

**North Union High School
Physical Education Exemption Option**

Adopted April 2017

NU Board Policy

The North Union Local School Board of Education has adopted a policy to excuse the high school physical education requirement from each student, who during high school, has participated in interscholastic athletics, marching band, or cheerleading for at least two full seasons. The North Union school board shall not require these students to complete any physical education course as a condition to graduate, however, the student shall be required to complete one-half unit, consisting of at least sixty hours of instruction, in another course of study. Twenty-three credits are required for graduation.

Procedure for documenting physical education exemption:

1. Obtain the physical education exemption form from the guidance office.
2. Fill out the form and turn into the guidance office, preferably by the beginning of the freshman year. The form may be modified upon request if the student changes sports, etc.
3. When the student has completed the two seasons of athletics, cheerleading, or marching band, the student needs to notify the guidance office. The form will be given back to the student and the student will obtain the appropriate signatures from the athletic director or marching band director.
4. The form will be returned to the guidance office for record keeping. The original form will be placed in the student's cumulative file.
5. The guidance office will note physical education on the transcript as completed for no credit or grade but as an exemption.

Frequently asked questions:

If a student participates in athletics, marching band, or cheerleading before the 2017-18 school year, can those activities be applied?

- No. Districts are not permitted to implement a retroactive policy. The two full seasons must begin after the implementation date of the policy. Students moving into the NU district may not use waivers from a previous district and must submit the NU form, though verification can be approved by an athletic director outside of NU as long as the participation occurred after the NU implementation date.

Can other activities such as choir, non-school sponsored athletics, etc. which involve physical activity be counted towards the PE requirement?

- No. The state law specifically limits the participation to interscholastic, marching band, and cheerleading. There is no authority granted to a board of education to include any additional participation.

For physical education, what is the impact of being "cut", quitting, or having an athletic/activity code violation?

- The state law requires participation "for at least two full seasons". The season during which a student was "cut" or quit the activity could not be used to meet the two season requirement.

If a student participates in only one full season of an approved activity, can the student be excused from .25 units of PE and thus only have to take .25 units of PE to complete the graduation requirement?

- No. The state law requires participation for at least two full seasons. There is no provision in the law that would permit any type of partial excuse.

What happens if a student is injured during the season?

- Injury will not prevent completion of one season if the Principal, Coach, or Athletic Director concedes that the student actively participated and made contributions in spite of the injury.

What constitutes a “full season” in North Union Schools?

- A full season for athletics/cheerleading purposes is defined by OHSAA as from the first day of practice until the last event or banquet per the athletic handbook. A full season of marching band will be defined from the first day of band camp until the completion of the last varsity football game.

Can team managers or statisticians complete the waiver?

- No, NUHS team managers and statisticians are not eligible for the waiver. Only students who are physically participating in the activity are eligible.

What happens if a high school senior has not fulfilled the PE requirements by the end of the junior year?

- These students will automatically be scheduled into a PE class.

North Union High School - approved activities:

Fall

Marching Band
Football
Boys Cross Country
Girls Cross Country
Cheerleading
Girls Volleyball
Boys Golf
Girls Golf

Winter

Girls Basketball
Boys Basketball
Wrestling
Cheerleading
Bowling

Spring

Baseball
Softball
Boys Track
Girls Track