

Operational Services

Waiver of Student Fees

The Superintendent will recommend to the Board of Education a schedule of fees, if any, to be charged students for the use of textbooks, consumable materials, extracurricular activities, and other school student fees. Students must also pay for the loss of or damage to school books or other school-owned materials.

All school student fees as defined by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) are waived for students who meet the eligibility criteria for a fee waiver contained in this policy. Students receiving a fee waiver are not exempt from charges for lost and damaged books, locks, materials, supplies, and equipment.

School fees do not include:

- Charges for the purchase of yearbooks, pictures, diploma cover or similar items;
- Charges for optional travel undertaken by a school club or group of students outside of school hours (e.g., a trip to Spain by the Spanish Club);
- Charges for admission to school extra-curricular events, such as school dances, athletic events, or other social events.

Notification

The Superintendent shall ensure that applications for fee waivers are widely available and distributed according to State law and ISBE rule and that provisions for assisting parents/guardians in completing the application are available.

Eligibility Criteria and Verification

A student shall be eligible for a fee waiver when the student currently lives in a household that meets federal free lunch or breakfast eligibility guidelines. The Superintendent or designee must follow the verification requirements of 7 C.F.R. 245.6a when using the free lunch or breakfast eligibility guidelines pursuant to The National School Lunch Act as the basis for waiver of the student's fee(s).

Determination and Appeal

Within 30 calendar days after the receipt of a waiver request, the Superintendent or designee shall mail a notice to the parent/guardian whenever a waiver request is denied. The denial notice shall include: (1) the reason for the denial, (2) the process and timelines for making an appeal, and (3) a statement that the parent/guardian may reapply for a waiver any time during the school year if circumstances change. If the denial is appealed, the District shall follow the procedures for the resolution of appeals as provided in the Illinois State Board of Education rule on waiver of fees.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-20.13, 5/10-22.25, 5/27-24.2, and 5/28-19.2.
23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.245 [may contain unenforceable provisions].

CROSS REF.: 4:130 (Free and Reduced-Price Food Services), 6:220 (Bring Your Own
Technology (BYOT) Program; Responsible Use and Conduct)

ADOPTED: April 5, 2011, October 15, 2013, July 16, 2019