



## Oregon School Activities Association

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To: Superintendents, Principals, and Athletic Directors  
From: Peter Weber, Executive Director  
Subject: Status of OSAA Rule 8.2. – Duration of Eligibility/Graduation

The OSAA staff has received numerous inquiries over the past couple of weeks regarding students and families exploring the idea of repeating the same grade level. With this in mind, we felt it important to remind schools of the various OSAA rules that come into play if a family does exercise this option to “reclassify” their student.

[OSAA Rule 8.2.](#) outlines the duration of eligibility for any student participating in OSAA activities.

*“A student may participate in the interscholastic program for four consecutive years (eight semesters or the equivalent) after entering the 9th grade.....”*

The intent of Rule 8.2. is to promote timely progress toward graduation by discouraging students from delaying or interrupting their high school education; disallow students to enroll for one semester each school year to increase maturity, athletic ability and skill; promote equality of competition; diminish risks stemming from unequal competition; and place emphasis on the academic mission of the school.

If a family makes the decision to “reclassify” their student, Rule 8.2. does not grant an additional year of eligibility to participate. Whether or not the student decides to participate in an activity or not is irrelevant – the student does not receive an additional year if they did not participate in any given year.

As an example – if a current 10<sup>th</sup> grade student repeats the same grade level the next academic year, they would not be OSAA eligible as a 12<sup>th</sup> grader based on Rule 8.2. as it would be the student’s fifth year. The student would have had four consecutive years (8 consecutive semesters) after entering the 9<sup>th</sup> grade that ended after their 11<sup>th</sup> grade year. (e.g. 9, 10, 10, 11)

Thank you in advance for providing this information to your administrative team, counseling department, and coaching staff in an effort to enable these groups to provide accurate information when a family is considering options.