



FRISCO ISD

CHEERLEADING CODE OF CONDUCT

STUDENT SERVICES 2026-2027

The Mission of Frisco ISD:

"Our mission is to know every student by name and need."

Student Services Department Core Values:

Students Come First

Frisco ISD Extracurricular Code of Conduct for Middle and High Schools: Cheerleading & Mascots

Purpose and Vision

Frisco ISD cheerleaders and mascots are leaders chosen to represent the campus, district, and community in the promotion of team spirit, development of strong character and sportsmanship, and reinforcement of respect and positive relations within our community. The students involved in these extracurricular activities consistently demonstrate tenacity, teamwork, and commitment. In addition, they continually develop responsibility, pride, loyalty, leadership, service, self-discipline, and self-confidence. As leaders, students are encouraged to achieve personal goals regarding their athletic abilities and their social and emotional development.

Philosophy of Participation and Jurisdiction

The term “extracurricular activities” means, without limitation, all cheerleading and mascot performances and contests, competitions, or community events in which the district is represented. Membership includes any non-curricular event, and participation in groups, clubs, and organizations. Membership is recognized and approved by the Board of Trustees and the school district as well as sponsored by the district or a campus. All extracurricular activity participants, including elected and appointed officers of all campus organizations, are subject to the provisions of this document.

Student participation in these and other extracurricular activities is encouraged. Frisco ISD makes extracurricular activities available as an extension of the regular school program. Participation in the regular curriculum is a right afforded to each student, while participation in the extracurricular program is a privilege that carries additional expectations for acceptable conduct. While students engage in, perform, compete, or participate in extracurricular activities, they represent themselves, their student body, and the school district whether in or out of uniform.

Since participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege and not a right, Frisco ISD is authorized to set higher standards for these participants than it would for those students who choose not to participate in these activities. Therefore, this Extracurricular Code of Conduct extends beyond the Frisco ISD Student Code of Conduct not only in types of behavior prohibited but also in corresponding consequences and jurisdiction for imposing discipline. This Extracurricular Code of Conduct will be enforced with all students grades 6-12 participating in the Cheerleading/Mascot organization regardless of:

- whether school is in session;
- whether the offense occurs on or off school property or at a school-related event;

- whether the student is directly involved with the extracurricular activity at the time the prohibited conduct occurs;
- whether the extracurricular activity is in-season;
- and where or when the conduct occurs.

A student who violates the Frisco ISD Student Code of Conduct may incur consequences from both the appropriate school administrator and from his or her coach for the same particular violation. It is also possible that a student participant in extracurricular activities could violate the Extracurricular Code of Conduct and be subject to discipline by a coach without having violated the Frisco ISD Student Code of Conduct.

Conduct Expectations

The following conduct is expected of all participants at all times during his/her school career. The organization coach will assign consequences for any violation of expectations as outlined below. Consequences will be in accordance with this Extracurricular Code of Conduct and/or the Frisco ISD Student Code of Conduct.

1. Student commitment to a team or organization is expected for the entirety of the season or activity, as determined by the campus administration and organization coach. Students are encouraged to participate in more than one extracurricular activity; however, students may not quit one sport or program in order to participate in another while the activity he or she quits is still active.
2. Organization members are expected to behave in a manner that is becoming of the individual, as well as to the organization they represent. They should be aware that in or out of uniform they are representatives of the organization and the campus they attend and should act accordingly in maintaining a higher standard of conduct. Organization members will abide by school codes of conduct both in and out of uniform, both at and away from school. Any question of appropriateness will be decided by the designated campus official and coach.
3. During performances, organization members will stay with the team at all times unless given direct permission by the coach.
4. Cheerleaders may not be on the field, gym floor, or designated practice space without having the coach present.
5. Organization members will demonstrate good sportsmanship at all times. This includes behavior toward visiting or hosting teams as well as the opponent's fans. Frisco ISD participants will be noted for clean yet tough competition. Praise your opponents while competing beyond your ability.
6. Organization members will be courteous and respectful to their teammates, coaches, teachers, classmates, and all school/district administrators at all times.
7. Organization members will refrain from public displays of affection while in or out of uniform.

8. Organization members are expected to maintain appropriate behavior on social media. Any online behavior that causes interference with a student's educational opportunities or that does or could reasonably substantially disrupt the orderly operation of a classroom, school, or school-sponsored or school-related activity will result in disciplinary action.
9. At no time should organization members be in possession of or use tobacco or similar products of any kind (including vaping and e-cigarettes).
10. At no time should organization members be in possession of or consume alcoholic beverages.
11. At no time should organization members be in possession of or use abusive or illegal drugs (including but not limited to marijuana, narcotics, drug paraphernalia, etc.).
12. Students should arrive to practices (including workouts), meetings, and events on time and prepared, and are required to stay for the duration of the event.
13. Students should follow the rules promulgated in the Frisco ISD Student Code of Conduct. Failure to do so may result in disciplinary measures related to the student's participation in extracurricular activities as determined by the coach and campus principal or designee.

FISD Extracurricular Code of Conduct Disciplinary Policies

The following policies apply to all extracurricular activities at all FISD schools.

1. The possession or use of alcohol or controlled substances is prohibited. The following penalties will be enforced.

Step 1 (1st offense)

The student will be suspended from participation in cheerleading performances for the next two calendar weeks in which the student would otherwise participate. The suspension will be carried over from one season/school year to the next if there are not two calendar weeks in which remaining performances occur at the end of the current season/school year.

Step 2 (2nd and subsequent offenses)

The student will be suspended from participation in cheerleading performances for the next five calendar weeks in which the student would otherwise participate. The suspension will be carried over from one season/school year to the next if there are not five calendar weeks in which remaining performances occur at the end of the current season/school year.

