

# DRAFT UPDATE

Urbana School District Number 116

7:260

## Students

### Exemption from Physical ~~Activity~~ Education

In order to be excused from participation in physical education, a student must present an appropriate excuse from his or her parent/guardian or from a person licensed under the Medical Practice Act. The excuse may be based on medical or religious prohibitions. ~~State law prohibits a school board from honoring parental excuses based upon a student's participation in athletic training, activities, or competitions conducted outside the auspices of the School District.~~ An excuse because of medical reasons must include a signed statement from a person licensed under the Medical Practice Act that corroborates the medical reason for the request. An excuse based on religious reasons must include a signed statement from a member of the clergy that corroborates the religious reason for the request.

Special activities in physical education will be provided for students whose physical or emotional condition, as determined by a person licensed under the Medical Practice Act, prevents their participation in the physical education courses.

~~State law prohibits a school board from honoring parental excuses based upon a student's participation in athletic training, activities, or competitions conducted outside the auspices of the School District.~~

A student who is eligible for special education may be excused from physical education courses in either of the following situations:

1. He or she (a) is in grades 3-12, (b) his or her IEP requires that special education support and services be provided during physical education time, and (c) the parent/guardian agrees or the IEP team makes the determination; or
2. He or she (a) has an IEP, (b) is participating in an adaptive athletic program outside of the school setting, and (c) the parent/guardian documents the student's participation as required by the Superintendent or designee.

A student requiring adapted physical education must receive that service in accordance with his or her Individualized Educational Program/Plan (IEP).

A student in grades 9-12, unless otherwise stated, may submit a written request to the Building Principal to be excused from physical education courses for the reasons stated in 6:310, *High School Credit for Non-District Experiences; Course Substitutions; Re-Entering Students.*

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain records showing that the criteria set forth in this policy were applied to the student's individual circumstances, as appropriate.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/27-6.  
225 ILCS 60/, Medical Practice Act.  
23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.420(p) and §1.425(d), (e), (f).

CROSS REF.: 6:60 (Curriculum Content), 6:310 (High School Credit for Non-District Experiences; Course Substitutions; Re-Entering Students)

ADOPTED: [May 3, 2011](#)

#### Commented [APowell1]:

The policy is **RENAMED** for accuracy in response to 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.425(e)(3) and 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.425, added at 40 Ill. Reg. 2990.

Issue 93, October 2016

#### Commented [APowell2]:

Required by 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.425(e)(3), School boards must identify any evidence/support they will require for excuses they will deem *appropriate*. Before the board adopts this policy, it should have a conversation with the superintendent to discuss and review and/or amend the sample reasons for excusal offered in this policy. Topics for discussion include determining whether (a) the sample reasons are sufficient, (b) more reasons are needed, and/or (c) the sample reasons should be amended. These conversations should be based upon the community's needs.

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#### Commented [APowell3]:

Moved from above.

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#### Commented [APowell4]:

Policy language regarding excusal from physical education and adapted physical education requirements in accordance with IEPs has been relocated from policy 6:310, *High School Credit for Non-District Experiences; Course Substitutions; Re-Entering Students.*

#### Commented [APowell5]:

23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.425(f).

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