

Subchapter I. CONFERENCES AND DISTRICTS

Section 350: ESTABLISHING CONFERENCES

Before May 1 of each even numbered year, the UIL shall establish conferences for League contests and assign each participant school and charter school wishing to compete in League activities to an appropriate district. These conferences and districts shall be maintained for the next two school years. The Director shall promptly notify each participant school and charter school of its conference and the district to which it has been assigned and of the identity of the other schools in the district and notify each member school district of the assignments of its participant schools.

Section 351: CONFERENCE BASED ON ENROLLMENT

(a) ENROLLMENT. Participant schools and charter schools shall be assigned to a conference on the basis of enrollment on a date from the previous October. Schools will include all resident students including those in alternative settings. The formulas used to determine enrollment shall be:

(1) Schools with four high school grades (9-12), and three year high schools (grades 10-12) which will receive incoming tenth graders from specific, identifiable feeder schools:

$$\text{Grades 9, 10, 11, 12} = \text{Enrollment}$$

(2) Schools with only grades 10, 11, 12 when it cannot easily be determined which schools the ninth graders will attend as tenth graders:

$$\text{Grades 10, 11, 12} \times 1.33 = \text{Enrollment}$$

If no prior enrollment figures are available for the specified date, assignment of a participant school or charter school just admitted to competition shall be on the basis of the projected enrollment. A magnet or special school for academically gifted students shall be assigned to a conference upon the basis of the enrollment of the school in its member school district having the largest enrollment. Schools that have established attendance zones do not fit the definition of a magnet school even if they operate a magnet program with optional attendance zones. Schools may subtract students with multiple disabilities (as defined by Texas Education Agency standards) from the total enrollment for that school upon proper certification.

(b) CONFERENCES. Participating high schools and charter schools shall be divided into conferences for the 2006-07 and 2007-08 school years according to the following enrollments:

Conference 5A ..... 1,985 and up

Conference 4A .....950-1984

Conference 3A .....415-949

Conference 2A ..... 195-414

Conference A ..... 194 and below

For the current school year, there are approximately the following number of basketball schools in each conference:

Conference 5A .....245

Conference 4A .....229

Conference 3A .....177

Conference 2A .....237

Conference A .....356

Section 352: NON-HONORS FOOTBALL

A school which has been elevated one conference to avoid extreme travel situations may be assigned on a non-honors basis to a football district.

**Section 353: FOOTBALL COMPETITION BY A NEW SCHOOL**

A participant school or charter school just admitted to competition in the League shall be assigned to a conference for football competition only at the beginning of an even-numbered year. See Official Interpretation #28, Appendix I.

**Section 354: FIRST APPEAL: DISTRICT REASSIGNMENT BY AGREEMENT**

If within one month after the district assignments have been released, a school that is not satisfied with its assignment obtains the unanimous written approval by the superintendents of the schools in the district to which it was assigned and of the schools in the district to which it wants to be assigned, and the contiguous relationship of all of the schools involved is not disturbed by the proposed reassignment, the school is entitled to be reassigned as it proposed. A school may appeal to be assigned to a district within a higher conference than that to which its membership qualifies it only under extreme travel conditions, and if the appeal is granted, it will be assigned to the higher conference for all UIL activities. A school shall not appeal to be assigned to a district within a lower conference than that to which it is assigned. The school shall promptly inform the Director of the proposed reassignment, furnishing the supporting statements. If the Director finds that the school is entitled to be reassigned, the Director shall reassign the school as it proposed and shall notify all the other schools and school districts concerned of the district reassignment.

**Section 355: DISTRICT ASSIGNMENT APPEALS COMMITTEE**

- (a) **APPEAL COMMITTEE.** The Chair of the Legislative Council shall appoint from the Legislative Council the members of the District Assignment Appeal Committee and designate a chair.
- (b) **REQUEST.** Within 10 days after the conference and district assignments have been released, a school whose first appeal was denied by the sending and/or receiving district may request a review of the district assignment by filing its request and a supporting statement with the District Assignment Appeal Committee and informing in writing the superintendent and principals of the schools in the district to which it was assigned and in the district to which it wishes to be assigned.
- (c) **RULES.** The Committee shall adopt and publish rules of procedure to be followed in the reviews.
- (d) **REVIEW.** Upon receipt of a timely request for review, the Committee shall set the date for the review and inform the applicant school and the schools in the affected districts of the time and place of the review. Parties may provide oral testimony.
- (e) **MEMBER INVOLVED.** If a member of the Committee is involved in the appeal, that member shall abstain from deliberations and voting, and the Chair of the Legislative Council shall appoint a member of the Council to sit in that member's place.
- (f) **GROUND FOR CONFERENCE REVIEW.** The only ground for review of conference assignment is an error in the enrollment basis. It is not considered an error in enrollment when a school wants to revoke its decision to be elevated one conference after the deadline for making this decision has passed. Schools shall not appeal to be assigned to a smaller conference based on evidence that they submitted figures that were too high, unless original documents verifying the error(s) are presented to the UIL staff prior to the release of the cutoff figures.
- (g) **DECISION OF THE COMMITTEE.** The Committee shall make a decision in writing within two days after the review. The Director shall promptly inform the applicant school and the schools in the affected districts

of the decision.

Section 356: FINAL DISTRICT ASSIGNMENTS AND CONTRACTING GAMES

- (a) When all reviews and appeals of conference decisions and assignments to districts have been made, the conferences and assignments to districts shall be final.
- (b) Until the conferences and assignments to districts are final, contracts for contests by schools are not valid.
- (c) A school may be disqualified for district honors for up to two years in that sport for contracting games with other Texas schools prior to the finalization of the reclassification and realignment by all UIL appeal committees. Athletic schedules will not be considered official until approved by the superintendent of the member school district.