Step 3 (3rd subsequent offense)

The student will be suspended from participating in all cheerleading activities at Frisco ISD for one calendar year from the date school officials notify the student and parent of the infraction. *If the student wishes to return to cheerleading performances upon the completion of their suspension, then the student, parent/guardian, and coach may collectively determine if the student should remain in the cheerleading program during the one-year suspension and/or if the student should be allowed to participate in the try out process.*

Each infraction carries over from year to year while the cheerleader is in middle school. Infractions begin at zero upon the student's enrollment as a freshman in any Frisco ISD high school and will carry over from year to year during their high school enrollment. Cheer coaches in conjunction with FISD administrative staff, will investigate all reported violations in accordance with campus guidelines and training. Any infraction or combination of the illegal use or possession of alcohol and/or controlled substances will result in the same consequences, whether it is a first, second, or third offense. Cheerleaders who are also student-athletes and subject to random drug/alcohol testing and who test positive for

drugs/alcohol will be suspended from cheerleading according to the appropriate step and number of previous offenses and in accordance with the Frisco ISD Athletics Handbook.

2. If a student commits a serious criminal act, it reflects negatively on all extracurricular activity participants.

The following consequence, in addition to any other school disciplinary action, will be enforced in the event school personnel have reasonable suspicion to believe a student has been involved in the commission of a felony offense, as defined by the Texas Penal Code or by Federal law.

The student will be removed from participation in all extracurricular activities for one calendar year from the date school officials first become aware of the offense.

3. Activity sponsors or coaches are permitted to assign reasonable consequences in the event a member of their activity group violates any part of the FISD Student Code of Conduct or any assigned Campus Behavior Management Plan.

Middle School Cheerleading Guidelines

Basic Purpose for the Cheerleading Program

The following guidelines have been provided as a guide for the qualifications and duties of the Frisco Middle School Cheerleaders. These qualifications must be met to maintain a successful and orderly organization. The basic purpose of the middle school cheerleader program is to:

- Promote spirit and cooperation among faculty, students, and parents
- Promote healthy, sportsmanlike conduct to develop character, leadership, and commitment in each member
- Be goodwill ambassadors between Fisd and the city of Frisco
- Agree to promote good relationships with rival schools and to cheer at the following events:
 - All in-town football games
 - Any other Fisd sporting event or Frisco-related event when requested, appropriate, and approved by the campus principal

Size of Squad

Frisco Middle School cheerleading squads will consist of 24 members, divided into a 7th-grade team and an 8th-grade team of twelve members each.

Requirements for Tryouts

1. Candidates must be enrolled in the 6th or 7th grade and meet one of the following criteria:
 - Provide proof of residence within the attendance zone of the school *and/or* be currently enrolled in the school at which the student wishes to try out.
 - Have and present a signed contract/lease on a home in the respective zone for the high school at which the student wishes to try out.
 - Provide proof of an approved employee or intradistrict transfer to the middle school for which the student wishes to try out.
 - Provide documentation of an approved Access Frisco registration and provide an assigned Fisd student ID number.
2. A candidate's parent(s) or guardian must attend the mandatory parent meeting. In the event of extenuating circumstances, a parent or guardian must contact the cheer coach as soon as he or she is aware of the circumstances, and prior to the tryout meeting in order to make an alternative plan for obtaining the tryout information. A student will not be eligible to try out for cheerleader until their parent has attended the meeting. Access Frisco students who are still awaiting approval at the time of the tryout meeting are responsible for contacting the cheer coach to arrange an alternate method for receiving the meeting information.

3. All required documents, including, but not limited to a medical release, concussion paperwork, and any additional required documentation, must be completed and submitted by the stated deadline for the candidate to participate in tryouts. The deadline will be communicated at the tryout meeting.
4. Students must have acceptable disciplinary records for the current year. Students who have been assigned to either ISS, OSS, or DAEP must have permission from the principal to participate in middle school tryouts. The principal will take into consideration:
 - the circumstances of the disciplinary assignment
 - the student's past disciplinary history
 - the satisfactory completion of the assigned consequence before the tryout.
 - If a student has more than three days of ISS, OSS, or DAEP assignments they may be allowed to try out under a probationary status if granted approval by the coach and the campus administration.
5. Students in DAEP at the time of tryouts are not eligible to try out.
6. Students assigned to the JJAEP during the school year are not eligible to try out.
7. Students must not have been absent (without making up those hours) for more than 10% of school days in a school year.
8. The candidate must not have been academically ineligible for more than one nine-week grading period during the application school year.
9. The current year principal, along with the cheer coach, will make the determination of eligibility to try out
10. Participation Physicals: When selected for the team – students must turn in a pre-participation physical prior to the start of camp and the physical form must be signed by a physician and dated **after May 1st of the current year**. An up-to-date, recent athletic physical for another activity may be used for this requirement. This must be on file with the program director prior to the first official practice of the organization as determined by the local campus.
11. The student code of conduct for extracurricular activity involvement will be in effect.

Selection Process

1. FISD Middle School Cheerleaders will be selected with 100% of their scores coming from qualified judges.
2. Tryouts will be held in the spring.
3. There will be no carry-over cheerleaders from one school year to the next. Former, as well as new candidates for cheerleader must try out each year.
4. A pre-tryout clinic will be held in conjunction with tryouts as determined by the cheer coach and campus administration.
5. Candidates are expected to attend tryout clinics to learn the tryout material. Failure to participate in the clinics could severely hamper the candidate's ability to learn the

material used for judging at the tryouts and therefore could impact their ability to make the squad.

