

**Physical Education**  
**Administrative Guidelines for Enrollment Alternatives**

The graduation requirements set forth by the Dubuque Community School District include the requirement that students successfully complete 3.2 credits of Physical Education (Policy 6210). According to Policy 6212, students who graduate before completing their eighth semester do not need to meet the 3.2 credits of Physical Education. Policy 6212 states that students “must complete physical education ONLY for the semesters when they are in attendance.”

The high school principal or designee will be guided by the following procedures when accepting exemptions from physical education requirements for high school students.

- Medical Exemption
- Religious Exemption

A pupil shall not be required to enroll in either physical education or health courses if the pupil’s parent or guardian files a written statement with the school principal that the course conflicts with the pupil’s religious beliefs.

- Athletic and Academic Exemptions

A student may be excused from the physical education requirement by the principal of the school in which the student is enrolled under one of the following circumstances:

- (1) **GRADE 12 ONLY** - The student is enrolled in a cooperative, work study, or other educational program authorized by the school which requires the student’s absence from the school’s premises during the school day. This includes Senior Year Plus programs.
- (2) **GRADE 9-12 Academic Exemption** - The student is enrolled in an academic course not otherwise available. This includes a full schedule of academic classes with no unscheduled periods. Grade 9-11 exemptions are permitted only one semester per year. The parent or guardian of the student must request in writing that the student be excused from the physical education requirement. Grade 12 exemptions are permitted for both semesters.
- (3) **GRADE 9-12 Athletic Exemption** - The student is involved in an organized or supervised athletic program which requires at least as much participation time per week as one-eighth unit of physical education. These exemptions are permitted for one or two semesters per year of high school. For grades 9-11, the student’s parent or guardian must request the exemption in writing.

If a student utilizes a physical education exemption and consequently drops the course, or quits participation in the athletic season, the student must enroll in a physical education course.