

**Proposed Amendment to the
University Interscholastic League Constitution and Contest Rules**

A. Brief Explanation of Proposed Amendment

This amendment to Section 442, *Residence in School District and Attendance Zone*, would create varsity athletic eligibility opportunities for children of ‘service members’ (military) and ‘peace officers’ as defined in the Texas Education Code, as well as children of school employees who transfer to new schools.

B. Factual and Policy Justifications

There were two bills passed in this last Legislative Session regarding the ability of ‘service members’ (military) and ‘peace officers’ to be able to transfer their children to the school of their choice. The law updated the Texas Education Code to allow for this, so we are updating our rules to recognize this new statutory authority. Also, with the continuing struggle with staffing in schools, providing flexibility in the schooling choices of children of school employees could be of benefit as well. The only exceptions provided in this amendment would be in reference to the residence rule. All other eligibility rules, including the prohibition on changing schools for athletic purposes and completion of a Previous Athletic Participation Form (PAPF) would still be in place.

C. Proposed Amendment

Section 442(h) of the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules would be amended as follows, pending approval by the Commissioner of Education:

Section 442: RESIDENCE IN SCHOOL DISTRICT AND ATTENDANCE ZONE

(h) MILITARY PARENT(S); PEACE OFFICER PARENT(S); EDUCATOR PARENT(S).

1. A student whose parent is active military and receives a permanent change of station to a military base with a special purpose school district, or whose parent has been released into retirement by the Department of Defense for a reason other than a dishonorable discharge and the student enrolls in the special purpose school district on a military base at the student’s first opportunity, is considered in compliance with this rule.
2. A STUDENT WHOSE PARENT IS A ‘SERVICEMEMBER’ AS DEFINED IN SECTION 25.0344 OF THE TEXAS EDUCATION CODE (TEC), AND TRANSFERS TO A NEW SCHOOL AS OUTLINED IN TEC 25.0344 AT FIRST OPPORTUNITY, AND IS OTHERWISE IN COMPLIANCE WITH ELIGIBILITY RULES, IS CONSIDERED IN COMPLIANCE WITH THIS RULE.
3. A STUDENT WHOSE PARENT IS A ‘PEACE OFFICER’ AS REFERENCED IN SECTION 25.0344 OF THE TEXAS EDUCATION CODE (TEC) (DEFINITION IN SECTION 1701.001, OCCUPATIONS CODE), AND TRANSFERS TO A NEW SCHOOL AS OUTLINED IN TEC 25.0344 AT FIRST OPPORTUNITY, AND IS OTHERWISE IN COMPLIANCE WITH ELIGIBILITY RULES, IS CONSIDERED IN COMPLIANCE WITH THIS RULE.
4. A STUDENT WHOSE PARENT IS AN EMPLOYEE OF A MEMBER INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT (ISD) OR MEMBER CHARTER SCHOOL ORGANIZATION AND TRANSFERS TO A NEW SCHOOL IN THE ISD OR THE CHARTER SCHOOL IN WHICH THE PARENT IS EMPLOYED, AT FIRST OPPORTUNITY, AND IS OTHERWISE IN COMPLIANCE WITH ELIGIBILITY RULES, IS CONSIDERED IN COMPLIANCE WITH THIS RULE, WITH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT APPROVAL.

D. Potential Fiscal Impact of the Proposed Rule to Member Schools

This amendment should have no fiscal impact to member schools.

E. Legislative Council Consideration; Effective Date

If approved by the Legislative Council and the Commissioner of Education, this amendment shall be effective August 1, 2024.