

NEVADA

Amount of Required Physical Education: The state requires elementary, middle school/junior high, and high schools to provide physical education to students, and the State Board of Education “prescribes” physical education for elementary students.¹⁹³ The state does not have a requirement for the number of minutes. High school students must earn physical education credit for graduation.¹⁹⁴

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 2.0 credits in physical education for graduation.¹⁹⁵

Substitutions: The state permits school districts or schools to allow students to substitute a maximum of one credit in physical education for participation in at least 120 hours of a school-sponsored activity, including interscholastic sports, drill team, marching band, dance group, cheerleading,¹⁹⁶ Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC), or community sports.

Exemptions/Waivers: The state does not allow schools or school districts to apply for a waiver from state physical education requirements. Students may receive an exemption from physical education for medical reasons, religious beliefs, or enrollment in the Reserve Officer Training Corps. An exemption may also be granted for a student’s intended enrollment in a program comparable to the physical education course. In this case, the school district must provide the program’s syllabus for approval by the Superintendent of Public Instruction.¹⁹⁷

Physical Activity: The state does not require elementary schools to provide daily recess, but the 2015 Nevada Statewide Wellness Policy requires schools to provide 30 minutes of physical activity opportunity for all 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 and to post it online for the public. Districts

must adopt the 2014 statewide wellness policy or create their own policy that is as strong as or stronger than the statewide policy. The state Department of Agriculture monitors the implementation of local school wellness policies.

State Standards: The state directs a council to establish standards of content and performance for a number of subjects, including physical education.¹⁹⁸ All school districts must comply with the [Nevada Academic Content Standards for Physical Education](#), which were last revised in 2014.

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. In the past year it has distributed a chart describing scope and sequence for physical education to schools or school districts. It has not promoted use of the Physical Education Curriculum Analysis Tool (PECAT) to school districts or schools.

State Funding for Physical Education Programs: General education funding is available for the state’s physical education programs in school districts and schools. Grant funding is also available for physical education programs.

Class Size: The state survey reported that there is not a required student-teacher ratio for academic classes. State law specifies a ratio for some classes, but lists physical education as exempt from this requirement.¹⁹⁹

Grade Point Average (GPA): The state requires physical education grades to be included in a student’s GPA.

Online Physical Education Courses: The state allows required physical education credits to be earned through online physical education courses.

Student Assessment Requirements: The state does not require student assessment directly 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 does not require a physical education elementary license to teach physical education in grades K-8, but a school district may require it.²⁰⁰ The state requires physical education teachers to be state certified/licensed and endorsed to teach physical education at the middle school/junior high and high school levels. It also requires physical education teachers to pass a physical education certificate/licensure exam (Praxis II Physical Education exam) before they are endorsed to teach physical education. 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, and this professional development must 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 supports the National Board Certification process by providing a one-time monetary bonus if the teacher receives board certification and providing an on-going higher level of pay to all teachers who are national board certified.

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

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193 Nev. Rev. Stat. §§ 389.018, 389.195 (2015).

194 Nev. Admin. Code § 389.450 (2015).

195 Nev. Admin. Code § 389.664 (2015).

196 Nev. Admin. Code § 389.488 (2015).

197 Nev. Admin. Code § 389.488 (2015).

198 Nev. Rev. Stat. § 389.520 (2015).

199 Nev. Rev. Stat. § 388.700 (2015).

200 Nev. Admin. Code § 391.096 (2015).