

Proposed University Interscholastic League Contest Pilot Program

A. Brief Explanation of Proposed Pilot

This amendment would authorize UIL to collaborate with Special Olympics Texas to create Unified Sports as a pilot program for the 2020-2021 school year.

B. Factual and Policy Justifications

This pilot proposal gives UIL staff authority to collaborate with Special Olympics Texas to develop the rules and guidelines for the competition and to evaluate Unified Sports as a pilot event. Sections 1205 (a)(2), (6), and (7) of the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules (all student safety related) will apply to students participating in this pilot. A student who meets the requirements of Section 400 of the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules is eligible to participate in this pilot contest.

C. Proposed Amendment

Unified Sports would be added as a pilot program pending approval by the Commission of Education.

D. Potential Fiscal Impact of the Proposed Rule to Member Schools

School districts would choose whether to participate. For those that participate, there would be costs for equipment, as well as travel to a qualifying event and to the state event for teams that qualify. UIL staff is working with Special Olympics Texas to provide grant assistance to participating schools.

E. Legislative Council Consideration; Effective Date

If approved by the Legislative Council and the Commissioner of Education, this amendment shall be effective August 1, 2020.