

Instruction

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND ACTIVITY

The Governing Board recognizes the positive benefits of physical activity on student health and academic achievement. The district shall provide all students the opportunity to be physically active on a regular basis through high-quality physical education instruction and may provide additional opportunities for physical activity throughout the school day. The district's physical education and activity programs shall support the district's coordinated student wellness program and encourage student' lifelong fitness.

(cf. 5030 - Student Wellness)
(cf. 6142.8 - Comprehensive Health Education)

The district's physical education program shall provide a developmentally appropriate sequence of instruction aligned with the state's model content standards and curriculum framework.

(cf. 6011 - Academic Standards)
(cf. 6143 - Courses of Study)

For grades 9-12, the overall course of study shall include the effects of physical activity upon dynamic health, the mechanics of body movement, aquatics, gymnastics and tumbling, individual and dual sports, rhythms and dance, team sports, and combatives. (Education Code 33352; 5 CCR 10060)

The Board shall approve the courses in grades 9-12 for which physical education credit may be granted.

(cf. 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements)
(cf. 6146.11 - Alternative Credits Toward Graduation)

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the district's program provides students with equal opportunities for instruction and participation regardless of gender in accordance with law.

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)

Students with disabilities shall be provided instruction in physical education in accordance with their individualized education program or Section 504 accommodation plan.

(cf. 6159 - Individualized Education Program)
(cf. 6164.6 - Identification and Education Under Section 504)

During air pollution episodes, extreme weather, or other inclement conditions, physical education staff shall make appropriate adjustments to the program or shall seek

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alternative indoor space to enable students to participate in active physical education.

(cf. 3514 - Environmental Safety)
(cf. 5141.7 - Sun Safety)

The Superintendent or designee shall develop strategies to supplement physical education instruction with additional opportunities for students to be physically active before, during, and after the school day.

(cf. 1330.1 - Joint Use Agreements)
(cf. 5142.2 - Safe Routes to School Program)
(cf. 5148 - Child Care and Development Program)
(cf. 5148.2 - Before/After School Programs)
(cf. 6145 - Extracurricular and Cocurricular Activities)

Staffing

Physical education instruction shall be delivered by appropriately credentialed teachers who may be assisted by instructional aides, paraprofessionals, and/or volunteers.

(cf. 1240 - Volunteer Assistance)
(cf. 4112.2 - Certification)
(cf. 4112.21 - Interns)
(cf. 4113 - Assignment)
(cf. 4222 - Teacher Aides/Paraprofessionals)

The district shall provide physical education teachers with continuing professional development, including classroom management and instructional strategies designed to keep students engaged and active and to enhance the quality of physical education instruction and assessment.

(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)
(cf. 5121 - Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement)

Physical Fitness Testing

The Superintendent or designee shall annually administer the physical fitness test designated by the State Board of Education (FITNESSGRAM) to students in grades 5, 7, and 9. (Education Code 60800; 5 CCR 1041)

Temporary Exemptions

The Superintendent or designee may grant a temporary exemption from physical education under either of the following conditions: (Education Code 51241)

1. The student is ill or injured and a modified program to meet his/her needs cannot be provided.
2. The student is enrolled for one-half time or less.

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Two-Year Exemptions

With the student's consent, the Superintendent or designee may exempt a student from physical education courses for any two years during grades 10-12 provided that the student has satisfactorily met at least five of the six standards of the FITNESSGRAM in grade 9. (Education Code 51241)

Upon request by students and/or their parents/guardians, the Superintendent or designee may administer the FITNESSGRAM to students in grades 10-12 who need to pass the test in order to qualify for a two-year exemption from physical education courses.

Students in grades 10-12 who have been granted a two-year exemption shall be offered a variety of elective physical education courses of not less than 400 minutes each 10 school days. (Education Code 51222)

Such students shall not be permitted to attend fewer total hours of courses and classes than they would have attended if enrolled in a physical education course. (Education Code 51241)

(cf. 6112 - School Day)

Permanent Exemptions

The Superintendent or designee may grant a student a permanent exemption from physical education under any of the following conditions: (Education Code 51241)

1. The student is age 16 years or older and has been enrolled in grade 10 for one or more academic years. However, such a student shall not be permitted to attend fewer total hours of courses and classes than he/she would have attended if enrolled in a physical education course.
2. The student is enrolled as a postgraduate student.
3. The student is enrolled in a juvenile home, ranch, camp, or forestry camp school with scheduled recreation and exercise.

