

HUNTINGTON UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
Department of Health, Physical Education and Athletics
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Information for Parents on the Athletic Placement Process

The New York State Education Department's Athletic Placement Process is a program for screening students to determine their readiness to compete in high school level interscholastic athletic competition by evaluating their physical maturity, fitness and skill.

The intent of the Athletic Placement Process is to provide students in grades 7-12 with a vehicle to participate safely at an appropriate level of competition based upon readiness rather than age and grade. This includes certain middle school students who qualify to participate at a higher level.

The program acknowledges that students do not mature at the same rate and there can be significant developmental differences between students of the same age. The Athletic Placement Process is not to be used to fill positions on teams, provide additional experience, provide an opportunity for middle school students when no modified program is offered or to reward a student. Instead, it is aimed at the few, select students who can benefit from such placement because of their level of readiness.

Huntington Board of Education policy regarding the Athletic Placement Process:

"The district director of athletics must confirm that the student considered for participation possess "exceptional athletic ability" and is likely to play in at least 75 percent of scheduled contests; the student's academic performance is at or above average; the student is emotionally and socially ready to participate and socialize with high school-aged students; and the student will meaningfully participate in the high school athletic program."

"For purposes of this policy, 'exceptional athletic ability' refers to an athlete that has exceedingly superior athletic skill; well above age level, where the athlete will not have anyone of comparable skill to participate with or against on the modified level. Seventh and eighth graders who have obtained parental consent and been approved by the district director of athletics will undergo medical clearance by the district's chief medical officer, a sport skill evaluation and physical fitness testing. Only students who pass all parts of the APP are permitted to try out."

Students in the 7th grade shall only be evaluated through the APP for the following non-contact sports: badminton, bowling, cross country, gymnastics, fencing, golf, swimming & diving, tennis, and winter/spring track & field; **and for the following contact sport:** wrestling.

Students in the 8th grade shall only be evaluated through the APP for all non-contact sports: badminton, bowling, cross-country, fencing, flag football, golf, gymnastics, swimming and diving, tennis and winter/spring track & field, and Unified bowling; **and contact sports:** baseball, basketball, field hockey, football, lacrosse, soccer, softball, Unified basketball, volleyball and wrestling.

Advanced Placement Process Deadlines for the 2025/26 school year:

- All Fall requests due by June 15
- All Winter requests due by Oct 15
- All Spring requests due by February 15

Please be mindful that the Athletic Placement Process provides opportunities for athletes to participate at the JV or varsity level based on their level of readiness. The program is intended for extremely talented and gifted athletes. The selection of such athletes affects not only the individual athlete but also other athletes. High school athletes may be cut from a team or have their playing time reduced to make room for middle school athletes. Therefore, the annual impact of the Athletic Placement Process has long-term consequences.

It is important that Athletic Placement Process candidates and their parents understand their responsibility and commitment when considering this privilege of participating in this program. Huntington UFSD will only keep a student on a JV or varsity team if it appears that the athlete will get a substantial amount of playing time. If this athlete is displacing one or more high school students who are being cut, this athlete must clearly have superior potential to any athlete they are displacing.

APP Process Steps

Students must pass each stage of the APP before proceeding to the next stage and pass all stages in order to meet the requirements of the APP.

All students must be recommended by a Huntington UFSD coaching staff member to start this process.

Step 1 Parent Permission

In order for your child to be eligible to participate in the sport selected outside of his or her normal grade level, we must have your written permission to begin the APP.

Step 2 Administrative Approval

The athletic office will confirm with the middle school administration that the student is suitable for consideration. Because of the increased time demands of participation at the high school level, the student's academic performance will be reviewed to determine the student's social and emotional readiness. This will include a grade report, attendance report, discipline report and/or any recommendation or feedback from middle school administration and counselors.

Step 3 Medical Approval

The district director of athletics will forward your child's most recent physical exam report to the school district medical director for approval. The student is assessed by the medical director to determine whether he/she has reached a stage of physical development that will lessen the likelihood of the student being injured by participating in the level and sport desired. If a student has attained an appropriate level of physical maturity, and has a height and weight that are

comparable to those of the proposed team members as determined by the medical director, the medical director approves the student to proceed to the next step in the process. If the student is not approved by the medical director to proceed the process stops.

Step 4 Physical Fitness Testing

Completion of the required physical fitness test. The student's physical fitness must meet or exceed the requirements set forth in the State Education Department's APP guidelines.

- Fall Fitness Tests will be in June if possible
- Winter Fitness Tests will be in October
- Spring Fitness Tests will be in February

ATHLETIC PLACEMENT PROCESS

PHYSICAL MATURITY CHART

Recommended Tanner Scores for the Athletic Placement Process

Approved Sports	MALES			FEMALES		
	Freshman	JV	Varsity	Freshman	JV	Varsity
Archery *	2	2	2	2	2	2
Badminton *	2	2	2	2	2	2
Baseball +	2	3	3	3	4	4
Basketball !	2	3	4	3	4	5
Bowling *	2	2	2	2	2	2
Competitive Cheerleading!	2	3	4	3	4	5
Cross-Country *	2	3	3	3	4	4
Fencing +	2	2	2	2	2	2
Field Hockey!	2	3	4	3	4	5
Football !	2	3	4	3	4	5
Golf *	2	2	2	2	2	2
Gymnastics !	2	3	3	3	4	4
Ice Hockey !	2	3	4	3	4	5
Lacrosse !	2	3	4	3	4	5
Rifle *	2	2	2	2	2	2
Skiing (Downhill) !	2	3	4	3	4	5
Soccer !	2	3	4	3	4	5
Softball +	2	3	3	3	4	4
Swim*/Diving!	2	3	3	3	4	4
Tennis *	2	3	3	3	4	4
Track & Field*	2	3	3	3	4	4
Volleyball +	2	3	3	3	4	4
Wrestling !	2	3	4	3	4	5

Classification of Sports According to Contact (AAP)

*= Non Contact
 +=Limited Contact
 != Contact

ATHLETIC PLACEMENT PROCESS

Physical Fitness: Scores Required for the Athletic Placement Process

SEX	AGE	Curl-Ups # in one minute	Shuttle Run in seconds	Choose one ¹		1 Mile- Walk/Run min/sec*	Choose one ²	
				V-sit Reach in inches	Sit & Reach in centimeters		Pull-Ups # completed	Right Angle Push-ups # every 3 sec.
Males	11	47	10.0	4.0	31	7:32	6	26
	12	50	9.8	4.0	31	7:11	7	30
	13	53	9.5	3.5	31	6:50	7	35
	14	56	9.1	4.5	33	6:26	10	37
	15	57	9.0	5.0	36	6:20	11	40
Females	11	42	10.5	6.5	34	9:02	3	19
	12	45	10.4	7.0	36	8:23	2	20
	13	46	10.2	7.0	38	8:13	2	21
	14	47	10.1	8.0	40	7:59	2	20
	15	48	10.0	8.0	43	8:08	2	20

*For swimming, see next page for alternative 500 yard swim scores.

¹ Upper body strength can be measured by performing pull-ups, or right angle push-ups.

² Flexibility can be measured by performing the V-sit Reach or the Sit and Reach