



High School Figure Skating FAQ

What is High School Skating?

Similar to collegiate skating, the high school program offers skaters the opportunity to compete on a team for their high school. Several states/regions host a high school series and a state final, and any high school team is eligible to enter the U.S. Figure Skating National High School Cyber Challenge or Sectional High School Finals.

How do I start a high school skating team?

Two skaters are required to start a team; skaters can either represent a single school or a combination of several area schools. To form a team, we encourage students to get approval from their high school, then complete team registration on Members Only and pay the yearly team dues.

How much does it cost to start a team?

The U.S. Figure Skating High School Team dues fee is \$50 to register. Additional fees for a team might include competition fees, practice ice time, optional coaching fees, travel, and team apparel.

Can we combine local high schools to form one team? Or must skaters compete only for their high school?

Athletes may compete either for the high school they are attending, or high school collaborative, defined as follows:

- Athletes from a single school, representing that school, OR
- Athletes representing two or more area high schools combining to form a single team.

NOTE: Competitors may not represent more than ONE high school team at the same time.

Can I change team's mid-season?

Yes, you can change team representation in the middle of the season. We ask that you fill out the [High School Team Representation Change Request Form](#) prior to changing teams.



What skaters are eligible to compete on high school skating teams? Can home school skaters compete?

All skaters must be enrolled as a full-time student as defined by the institution that they attend, grades 9-12, as per state guidelines. This includes traditional, online, and home-school educational environments. Skaters must be eligible members in good standing of U.S. Figure Skating or Learn to Skate USA.

Does a team require a coach?

No. We encourage student athlete support and leadership within the team. A coach is optional and a team's decision.

Is there a minimum skate test required to compete at high school events?

All levels are welcome! Event offerings for high school teams can range from Basic 1 all the way up to Senior. Some competitions may have event and level restrictions. Please refer to the competition announcement for specific information.

Do I need to have a current membership to join?

Yes, anyone skating on a high school team must have current Learn to Skate USA® or U.S. Figure Skating membership.

When is the high school skating season?

The High School Team season runs October 1 through September 30 of the following year, with most competitions taking place between October and May. Although, high school competitions can take place even during the summer! Competition offerings will vary depending on where you are located.

Teams can be formed at any time throughout the season.

What events are offered at high school skating competitions?

Typically, events are offered in a variety of disciplines, including short program, free skate (Excel or well balanced), solo dance (pattern and free dances), team



maneuvers, showcase, Compete USA, specialty events, and adaptive skating.

Will I miss school to compete at these events?

Possibly. Athletes participating in these events are student-athletes. Their education is of the highest priority, and in all decision-making matters, the Program & New Program Development Committee and the local organizing committees (LOC) have a responsibility to minimize the days missed from school.

If you need to request an absence letter from U.S. Figure Skating, please fill out the [School Absence Letter Request form](#).

What competitive opportunities exist for High School skating teams?

High School teams can compete at any competition offering High School skating events. These competitions may be local non-qualifying competitions or those facilitated by U.S. Figure Skating (Cyber Challenge or Sectional HS Finals).

To find a local competition, go to www.usfigureskating.org/skate/compete and use the competition search feature.

For more information on the Cyber Challenge or the Sectional High School Finals, visit the High School Programs Overview page on Members Only.

Can I attend high school competitions in other states?

Probably. Some states run competition series that are limited to in-state teams. It is recommended to check competition announcements for specific eligibility requirements.

What states have high school skating series or state championship?

To date there are competition series/state championships hosted in Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin, Colorado, New England, and Ohio.

Can I host a high school skating competition?

Yes! You have two options: host a competition just for High School skating teams or add high school team events onto an already existing non-qualifying competition. For more information, please contact Chloe Roberts (croberts@usfigureskating.org) or Waverly Huston (waverlyhuston@gmail.com).



How do I run a team maneuvers event?

For information regarding hosting a team maneuvers event and event facilitation, please refer to the [2024-2025 High School Team Maneuvers Requirements](#).

Do high schools recognize the program - (Scholarships, Letterman Jacket, Varsity Status, etc.)?

Sometimes. Contact your school or school district for more information. If you need supporting documents to present to your school, please reach out to Chloe Roberts at croberts@usfigureskating.org.

U.S. Figure Skating also offers a Graduating Seniors Program that can support skater recognition within high school banquets or club acknowledgements; [click here](#) for more information.

Can I compete on my local high school team and still compete at other U.S. Figure Skating competitions?

Yes, there is no limit on how many programs an athlete can participate in!

What are the advantages to starting/being on a high school skating team?

- Build friendships - Experience a team approach to an individual sport
- Develop valuable leadership skills by managing and running aspects of the team - including working with your school administration, event and travel planning, recruiting members, etc.
- Continued involvement in skating
- Compete with your friends representing your high school team