

CLEAR BAG FAQ's



What happens if a fan shows up at the gate with a bag that is not permitted?

Fans will not be allowed to enter the Stadium with a non-conforming bag. Fans will be asked to return items to their vehicle.

Are all purses prohibited?

No. Small clutch purses, with or without a handle or strap, no larger than the palm of an adult hand are permitted. Purses larger than this are not permitted.

What about diaper bags?

Everything that you would put into a diaper bag must now be carried in a clear bag. Each member of a family, including children, is allowed to carry an approved clear bag and a clutch purse into the stadium.

Can fans bring stadium seats or chairbacks?

Fans are permitted to bring in their own stadium seats or chair-backs provided the seats does not have any pockets or zippers and does not exceed 12x12x18 inches.

Why has this bag policy been adopted?

In order to provide a safer environment for the public and improve the overall fan experience, McAllen ISD has implemented new guidelines that will limit the size and type of bags that may be brought into the stadium. During varsity football games, fans will be limited to clear bags of an identified style and size. This proactive measure will enhance safety inside and outside the stadium and is in line with actions being taken in school districts across our state.

Are other athletics venues limiting bags?

Yes. In fact, there are a number of school district athletic venues that do not permit bags of any kind to enter their stadium. NFL stadiums, bowl games and NCAA events have similar clear bag policies plus pat downs and metal detector screenings. The limitations on bag size and style is a further enhancement for convenience and safety.

How does the new policy improve public safety?

The clear bag is easily and quickly searched and greatly reduces faulty bag searches. It also supports the Department of Homeland Security's "If You See Something, Say Something" campaign.

How is the new policy more convenient for fans?

The clear bags will enable security to move fans through checkpoints quickly and efficiently. A standard size bag eliminates the need for bag templates to check bag sizes. Clear bags allow staff to be more efficient and effective in keeping you safe by preventing dangerous items from entering the stadium.

How many bags may each person bring into the stadium?

One large clear bag -- either a one-gallon clear resealable plastic bag or a 12" x 6" x 12" clear bag -- plus a small clutch. The larger clear bag must be a standard 12" x 6" x 12" made of clear PVC vinyl and visually searchable. The small clutch allows privacy for small personal items and is also easily searched.

Can smartphones, tablets, binoculars or cameras be carried SEPARATELY from the clear bag?

Yes. Phones, cameras or binoculars may be carried in by hand.

CASES FOR THESE ITEMS ARE NOT ALLOWED.

If I have special medical equipment I need to have with me at all times, where do I put that?

An exception will be made for medical necessary items after proper inspection at designated areas.

What about bringing blankets in cold weather?

Fans will be able to bring blankets by tossing them over a shoulder or arm as they arrive at the gate. These items can be easily screened.

Do I have to put everything I'm carrying into a permissible bag?

No. We are limiting only the type of bags carried into the venue, not items that you normally bring to a game. Therefore, you may carry items in your pockets or jacket (keys, makeup, feminine products, comb, phone, wallet, credit cards, etc.) if you choose not to put them in a clear bag or clutch. You also may carry a blanket over your arms, and binoculars and/or a camera around your neck or in your hands (without the case, of course). You may use the clear bag and clutch to carry other items. You will continue to have the flexibility to bring a wide variety of approved items into the venue. Every member of your family may carry in a permissible bag.

Will clear bags be available for purchase?

Yes, McAllen ISD branded clear bags can be purchased from individual school booster clubs.