

UIL Activities Covid-19 Guidelines

We are excited that our athletes will have an opportunity to participate in fall sports without a delay. The UIL has given us permission to begin practices August 3rd as long as we follow safety protocols. It is important that coaches, parents, and athletes work together to follow the guidelines set out by the UIL so that we can keep everyone safe and give our teams every opportunity to compete safely. I have listed some of the guidelines that we will be following to ensure that we keep our athletes as safe as possible.

General Operational Guidelines

- All coaching staff will self-screen for COVID-19 symptoms before participating in UIL activities or entering areas where UIL activities are being conducted. Symptoms are listed at the end of this document. The self-screening should include staff taking their own temperature. Coaches will contact school administration if they themselves have COVID-19 symptoms or are lab-confirmed with COVID-19, and, if so, they must remain off campus and away from areas where UIL activities are being conducted until they meet the criteria for re-entry as noted below. Additionally, they must report to the school if they have had close contact with an individual who is lab-confirmed with COVID-19, as defined at the end of this document, and, if so, must remain off campus and away from areas where UIL activities are being conducted until the 14-day incubation period has passed.
- Parents must ensure they do not send a student to participate in UIL activities if the student has COVID-19 symptoms (as listed in this document) or is lab-confirmed with COVID-19 until the below conditions for re-entry are met. School systems may consider screening students for COVID-19 as well. Screening is accomplished by asking questions by phone or other electronic methods and/or in person. The screening questions should also be asked of a student's parent if that parent will be dropping off or picking up their student from inside areas where UIL activities are being conducted.
- Before visitors are allowed access to areas where UIL activities are being conducted, school systems must screen all visitors to determine if they themselves have COVID-19 symptoms (as listed in this document) or are lab-confirmed with COVID-19, and if so, they must remain off campus and away from areas where UIL activities are being conducted until they meet the criteria for re-entry as noted below. Additionally, school systems must screen to determine if visitors have had close contact with an individual who is lab-confirmed with COVID-19, and if so they must remain off campus and away from areas where UIL activities are being conducted until the 14-day incubation period has passed. When practical, screening questions could be supplemented with temperature checks of adults.

In evaluating whether an individual has symptoms consistent with COVID-19, consider the following questions:

Have they recently begun experiencing any of the following in a way that is not normal for them?

- Feeling feverish or a measured temperature greater than or equal to 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit
- Loss of taste or smell
- Cough
- Difficulty breathing
- Shortness of breath
- Headache
- Chills
- Sore throat
- Shaking or exaggerated shivering
- Significant muscle pain or ache
- Diarrhea

Locker Rooms, Gyms, and Other Congregate Settings

- Hand sanitizers, soap and water, or disinfectants will be readily available in all these areas.
- Locker rooms and gyms will be regularly and frequently cleaned and disinfected including all frequently touched surfaces such as doorknobs, tables, chairs, lockers, and restrooms.
- Any equipment that will be kept in student lockers will be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected each day. Workout gear, towels, and uniforms will be washed daily after practice and hung back in their lockers the next day. .

Practice Guidelines

- All surfaces and equipment in practice areas will be thoroughly disinfected throughout and at the end of each day.
- Students will be assigned a water bottle to use for practices and games. There will be a station where they can fill up their water bottles. Water fountains or other watering devices will not be available for student use. It will be important for students to keep up with their own water bottle and not share it with any other students.

Game Management

In addition to the above guidelines and rules in the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules and UIL manuals and handbooks, the following applies to games, scrimmages, and events:

Teams and Participants

- Transportation to games will follow the school district guidelines for transporting students to minimize the spread of Covid-19.
- Before each game, contest, or event, we will follow the screening protocol described in the general operation guidelines to screen all staff members, volunteers, officials, and individuals otherwise involved in working the event.
- Fans and spectators will be at least 6 feet from team/group areas. In cases where this is not possible, spectators will be required to wear a mask.
- As previously indicated, water or other drink and/or food may be provided but students will not be able to share these items.
- All athletic participants must enter and exit the contest areas and maintain separation from non-participants and fans. Parents and fans will not be given access to contest areas, courts, or fields before, during, or after contests and events.

Student Groups not directly involved in the game or contest

Student groups such as cheerleaders approved by the school district may attend and perform at games or contests in which they are not competing.

- Cheerleaders should remain separate from the game or contest participants at all times. Cheerleaders Should avoid mixing with fans or non-group members throughout the game or contest.
- Cheerleaders should maintain appropriate distancing from game or contest participants at all times, including when on the sideline.

Spectators, Audiences, Fans and Media

Spectators will be allowed to attend games, contests, or events within a maximum 50% capacity limitation, provided that appropriate spacing between spectators is maintained according to the protocol, and according to the following:

- Groups should maintain at least six feet of distance from other groups at all times, including the process of admission and seating. A group is defined as no more than 10 people including the members of the household and those persons who travelled together to the facility.
- The bleachers will be set up to not allow seating in consecutive row to maintain the 50% capacity limitation.
- Saint Jo will provide hand sanitizing stations in foyer of the gym and concession area of the football field.
- Seating, handrails, and other common surfaces will be cleaned and disinfected prior to each game or contest.

Concession Stands and Food Service

For games, contests, and events that will include concession stands or other food service, the following guidelines apply:

- Staff, contractors, and volunteers involved in food service are required to wear face coverings.
- Concession areas should avoid leaving condiments, silverware, flatware, glassware, or other traditional table top items on unoccupied tables or at the counter. Concession areas will only provide condiments or flatware upon request, and in single use, individually wrapped items.
- Concession areas will be regularly cleaned and disinfected. Saint Jo will clean and disinfect dining areas (tables, etc.) on a regular basis.
- Before each game, Saint Jo will follow the screening protocols described above to screen staff, contractors, and volunteers who will be involved in food service prior to events. These individuals should also self-screen as described in these screening protocols.

Eligibility

- The school district maintains the right to determine eligibility in UIL and school sponsored programs.
- Students opting for the asynchronous/remote learning plan, will not be eligible to participate in and/or compete in school sanctioned and approved extracurricular activities, co-curricular activities, and the work-based practicum.