



# **WELCOME TO BCAT SPORTS**



## **STUDENT-ATHLETE HANDBOOK**

**2025-2026**



**WELCOME LETTER FROM BCAT KISSIMMEE SCHOOL DIRECTORS AND FOUNDERS OF  
BCAT SCHOOL AND BCAT SPORTS**

Blessings,

On behalf of BCAT Sports, Inc. and BCAT Schools, it is my utmost pleasure to extend a warm welcome to you. We are thrilled to have you join our community dedicated to fostering athletic excellence and educational growth.

BCAT Sports, Inc. is committed to promoting sportsmanship, teamwork, and skill development in our youth. Through our non-profit organization, we provide opportunities for young athletes to engage in various sports programs while instilling values that extend beyond the playing field.

Similarly, BCAT Schools prides itself on delivering quality education that nurtures the mind, body, and spirit of each student. Our educational institutions are dedicated to cultivating well-rounded individuals who are equipped with the knowledge and skills necessary for success in both academics and life.

As a member of our community, you are an integral part of our mission to empower young individuals to reach their full potential. Whether you are a student, parent, coach, volunteer, or supporter, your contribution plays a vital role in shaping the future of our organization and the lives of those we serve.

We encourage you to explore the diverse opportunities offered by BCAT Sports, Inc. and BCAT Schools. From sports leagues and tournaments to academic enrichment programs and community initiatives, there is something for everyone to get involved in and make a positive impact.

Please feel free to reach out to us if you have any questions, suggestions, or ideas. We value your input and look forward to working together to create a vibrant and inclusive community that promotes excellence in both sports and education.

Once again, welcome to BCAT Sports, Inc. and BCAT Schools. We are excited to embark on this journey with you and are confident that together, we will achieve great things.

Warm regards,

*Jose D. Velez*

Jose D. Velez Guzman  
BCAT / BCAT Sports Founder

*Joanna Rodriguez, M.Ed.*

Joanna Rodriguez, M.Ed.  
BCAT / BCAT Sports Founder



## **WELCOME LETTER FROM THE BCAT SPORTS INC ATHLETIC DIRECTOR**

Dear Student-Athletes:

I am delighted to extend a warm welcome to you as the new member of the BCAT Sports family! As the Athletic Director, I am thrilled to have you join our community of passionate athletes, dedicated coaches, and supportive families.

At BCAT Sports, we are more than just a sports organization. We are a community committed to fostering personal growth, teamwork, and sportsmanship in all aspects of our athletes' lives. Whether you're stepping onto the field, court, or track, you are not only representing yourself but also embodying the values that define us as an organization.

As you embark on your journey with us, I encourage you to seize every opportunity to challenge yourself, learn from your experiences, and strive for excellence both on and off the field. Our coaches and staff are here to support you every step of the way, providing guidance, mentorship, and encouragement to help you reach your full potential.

In addition to our focus on athletic development, we are also committed to promoting academic success and personal well-being. We believe that a balanced approach to sports and education is essential for long-term success, and we are dedicated to providing resources and support to help you thrive in all areas of your life.

As a member of the BCAT Sports community, you are part of something special—a family united by a shared passion for sports and a commitment to excellence. I am confident that you will find your time with us to be rewarding, challenging, and filled with opportunities for growth and achievement.

Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions, concerns. My door is always open, and I am here to support you in any way that I can.

Once again, welcome to BCAT Sports. I am excited to see all that you will accomplish and am honored to have you as part of our team.

Best regards,

*Abimelech Torres*

Abimelech Torres  
Athletic Director BCAT Sports, Inc.



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**BCAT SPORTS MISSION:**

Our mission is to empower young athletes to realize their full potential, both on and off the field, by instilling the values of integrity, teamwork, and perseverance rooted in the teachings of Christ. Through our sports programs, we aim to cultivate character, leadership skills, and a strong work ethic that will serve our athletes well beyond their athletic careers.

In addition to our focus on athletic development, we are equally committed to academic excellence, recognizing that education is the cornerstone of future success. Through our partnership with BCAT Schools, we provide comprehensive educational support and resources to ensure that our student-athletes excel in their studies and are well-prepared for college and beyond.

**BCAT SPORTS, VISION**

Our vision at BCAT Sports, Inc. is to be a beacon of excellence and inspiration in the realm of youth athletics, guided by Christian principles, academic rigor, and a steadfast commitment to fostering the holistic development of our athletes.

We envision a future where every young athlete who walks through our doors is empowered to reach their full potential, not only as competitors on the field but as leaders in their communities and ambassadors of positive change in the world. Through our unwavering dedication to excellence in sports; academics; and character development, we aspire to cultivate a generation of individuals who embody the values of integrity, resilience, and service to others.

**ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED BY THE ORGANIZATION**

Some activities conducted under this program are sports such as Basketball (boys), Basketball (girls), Flag Football (Mix), Volleyball (boys), Volleyball (girls), Chess Tournaments (Co-ed), Cheerleading (Co-ed), Baseball (boys) and Baseball (girls).

**BCAT SPORTS PRELIMINARY OR TENTATIVE SCHEDULES WILL BE RELEASED BY THE BCAT SPORTS' ATHLETIC DIRECTOR PRIOR TO EACH SPORT'S SEASON.**

**CAMPUSES AND ATHLETICS CONTACT INFORMATION**

<b>School</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Email</b>
<b>BCAT Sports Inc.</b> <b>BCAT School</b> 3241 S. John Young Pkwy Kissimmee, FL 34746 <b>(407) 530-4227</b>	Jose D. Velez	School Director-Founder	jose.velez@bcatschool.com
	Joanna Rodriguez	School Director-Founder	joanna.rodriguez@bcatschool.com
	Gladys Quiñonez	School Principal	Gladys.quinones@bcatschool.com
	Carmen Torres	Assist. Principal Student Advisor	carmen.torres@bcatschool.com
	Ruth Rodriguez	Enrollment / Financial Aid / HR Manager	ruth.rodriguez@bcatschool.com
	Abimelech Torres	Athletic Director	Abimelech.torres@bcatschool.com
	Abimelech Torres	Head Coach	Abimelech.torres@bcatschool.com
	Giovanny Rivera	Assist. Athletic Director	Giovanny.rivera@bcatschool.com

**STUDENT-ATHLETE CONDUCT CODE**

Participation in interschool athletics at any BCAT School through BCAT Sports, Inc. is a privilege and a unique opportunity during your studies with us. As a student-athlete, you benefit from athletics by having the opportunity to develop your potential as a skilled performer, to grow emotionally, socially, and intellectually, to travel and represent any BCAT School and to learn the art of being a productive team member.

