

External PE Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Who can apply to take External PE as a substitute for required PE courses?

Students in grades 6-12 who seek to develop higher-level skills exceeding that which is offered in LISD may apply at private or commercially-sponsored physical activity programs and receive PE credit. All off-campus facilities must be approved by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) and LISD School Board. (Texas Education Code (TEC) § 28.025 (b-10) and Texas Administrative Code (TAC) § 74.F)

What are the approved off-campus PE programs for 9-12 students?

LISD high school students may apply for the following activities at approved facilities: Archery, Clay Targets, Dance, Equestrian, Fencing, Gymnastics, Ice Hockey/Dance, Martial Arts, Lacrosse, Rock Climbing, and Rowing.

What are the approved off-campus PE programs for 6-8 students?

LISD middle school students may apply for the above mentioned activities as well as: Baseball, Golf, Softball, and Swimming.

Is there a fee for students who enroll in External PE?

*Yes. In order to ensure compliance with LISD guidelines, a fee is charged to employ personnel to administrate and monitor the approved programs. External PE is not a required program and must support itself. **All fees are non-refundable** and due when the application is submitted for approval prior to the beginning of the grading period for which the student is applying.*

What is the difference between Level I and Level II students?

Level I requires a minimum of 15 hours (five days) of participation per week with at least four days occurring during the school week. The student misses one period during the school day by arriving late or leaving early to attend the activity. Please note, each LISD middle school campus may have a different schedule in place (ie: Block, Flex, Modified Block) and students may not be allowed to miss a class due to the specific schedule.

Level II requires a minimum of 5 hours (three days) of participation per week with two of those days occurring during the school week. The student may not be dismissed from any part of the school day.

“Travel Time” and “Time at Competition” do not count towards weekly hours. LISD does not transport students to External PE facilities.

What are the fees and grading periods for which students can apply?

Middle school students may apply per semester (\$75 ea.) or for the entire year (\$150). High school students may apply per individual 9 week grading periods (\$100 ea.), per semester (\$150 ea.), or all year (\$250). Fees are non-refundable.

Are External PE students required to participate in Fitness Gram assessments?

Yes. Each campus PE Department will notify External PE students when they will be assessed.

What if an External PE student gets injured or becomes ill?

If the injured/ill student attends school, he/she is required to attend their regularly scheduled External PE class as well. They may observe and receive instruction/credit through observation until they are able to participate at full capacity. If the student's injury/illness persists longer than three classes, the parent must submit a doctor's note detailing injury/illness, when student is expected to recover, and detail of student level of participation during injury/illness to the External PE Monitor for documentation. We strongly discourage a student to drop after the grading period has begun, but will refer to campus specific withdrawal procedures. Fees are non-refundable.

What if a student misses a scheduled session?

Students are expected to make-up the class or the instructor will record it as an absence.

Are facility instructors expected to turn in grades and take attendance?

Yes. Students are expected to meet the 90% Attendance Rule. If student should miss three or more classes in a grading period, the facility instructor is required to notify the External PE Monitor and the student may be removed from the course and/or receive a failing grade.

Can a student change where they are receiving instruction/facilities?

*Only the External PE Monitor, Debra McDonald, can give permission for students to move to a different approved facility after the grading period has started. Requests must be emailed to mcdonaldddd@lisd.net and a new application/schedule filled out **before** student will be allowed to change.*

How do I know if a facility has been approved?

All facilities must apply to the LISD External PE Monitor and follow approval instructions as requested. LISD is required to submit all applications to the Texas Education Agency (TEA) for approval prior to each school year. Therefore, June 1st is the deadline for all new facilities applying for the upcoming school year. Each LISD approved facility has been assigned a CODE number that should be placed on the student application. Individual facilities must apply, not corporations for all facilities.

What if the instructor at the approved facility has not completed their LISD background check?

All instructors must complete a criminal background check for LISD in order to teach our students. This can be completed on the LISD website (www.lisd.net) under the Resource tab, For Parents, Volunteer Background Check. This process takes a minimum of two weeks and is required every three years.

Where do parents turn in applications and what is the deadline?

All completed applications and required fees are due no later than 4:30 p.m. on the third day of the grading period and should be submitted to:

*Special Services Administration Building (SSAB)
400 W. Main Street
Lewisville, TX 75057*

Please direct any questions or concerns to Debra McDonald mcdonalddd@lisd.net