



2023-24
SPIRIT CCP

UIL State Spirit Staff



UIL Director of Athletics
Ray Zepeda



UIL Spirit Director
Grace McDowell



State
Championship
Director
Jamie Graham



SPIRIT AGENDA

- UIL Information
- Spirit Specific
- Coaching Reminders
- Rules & Regulations
- Miscellaneous Information

LEAGUE GOVERNANCE

- **Legislative Council** – Rule making body, 32 superintendents, all regions, all conferences represented.
- **State Executive Committee (SEC)** – 12 school administrators appointed by the Commissioner of Education.
- **District Executive Committee (DEC)** – Consists of ONE voting member per school in a given UIL District.
- **Waiver Review Board** – 12 person committee, reviews decisions of the UIL Waiver Officer on appeals.





SPIRIT SPECIFIC INFORMATION



UIL SPIRIT/CHEERLEADING

UIL CONSTITUTION & CONTEST RULES

- **Section 1500** – Introduction to Spirit Contest & Events
- **Section 1501** – Spirit Contest Ethics Code
- **Section 1502** – General Regulations
- **Section 1503** – Health and Safety

****Review the rules on an annual basis.***



UIL ELIGIBILITY: CHEERLEADING

A student is eligible if the student...

- Is a full-time student at the school they will participate with
- Home school students if allowed by the district
- Meets all other requirements of Section 400 of the C&CR
- Meets the academic eligibility standards of state law and UIL rules



UIL CHEERLEADING

- **CHEER** falls under the **SPIRIT** tab for UIL – what does that mean?
 - It means that cheer/spirit squads have a set of *guidelines* which are *unique to just them*.
 - It also means that a few things that apply to students on a team that falls under Athletics Policy, **do not apply to cheer/spirit:**
 - Parent Residency Rule – cheerleaders must be a full-time student at the school they represent and be academically eligible. The location of a cheerleader's residence does not impact their eligibility.
 - PAPF – newly enrolled students who make the cheer team **do not** need to complete a Previous Participation Form.



UIL REQUIRED STUDENT PARTICIPATION FORMS

- **Concussion Acknowledgement Form**
- **Sudden Cardiac Arrest Awareness Form**
- *Check with your local school district policies regarding additional required documentation for students.*



UIL SPIRIT COACHES EDUCATION & TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

- **AED & CPR Certification**
- **UIL Concussion Education** – Two hours every two years
- **UIL Coaches Certification Program** – UIL Portal
 - Safety training for extracurricular activities
 - Spirit Specific module
- ***Cheer Specific Safety Course*** (not through UIL)

CCP must be completed by the first practice or start of school, whichever comes first.



PRACTICE REGULATIONS

- **School Week** – From the first day school is in session for the week until the end of instruction on the last instructional day.
- **Calendar Week** – 12:01 AM Sunday to midnight on Saturday.



PRACTICE REGULATIONS

- **Practice – When School is in Session (School Year)**
 - 8-hours (plus 60-minute athletic period) during school week
 - Unlimited outside the school week
 - **School Week** – From the first day school is in session for the week until the end of instruction on the last instructional day.
 - **Calendar Week** – 12:01 AM Sunday to midnight on Saturday.
- **Practice – When School is Not in Session (Summer)**
 - No rules limiting practice during summer
 - No rules limiting practice during school holidays



CONTEST REGULATIONS

Contests Per Week

- Can cheer at one contest during school week and one after the end of the school week.
- Example: Can cheer at volleyball on Tuesday and then again at volleyball on Friday or football on Friday.
- Would not be able to cheer at volleyball on Tuesday and football on Thursday.



ELIGIBILITY: 1ST SIX WEEKS OF SCHOOL YEAR

- Grades nine and below – promoted
- Second Year of High School – five accumulated credits
- Third Year of High School – ten accumulated credits or five credits within the last twelve months
- Fourth Year of High School – fifteen accumulated credits or five credits within the last twelve months



The logo for UIL Spirit features the letters 'UIL' in a bold, blue, sans-serif font. A red five-pointed star is positioned above the 'I'. To the right of the 'UIL' text, the words 'SPIRIT FAQs' are written in a large, bold, black, sans-serif font.

UIL SPIRIT FAQs

“Can you tell me what the UIL try-out requirements are for cheerleading?”

- A: None exist. The try-out process is up to the discretion of the local school / district and coach.

“Does a new student who transferred in need to wait 15 days before they participate?”

- A: No, cheer does not fall under the transfer rule that athletic teams fall under. As long as a student is enrolled full-time in your school and is academically eligible, they are able to cheer.



SPIRIT FAQs

“My daughter/son was on varsity as a junior, that means they are entitled to be on varsity as a senior, correct?”

- **A: Incorrect. A coach can require students to try-out each year to ensure the varsity team is as good as it can possibly be.**

“My superintendent did not select 'SPIRIT' on the varsity acceptance form in January. Does that mean we cannot participate in the state spirit contest?”

- **A: No. The varsity acceptance form has nothing to do with the State Spirit competition. In order for a team to compete in the state event, they must register using the link that will be on the Spirit State Championship page in September.**

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UIL SPIRIT FAQs

“Does the school’s cheerleading coach/sponsor need to be a full-time employee in order to coach and instruct a cheerleading team or spirit squad?”

- **A: No.** The local school district has the discretion over who will be designated to serve as the cheerleading coach or sponsor.

“Can a school hire a cheer coach and allow them to coach their students in the summer or in a non-school program?”

- **A: Yes.** Cheerleading coaches and sponsors will be allowed to instruct the participants anytime during the school year with local district approval. During the regular academic school year, a school coach is subject to the eight hours of practice limitation per school week.

STATE SPIRIT CONTACTS



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