BCAT Sports, Inc. expects you to train and strive for your highest degree of athletic excellence, to demonstrate academic honesty and integrity, and to conduct yourself as a responsible citizen. You are responsible for observing and following all rules and regulations regarding your eligibility for athletic participation.

Even when BCAT Schools and BCAT Sports, Inc. are two different entities, all students who enroll at B.C.A.T. Sports are expected to comply with criminal and civil laws of the United States and the State of Florida, the BCAT Schools (any location) & BCAT Sports Code of Student Conduct, the BCAT Academic Integrity Policy, and all other policies and regulations. Detailed information regarding student rights and responsibilities may be found in the BCAT Student Handbook of your school's campus. Student-athletes are also expected to adhere to the principles and policies embodied in the student-athlete conduct code which follows:

**UNETHICAL CONDUCT**

A prospective or enrolled student-athlete who is found to have engaged in unethical conduct shall be ineligible for competing in all sports. Unethical conduct consists of, but is not limited to:

- a. Fraudulent behavior in connection with entrance or placement examinations.
- b. Engaging in any athletics competition under an assumed name or with intent otherwise to deceive.
- c. Dishonesty in evading or violating B.C.A.T. regulations; or
- d. Knowingly furnishing the B.C.A.T. or BCAT Sports or other individual's false or misleading information concerning the student's involvement in or knowledge of matters relevant to a possible violation of B.C.A.T. or BCAT Sports regulations.

**STANDARDS OF CONDUCT**

1. As a student-athlete you are a public figure responsible for representing your school in the most positive way, including your **SOCIAL MEDIA**. Your behavior must be always exemplary and befitting



the expectations of your teammates, the coach, the school, and community. You must also conduct yourself so as not to impair the welfare or educational opportunities of others in the BCAT community.

2. The following misconduct is subject to disciplinary actions(s):
  - a. Violation of civil or criminal laws.
  - b. Violation of the BCAT (any location) and/or BCAT Sports Student Code of Conduct.
  - c. Repeated and persistent violation of team rules, including but not limited to:
    - i. Conduct reflecting negatively on the team, the program, or your school.
    - ii. Absenteeism from practices, meetings, and competition.
    - iii. Truancy: school excessive absences.
    - iv. Tardiness for practices, meetings, and competition.
    - v. Use of abusive or profane language during team practice and competition.
    - vi. Noncompliance with team dress code
    - vii. Noncompliance with prescribed treatment for athletic injury.
    - viii. Noncompliance with expected conduct during team travel.
    - ix. Noncompliance with policies regarding use of drug, alcohol, and tobacco products. In accordance with all BCAT Schools and BCAT Sports Code of Student Conduct, any student-athlete found guilty of possession of an illegal substance will be suspended or expelled from the school and the Athletic Program. This includes vaping artifacts and products.
    - x. Boys' piercings are prohibited during practice, games or any activity related to BCAT or BCAT Sports, Inc.

As a student athlete, you must follow the rules of BCAT Sports Inc. which specifically prohibit sports gambling. In addition, the following applies:

1. Neither coaches nor student-athletes may wager legally or illegally on teams or athletics.
2. Neither coaches nor student-athletes may share information that will be used for gambling purposes.

\*\*\*\* Disciplinary regulations for interschool athletics are set forth in writing to give student-athletes general notice of prohibited conduct. Misconduct includes, but is not limited to, those specific actions listed in this code. The regulations should be read broadly and are not designed to define conduct in exhaustive terms.

## **DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS**

Student Rights and Responsibilities Statement may be found in the school's student handbook.

1. Sanctions for Violation of the Student-Athlete Conduct Code may include any of the following:
  - a. Reprimand: The student-athlete is warned in writing that further misconduct may result in more severe disciplinary sanctions.
  - b. Restitution: The student-athlete may be required to make payment to the school or BCAT Sports Inc for damage incurred as a result of misconduct.
  - c. Probation: The student-athlete continues as a member of the team but may be precluded from specific activities or must abide by other restrictions or conditions imposed during the probation period.
  - d. Suspension: Separation from the team for a period.
  - e. Expulsion: Permanent separation of the student-athlete from the team and interschool athletics at BCAT Sports. This might also include expulsion from BCAT or any of its campuses, depending on the severity of the incident. Expulsion may also include withdrawal of the student-athlete's athletic scholarship.
2. A student who violates civil/criminal law, any BCAT campus or BCAT Sports, Inc. Student Code of Conduct, or violates team rules risks expulsion or suspension from participation in interschool athletics unless specific factors are present. Factors considered may include the present demeanor and past disciplinary record of the offender, the nature of the offenses and the severity of any damage, injury or ban resulting from it.
3. **Temporary Suspension:** B.C.A.T. and BCAT Sports Inc. reserves the right to take necessary and appropriate action to protect the safety and well-being of the school and program. A student-athlete





may be suspended from a team activity by the Head Coach pending prior notice whenever there is evidence that the student-athlete's continued presence would constitute a threat to himself or others to normal team operation. In cases of temporary suspension, the athlete will be given an opportunity to meet with the Athletics Director within five (5) business days from the effective date of the suspension.

## **CONDUCT / PLAYER APPEARANCE / ALCOHOL POLICIES**

Player conduct and dress policies applicable to team travel and home events shall be established by the coach and ensure that players conduct themselves in a manner reflecting positively upon the reputation of B.A.C.T. and BCAT Sports Inc. Male ear, body or face piercing should not be wear during practice, game time or at any time the student is representing BCAT, BCAT Sports or wearing their team or school uniforms. Female athletes will be allowed to wear up to 2 small earlobe piercing, but they shouldn't extend longer than the earlobe. Athletes must wear appropriate footwear to practice or games. Sandals are prohibited due to security and safety reasons. BCAT does not accept tattoos on students. If an exception is granted and a student with a visible tattoo is admitted, the student agrees not to get any additional tattoos while enrolled at Bilingual Christian Academy and Technology, Inc. **If the student obtains a new tattoo during their enrollment at BCAT, their enrollment will be revoked without further notice.**

Student athletes shall not partake of alcoholic beverages at all, use vaping or electronic cigarettes, use illegal drugs, nor will be allowed to take any medications without the consent of the parent/legal guardian. Students-athletes are not allowed to carry medications other than EpiPen with written physician authorization. These could be enough reasons for expulsion not only from BCAT Sports, but also from any BCAT School.

