

**Lower Merion School District**

**ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS**

No.: 151-1  
Section: PROGRAMS  
Title: EXTRACURRICULAR AND CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES  
Date Last Revised: 5/20/24; 9/11/23; 4/17/23; 1/8/16; 11/2/12

**R151-1 ELIGIBILITY FOR EXTRACURRICULAR AND CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

The District values the participation of all students in extracurricular and co-curricular experiences. This commitment is consistent with Chapter 15 of the Pennsylvania School Code and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, which requires the provision of related aids, services, and/or accommodations to ensure that each otherwise qualified student with a disability is afforded an equal opportunity to participate in and obtain benefits from such activities to the maximum extent appropriate to that student’s ability.

To the extent required by Section 502 of the School Code, students who reside in the District but who receive their education in a setting other than a public school may participate in District offerings for which they would be eligible if they attended school in the District, such as vocational schools, technical schools, and other educational departments. In addition, resident students receiving education in settings other than District offerings may be eligible to participate as set forth herein:

1) Students Enrolled in Private Schools

Students enrolled in private schools may not participate in any District extracurricular activities. To the extent required by Section 502 of the School Code, students who reside in the District but who receive their education in a setting other than a public school may participate in co-curricular District offerings for which they would be eligible if they attended school in the District such as vocational schools, technical schools, and other educational departments.

2) Students in Intermediate Unit Placements, Approved Private Schools, Non-Traditional Placements, or Other Alternative Placements

Students in approved private schools, non-traditional placements, or other alternative placements who have been placed in these placements by the District are permitted to participate in the co-curricular and extracurricular activities offered by the District as if the students were attending District schools. Such students may also participate in the District’s educational program or in co-curricular experiences if permitted or required by the student’s Individualized Education Program (IEP).

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3) Students in Charter Schools

Students in charter schools have a right to participate in the District’s co-curricular and extracurricular activities if the charter school does not provide the same co-curricular or extracurricular activity. Charter school students who wish to participate in such activities must meet the same eligibility criteria, or its equivalent, as students enrolled in school, meet the try-out criteria, or its equivalent, and comply with all policies rules and regulations of the governing organization of the activity. For interscholastic athletics, the staff of the athletic office will contact the head of the charter school weekly to determine if the individual student is meeting the academic and attendance eligibility requirements specified in Administrative Regulation 151(B).

While in school or at school activities, charter school students are responsible to meet the guidelines, as established by Board policy, in the student handbook, and/or in classroom/course/activity procedures. They will be subject to the same disciplinary measures, grading, class, and attendance regulations as are required of fully enrolled students.

4) Home Educated Students

Home educated students are permitted to participate in co-curricular and extracurricular District activities. Home educated students who wish to participate in such activities must meet the same eligibility criteria, or its equivalent, as students enrolled in school, meet the try-out criteria, or its equivalent, and comply with all policies rules and regulations of the governing organization of the activity. For interscholastic athletics, the staff of the athletic office will contact the parent weekly to determine if the individual student is meeting the academic eligibility requirements specified in Administrative Regulation 151(B).

While in school or at school activities, home educated students are responsible to meet the guidelines, as established by Board policy, in the student handbook, and/or in classroom/course/activity procedures. They will be subject to the same disciplinary measures, grading, class, and attendance regulations as are required of fully enrolled students.

If the District offers a physical exam or medical test as a condition of participation in the specific extracurricular or co-curricular activity, then the exam or test will be available to home educated students. The dates and times of such physicals or tests shall be made available on the District’s website or a general circulation publication. Additional detail is available in Administrative Regulation 136 (Home Education).

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5) Students on Homebound Instruction

Students on homebound instruction due to a physician’s note may be allowed to participate in the District’s educational program or in any co-curricular or extracurricular activities provided that the participation is not inconsistent with the medical reasons for the absence from school and the student is transitioning back to school.

6) Students in Other Alternative Placements (Residential Treatment Facilities, Partial Hospitalization, Private Residential Rehabilitative Institutions)

These students may participate in educational programs and courses as if they were in private schools to the extent that their medical condition permits them. Unless the District makes the placement, they may not participate in co-curricular or extracurricular activities, unless the placement is of short duration and failure to allow participation could be construed as a violation of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.

**Attachment A** is a chart intended to summarize the contents of this Regulation. To the extent read to conflict with the Regulation, the Regulation itself shall be used for official purposes.

**Cross references:**

LMSD Policy and Administrative Regulation 136 (Home Education)

## ATTACHMENT A

### ELIGIBILITY FOR PARTICIPATION IN SCHOOL-RELATED EXTRACURRICULAR AND CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES ASSUMING STUDENT MEETS STUDENT ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO IN-DISTRICT STUDENTS

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Location of Enrollment	Extracurricular Activities	Educational Program and Co-curricular experiences
1. Private School	No	Yes*
2. Charter School	Yes #	No
3. Home-educated ##	Yes	Yes, subject to certain time limitations.
4. Homebound	Yes, subject to medical limitations **	Yes, subject to medical limitations **
5. Approved Private School or Non-Traditional Placement	Yes	Yes*
6. Alternative Placement (Intermediate Unit, RTF, Partial Hospitalization, PRRI)	Yes, subject to medical limitations ###	Yes, subject to medical limitations ###

\* To the extent required by Section 502 of the School Code, students who reside in the District but who receive their education in a setting other than a public school may participate in District offerings for which they would be eligible if they attended school in the District such as vocational schools, technical schools, and other educational departments.

\*\*Students on homebound instruction due to a physician’s note may be allowed to participate in the District’s educational program or in any co-curricular or extracurricular activities provided that the participation is not inconsistent with the medical reasons for the absence from school and the student is transitioning back to school.

# Students in charter schools have a right to participate in the District’s extracurricular activities if the charter school does not provide the same extracurricular activity. Charter school students who wish to participate in such activities must meet the same eligibility criteria, or its equivalent, as students enrolled in school, meet the try-out criteria, or its equivalent, and comply with all policies, rules and regulations of the governing organization of the activity. These criteria policies, rules and regulations are contained in the student handbook for the applicable school.

## Home-educated students are permitted to participate in District extracurricular activities, as well as academic courses up to the maximum number of hours allowed by law. Where an academic or co-curricular activity requires that a District student take a class for credit, a home-educated student will be given the opportunity to participate in the co-curricular class associated with activity on the same basis as other students enrolled in the District. The District assumes no obligation to transport a home–educated student to or from such a class. Home-educated students who wish to participate in such activities must meet the same eligibility criteria, or its

equivalent, as students enrolled in school, meet the try-out criteria, or its equivalent, and comply with all policies rules and regulations of the governing organization of the activity. These criteria policies, rules and regulations are contained in the student handbook for the applicable school.

### These students may participate in educational programs and courses as if they were in private schools to the extent that their medical condition permits them. Unless the District makes the placement, they may not participate in co-curricular or extracurricular activities, unless the placement is of short duration and failure to allow participation could be construed as a violation of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.