6. The tryout material may include a cheer, chant, dance, and series of jumps as determined by the coach.
7. The order for tryouts will be determined by the coach.
8. Tryouts are closed to the public.
9. Candidates will try out in a plain white shirt and plain black or dark-colored shorts. (No writing will be permitted on shorts or shirts.)
10. Socks and tennis/court shoes will be required.
11. Tryout clothing must be school-appropriate.
12. Candidates may not wear any items that would distinguish them as a current school or competitive cheerleader, including but not limited to, tags, ribbons, or bands on their shoes, bows or ribbons that have writing on them, shirts or shorts that have any writing on them that relates to cheer.
13. Tryouts may be video recorded if the student is unavailable to try out during the specified time because of a school-sponsored or University Interscholastic League-sponsored event or if they are medically unable to try out with approval from the coach and campus administration. (Doctor's documentation will be required.) Campus administration and coaching staff will determine and communicate what restrictions and/or requirements must be met for video submissions. Video submissions must be provided to the coach prior to the student's designated tryout time so that the video can be assessed by judges who are on site for tryouts.
14. Each tryout will be evaluated by a panel of four qualified judges. The lowest judge's score will be dropped, and the average of the remaining three scores will be used. Each judge may award up to 100 points, for a maximum possible score of 300 points.
15. Tryout results will be posted by tryout number on the date and time communicated by the campus.
16. The judges' subjective and objective opinions regarding the adjudication process are final and are not appealable or grounds for the Fisd formal grievance process. The tryout results, once reviewed and certified as accurate by the campus administration, are final and not appealable or grounds for the Fisd formal grievance process.
17. If a parent wishes to view their student's individual tryout scores, they may contact the home campus administrator and may request a copy of their students' scores within five days of the tryout results. Parents are allowed to view their student's scores only. Parents are not allowed to view any other student's scores or the tally sheets.
18. Cheerleaders who move before summer camp may be replaced with the candidate with the next highest score. Decisions will be rendered by the campus administrator and cheerleading coach.
19. Tryout candidates may only participate in one Fisd cheer tryout per school year.

20. Cheerleaders who transfer to another FISD campus will forfeit their position on their current cheer team and will not be added to the team at their new campus.
21. Decisions to have captains/co-captains and all requisite selection processes and procedures will be determined by the cheerleading coaching staff and campus administration.

Expenses

1. The district will provide a uniform for each middle school cheerleader. The uniforms shall be returned to the school in good condition at the end of the school year. The cost of damages and/or lost uniforms are the responsibility of the cheerleader.
2. No alterations to the uniform will be allowed without coach approval. No cutting away of fabric will be allowed. Expenses incurred from approved alterations are the responsibility of the cheerleader.
3. The cost of summer camp shall be the responsibility of the cheerleader. Summer camp attendance is expected. Cheerleading families experiencing financial concerns are encouraged to speak with their cheerleading coach or campus administrator for assistance.
4. Additional clothing and supplies shall cost parents no more than \$400. The consumable clothing and supply list will be developed by the middle school coaches and will be approved by the campus principal. Items purchased will reflect school colors, mascot, and name.
5. Candidates and their families must agree to, be fully aware of, and meet the financial responsibilities of being a cheerleader throughout the year.
6. If a cheerleader is dismissed from the team or resigns, they will be held financially responsible for any and all items already ordered. No refunds will be made.

Summer Camp

1. All cheerleaders are expected to attend an instructional summer camp with their team to learn essential cheers, chants, dances, and stunts for the upcoming season. All material will be taught by instructors from an approved cheer organization.
2. The camp will be held at an FISD facility and camp dates will be communicated at the mandatory tryout meeting.
3. In order to maintain the safety and performance standards of the squad, any cheerleader granted an exception to miss camp must attend a mandatory one-day skills and safety training before participating in any cheer activities. Additionally, the cheerleader will not be eligible to participate in cheer performances until they demonstrate mastery of the material covered during the summer camp. Mastery will be assessed at the discretion of the cheer coach.
4. Camp is paid for by the cheerleader.

5. All necessary camp paperwork must be turned in and registration fees paid by the specified deadlines for students to participate.

Eligibility

1. To have the privilege of performing at any school event, cheerleaders must meet UIL academic requirements for eligibility for each grading period.
2. Cheerleaders who lose academic eligibility are expected to attend all practices as required by the coach.
3. During periods of ineligibility, cheerleaders are prohibited from wearing their uniform and are not permitted to travel with or be on the sidelines with the cheer team.
4. Cheerleaders who do not regain eligibility after the next grading period may be removed from the squad and may be ineligible to try out the following school year.

Attendance Requirements

1. Cheerleaders on all teams are expected to attend an FISD instructional summer camp.
2. Cheerleaders will attend all scheduled practices, school games, pep rallies, and other scheduled events or activities as notified by their coach(es). 3 UNEXCUSED absences from one or a combination of the aforementioned activities may result in immediate removal from the team. A written note is required for every absence. A cheerleader may be benched for one performance per unexcused absence.
3. All school practices and games will take priority over club or non-UIL competitive team practices and games. An effort will be made to work with an athlete involved in club or competitive cheer squads.
4. Members must attend school for a ½ day to maintain eligibility for participation in that day's organizational activity.
5. For an absence to be considered approved, it must be presented to and cleared by the cheerleading coach before the event takes place. Extenuating circumstances or emergencies, such as a death in the family, do not require 24 hours' notice or approval from a coach to be excused; however, written documentation shall be submitted to the coach within three days of the student's return to school following the absence for documentation purposes. Written notes MUST be provided for all absences.
 - *Absences related to UIL game conflicts and school-related meetings require written notice 5 days in advance to prevent the absence from being unexcused.*
6. If a cheerleader has an undocumented and/or unexcused absence during the last practice before a performance, they may be asked to sit out of that game/performance, as determined by the coach and administration.

