



Ohio High School Athletic Association

## ODE Enrollment Information

For 2024-25 and 2025-26 Cycle

January 2024

The male and female enrollments of OHSAA member schools are used to determine OHSAA governance classifications (AAA, AA, A) and the OHSAA tournament divisions for each sport. OHSAA Bylaw 2-1-3 indicates that enrollment information used by the OHSAA shall be provided by the Ohio Department of Education (ODE). All boys and girls in grades 9, 10, 11 who were enrolled as of October 31, 2023, shall be counted for enrollment purposes with the exception of students who have been identified on your report(s) to ODE as children with disabilities within the multiple-handicapped category, as deaf/blind or identified as having a traumatic brain injury.

An exception to Bylaw 4-3-1, Enrollment and Attendance, permits:

- Students who attend non-traditional/specialty schools sponsored by a school district have participation opportunities at the member school sponsored by that respective district. These students are added into the enrollment counts of the member school(s) in that respective district.
- Students who attend an ODE STEM designated school or a community school that is an OHSAA member school are included in the enrollment of that member school.
- Students who attend an ODE STEM designated school that is a non-OHSAA member school sponsored by a school district and who reside within that school district, are included in the enrollment of the member school(s) in that respective district.
- Students who attend a non-OHSAA member STEM not sponsored by an individual district are not included in member school enrollment. These non-enrolled community school students will be addressed by competitive balance.
- Students who attend a non-OHSAA member community school, regardless of sponsorship, are not included in member school enrollment. These non-enrolled community school students will be addressed by competitive balance.

There may be a few instances where students may need to be excluded from enrollment counts because the students are in “lock down facilities” and they have no opportunity to participate in interscholastic athletics. The students may be included in a member school’s enrollment count because the school district bears the responsibility for educating the student. Member schools that have such an arrangement may submit written information to the OHSAA that indicates the arrangement and should include in the correspondence the number of students enrolled in grades 9-11, by gender, who should be excluded from the enrollment count.

Finally, if the enrollment count indicated for any member school was less than 10 (<10), ODE will not provide the exact number of students because the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) indicates all data that represents less than 10 students are masked to ensure student privacy. Therefore if the aggregate number received was less than 10 students, the OHSAA shall count this number as 5.

To summarize the OHSAA enrollment process, here is some additional information:

1. The ODE simply provides the OHSAA with a final number of males and a final number of females, which is based on the business rules for enrollment counts adopted by the OHSAA Board of Directors.
2. The OHSAA has no access to the breakdown of these final numbers, nor do we see the enrollment by grade levels used to total these numbers.
3. Upon receipt of the ODE numbers, the OHSAA looks at each school district to determine if there are non-traditional/specialty schools and/or lock-down facilities. Students may be added or subtracted from the enrollment number based on this information.
4. The OHSAA then posts the proposed enrollment numbers on its website and asks all schools to review and verify the data. We appreciate the notification when numbers appear to be incorrect since this is part of our data integrity system.