

March 29th, 2016

To whom it may concern,

My name is James Sizemore, legally James Smith, and I am a student athlete at Sheldon High School. I am writing to you in regard to my eligibility to compete in track and field in the 2016 season. I would like to first inform you that I have been accepted into Oregon State University and I plan to attend the college in the fall of 2016.

Throughout my high school career I have worked diligently to earn good grades and pushed myself to study more advanced courses. As of March 16th I have completed all required classes to graduate, and I have completed several college level courses. I have participated in Sheldon athletics all four years of high school, but I have always made school work my number one priority.

I chose to take AP Calculus in order to further my education and allow myself a head start for the following school year at Oregon State. I soon realized that the class was going to be very difficult, and I worked with a tutor to help me understand the curriculum. I was able to pass the first trimester with a C, so I decided to continue the course in order to meet the four class requirement for athletics. The Second trimester proved to be even more challenging than the last, and despite meeting with my tutor as often as I could and reaching out to classmates who were also in the class I struggled to understand the material.

While it is not a class that is required for graduation or admission into Oregon State, it is still unfortunate that I wasn't able to complete the course. When I knew that I wasn't going to earn a C, I made the decision to take a no pass in the class so that my GPA would not be affected which would provide a better opportunity for financial aid. I understand that this could nullify my eligibility for Track, but as I said before, school is my number one priority.

I request that I be granted eligibility to compete in my senior season of track and field, and I thank you for your time and consideration.