Examples of Excused Absences: *Illness (documentation required based on expectations of the coach and campus administration), death in the family, religious holidays, University Interscholastic League game/match/performance, or school-related meetings. Absences*

related to UIL game conflicts and school-related meetings require written notice 5 days in advance to prevent the absence from being unexcused.

Please note that extensive medical-related absences could result in required physician documentation for continued participation if deemed appropriate by the coach and campus administration.

Examples of Unexcused Absences: Work, vacation, appointments, non-University Interscholastic League involvement, non-University Interscholastic League meetings, competitive cheer practices or competitions, etc.

Other Expectations

1. Uniforms and Appearance Expectations

- All cheerleaders will have a uniform provided by the school district. Replacement costs, damage costs, or excess wear and tear costs will be the financial responsibility of the cheerleader.
- The length and style of the uniform will be selected and approved by the principal and district Student Services office.
- Each cheerleader is expected to follow the instructions of the coach regarding dress for games and practices.
- The uniform is only to be worn in conjunction with cheer coach approved school events where the entire squad is present.
 - i. *Cheerleaders will not wear uniforms to a non-cheerleader function.*
 - ii. *Cheerleaders will not lend out uniforms to someone who is not a cheerleader without prior approval from the coach.*
- Uniforms may NOT be altered without coach approval. If this occurs, the cheerleader will pay for the uniform. If alterations are approved by the coach, no cutting away of fabric is allowed. All alterations must be removed prior to returning the uniform.
- Uniforms will be turned in by the scheduled due date. Cheerleaders could be fined and placed on the hold list until cleared.
- Cheerleaders are responsible for damage to or loss of any part of a uniform. Cheerleaders will be responsible for the replacement of the uniform or repair costs.
- Uniforms must be turned in clean and in the same condition as when it was assigned to the cheerleader. Coaches may collect a cleaning fee or have the cheerleader/parent have the uniform professionally cleaned. The specific process will be determined by each campus.
- Cheerleaders will pay for personal uniform pieces (shoes, bloomers, bows, ribbons, poms, etc) and practice attire not to exceed \$400.00. Cheerleading coaches will provide a list of items required along with their total costs at the

mandatory parent meeting scheduled before tryouts. This price does not include any optional pieces the cheerleader chooses to purchase. All uniform fees will be paid for by the date designated by the campus coach or the cheerleader may be removed from the squad.

- Hair will be worn securely out of the face at all times. Everyone will wear some type of ribbon in her hair to complete the look of the uniform and provide unity in appearance.
- No jewelry will be worn during practices, performances, or pictures.
- Fingernails, including artificial nails, must be kept short and extend no further than the end of the fingertip. Each campus coach will determine whether nail polish may be worn and, if permitted, what colors are acceptable.

2. Practices/Games/Performances

- Cheerleaders must be on time for all scheduled cheerleading practices.
- Cheerleaders will not arrive late to a practice or leave early from practice without prior written or verbal permission from their coach.
- Prior to missing any practice, cheerleaders will be required to provide a method of parental notification, which will be determined by the individual coach.
- Cheerleaders cannot miss the last practice before any performance without prior approval from the coach. A cheerleader who misses the last practice may be removed from that performance.
- A cheerleader is expected to attend all designated practices (including summer practices) and will be benched one game per unexcused absence. When benched, the cheerleader will sit with a coach, in uniform, during the game.
- Cheerleaders may be tested prior to performances to ensure they know the required performance materials. Those who do not meet requirements may lose the privilege to participate in the performance.
- Please remember that pregame and halftime are not times to visit.
- Cheerleaders are expected to watch the game/event and/or cheer at all times.
- No cheerleader is allowed to sit in the stands or leave the squad without permission of the coach. This includes halftime.
- If a cheerleader is sitting out of a game for discipline reasons, they are to sit with the coach only. They will not be allowed to sit with friends or parents.
- Schedules will be distributed in advance of all activities and each cheerleader will be aware of any cheerleading obligations. Therefore, there is no excuse for not turning in school assignments the day of or the day after a game.

3. Fundraising

- All fundraisers, including high school booster fundraising, will fall under the guidelines as outlined by Frisco ISD and will benefit all members of the squad. In all situations, fundraising activities must be approved by the campus administration and fall under requirements as outlined by the district for the current school year.

High School Cheerleading and Mascot Guidelines

Basic Purpose for the Cheerleading Program

Frisco Independent School District Cheerleaders are first and foremost representatives of their school and community. They must exemplify behavior suitable to their position of leadership. The guidelines of this cheerleading document outline details of behavior, responsibilities, uniform information, and tryout procedures. This document is designed to inform administration, faculty, students, and parents of important details specific to the FISD Cheer program.

The Frisco ISD High School Cheerleaders will be divided into three squads: Varsity (as varsity sports are added), with a maximum of sixteen cheerleaders and up to two mascots; Junior Varsity, with a maximum of twelve cheerleaders; Freshmen, with a maximum of twelve cheerleaders. Their purpose will be fourfold:

- to promote spirit and cooperation among faculty, students, and parents
- to promote healthy, sportsmanlike conduct
- to develop character, leadership, and commitment in each member
- to be Good Will Ambassadors between FISD and the city of Frisco

Additionally, each cheerleader agrees to promote good relationships with rival schools and to cheer at the following events:

- all football games (out of town for Freshman and JV determined by campus administration)
- all other sporting events as assigned
- all playoff games as assigned
- all community events (*i.e. parades, etc.*) as assigned
- UIL State Spirit Contest (the selection process and who will represent the campus in the State UIL Spirit Contest will be determined by the campus coach in coordination with campus administration)

General Requirements

1. Any cheerleader who makes the team is required to enroll in the following year's high school cheerleading course on campus.
2. All students selected to participate on the cheerleading team, regardless of enrollment program, are required to be enrolled in and attend the designated cheer class period. In addition, they must fulfill all cheerleader responsibilities, including but not limited to participation in pep rallies, state send-offs, practices, competitions, community service events, and the community parade. Some required activities will occur during the school day, and students are responsible for arranging their own transportation to these events.

