



FHSAA Heart Screening FAQ

Please Note: An ECG performed on or after July 1, 2024, will satisfy the requirement. The goal is to identify undetected cardiac risk factors and enhance athlete safety.

What is the new Heart Screening requirement?

Starting July 1, 2026, a new sports safety policy will be in effect for high school students who want to play sports, Florida's Second Chance Act will require high school students to have a one-time heart screening before any participation, workout or tryout.

Who needs a heart screening?

All incoming student-athletes who have not submitted a passed ECG/EKG to the school

Where can my child get screened?

Through organizations like Who We Play For, a Florida nonprofit organization.
At your family doctor's office or local clinics and hospitals

Does the screening need to be done before the sports physical?

No. The heart screening and sports physical are separate and can be completed in any order.

How much does it cost?

Many programs offer screenings at a reduced cost or even free.

What paperwork is required?

You must complete the FHSAA ELI form to confirm the screening.

Does a doctor need to sign the form?

Usually no. Parents complete and sign the form. A doctor only signs if the screening was done through a private physician. But results must be cleared by doctor or organization performing ECG/EKG with their signature and must be submitted with ELI form.

Can I opt my child out?

Yes, but only for religious reasons. This must be documented on the ELI form of the physical.

Is this required every year?

No, they are valid for four years. If your child is in middle school, they will need another one completed 4 years after the date of their first one.

How will the school track this?

Schools utilize an athletic clearance software product for document compliance. The ELI form will be added to the compliance list for the school to manage.

What if my child transfers schools?

Keep copies of your child's screening results and ELI form to provide to the new school.

Who performs the screening?

Trained professionals perform the test, and a doctor reviews the results.

What if my child needs more testing?

This does not mean something is wrong. It simply means the results need a closer look. You will be guided on next steps.

Are there other forms physicians may need to access for additional documentation?

Yes, the ELI/2 S form is a supplemental form for physicians to document additional information and clearance if additional testing is needed. This form can be accessed on the FHSAA website.

In addition, the FHSAA has published the MEI form which allows a physician to exempt a student-athlete from the heart screening when under the care of a physician provider.

This form can be accessed on the FHSAA website.

How can schools connect with Who We Play For?

Visit: www.whoweplayfor.org; Call: 1-888-906-9973

****Important Reminder****

This screening is designed to help keep student-athletes safe. If your child has any known heart symptoms or concerns, please consult your healthcare provider.