

PHYSICAL EDUCATION GRADUATION REQUIREMENT

Students are required to complete one-half unit of physical education for graduation. One-half unit requires a minimum of 120 hours of course instruction. This requirement is currently addressed by completing two nine-week courses, each worth a quarter credit.

EXEMPTION TO THE P.E. GRADUATION REQUIREMENT

Exemption from this requirement is based upon Section 3313.603 of the Ohio Revised Code (ORC), Letter L.

Beginning with the 2009-2010 school year, students in the Fairfield City School District in grades 9, 10, and 11 who successfully complete two full seasons of **interscholastic athletics**, **marching band**, or **cheerleading** may be excused from the high school physical education requirement. The “two full season” requirement may be completed within a single school year. The “two full season” requirement must be completed by the end of the student’s junior year to eliminate the possibility of seniors being caught in a position of lacking physical education requirements and failing to graduate. *A single exception was made to this expectation for seniors during the 2009/2010 school year as the district transitions to the new policy; the window for this exception has closed.

Under the ORC, the board of education may NOT provide for partial completion of the high school physical education requirement. The one-half unit requirement cannot be partially exempted. For example, it is not possible to combine one quarter of physical education and one successful season to meet the physical education requirement.

IMPACT ON OVERALL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Those students excused from the high school physical education requirement are required to complete one-half unit, consisting of at least 60 hours of instruction, in another course of study, as determined by the student.

Those students excused from the high school physical education requirement are still required to earn 24 credits for graduation from the Fairfield City School District.

RECOGNIZED ACTIVITIES

In addition to **cheerleading** and **marching band**, **interscholastic athletic** teams currently recognized by the Ohio High School Athletic Association in Fairfield City Schools include:

Baseball, boys	Football	Swimming, boys and girls
Basketball, boys and girls	Golf, boys and girls	Tennis, boys and girls
Bowling, boys and girls	Gymnastics, girls	Track, boys and girls
Cheerleading	Soccer, boys and girls	Volleyball, boys and girls
Cross country, boys and girls	Softball, girls	Wrestling
Diving, boys and girls		

Under the ORC the board of education may NOT add additional areas of participation beyond **interscholastic athletics**, **marching band**, or **cheerleading** which may be used to excuse a student from the high school physical education requirement.

SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF A SEASON

Successful completion of a season shall be defined as “daily participation paralleling the official sport season completed at a 90% attendance level and completing the season as a member of the team or group.”

Formal starting dates for interscholastic athletics are determined by the OHSAA. Starting dates for marching band and cheerleading will be determined by the respective advisors; the starting date may be inclusive of mandatory camps.

The 90% participation criteria is applicable to a student who moves into the district during a season. If 90% of all activities for the entire season can be completed, the season may be counted towards the physical education exemption.

The 90% participation criteria only applies to the physical education exemption process. Other participation expectations may be required per team as determined by the coach / advisor and athletic department.

PROCESS FOR EXEMPTION FOR INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS AND CHEERLEADING

1. Students desiring to be excused from physical education requirements must complete the registration form declaring their intent.
2. Coaches / Advisors will distribute the appropriate forms on the official starting date of the season as established by the OHSAA. Students must complete and return these PE exemption forms in the **ATHLETIC DIRECTOR'S OFFICE** of their building (high school or freshman school) within ten (10) calendar days following the official starting date of the season as established by the OHSAA. Forms will not be accepted outside of the ten day window.
3. The athletic directors will keep the forms during the current sports season. At the end of the sports season (no later than one week after the last game / match / competition) athletic directors will work with the coaches / advisors to verify that a season has been successfully completed.
4. The athletic directors will take the forms to the appropriate guidance office for recording on the student's transcript and for filing in the student's permanent record file.
5. A form must be completed for each new season declaring the student's intent to seek exemption from physical education.
6. If a student is registered for a physical education class, returning a completed form **DOES NOT** remove the student from the class. The student **MUST** meet with a counselor for a change in their schedule to occur / to drop the physical education class.

PROCESS FOR EXEMPTION FOR MARCHING BAND

1. Students desiring to be excused from physical education requirements must complete the registration form declaring their intent.
2. The marching band director will distribute the appropriate forms on the official starting date of the season. Students must complete and return these PE exemption forms in the **HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC DEPARTMENT CHAIR'S OFFICE AT THE HIGH SCHOOL** within ten (10) calendar days following the official starting date of the season. Forms will not be accepted outside of the ten day window.
3. The high school music department chair will keep the forms during the current band season. At the end of the band season (no later than one week after the last game / match / competition) the high school music department chair will work with the marching band director to verify that a season has been successfully completed.
4. The high school music department chair will take the forms to the appropriate guidance office for recording on the student's transcript and for filing in the student's permanent record file.
5. A form must be completed for each new season declaring the student's intent to seek exemption from physical education.
6. If a student is registered for a physical education class, returning a completed form **DOES NOT** remove the student from the class. The student **MUST** meet with a counselor for a change in their schedule to occur / to drop the physical education class.

RETROACTIVE PARTICIPATION PROCESS

According to the Ohio Department of Education, any season completed in interscholastic athletics, marching band, or cheerleading in grades 10, 11, and / or 12 in the Fairfield City School District during **2007/2008** and / or **2008/2009** school years may be counted towards the "two full season" requirement. To receive credit for participation during these school years, the appropriate application form must be completed and submitted to the Athletic Office at Fairfield High School for cheerleading and interscholastic sports and to the marching band director within a window beginning Thursday, October 1, 2009, and ending Friday, November 20, 2009. Applications will not be accepted after November 20, 2009.

THIS WINDOW WILL BE THE ONLY OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE RETROACTIVE PARTICIPATION PROCESS.