3. Candidates and their families must agree to be fully aware of and meet the financial responsibilities of being a cheerleader and meet all financial obligations throughout the year. Please note that financial obligations can change throughout the year, but will be communicated well in advance by coaches and campus administration. Fees will include, but may not be limited to, the cost of summer cheerleading camp as well as personal uniform pieces.
4. Each candidate must try out each year, regardless of whether or not he/she has previously been a cheerleader.
5. All financial obligations to any Frisco I.S.D. affiliated program must be cleared prior to the beginning of the tryout process.

Requirements for Tryouts

1. Candidates must be enrolled in the 8th, 9th, 10th, or 11th grade and meet one of the following criteria:
 - Provide proof of residence within the attendance zone of the school *and/or* be currently enrolled in the school at which the student wishes to try out.
 - Have and present a signed contract/lease on a home in the respective zone for the high school at which the student wishes to try out.
 - Provide proof of an approved employee or intradistrict transfer to the high school for which the student wishes to try out.
 - Provide documentation of an approved Access Frisco registration at the high school for which the student wishes to try out and provide an assigned FISD student ID number.
 - Provide documentation of an approved FISD Flex Hybrid approval along with the assigned student ID number.
2. A candidate's parent(s) or guardian must attend the mandatory parent meeting. In the event of extenuating circumstances, a parent or guardian must contact the cheer coach as soon as he or she is aware of the circumstances and prior to the tryout meeting in order to make an alternative plan for obtaining the tryout information. A student will not be eligible to try out for cheerleader until their parent has attended the meeting. Access Frisco students who are still awaiting approval at the time of the tryout meeting are responsible for contacting the cheer coach to arrange an alternate method for receiving the meeting information.
3. All required documents (including, but not limited to a medical release, concussion paperwork, and any additional required documentation) must be completed and submitted by the stated deadline for the candidate to participate in tryouts. The deadline will be communicated at the tryout meeting.
4. Students must have acceptable disciplinary records for the current school year. Students who have been assigned to ISS, OSS, or DAEP must have permission from the principal to participate in tryouts. The principal will take into consideration:

- the circumstances of the disciplinary assignment
 - the student's past disciplinary history
 - the satisfactory completion of the assigned consequence prior to the tryout.
 - If a student has more than three days of ISS, OSS, or Alternative School assignments they may be allowed to try out under a probationary status if approved by the coach and campus administration.
5. Students in DAEP at the time of tryouts are not eligible to try out.
 6. Students assigned to the JJAEP during the school year are not eligible to try out.
 7. The candidate must not have been academically ineligible for more than one nine-week grading period during the application school year.
 8. After the first semester of the school year, students must have the following number of credits to try out:
 - Incoming 9th Grade: *on track to pass 8th grade and verified by both the outgoing and incoming principals*
 - Current 9th Grade: 2.5 credits
 - Current 10th Grade: 7.5 credits
 - Current 11th Grade: 12.5 credits
 9. Students must not have been absent (without making up those hours) for more than 10% of school days in a school year.
 10. The current year principal, in conference with the attending principal or designee and cheer coach, will make the determination of eligibility to try out (for example: current 8th grade students' eligibility will be determined by their middle school principal, the local high school principal or administrative designee, and cheer coach).
 11. The student code of conduct for extracurricular activity involvement will be in effect.
 12. Participation Physicals: When selected for the team – students must turn in a pre-participation physical prior to the start of camp and the physical form must be signed by a physician and dated **after May 1st of the current year**. An up-to-date, recent athletic physical for another activity may be used for this requirement. This must be on file with the program director prior to the first official practice of the organization as determined by the local campus.

Selection Process

1. Varsity, Junior Varsity, and Freshman Cheerleaders will be selected with 100% of their scores coming from qualified judges.
2. Tryouts will be held in the spring.
3. There will be no carry-over cheerleaders from one school year to the next. Former, as well as new candidates for cheerleader must try out each year.
4. Rising Freshmen are only eligible to make the Freshman Squad.
5. Rising Sophomores are only eligible to make the JV Squad.
6. Rising Juniors and Seniors are eligible to make either the Varsity or JV squad.

7. Any junior or senior who, after the tryout process, does not score in the top 16 scores for the Varsity squad but qualifies for the JV squad will be placed on the JV squad. Candidates can opt out of consideration for the JV squad by choosing that option in the tryout packet. By choosing to opt out, the candidate understands they may not have a spot on the team for the upcoming school year if they do not make the Varsity squad.
8. A pre-tryout clinic will be held in conjunction with tryouts as determined by the cheer coach and campus administration.
9. Candidates are expected to attend tryout clinics to learn the tryout material. Failure to participate in the clinics will/could severely hamper the candidate's ability to learn the material used for judging at the tryouts and therefore will/could impact their ability to make the squad.
10. The tryout material may include a cheer, chant, dance, and a series of jumps, as determined by the coach.
11. The order for tryouts will be determined by the coach.
12. Tryouts are closed to the public.
13. Candidates will try out in a plain white shirt and plain black or dark-colored shorts. (No writing will be permitted on shorts or shirts.)
14. Socks and tennis/court shoes will be required.
15. Tryout clothing must be school-appropriate.
16. Candidates may not wear any items that would distinguish them as a current school or competitive cheerleader, including but not limited to, tags, ribbons, or bands on their shoes, bows or ribbons that have writing on them, shirts or shorts that have any writing on them that relates to cheer.
17. Tryouts may be video recorded if the student is unavailable to try out during the specified time because of a school-sponsored or University Interscholastic League-sponsored event or if they are medically unable to try out with approval from the coach and campus administration. (Doctor's documentation will be required.) Campus administration and coaching staff will determine and communicate what restrictions and/or requirements must be met for video submissions. Video submissions must be provided to the coach prior to the student's designated tryout time so that the video can be assessed by judges who are on site for tryouts.
18. Each tryout will be evaluated by a panel of four qualified judges. The lowest judge's score will be dropped, and the average of the remaining three scores will be used. Each judge may award up to 100 points, for a maximum possible score of 300 points.
19. Tryout results will be posted by tryout number on the date and time communicated by the campus.
20. The judges' subjective and objective opinions regarding the adjudication process are final and are not appealable or grounds for the FISD formal grievance process. The tryout results, once reviewed and certified as accurate by the campus administration, are final and not appealable or grounds for the FISD formal grievance process.

