Revised 06/18

Florida High School Athletic Association

# Affidavit of Compliance with the Policies on Athletic Recruiting & Non-Traditional Student Participation

**For:** Any student who changes attendance to a member school at any time, regardless of whether the change occurs during the school year (i.e. a transfer) or during the summer period between school years, including youth exchange, international and immigrant students, or is a "Non-Traditional" student (i.e. home education, certain charter and special/alternative school, certain private school, FLVS Full Time Public Program, etc.) participating for your school. ***This form is not required for students entering from a terminating grade school (i.e. 5th grade to 6th, 8th grade to 9th grade)***.

**Action:** Must be read and signed in the presence of a notary public by the student and his/her parent(s)/legal guardian(s) appointed by a court of competent jurisdiction. **This form only needs to be done once for each change of schools or change in participation as a "Non-Traditional" student at a member school.**

**Due date:** Must be received by the school **prior to participation** in the first sport in which the student wishes to participate,

**Required by:** FHSAA Policies.

**Purpose:** To heighten the awareness of and compliance with rules prohibiting athletic recruiting on the part of student-athletes, their parents legal guardians, and member schools, as well as participation with a member school as a "Non-Traditional" student.

**Verification:** Page 3 will be checked for completeness. **Submission of this form DOES NOT grant eligibility.**

**TO: STUDENT-ATHLETE**

The school that you have chosen to attend, or participate for as a "Non-Traditional" student, is a member of the Florida High School Athletic Association (FHSAA). The FHSAA has rules that prohibit a member school from making any effort to encourage or entice a student to attend or participate there for athletic purposes. This is called athletic recruiting, and it is not permitted on the high school level. The Florida Legislature, in fact, has directed the FHSAA to "adopt bylaws that specifically prohibit the recruiting of students for athletic purposes." Florida law also regulates the participation in interscholastic athletics by "Non-Traditional" students.

What follows is an explanation of athletic recruiting rules, as well as regulations related to participation by "Non-Traditional" students, and the penalties for violating them. You and your parent(s) or legal guardian(s) must read this document and declare that you were not recruited to attend or participate for the school for athletic purposes and that you are aware of the regulations regarding participation as a "Non-Traditional" student by signing the attached "Affidavit of Compliance" in the presence of a notary public. The signed affidavit must be submitted to the member school prior to a date not earlier than the first day of practice of the first sport in which the student wishes to participate, as posted on the FHSAA Website.

Please read this information carefully. Sign the affidavit truthfully and honestly. Do not sign the affidavit if you have any questions about these rules or believe that a violation of these rules may have occurred. Instead, have your school's athletic director contact the FHSAA Office by phone at 352.372.9551 ext. 340 or by e-mail at compliance@fhsaa.org. Violations of these rules and regulations can and do result in severe penalties for the school and the student-athlete. Making an inaccurate statement by signing the affidavit when you know you should not will only make these penalties worse for all involved if violations are later determined to have occurred.

**What is athletic recruiting?**

Athletic recruiting is any attempt by any employee or athletic department staff member of an FHSAA member school, a representative of the school's athletic interests or a third party to pressure, urge or entice a student who does not currently attend or participate for that school to change his/her attendance or participation there for the purpose of athletic participation. This occurs when the school employee, athletic department staff member or representative of the school's athletic interests makes improper contact with the student or a member of his/her family in an effort to pressure or urge the student to go to that school OR promises, offers or gives the student an impermissible benefit in an effort to entice the student to go to or participate for that school.

**Who is "a representative of the school's athletic interests?"**

Any person, business or organization that participates in, assists with, and/or promotes a school's athletic program is considered to be a representative of the school's athletic interests. This includes, but is not limited to:

- A student-athlete or other student participant in the athletic program at that school;
- The parents, guardians or other family members of a student-athlete or other student participant in the athletic program at that school;
- Immediate relatives of a coach or other members of the athletic department staff at that school;
- A volunteer with that school's athletic program;
- A member of an athletic booster organization of that school;
- A person, business or organization that makes financial or in-kind contributions to the athletic department or that is otherwise involved in promoting the school's interscholastic athletic program.

**What is improper contact with a student who does not attend a school?**

Any contact or communication of any kind with a student who does not attend or participate for a particular school, or a member of the student's family, in attempt to pressure, urge or entice the student to change attendance to a different school for athletic reasons is improper. The improper contact can either be in person, through written or electronic means such as letters, flyers, e-mails, text messages, social media or through a third party. Did someone talk you into changing to this school to play athletics? Did someone urge you to change to this school to play athletics? If so, you may have been athletically recruited.

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**What is an impermissible benefit?**

An impermissible benefit is any benefit that is promised, offered or given to a student or a member of his/her family but is not offered or generally made available to all students who apply to or attend or participate for the school. Did someone promise, offer or give you anything more than what any other student who attends or participate for this school is generally promised, offered or given that caused you to decide to change to this school? If so, it probably is an impermissible benefit.

**What is a "third party"?**

A "third party" is an independent person, business or organization who may or may not be a representative of the school's athletic interests.

