

## MICHIGAN



**Amount of Required Physical Education:** The state requires elementary, middle school/junior high, and high schools to provide students with physical education and maintains that students who are “physically fit and capable of doing so” are to take physical education,<sup>151</sup> but does not have a requirement for the number of minutes. High school students must earn physical education credit for graduation. The state does not have a method for enforcing the physical education requirements. The state has a policy regarding physical education that was passed by the State Board of Education.

**Physical Education Equipment and Facilities:** The state does not annually assess the availability of appropriate equipment and adequate facilities for students to engage in required physical education instruction.

**High School Graduation Requirements:** The state requires students to earn at least 1.0 credit in subject matter including both health and physical education, or at least 0.5 credit in health and 0.5 credit in approved participation in extracurricular athletics or other extracurricular activities involving physical activity.<sup>152</sup>

**Substitutions:** The state permits school districts or schools to allow students to substitute other activities for required physical education. A school district may credit a student’s participation in extracurricular athletics or other extracurricular activities involving physical activity as meeting the physical education requirement.<sup>153</sup> Other substitutions may be determined at the local level; the department of education strongly recommends that local districts put a policy in place outlining what will or will not be accepted for the credit.

**Exemptions/Waivers:** The state does not permit schools or school districts to apply for a waiver from state physical education requirements. An individual student’s physical education requirement may be modified as part of a personal curriculum where the student is required to complete an additional credit in either a core content subject area or a career and technical education program.<sup>154</sup>

**Physical Activity:** The state does not require elementary schools to provide daily recess, and does not require a minimum weekly amount of physical activity time for elementary, middle school/junior high, or high school students. There is a State Board of Education policy regarding physical activity time for students.

Classroom physical activity breaks are not required. The state does not prohibit the use of withholding physical activity, including recess, as punishment for disciplinary reasons, nor does it prohibit using physical activity as punishment for inappropriate behavior.

**Local School Wellness Policy:** The state requires schools or school districts to provide their local school wellness policy to the state education agency, but does not require the policy to be posted online for the public. The state does not monitor the implementation of local school wellness policies.

**State Standards:** The state has adopted standards for physical education, with which all school districts must comply. [The Physical Education Content Standards and Benchmarks](#) were last revised in 2008.

**Areas addressed in the state standards include:**

**National Standard 1:** Competency in a variety of motor skills and movement patterns

**National Standard 2:** Knowledge of concepts, principles, strategies and tactics related to movement and performance

**National Standard 3:** Knowledge and skills to achieve and maintain a health-enhancing level of physical activity and fitness

**National Standard 4:** Responsible personal and social behavior that respects self and others

**National Standard 5:** Value of physical activity for health, enjoyment, challenge, self-expression and/or social interaction

**State Curriculum:** The state does not require schools or school districts to use a specific curriculum. It has promoted use of the Physical Education Curriculum Analysis Tool (PECAT), by way of information-sharing through existing state communication networks.

**State Funding for Physical Education Programs:** School district appropriations fund the state’s physical education programs in school districts and schools. Additional funding is available from various state and national grants. Grants vary in both the amount of funding available and the expenses for which awarded funds are eligible.

**Class Size:** The state does not have a required student-teacher ratio for academic classes.

**Grade Point Average (GPA):** The state does not require physical education grades to be included in a student's GPA.

**Online Physical Education Courses:** The state allows students to earn required physical education credits through online physical education courses.

**Student Assessment Requirements:** The state does not require student assessment related to state physical education standards. A State Board of Education policy covers student assessment in physical education. Individual student assessment results are sent to each student's parent/guardian.

**Fitness Assessment:** The state does not require student physical fitness assessment.

**Body Mass Index (BMI):** The state does not require schools to collect student BMI or height and weight data.

**Certification/Licensure of Physical Education Teachers:** The state requires physical education teachers to be state certified/licensed and endorsed to teach physical education at the elementary, middle school/junior high and high school levels, and to teach online physical education courses. It requires teachers in any content area (including physical education) to pass the Michigan Test for Teacher Certification to obtain endorsements. Elementary classroom teachers (generalists) are allowed to teach required elementary school physical education classes.

### Professional Development of Physical Education

**Teachers:** Professional development is required in order to maintain/renew one's physical education teacher certification or licensure, but the professional development does not have to be on physical education topics. The state provides professional development events or funding specifically for physical education teachers.

**Teacher Evaluation:** The state has a teacher evaluation system for all teachers.

**National Board Certification:** The state does not actively promote or encourage teachers to register for the National Board Certification process, nor does it provide mentoring or funding support, or any type of monetary compensation, for physical education teachers going through the process.

**District Physical Education Coordinator:** The state does not require each school district to have a licensed physical educator serving as a physical education coordinator. It has designated staffing (<1.0 FTE) to oversee implementation, compliance, technical assistance, or monitoring of physical education programs in school districts and schools.

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151 Mich. Comp. Laws § 380.1502 (2015) ("each pupil attending public school in this state who is physically fit and capable of doing so shall take the course in physical education;" but see Op.Atty.Gen.1985, No. 6279, 1985 WL 200582).

152 Mich. Comp. Laws § 380.1278a (2015). Requirements for high school diploma.

153 Mich. Comp. Laws § 380.1502 (2015).

154 Mich. Comp. Laws § 380.1278b (2015).