

# SHAPE OF THE NATION™

## STATE Profile

*Unless otherwise noted with a specific legal citation, state profile information is sourced solely from responses to a survey of physical education specialists in state departments of education.*

### OHIO



**Amount of Required Physical Education:** The state requires elementary, middle school/junior high and high schools to provide physical education to students.<sup>241</sup> High school students must earn physical education credit for graduation. Requirements are enforced via the Reporting Benchmark/Standard Successes on the State Report Card once per grade band (K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12).

**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 0.5 credit in physical education (which is equivalent to a minimum of 120 hours of course instruction<sup>242</sup>) for graduation.

**Substitutions:** The state does not permit school districts or schools to allow students to substitute other activities 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. Local school districts can allow exemptions for required physical education for student participation in two seasons of interscholastic sports, Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC), marching band, and cheerleading. Excused students must also complete 0.5 credit in another curricular area.

**Physical Activity:** The state does not require elementary schools to provide daily recess and does not require a minimum weekly amount of physical activity for elementary, middle school/junior high, or high school students. State schools can opt in to a voluntary physical activity pilot program where schools can provide evidence that all students engage in 150 minutes per week of moderate to vigorous physical activity, which does not count recess but may count physical education or before- or after-school physical activity.<sup>243</sup> 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 does not require schools or school districts to provide their local school wellness

policy to the state education agency. The state requires making the policy available to parents, which may include online posting. The state monitors the implementation of local school wellness policies through its administrative review compliance requirement.

**State Standards:** The state has adopted standards for physical education;<sup>244</sup> but school districts are not required to comply. [The Ohio Physical Education Standards](#) were adopted in 2015.

#### 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. Local districts create their own curriculum based on the state standards. In the past year the state has distributed to schools and school districts: goals and objectives of physical education programs, student learning benchmarks, a chart describing scope and sequence for physical education, and student learning objectives that align with the state standards. It has also promoted use of the Physical Education Curriculum Analysis Tool (PECAT) through existing state communications networks and presentation(s) at state conferences or meetings.

**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 does not have a required student-teacher ratio for academic classes.

**Grade Point Average (GPA):** N/A

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

**Student Assessment Requirements:** The state requires student assessment in physical education in grades 2, 5, 8, and 12. Students are assessed according to the National Standards 1-5 listed above. Aggregate results for the school and school district are sent to the state department of education.

**Fitness Assessment:** The state requires student physical fitness assessment in grades 5, 8, and 12 but does not require use of a specific assessment tool.

**Body Mass Index (BMI):** The state reported that the state does not require schools to collect student BMI or height and weight. State law specifies that the board of education of each city, exempted village, or local school district and the governing authority of each chartered non-public school may require each student enrolled in kindergarten and grades 3, 5, and 9 to be screened for body mass index and weight status category. Board or governing authorities must report aggregate results to the department of health. School districts must report aggregate district data. The department may publish, annually, the data reported, aggregated by county. The department may share data reported with other governmental entities for the purpose of monitoring population health, making reports, or for public health promotional activities.<sup>245</sup>

#### **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>246</sup> It also requires physical education teachers to pass a physical education certificate/licensure exam (Ohio Assessment for Educators) before they are endorsed to teach physical education. Elementary classroom teachers (generalists) hired after July 1, 2013 are not allowed to teach required elementary school physical education classes.<sup>247</sup>

#### **Professional Development of Physical Education**

**Teachers:** Professional development is required in order to maintain/renew one's physical education teacher certification or licensure, but this 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:** N/A

**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 (<0.5 FTE) to oversee implementation, compliance, technical assistance, or monitoring of physical education programs in school districts and schools.

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241 Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 3313.60 (2015).

242 Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 3313.603 (2015).

243 Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 3313.6016 (2015).

244 Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 3301.079 (2015); Academic standards.

245 Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 3313.674 (2015).

246 Ohio Admin. Code 3301-24-05 (2015); Ohio Admin. Code 3301-35-05 (2015).

247 Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 3319.076 (2015).