## **DRUG POLICY**

B.C.A.T. and BCAT Sports Inc. believes that the use of controlled substances and performance-enhanced drugs constitute a threat to the integrity of interschool athletics and represents a danger to the health and careers of student-athletes, and unduly exposes student-athletes to exploitation. Because of the pressures and adulation that often accompany sports success, the Athletics Department recognizes that our student-athletes may be particularly vulnerable to substance and chemical abuse. As a Sport Program, we are committed to the overall development of our student-athletes and have adopted a policy and program for drug education and the prevention of drug abuse. This policy entails a comprehensive program of education, prevention, drug **testing**, and referral for rehabilitation services of student-athletes engaged in the athletic program at BCAT Schools and BCAT Sports Inc.

BCAT Sports Substance Abuse Program is in compliance and accordance with the policies and programs of BCAT, Florida Department of Education, Department of Children and Families, and it can be reviewed online at [www.BCATSports.com](http://www.BCATSports.com) and in the BCAT Sports policy. The National Center for drug free sports will provide you with confidential information concerning banned substances including dietary supplements. For information, call the school at 863-259-8313.

BCAT School campuses and BCAT Sports, Inc., administers drug testing to all athletes to ensure compliance with our drug-free school policies. Random tests will be performed regularly. If any athlete test positive to any drugs, will no longer be qualified to continue in any of the BCAT Sports programs. Disciplinary action will be taken.

## **HAZING POLICY**

BCAT Sports Inc. prohibits any student organization or group from employing a program of pledge education which includes "HAZING." Hazing is defined as any action taken or situation created, whether on or off campus, which is life threatening to the individual or consists of kidnapping, paddling, slapping, branding, burning or any other activity which produces mental or physical harm or humiliation. It shall be



the duty of any student-athlete to report immediately, in writing, any violation of this policy to the School Director or Police. An immediate investigation will be initiated, and appropriate disciplinary actions taken.

### **NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY**

BCAT School Campuses and BCAT Sports Inc. do not discriminate with regard to ethnicity, race, color, national origin, religion, disability, age, or sex in admission to or employment or participation in its education programs, services, and activities. By becoming part of any BCAT School Campuses and BCAT Sports you agree with our "Statement of Faith".

### **STATEMENT OF FAITH**

BCAT Sports works in partnership with BCAT Schools. Therefore, by becoming part of BCAT Sports, you voluntarily chose to abide and accept the "BCAT Statement of Faith" and believes.

1. We believe the Bible to be the inspired and only infallible authoritative Word of God. (2 Timothy 3:16; John 5:39)
2. We believe that there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. (Deuteronomy 6:4; Ephesians 4:4-6; 1 Corinthians 8:6; Matthew 28:19; John 10:30, John 14:9-11; John 15:26)
3. We believe in the Deity of our Lord Jesus Christ (Matthew 16:16; Mark 8:27-29; Luke 9:18-20; Romans 1:3-6), in His virgin birth (Luke 1:27-35; Isaiah 7:14), in His sinless life (1 John 3:5), in His miracles (Acts 2:22; John 3:2), in His vicarious and atoning death (Romans 3:25; 1 Timothy 2:5-6; Hebrews 9:14; 1 Peter 1:18-19; 1 John 2:2), through His shed blood, in His bodily resurrection (Romans 6:9; 1 Corinthians 15:3-5), and in His ascension to the right hand of the Father (Luke 24:50-53; Act 1:9-11; 1 Timothy 3:16), and His personal future return to this earth in power and glory (Act 1:11; John 14:2-3; Philippians 2:6; Hebrews 1:1-4).
4. We believe that the only means of being cleansed from sin is through repentance and faith in the precious blood of Christ. (Luke 24:47; Romans 8:16; Matthew 10:13-15; Titus 2:11; 3:5-7).
5. We believe in the redemptive work of Christ on the cross provides healing of the human body, in answer to believing in Prayer (Isaiah 53:4-5; Mathew 8:15-17; James 5:14-16).
6. We believe that the Baptism of the Holy Spirit is available to all believers (Act 2:4).
7. We believe in the sanctifying power of the holy Spirit by who is indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a Holy life (Romans 6:3-14; 8:1-2, 11). We believe in the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ. (1 John 3:16; Galatians 6:10; 1 Corinthians 12:13; 1 Peter 3:8; Ephesians 4:1-6, 13-16)
8. We believe in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost: those who are saved unto the resurrection of life, and those who are lost unto the resurrection of damnation. (2 Corinthians 5:10; Romans 14:12; Hebrews 9:27; Acts 24:15; 1 Corinthians 15:51-57; 1 Thessalonians 4:15-18; 1 John 5:11).
9. We believe that God created only male and female and were created to praise him and to multiply forming a family, the man, the woman, and the descendants. Only this can be possible by the union of a man and woman (Genesis 2:21-24; 2:18-20).
10. We believe that God created marriage in the blessing, as a blessing for both man and woman, before any sin or rebellion entered the world, and the He created marriage to be between a man and a woman, who entered into a covenant relationship, complement one another, serve one another, and sanctify one another for as long they both shall live. Accordingly, we reject any attempt to redefine marriage as a union of people of the same sex, or between more than one man o woman. We believe that the homosexual lifestyle and alternative gender identities are contrary to the Holy Bible (Genesis 1:27-28; Genesis 2:15-24; Leviticus 18:22; Leviticus 20:7-22; Matthew 19:4-6; Romans 1: 26-32; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11; 7:14; 1 Timothy 1:9-11). We believe that God



created the human race male and female and that all conduct with the intent to adopt a gender other than one's birth gender is immoral and therefore sin. (Genesis 1:27; Deuteronomy 22:5). Therefore, Students will use the bathroom in accordance to their birth gender and will be referred to as he or she only.

11. We believe that because God created all human life it is sacred and of inestimable worth and to be valued and protected, including pre-born babies, the aged, physically and mentally challenged, and every other staged and condition in all its dimensions from conception through natural death (Psalms 139). We are called to defend, protect and value human life and all form of life.

