

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

***A. Brief Explanation of Proposed Recommendation***

The recommendation below amends the Age Rule in Subchapter M: Section 446.

***B. Factual and Policy Justifications***

This recommendation amends the language regarding the requirement for a student to prove their age.

***C. Proposed Recommendation***

Section 446: AGE

- (a) ~~PROOF OF AGE. A birth certificate attested by the appropriate official is the best evidence of the date of birth. If this evidence is not available, other credible evidence of the date of birth may be considered.~~ AGE SHALL BE DETERMINED BASED ON A STUDENT'S BIRTH CERTIFICATE. IN CASES WHERE A STUDENT'S BIRTH CERTIFICATE IS UNAVAILABLE, OTHER SIMILAR GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS USED FOR THE PURPOSE OF IDENTIFICATION MAY BE SUBSTITUTED.
- (b) ~~NINETEEN OR OLDER ON SEPTEMBER 1.~~
- (1) Eligibility. A student who is ~~nineteen or older~~ on September 1 preceding the contest, and who initially enrolled in the ninth grade no more than four calendar years ago, and who prior to the end of his or her second year in high school was in special education, under the auspices of an ARD committee or identified as a 504 student by a 504 committee, is eligible to participate in a League varsity athletic contest as a representative of a participant school if:
- (A) the student has or had a disability which delayed his or her education for a year or more; and
- (B) the student is currently in special education and under the auspices of an ARD committee or is currently identified as a 504 student by a 504 committee, and
- (C) the student has not already participated one extra year under this exception.
- (2) Requirements. The requirements below are to be met by the superintendent. A student may apply for a waiver as outlined in Section 463 only if the superintendent does not submit proper verification.
- (A) The following must be submitted to the superintendent of the school district for eligibility determination:
- (i) Special education students must provide documentation of a special education status and documentation that a disability delayed their education by at least one year.
- (ii) Students with a history of a disability must provide documentation from a 504 committee proving the existence and length of time of the disability that caused the delay of at least one year in their education.
- (B) The superintendent must certify that the student has met eligibility requirements on a form prepared by the UIL office, and submit the completed form to the chair of the district executive committee. If a student is unable to obtain the required certification from the superintendent, the student may appeal the matter to the UIL Waiver Officer for disposition. See Section 463.
- (3) District Executive Committee.
- (A) The chair of the district executive committee will accept only completed certification forms. The following will be returned to the superintendent by the chair of the committee with eligibility denied:
- (i) forms that do not certify that the student meets the requirements for eligibility;

- (ii) forms that indicate that the student is not in compliance with the four-year rule and a waiver for that rule has not been granted.
- (iii) forms that contain any missing information or missing signatures.
- (B) The district executive committee will verify completed certification forms and declare the student eligible for varsity competition.
- (C) The student remains ineligible for varsity athletics unless and until all eligibility is verified by the district executive committee.

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

This recommendation has no fiscal impact to UIL member schools.

***E. Legislative Council Consideration; Effective Date***

The Standing Committee on Policy moves that the Legislative Council pass this amendment, to be effective August 1, 2016, if approved by the Commissioner of Education.