

UW Health: Free sports physical for uninsured student athletes

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MADISON, Wis. – On Tuesday evening, August 9, high school students who do not have health insurance can come to the Access Community Health Center in Madison to receive a free sports physical, which is required to participate in student athletics.

This annual event gives high school athletes a space to get the examinations and clearance they need to participate in the sports they love, according to David Bernhardt, pediatrician and primary care sports medicine physician, UW Health Kids.

“Studies have shown the health benefits of sports participation for young people,” Bernhardt said. “We want this community event to help them access those benefits and eliminate a barrier many student athletes face.”

Students move through the clinic station by station to get their vitals taken as well as an orthopedic exam. Free vaccinations are also offered as long as a parent is present. Finally, athletes are checked out and can be cleared and given a waiver to participate in their chosen sports.

Athletic trainers and directors in local school systems have more information on what students need to participate in school sports and they can be a great resource, according to Bernhardt.

“If you can’t attend this clinic, talk to your athletic trainer or your child’s athletic trainer about how to arrange for an athletic physical,” he said.

When: Tuesday, August 9, 2022, 6-9 p.m.

- 6 p.m. last names A-I check in
- 7 p.m. last names J-R check in
- 8 p.m. last names S-Z check in (Final clinic check-in time is 8:20 p.m.)

Where: Access Community Health Center, 2202 S. Park St. Madison, WI