

STUDENT FEES, FINES, AND CHARGES

Fees

Because of limited financial needs ***In order to be fiscally responsible***, the Board of Education may need to levy certain charges to students to facilitate the utilization of adequate and appropriate materials for curricular as well as co-curricular and extra-curricular, noncredit activities. Such charges would be made on expendable items such as magazines, workbook materials, paperback selections, and laboratory supplies and materials for clubs, independent study or special projects, and District-sponsored trips. No student, however, shall be deprived of a free public education or of participation in an activity because of lack of financial ability to pay a charge. Any waiver of fees shall be made pursuant to Policy 6152.01.

School fees shall be paid in advance for each school term or school activity at the time of initial registration or initial enrollment in any school activity. At the discretion of the principal and or the Assistant Superintendent – Business Services, a payment plan for the required school fees may be implemented.

For the purposes of this policy, "school fees" or "fees" means any monetary charge collected by the District from a student or the parent(s) or guardian of a student as a prerequisite for the student's participation in any curricular or extracurricular program of the District.

- A. "School fees" include, but are not limited to, the following:
1. all charges for required textbooks and instructional materials;
 2. all charges and deposits collected by a school for use of school property (e.g., locks, towels, laboratory equipment);
 3. charges for field trips made during school hours, or made after school hours if the field trip is a required or customary part of a class or extracurricular activity;
 4. charges or deposits for uniforms or equipment related to varsity and intramural sports, or to fine arts programs;
 5. charges to participate in extracurricular activities;

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6. charges for supplies required for a particular class or for gym uniforms;
 7. graduation fees;
 8. school records fees;
 9. school health services fees;
 10. driver's education fee assessed pursuant to Section 105 ILCS 5/27-23 of the School Code.
- B. "School fees" do not include:
1. library fines and other charges made for the loss, misuse, or destruction of school property;
 2. charges for the purchase of class rings, yearbooks, pictures, diploma covers, or similar items;
 3. charges for optional travel undertaken by a school club or group of students outside of school hours;
 4. charges for admission to school dances, athletic events, or other social events;
 5. optional community service programs for which fees are charged (e.g., preschool, before and after-school child care, recreation programs).

A charge shall not exceed the combined cost of the outside service provided or material used, freight and/or handling charges. Money received from resale of such material, if any, shall be returned to the Treasurer with an accurate accounting of all transactions.

Fines

When school property, equipment, or supplies are damaged, lost, or taken by a student, whether in a regular course or extra-curricular offering, a fine will be assessed. The fine will be reasonable, seeking only to compensate the school for the expense or loss incurred.

The late return of borrowed books or materials from the school libraries will be subject to appropriate fines.

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All fees and/or fines collected by members of the staff are to be turned in to the principal's office within twenty-four (24) hours after collection.

Failure to pay fees may result in the withholding of grades and credit. In the event the above course of action does not result in the fee being collected, the Board authorizes the Superintendent, **or designee**, to take the student and/or his/her parents to Small Claims Court for collection. No student, however, shall be deprived of a free public education because of lack of financial ability to pay a fine.

105 ILCS 5/10-20.13
105 ILCS 5/27-23

To Policy 1/23/17

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