

# Southland Academy

## AES/Homeschool

### **GIAA ELIGIBILITY FOR HOME STUDY STUDENTS, GRADES 6-12**

The GIAA eligibility requirements below are adopted in addition to the regulations as enacted by **Senate Bill 51**, known as the “Dexter Mosley Act” which *“authorizes home study students in grades 6 through 12 to participate in extracurricular and interscholastic activities, and requires the home study student will complete one qualifying course during any semester the student participates in an extracurricular or interscholastic activity.”*

As defined by SB 51, the following are definitions of terms used in these regulations:

**“Extracurricular activities”** means activities in which students take part on a voluntary basis, which do not offer or provide school or course credits; which are generally conducted outside regular school hours or, if conducted in whole or in part during regular school hours, at times agreed to by the participants and approved by the school officials; and which are managed and operated under the guidance of a teacher, other school employee, or other adult approved by a school official.

**“Qualifying course”** means an online course facilitated by the AES student’s “Declared School,” by way of a dual enrollment course, or by way of an on-site course required for participation in the designated extracurricular and interscholastic activities.

**For participation in a GIAA Interscholastic Member School**, the following regulations are required:

1. The GIAA Member School that initially accepts an AES Student will be considered the student’s **“Declared School”** for the duration of the student’s eligibility.
2. An AES Student’s primary residence must be within a 45-mile radius of the GIAA “Declared School.”
3. Once an AES Student has established a “Declared School,” they are required to participate with that “Declared School” in **any interscholastic competition offered by the school**. The student becomes associated with the “Declared School” similar to an enrolled student.
4. An AES Student must meet the admission qualifications of the “Declared School.”
5. An AES student must complete one qualifying course during the semester the student participates in an extracurricular or interscholastic activity.

## Southland Academy Guidelines:

- Students must be in grades 6-12 to participate as a Homeschool or Alternatively Educated Student (AES)
- Southland only accepts students in the middle school years unless the family moves into the area.
- Georgia Independent Athletic Association (GIAA) regulates the number of AES athletes allowed to participate on each team. Southland follows the GIAA AES regulations for both Middle School and Varsity competition.
- The student must take 1 class on Southland's campus.
- AES acceptance is based on the joint admission decision between the Admissions/Head of School and Head Coach. Participation within each team is not guaranteed, but at the discretion of the Head Coach of each sport.
- AES Reenrollment is not guaranteed, but based on:
  - conduct and attendance during the previous school year
  - availability on requested team
  - space within requested class
- Students are held to the same dress code and behavioral standards as any Southland student
- Only fully enrolled students are eligible to:
  - Earn a diploma and walk at graduation
  - Run for Student Council, class officers, clubs, etc.
  - Attend dances (unless as a guest of a full-time Southland student)
  - Attend/be recognized Senior Banquet and Honors Day
  - Participate in class trips
  - Participate in performances/events related to a specific course unless enrolled in that specific course

## AES Tuition

Southland's AES tuition would include a \$50 application fee. Once accepted, the tuition is 1/7 of the full tuition and \$500 extracurricular participation fee.

## AES Required Paperwork:

For Southland

- Copy of Physical
- Copy of the student's social security card
- Copy of the student's birth certificate
- Georgia Form 3231 (immunization record)
- Official Birth Certificate (*NOT Certificate of Live Birth*)
- Most recent Report Card/Transcript

For GIAA

- [AES Student-Athlete Information Form](#)
- A copy of the [Declaration of Intent Form](#) that was submitted to the Georgia DOE for the student.
- Most recent Report Card/Transcript
- Official Birth Certificate (*NOT Certificate of Live Birth*)

According to Georgia homeschool regulations, homeschool students must take an appropriate nationally standardized test at the **end of their 9th grade year**. The school must provide the results of the test to the GIAA Office. Once a homeschool (AES) student has taken this test in the 9th grade, s/he will have three years left of eligibility in GIAA.