Other Exemptions

The Superintendent or designee may grant an exemption from physical education under the following special circumstances:

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1. When the student is in any of grades 10-12 and is excused for up to 24 clock hours in order to participate in automobile driver training. However, any such student shall attend a minimum of 7,000 minutes of physical education instruction during the school year. (Education Code 51222)
2. When the student is in any of grades 10-12, attends a regional occupational center or program, and, because of the travel time involved, would experience hardship to attend physical education courses. Any such student shall have a minimum school day of 180 minutes. (Education Code 52316)

(cf. 6178.2 - Regional Occupational Center/Program)

3. When the student is in high school and is engaged in a regular school-sponsored interscholastic athletic program carried on wholly or partially after regular school hours. (Education Code 51242)

(cf. 6145.2 - Athletic Competition)

Program Evaluation

The Superintendent or designee shall annually report to the Board each school's FITNESSGRAM results for each applicable grade level. He/she shall also report to the Board regarding the number of instructional minutes offered in physical education for each grade level, the number of two-year and permanent exemptions granted pursuant to Education Code 51241, and any other data agreed upon by the Board and the Superintendent or designee to evaluate program quality and the effectiveness of the district's program in meeting goals for physical activity.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

- 33126 School accountability report card
 - 33350-33354 CDE responsibilities re: physical education
 - 35256 School accountability report card
 - 44250-44277 Credential types
 - 49066 Grades; physical education class
 - 51210 Course of study, grades 1-6
 - 51220 Course of study, grades 7-12
 - 51222 Physical education
 - 51223 Physical education, elementary schools
 - 51241 Temporary, two-year or permanent exemption from physical education
 - 51242 Exemption from physical education for athletic program participants
 - 52316 Excuse from attending physical education classes
 - 60800 Physical performance test
- CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5
- 1040-1048 Physical performance test
 - 3051.5 Adapted physical education for individuals with exceptional needs
 - 4600-4687 Uniform complaint procedures
 - 10060 Criteria for high school physical education programs

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Legal Reference: (continued)

80020 Additional assignment authorizations for specific credentials
80037 Designated subjects teaching credential; special teaching authorization in physical education
80046.1 Added authorization to teach adapted physical education
UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 29
794 Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504
UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42
1758b Local wellness policy
ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS
53 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 230 (1970)
COURT DECISIONS
Doe v. Albany Unified School District (2010) 190 Cal.App.4th 668
Cal200 et al. v. San Francisco Unified School District et al. (2013), San Francisco Superior Court, Case No. CGC-13-534975
Cal200 et al. v. Oakland

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS
Districts at Risk from Lawsuits Regarding PE Instructional Minute Requirement, Legal Alert, May 2015
Monitoring for Success: A Guide for Assessing and Strengthening Student Wellness Policies, 2012
Student Wellness: A Healthy Food and Physical Activity Policy Resource Guide, rev. 2012
Active Bodies, Active Minds: Physical Activity and Academic Achievement, Fact Sheet, February 2010
Maximizing Opportunities for Physical Activity Through Joint Use of Facilities, Policy Brief, rev. February 2010
Maximizing Opportunities for Physical Activity During the School Day, Fact Sheet, November 2009
Moderate to Vigorous Physical Activity in Physical Education to Improve Health and Academic Outcomes, Fact Sheet, November 2009
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS
Physical Education Framework for California Public Schools: Kindergarten Through Grade 12, 2009
Physical Education Model Content Standards for California Public Schools: Kindergarten Through Grade 12, January 2005
Adapted Physical Education Guidelines for California Schools, 2003
CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION PUBLICATIONS
School Health Index (SHI): Self-Assessment and Planning Guide 2014
COMMISSION ON TEACHER CREDENTIALING PUBLICATIONS
The Administrator's Assignment Manual, 2007
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES PUBLICATIONS
2008 Physical Activity Guidelines for Americans, October 2008
WEB SITES
CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>
California Department of Education, Physical Fitness Testing: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/pf>
California Healthy Kids Resource Center: <http://www.californiahealthykids.org>
California Project LEAN (Leaders Encouraging Activity and Nutrition):
<http://www.californiaprojectlean.org>
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: <http://www.cdc.gov>
Commission on Teacher Credentialing: <http://www.ctc.ca.gov>
Educational Data System, California physical fitness: <http://www.eddata.com/projects/current/cpf>
Healthy People 2010: <http://www.healthypeople.gov>
National Association for Sport and Physical Education: <http://www.aahperd.org/naspe>

