

ROUND ROCK INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

OFF-CAMPUS PHYSICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM 2010-11 GENERAL INFORMATION

Purpose: A physical education credit substitution program is available to students in grades 9-12. This program is designed for students to earn high school credits for their commitment to an off-campus, physical education program. The student may receive ½ unit of physical education credit per semester for a maximum total of one and a half (1.5) credits earned toward state high school graduation requirements.

Description: A program for students that wish to participate in special and/or accelerated physical education activities that are not offered comprehensively by the district physical education program. The program is a cooperative arrangement between Round Rock ISD, the student, and an approved off-campus agency selected by the student.

Activities: Activity programs that may be considered for the physical education credit are swimming, diving, dancing, rowing, rock climbing, fencing, equestrian, ice hockey, ice skating, gymnastics, cycling, martial arts, weight lifting, lacrosse, art skating, ballet, tennis, synchronized swimming, archery, baseball, boxing, skeet shooting and softball. Other programs may be considered with a formal request to the Program Administrator.

Approved Agency/Instructors: The training facility, instructor and activity must be certified by the superintendent or a designated Program Administrator. Any private or commercially-sponsored agency must provide documentation to the Round Rock ISD Athletic Department that demonstrates exceptional quality, a professionally trained staff, and the use of standards to verify participation of the student.

Criteria: The Texas Education Agency authorizes school districts to award physical education credit for a student participating in appropriate privately or commercially-sponsored physical activity programs if specific guidelines are met. The Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Chapter 74: It is the intention of the Texas Educational Agency that the various off campus substitutes for the high school physical education graduation requirement must be "exceptional" or "high" quality for Category 1 and of "appropriate" quality for Category 2. The substitute activity should be in congruence with the Physical Education Texas Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) as closely as possible, if not above and beyond the rigor of the standards.

Students applying for Off-Campus PE will be considered under the following categories:

Category 1: Athletic Training Program for State, National, or Professional Ranking or Olympic Competition

- **Release time allowed:** Minimum of fifteen (15) hours per week of highly intense, professional, supervised training that includes national or Olympic level competitions. Students qualifying and participating at this level may be dismissed from one (1) class period per day which may be scheduled at the beginning or the end of the school day.
- **No release time:** Minimum of ten (10) hours per week of highly intense, professional, supervised training that includes national or Olympic level competitions. Students qualifying and participating at this level may **NOT** be dismissed from any part of the academic schedule of classes.

Category 2: A Private or Commercially-Sponsored Physical Activity or Training Program.

- **No release time:** Minimum of five (5) hours per week in which participants will attend private or commercially-sponsored physical activities to include those certified by the Program Administrator to be of high quality and well supervised by appropriately trained instructors. Students qualifying and participating at this level may **NOT** be dismissed from any part of the academic schedule of classes.

Procedures:

1. Applications must be submitted **each** school year. Applications are found under Departments/Athletics at: www.roundrockisd.org
2. Completed applications must be returned to the **Athletic Department Office at the RRISD Athletic Complex, 10211 West Parmer Lane, Austin, 78717**, on or before the last day of March for Category 1 and on or before August 11th for the Category 2. Delinquent information or any application received after the due date will result in denial of the request.
3. Applications will be carefully reviewed by the OCPE Program Administrator followed by a confirmation letter that will be mailed to the parent/student with the approval or denial of the application.
4. Counselors will be notified with a list of all approved OCPE students.
5. Students will **not** be allowed an "excused absence" for participation in the scheduled activity competitions.
6. Students may **not** keep their own attendance. Students that abuse the program with irregular attendance will be withdrawn from the course.

Requirements:

1. Submit all documentation from parents, agency/instructors, and counselors by the required deadlines.
2. Meet all criteria for either Category I or Category II and must maintain a serious intent to obtain a high degree of proficiency in an approved activity.
3. Provide transportation for their chosen activity and participate in one agency/instructor at a time. Summer activities will not be counted.
4. Must comply with the no pass/no play regulation.
5. May not receive physical education credit in a given semester from any other physical education class or athletic class on campus.