It is the responsibility of the student to initiate this process.

*The window to request retroactive participation credit has closed.
Requests will no longer be accepted.

Physical Education Graduation Requirements
Request for Exemption 2009/2010
Interscholastic Athletics and Cheerleading

Students are required to complete one-half unit of physical education for graduation. One-half unit requires a minimum of 120 hours of course instruction. This requirement is currently addressed by completing two nine-week courses, each worth a quarter credit.

Beginning with the 2009-2010 school year, students in the Fairfield City School District in grades 9, 10, and 11 who successfully complete two full seasons of **interscholastic athletics**, **marching band**, or **cheerleading** may be excused from the high school physical education requirement. *A single exception will be made to this expectation for seniors during the 2009/2010 school year as the district transitions to the new policy; the window for this exception has closed.

Interscholastic athletic teams currently recognized by the Ohio High School Athletic Association in Fairfield City Schools include:

Baseball, boys	Basketball, boys and girls	Bowling, boys and girls
Cheerleading	Cross country, boys and girls	Diving, boys and girls
Football	Golf, boys and girls	Gymnastics, girls
Soccer, boys and girls	Softball, girls	Swimming, boys and girls
Tennis, boys and girls	Track, boys and girls	Volleyball, boys and girls
Wrestling		

Process:

1. Students desiring to be excused from physical education requirements must complete the registration form declaring their intent.
2. Coaches / Advisors will distribute the appropriate forms on the official starting date of the season as established by the OHSAA. Students must complete and return these PE exemption forms in the **ATHLETIC DIRECTOR'S OFFICE** of their building (high school or freshman school) within ten (10) calendar days following the official starting date of the season as established by the OHSAA. Forms will not be accepted outside of the ten day window.
3. The athletic directors will keep the forms during the current sports season. At the end of the sports season (no later than one week after the last game / match / competition) athletic directors will work with the coaches / advisors to verify that a season has been successfully completed.
4. The athletic directors will take the forms to the appropriate guidance office for recording on the student's transcript and for filing in the student's permanent record file.
5. A form must be completed for each new season declaring the student's intent to seek exemption from physical education.
6. If a student is registered for a physical education class, returning a completed form **DOES NOT** remove the student from the class. The student **MUST** meet with a counselor for a change in their schedule to occur / to drop the physical education class.

*Please complete the information on the **back** of this form.*

The student must complete the information in this box and return the form to the ATHLETIC DIRECTOR'S OFFICE in the high school or in the freshman school within ten calendar days following the official starting date of the season as established by the OHSAA.

Student Last Name _____

Student First Name _____

Grade during 2009/2010 school year _____

Sport / Activity _____

Name of Advisor
or Coach _____



In making this request for exemption from physical education as a graduation requirement, I understand all expectations related to the "two full season" requirement.

Student Signature

Date

Parent / Guardian Signature

Date

I verify that the student listed above has successfully completed the season based "daily participation paralleling the official sport season completed at a 90% attendance level and completing the season as a member of the team or group."

Advisor / Coach

Date

If a student is registered for a physical education class, returning a completed form **DOES NOT** remove the student from the class. The student **MUST** meet with a counselor for a change in their schedule to occur / to drop the physical education class.

Physical Education Graduation Requirements
Request for Exemption 2009/2010
Marching Band

Students are required to complete one-half unit of physical education for graduation. One-half unit requires a minimum of 120 hours of course instruction. This requirement is currently addressed by completing two nine-week courses, each worth a quarter credit.

Beginning with the 2009-2010 school year, students in the Fairfield City School District in grades 9, 10, and 11 who successfully complete two full seasons of interscholastic athletics, marching band, or cheerleading may be excused from the high school physical education requirement. *A single exception will be made to this expectation for seniors during the 2009/2010 school year as the district transitions to the new policy; the window for this exception has closed.

Process:

1. Students desiring to be excused from physical education requirements must complete the registration form declaring their intent.
2. The marching band director will distribute the appropriate forms on the official starting date of the season. Students must complete and return these PE exemption forms in the **HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC DEPARTMENT CHAIR'S OFFICE AT THE HIGH SCHOOL** within ten (10) calendar days following the official starting date of the season. Forms will not be accepted outside of the ten day window.
3. The high school music department chair will keep the forms during the current band season. At the end of the band season (no later than one week after the last game / match / competition) the high school music department chair will work with the marching band director to verify that a season has been successfully completed.
4. The high school music department chair will take the forms to the appropriate guidance office for recording on the student's transcript and for filing in the student's permanent record file.
5. A form must be completed for each new season declaring the student's intent to seek exemption from physical education.
6. If a student is registered for a physical education class, returning a completed form **DOES NOT** remove the student from the class. The student **MUST** meet with a counselor for a change in their schedule to occur / to drop the physical education class.

*Please complete the information on the **back** of this form.*

The student must complete the information in this box and return the form to the HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC DEPARTMENT CHAIR'S OFFICE in the high school within ten calendar days following the official starting date of the season.

Student Last Name _____

Student First Name _____

Grade during 2009/2010 school year _____

Sport / Activity _____

Name of Band _____
Director _____



In making this request for exemption from physical education as a graduation requirement, I understand all expectations related to the “two full season” requirement.

Student Signature

Date

Parent / Guardian Signature

Date

I verify that the student listed above has successfully completed the season based “daily participation paralleling the official sport season completed at a 90% attendance level and completing the season as a member of the team or group.”

Band Director

Date

If a student is registered for a physical education class, returning a completed form **DOES NOT** remove the student from the class. The student **MUST** meet with a counselor for a change in their schedule to occur / to drop the physical education class.