**What are the penalties for violations of athletic recruiting rules by a member school?**

A member school that violates athletic recruiting rules will be assessed one or more of the following penalties:

- A public reprimand;
- A financial penalty;
- Forfeiture of all contests and awards won in which the student who was athletically recruited or received an impermissible benefit participated or contributed;
- One or more forms of probation (administrative, restrictive or suspension) for one or more years;
- Prohibition against participating or coaching in certain competitions, including state playoffs, for one or more years in the sport(s) in which the violation(s) occurred;
- Prohibition against participating in any competitions for one or more years in the sport(s) in which the violation(s) occurred;
- Restricted membership for one or more years during which some or all of the school's membership privileges are restricted or denied;
- Expulsion from membership in the FHSAA.

**What are the penalties for a student who is found to have been athletically recruited or receives an impermissible benefit?**

A student who is found to have accepted an impermissible benefit will be ineligible for athletic competition for one or more years at the school where the violation occurred, and may be declared ineligible for athletic competition at all FHSAA member schools for one or more years.

**What are the regulations regarding the participation of "Non-Traditional" students?**

A Non-Traditional student is eligible to participate provided:

- The student meets the same residency requirements as other students in the school at which he/ she participates; and
- The student meets the same standards of acceptance, behavior and performance as required of other students in extracurricular activities; and
- The student registers with the school his/her intent to participate in interscholastic athletic competition as a representative of the school, utilizing the official Association process as approved by the Executive Director, **prior to participation** in the sport(s) in which he/she wishes to participate, as posted on the FHSAA website; and
- The student complies with all FHSAA regulations, including eligibility requirements regarding age and limits of eligibility, and local school regulations during the time of participation; and
- The student provides proof of basic medical insurance coverage and both independently secured catastrophic insurance coverage and liability insurance coverage which names the FHSAA as an insured party in the event the school's insurance provider does not extend coverage to such students; and
- The student provides his/her own transportation to and from the school; and
- The student provides to school authorities all required forms (including, but not limited to, the EL2, EL3 and, where applicable, the EL7, EL7V, EL12, EL12V and EL14) and provisions.

**What are the penalties for violations of regulations regarding "Non-Traditional" student by a member school?**

Allowing students to participate without properly registering a non-traditional student will subject the school to a monetary penalty.

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# Affidavit of Compliance with the Policies on Athletic Recruiting & Non-Traditional Student Participation

The student/parent must complete, obtain all applicable signatures before a notary public and submit this form to the school **on or before the first day of practice for the first sport in which the student wishes to participate**, as establisched on the FHSAA Calendar. Submission of this form **DOES NOT** grant eligibility. The student must be **ELIGIBLE** in all other respects.

We, the undersigned, being sworn, certify that the following statements are true:

1. Student *{full legal name}* _____ ("THIS STUDENT"), who was born on *{date}* _____, 19/20 _____, and who is currently in the {number} _____th grade, now attends or wishes to participate for *{school now attending/participating for}* _____ ("THIS SCHOOL"), commencing on *{date}* _____, 20 _____.

THIS STUDENT has previously attended/participated for *{list all previous secondary schools beginning with the most recent and working back in time}*

_____.

2. I have read and understand the definition of athletic recruiting, including the explanation of the terms "representatives of the school's athletic interests", "improper contact" and "impermissible benefit", or I have read and understand the regulations regarding participation as a "Non-Traditional" student.

3. No employee, athletic department staff member, representative of the athletic interests of THIS SCHOOL, any person or organization acting on their behalf or a third party has had communication, directly or indirectly, through intermediaries, or otherwise with THIS STUDENT or any member of his/her family in an attempt to pressure, urge or entice THIS STUDENT to change attendance to or participation for THIS SCHOOL for the purpose of participation in interscholastic athletics.

4. No employee, athletic department staff member, representative of the athletic interests of THIS SCHOOL, any person or organization acting on their behalf or a third party is giving, has given, has offered or promised to give, directly or indirectly, through intermediaries, or otherwise any impermissible benefit to THIS STUDENT or any member of his/her family for the purpose of participation in interscholastic athletics.

5. If THIS STUDENT is a "Non-Traditional" student, THIS STUDENT has submitted to THIS SCHOOL the EL2 and EL3 forms and, where applicable, the EL7, EL7V, EL12, EL12V and EL14 forms **prior to participation** **in the first sport in which the student wishes to participate**.

6. If THIS STUDENT is a youth exchange (J-1 and F-1 Visas), international or immigrant student, THIS STUDENT has submitted to THIS SCHOOL the EL2 and EL3 forms and, where applicable, the EL4 Form.

**I understand that I am swearing or affirming under oath to the truthfulness of the statements made in this affidavit and that the punishment for knowingly making a false statement includes fines and/or imprisonment.** I further understand that the penalties for knowingly making a false statement may subject THIS SCHOOL to fines, forfeitures, probations and possible expulsion from membership in the FHSAA, and may subject THIS STUDENT to a loss of athletic eligibility.

**FOR STUDENT/PARENT(S)/LEGAL GUARDIAN(S):**

_____/ _____
Signature of Student Date

_____
Printed Name of Student

_____/ _____
Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian Date

_____
Printed Name of Parent/Legal Guardian

_____/ _____
Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian Date

_____
Printed Name of Parent/Legal Guardian

STATE OF FLORIDA, COUNTY OF _____

Sworn to or affirmed before me on {date} _____.
[Notary Seal:]

_____
Signature of Notary

_____
Printed Name of Notary

NOTARY PUBLIC
My commission expires: _____, 20_____.

Personally known to me _____

OR Produced Identification _____

Type of Identification Produced _____