



PREVENTION RESEARCH CENTER *in St. Louis*
Promoting Healthy Communities

High School Sports Participation Fee Survey

Sports teams at your school

1. How many sports teams does your school offer?

- ☐ None → **End Survey**
- ☐ 1-5
- ☐ 6-10
- ☐ 11-15
- ☐ 16+
- ☐ Don't know/Not Sure

2. Thinking about the past 10 years, which of the following statements describes the number of sports teams at your school?

- ☐ The number of sports teams has increased
- ☐ The number of sports teams has decreased
- ☐ The number of sports teams has stayed about the same
- ☐ Don't Know/Not Sure

3. Thinking about the past 10 years, which of the following statements describes the number of students who participate in sports at your school?

- ☐ The number of students who play sports has increased
- ☐ The number of students who play sports has decreased
- ☐ The number of students who play sports has stayed about the same
- ☐ Don't Know/Not Sure

Sports fees at your school

4. Does your school charge fees for participation in sports?

- ☐ Yes → **If Yes, ONLY complete Section A (Orange section)**
- ☐ No → **If No, ONLY complete Section B (Blue section)**
- ☐ Don't Know/Not Sure → **If Don't Know/Not Sure, ONLY complete Section B (Blue section)**

SECTION A

1. Do fees vary by sport?

- ☐ Yes → If YES, go to Question # 3a
☐ No
☐ Don't Know/Not Sure

2. What is the fee for sports participation at your school? \$ _____

→ Go to Question # 5

Range of fees at your school

3a. What is the lowest fee being charged for sports participation?

\$ _____ lowest fee

3b. What sports fall in this category? (check all that apply)

X	SPORT	X	SPORT
<input type="checkbox"/>	Football	<input type="checkbox"/>	Golf
<input type="checkbox"/>	Track and Field	<input type="checkbox"/>	Swimming/Diving
<input type="checkbox"/>	Basketball	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lacrosse
<input type="checkbox"/>	Baseball	<input type="checkbox"/>	Competitive Spirit Squad
<input type="checkbox"/>	Soccer	<input type="checkbox"/>	Volleyball
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wrestling	<input type="checkbox"/>	Field Hockey
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cross Country	<input type="checkbox"/>	Softball
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tennis	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (write in) _____

4a. What is the highest fee being charged for sports participation?

\$ _____ highest fee

4b. What sports fall in this category? (check all that apply)

X	SPORT	X	SPORT
<input type="checkbox"/>	Football	<input type="checkbox"/>	Golf
<input type="checkbox"/>	Track and Field	<input type="checkbox"/>	Swimming/Diving
<input type="checkbox"/>	Basketball	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lacrosse
<input type="checkbox"/>	Baseball	<input type="checkbox"/>	Competitive Spirit Squad
<input type="checkbox"/>	Soccer	<input type="checkbox"/>	Volleyball
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wrestling	<input type="checkbox"/>	Field Hockey
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cross Country	<input type="checkbox"/>	Softball
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tennis	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (write in) _____

5. Is this amount for sports participation... (choose one)

- ☐ per season
☐ per year
☐ per sport
☐ Don't know/Not sure

7. Is there a maximum fee amount for those who play multiple sports?

- ☐ Yes \$ _____ (indicate amount)
☐ No
☐ Don't Know/Not Sure

6. How does your school's sports participation fees compare with district fees?

- ☐ They are the same.
☐ They are higher.
☐ They are lower.
☐ Don't Know/Not Sure

8. Is there a maximum fee amount for families of multiple student athletes?

- ☐ Yes \$ _____ (indicate amount)
☐ No
☐ Don't Know/Not Sure

Fee waivers at your school

9. Is there a fee waiver for students who might not be able to pay the sports participation fee?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No → If NO, go to Question #15
☐ Don't Know/Not Sure → If Don't Know/Not Sure, go to Question #15

10. Who is eligible to receive these waivers? (check all that apply)

- ☐ Students who qualify for Free/Reduced price school meals
☐ Anyone who can justify why they can't pay
☐ Military families
☐ Families undergoing financial hardships
☐ Other _____ (please describe)
☐ Don't Know/Not Sure

11. Which of the following best describes your waiver program?

- ☐ The entire fee is waived for all eligible students.
☐ There is a sliding scale within our waiver policy (fees are variable based on ability to pay).
☐ Don't Know/Not Sure

12. About how many waivers are granted per school year?

- ☐ 1-10
☐ 11-20
☐ 21-30
☐ 30+
☐ Don't know/Not Sure

13. Where do the funds come from to pay the fees for athletes using waivers?

- ☐ General athletic budget
☐ Booster club or other fundraising
☐ Sponsorship
☐ Other (please indicate)
☐ Don't Know/Not Sure

14. Our waiver program seems to cover all groups who need help paying the sports participation fees.

- ☐ Strongly agree
☐ Somewhat agree
☐ Neither agree nor disagree
☐ Somewhat disagree
☐ Strongly disagree
☐ Don't know/Not Sure

Your perception of school sports participation fees in general

Please indicate your degree of agreement for each of these statements.

