



Title IX Fact Sheet

Title IX is a federal law, established in 1972, that prohibits sex discrimination in all educational programs that receive federal funds.

- Schools that *do not* receive federal funding are not required to comply with Title IX.
- Title IX is not a sports law and *does not pertain only to sports*.
- Title IX protects *all school students* (male & female), faculty and staff.
- Title IX Coordinators are required by law and are a school district's primary resource for identifying sex discrimination, including sexual harassment.
- Title IX does not require a school to offer the same number of teams for boys and girls and does not require a school to offer the same sports/activities for boys and girls.
- Title IX does require a school to provide an *equal opportunity for female and male students* to become interscholastic participants (analyzed by means of the "Three-Prong Test")



Title IX Athletics Compliance Framework

Component I: Effective Accommodation of Athletics Interests & Abilities

Participation Opportunities: Three-Pronged Test

1. **Substantial Proportionality** – Ratios of male athletic participation and female athletic participation must be "substantially proportional" to ratios of male enrollment and female enrollment
2. **History and Continuing Practice** – The School must show a continuing practice, in the very recent past, of expanding its girls' sports and offerings
3. **Full and Effective Accommodation** – The school must show that the athletics interests and abilities of the institution's female enrollment have been fully and effectively accommodated

Levels of Competition: Two-Pronged Test

1. **Substantial Proportionality** – Ratios of male athletic participation and female athletic participation must be "substantially proportional" to ratios of male enrollment and female enrollment
2. **History and Continuing Practice** – The School must show a continuing practice, in the very recent past, of expanding its girls' sports and offerings

Component II: Athletics Financial Assistance for Student-Athletes

Compliance requires that total scholarship dollars related to athletics must be divided in proportion to the relative participation of men and women in the school's athletics programs. The most common Title IX issue regarding scholarship equity at the high school level involves questions of how to determine which dollars constitute athletics-related aid vs. purely academic-related aid and who to count as athletic participants.

Component III: Athletics Financial Assistance for Student-Athletes

Evaluates a school's athletics programs collectively to see whether men and women have comparable access to all the "perks" of athletic participation.