



UPDATED: September 15, 2026

Emerging and Re-Emerging Scholastic Cheer Teams Exemption Policy

1) Preamble

This policy addresses emerging and re-emerging scholastic cheer programs.

2) Exemptions

- a) BCSC may grant exemptions to the “10% rule” for BCSC member scholastic teams that meet all of the following criteria:
 - i) The principal school must meet one of the following conditions:
 - (1) Has never competed in BC, or
 - (2) Has not competed in BC in the past 5 seasons, or
 - (3) Has competed in 1–2 seasons in the past 5 years and is still in the early stages of program development **If needing this criteria, please provide details below for review by the BCSC Board of Directors.**
 - ii) Athletes from outside the principal school must attend schools within the same school district.
 - iii) The athletes from outside the principal school must not have a competitive cheer program at their own schools.
 - iv) Athletes may not compete on multiple scholastic teams within one single season (Any point from September 1 to May 31).
 - v) Athletes from outside of the principal school must not compete with an all-star program in the same season (Any point from September 1 to May 31).
 - vi) Athletes from all outside schools must get permission from their school administration prior to joining the team at the principal school.

3) Eligibility

- a) Teams that meet all of the above criteria may [apply for the Emerging and Re-Emerging Scholastic Team Exemption](#).
- b) Approved teams may include up to 25% of athletes from other schools within their district. However, where fewer than 25% of the team's total roster are athletes who participate in an All-Star cheer program during the same season (any point from September to May), there is no limit on the proportion of athletes who may come from other schools within the same school district.
 - i) If applying for this exemption, the principal school is responsible for providing BCSC with a list of athletes with their school affiliation, as well as any other current cheer program affiliations (including All-Star,



Novice, Prep, Recreational/Learn-to-Cheer, and community cheerleading).

- (1) If the roster changes or cheer affiliations change partway through the season (September to May), the principal school is responsible for providing an updated affiliations roster to BCSC.
- ii) All-Star Cheer Program is defined as a novice, prep, or All-Star team, including non-tumble teams. This definition does not apply to athletes on recreational or “learn-to-cheer” teams, though athletes affiliated with any cheer program (including non-BCSC Member Programs, community cheer programs, and recreational teams) should still be listed as a cheer affiliation.
- c) This exemption may be used for up to 3 consecutive years beginning from the year that the team has been granted this exemption.

4) Team Responsibilities

- a) Teams must re-confirm eligibility each season and remain in good standing with BCSC. The entire team, including coaches, must be current Members of BCSC to be granted this exemption and for the exemption to be maintained through the entire season.
- b) Teams are encouraged to actively promote cheer within their principal school and work toward reducing reliance on external athletes over time.
- c) BCSC reserves the right to deny or revoke an exemption if evidence suggests a team is circumventing the spirit of scholastic cheer through targeted recruitment or poaching of elite athletes who attend schools other than the principal school.

5) BCSC Rights

- a) BCSC reserves the right to amend or remove this policy as determined by the Board of Directors, as the nature of the policy is temporary, to increase participation in Scholastic Cheer in BC. Note: It is the responsibility of the team to confirm eligibility with event producers if competing outside of BC or at a national competition, as this exemption may make you ineligible to compete nationally or outside of BC.
- b) Exemptions apply to the cheer program as a whole, not solely the name of the school. If a program is transferred or rebranded across schools within the district, its eligibility window will be up to the discretion of BCSC.

By submitting [an application](#), you confirm that you have read and understand the above information and will abide by the requirements if granted eligibility.