Amount of Required Physical Education: West Virginia mandates at least 90 minutes of physical education per week in grades K-6, but it does not require daily recess. The state also mandates physical education in grades 7-8, although it does not specify minutes per week, and requires high schools to provide their students with physical education.

High School Graduation Requirements: The state requires students to earn 1.0 physical education credit for graduation.

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

Exemptions/Waivers: Exemptions and waivers may be granted by either the West Virginia Department of Education Office of Healthy Schools or the Governor’s Healthy Lifestyles Committee. The exemption is valid for a one-year period.

State Standards: The state has developed its own standards for physical education, with which all school districts must comply. The 21st Century Physical Education 5-12 Content Standards and Objectives were last revised in July 2008. [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 and high school physical education. Use of a commercial curriculum is not permitted.

Class Size: The state mandates a teacher-to-student ratio comparable to other curricular areas.

Online Physical Education Courses: The state does not allow required physical education credits to be earned through online physical education courses.

Student Assessment Requirements: The state requires student assessment in physical education in grades 4-9. Results are sent to the state as congregate data for the school. Congregate data for the school...
district are shared publicly and data may be used for research studies. The assessment measures performance of motor and movement skills and physical fitness levels.

**Fitness Testing:** The state requires school districts/schools to assess students’ physical fitness levels using the FITNESSGRAM.

**State Comprehensive Assessment Test:** The state does not have a comprehensive assessment test for graduation.

**Education Report Card:** The state does not have an education report card for each school.

**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 teach required elementary school physical education classes. An exam is required for certification, which must be renewed every five years.

**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. No state funding is provided for this professional development.

**National Board Certification (NBC):** The state actively encourages physical education teachers to become certified through the NBC process by providing or facilitating mentoring for teachers going through the process, providing full funding 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 PE coordinator.

**Contact Person:**
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