

PHYSICAL EDUCATION CREDIT OPTION

345.64

Eligible students may complete an additional one-half credit course in a subject area not required towards graduation in lieu of one-half credit of physical education for purposes of high school graduation. A student is eligible for this option under the following conditions:

1. The student has participated in one or more approved sports or other organized physical activities after 9th grade and during a semester, or portion of a semester, in which the student is not enrolled in a for-credit physical education class that is required for graduation. Approved sports and organized physical activities include:
 - a. Junior varsity and varsity level Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association (WIAA)-sanctioned sports sponsored by the District.
 - b. The following additional school-sponsored sports and organized physical activities: dance team, cheerleading, show choir or any club sports offered through the District.
 - c. Other sports or organized physical activities may be approved by the high school principal or administrative designee upon request of a student that is submitted in advance of the sport/activity. When making approval decisions, the principal or designee shall take into consideration such factors as the rigor of the sport/organized physical activity, the length of the sport/organized physical activity season, the frequency of sport/activity practices and contests, and sport/activity management (supervision). In terms of minimal length and rigor, the season (or activity period) should be at least as long as the shortest WIAA season of an approved WIAA sport, as

identified above, and should involve at least three weekly practices and/or contests (or performances). It shall be the responsibility of the student to provide relevant information regarding the sport or organized physical activity that will support the request. If the student is not satisfied with the principal or designee's decision, he/she may appeal the decision to the Director of Curriculum and Instruction.

2. During each sport season (or other activity period) used to establish eligibility for the physical education credit option, the student must not have (1) been subject to any disciplinary suspension from a contest or performance imposed either by the supervisor/coach or under any applicable code of conduct; (2) violated any applicable code of conduct during the season (or activity period), the penalty for which was, or would have been, suspension from one or more contests or performances, even though the penalty was not assessed or served during the season; and (3) been absent from a practice or contest/performance without an acceptable excuse.
3. A student must have his/her eligibility for the physical education credit option fully approved, including successful completion of his/her participation in the qualifying sport or other activity, by the time the student needs to register for classes for 12th grade.

Student participation in approved school-sponsored sports or organized physical activities shall be verified and documented by the School Counselor.

Nothing in this policy shall prevent a student who is eligible for accommodations to the high school graduation requirements,

including the credit requirements, under other District policies from receiving those accommodations.

Legal References:

Wisconsin Statutes

- [Section 115.787\(2\)](#) [individualized education programs; program modifications and supports for students with disabilities]
- [Section 118.13](#) [student nondiscrimination]
- [Section 118.33\(1\)](#) [high school graduation requirements, including physical education credit requirements; authority to make accommodations for students with exceptional educational interests, needs or requirements]
- [Section 118.33\(1\)\(e\)](#) [authority to allow eligible students to take alternative course credit in lieu of one-half credit in physical education]

Federal Laws

- [Individuals with Disabilities Education Act](#) [educational programs and services for students with disabilities]
- [Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973](#) [access to educational programs and activities and facilities by students with disabilities]
- [Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act](#) [access to educational programs and activities and facilities by students with disabilities]

Adopted: 04/22/13
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