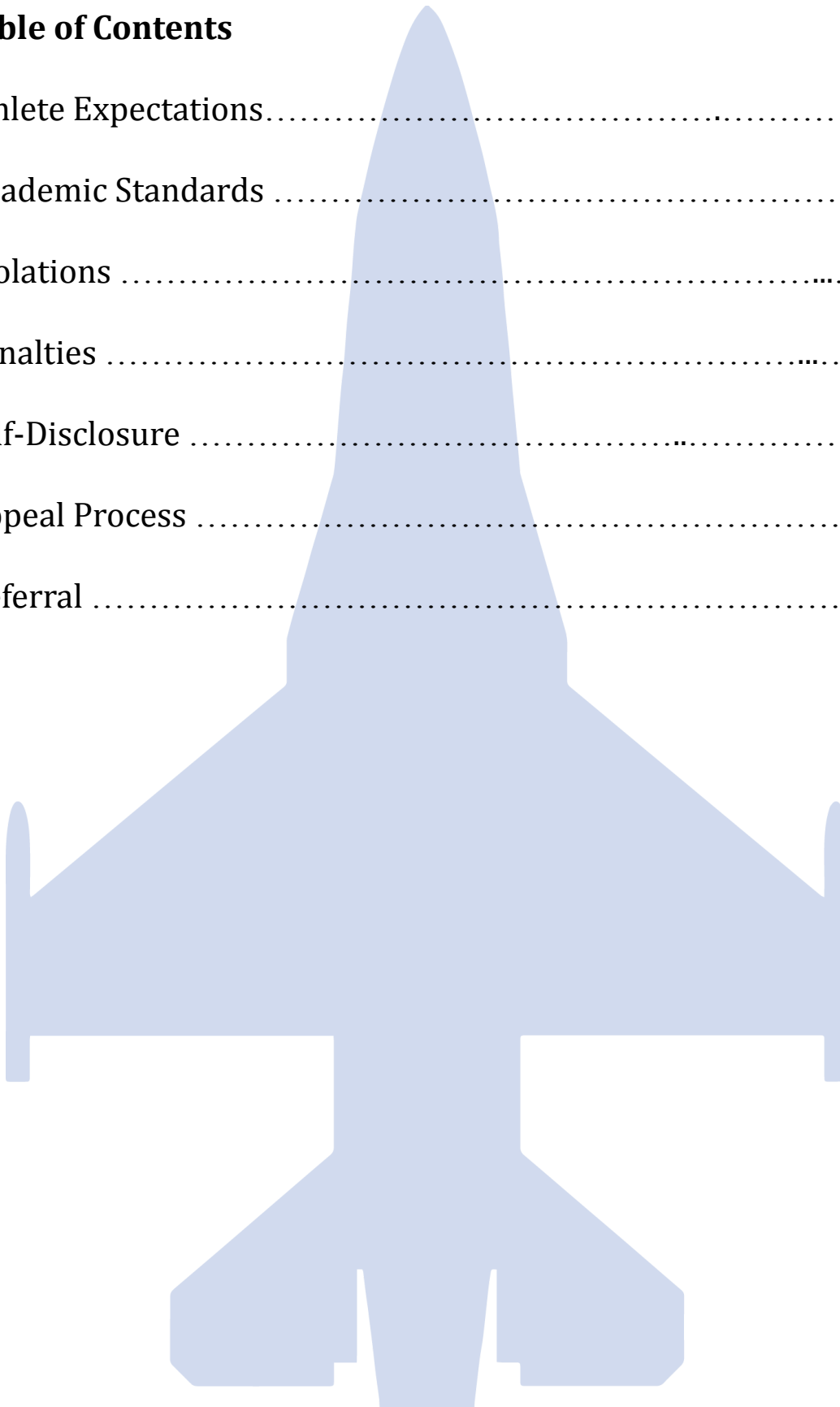




**West Michigan Aviation Academy  
Athletic Code of Conduct**

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## West Michigan Aviation Academy Athletic Code of Conduct

The Athletic Code of Conduct applies to any student enrolled at WMAA who:

1. Participates in athletic practices or games
2. Is on an Official team roster for the corresponding school year.
3. Represents WMAA athletics in any way, including participation in events contests or acting as an ambassador for athletics, or helping at an athletic event.

Participation in extracurricular athletics is a privilege extended to the student body by the Administration of WMAA. Students participating in extracurricular athletics act as ambassadors of the school. All student-athletes are expected to conduct themselves in such a manner as to meet the highest standards of WMAA.

When a student voluntarily agrees to participate in interscholastic athletic teams and club teams, they agree to abide by the WMAA Student Code of Conduct and the WMAA Athletic Code of Conduct. The Athletic Code of Conduct is in effect year round (12 months) and participants are expected to conduct themselves in an exemplary manner at all times, including functions that occur outside of school. These expectations embody a total lifestyle approach with an emphasis on the following core values, which are used to construct what it means to be an Aviator.

