

**Conference and District Assignment Policies and Procedures  
2016-2017 and 2017-2018 Realignment**

1. The League office shall obtain enrollment data on participant schools (grades 9-12).
2. The League office shall verify the enrollment figures submitted by the schools.
3. Conference AAAAAA should consist of a minimum of 220 schools and a maximum of 245 schools participating in football; Conferences AA through AAAAAA should consist of a number of schools such that the enrollment ratio in grades 9-12 between the largest school and the smallest school is approximately 2.0. There should be at least 200 schools each in Conferences AA and AAAAAA. Conference A shall consist of all schools that are not in Conferences AA-AAAAAA.
4. Schools with an enrollment of 104.9 or lower may choose to participate in Conference A football (six-man football) or may opt to play in Conference AA football (eleven-man football) but remain in Conference A for other applicable activities (see #6 below). Schools desiring to participate in Conference A may submit enrollment figures by any one of the following combinations of grades: grades 9, 10, 11 and 12; grades 8, 9, 10 and 11; grades 7, 8, 9 and 10; or grades 9 and 10 doubled.
5. Any school may request to be elevated one conference, provided notification is submitted to the League office simultaneously with enrollment figures.
6. Conference A, AA, AAA and AAAA schools will be further divided by enrollment figures for football (see (e) below). Then map pins are used to represent all schools in a conference and both divisions of Conference A, AA, AAA and AAAA football. Schools are placed into districts keeping the following criteria in mind:
  - a. Group geographically contiguous schools in groups of no more than ten and place in districts with an even number of schools, except when that action causes an extreme travel hardship. Schools in a district in urban areas may not always be contiguous.
  - b. Except in Conference A, AA, AAA and AAAA football, there are 32 districts to facilitate the playoff procedures (except in activities that do not have enough schools).
  - c. Multiple-high school districts with more than one school in the same conference will have those schools assigned as follows.
    - (1) Multiple High School Districts with 11 or More Schools in the Same Conference: A multiple high school district with 11 or more schools in the same conference shall have its schools assigned to two or more UIL districts. Any UIL district resulting from this division with seven or fewer schools from the same ISD in it may have additional schools assigned to the UIL district by the League office.
    - (2) Multiple High School Districts with Seven or Fewer Schools in the Same Conference: A multiple high school district with seven or fewer schools in the same conference shall have its schools assigned to the same UIL district. Other schools may also be assigned to this UIL district by the League office.
    - (3) Multiple High School Districts with Schools in Different Conferences: A multiple high school district may opt to have one or more of its schools elevated one conference if it wants its schools to be assigned to the same UIL district.
    - (4) Multiple High School Districts with schools in more than one conference, one of which is a magnet school. A multiple high school district with schools in more than one conference, one of which is a magnet school, shall have the magnet school placed in the same conference as the high school in that school district with the largest enrollment. A magnet school is defined as a high school within a multiple high school district where all students participate in the magnet curriculum.
    - (5) EXCEPTION: Exceptions to the above may be made when agreed upon by all participating schools and approved by the District Assignment Review Committee.
  - d. If a school district with only one high school opens a second high school with the same attendance boundaries as its primary high school, the enrollment of both schools will be combined to determine conference placement for the primary school.
  - e. Conference A, AA, AAA and AAAA Football: Conference A, AA, AAA and AAAA football schools will be divided into large schools (Division 1) and small schools (Division 2), through the state championship event, with 16 districts in each division.
  - f. There will be six (6) Conferences in the following activities: Cross Country, Football, Basketball and Spring Meet (Academics [including One-Act Play], Golf, Tennis and Track and Field). There will be five

(5) Conferences in the following activities: Music, Volleyball, Baseball and Softball. There will be three (3) Conferences in the following activities: Team Tennis and Soccer. There will be two (2) Conferences in the following activities: Swimming/Diving and Wrestling.

7. There shall be no attempt made to perpetuate or avoid "old rivalries." Socioeconomic and ethnicity factors are not considered.
8. A school may be placed in different districts for different activities to alleviate extreme travel situations.
9. If there is a clerical error in assignment or if a school has been omitted, the staff is authorized to correct the error or omission. Schools in both districts will be notified of the correction.
10. A school may change districts with the unanimous consent of all schools in both districts. This is the first level of appeal.
11. If the first level of appeal is denied, schools may appeal their district assignment to the District Assignment Appeals Committee. All schools will be notified of the deadline for this appeal.
12. A school may be disqualified from district honors for up to two years in that sport for contracting games prior to finalizing 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.
13. Schools may play their first football game the last Thursday in August. Beginning practice dates will remain the same for all conferences. Schools will be limited to no more than ten regular season games.
14. Schools shall be assigned to football districts only in even-numbered years.
15. A new school may be assigned on a non-honors basis in football for one two-year assignment period.
16. Charter Schools.
  - a. Charter schools will be assigned to districts in team sports only prior to even-numbered years.
  - b. Charter schools may be reassigned to a higher conference if actual enrollment is larger than enrollment projections.
  - c. Charter schools shall not be assigned to a football district unless they have provided evidence to the UIL staff that they have participated previously.
  - d. Unless its enrollment qualifies it for a higher conference, a charter school shall have its classification determined by placing it in the conference of the lowest enrolled school from the ISD in which the charter school is physically located.
    1. This rule is applicable to charter schools located within an ISD consisting of three (3) or more high schools.
    2. Any charter school that is elevated in conference under this rule will receive an automatic appeal to UIL staff regarding their conference assignment. Additionally, any charter school who chooses may appeal the decision of UIL staff to the District Assignment Appeals Committee.
17. Schools gaining or losing students by consolidation may have their conference and district assignments changed during the two-year alignment period.
18. Schools will not be changed because of loss or gain within a district during growth or decline in membership after enrollment figures are certified.
19. Schools may be in different regions in different activities.
20. District numbering begins in the north or west and culminates in the southern part of the state.
21. Schools which are assigned to an athletic district and fail to participate may be suspended by the State Executive Committee in the germane activity, see section 27 of the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules.

## FORMULAS

A participant school shall be classified for assignment to a conference on the basis of enrollment on a date from the previous October. The formulas used to determine enrollment shall be:

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

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

2. Schools with only grades 10-12 when it cannot easily be determined which schools the ninth graders will attend as tenth graders:

$$\text{Enrollment} = \text{Grades } (10 + 11 + 12) \times 1.33$$

3. Schools with only grades 11-12 when it cannot easily be determined which schools the tenth graders will attend as eleventh graders:

$$\text{Enrollment} = \text{Grades } (11 + 12) \times 2$$

4. New schools:

Schools opening or entering competition in the first year of an alignment period will have their conference placement determined by the following procedure:

- a. Opening or entering with 1 grade: Enrollment (projected or actual) multiplied by 2
- b. Opening or entering with 2 grades: Enrollment (projected or actual) multiplied by 1.33
- c. Opening or entering with 3 grades: Enrollment (projected or actual) multiplied by 1.33
- d. Opening or entering with 4 grades: Enrollment (projected or actual)

Schools opening or entering competition in the second year of an alignment period will have their conference placement determined (for varsity activities in which they participate) by the enrollment (projected or actual, with no multiplier applied) with which they open.

Existing schools affected by the opening of a new school (which will open or did open in the first or second year of an alignment) will have their conference placement determined by taking the current enrollment in grades 9-11 + projected number of 8<sup>th</sup> graders entering that high school the following school year.