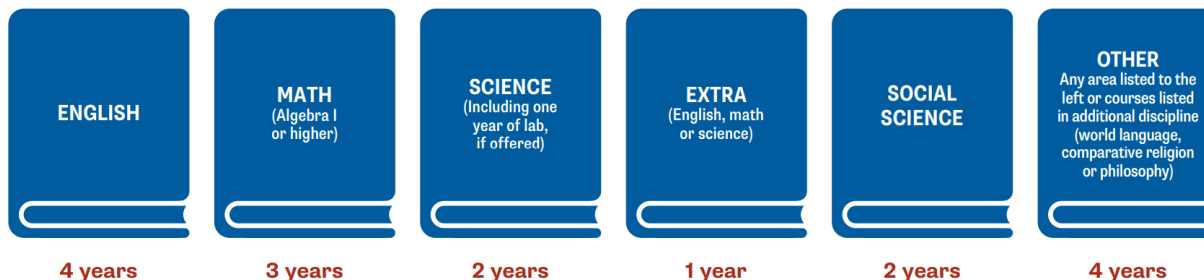
This Statement of Faith does not exhaust the extent of our beliefs. The scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the inerrant and inspired Word of God. and speak with final authority concerning truth, morality, and the proper conduct of mankind. For purposes of this school's faith, doctrine, educational philosophy, beliefs, core values, policies, practices, and discipline, the Board of Directors has final interpretive authority on the meaning and application of the Bible.

BCAT Sports is a non-profit Christian based program, therefore we do pray with our members, as described on the scriptures, and to worship God. BCAT Schools and BCAT Sports, Inc., reserve the right of admission and to terminate the enrollment in the Sports Program of anyone who violates or challenges their beliefs.

## NCAA ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

BCAT Sports Inc. is a member of the NCAA and as such, adheres to all rules thereof. There will be no tolerance regarding any BCAT Schools, NCAA or BCAT Sports rule violations. When in doubt, ask your coach, Counselor or Compliance Coordinator for a rule's interpretation. You are ultimately responsible for your eligibility. Do not take chances with your academic/athletic career; be certain before you act.

BCAT is a Certified member of the NCAA, and as such, we adhere to all its student-athletes' requirements for Division I and Division II, among other certifications / categories. Student-athletes that pursue NCAA eligibility for any of the previously mentioned categories will follow a more extensive High School Graduation path than a non-student-athlete, according to the NCAA eligibility requirements. A Florida State high school graduation path only requires the following core classes on top of the 8 general electives and 2 required electives: 4 English Classes, 4 Math Classes, 3 Social Studies / Social Science, 3 Science courses. The following are the NCAA required **Core** Classes for Division I:



## PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES

All charitable, educational, and nonprofit promotional activities must have the written approval of the Athletics Director **PRIOR** to confirm any student-athlete(s) participation. This permission or release form may be obtained from the Compliance Coordinator, Counselor, or front desk at your B.C.A.T. school or at the school front desk. Not having this form completed could render the student-athlete ineligible.



## **EQUIPMENT AND APPAREL**

Players are responsible for the proper upkeep and care of all issued equipment and apparel. The return of these items should be in a timely manner, following the conclusion of the sports season. The student-athlete may be held financially responsible for items damaged or not returned. This includes the uniforms, gears, etc.

## **REQUEST FOR RELEASE TO TRANSFER**

Be aware that each student with Step-Up scholarship enrolled in any BCAT School, is usually awarded with a second internal scholarship called Abigail Borrero Scholarship. This second scholarship will pick up any uncovered fees from the student's academic tuition fees and compulsory school expenses. This scholarship ensures payment at the end of the school year, **only if the student remains enrolled in good standing with his tuition agreement from July to June**. Disenrolling the student before the end of the school year will cause the Abigail Borrero Scholarship to become inactive, therefore, leaving unpaid tuition fees to be the responsibility of the parent or guardian. No student record will be transferred to a new school if there is a balance in the students Financial Record. Please see the Enrollment Specialist at your BCAT School for more information.

**STUDENT-ATHLETE SHOULD REPORT ANY CONTACT BY AN AGENT OR COUNSELOR FROM OUTSIDE YOUR SCHOOL.**

## **OUTSIDE COMPETITION**

**DURING THE ACADEMIC YEAR:** You are not eligible in your sport for the remainder of the year and the next academic year if, during the academic year, you competed as a member of any outside team in any non-school or amateur competition outside your BCAT or BCAT Sports team. You may compete outside of your declared playing and practice season as a member of an outside team in any non-school, amateur competition during any official vacation period published in your institution's catalog, only with the written approval of your coach, athletic director and or BCAT Sports administration. It is your responsibility to submit the form: **"Request to Participate in a Non-School or Amateur Competition"**. The form should be submitted at least 2 weeks in advance.

**Check with your Coach, Counselor and/or Compliance Coordinator of your school prior to participation.**

**SUMMER VACATION PERIOD:** Student-athletes who plan to participate on an outside team during the summer vacation period must notify the school Head Coach prior to participation in writing.

## **NON-PERMISSIBLE MEDICAL EXPENSES**

BCAT Sports Inc. does NOT provide medical coverage for any medical expenses.

## **GRADE REQUIREMENTS**

A GPA of 2.5, B, is required to be part of any school team. These means that the student needs to have at least a 2.5 B to be able to practice with the team and or to play in any games representing BCAT or BCAT Sports. This requirement also applies for students awaiting approval of the 'Request to Participate in a Non-School / Amateur Competition' form. Intensive tutoring is available to help the students achieve and maintain their GPA at BCAT Schools, however a a responsible student-athlete, it is their responsibility to request tutoring service to the School Counselor.



## **SCHOOL ATTENDANCE**

Student-athletes are expected to attend all their scheduled classes. Permission to make up missed class work because of absence is granted at the discretion of the instructor, and ultimately at the discretion of the School Administration. Although individual instructors may have policies ranging from two absences to unlimited absences, the School Attendance policy supersedes all instructor policies. The only times that a student-athlete should miss classes are:

1. Absences due to an athletic contest or travel to an athletic event. If it was authorized by the school or if it was pertaining to the representation of BCAT or BCAT Sports, Inc., then it will be marked as an excused absence.
2. Illness or injury verified by a doctor or training coach.
3. Personal reasons with prior approval of the instructor, Academic Counselor or School Administration. However, it will still show as an absence, but excused.

