

The school physician has the final authority to determine the physical capability of a student to participate in a sport.

1. It is required that the examination be performed by the school physician.
2. When this examination or health history reveals a medical condition such as, but not limited to, asthma, epilepsy, or diabetes, the student's private medical provider may be consulted.
3. The final decision reached by the school physician must be based on two factors:
 - (a) safeguarding the health of the student
 - (b) assurance that the school is not exposing the student to an undue risk
4. The examination and approval of the school physician shall indicate the category of activities in which the student may participate.
5. Sports physicals may be scheduled by the Director of Health, Physical Education and Athletics at any time during the school year. The annual sports physical validates a student's participation in the upcoming school year. Specific seasonal physicals are valid through the end of that school year.
6. Prior to each sports season, the parent/guardian must complete an internal health history (Athletic Card - Health History Update - 5421-E.2). All students shall have a health history interview prior to the start of tryout practice sessions and at the beginning of each season unless the student receives a full medical examination within the immediate preceding 30 calendar days.
7. Any student whose safe participation is in question as a result of the health history interview, an injury, or a prolonged absence must be requalified by their own physician or the school physician prior to participation.
8. "Recommendations for Participation in Competitive Sports" American Academy of Pediatrics Policy Statement, May 1988, should be the criteria used by the school physician in the decision to qualify or disqualify the athletes participation.
9. **Disqualification**
After careful medical examination an athlete may be disqualified by the school physician based on physical impairment. However, Education Law, Section 3208-a provides a due process procedure to students or their parents to petition the courts for relief from a school district's exclusion of the child from participation in an athletic program. This includes participation in intramural activities, inter-school activities, extramural activities and organized practice. In the event of such disqualification, school authorities should advise the parents and the student of the availability of this process. The court may then grant such a petition if it is satisfied that it is in the best interest of the student to participate in an athletic program and that it is reasonably safe to do so.

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Johnson City Central School District, Johnson City, New York