**RESPECT** - We treat everyone with respect, dignity, and equality.

**PROFESSIONALISM** - Young women and young men, athletes are expected to act as such.

**RESPONSIBILITY** - We create a high accountability system where athletes take ownership of their athletic participation.

**EMPATHY** - We create acceptance and understanding of all athletes.

**SELF MOTIVATION** - Foster an environment that encourages athletes to create opportunities for themselves.

### **“Do what it takes to be an Aviator”**

The Athletic Code of Conduct deals with specific violations that should be applied within every athletic program; however, this code is not intended to be all-inclusive. If no penalty is listed in the Athletic Code of Conduct for a violation, the coach and/or Athletic Director and/or Dean of Teaching & Student Learning and/or Director of School Operations have the authority to determine the penalty (consistent with the philosophy) of the code.

## ACADEMIC STANDARDS FOR PARTICIPATION IN ATHLETICS

In order to maintain athletic eligibility for participation in interscholastic athletics, the student must:

1. Have passed six out of seven (LIFT exempt) classes during the previous semester grading period (post-season play included).
2. Record Passing marks in their current semester.
3. Grade checks will be conducted by the Athletic director on a weekly basis. Athletes will be contacted by their coaches if they find themselves in violation of the academic policy. It is the Athletes duty to meet with the Athletic Director to see what the
4. The academic eligibility scale looks as follows, West Michigan Aviation operates on a 4 point scale with letter grades A(100-90),B(89-80),C(79-70),F(<69.9).

The table below shows violations and penalties of the athlete academic standards.

| Grade Check Shows                     | Communication after Grade Check                                                       | Eligibility                                                                                        |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 Failing Grade                       | AD-Coach-Athlete, Athlete tells AD when Grade is resolved                             | Allowed to practice and play. "Probationary period"                                                |
| 1 Failing Grade for consecutive weeks | AD-Coach-Athlete, Athlete tells AD when Grade is resolved                             | Practice time becomes study hall. Allowed to play in games, coach discretion                       |
| Multiple failing Grades               | AD-Coach/Parents/Athlete, Athlete meets with AD to discuss plan to regain eligibility | Ineligible to practice/compete. Practice is study hall, games are professional dress on the bench. |

## PENALTIES FOR FAILURE TO MEET ACADEMIC STANDARDS

1. If there is one failing grade on a grade check that athlete will be on academic probation and have one week to correct that grade. If that grade is not corrected in consecutive grade checks that athlete is ineligible for competition until the grade is corrected.
2. If there are two or more failing grades during a grade check, that athlete is ineligible for practices and games until all grades are corrected. Athletes must meet with the Athletic Director upon having corrected their grade to regain eligibility.

### **Academic Suspension**

Any athlete placed on academic suspension may not participate in practices and/or contests. If an athlete has corrected a failing grade prior to the next grade check it is their responsibility to inform the Athletic Director of their situation to regain their eligibility. If any athlete does not meet the MHSAA academic standards passing 2 out of 7 classes, they will be suspended from the team until a corrective course of action is determined.

### **Extended Season**

In the event a sports season is extended due to postseason play, grades will continue to be monitored on a weekly basis and the academic requirement will apply.

## **VIOLATIONS OF THE ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT**

1. **Unsportsmanlike conduct, including but not limited to taunting, inappropriate gestures, or verbal abuse directed towards opponents, officials, or spectators, is strictly prohibited.** Ejections from contests or removal from practices will result in meeting with the Athletic Director. Such behavior undermines the spirit of fair play and values essential to WMAA. Violators will be subject to disciplinary action stated in the penalties section of the Athletic Code of Conduct.
2. **Regular attendance is fundamental to the success of our athletic programs.** We expect all athletes to prioritize attendance of scheduled practices and events unless excused by prior arrangement or unavoidable circumstances. Punctuality is equally important; athletes are expected to arrive promptly and be prepared to contribute. Chronic absenteeism or tardiness disrupts team cohesion and productivity. If unable to attend a practice or event, an athlete must notify their coach in advance. Consistent failure to adhere to these expectations may result in disciplinary actions, including but not limited to verbal warnings, suspensions from events/team activities or other measures deemed appropriate by Administration/coaching staff, including removal from the team.
3. **Unsafe use of athletic equipment or facilities.** Any athlete using WMAA facilities or equipment in an unsafe manner will be subject to disciplinary action. This includes facilities and equipment on and off WMAAs campus.
4. **Technology abuse, including improper use of social media.** Social media platforms should not be used to disparage the image of a team, WMAA, teammates, opponents or coaches. Similarly, team communication apps are to be used solely for team-related purposes. Violations of these guidelines will result in disciplinary actions, which may include suspension of team social media privileges, restricted access to team communication apps, or other measures deemed appropriate by Administration or coaching staff.