Student-athletes must provide a copy of their sports' schedule and class excuses for team travel to their instructors at the beginning of each semester or as soon as available. Arrangements for taking any examinations or completing work assignments affected by team travel are the responsibility of each student-athlete. The student-athlete must contact the instructor to arrange make-up exams or assignments within 1 week after the absence if arrangements cannot be made prior to the absence.

Due to the importance of class attendance, the Academic Counselor will monitor attendance of all student athletes.

1. All unexcused absences will be reported to the head coach.
2. 4 tardies = 1 unexcused absence
3. 10 unexcused absences in 1 semester = the student will be suspended from participation in any sport program event or practice, until he/she shows 30 days of interrupted attendance.
4. 20 unexcused absences during the year = the student will be retained in the same grade level. The student no longer qualifies for the BCAT Sport Program.

### **\*\*\*TRUANCY\*\*\***

The statute defines a "habitual truant" as a student who has 15 or more unexcused absences within 90 calendar days with or without the knowledge or consent of the student's parent or guardian, and who is subject to compulsory school education. If a student is identified as a truant, and the school has exhausted all possible solutions to this situation, including parent's meetings, parent/student contracts, etc., then the school may file a truancy petition pursuant to **Section 984.141** of the Florida Statutes, in juvenile court. If the court determines that the student was truant, the court will order the student to attend school, the parent to ensure the student attends school, and implement alternative sanctions such as mandatory community service hours for up to 6 months, mandatory counseling, mandatory mental health services, or mandatory vocational, job training, or employment services. If a student does not obey the court orders the case will be referred to the case staffing committee under **Section 984.12** of the Florida Statutes with a recommendation to file a child-in-need-of-services petition pursuant to **Section 984.15** of the Florida Statutes. If a student continues to disobey the courts orders, they may face additional punishment including juvenile detention.



## STANDARD HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The Department of Education established the following requirements to obtain a standard High School Diploma:

### Standard Diploma Requirements Academic Advisement – What Students and Parents Need to Know

#### What are the diploma options?

Students must successfully complete one of the following diploma options:

- 24-credit standard diploma
- 18-credit Academically Challenging Curriculum to Enhance Learning (ACCEL)
- Career and Technical Education (CTE) Pathway
- Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE) curriculum
- International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma curriculum

#### What are the state assessment requirements?

Students must pass the following statewide assessments:

- Grade 10 English Language Arts (ELA) or a concordant score
- Algebra 1 end of course (EOC) or a comparative score

Refer to [Graduation Requirements for Florida's Statewide Assessments](#) for concordant and comparative scores.

Students enrolled in the following courses must participate in the corresponding EOC assessment, which constitutes 30 percent of the final course grade<sup>+</sup>:

- Algebra 1
- Geometry
- Biology 1
- U.S. History

<sup>+</sup>Special note: Thirty percent not applicable if not enrolled in the course but passed the EOC (credit acceleration program [CAP]).

#### What is the difference between the 18-credit ACCEL option and the 24-credit option?

- 3 elective credits instead of 8
- Physical Education is not required
- Online course is not required

#### What is the difference between the CTE Pathway option and the 24-credit option?

- At least 18 credits are required
- 4 elective credits instead of 8
  - 2 credits in CTE courses, must result in completion and industry certification
  - 2 credits in work-based learning programs or up to 2 elective credits including financial literacy
- Physical Education is not required
- Fine and Performing Arts, Speech and Debate, or Practical Arts is not required
- Online course is not required

#### 24 Credit Standard Diploma

4 Credits ELA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ELA 1, 2, 3, 4</li> <li>• ELA honors, Advanced Placement (AP), AICE, IB and dual enrollment courses may satisfy this requirement</li> </ul>
4 Credits Mathematics*
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One of which must be Algebra 1 and one of which must be Geometry</li> <li>• Industry Certifications that lead to college credit may substitute for up to two mathematics credits (except for Algebra 1 and Geometry)</li> <li>• An identified computer science** credit may substitute for up to one mathematics credit (except for Algebra 1 and Geometry)</li> </ul>
3 Credits Science
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One of which must be Biology 1, two of which must be equally rigorous science courses</li> <li>• Two of the three required course credits must have a laboratory component</li> <li>• Industry Certifications that lead to college credit may substitute for up to one science credit (except for Biology 1)</li> <li>• An identified computer science** credit may substitute for up to one science credit (except for Biology 1)</li> </ul>
3 Credits Social Studies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 credit in World History</li> <li>• 1 credit in U.S. History</li> <li>• 0.5 credit in U.S. Government</li> <li>• 0.5 credit in Economics</li> </ul>
1 Credit Fine and Performing Arts, Speech and Debate, or Practical Arts*
1 Credit Physical Education*
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To include the integration of health</li> </ul>
8 Elective Credits
1 Online Course
Students must earn a 2.0 grade point average (GPA) on a 4.0 scale for all cohort years and pass statewide, standardized assessments unless a waiver of assessment results is granted by the IEP team for students with disabilities.

\* Eligible courses are specified in the [Florida Course Code Directory](#).

\*\*A computer science credit may not be used to substitute for both a mathematics and science credit.





## NCAA HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR DIVISION I:

## Division I Academic Standards

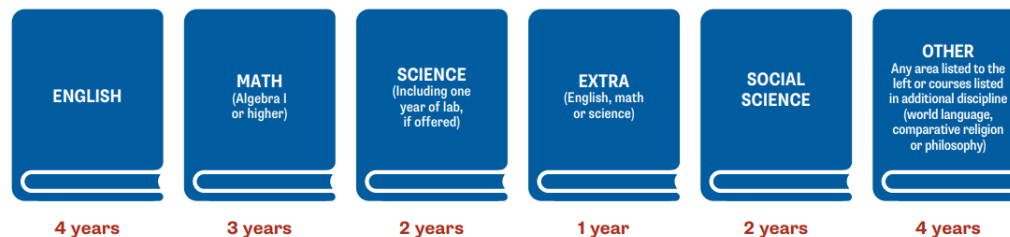
**Division I schools** require your student-athletes to meet academic standards.

