

EAST AURORA HIGH SCHOOL



HANDBOOK FOR PHYSICAL EDUCATION EXEMPTION

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ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT

The purpose of this document is to provide clear regulations and procedures when seeking exemption from the state mandated physical education classes at East Aurora High School. In addition to this document, it is important to note that all East Aurora Athletic and District policies apply to the student athletes seeking exemption. East Aurora High School, with the support of the Board of Education, believe that exemptions applied for should equate to the regulations and demands provided in the school's physical education setting.

ATHLETICS FOR PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The East Aurora School District allows students in grades 11 and 12 to participate in Interscholastic Athletics in place of Physical Education under the following circumstances:

1. The student-athlete must participate in and complete the season in two or more interscholastic athletic programs in one school year.
2. The student-athlete must show proof of participation and completion of the season in two or more interscholastic athletic programs the year prior to applying for this exemption.
3. The application for this exemption must be completed and submitted to the athletic office by the date indicated on the athletic website for a student-athlete to be considered for the following school year. Applications should be dropped off to the athletic office at the High School.

Points of Emphasis:

- The only allowable excuse for not completing a season is documented proof of injury or illness by a personal physician and/or school doctor disqualifying the student-athlete for the duration of the season. If this occurs, the Director of Health, Physical Education, and Athletics will create a plan to address the unfulfilled requirements.
- A violation of the Code of Conduct or Academic Eligibility Policy will immediately disqualify the student athlete from being eligible for exemption, despite his or her continued participation on an interscholastic athletic team. Time missed in Physical Education class must be made up to receive credit for graduation.
- A student who decides not to fulfill their commitment to the Athletics for Physical Education requirement after beginning the process must make up time missed in Physical Education class in order to receive credit for graduation.

ALTERNATIVE PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The East Aurora School District allows students in grades 11 and 12 to participate in athletically related programs offered outside and not affiliated with the District. In order for a student to qualify for this exemption, the following circumstances must take place:

1. The application for this exemption must be completed and submitted to the athletic office by the date indicated on the athletic website for a student-athlete to be considered for the following school year. Applications should be dropped off to the athletic office at the High School.
2. The student-athlete must complete and submit a log of 1900 minutes of activity time in their approved sport or activity per school semester.
3. The required minutes must be completed under the supervision/coaching direction of a NYS Certified Interscholastic Coach (See additional requirements below).

In order for an individual to receive approval to coach or instruct a student athlete for this exemption, the following requirements, identical to what is needed to coach a school athletic team, must be met:

1. Completion of fingerprinting
2. Completion of a CPR and First Aid course as established by NYSED
3. Completion of the Dignity for All Students Act certification course
4. Completion of the Project SAVE certification course
5. Completion of the Child Abuse Prevention certification course
6. Completion of the CDC Concussion certification course
7. Successful achievement of a temporary coaching license issued by NYSED and maintained yearly until a professional license has been received.
8. Successful completion of approved coaching courses within the timeframe established by NYSED. Two pathways exist for this requirement.
9. For sports recognized by the NYSPHSAA, the individual must show proof of coaching or playing experience at the interscholastic or collegiate level. For those sports/activities not recognized, the individual must have an equivalent background in the sport or activity.

(Steps for all requirements can be found on the East Aurora Athletic webpage)

<http://www.eastauroraschools.org/page/270>

ALTERNATIVE PHYSICAL EDUCATION

(CONTINUED)

POINTS OF EMPHASIS

Students who choose not to fulfill their commitment or violate the code of conduct or academic eligibility policy will lose their right to exemption and must make up any missed time in Physical Education class in order to meet the graduation requirement. Proof of disqualification due to injury or illness must be provided by a personal physician or the school doctor. If this occurs, a plan will be established with the Director of Health, Physical Education, and Athletics to address the unfulfilled requirements.

FACILITY REQUIREMENTS

In compliance with the NYS Educational Law 917 concerning Automated External Defibrillators in schools, an AED must be present at the facility so that it could be readily used in an emergency situation should one arise while our student-athletes are participating in athletics outside of the school.

COACHING EXPECTATIONS

Alternative coaches/supervisors are expected to provide the same philosophical instruction to our student-athletes that they would experience through their school program. Although outside programs may have their own philosophies and guiding principles, it is recommended that the coaches/supervisors read and understand the guidelines set forth through the East Aurora Athletics Handbook as well as the coaching guidelines.

Upon approval of a valid coaching certification through the NYS Education Department, the requested instructor will be submitted to the East Aurora Board of Education for final approval to administer instruction in an alternative setting for the physical education requirement. Should a license not be available for a sport or activity, the supervisor/coach will complete all general requirements up to the point of sport specific requirements.