

OBION COUNTY  
BOARD OF EDUCATION

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David W. Huss, Director of Schools

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**TO:** Obion County Board of Education  
Obion County Principals

**FROM:** David W. Huss

**DATE:** March 7, 2011

**RE: Administrative Procedure for Board Policy #4.301 – Interscholastic Athletics – Home Schooled Students Participating in Extracurricular Athletic Programs of the Obion County School System**

The administrative procedure set forth herein is in response to a recent change in the Bylaws of the Tennessee Secondary School Athletics Association (TSSAA), which allows home schooled students the opportunity to participate in TSSAA activities. The Board, System, and schools will continue to abide by all TSSAA bylaws. As set forth by TSSAA, “A home schooled student wishing to participate in extracurricular athletics at a member school shall be eligible if” the following criteria are met:

- 1) The student shall be enrolled in a home school study program in compliance with TCA §49-6-3050(b)(1) **and be registered with the local director of schools by August 15** of the current school year.
- 2) The participating student must have a legal residence within the school district where he/she is registered.
- 3) **By August 15 of the school year**, the parent or guardian must make application to the principal of the member school in which the home schooled athlete wishes to participate.
- 4) The home schooled athlete shall meet the same academic standards required of a member school student-athlete to participate in the athletic program; however, the Director of Schools in which a home schooled athlete wishes to participate shall work with the parent or guardian to ensure that the home schooled athlete is academically eligible. If a home schooled student’s course of study does not include five (5) academic subjects, the Director of Schools and the parent shall develop an alternative measure of academic progress and submit the same to the TSSAA for approval. Proof of academic eligibility shall be provided by the member school to the TSSAA each semester.
- 5) The home schooled student must provide **proof of basic medical insurance coverage and both independently secured catastrophic insurance coverage and liability insurance coverage which names the TSSAA and the school system as insured parties in the event the school’s insurance provider does not extend coverage to students enrolled in home school programs**. The insurance must be in place before the home schooled student practices or participates.
- 6) The Board approves a participation fee for each athletic sport in which a home schooled athlete wishes to participate. Such participation fee shall be **three hundred dollars (\$300) annually for each sport and shall be paid in full prior to the first regular season contest**.
- 7) The home schooled student must meet all other TSSAA eligibility requirements.
- 8) All eligibility issues may be appealed in accordance with the Bylaws of the TSSAA.

- 9) The home schooled athlete must adhere to the same standards of behavior, responsibility, performance, and code of conduct as other participants of the team.
- 10) The TSSAA rule and this administrative procedure give a home schooled athlete the opportunity to try out for a member school's athletic team. Ultimate decisions on the roster are left to the member schools and are not governed by the TSSAA. No student is guaranteed participation, but only the opportunity to try out for a position on the team, subject to the other provisions of this rule.

The amendment to Board Policy #4.301 was approved by the Board of Education on March 7, 2011.