21. If a parent wishes to view their student's individual tryout scores, they may contact the home campus administrator and may request a copy of their students' scores within five days of the tryout results. Parents are allowed to view their student's scores only. Parents are not allowed to view any other student's scores, or the tally sheets.
22. Cheerleaders who move before summer camp may be replaced with the candidate with the next highest score. Decisions will be rendered by the campus administrator and cheerleading coach.
23. Tryout candidates may only participate in one FISD cheer tryout per school year.
24. Cheerleaders who transfer to another FISD campus will forfeit their position on their current cheer team and will not be added to the team at their new campus.

Expenses

1. The district will provide a uniform(s) for each high school cheerleader. The uniforms shall be returned to the school in good condition at the end of the school year. The cost of damages and/or lost uniforms are the responsibility of the cheerleader.
2. No alterations to the uniform will be allowed without coach approval. No cutting away of fabric will be allowed. Expenses incurred from approved alterations are the responsibility of the cheerleader.
3. The cost of summer camp shall be the responsibility of the cheerleader. Summer camp attendance is expected. Cheerleading families experiencing financial concerns are encouraged to speak with their cheerleading coach or campus administrator for assistance.
4. Additional clothing and supplies shall cost parents no more than \$700. The consumable clothing and supplies list will be developed by the high school coaches and will be approved by the campus principal. Items purchased will reflect school colors, mascot, and name.
5. Candidates and their families must agree to, be fully aware of, and meet the financial responsibilities of being a cheerleader throughout the year.
6. If a cheerleader is dismissed from the team or resigns, they will be held financially responsible for any and all items already ordered. No refunds will be made.

Summer Camp

1. All cheerleaders are expected to attend an instructional summer camp with their team to learn essential cheers, chants, dances, and stunts for the upcoming season. All material will be taught by instructors from an approved cheer organization.
2. The camp location will be determined by the campus coach and administrator.
3. In order to maintain the safety and performance standards of the squad, any cheerleader granted an exception to miss camp must attend a mandatory one-day skills and safety training before participating in any cheer activities. Additionally, the cheerleader will not be eligible to participate in cheer performances until they demonstrate mastery of the

material covered during the summer camp. Mastery will be assessed at the discretion of the cheer coach.

4. Camp is paid for by the cheerleader.
5. All necessary camp paperwork must be turned in and registration fees paid by the specified deadlines for students to participate.

Eligibility

1. To have the privilege of performing at any school event, cheerleaders must meet UIL academic requirements for eligibility for each grading period.
2. Cheerleaders who lose academic eligibility are expected to attend all practices as required by the coach.
3. During periods of ineligibility, cheerleaders are prohibited from wearing their uniform and are not permitted to travel with or be on the sidelines with the cheer team.
4. Cheerleaders who do not regain eligibility after the next grading period may be removed from the squad and may be ineligible to try out the following school year.

Head/Co-Captain Responsibilities

1. Decisions to have captains/co-captains and all requisite selection processes and procedures will be determined by the cheerleading coaching staff and campus administration.
2. At the coach and campus administration's discretion, each squad may opt for up to two co-captains if deemed appropriate.
3. The Varsity squad may choose to have a head cheerleader who will, under coaches' supervision, perform duties as determined and designated by the campus coach and administrative leadership.
4. Head Cheerleaders/Co-Captains may be removed from that position at the discretion of the cheer coach or the campus administration if the conduct is determined to be inappropriate at the local campus level.

Mascot Responsibilities

1. Decisions to have mascots and all requisite selection processes and procedures will be determined by the cheerleading coach staff and campus administration.
2. The duties of the Varsity mascot will be determined and designated by the campus coach and administrative leadership.
3. All rules, applicable costs, and responsibilities of cheerleaders also apply to mascots.

Attendance Expectations

1. Cheerleaders on all teams are expected to attend an instructional summer camp.
2. Cheerleaders will attend all scheduled practices, school games, pep rallies, and other scheduled events or activities as notified by their coach(es). 3 UNEXCUSED absences

from one or a combination of the aforementioned activities may result in immediate removal from the team. A written note is required for every absence. A cheerleader may be benched for one performance per unexcused absence.

