collection process and training.

- **One year:**
  - Records of negative and canceled drug test results and alcohol test results with concentrations of less than 0.02.

**What types of records must be kept?**

- **Records relating to the collection process, as follows [49 CFR 302.401(c)(1)]:**
  - Collection logbook, if used.
  - Documents relating to the random selection process.
  - Calibration documents for evidential breath testing devices.
  - Documentation of breath alcohol technician training.
- Documents regarding decisions to administer reasonable-suspicion tests.
- Documents regarding decisions of postaccident tests.
- Documents verifying existence of a medical explanation of the inability of a driver to provide an adequate breath or urine specimen for testing.
- Consolidated annual calendar year summaries as required by 49 CFR 382.403.

• *Records relating to driver's test results [49 CFR 382.401(c)(2)]:*
  - Employer's copy of alcohol test forms, including the results of the test.
  - Employer's copy of drug test chain of custody and control form.
  - Documents sent by the medical review officer (MRO) to the employer, including those required by 49 CFR 382.407(a).
  - Documents related to refusal by any driver to submit to a drug or alcohol test required by the rules.
  - Documents presented by a driver to dispute the results of an alcohol or substance abuse test required by the rules.

• *Records related to other violations.*

• *Records related to evaluations:*
  - Records pertaining to a determination by a substance abuse professional (SAP) concerning a driver's need for assistance.
  - Records concerning a driver's compliance with recommendations of the SAP.

• *Records relating to education and training:*
  - Materials on alcohol misuse and drug use awareness, including a copy of the employer's policy on both.
  - Documentation of compliance with the requirements of 49 CFR 382.601, including the driver's signed receipt for materials.
  - Documentation of training provided to supervisors for determining the need for reasonable-suspicion testing for alcohol misuse or use of controlled substances.
  - Certification that any training that has been conducted complies with the requirements for such training.

• *Records relating to drug testing:*
  - Agreements with the collection site facilities, laboratories, medical review officers, and consortia.
Names and positions of officials and their roles in the employer's alcohol and controlled substance testing program.

Monthly laboratory statistical summaries of urinalysis required by 49 CFR 40.29(g)(6).

The employer's drug and alcohol testing policy and procedures.

**How must these records be reported?**

- All records must be kept in prescribed form and be supplied to DOT when requested. The District will be notified whether to submit the records. [49 CFR 382.403(b)]

**What happens if records are not kept properly?**

- Penalties can be severe; for example, just an error in paperwork can mean a fine of up to five hundred dollars ($500) for each violation. Other violations can be penalized as high as ten thousand dollars ($10,000) per occurrence and loss of federal funding. [49 U.S.C. Section 521(b)]

**Where are records to be located?**

- All records required shall be maintained as required by 49 CFR 390.31 and shall be made available for inspection at the employer's principal place of business within two (2) business days after a request by an authorized representative of the Federal Highway Administration. [49 CFR 382.401(d)]

**What summary records are required?**

- The District must prepare by March 15th of each year, and maintain, an annual calendar year summary of the results of all controlled substance and alcohol testing performed during the previous calendar year.

- Each summary that contains verified positive controlled substance test results and alcohol screening tests with concentrations of .02 or greater or any other violations or alcohol misuse must include the following elements:
  - The number of drivers subject to 49 CFR 382.
  - The number of drivers subject to testing under the alcohol misuse or drug use rules of more than one DOT Agency - identified by each Agency.
  - The number of urine specimens collected, by type of test (e.g., random, reasonable suspicion, etc.).
  - The number of positives verified by an MRO for type of test and type of drug.
  - The number of negative drug tests verified by an MRO, by type of test.
  - The number of persons denied a positions as drivers following preemployment verified positive drug testing and/or alcohol testing with concentrations of 0.04 or greater.
- The number of drivers with MRO-verified positive tests for multiple controlled substances.

- The number of drivers who refused to submit to alcohol or drug tests required by 49 CFR 382.

- The number of supervisors who have received required alcohol training during the reporting period.

- The number of supervisors who have received required controlled substances training during the reporting period.

- The number of screening alcohol tests, by type of test.

- The number of confirmation alcohol tests, by type of test.

- The number of confirmation alcohol tests with concentrations of 0.02 or greater but less than 0.04, by type of test.

- The number of confirmation alcohol tests with concentrations of 0.04 or greater, by type of test.

- The number of drivers returned to duty, after complying with a SAP's recommendation in this reporting period, who had previously had verified positive drug test results or engaged in prohibited alcohol misuse.

- The number of drivers who were administered drug and alcohol tests at the same time with both verified positive drug test results and alcohol test results with concentrations greater than 0.04.

- The number of drivers who were found to have violated any non-testing prohibition of 49 CFR 382.403(b) and any action taken in response to the violation.

  • Each employer with an annual calendar year summary that contains only negative drug test results, alcohol screening test results of less than 0.02, and no other violations may prepare and submit either a standard summary form with information as listed above or an "EZ" report form. The abbreviated "EZ" form requires selected information from the list above. [49 CFR 382.403]

**Who may have access to the records?**

- The covered employee, to the employee's records, upon written request.

- The employer both current and future.

- The Secretary of Transportation, upon request.

- The FMSCA Clearinghouse.

- Any DOT agency, upon request.

- Any state or local official with regulatory authority over the employee, upon request.
• Any person or employer, upon the employee's written request.

• National Transportation Safety Board may review postaccident test information upon request and as a part of an accident investigation. [49 CFR 382.405]

Are the records relating to the drug and alcohol testing program confidential?

