



What Parents & Students Need to Know About the **Second Chance Act**



NEW LAW

Senate Bill 1070 was passed into law on June 26, 2025. It is also known as the Second Chance Act (Chapter 2025-183). Effective July 1, 2025.



WHY THIS LAW MATTERS

Sudden cardiac arrest (SCA) is the leading medical cause of death in student-athletes. The Second Chance Act will help detect heart conditions that may lead to sudden cardiac arrest (SCA) in student-athletes—and prevent needless tragedies.



WHAT THE LAW REQUIRES

Electrocardiogram (EKG or ECG): Starting with the 2026-2027 school year, high school students (grades 9–12) in public and private schools participating for the first time in interscholastic athletic competition, practice, try outs or workouts sanctioned by the Florida High School Athletic Association (FHSAA) must have a medical evaluation and an EKG before participating in athletics.

- If student has had an EKG up to two (2) years prior to the 2026-2027 school year, it satisfies the requirement.



- **Medical Clearance:** Students with abnormal EKG results will be prohibited from participating in tryouts, practices, and competitions until cleared to participate in athletics by a licensed healthcare practitioner who is trained in the diagnosis, evaluation, and management of electrocardiograms and written medical clearance is submitted to the school.



- **Exemption:** Parent/Guardian can opt-out in writing for religious reasons or if a licensed medical practitioner provides a certificate of medical exception. If a parent/guardian submits a religious objection to the EKG requirement, or if a licensed medical provider grants a medical exception, any person or entity that relies on the results of the EKG is not liable for the student's injury or death resulting from participation in interscholastic athletics due to a medical condition that would have been revealed by the EKG.



- **Cost:** School districts must seek public or private partnerships to offer low-cost EKGs. If no provider offers the test for less than \$50, students in that district are not required to get an EKG.