

Bona Fide Move

Bona Fide Move. A student whose parents make a bona fide move completely out of one school zone into another may transfer all his/her rights and privileges to the member school that serves the area where his/her parents reside.

If the change of school precedes the bona fide move on the part of the parents, the student is ineligible until the parents make a bona fide move.

Determining a Bona Fide Move – Sometimes it is very difficult to determine what constitutes a bona fide move. Family and home conditions differ and must be considered. The following factors are basic guidelines for determining a bona fide move:

- a. The household furniture of the family must be moved into an unoccupied house or apartment.
- b. All principal members of the family must reside in the new place of residence.
- c. The original residence should be closed, rented or disposed of and not used by the family.
- d. Nine months at the new residence will be required to make a move bona fide.

If a family moves into a new school zone and remains there for less than nine months, the move will not be considered bona fide and the family's child who is enrolled in the new school zone becomes ineligible there the day the family leaves the new school zone.

The student remains ineligible for a full calendar year from the date the family moved out of the new zone. However, if the student did not participate in athletics, the period of ineligibility will be 12 months from the date of the student's initial enrollment.

When there is any possibility of doubt about a move being bona fide, the principal shall present the facts in writing to his/her District Board or to the Executive Director of the AHSAA for a decision. The District Board or Executive Director will review the facts submitted and may conduct an investigation if necessary.

Note: Students entering the seventh grade for the first time are eligible where they enroll.

Just as in all other cases, the decision of the Executive Director may be appealed to the District Board and a District Board's decision may be appealed to the Central Board of Control. In the final analysis, whether a move is bona fide or not will be determined by the Central Board.