5. **Use, possession, concealment, distribution, sale or being under the influence of those substances listed in items a-f below will lead to consequences as outlined in the penalty section of the code.** Contact must be made with the parent or guardian and a follow-up meeting with the parent/guardian, coach/Athletic Director and the athlete should take place within one week of confirmation of the violation.
  - a. Tobacco or tobacco products in any form.
  - b. Alcohol or alcoholic beverages in any form.
  - c. Illegal drugs, including but not limited to those substances defined as “controlled substances” pursuant to federal and/or state statute.
  - d. Steroids, human growth hormones or other performance-enhancing drugs.
  - e. Substances purported to be illegal, abusive or performance enhancing (i.e. “look-alike”) drugs.
  - f. Misused prescription drugs, non-prescription drugs or inhalants.
6. **Use, possession, concealment, distribution, manufacture or sale of devices designed for and/or associated with the controlled substances listed in items above will result in consequences as outlined in the penalty section of the code.**
7. **Violation of federal, state or local law/ordinance, including felony or misdemeanor acts other than minor traffic offenses.** Upon conviction, the student is subject to the consequences listed in the penalty section of the code.

A student-athlete in violation of the WMAA Student Code of Conduct is subject to the consequences listed in the penalty section of the Athletic Code of Conduct, as well as the disciplinary consequences listed in the WMAA Student Code of Conduct. Examples of this kind of violation include cumulative or gross misconduct, including behavior which school officials consider conduct unbecoming to an athlete and a representative of WMAA (including but not limited to: gambling, vandalism, unsportsmanlike conduct, theft, fighting, hazing, burglary, bullying, assault).

#### **PENALTIES** (applied to any of the above violations)

1. **First Violation-** After confirmation (by the student, the parent or a school official) of a violation of any kind, as listed in the WMAA Student Code of Conduct and/or Athletic Code of Conduct, the student may not be allowed to participate in athletics for up to four weeks, with a guaranteed minimum one (1) week suspension. If the student is unable to complete the suspension within the current sport season, the suspension will be prorated into the next sport in which the athlete participates, even though it may carry over into the next school year. The suspension should occur as soon as possible following confirmation of the violation. The athlete will still be allowed to practice with the team during the Athletic Code of Conduct suspension provided that a school-imposed suspension does not prevent practicing. If the violation causes a student to miss

practice, the coach will determine when the student is “fit for duty” and can safely return to competition.

2. **Second Violation-** After confirmation of a second violation of any kind, as listed in the WMAA Student Code of Conduct and/or Athletic Code of Conduct, in the same or a subsequent sport season during the same school year, the student-athlete may be dismissed from that team and be excluded from all athletic participation for at least one calendar year.
3. **Third Violation-** After confirmation of a third violation of any kind, as listed in the WMAA Student Code of Conduct and/or Athletic Code of Conduct, in the same or a subsequent sport season during the same school year, the student-athlete may be dismissed from that team and be excluded from all athletic participation for the remainder of the student’s high school career.

### **SELF DISCLOSURE**

An athlete who by themselves or together with their parent or guardian, voluntarily discloses to a school employee, school official, coach or an administrator a need for assistance for alcohol or substance abuse prior to any reports, charges, or complaints under the Athletic Code of Conduct will not be charged with a violation of the Athletic Code of Conduct. This self-disclosure exemption is available to an athlete only once during their high school career. If it is determined that the athlete has used this self-disclosure opportunity primarily to avoid a penalty under the Athletic Code of Conduct, the athlete will be subject to the appropriate penalty listed in the Athletic Code of Conduct. Information regarding treatment programs is available upon request from the school office.

1. Satisfaction of the assessment/treatment requirements must be verified in writing by a licensed agency and must be submitted to the Athletic Director or Dean of Teaching & Student Learning and/or Director of School Operations on a weekly basis until completion of the program.
2. Any expenses incurred for the chemical assessment/treatment program will be the responsibility of the athlete and not WMAA.

### **APPEAL PROCESS**

An eligibility decision may be reviewed by the Dean of Teaching & Student Learning, an appeal must be submitted within 5 days of the original decision. During the appeal process, the penalty shall remain in effect until the Dean of Teaching & Student Learning comes to a final decision.

### **REFERRAL**

The Athletic Director reserves the right to refer an Athletic Code of Conduct violation to the Dean of Teaching & Student Learning if some form of school discipline is warranted.

In the event that the Athletic Code of Conduct or other school policies or procedures do not cover the situations that arise, the administration reserves the right to establish such rules, conditions, and penalties to respond effectively to unanticipated or unique circumstances. A single violation may be deemed severe enough by school administration to warrant the enforcement of the single violation as if it were a second or third violation.

