

## SOUTH DAKOTA



**Amount of Required Physical Education:** The state does not require elementary or middle school/junior high schools to provide students with physical education. It requires high school students to take physical education in grade 9. It does not have a requirement for the number of minutes, but students must earn 0.5 physical education credits for graduation.

**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 for graduation.<sup>290</sup>

**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. Students may not apply for an exemption from required physical education.

**Physical Activity:** The state does not require elementary schools to provide daily recess, and it does not require a minimum weekly/daily amount of physical activity for elementary, middle school/junior high, or high school students. The state has a Model Wellness Policy, which includes sample policy language for school districts regarding student physical activity time. 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, but it does require them to post it online for the public. The state monitors the implementation of local school wellness policies through administrative review conducted by the state's Child and Adult Nutrition Services every three years.

**State Standards:** The state has adopted standards for physical education,<sup>291</sup> but school districts are not required to comply with the standards. The South Dakota Standards and Grade-level Outcomes for K-12 Physical Education were last revised in 2014.

**Areas addressed in the 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 and does not specify how often the curriculum must be reviewed and/or revised. In the past year the state has distributed a chart describing scope and sequence for physical education to schools and school districts. It has promoted use of the Physical Education Curriculum Analysis Tool (PECAT) to schools or school districts through existing state communication networks, professional development sessions sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and presentation(s) on the tool's use at state conferences or meetings.

**State Funding for Physical Education Programs:** School districts fund the state's physical education programs. 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):** The state requires physical education grades to be included in a student's GPA.

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

**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, but provides model policies, policy guidance, or other materials to inform any school or district policy on this screening.

#### **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, and to teach online physical education courses. It also requires physical education teachers to pass a physical education certificate/licensure exam before they are endorsed to teach physical education.<sup>292</sup> 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, 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:** The state supports the National Board Certification process by actively promoting and encouraging teachers to register for 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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290 S.D. Admin. R. § 24:43:11:02 (2015); S.D. Admin. R. § 24:43:11:04 (2015).

291 S.D. Admin. R. 24:53:07:23 (2015).

292 S.D. Admin. R. 24:15:06:19 (2015).