

**PRIVATE SCHOOL STUDENTS—ACCESS TO PUBLIC SCHOOL
COCURRICULAR, INTERSCHOLASTIC AND EXTRACURRICULAR
ACTIVITIES**

EAST MILLINOCKET SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

The Board recognizes that Maine law sets standards for access to public school cocurricular, interscholastic and extracurricular activities by students enrolled in equivalent instruction programs in private schools.

For the purpose of this policy, “student enrolled in equivalent instruction program” means a student otherwise eligible to attend school in that school administrative unit, including a student who resides in the unorganized territory, when the student is enrolled in an equivalent instruction program in a private school that:

- A. Is recognized as an equivalent instruction alternative under 20-A MRSA § 5001-A(3)(1)(a) or (b) (i.e., a private school approved for attendance purposes under 20-A MRSA § 2901 or a private school recognized by the Department of Education as providing equivalent instruction); and
- B. Is not a member of an association that promotes, organizes or regulates statewide interscholastic activities in both public and private schools.

PARTICIPATION IN COCURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

“Cocurricular activities,” for the purpose of this policy, are activities that are sponsored by the school, are directly related to the curriculum and support achievement of the learning standards established by law, Board policy and or administrative action. Examples of such activities include the math club, science fairs and foreign language clubs.

A student enrolled in an equivalent instruction program as defined in this policy is eligible to participate in cocurricular activities sponsored by **East Millinocket School Department** provided that:

- A. The student or his/her parent/guardian applies in writing to and receives written approval from the school principal/designee; and
- B. The student currently meets, and agrees to meet in the future, established behavioral, disciplinary, attendance and other rules applicable to all students.

The principal/designee has reasonable discretion to grant or withhold approval based on factors including: whether the activity is already filled with enrolled students, additional costs that would be caused by the student’s participation, the

student's behavioral and academic record provided by the private school, safety, and any other factors that involve the best interests of the school. The principal/designee's decision shall not be subject to appeal or reconsideration unless it is in violation of the law or a Board policy.

PARTICIPATION IN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

"Extracurricular activities," for the purpose of this policy, are school-sponsored activities for which participants are selected by staff supervising the activities, including those teams, both athletic and academic, that participate in interscholastic competition.

A student enrolled in an equivalent instruction program as defined in this policy is eligible to try out for extracurricular and interscholastic activities sponsored by **EAST MILLINOCKET SCHOOL DEPARTMENT** provided that the following requirements are met/satisfied:

- A. The student applies for and receives written approval from the principal/designee;
- B. The student agrees to abide by equivalent rules of participation as are applicable to regularly enrolled students participating in the activity and provides evidence that the rules of participation are being met.
- C. The student complies with the same physical examination, immunization, insurance, age, and semester eligibility requirements as regularly enrolled students participating in the activity. All required documentation must be made available upon request by the school unit.
- D. The student meets equivalent academic standards as those established for regularly enrolled students participating in the activity and provides evidence that the academic standards are being met.
- E. The student abides by the same transportation policy as regularly enrolled students participating in the activity.

The principal/designee will be responsible for approving or withholding approval of applications to try out for an extracurricular activity

The criteria for selection of participants shall be determined by the staff members (coaches, advisors and their supervisors) responsible for the activities. Tryouts are by nature competitive. Eligibility to try out does not guarantee participation. Decisions resulting in non-selection of individual students shall not be subject to appeal or reconsideration unless they are in violation of law or Board policy.

VERIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY

To permit verification that the student has met eligibility requirements under this policy, the student's parent (or the student, if 18 years old) must authorize the private school to provide to the principal all information necessary to determine whether the student meets the requirements.

DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY

In order to maintain an efficient and orderly method for processing applications for participation, the Board authorizes the Superintendent/designee to develop procedures, as appropriate, for the principal/designee's use in determining whether students have met eligibility requirements and for granting or withholding approval of participation.

EAST MILLINOCKET SCHOOL DEPARTMENT has no obligation to notify or provide information concerning eligibility for participation in school-sponsored cocurricular, interscholastic or extracurricular activities to students enrolled in equivalent instruction in private schools.

APPEALS

Appeals from administration and application of the Board policy are heard by the Board, whose decision is final and binding. Appeals that question the Board's policy compliance with legal requirements must be made to the Commissioner, whose decision is final and binding.

Legal Reference: 20-A MRSA §§ 2901, 5001-A, 5021-A(3)

Cross Reference: KE – Public Concerns and Complaints

First reading: 10.2.12

Second reading and adoption: 11.6.12

**PRIVATE SCHOOL STUDENT APPLICATION FOR PARTICIPATION IN
EAST MILLINOCKET SCHOOL DEPARTMENT COCURRICULAR
ACTIVITIES**

The parent (or student if 18 years of age or older) must submit a separate application for each activity in which participation is desired.

STUDENT INFORMATION

Student's Name:

Student's Date of Birth:

Grade in Private School:

Student's Address:

Phone Number:

Parent/Guardian's Name:

Private School Name:

Private School Address:

Private School Phone Number:

Private School Principal/Head's Name:

Student is Applying for Participation in the Following Activity: _____

VERIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY

I authorize [**Private school name**] to provide to [**EAST MILLINOCKET SCHOOL DEPARTMENT**] upon its request all information necessary to verify that my son/daughter, [**Student's name**] meets the eligibility requirements for participation in the cocurricular activity that is the subject of this application.

