



**Policy Number:** 3200

**Dated:** 05/03/2007

## **Extracurricular Activities Policy**

### **PURPOSE**

Participation in extracurricular activities is part of the total experience available to all youths who attend American Leadership Academy. Participation in such activities contributes to the development of health and happiness, physical skill, emotional maturity, social competence, moral values, and leadership skills. The spirit of cooperation and the will to compete are valuable to the development of a healthy mind and body. Every student should have as much opportunity as possible to achieve and excel in extracurricular activities. The philosophy is one of inclusion, rather than exclusion. Coaches and other extracurricular activities advisors will maximize the involvement of students to achieve this philosophy for as many students as possible.

Participation in extracurricular organizations is a privilege and not a right. Participants must accept the responsibilities that come with that privilege.

### **POLICY DEFINITIONS**

1. **Participant:** Participant means any student enrolled in American Leadership Academy who participates in any extracurricular activity sponsored by American Leadership Academy.
2. **Extracurricular Activity:** Extracurricular activity means any school-sponsored activity occurring beyond the scope of the school day for which a grade is not given. This may include, but is not limited to: tryouts, practices, games, contests, speeches, debates, performances, and plays affiliated with American Leadership Academy.

### **POLICY COVERAGE AND EFFECTIVE DATES**

The provisions set forth in this policy are in effect throughout the school/activity year, twenty-four hours a day, including weekends and holidays. The rules apply on and off campus whether misconduct occurs at school or at any school-sponsored activity at another locale. All provisions apply from the beginning of student's first day of participatory involvement/organization in any extracurricular activity (athletic and/or non-athletic) until the conclusion of the current school year or the cessation of all activities (whether participating or not) for the current year, whichever occurs last.

### **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

#### **Coaches and Advisors**

Coaches and advisors bear the burden and responsibility of ensuring that all participants enjoy a rewarding and valuable experience. Coaches and advisors will include as many participants as feasibly possible in each and every activity. The philosophy of inclusion, rather than exclusion, should permeate the decisions of coaches and advisors. In the event that the activity is competitive in nature, coaches and advisors will include as many participants as

feasible, without losing the competitive advantage. Coaches and advisors will treat each participant with respect. No abusive, profane, demeaning, or provocative language will be tolerated. Constructive criticism should be constructive.

Coaches and advisors will devise specific rules or criteria for their respective programs. Such rules/criteria will explicitly detail program (participant) expectations with regard to behavior, attendance, awards/lettering criteria, and disciplinary consequences for violations. Written copies of all extracurricular activity rules and/or criteria will be submitted to the Director and/or Athletic director before organizational activities may begin. All coaches and advisors will disseminate written copies of their respective rules/criteria to all program participants at their first organizational meeting. Nothing will prohibit coaches/advisors from creating additional rules as needed during the course of their activity/s.

Coaches and advisors shall comply with all rules and regulations promulgated by the Utah High school Activities Association (UHSAA), to the extent that the rules apply. Coaches will be trained as required by the UHSAA. Coaches and advisors will not recruit student participants to ALA in violation of UHSAA rules.

### **Athletic Activities**

Coaches will play as many participants as possible. While preferences for upperclassmen are encouraged, each participant who meets the coaches participation requirements will play at least part of each competition.

### **Performing Arts**

Advisors will include as many participants as possible in each performance. Upperclassmen will be given priority for lead and solo positions. Dual casting of lead and solo positions is strongly encouraged because it gives greater opportunity to participate. Leads and solos from one production should not be leads or solos in the next production. Only students enrolled in American Leadership Academy should participate in a production or performance. Advisors should perform only in the event that a student is not able to perform.

## **PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS**

### **UHSAA Sanctioned Events**

All participants in activities sanctioned by the Utah High School Activities Association (UHSAA) shall comply with all rules and regulations promulgated by the UHSAA, including but not limited to the eligibility rules. In addition, to be eligible to compete in any such event, a participant must maintain a 2.0 GPA, and not be failing in more than one class. All students who fail more than one course the preceding semester will be ineligible for the duration for the following semester.