Strongly Agree

Strongly Disagree

15. Sports participation fees are a better alternative than eliminating sports programs.	5	4	3	2	1	N/A
16. Students who can't afford the fees are less likely to try out for sports compared with those who can afford fees.	5	4	3	2	1	N/A
17. Charging fees for sports participation is an effective way to increase the athletic budget.	5	4	3	2	1	N/A
18. Sports participation fees have not impacted the percentage of student athletes.	5	4	3	2	1	N/A
19. Students who play multiple sports often have to choose between sports due to participation fees.	5	4	3	2	1	N/A
20. A student who does not pay the sports participation fee or have the fee waived will not be able to play their sport.	5	4	3	2	1	N/A
21. The percentage of the fees that is returned to the athletic department budget seems fair.	5	4	3	2	1	N/A
22. Collecting fees is a burden on my department.	5	4	3	2	1	N/A
23. Our school has a booster club(s) to help raise funds for sports.	5	4	3	2	1	N/A
24. Parents oppose these fees.	5	4	3	2	1	N/A
25. Coaches oppose these fees.	5	4	3	2	1	N/A
26. Sports participation fee amounts will increase in the next five years.	5	4	3	2	1	N/A
27. The amount of the fees do not seem to be a burden on families in my school.	5	4	3	2	1	N/A

Other information

28. Which of the following best describes your position?

(Please check only one)?

- ☐ School Athletic Director
- ☐ District Athletic Director
- ☐ Coach
- ☐ Principal
- ☐ District Administrator
- ☐ Activities Director
- ☐ Other: _____

29. How long have you been in your current position?

- ☐ < 1 year
- ☐ 1-5 years
- ☐ 6-10 years
- ☐ 11+ years
- ☐ Don't Know/Not Sure

30. How long have you worked for this school district?

- ☐ < 1 year
- ☐ 1-5 years
- ☐ 6-10 years
- ☐ 11+ years
- ☐ Don't Know/Not Sure

31. How long have you been in the field of school athletics?

- ☐ < 1 year
- ☐ 1-5 years
- ☐ 6-10 years
- ☐ 11+ years
- ☐ Don't Know/Not Sure

32. In what district is your school located?

_____ (District)

33. In what state is your district located?

_____ (State)

Thank you for your participation!

Please return this survey and consent form in the postage paid, enclosed envelope. Upon receipt of the completed survey, we will send you a \$20 gift card to Amazon.com.

SECTION B

1. Has your school considered charging sports participation fees?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No → **If NO, go to Question # 3**
☐ Don't Know/Not Sure → **If Don't Know/Not Sure, go to Question # 3**

2. How likely is it that your school will charge fees for sports participation within the next five years?

- ☐ Very Likely
☐ Somewhat Likely
☐ Somewhat unlikely
☐ Very Unlikely
☐ Don't Know/Not Sure

Your perception of sports participation fees in general

Please indicate your degree of agreement for each of these statements.

Strongly Agree

Strongly Disagree

3. Sports participation fees would be a better alternative than eliminating sports programs.	5	4	3	2	1	N/A
4. Students who can't afford the fees would be less likely to try out for sports compared with those who can afford fees.	5	4	3	2	1	N/A
5. Charging fees for sports participation would be an effective way to increase the athletic budget.	5	4	3	2	1	N/A
6. Sports participation fees would not impact the percentage of student athletes.	5	4	3	2	1	N/A
7. Students who play multiple sports would have to choose between sports if we had participation fees.	5	4	3	2	1	N/A
8. Our school has a booster club(s) to help raise funds for sports.	5	4	3	2	1	N/A
9. Parents would oppose requiring sports participation fees.	5	4	3	2	1	N/A
10. Coaches would oppose requiring sports participation fees.	5	4	3	2	1	N/A
11. Sports participation fees would not be a burden on families in my school.	5	4	3	2	1	N/A

Other information

12. Which of the following best describes your position?

(Please check only one)?

- ☐ School Athletic Director
☐ District Athletic Director
☐ Coach
☐ Principal
☐ District Administrator
☐ Activities Director
☐ Other: _____

14. How long have you worked for this school district?

- ☐ < 1 year
☐ 1-5 years
☐ 6-10 years
☐ 11+ years
☐ Don't Know/Not Sure

13. How long have you been in your current position?

- ☐ < 1 year
☐ 1-5 years
☐ 6-10 years
☐ 11+ years
☐ Don't Know/Not Sure

14. How long have you been in the field of school athletics?

- ☐ < 1 year
☐ 1-5 years
☐ 6-10 years
☐ 11+ years
☐ Don't Know/Not Sure

15. In what district is your school located?

_____ (District)

16. In what state is your district located?

_____ (State)

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