DOVER CITY SCHOOLS: PAY-TO-PARTICIPATE POLICY

DMS/DHS ATHLETICS and DHS BAND

2025-2026

1. All fees for participation in school athletics and high school band are noted below. In an effort to continue to encourage students to participate in multiple sports and activities, fees are reduced for subsequent activities.

	High School (9-12)	Middle School (7-8)
First Sport/Activity Per Student	$150	$100
Second Sport/Activity Per Student	$100	$50
Third Sport/Activity Per Student	$50	$50

2. Deadlines for each season's sport are as follows:
    a. FALL September 1 - September 30
    b. WINTER December 1 - December 31
    c. SPRING April 1 - April 30
3. All fees will be added to each student's school account based upon coaches' final rosters and will be included along with general school fees. Parents can make payments online using the PaySchools Central feature, or pay by check, cash, or credit card in the school office.
4. Failure to pay fees according to stated deadline(s) may result in denial of participation in future school activities including but not limited to the next athletic season, as well as general school consequences for unpaid school fees.
5. Football Cheerleading and Basketball Cheerleading are considered two separate sports.
6. There is a $300 max per student and $500 maximum per family. Family is defined as siblings who reside in the same household determined by the student's official residential address with the district.
7. A family's participation fee for students in middle school and high school athletics, cheer, and HS band will not exceed $500.
8. Payment of the pay-to-participate fee does not guarantee any playing time on the team or travel to limited-entry invitationals or varsity-only events.
9. All fees are non-refundable with the exception of the following:
    a. The sport or activity is canceled for the season by the school.
    b. A student does not make or is cut from the team before the start of the season.
    c. A student suffers a season-ending injury prior to the first contest.
    d. A student moves out of the district prior to the first scheduled game.
    e. A student is ruled academically ineligible prior to the first mandatory practice date, as defined by the OHSAA, and chooses not to participate that season.

10. Requests for a refund under one of the above-stated exceptions must be made in writing to the DHS Athletic Director or DMS Athletic Director.
11. No refunds will be given once the season begins. A season's beginning date is defined by the first mandatory practice date as defined by the OHSAA.
12. If a minimum number of participants, defined by the administration of Dover City Schools, is not met for the activity by the OHSAA-defined start of the season, that particular activity may not be offered.
13. The participation fee does not change any team or district policies or the student drug and alcohol policy. No refunds will be given due to the issuance of an extracurricular suspension.
14. Varsity, junior varsity, and freshman teams all have the same fee structure.
15. Checks or money orders should be made out to Dover City Schools. Any check returned for non-sufficient funds will be assessed a $25 fee. If a check is returned for insufficient funds, only cashiers checks, bank checks, or money orders will be accepted in the future.

** Because HS band is a class and a co-curricular activity, per Ohio law, these fees are waived for students who qualify for free and reduced lunch. If this applies to you, please note participation, but do not pay that fee. That does NOT apply to extra-curricular activities, which includes all others on this list and are not waived for any students.*

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By providing my electronic signature, I acknowledge that I have received and read the information pertaining to the Dover City Schools Participation Fees and agree to all of the above-state policies. I agree to abide by these and all other Dover Schools policies as they pertain to athletics and student organization, and I allow my student to participate in activities at Dover City Schools.