3. All school practices and games will take priority over club or non-UIL competitive team practices and games. An effort will be made to work with an athlete involved in clubs or competitive cheer squads.
4. If a cheerleader chooses to enroll in a high school Off-Campus Physical Education credit, specifically competitive cheer, they are required to discuss scheduled school-based cheer-related activities and commitments with their school cheer coach. Participation in school-based cheer-related activities and commitments take priority over the Off-Campus Physical Education credit, including competitive cheer. Absences due to competitive cheer activities and commitments will be considered UNEXCUSED for school-based cheer-related activities and commitments.
5. Members must attend school for ½ day to maintain eligibility for participation in an organizational activity.
6. For an absence to be considered approved, it must be presented to and clear by the cheerleading coach before the event takes place. Extenuating circumstances or emergencies, such as a death in the family, do not require 24 hours' notice or approval from a coach to be excused; however, written documentation shall be submitted to the coach within three days of the student's return to school following the absence for documentation purposes. Written notes MUST be provided for all absences.
 - a. Absences related to UIL game conflicts and school-related meetings require written notice 5 days in advance to prevent the absence from being unexcused.
7. If a cheerleader has an undocumented and/or unexcused absence during the last practice before a performance, they may be asked to sit out of that game/performance, as determined by the coach and administration.

Examples of Excused Absences: *Illness (documentation required based on expectations of the coach and campus administration), death in the family, religious holidays, or University Interscholastic League game/match/performance. Absences related to UIL game conflicts and school-related events require written notice 5 days in advance to prevent the absence from being unexcused unless notification of the event was received within those 5 days.*

Please note that extensive medical-related absences could result in physician documentation for continued participation if deemed appropriate by the coach and campus administration.

Examples of Unexcused Absences: *Work, vacation, appointments, non-University Interscholastic League involvement, non-University Interscholastic League meetings, competitive cheer practices or competitions, etc.*

Other Expectations

1. Practice/Games/Performances

- Cheerleaders must be on time for all scheduled cheerleading practices.
- Cheerleaders will not arrive late to practice or leave early from practice without prior written permission from their coach.
- Prior to missing any practice, cheerleaders will be required to provide a method of parental notification, which will be determined by the individual coach.
- Cheerleaders cannot miss the last practice before any performance without prior approval from the coach. A cheerleader who misses the last practice may be removed from that performance.
- A cheerleader is expected to attend all designated practices (including summer practices) and will be benched one game per unexcused absence. When benched, the cheerleader will sit with a coach, in uniform, during the game.
- Cheerleaders may be tested before performances to ensure they know the required performance material. Those who do not meet the requirements may lose the privilege to participate in the performance.
- Cheerleaders are expected to watch the game/event and/or cheer at all times.
- No cheerleader is allowed to sit in the stands or leave the squad without permission from the coach.
- If a cheerleader is sitting out of a game for discipline reasons, they are to sit with the coach only. They will not be allowed to sit with friends or parents.

2. Travel Expectations

- Cheerleaders are expected to travel to and from team events together in the transportation provided by Frisco ISD unless otherwise approved by the campus coach in advance.
- Cheerleaders and high school cheerleading programs shall adhere to the Frisco ISD: Cheer Travel Guidelines.

3. Uniform and Appearance Expectations

- All cheerleaders will have a uniform(s) provided by the school district. Replacement costs, damage costs, or excess wear and tear costs will be the financial responsibility of the cheerleader.
- The length and style of the uniform will be selected and approved by the principal and district Student Services office.
- Each cheerleader is expected to follow the instructions of the coach regarding dress for games and practices.
- The uniform is only to be worn in conjunction with cheer coach approved school events where the entire squad is present.
 - *Cheerleaders will not wear uniforms to a non-cheerleader function.*
 - *Cheerleaders will not lend out uniforms to someone who is not a cheerleader without prior approval from the coach.*

- Uniforms may NOT be altered without coach approval. If this occurs, the cheerleader will pay for the uniform. If alterations are approved by the coach, no cutting away of fabric is allowed. All alterations must be removed prior to returning the uniform.
- Uniforms will be turned in at the end of the cheer year by the scheduled due date. Cheerleaders could be fined and placed on the hold list until cleared.
- Cheerleaders are responsible for damage to or loss of any part of a uniform. Cheerleaders will be responsible for the replacement of the uniform or repair costs.
- Uniforms must be turned in clean and in the same condition as when it was assigned to the cheerleader. Coaches may collect a cleaning fee or have the cheerleader/parent have the uniform professionally cleaned. The specific process will be determined by each campus.
- Cheerleaders will pay for personal uniform pieces (shoes, bloomers, bows ribbons, poms, etc) and practice attire not to exceed \$700.00. Cheerleading coaches will provide a list of items required along with their total costs at the mandatory parent meeting scheduled before tryouts. This price does not include any optional pieces the cheerleader chooses to purchase. All uniform fees will be paid for by the date designated by the campus coach or the cheerleader may be removed from the squad.
- Hair will be worn securely out of the face at all times. Everyone will wear some type of ribbon in her hair to complete the look of the uniform and provide unity in appearance.
- No jewelry will be worn during practices, performances, or pictures.
- Fingernails, including artificial nails, must be kept short and extend no further than the end of the fingertip. Each campus coach in coordination with their campus principal will determine whether nail polish may be worn and, if permitted, what colors are acceptable.
- Fundraising
 - All fundraisers, including high school booster fundraising, will fall under the guidelines as outlined by Frisco ISD and will benefit all members of the squad. In all situations, fundraising activities must be approved by the campus administration and fall under requirements as outlined by the district for the current school year.

All Level Cheerleaders and Mascots

Discipline

Additional details regarding individual campus disciplinary systems will be outlined in the campus program addendum, if applicable. Details regarding these policies are at the discretion of the campus administrator and cheer coach.