To be eligible to practice, compete and receive an athletics scholarship in their first year of full-time enrollment, students must meet the following requirements:

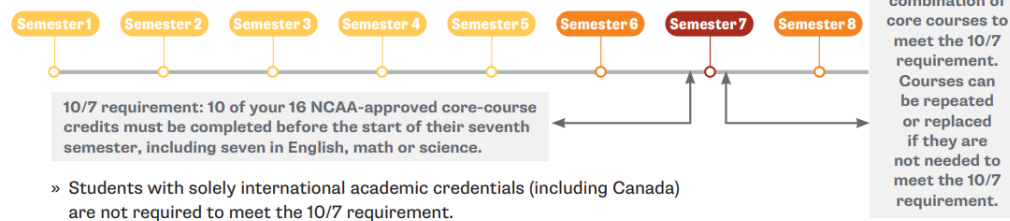


DIVISION I

1. Earn 16 NCAA-approved core-course credits in the following areas:



2. Complete 10 of their 16 NCAA-approved core-course credits, including seven in English, math or science, before the start of their seventh semester. Once they begin their seventh semester, any course that is needed to meet the 10/7 requirement cannot be replaced or repeated.



3. Complete their 16 NCAA-approved core-course credits in eight academic semesters or four consecutive academic years from the start of ninth grade. If they graduate from high school early, they still must meet core-course requirements.
4. Earn a minimum 2.3 **core-course GPA**.
5. Ask their high school counselor to upload their **final official transcript** with proof of graduation to their Eligibility Center account.

**How to plan high school courses to meet the 16 core-course requirement:**

$$4 \times 4 = 16$$

**9<sup>th</sup>**  
GRADE

(1) English  
(1) Math  
(1) Science  
(1) Social Science  
and/or other

**4 CORE COURSES**

**10<sup>th</sup>**  
GRADE

(1) English  
(1) Math  
(1) Science  
(1) Social Science  
and/or other

**4 CORE COURSES**

**11<sup>th</sup>**  
GRADE

(1) English  
(1) Math  
(1) Science  
(1) Social Science  
and/or other

**4 CORE COURSES**

**12<sup>th</sup>**  
GRADE

(1) English  
(1) Math  
(1) Science  
(1) Social Science  
and/or other

**4 CORE COURSES**



## NCAA HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR DIVISION I

## Division II Academic Standards

**Division II schools** require your student-athletes to meet academic standards. To be eligible to practice, compete and receive an athletics scholarship in their first year of full-time enrollment, students must meet the following requirements:

NCAA DIVISION II

**MAKE IT YOURS**

1. Earn 16 NCAA-approved core-course credits in the following areas:

ENGLISH	MATH (Algebra I or higher)	SCIENCE (Including one year of lab, if offered)	EXTRA (English, math or science)	SOCIAL SCIENCE	OTHER Any area listed to the left or courses listed in additional discipline (world language, comparative religion or philosophy)
3 years	2 years	2 years	3 years	2 years	4 years

2. Earn a minimum 2.2 **core-course GPA**.
3. Ask their high school counselor to upload their **final official transcript** with proof of graduation to their Eligibility Center account.

### What if a student doesn't meet Division II standards?

If students have not met all the Division II academic standards, they may not compete in their first year of full-time enrollment at a Division II school. However, they will be deemed a partial qualifier. All Division II partial qualifiers may practice and receive an athletics scholarship, but may NOT compete, during their first year of full-time enrollment.

### Division II Worksheet

Use the **Division II Worksheet** to assist you in monitoring the student's progress in meeting NCAA initial-eligibility standards. The Eligibility Center will determine their academic status after they graduate. Remember to check **your high school's list** of NCAA-approved core courses for the classes they have taken or plan to take.



### ACADEMIC CERTIFICATION DECISIONS

Academic certifications are required for all college-bound student-athletes planning to compete at an NCAA Division II school. If students are being recruited by Division II schools, below are the most common decisions they may receive once a certification has been completed.

#### EARLY ACADEMIC QUALIFIER

If they meet **specific criteria** after six semesters of high school, they may be deemed an early academic qualifier for Division II and may practice, compete and receive an athletics scholarship during their first year of full-time enrollment.

#### QUALIFIER

They may practice, compete and receive an athletics scholarship during their first year of full-time enrollment.

#### PARTIAL QUALIFIER

They may practice and receive an athletics scholarship, but may NOT compete, during their first year of full-time enrollment.







## **RENEWAL OF FINANCIAL AID**

BCAT School:

Re-Enrollment takes place in February-May every year. Student Services will publish in their social media when time to will be re-apply.

## **STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES**

Student-athlete must turn in all medical evaluation to the Student Advisor during the first week of classes to participate as an athlete. This form must be completed annually. See BCAT Sports Package forms. A new physical and immunization are also required for athletes as part of the enrollment requirements.

## **STUDENT-ATHLETE NUTRITION AND PERFORMANCE**

BCAT Sports Inc. recognizes the importance of overall nutritional welfare for student-athletes. We provide student-athletes with important information about preparation for peak performance and ways to improve their nutritional intake.

## **ATHLETIC TRAINING SPACE GENERAL POLICIES**

### **Policies**

1. All injuries must be reported to an Athletic Trainer and Coach immediately after its occurrence.
2. Injuries or illnesses not related to athletics should be reported to the Head Coach. We will make every effort to assist you in needed medical care, but any expense incurred is your responsibility.
3. Substance abuse will not be tolerated. We will drug test our student-athletes and coaches throughout the academic year without previous notifications.
4. Parents will be informed of any significant medical problem by the School Director, Head Coach, Athletic Director, or its representative.
5. Students must treat all equipment appropriately.
6. No profanity, horseplay, or loud talking.
7. Students must respect each other and their coaches, volunteers, and personnel in general.
8. Know your personal strengths and weaknesses.
9. Wear appropriate footwear and uniform for practice or games. DO NOT show up at any game or practice in sandals.
10. Boy are not permitted to wear any kind of piercings. Girls can only wear up to 2 earlobe small piercings (nothing hanging out of the earlobe for security reasons).
11. Please shower after training, before going to class, if possible.
12. Equipment is for BCAT Sports team only.
13. Check-in with your coach or athletic trainer prior to working out.

## **INSURANCE POLICY**

To participate in the BCAT Sport Program you must provide a copy of your medical insurance along with a signed waiver.

## **WEIGHT ROOM POLICY**

1. Do not drop or bang weights on floor or plates of weight machines
2. Do not lean free weight plates against walls, benches or other weight machines.
3. Strip down barbells and return weights to the correct holder.



