

Pinellas County Schools Athletic Participation Fees

Frequently Asked Questions

How much is the athletic participation fee?

PCS Students, Charter School Students, Florida Virtual Students, and Home Education Students

- \$50 per sport, per student
- Maximum of \$200 per family per school year

Private School and Personalized Education Program (PEP) Students

- \$400 per sport, per student
- No family maximum

When is a fee assigned?

Fees are assigned only after a student has been added to the school's official athletic roster. Families are not charged for trying out.

How will families know a fee has been assigned?

Schools may notify families when a student is added to a team roster. The athletic fee will also appear in the Parent Focus Student Reservation System. Schools may use district-provided notification templates to communicate fee assignments and reminders.

Are athletic participation fees optional?

No. Athletic participation fees are a required part of participation in Pinellas County Schools athletic programs. Athletic participation fees are not optional or donation-based.

Will a student be denied participation if the family cannot afford to pay?

No. Financial circumstances should never prevent a student from trying out for or participating in athletics. If your family is experiencing financial difficulty, please contact the school administration to discuss the appropriate process and available options.

Why is PCS charging athletic participation fees?

The fees support athletic programs and help expand opportunities for students. Funding will be used to strengthen athletic programs, provide updated equipment, and support additional athletic offerings across the district. Current expansions include middle school soccer and volleyball, high school boys' volleyball, ninth-grade girls' volleyball, and competitive cheer.

How do families pay the fee?

Families pay electronically through their Parent Focus account:

1. Log in to Parent Focus account
2. Select Student Reservation System
3. Select Athletic Fees
4. Choose the fee(s) to be paid
5. Click Checkout
6. Complete payment through the REPAY system

Can coaches waive a fee?

No. Coaches, Athletic Coordinators, and other school staff should not waive fees or tell families that payment is optional. Questions regarding inability to pay should be referred to school administration and handled through the appropriate district process.

Can teams fundraise to help cover athletic participation fees?

No. Athletic teams may not conduct fundraising activities to help offset participation costs. However, teams may request donations to support families that are unable to pay the athletic fee.

What happens if a family does not pay?

Schools will communicate with families using district-approved notification procedures, including reminder communications. Continued nonpayment may result in a hold being placed on the student's account.

What does an athletic fee hold affect?

An account hold may restrict participation in certain school-related activities or services, including:

- Field trips
- Yearbook purchases
- Other activities or purchases requiring a clear student account

What if a parent believes the fee was assigned in error?

The family should contact the school's athletic office. School staff should review the student's athletic roster status and payment history to verify the fee assignment.