Parent's Signature (or Student's, if 18 or older)

Date

STUDENT PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT

I agree to comply with all [**EAST MILLINOCKET SCHOOL DEPARTMENT**] policies, administrative procedures, and behavioral, disciplinary, attendance and other rules that apply to [**EAST MILLINOCKET SCHOOL DEPARTMENT**] students participating in the cocurricular activity that is the subject of this application.

Student's Signature

Date

**PRIVATE SCHOOL STUDENT APPLICATION FOR PARTICIPATION IN
EAST MILLINOCKET SCHOOL DEPARTMENT EXTRACURRICULAR
ACTIVITIES**

The parent (or student if 18 years of age or older) must submit a separate application for each activity in which participation is desired. [**EAST MILLINOCKET SCHOOL DEPARTMENT**] will verify eligibility before the student is allowed to try out for the requested activity.

STUDENT INFORMATION

Student's Name:

Student's Date of Birth:

Grade in Private School:

Student's Address:

Phone Number:

Parent/Guardian's Name:

Private School Name:

Private School Address:

Private School Phone Number:

Private School Principal/Head's Name:

Student is Applying for Participation in the Following Activity: _____

**THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTATION WILL BE REQUIRED FOR
VERIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY TO TRY OUT FOR PARTICIPATION:**

Evidence that the student currently meets the same behavioral, disciplinary, attendance and other eligibility applicable to all students in [**EAST MILLINOCKET SCHOOL DEPARTMENT**];

Student's written agreement to comply with the same behavioral, disciplinary, attendance and other eligibility applicable to all students in [**EAST MILLINOCKET SCHOOL DEPARTMENT**];

Documentation of sports physical (if applicable) and clearance to play;

Documentation of immunization presented;

Evidence of insurance;

Documentation of age eligibility;

Documentation of academic standing (grades or other evidence that academic eligibility standards have been met); and

Student's written agreement to abide by the same transportation rules that apply to regularly enrolled students.

VERIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY

I authorize [**Private school name**] to provide to [**EAST MILLINOCKET SCHOOL DEPARTMENT**] upon its request all information necessary to verify that my son/daughter, [**Student's name**] meets the eligibility requirements for participation in the extracurricular activity that is the subject of this application.

I agree to provide to [**EAST MILLINOCKET SCHOOL DEPARTMENT**] documentation of immunization, insurance and sports physical and clearance to play (if applicable) if such information is not maintained at _____.

Parent's Signature (or Student's, if 18 or older)

Date

STUDENT PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT

I agree to comply with all [**EAST MILLINOCKET SCHOOL DEPARTMENT**] policies, administrative procedures, and behavioral, disciplinary, attendance and other rules that apply to [**EAST MILLINOCKET SCHOOL DEPARTMENT**] students participating in the extracurricular activity that is the subject of this application.

I also agree to abide by the same transportation rules that apply to all [**EAST MILLINOCKET SCHOOL DEPARTMENT**] participants in this activity.

Student's Signature

Date

**VERIFICATION OF PRIVATE SCHOOL STUDENT ELIGIBILITY FOR
PARTICIPATION IN [EAST MILLINOCKET SCHOOL DEPARTMENT]
COCURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

A separate application must be received for each activity in which participation is desired. This form is used to verify eligibility and to approve/deny participation.

STUDENT INFORMATION

Student's Name:

Student's Date of Birth:

Grade in Private School:

Student's Address:

Phone Number:

Parent/Guardian's Name:

Private School Name:

Private School Address:

Private School Phone Number:

Private School Principal/Head's Name:

Student is Applying for Participation in the Following Activity: _____

FOR COCURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

_____ Written application received [**DATE**]

_____ Student's written agreement to comply with behavioral, disciplinary, attendance and other rules applicable to all students in [**EAST MILLINOCKET SCHOOL DEPARTMENT**]

Student participation in the desired activity is _____ approved _____ not approved

Decision by: _____ (Name and Title) Date: _____

Student/parent notified of decision: Date: _____ Method: _____

VERIFICATION OF PRIVATE SCHOOL STUDENT ELIGIBILITY FOR PARTICIPATION IN [EAST MILLINOCKET SCHOOL DEPARTMENT] EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

A separate application must be received for each activity in which participation is desired. This form is used to verify eligibility and to approve/deny participation.

STUDENT INFORMATION

Student's Name:

Student's Date of Birth:

Grade in Private School:

Student's Address:

Phone Number:

Parent/Guardian's Name:

Private School Name:

Private School Address:

Private School Phone Number:

Private School Principal/Head's Name:

Student is Applying for Participation in the Following Activity: _____

FOR EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

_____ Written application received _____

_____ Student's written agreement to comply with behavioral, disciplinary, attendance and other rules applicable to all students in **EAST MILLINOCKET SCHOOL DEPARTMENT**

_____ Sports physical (if applicable) performed on _____ Cleared to play? Yes/No

_____ Documentation of immunization presented

_____ Documentation of insurance

_____ Documentation of age eligibility

_____ Documentation of academic standing (principals may ask to see grades or other evidence that academic eligibility has been met)

_____ Student's written agreement to abide by same transportation as regularly enrolled students

_____ Student has completed tryout

_____ Student has been selected/not selected for the activity (circle one)

Decision by: _____ (Name and Title) Date: _____

Student/parent notified of decision: Date: _____ Method: _____