4. Return equipment (dumbbells, medicine balls, etc.) to their proper place once you have finished using them.
5. Keep the weight room clean.
6. Stools and benches will remain at their designated stations.
7. Tennis shoes must be worn.
8. BCAT Sports attire must be worn.
9. Do not wear hats.
10. Do not wear earrings during workouts.
11. Be respectful.

### **SPORT PROGRAM SCHEDULE FEE**

The Sport Program Schedule fee will be \$2,500.00 for the Competitive Program. The sport fee only includes the following:

1. Leagues Fees (BCAT Schools Competitions)
2. Transportation Fees (locally only)
3. Uniforms
4. Referees Fees
5. Home Game Facilities Rental
6. Coaches Stipends
7. Trainers Stipends

These games are only BCAT Schools Leagues competitions, through BCAT Sports. It does not include games by invitation or exposures not related to BCAT School season. Additional fees may apply for outside competitions which are mainly by invitation only. The Lead Coach will select the participants depending on the playing performance level of the players. Travel Teams may incur in additional fees. AAU games and any tournaments like AAU are not included in the Athletic Fee, so if the student athlete wished to participate, he/she may incur in additional fees.

The Athletic Fee should be paid on or before the first day of the school year. When unable to pay, payment will be divided by one of the following methods:

**1<sup>st</sup> Option:**

- Finance the Athletic Fee through PayPal Here, Affirm or any other financing company contracted by the School.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Option:** Requires authorization from the School Directors and BCAT Sports Directors, and the student must have never failed in a payment to the school before to be eligible for monthly payment options.

The BCAT Sports Developmental Program (Tigers Cubs) annual fee will be different than the fee for competitive sports. By becoming part of BCAT Sports, you commit to engage in fundraising to help absorb some of the expenses involved by BCAT Sports to help student-athletes achieve their goals.

Please refer to the **STUDENTS' HANDBOOK** and to the **PARENTS' HANDBOOK** for more school rules and procedures you need to comply with. See your Enrollment Specialist for more information. Please return the Acknowledgement Statement with your enrollment forms.



## SAMPLE OF STUDENT-ATHLETE CONTRACT

### STUDENT-ATHLETE CONTRACT

STUDENT-ATHLETE: \_\_\_\_\_

SPORT: \_\_\_\_\_

I understand that a fulfilling educational sport experience requires the exercise of responsibilities on the part of both personnel associated with the athletics program and student-athletes. As a student-athlete, I understand my responsibility to commit to the principles of self-discipline, collaborative effort, and team building, and to be an ambassador for the institutions of BCAT and BCAT Sports, Inc.

#### *Academic Standards*

I understand that the athletics department of each BCAT School is committed to the philosophy that student-athletes are students first and foremost and that all student-athletes must exhibit behaviors that demonstrate a commitment to maximizing academic success as their first priority. I understand that the athletics department has created the following standards, strategies, and policies to maximize the possibility of student-athletes meeting their academic goals. I understand that I am obligated to comply with these standards:

- Student-athletes must adhere to all academic requirements (study halls, tutoring sessions, etc.) specified by the academic counselor and school director.
- Student-athletes' academic progress is monitored by the academic support program staff. If at any time, the student is not meeting his or her academic responsibilities (i.e. warning notices, probationary status notices, grade point average reduction, excessive absences notices, etc.) the Assistant Director, Director, Academic Advisor or Counselor will meet with the head coach to determine if playing or practice privileges will be restricted, suspended, or terminated.
- **If a student-athlete's grade point average drops below a 2.5 B, he or she will become automatically ineligible to participate in games and practices until the grade point average returns to the 2.5 B minimum.**
- Sports schedules are designed to minimize missed class time. While there is a possibility that classes missed for regular- or post-season contests that might be approved for certain occasions, the expectation is that student-athletes will make every effort not to miss any additional classes and will only do so under extenuating circumstances such as illness or family emergency. **Excessive absences will result in restriction of a student-athlete's participation in practice or competition, this includes Friday absences. Please see Class Attendance session in the BCAT Sports Student Athlete Handbook.**
- Student-athletes are not permitted to miss any regularly scheduled classes for activities other than scheduled athletics competitions, unless approved by the school Director and the professor of the class is involved.
- Student-athletes are expected to meet all deadline dates for class assignments and are required to make pre-arrangements with instructors when quizzes, tests or special assignments conflict with contest dates, if not possible, the student-athlete is responsible to make such arrangements within 1 week from the absence.

#### *Behavioral Expectations*

I understand that student-athletes are visible representatives of the institution both on campus and off-campus whose behaviors are often closely scrutinized by the media and general public. Student-athlete behavior affects public perception of institutional ethos, athletics department standards, and the character of the student body. Therefore, it is expected that student-athletes will demonstrate consistent role model behavior, sportsmanship and self-control. More specifically:

- Student-athletes must be committed to fair play. Intentional acts of unsportsmanlike behavior or cheating will not be tolerated.
- When representing their teams during competition, student-athletes will exercise self-control in all ways including, but not limited to, resisting the use of profanity, demonstrating unnecessary aggression or hostility



towards others, making inappropriate physical gestures, taunting or excessively celebrating, and disrespecting coaches, officials, teammates or opponents.

- Student-athletes are prohibited from interacting in any negative way with fans.
- When interacting with the media, student-athletes are expected to remain positive and not use media interviews as a platform to share personal frustrations about the team, coaches, the athletics department, or the institution or to make any negative comments about opponents or officials.
- Male Athletes will refrain from using any type of piercings while representing BCAT Sports, Inc., and/or any BCAT Schools at practice, official games, or assisting to any activity that relates to BCAT Sports, Inc. or any BCAT Schools. Female athletes are allowed to wear up to 2 earlobe small piercings, but they can't hang longer than the earlobe for security reasons.
- Any actions that result in a student-athlete being sanctioned by school, local, state, or federal authorities may also result in sanctions from the Sports Program.
- **Parents and Players agree to observe the 24 hours rule, which states that they will allow 24 hours after a game to be able to talk with the coaches about that game.**

### *Physical Conditioning and Training*

I understand that physical conditioning and training programs in preparation for athletics performance as designed and supervised by coaches and support staff (trainers, strength coaches, etc.) require intense physical activities, constant feedback, and creating benchmarks to maximize each athlete's potential and team success. I understand that participation in training and instruction is an educational process that requires collaboration between athletics staff and student-athletes, especially as such collaboration is intended to minimize the inherent risks associated with intense physical activities that can also be mentally and emotionally challenging. Therefore, I understand the need for and accept the following participation responsibilities:

