

# RENAMED

August 2015 October 2016

7:260

## Students

### Exemption from Physical Activity Education <sup>1</sup>

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.<sup>2</sup> The excuse may be based on medical or religious prohibitions. 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. <sup>3</sup>

Special activities in physical education will be provided for a student whose physical or emotional condition, as determined by a person licensed under the Medical Practice Act, prevents his or her participation in the physical education course. <sup>4</sup>

State law prohibits the Board 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.<sup>5</sup>

A student who is eligible for special education may be excused from physical education courses in either of the following situations: <sup>6</sup>

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). <sup>7</sup>

The footnotes are not intended to be part of the adopted policy; they should be removed before the policy is adopted.

<sup>1</sup> An ISBE rule requires boards to have a policy defining the types of parental excuses that will be accepted in order for a student to be exempted from P.E. (23 Ill.Admin.Code § ~~1.420(p)~~ 1.425(e) (added at 40 Ill. Reg. 2990)). State or federal law controls this policy's content.

For elementary districts, delete 6:310, High School Credit for Non-District Experiences; Course Substitutions; Re-Entering Students from the cross references of this policy.

<sup>2</sup> Medical Practice Act is found in 225 ILCS 60/.

<sup>3</sup> 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.

<sup>4</sup> Required by 105 ILCS 5/27-6 and 23 Ill.Admin.Code § ~~1.420(p)~~ 1.425(d).

<sup>5</sup> 105 ILCS 5/27-6(b); 23 Ill.Admin.Code § ~~1.420(p)~~ 1.425(e)(2). See policy 6:310, High School Credit for Non-District Experiences; Course Substitutions; Re-Entering Students for a list of categories of students in grades 9-12 who may be excused from P.E. due to participation in school district athletic training, activities, or competitions.

<sup>6</sup> 105 ILCS 5/27-6(b).

<sup>7</sup> 105 ILCS 5/27-6(b).

**Comment [KAS1]: RENAMED.** 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. Other updates are made throughout.

**Comment [KAS2]:** Relocated. Footnote 4 used to be footnote 7 in the prior version of the policy.

**Comment [KAS3]:** This is the deleted, duplicative text from policy 6:310.

**Comment [KAS4]:** This is the deleted, duplicative text from policy 6:310.

**Comment [KAS5]:** Paragraph is not new. It was relocated. A footnote provides the citation.

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. **8**

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)

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The footnotes are not intended to be part of the adopted policy; they should be removed before the policy is adopted.  
**8** 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.425(f). Districts must maintain records showing that the criteria set forth in 105 ILCS 5/27-6 was applied to the student's individual circumstances.