Homeschool and Extracurricular Participation FAQ for Parents

Updated as of April 28, 2026

See Senate Bill 401 from the 2025 89th Texas Legislative Session

1. **Can a homeschool student compete in a UIL Extracurricular competition in Hutto ISD?**
    a. *Yes, starting with the 21-22 school year.*
    b. *In order for a student to be eligible, they would need to begin the school year as a homeschool student and meet the UIL requirements.*

2. **What are the requirements?**
    a. *Students must be in good academic standing, have not been enrolled in any public school or charter school during that academic school year, and comply with all state and local requirements for competing in that sport or competition.*

3. **What are the state requirements?**
    a. State law requires that the student is in good academic standing and is subject to the immunization requirements and exceptions of Section 38.001 in the same manner as other public school students. Furthermore, the student will be subject to the same local policy requirements as other students competing in the same UIL Competition.

4. **What are the local requirements?**
    a. Students in all Extracurricular activities must abide by the Student Code of Conduct, abide by any relevant Handbook for that school activity, and pay any associated fees just as any other students. Students must also attend the corresponding course during the school day for the activity, i.e. band class or volleyball class, and all practices. All students participating in a sport must have a physical on file with the athletic coordinator before practicing. Students are expected to also attend off-season work-outs and practices throughout the entire school year.

5. **What does being in good academic standing mean?**
    a. State law requires that to be eligible to compete in the first six-weeks of a school year, a non-enrolled student must demonstrate grade-level proficiency in the academic core areas of Science, Math, Language Arts, and Social Studies on any nationally recognized, norm-referenced assessment such as the Iowa Test of Basic Skills, Stanford Achievement Test, California Achievement Test, or Comprehensive Test of Basic Skills. ***Hutto ISD does NOT administer these tests.*** *Families will need to contact a third party provider. Hutto ISD is not endorsing any organization, but here are a few options:*
        i. Seton Testing Services

ii. *Homeschool Testing Services*
iii. *Academic Excellence*

Detailed information about ordering an assessment through Seton can be found here. Academic standing documentation should be submitted as part of the registration process.

After the first six weeks, parents will be required to notify the campus in writing every three weeks of the student's grade progress, and every nine weeks as to whether the student has made satisfactory progress in all subjects and is receiving a passing grade. Parents with homeschool students participating in UIL extracurricular activities will be provided a copy of the current school year's grading periods to provide documentation in a timely manner.

6. **Can I choose which school my child will compete at?**
    a. *No. State law requires the student to compete at the school for which they would have established residency if they had fully enrolled in the school district. A student who is not fully enrolled may not transfer to schools within the district and compete for any UIL Team.*

7. **What do I need to do to have my student compete for the Hippos?**
    a. *Contact your child's school to register your child as normal. You will communicate with the registrar your intention to only register for the purpose of competing in a UIL Competition. The school will enroll your child in the corresponding fine arts or athletic class period.*

8. **Can my child continue with their practices and other leagues outside the UIL and school leagues?**
    a. *Students playing in UIL cannot participate in Homeschool Leagues as well. According to UIL rules, students cannot get extra coaching from a private coach during regular school hours. Doing so will result in the student being disqualified from competition and possibly cause the team to forfeit any victories. Just like fully enrolled students, non-enrolled students can receive private athletic lessons after school hours.*

9. **What happens if I decide to unenroll my student and homeschool them during the school year?**
    a. *If a public school student leaves public school and goes to homeschool, they will be ineligible to participate in UIL Competition for the rest of the school year, per state law.*

10. **Is my student eligible for after-school tutoring with other athletes?**
    a. *Home school students are not eligible for the after-school tutoring program, as these sessions are linked to academic courses during the regular school day.*

11. **For questions about specific programs contact the following people:**
    a. **Joseph Rush for Fine Arts joseph.rush@huttoisd.net**
    b. **Travis Clark for FFA, CTE, and Robotics travis.clark@huttoisd.net**
    c. **William Compton for Athletics william.compton@huttoisd.net**

12. **Please see the link to the preparation checklist.**