

POLAND REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL ELIGIBILITY GUIDE 2023-24

The purpose of the eligibility policy is to ensure that all students who participate in sports and some co-curricular activities make adequate academic progress during the school year. Athletics and co-curricular activities are part of our educational program and are designed to increase both student connection with our school and academic achievement. All schools that participate in Maine Principal Association activities are required to create and enforce an eligibility policy. Failure to ensure all athletes are eligible for athletic contests can result in forfeited games and other punitive measures.

Eligibility and HOW Grades

The first requirement for eligibility relates to enrollment. To be eligible, students must be enrolled and actively engaged in the equivalent of 6 classes and Roundtable. Two- and three-credit classes (e.g., Math 2/3, LRTC programs) count as 2 or 3 classes.

The administration then looks to the student's Habits of Work (HOW) grades to determine eligibility. The HOW grades are the most important criteria, though a student's academic grades play a role, as well. A student must *always* be passing Roundtable to be eligible. The way this works is detailed on the next page. This approach rewards students for attendance, effort, participation, and positive social behavior, even if they are struggling with content skills and knowledge of their classes. (For more information about HOW grades, see the HOW Grading Guide on the PRHS website.)

HOW Grade Checks

HOW grades are reported four times each semester, and academic grades are posted twice. Eligibility for co-curriculars is checked on every posting date. With our frequent grade reports -- and 24/7 access to grades with Jumprope -- students and families can have a clear understanding of achievement in both HOW and academic standards.

If you have questions about our HOW grading policies, please contact your child's teacher(s) or an administrator:

*Erik Anderson, Principal
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*Kat Meader, Assistant Principal
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*Don King, Co-Curricular Director
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Determining Eligibility

A student is deemed eligible according to the following criteria during each semester:

REPORT	TIER 1		TIER 2
HOW Check 1 (approx. 4 weeks)	Meets HOW standard (2.5 or higher) in at least 6 classes and passing Roundtable	<i>If not eligible, then→</i>	Meets all academic standards in the class in which the HOW grade is lower than 2.5
Quarter Grades (approx. 9 weeks)	Meets all academic standards in at least 6 courses and Roundtable	<i>If not eligible, then→</i>	Meets HOW standard in each class in which the course grade is lower than 2.5 up to two
HOW Check 2 (approx. 14 weeks)	Meets HOW standard (2.5 or higher) in at least 6 classes and passing Roundtable	<i>If not eligible, then→</i>	Meets all academic standards in the class in which the HOW grade is lower than 2.5
Semester Grades (January and June)	Meets all academic standards in at least 6 courses and Roundtable	<i>If not eligible, then→</i>	Meets HOW standard in each class in which the course grade is lower than 2.5 up to two

Students who are eligible will remain eligible until the next grade check. Students who lose their eligibility will have several opportunities to earn it back.

If a student fails to meet the eligibility guidelines at the beginning of either first semester or second semester, they will have their grades reviewed 3 weeks into the semester to check eligibility status. If the student **meets** the eligibility guidelines they will be deemed eligible until the next grade report. If the student **does not meet** the eligibility guidelines they will remain ineligible until the next grade report.

If a student fails to meet the eligibility guidelines during the semester the student will lose their eligibility for one week. After one week grades will be checked again. A student who **meets** the eligibility guidelines after one week will earn their eligibility until the next grade report. A student who **does not meet** the eligibility guidelines after 1 week will remain ineligible for a second week. After one more grade check the student may earn eligibility or remain ineligible until the next grade report.

Students who are deemed ineligible at the last report date in June may use PRHS summer school to meet standards and become eligible for the beginning of fall activities. All incoming 9th-graders are eligible to begin the school year.