

WINTER SPORTS UPDATE

Shelton Public Schools Pay to Participate Athletics, Performing Arts & Co-curricular Activities 2018-2019 Fees

Frequently Asked Questions

1) How much is payment?

- The 2018-2019 fees are as follows:

- **Category 1 – SHS Sports with officials (\$300):**
 - Football, soccer, swimming, volleyball, basketball, field hockey, wrestling, baseball, lacrosse, softball
- **Category 2 – SHS Sports without officials (\$225):**
 - Cross country, indoor track, golf, tennis, outdoor track & field, cheerleading
- **Category 3 – Performing Arts & Co-Curricular Activities with a paid adviser (\$100):**
 - SHS Band, SHS Color Guard, SHS Robotics Club, SHS Drama Club (Spring Musical Leads), SIS Jazz Band, SIS Cheerleading
- **Category 4 – SIS Sports with officials (\$250)**
 - Volleyball, basketball, baseball, softball
- **Category 5 – SIS Sports without officials (\$175)**
 - Cross Country, outdoor track & field

- Students receiving free meals shall be charged 50% of the regular fee. Students receiving reduced meals shall be charged 75% of the regular fee.

2) Is there a maximum limit to the amount a family can be charged?

-There is a **\$600 family cap** which includes any and all fees related to participation including activities, sports, and Intermediate School sports. **The family cap for students receiving free meals is \$300 and the family cap for students eligible receiving reduced meals is \$450.** No family will be asked to pay more than \$600 per year for any combination of sports or activities.

3) Are all sports and activities charged the same amount?

-No, sports and activities are differentiated between **those which require officials and paid advisors** and those that do not. The cost for each sport and activity varies somewhat due to the number of participants, number of contests, distance traveled, equipment needed, number of officials, number of coaches and advisors on staff, etc. It would be prohibitive to attempt to base the participation rate on each individual sport or activity. These fees are determined by the overall operational cost of coach and advisor salaries, officials, and custodial overtime needed to operate the entire program.

4) When is payment due?

Payment for participation will be due **after tryouts** are completed and before the first contest*. No uniform will be issued until payment is made. Payments may be made online with a credit or debit

card via the parent portal (fees apply) or by check or money order payable to the Shelton Board of Education at the Accounts Payable Dept., Board of Ed Administrative Offices, 382 Long Hill Avenue between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. WE CANNOT ACCEPT CASH PAYMENTS. Do not mail checks to the Accounts Payable Office. We will add a \$25 return item fee if your check does not clear and is returned to us. Credit card payments are only accepted online via the parent portal not in the Accounts Payable Dept.

***To create a parent portal account, please contact your school office for an appointment. You must appear in person with a picture ID.**

To make a payment online, sign in to the parent portal. In the left hand side menu there is a box titled Payments. Click on this box. Two sections will appear on the screen, Food Service and Student. Do not make Pay to Participate payments under Food Service. Pay to Participate payments must be made in the Student section.

Payment Schedule

Fall Sports / Activities payment time period:

September 7, 2018 – October 1, 2018 This season is closed.

Winter Sports / Activities payment time period:

November 28, 2018 – December 07, 2018

Winter Sports/Activities with fees of \$300 are SHS Boys Swimming, SHS Wrestling, and SHS Boys and Girls Basketball.

Winter Sports/Activities with fees of \$225 are SHS Indoor Track.

Winter Sports/Activities with fees of \$250 are SIS Boys and Girls Basketball.

Winter Sports/Activities with fees of \$100 are SIS Cheerleading.

Spring Sports / Activities payment time period:

March 14, 2019 – March 28, 2019

5) Is there a waiver or payment plan available for families who cannot afford payment?

Parents are eligible to apply for a payment plan based on hardship. There are no payment waivers available. Students receiving free or reduced meals will be charged 50% or 75%, respectively, of the regular fees. Parents may request a payment plan by emailing accountspayable@sheltonpublicschools.org explaining the reason for the request. Accounts Payable will return a proposed payment plan agreement to the parents. Parents will sign this agreement and return it to the Accounts Payable email address. No payment plan will be put in place without the returned, signed agreement. We will not create payment plans for anyone who has defaulted on a plan in a previous season.

Parents may direct questions regarding payment plans to Accounts Payable, 203-924-1023, x309. There is a 3-business day processing time period for payment plan requests.

6) Are refunds available if athlete is “cut” from team?

-There are no refunds after the first contest or for any athlete who is declared academically ineligible or anyone who is dismissed from the team or club, for disciplinary reasons. Partial refunds may be available on a pro-rated basis for any athlete who is subjected to a “season ending” injury during the athletic season. Any refunded amount will be based on the fees paid. All refunds will be handled through the Central Office administration.

7) Is there a guarantee for a minimum amount of playing time in contests?

- Interscholastic sports are of a competitive nature and the coaches have full discretion about which athletes play and how often. Payment **does not guarantee** any minimum amount of playing or practice time.

8) Will Team Managers be required to pay the fees?

-No, team managers are a critical volunteer component to the operation of the team and we are grateful for the service that they provide. They do not have to pay.

For more information please contact Shelton Athletic Director, John Niski, jniski@sheltonpublicschools.org