1. Cheerleading/Mascot Activities
 - Cheerleaders and Mascots will arrive on time at the designated meeting area and will remain for the duration of the activity.
 - Cheerleaders and Mascots will arrive at pre-game activities as specified by the coach.
 - If a Cheerleader or Mascot misses the bus, he/she will not be allowed to cheer at that game, unless excused by a coach.
2. Cheerleaders will maintain appropriate behavior at all times as designated by the coach and campus administration, including practices and performances.
3. If a Cheerleader or Mascot is suspended (ISS/OSS/DAEP), after their suspension, the consequences will be as follows:
 - First Suspension: 2 games/performances and a written warning
 - Second Suspension: 3 games/performances and a written warning
 - Third Suspension: Any member who receives a suspension for a third time will be removed from the squad for the remainder of the school year.
4. A Cheerleader or Mascot who quits and/or is dismissed from the squad will be unable to try out for the cheerleading squad or mascot position for the following year without approval from the coach and principal. *Please note that any student removed from the squad is not eligible to attend any cheerleading/mascot activities including the end of the year banquet.*

Undesirable Conduct and Probation

1. Cheerleaders and Mascots will be expected to engage in appropriate behavior at all times. Consequences for undesirable behavior are outlined in this document. Acknowledgement and acceptance of these rules and consequences are designated by the signatures on the document/acknowledgement form.
2. Cheerleaders or Mascots on conduct probation will attend all practices, but they may not perform at any contest, game, activity, or pep rally. Cheerleaders/Mascots will not wear any uniform. Cheerleaders/Mascots on probation must attend all performances and sit with the coach in the stands out of uniform.
3. For academic probation, the University Interscholastic League and Texas Education Agency's "No Pass-No Play" requirements will be enforced.
 - Students can lose their eligibility if they are failing at the end of the sixth week of school (the "UIL Eligibility Check") or at the end of a 9-week grading period. They can regain eligibility at the 9-week grading period or any Interim Progress Report ("IPR") after the first 9-week grading period by passing *all* courses, not just the one they failed.
 - Students who pass all courses for the nine-week grading period are eligible for the next nine-week period.

- Students who lose eligibility and then regain eligibility must wait seven calendar days before they become eligible to participate in competitions and performances. Participation can resume at the end of the school day on the seventh calendar day. Ineligible students may continue to practice with their team, but may not perform.
 - If a student loses academic eligibility per TEA-UIL/FISD policy for more than one 9-week grading period during the school year, the cheerleader/mascot will be dismissed from the squad.
4. For academic probation, members may not wear the performance uniform, travel, or sit with the team. Members may attend educational field trips but not participate or assist with a public performance.

Grounds for Dismissal

All rules become enforceable the day the Cheerleader/Mascot is selected and remain in effect until the end of the next tryout cycle. All students must also abide by the *Code of Conduct for Extra Curricular Activities* involvement as stated in the Frisco ISD *Student Handbook*.

1. A Cheerleader/Mascot is susceptible to immediate dismissal from the squad for the following infractions:
 - Any member who receives a suspension for a total of three incidents will be removed from the squad for the remainder of the school year.
 - Cheerleader/Mascot members will attend all practices, school games, pep rallies, and other scheduled events or activities as notified by their coach(es). The accumulation of 3 UNEXCUSED absences from one or a combination of the aforementioned activities may result in immediate removal from the team for the remainder of the school year.
 - Any member who is expelled from school will be removed from the squad for the remainder of the school year.
 - If school personnel have reasonable suspicion to believe a student engaged in the commission of a felony offense, as defined by the Texas Penal Code or Federal Law, the student will be removed from participation in cheerleading activities for one calendar year from the date school officials first become aware of the offense. If the student wishes to participate in cheerleading activities at the end of the one-year suspension, the cheer coach and campus administration may create and implement a behavior plan for the student prior to the tryout process. If the student makes the cheerleading team and does not adhere to the behavior plan, a continued loss of cheerleading privileges may occur. The district and campus administration may at any time remove a student or prevent a student from participation in cheerleading activities if determined to be in the best interest of student safety.

2. *Cheerleaders and mascots are expected to adhere to the FISD Cheer Code of Conduct and the Campus Cheer Addendum. A cheerleader or mascot who receives three written warnings for violations of these expectations may be dismissed from the squad. Students who receive ISS, OSS, or DAEP will be issued a written warning; however, consequences for these violations require an additional game suspension for each offense. See the Discipline section for additional details.*
 - First Warning: parents will be notified, a written notice will be signed by the parent and student, and the Cheerleader/Mascot will be benched for one performance.
 - Second Warning: parents will be notified, a conference will be held with the parent and student, a written notice will be signed by the parent and student, and the Cheerleader/Mascot will be benched for two performances.
 - Third Warning: results in the student's removal from the squad for the remainder of the school year.
3. A Cheerleader or Mascot who quits and/or is dismissed from the squad will be unable to try out for the cheerleading squad or mascot position for the following year without approval from the coach and principal. *Please note that any student removed from the squad is not eligible to attend any cheerleading/mascot activities including the end of the year banquet.*

Academic Eligibility

1. Texas Education Agency - University Interscholastic League's "NO PASS-NO PLAY" REQUIREMENTS:
 - Students who pass all courses for the nine-week grading period are eligible for the next nine-week period.
 - Students who fail an Advanced class, may be exempt from being ineligible.
 - Students who have failed a class may regain eligibility at the 9-week marking period or any Interim Progress Report ("IPR") after the first 9-week marking period by passing *all* courses, not just the one they failed.
 - Students who lose eligibility and then regain eligibility must wait seven calendar days before they become eligible to participate in competitions and performances. Academically ineligible students may continue to practice with their team, but may not perform.
2. Cheerleaders/Mascots who fail a class during any nine-week grading period will be excluded from participation in all extracurricular activities until academic eligibility is regained. They are to continue to attend all outside-of-school practices. This state policy does not apply to social activities. After three weeks, an interim progress report (IPR) will be issued. If the student is passing all classes, she/he may resume participation.