



Newport-Mesa Unified School District

Impermissible School Fees

California law *does not* allow school districts to collect fees, charges and deposits as follows:

1. A fee charged as a condition for participating in a class or an extracurricular activity, regardless of whether the class or activity is elective or compulsory, or is for credit.
2. A security deposit or other payment to obtain a lock, locker, book, class apparatus, musical instrument, uniform or other material or equipment.
3. A charge or payment to obtain materials, supplies, equipment, workbooks, textbooks or uniforms associated with, or needed to participate in an educational activity.

Clarification:

1. All supplies, materials and equipment needed to participate in educational activities shall be provided to pupils free of charge.
2. A waiver process to excuse some students from paying a fee cannot be used to justify charging an otherwise impermissible fee.
3. School districts and schools shall not establish a two tier educational system by requiring a minimal educational standard and also offering a second, higher educational standard that students may only obtain through payment of a fee or purchase of additional supplies that the school district or a school does not provide.
4. Students may be offered the opportunity to purchase workbooks or other educational materials that are provided on loan at no cost to all students so that by owning the materials they can make notations or alter the materials as they choose.
5. Students may be required to reimburse the school for the cost of materials used to make artifacts or projects that they choose to keep. However, no up-front deposit or payment may be charged for the use of those materials.
6. The school district or a school shall not offer course credit or privileges related to an educational activity in exchange for money or donations of goods or services from a student or student's parents or guardians.
7. A school district or school shall not renew course credit or privileges related to educational activities, or otherwise discriminate against a pupil, because the student or the student's parents or guardians did not or will not provide money or donations of goods or services to the school district or a school.