



## EMMANUEL CHRISTIAN ACADEMY PHYSICAL EDUCATION WAIVER

In accordance with Ohio Revised Code Section 3313.603, students in grades 9-12 may be excused from the physical education (PE) requirement for graduation by participating in ECA-sponsored interscholastic athletics or cheerleading for at least two seasons. If the physical education requirement is waived, the student will be required to complete one half-unit, consisting of at least 60 hours of instruction, in another course of study.

Should a student become injured or not complete the season for any reason, he/she must find an alternate way to satisfy his/her PE requirement. All rules concerning academic requirements, try-outs, code of conduct, fees, etc. must still be met in order to use the PE waiver.

### PE Waiver Application Process:

- 1. Prior to participating in a full-season of a sport or cheerleading and by the dates listed below, the student should complete and turn in the PE Waiver Application to the Guidance Office. PE Waiver Applications can be obtained in the Guidance Office or downloaded from the Guidance on our website.**
- 2. Student applications will be kept in the Guidance Office until the seasons are completed. Applications will then be verified by the athletic director and given to the Guidance Office for record keeping.**
- 3. The guidance counselor will add the PE Waiver to the student's official transcript.**

**Note: The Ohio Core Graduation Requirements mandate participation for at least two (2) full seasons of an approved activity in order to waive the PE requirement. Participation in only one (1) full season CANNOT be combined with 0.25 credits of PE to meet the PE requirement for graduation.**

The following **due dates** apply for the PE Waiver Application:

Fall Sports - **August 30<sup>th</sup>**  
Winter Sports-**November 30<sup>th</sup>**  
Spring Sports-**March 30<sup>th</sup>**

### **Approved Interscholastic Athletic Teams (as available):**

Baseball  
Cross Country  
Track

Basketball  
Golf  
Volleyball

Bowling  
Soccer

Cheerleading  
Softball

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**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

**What constitutes a “full season” at Emmanuel Christian Academy?** A full season for athletic/cheerleading purposes is defined by the OHSAA as from the first day of practice until the last event or banquet per the athletic handbook.

**For Physical Education (PE) Waiver, will other activities (show choirs, non- school-sponsored athletics, etc.) which involve physical activity on the part of students be counted toward the two semesters of PE?** No. The statute specifically limits the participation to interscholastic athletics, marching band, cheerleading, and JROTC. There is no authority granted to a board of education to include any additional participation.

**A student has participated in marching band and/or sports for two seasons, but has not completed a PE Waiver request by the specified date. Can the student seek to receive credit retroactively?** No.

**Are there any other requirements students must meet beyond the two full seasons of participation in interscholastic athletics or cheerleading?** Yes. Exempted students must also complete one-half unit in another curricular area. This one-half unit in another curricular area maintains the 24 required credits for graduation.

**What if a student is cut or ruled ineligible, quits, or has an athletic/activity code violation during the season?** The statute requires participation “for at least two full seasons.” The season during which a student is cut or ruled ineligible, quits or has an athletic/activity code violation cannot be used to meet the two-season requirement.

**If a student participates in only one full season of an approved activity, can the student be excused from .25 units of PE and thus have to take only .25 units of PE to complete his or her PE requirement under the Ohio Core?** No. The statute requires participation “for at least two full seasons.” There is no provision in the law that would permit any type of a partial waiver.

**What happens if a student is injured during the season?** Injury will not prevent the completion of one season if the coach/ director concedes that the student actively participated in 75% of practices and participated and/or was able to participate in 75% of the contests.

**Can team managers or statisticians complete the waiver?** No. ECA team managers and statisticians are not eligible for the waiver. Only students physically participating in interscholastic athletics and cheerleading are eligible.

**What if a student is “cut” from a team, can he/she join another team that same season and have that count as a season toward the PE Waiver?** Yes. As long as the student is able to join the team within three week days after being cut and amends his/her the PE Waiver Application with a Guidance Counselor in the Guidance Office as soon as the alternate activity is selected.