Amount of Required Physical Education: Vermont mandates physical education in grades K-12, but it does not require daily recess at the elementary school level.

High School Graduation Requirements: The state requires students to earn 1.5 physical education credits for graduation.

Substitutions: The state does not permit school districts or schools to allow students to substitute other activities for their required physical education credits.

Exemptions/Waivers: The state oversees exemptions and waivers, but there are currently none on file. The length of the waiver depends on the individual proposal submitted.

State Standards: The state has developed its own standards for physical education, which are to be addressed and assessed in all school districts. The Grade Expectations for Vermont’s Framework of Standards and Learning Opportunities–Physical Education were last revised in 2004. [See State Standards for Physical Education chart for details.]

State Curriculum: The state does not require the use of specific curricula for elementary, middle school/junior high or high school physical education. Local school systems have the option of using a commercial curriculum; the state does not collect information on what, if any, commercial curricula are used.

Class Size: The state does not mandate a teacher-to-student ratio.

Online Physical Education Courses: The state does not have a position on whether physical education credits may be earned through online physical education courses. This is a local decision.

Student Assessment Requirements: The state requires student assessment in physical education every year in grades 1-12. Performance of motor/movement skills, physical fitness levels, knowledge of physical education content, participation in physical activity outside of physical education class, and
personal and social responsibility in physical education are assessed. Data use is determined by the local school.

**Fitness Testing:** The state does not require the use of a particular fitness test protocol.

**State Comprehensive Assessment Test:** Fitness standards are to be addressed and assessed as part of the 1.5 credits required for graduation. No additional fitness assessment or specific curriculum is required.

**Education Report Card:** The state has an education report card for each school, but physical education is not included as one of the subject areas.

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

**Certification/Licensure of Physical Education Teachers:** The state requires certification or licensure of physical education teachers at the elementary, middle school/junior high and high school levels. Elementary classroom teachers (generalists) may not teach required elementary school physical education classes. All Vermont education licensure candidates must pass each of three pre-professional skills tests (PRAXIS I). In addition, a score of 147 on the 0091 (multiple choice) section or 154 on the 0092 (essay) section of the PRAXIS II physical education exam is required for certification.

**Professional Development of Physical Education Teachers:** Professional development continuing education hours or credits are required in order to maintain/renew one’s physical education teacher certification or licensure. The state offers (but does not require) professional development for physical education teachers on physical education topics, comparable to other curricular areas. No state funding is provided for this professional development.

**Temporary Certification:** Temporary/emergency teacher certification to teach physical education may be granted for up to one year to anyone holding a bachelor’s degree in any subject area.

**National Board Certification (NBC):** The state actively encourages physical education teachers to become certified through the NBC process.

**District Physical Education Coordinator:** The state does not require each school district to have a licensed physical educator serving as a PE coordinator.

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