• Yes; therefore, they are not subject to disclosure under the Inspection of Public Records, with the possible exception of the Annual Calendar Year Summary once released to the DOT. [49 CFR 382.405]
RELEASED TIME FOR
RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION

Students at the school may be granted released time to attend religion classes near the school campus under the following conditions and guidelines:

- The person who has custody of the student has given written consent.
- Any religious instruction or exercise takes place at a suitable place away from school property designated by a church or religious denomination or group.
- Released time shall not interfere with the student's normal schedule.
- Time shall be provided for the student to make up the school work if missed during the absence.
- School credit will not be given for religion classes, nor will the course title be placed on the permanent record of the student.
- Discipline problems, reporting to parents, and attendance and other procedures necessary to religion class operation shall be the responsibility of the religion class instructors or supervisors.

Adopted: date of manual adoption

LEGAL REF.: 22-12A-9 NMSA (1978)
EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY
ELIGIBILITY

All interscholastic extracurricular activities in grades nine (9) through twelve (12) that are of a competitive nature and involve more than one (1) school where a championship, winner, or rating is determined shall be conducted under the provisions of this policy. Such activities will be established and designed to offer students worthwhile athletic and leisure-time interests, wholesome recreational and social activity, and an opportunity to develop skills in democratic and cooperative management for these activities.

All such activities conducted under the auspices of the District shall be under the direct supervision of the licensed individual responsible for the activity.

It is necessary to have the interscholastic extracurricular activities function within a realistic framework of control. In order that overenthusiastic students do not place a social or athletic function on a higher plane than the academic program, the following policy will be adhered to:

- All classwork counted for eligibility must be acceptable for graduation.
- The student must be enrolled in more than half of the school's regular class schedule.
- Regular attendance must be maintained and no more than fifteen (15) days or the same class more than fifteen (15) times may be missed each semester due to interscholastic extracurricular activities.
- The eligibility criterion for interscholastic participation shall be in accord with the following:
  - A public school student shall have at least a grade average of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale adjusted for honors points with no more than one (1) F or failure for the grading period immediately preceding participation to be able to participate in any interscholastic extracurricular activity. A grading period shall be not less than six (6) weeks;
  - Eligibility may be reestablished following each grading period; and
  - The cumulative period eligibility for participation shall be applied beginning with the student's academic record in the ninth (9th) grade year.
- If the student does not meet the eligibility requirements the penalty will be removal from participation in any athletic team or extracurricular performances or travel. A student that demonstrates academic progress toward eligibility may practice with the team or group.
• The responsibility for notification of students and parents of these requirements and for enforcement of the above rule rests with the Superintendent.

• The student and the parents or guardian shall be notified of ineligibility in a manner such that confidentiality is maintained when:
  - Ineligibility is pending, and
  - Ineligibility is determined to be necessary.

• Support services may be made available to students who become ineligible for extracurricular programs as well as to students notified of pending ineligibility depending upon resources available.

• Students whose behavior presents a problem or jeopardizes school discipline may be ineligible for participation in extracurricular activities until such time as their behavior warrants reinstatement.

The same general standards shall apply for special education students except that such eligibility shall be determined on a case-by-case basis in relationship to the respective student's individual education programs for those receiving C and D level services.

The Superintendent shall establish regulations to ensure that:

• Necessary documents in support of this policy are maintained.

• Necessary data related to ineligible students are collected and reported as required.

• The cultural traditions of students are considered when establishing or enforcing rules related to participation in extracurricular activities.

• The requirements of this policy are met.

The Superintendent may develop additional rules or procedures for the proper conduct of extracurricular programs and the implementation of the provisions of this policy.

_Adopted:_ date of manual adoption

LEGAL REF.: 22-12A-10 NMSA  
6.11.2.9 NMAC  
New Mexico Activities Association Handbook Sec. 6

CROSS REF.: JJIB - Interscholastic Sports
RELATIONS WITH STATE EDUCATION AGENCIES

It shall be the policy of the District to cooperate with the state educational agencies in the attainment of educational goals and objectives.

Waiver from The New Mexico Administrative Code

A waiver from specific administrative rules may be requested, in accord with 22-2-2.1 and 22-5-14, by submitting such request to the Secretary of Education for approval. Such requests from the Board may include:

- The graduation requirement as provided in Section 22-2-8.4 NMSA 1978 [recompiled];
- Evaluation standards for school personnel; and
- Other requirements of the Public School Code [Chapter 22 NMSA 1978] that impede innovation in education if the waiver request is supported by the teachers at the requesting school and the requesting school's local school board.

Waivers granted pursuant to 22-2-2.1 shall begin in the school year following that in which a public school exceeds educational standards and may remain in effect as long as the school continues to exceed educational standards.

The Secretary shall only waive requirements that do not conflict with the federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 or rules adopted pursuant to that act.

The superintendent may apply to the Secretary for a waiver of the following provisions of the Public School Code:

- The length of the school day.
- Staffing patterns.
- Subject areas.
- The purchase of instructional materials for the purpose of implementing a collaborative school improvement program for an individual public school.
- The number of absences for participation in any state or national competition that is not an interscholastic extracurricular activity.
Adopted: date of manual adoption

LEGAL REF.: 22-2-2.1 NMSA (1978)
22-5-14 NMSA (1978)
22-12A-10 NMSA (1978)
6.29.1.10 NMAC

GADSDEN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
09/24/2020