### **Non UHSAA Sanctioned Events**

To be eligible to compete in any such event, a participant must maintain a 2.0 GPA, and not be failing in more than one class. All students who fail more than one course the preceding semester will be ineligible for the duration for the following term.

### **Equipment**

Participants are responsible for all equipment and clothing issued to them or entrusted to them for their use. Participants must pay replacement costs for lost or damaged articles.

## **Transportation**

All extracurricular participants must ride school provided transportation to all events/contests. Participants may return from such activities with their parents provided the coach's/sponsor's sign-out sheet has been signed by the parent.

## **Dress**

Students will be asked to dress neatly and appropriately in order to represent ALA in the manner they deserve. The coach/advisor shall determine appropriate dress.

## **Misconduct**

Coaches, advisors, and participants should never engage in any act which may cast a negative light or bring disrespect upon ALA. All acts of insubordination, noncompliance with school rules and directives, disruptive behavior, vandalism, malicious mischief, misuse of transportation privileges, lawlessness, or breaking the general provisions outlined herein or in the activity rules as stipulated by coaches or advisors, regardless of where they occur, may result in suspension or dismissal from the extracurricular organization, or other disciplinary action as may be recommended by the coach, advisor, or administration.

## **Alcohol, Marijuana, or Controlled Substances**

The use of alcohol, illicit drugs, and/or substance abuse has no place in ALA extracurricular activities. Consequently, violations of this provision will accumulate over the course of a student's entire school career. Violations occurring while a participant is in any ALA activity will accrue over the course of the participant's ALA career. All high school students will begin their high school careers with a clean record at the beginning of their freshman year.

In all cases where ALA finds sufficient evidence of an extracurricular participant's possession or consumption of alcohol, substance abuse, or illegal/controlled substances, including drug paraphernalia, the participant will be banned from all extracurricular activities for a specified period of time. Generally:

1. **First Time Offenders:** All participants who violate the provisions of this controlled substance policy will be banned from all extracurricular participation for a period of one calendar year from the date of the infraction.
2. **Second Time Offenders:** Any participant who violates the provisions of this controlled substance policy a second time would nullify their participation in extracurricular activities for the remainder of their school career.

## **Felonies, Thefts, Assaults, Battery**

Any participant, coach, or advisor who represents ALA and who has been charged by legal authorities with a felony, theft, assault, or battery, shall be suspended from the activity pending disposition of the case. If found not guilty, or the charges are dropped, the individual shall be reinstated. If found guilty, the individual shall be removed from the activity for one calendar year, in addition to any other discipline imposed by ALA.

## **Suspension Policy**

Participants who are suspended from school for one or more days due to a violation of school rules shall be unable to participate in extracurricular activities on the day/s they are suspended. Participation in extracurricular activities may also be limited or denied due to violation of the provisions herein or the individual activity rules/bylaws as prescribed by the coach/advisor. Total suspension shall cause forfeiture of athletic awards, letter, and acknowledgements for the activity during which suspension occurred.

## **Discipline Consequences (Except concerning alcohol, marijuana, or controlled substance)**

When a rule's infraction (Coach's, school, or other rule) occurs, the issuance of a discipline consequence may be determined at the discretion of the coach/advisor and may involve consultation with the athletic director and/or director. Multiple consequences (e.g. from the director and from the coach/advisor) are permissible. Coaches and advisors are to report all rules infractions and consequences promptly to either the athletic director or the director.

## **Disciplinary Procedures**

All activity advisors and coaches will monitor their individual programs and implement stated policies with regard to this policy and their specific rules and/or bylaws. Investigation of possible rule violations will necessitate communication and cooperation between advisors, coaches, the athletic director, and/or director. For violations involving athletic activities (including cheerleading), the athletic director should be apprized and/or involved in any investigation. With all violations involving non-athletic extracurricular activities, the Director should be contacted and/or involved during the investigative process. In all investigative matters, the participant whom is alleged to have committed a violation must be made aware of the offense against him/her and given the opportunity to explain before any disciplinary consequences may ensue. Whenever a violation will result in a participant's disciplinary suspension from an activity, parents must be notified expeditiously.

## **Disciplinary Appeals**

In all matters relating to the disciplining of a participant, parents have the opportunity to review of disciplinary action against their child before the ALA Board of Directors.