

## OKLAHOMA

**Amount of Required Physical Education:** The state requires students to take physical education for 60 minutes per week in grades K-5.<sup>248</sup> The state does not require high schools to provide students with physical education. The state enforces the physical education requirements through accreditation reports. The state law is unclear as to the requirement to provide or require participation in physical education classes.<sup>249</sup>

**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 does not have a requirement for the number of high school physical education credits needed for graduation.

**Substitutions:** The state permits school districts or schools to allow students to substitute interscholastic sports, marching band, and cheerleading for required physical education participation or credit.

**Exemptions/Waivers:** The state does not permit schools or school districts to apply for a waiver from state physical education requirements. Students may not apply for an exemption from required physical education. Adapted physical education may be provided to students who have a disability, chronic health problem, or other special need that precludes the student's participation in regular physical education. Schools may exclude from participation students who have been placed into an in-house suspension, detention class, or other disciplinary restriction.<sup>250</sup>

**Physical Activity:** The state requires an average of 60 minutes per week of physical activity for K-5 students. This physical activity must be in addition to the 60 minutes per week of physical education and may include but is not limited to additional physical education; exercise programs; fitness breaks; recess; classroom activities; and wellness and nutrition education. School district boards of education determine the specific activities and means of compliance with this requirement, giving consideration to recommendations from each school's Healthy and Fit School Advisory Committee as submitted to the school principal.<sup>251</sup> The State Board of Education shall strongly encourage districts to provide at least a 20-minute daily recess.<sup>252</sup> Classroom physical

activity breaks are not required but may be part of the daily 60 minutes of physical activity for K-5 students. The state does not require a minimum weekly amount of physical activity for middle school/junior high or high school students. 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 and to post it online for the public. The state monitors the implementation of local school wellness policies via its accreditation audit.

**State Standards:** The state has adopted standards for physical education, with which all school districts are required to comply.<sup>253</sup> At the time of this report's survey, the standards were undergoing revision.

**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, but instruction must be aligned with standards as adopted by the Board.<sup>254</sup> In the past year the state has distributed goals and objectives of physical education programs and a chart describing scope and sequence for physical education to schools and school districts. It has not promoted use of the Physical Education Curriculum Analysis Tool (PECAT).

**State Funding for Physical Education Programs:** General education funding is available for the state's physical education

programs in school districts and schools. No additional funding is available for physical education programs.

**Class Size:** The state survey reported that the state does not have a required student-teacher ratio for academic classes. State law specifies that physical education classes are not subject to class size limitations.<sup>255</sup>

**Grade Point Average (GPA):** Physical education grades are required to be included in a student's overall GPA.

**Online Physical Education Courses:** N/A

**Student Assessment Requirements:** The state does not require student assessment related to state physical education standards.

**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.

#### **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.<sup>256</sup> It also requires physical education teachers to pass a physical education certificate/licensure exam before they are endorsed to teach physical education. Elementary classroom teachers (generalists) are not 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, and this professional development must be on physical education topics. The state does not provide 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 supports the National Board Certification process by actively promoting and encouraging teachers to register for the process and providing or facilitating mentoring for those 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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248 Okla. Stat. tit. 70, § 11-103.9 (2015).

249 Okla. Stat. tit. 70, § 11-103.9 (2015); Okla. Stat. tit. 70, § 11-103 (2015); Okla. Admin. Code § 210:35-5-31 (2015).

250 Okla. Stat. tit. 70, § 11-103.9 (2015).

251 Okla. Stat. tit. 70, § 11-103.9 (2015).

252 Okla. Stat. tit. 70, § 11-103.9 (2015).

253 Okla. Stat. tit. 70, § 11-103.9 (2015); Okla. Admin. Code §§ 210:15-3-154;

210:15-3-155; 210:15-3-156; 210:15-3-157; 210:15-3-158;

210:15-3-159; 210:15-3-160; 210:15-3-161; and 210:15-3-162 (2015).

254 Okla. Stat. tit. 70, § 11-103.9 (2015).

255 Okla. Stat. tit. 70, § 18-113.1 (2015); Okla. Admin. Code § 210:35-5-42 (2015); Okla. Admin. Code § 210:35-7-41 (2015); Okla. Admin. Code § 210:35-9-41 (2015).

256 Okla. Admin. Code § 210:20-9-172 (2015).