- Report to my coach or an athletics trainer, any change in my physical, mental or emotional well-being that may affect my ability to participate safely. This includes any additions of prescription medications or over the counter supplements.
- Commit to completing all conditioning activities and practice session I am asked to perform to ready me for the physical, mental, and emotional stress associated with my sport unless I have documented limitations that have been approved by the medical or counseling staff.
- **Refrain from outside activities that will enhance my risk of unsafe participation such as excessive exercise, alcohol consumption, using non-prescription drugs, taking over the counter supplements that have not been approved by a health professional or doctors, taking steroids or other performance enhancing or illegal drugs.**
- Follow the guidelines given to me by my coaches and trainers regarding hydration, sleep, and nutrition.
- Communicate with my coach or trainer any time I feel any abnormal or labored physical response to exercise (i.e. pain, nausea, shortness of breath, dizziness, etc.) and to stop the activity immediately.
- Communicate with my coach or trainer any time I feel incapable of continuing to participate due to any physical, mental or emotional distress. I understand that I will not be subjected to any retribution if I self-report physical, mental, or emotional distress and elect to discontinue participation and if I believe retribution took place, I am obligated to report such to the Director of Athletics and my coach.
- Communicate with my coach or athletic trainer if I become aware of another athlete's abnormal or labored physical, mental, or emotional response to any activity.
- Willingly discontinue participation any time a coach, trainer, or strength coach tells me to and, if applicable, follow their directives regarding follow-up meetings with medical staff or other appropriate professionals.
- **Recognize that participation decisions must be made by professional athletics staff members. Parents may not override these decisions.**
- **Student-Athletes are subject to random drug tests.**

***Teamwork and Team Expectations***

I understand that team unity and team chemistry are key variables for a positive and successful athletics experience. Commitment to team goals is essential which, at times, may take precedence over individual goals. However, I understand that the athletics department does not subscribe to a team culture based on intimidation or mandatory allegiance to questionable practices and requires that all student-athletes be treated fairly by coaches, support staff, and teammates. Under these conditions, I understand that student-athletes are expected to exhibit a level of selflessness that promotes team goals. More specifically:

- Student-athletes are expected to abide by team rules that have been constructed by the team, approved by the coaches, approved by the sports administrator and the school Director and attached to this agreement.
- Student-athletes are expected to abide by all NCAA rules that have been provided in the annual rules orientation session conducted by the athletics department.
- Student-athletes are expected to abide by all athletics department policies that are contained in this agreement, which is available online, including, but not limited to the policies that prohibit alcohol consumption, sexual harassment, bullying, drug use, gambling, and tobacco use.
- Student-athletes are expected to report any actions that establish a class system (hazing, initiations, etc.) to their coach immediately.
- Student-athletes are expected to immediately report any behaviors they would describe as abusive by a coach, staff member, or a teammate to the Director of Athletics and School Director.
- Student-athletes and coaches are expressly prohibited from engaging in sexual intimacies and other forms of inappropriate conduct with each other. Student-athletes are expected to immediately report any such behaviors which serve to destroy the standard of impartiality and professional trust which must be maintained by all coaches,
- Each student-athlete has been oriented about the BCAT Policies which are included in the Student Handbook located at your BCAT School website, and the BCAT Sports Student-Athlete Handbook, which describes the “zero tolerance” policy toward hazing, initiation rituals, sexual harassment, and physical punishment and is expected to honor and contribute to a culture of respect of self and others.

***Prohibition of Retaliation***

Creating a culture of personal responsibility requires an assurance to employees and student-athletes that no retaliation will occur against those who report governance association rules violations or misconduct policy violations. Staff and student athletes are expected to report these concerns to the athletics director or the school director.

I agree to accept the participation standards and policies listed above and knowingly accept that violations of these standards may result in a variety of sanctions by the athletics department including, but not limited to restriction, suspension from, or termination of participation in the athletics program.

\_\_\_\_\_ By signing this contract, parents and student-athletes agree on observing all the rules and regulations established in it, as well as all the rules, regulations and standards established in the BCAT Student Handbook and BCAT Sports Student-Athlete Handbook.

\_\_\_\_\_ By signing this contract, parents and student-athletes are giving consent for the student athlete to be randomly drug tested without any other notifications.

\_\_\_\_\_ By signing this contract, I give authorization to take pictures and videos of my student-athlete for the use of BCAT Schools and/or BCAT Sports, Inc. multiple social media and websites. I also authorize BCAT Schools and/or BCAT Sports, Inc., to submit my student-athlete videos to any College or University that requests them for the purpose of extending a possible scholarship or growth opportunity of his/her athletic career.

\_\_\_\_\_ In the event the student-athlete decides to cancel his/her participation with BCAT Sports, or transfers from any BCAT Schools to another school, or get expelled from BCAT Sports Program or any BCAT Schools, the student-



athlete must return his/her team uniform and pay **any** outstanding fees to receive their school transfer paperwork. Outstanding fees include any housing fees, detentions, in-school suspensions, athletic fees, and more.

\_\_\_\_\_ By signing this contract, I release BCAT Schools, BCAT Sports, Inc. or any of its representatives I/We hereby give consent for my/our child/Ward to participate in Middle School/High School Athletic Activities. I/We accept any and all responsibility for his/her safety and welfare while in transit to the athletic event. With full understanding of the risks involved. I/We release and hold harmless any BCAT Schools, any Bilingual Christian Academy & Technology, Inc., and /or BCAT Sports, Inc, its officers, employees and agents; any BCAT Schools, any Bilingual Christian Academy & Technology, Inc., BCAT Sports, Inc; my/our child's/ward's school; school boards, school districts, and the schools against which any BCAT Schools, any Bilingual Christian Academy & Technology, Inc., BCAT Sports, Inc and my school competes, and the contest officials of any and all responsibility and liability for any injury or claim arising out of, resulting from or involving such accidents that may occur in transit while providing transportation to or from the athletic event.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student-Athlete Signature:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature (if athlete under 18)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**DISCLOSURE:**

**BCAT & BCAT Sports, Inc., RESERVES THE RIGHT OF ADMISSION** and the right to change anything established in this Student handbook as deemed necessary, without any prior written notification.