



## Worthington City Schools Eligibility Academic Requirements Summary



The Board of Education recognizes that a complete co-curricular program based upon student interest assists in the total education of students. While emphasis is given to the intellectual growth, diversified opportunities must be provided for students who wish to participate in the co-curricular program. All such programs must contribute to the goals of general education to justify their existence in the curriculum.

1. Participation in a co-curricular sport/activity is a privilege, not a right.
2. All participants will be subject to the rules and regulations of the respective sport/activity, the governing body's bylaws and guidelines and the WCS Student/Parent Handbook including the Co-Curricular Alcohol Tobacco and Other Drugs (A-T-O-D) Policy.
3. Participants will be advised in writing of all regulations by their respective advisors or coaches prior to their participation in order for each student to determine the feasibility of such participation.
4. Violation of rules and regulations may result in loss of privilege to participate or other disciplinary action.

### **Academic Eligibility**

To be academically eligible to participate in a co-curricular sport/activity a student must meet four standards.

1. Participants must be enrolled in a minimum of five (5) one-credit courses (or the equivalent) throughout the duration of the sport/activity. *OHSAA Standard*
2. Participants must have received passing grades in a minimum of five (5) one-credit courses (or the equivalent) during the immediately preceding grading period for each grading period throughout the duration of the sport/activity. *OHSAA Standard*
3. Participants must earn a minimum of a 1.0 GPA in the immediately preceding grading period throughout the duration of the sport/activity. *OHSAA Standard*
4. Participants must have earned 2.5 credits the immediately preceding semester (applicable to the first and third grading period). *Worthington Schools Standard*

*Notes: No work completed outside of the immediately preceding grading period may be used to satisfy the second and third standard. No work done outside of the school year (i.e. summer school) may be used to satisfy any of the first three standards. A question regarding what measure is considered adequate progress should be directed to the athletic director by the student and/or parent.*

### **Understanding Student Educational Options**

A traditional year long course worth one-credit or a semester long course worth ½-credit where students and teachers meet daily are the standard courses in which most students are typically enrolled. However, there are many other educational options available to students such as College Credit Plus, Credit Flex, Blended Learning and E-School courses. Additionally, there are outstanding programs available to students such as Linworth, the Career Center and the Worthington Academy. While these options are great for participants, they can cause some confusion as to how they can be "counted" with regard to the first two academic standards that students must meet to be academically eligible to participate in co-curricular activities. Some clarity is provided within this document. Additional questions should be directed to both the student's counselor and to the athletic director.

*Questions about academic ability should be directed to the athletic director. Any student who desires to make changes to their course load should check with the athletic director prior to requesting the change.*



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## How to Count Courses

### Standard Courses

- A year long course valued at 1-credit will count as one of the five required courses.
- A semester long course valued at ½-credit will count as one of the five required courses.

### Non-standard Courses

- A semester long course valued at ¼-credit will not count as one of the five required courses. It would be one-half of one of the required courses.
- A semester long course valued at 1-credit will count as two of the five required courses.
- A semester long course valued at 1.5-credits will count as three of the five required courses.

### Courses Earning College Credit with a High School Instructor

- A year long course that is valued at 5 university semester credits is valued at 1 high school credit and will count as one of the five required courses.
- A semester long course that is valued at 5 university semester credits is valued at 1 high school credit and will count as two of the five required courses.
- A semester long course that is valued at 3 university semester credits is valued at 1 high school credit and will count as two of the five required courses.

### Courses Earning College Credit with a College/University Instructor

- These courses are awarded credit using the following table:

College/University Credit Value	High School Credit Value	Number of the 5 Required Courses
1 semester credit	0.333 semester credits	0.666 courses
2 semester credits	.666 semester credits	1.332 courses
3 semester credits	1 semester credit	2 courses
4 semester credits	1 semester credit	2 courses
5 semester credits	1 semester credit	2 courses

## Considerations

**Blended Learning Courses:** Students who are enrolled in a blended learning course should count the course just as they would a traditional style course. They will receive grades from their teacher at the end of each term.

**Physical Education and Health Courses:** Health is a semester long course valued at ½-credit. This course may be counted as one of the five 1-credit courses. However, the following Wellness for Life courses are semester long courses that are valued at ¼-credit: Flex and Tone, Personal Wellness, Strength Training, Wellness for Life, and Yoga. They will count as one-half of a 1-credit course. Students who are taking one of the identified Wellness for Life courses need five (5) additional courses to meet the eligibility standards.

**E-School Courses:** Students may be enrolled in one or more e-school courses during any given grading period. Some students may meet often with an adult to oversee e-school progress while others may be responsible to maintain progress on their own. However progress is monitored, a student must make adequate progress in their e-school course during each grading period. For an e-school course that is valued at ½-credit, the student must complete at least 50% of the course with passing marks during the first 9-weeks of a semester and complete the course with passing marks by the end of the semester. Students who complete an e-school course during the first 9-weeks of the semester must continue to meet standard 1 in the second 9-weeks of the semester. In this scenario, each e-school course will count as one of the five 1-credit courses.

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**The Worthington Academy:** Students enrolled in online courses at the Worthington Academy should treat those courses as described above under E-School Courses. Worthington Academy students and their parents should discuss co-curricular eligibility requirements with the Worthington Academy Principal during the initial intake meeting and with the home school athletic director.

**College Credit Plus:** Students who take College Credit Plus courses either on our campuses or at a college/university must make adequate progress in the course(s) during each WCS grading period, regardless of when the college/university assigns final grades. In this scenario, adequate progress is defined by the college/university and the courses instructor. Given that student grades at the college/university are afforded protection by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, the high school does not have access to interim grades for these courses. Therefore, at the end of the WCS first and third grading periods, students will be required to have their instructor complete a University Grade Report Form for each of their college/university courses and return it to the athletic office. The form requires a student and a parent signature prior to the instructor completing the form. Students who do not return the form by the specified date will be withheld from participation until it is on file with the school.

**Credit Flex Courses:** Students who take a course through the credit flex option must make adequate progress in the course during each grading period. Students may count the course as one of the five 1-credit courses provided that they are working for one semester on a course valued at ½-credit or for one year on a course valued at 1-credit. A student who is working for one year on a course valued at ½-credit **will not** be able to count the course. Adequate progress is determined by the teacher of record supervising the student's work. The teacher of record will be required to submit in writing that the student is making adequate progress at an acceptable level at the end of each grading period. Without the written submission of progress submitted to the athletic office, the student will be withheld from participation.

**Linworth:** Most of a student's courses at the Linworth are a semester course valued at ½-credit or are a yearlong course valued at 1-credit. Those courses each count as one of the required five courses. There are some courses offered that exceed those credit values. Please refer to the section on How to Count Courses to determine how to count these courses. Please direct your questions regarding these courses to the Linworth Director and to the athletic director.

**Career Center Courses:** The semester courses at the career center may be valued at ½-credit, 1-credit or 1.5-credits. Please refer to the section on How to Count Courses to determine how to count these courses. When the WCS grading period ends prior to the career center grading period students may be withheld from participation until it is determined that they are making adequate progress in their career center courses.

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