

Instruction

Administrative Procedure – Physical Education Waiver

The School Code of Illinois permits school districts to excuse specified high school students from the required physical education course.

No more than one (1) waiver may be requested/granted in any one school year. Physical education will not be waived if a student has previously failed a P.E. class. The following exemptions are noted in order to allow the student to take additional course work:

- 1) Pupils in grades 11 and 12 who participate in an interscholastic athletic program.
 - a) Student must have been a member of a high school team in that sport the previous year.
 - b) Student and coach must verify that the student will be a member on the team the year the P.E. waiver is requested.
 - c) Students in fall sports may waive the fall semester of P.E. Students in winter sports may waive fall or spring semester of P.E. Students in spring sports may waive spring semester of P.E.
 - d) Student understands that if he/she does not complete the season for any reason, the physical education class must be made up. An injured student who obtains authorization from the Athletic Director may continue to serve the team in some capacity and retain his/her exemption.
- 2) To enroll in academic classes which are required for admission to an institution of higher learning, provided that failure to take such classes will result in the pupil being denied admission to the institution of his/her choice (12th grade only).

This exemption applies equally to four-year colleges, two-year community colleges, and technical schools.

- 3) Pupils in grades 11 and 12 enrolled in a marching band program for grade credit. (Fall Semester)
 - a) Students must have been a member of a band program for the previous year.
 - b) The student and band director must both verify that the student will be a member of the marching band.
 - c) The student who requests such an exemption would be exempt from physical education for the semester enrolled in marching band. If the student does not complete the semester of marching band for any reason, he/she will be enrolled in physical education for the remainder of the semester or required to make up the waived P.E. class.

The following conditions apply to all physical education waivers:

- 1) Any student who waives physical education will be required to take a fifth academic class.
- 2) When physical education is waived, no student will be allowed to earn accelerated grade point credit for a class which replaces physical education even if that class is an accelerated class. This will prevent one student from having an advantage over another in the class ranking.
- 3) Students may apply to waive, at most, two physical education courses, but these students are encouraged to graduate with at least five physical education classes in addition to health and drivers' education.
- 4) For any student requesting such an exemption, a form must be obtained from the principal and all necessary signatures must be obtained by the student. The form must be completed and then returned to the principal before the end of the previous semester in which the waiver is to take place. If all requirements are met, the principal will sign the form and forward a copy to the student's guidance counselor. No student will be exempted without a signed form on file.

In accordance with Illinois Administrative Code Ch. I, S 1.420p(6), records of each waiver will be maintained showing that each request was disposed of in accordance with section 27.6(b) of the School Code.

Adopted: 3/22/05