

Welcome to the Akins Eagle Band!

Below are answers to some frequently asked questions (FAQ's). We hope this will help to answer some of *your* questions. If not, please click on the Booster tab on the website (akinseagleband.org), then click on Board. Feel free to contact any board member to help answer your questions.

What is Fair Share?

Fair Share is the fee all band students are required to pay annually. Akins Fair Share is \$250 and can be paid in monthly installments, beginning July 1st (even for incoming freshmen). Fair Share payments should be made out to Akins High School Band and can be put in the Black Band Box in the Band Hall or sent to:

Akins Band Fair Share
ATTN: Lisa Torres-Rodriguez, Bookkeeper
W. Charles Akins High School
10701 South 1st Street
Austin, Texas 78748

Payment due dates and amounts are:

July 1st - \$60

September 1st - \$65

August 1st - \$60

October 1st - \$65

What does Fair Share pay for?

Fair Share pays for summer uniforms and costs associated with the band program, such as needed materials (eg props, paint, etc.), as determined by the Band Directors.

What are Tailgating meals?

Tailgating meals are the meals Bands students eat before they change into their uniforms prior to games and competitions. *Students are not allowed to eat or drink anything (except water) once they are dressed in their uniform.*

Is my student required to participate in Tailgating meals?

No; *however*, they are required to eat a meal before they change into their uniform, since it will be a long period of time before they have the opportunity to eat again. You are welcome to make other arrangements for your student's meals, but purchasing the tailgating package is a reasonable cost (\$114 for 19 meals @ \$6 each), is easier than rushing to the school to bring a meal by 4:15 pm, and assures your child the opportunity eat.

What other Band-related expenses can I expect?

Other Band expenses include, *but may not be limited to:*

- * Showstoppers (black marching shoes), about \$30—**required**
- * Uniform garment bag, range from about \$11 - \$26—**required**
- * Tote bag, \$32—optional
- * Band trip, costs vary—**required**
- * Region Orchestra fees, \$10—**required** for students trying out for Region Orchestra
- * Region Band fees, \$10—**required** for students trying out for Region Band

What are Band trips for?

Band trips always include some level of Band competition. They are often planned to allow the concert bands an opportunity to play their UIL music and receive specific feedback from judges prior to the scheduled UIL concert. Band trips also include a rest and relax component as a reward for all the hard work and effort students put into their Band experience.

Is my student required to participate in Band trips?

On the Akins Eagle Band (akinseagleband.org) website is this quote:

"One band, one sound.

If one of us is late, we're all late.

If one of us sounds bad, we all sound bad."

DRUMLINE 2002

How do you think that would translate to "If one of us is missing, ..."?

What is UIL?

UIL is The University Interscholastic League. For more information, go to:
<http://www.uil.utexas.edu/>

Why do the students have fundraising activities?

To help pay for their Fair Share and Band trips (these are required fees).

Where does the money go?

All funds raised during student fundraising activities are deposited directly into the student's account.

Is my student required to participate in fundraising activities?

Students are not usually required to participate in fundraising activities

 **Why do the Band Boosters have fundraising activities?**

To help meet band expenses, such as fees for additional directors and clinicians not paid by the School District, help with the cost of props, help feed the students in unforeseen circumstances, purchase Spirit items (including Show Shirts), etc.

 **Where does the money go?**

All funds raised by the Band Boosters are deposited into the Booster account and used to help the Band program and students.

 **Am I required to participate in fundraising activities?**


No one is required to participate in fundraising activities. *However*, the more people that help, the more we can do to help our Band continue to be an award-winning organization and the more we can do to help our students have a rewarding experience and develop a sense of pride in themselves and their achievements.

 **How can I help with Band and Booster activities?**

You can join a committee, or more than one. There are also many opportunities to volunteer for a variety of activities. Please visit the website (akinseagleband.org) and click on the Parents tab, then download the Booster Committee Information Sheet. Be sure to sign up for the Yahoo! Group so you can receive the Eagle Band Updates.

 **Who do I contact to help?**

You may contact any board member to ask how you can help.
<http://www.akinseagleband.org/main.php?content=boosters>

 **How do I sign up for the Yahoo! Group?**

Please visit the website (akinseagleband.org) and click on Yahoo! Groups Join Now! (Look for the purple box to the left.)

