

**IDEA PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD POLICY MANUAL**  
**POLICY GROUP 3 – STUDENTS**  
**STUDENT FEES**

PG-3.503

**Sec. 1. TUITION AND FEES.**

IDEA Public Schools (IDEA) shall not charge tuition and shall not charge a fee except:

1. IDEA may charge a fee listed in Texas Education Code § 11.158(a) and shall not charge any fee prohibited under Texas Education Code § 11.158(b);
2. If authorized under 19 Texas Administrative Code § 100.1201(5) of this title, IDEA may charge tuition for certain prekindergarten classes in compliance with Texas Education Code §§ 29.1531 and 29.1532; and
3. IDEA shall accept tuition for students holding certain student visas as described in Texas Education Code § 25.0031(a).
4. IDEA may charge tuition and fees for a hybrid or virtual course provided to a student who is not eligible to enroll in a public school in Texas or who is not currently enrolled in IDEA, in accordance with Texas Education Code § 30B.055.

*19 Tex. Admin. Code § 100.1061(b); Tex. Educ. Code § 30B.055,*

**SEC. 2. AUTHORIZED FEES**

IDEA may require payment of:

1. Fees for materials used in any program in which the resultant product is in excess of minimum requirements and, at the student's option, becomes the personal property of the student. Fees may not exceed the cost of materials.
2. Membership dues in student organizations or clubs, and admission fees or charges for attending extracurricular activities when membership or attendance is voluntary.
3. Security deposits for the return of materials, supplies, or equipment.
4. Fees for personal physical education and athletic equipment and apparel. However, any student may provide his or her own equipment or apparel if it meets reasonable requirements and standards relating to health and safety established by the Board.
5. Fees for items of personal use or products that a student may purchase at the student's option, such as student publications, class rings, annuals, and graduation announcements.
6. Fees specifically permitted by any other statute.
7. Fees for an authorized, voluntary student health and accident benefit plan.
8. A reasonable fee, not to exceed the actual annual maintenance cost, for the use of musical instruments and uniforms owned or rented by IDEA.
9. Fees for items of personal apparel that become the property of the student and that are used in extracurricular activities.
10. Parking fees and fees for identification cards.
11. Fees for driver training courses, provided that such fees shall not exceed the actual IDEA cost per student in such programs for the current school year.

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12. Fees for courses offered for credit that require the use of facilities not available on the school premises or the employment of an educator who is not part of the school’s regular staff, if participation in the course is at the student’s option.
13. Fees for courses offered during summer school, except that the Board may charge a fee for a course required for graduation only if the course is also offered without a fee during the regular school term.
14. A reasonable fee for transportation of a student who lives within two miles of the school the student attends to and from that school, except that the Board may not charge a fee for transportation for which IDEA receives funds under Texas Education Code § 48.151(d).
15. A reasonable fee, not to exceed \$50, for costs associated with an educational program offered outside of regular school hours through which a student who was absent from class receives instruction voluntarily for the purpose of making up the missed instruction and meeting the level of attendance required under Texas Education Code § 25.092.
16. If IDEA does not receive any funds under Texas Education Code § 48.151 and does not participate in a county transportation system for which an allotment is provided under Section 48.151(i), a reasonable fee for the transportation of a student to and from the school the student attends.

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*Tex. Educ. Code § 11.158.*

**SEC. 3.      PROHIBITED FEES**

IDEA may not charge fees for:

1. Instructional materials, workbooks, laboratory supplies, or other supplies necessary for participation in any instructional course except as authorized under the Texas Education Code.
2. Field trips required as part of a basic educational program or course.
3. Any specific form of dress necessary for any required educational program or diplomas.
4. Instructional costs for necessary school personnel employed in any course or educational program required for graduation.
5. Library materials required to be used for any educational course or program. However, fines may be assessed for lost, damaged, or overdue materials.
6. Admission to any activity the student is required to attend as a prerequisite to graduation.
7. Admission or examination in any required educational course or program.
8. Lockers.
9. Returning confiscated personal electronic communication devices, including cellular phones.

*Tex. Educ. Code § 11.158(b).*

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**SEC. 4. PERSONAL SUPPLIES**

Students may be required to furnish personal or consumable items, including pencils, paper, pens, erasers, and notebooks. Students may be required to furnish school uniforms, subject to the provisions of Texas Education Code § 11.162 regarding educationally disadvantaged students. *Tex. Educ. Code § 11.158(c)*

**SEC. 5. WAIVER OF FEES**

IDEA shall adopt reasonable procedures for waiving a deposit or fee if a student or the student's parent or guardian is unable to pay it. This policy shall be posted in a central location in each school facility, in the school policy manual, and in the student handbook. *Tex. Educ. Code § 11.158(f)*.

**SEC. 6. POST-SECONDARY INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS**

The Board may charge reasonable fees for goods and services provided in connection with any postsecondary instructional program, including career and technology, adult, veterans, or continuing education, community service, evening school, and high school equivalency programs. *Tex. Educ. Code § 11.158(b)-(c), (e)-(g)*.

**SEC. 7. DISSEMINATION OF FEE SCHEDULE**

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the Student Fee Schedule is provided, as appropriate, to all students and parents.

**Sec. 8. ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES**

IDEA shall formally adopt administrative procedures as reasonably necessary to properly administer this policy and to adhere to applicable law and rule. In doing so, IDEA shall not adopt, and are prohibited from adopting, an administrative procedure that conflicts with applicable law or this policy. Accordingly, IDEA shall confer with the Board or legal counsel before deviating from the requirements set forth in this policy. In the event that a deviation from this policy becomes necessary, IDEA shall either recommend an amendment to this policy or the Board's approval of a specific deviation, including the purpose, scope and duration of the requested deviation.

**Sec. 9. DATE ADOPTED AND EFFECTIVE**

As set forth in the pertinent minutes to the meeting of the Board, the Board adopted this policy on June 16, 2026, and it became effective on June 16, 2026.

**Sec. 10. RETENTION**

DATE ISSUED: June 16, 2026

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This policy shall be retained until superseded, expired, or discontinued and for five (5) years thereafter in accordance with state law.

**Sec. 11. CERTIFICATION**

The Undersigned, being the Secretary of the Corporation, hereby certifies that the foregoing represents a true copy of the Board Policy relating to Student Fees, as originally adopted by the Board on May 17, 2023, and as subsequently amended by the Board on October 23, 2024, August 22, 2025, and June 16, 2026, which Policy, as amended, is in full force and effect and has not been revoked or amended.

Signed by:  
  
8DD22C2785DB409...  
Ed Rivera, Secretary

6/17/2026  
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DATE

DATE ISSUED: June 16, 2026

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