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President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports: <http://www.fitness.gov>
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services: <http://www.health.gov>

6/92 6/96
Approved 11/96
(3/03 11/03) 7/07
11/07 12/12/07
4/9/08
8/10
11/16/16

Instruction

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Definitions

Physical education is a sequential educational program that teaches students to understand and participate in regular physical activity for developing and maintaining physical fitness throughout their lifetimes, understand and improve their motor skills, enjoy using their skills and knowledge to establish a healthy lifestyle, and understand how their bodies work.

Physical activity is bodily movement that is produced by the contraction of skeletal muscle and that substantially increases energy expenditure, including exercise, sport, dance, and other movement forms.

Moderate physical activity is any activity which generally requires sustained, rhythmic movements and refers to a level of effort a healthy individual might expend while, for example, walking briskly, dancing, swimming, or bicycling on level terrain. A person should feel some exertion but should be able to carry on a conversation comfortably during the activity.

Vigorous physical activity is any activity which generally requires sustained, rhythmic movements and refers to a level of effort a healthy individual might expend while, for example, jogging, participating in high-impact aerobic dancing, swimming continuous laps, or bicycling uphill. Vigorous physical activity may be intense enough to result in a significant increase in heart and respiration rate.

Instructional Time

Instruction in physical education shall be provided for at least the following minimum period of time: (Education Code 51210, 51222, 51223)

1. For students in grades 1-6, 200 minutes each 10 school days, exclusive of recesses and the lunch period
2. For students in grades 7-8 attending an elementary school, 200 minutes each 10 school days, exclusive of recesses and the lunch period
3. For students in grades 7-8 attending a middle school or junior high school, 400 minutes each 10 school days
4. For students in grades 9-12, 400 minutes each 10 school days

If the instructional minute requirement cannot be met during any 10-day period due to inclement weather, a school assembly, field trip, student assessment, or other circumstance, the school shall make up those minutes on another day in order to satisfy the instructional minute requirement.

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The Superintendent or designee shall determine a method to document compliance with the required number of instructional minutes. Such documentation may include, but not be limited to, a master schedule, teacher roster, or log for staff or students to record the number of physical education minutes completed.

Any complaint alleging noncompliance with the instructional minute requirement for elementary schools may be filed in accordance with the district's procedures in AR 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures. A complainant not satisfied with the district's decision may appeal the decision to the California Department of Education (CDE). If the district or the CDE finds merit in a complaint, the district shall provide a remedy to all affected students and parents/guardians. (Education Code 51210, 51223; 5 CCF 4600-4687)

(cf. 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures)

Physical Fitness Testing

During the annual assessment window between the months of February through May, students in grades 5, 7, and 9 shall be administered the physical fitness test designated by the State Board of Education (FITNESSGRAM). (Education Code 60800, 5 CCR 1041)

(cf. 6162.5 - Student Assessment)

The Superintendent or designee may provide a make-up date for students who are unable to take the test based on absence or temporary physical restriction or limitations, such as students recovering from illness or injury. (5 CCR 1043)

On or before November 1 of each school year, the Superintendent may designate an employee to serve as the district's physical fitness test coordinator and so notify the test contractor. The test coordinator shall serve as the liaison between the district and California Department of Education for all matters related to the physical fitness test. His/her duties shall be those specified in 5 CCR 1043.4, including, but not limited to, overseeing the administration of the test and the collection and return of all test data to the test contractor. (5 CCR 1043.4)

Students shall be provided with their individual results after completing the FITNESSGRAM. The test results may be provided in writing or orally as the student completes the testing and shall be included in his/her cumulative record. (Education Code 60800; 5 CCR 1043.10, 1044)

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

Each student's test results shall also be provided to his/her parents/guardians.

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The Superintendent or designee shall report the aggregate results of the FITNESSGRAM in the annual school accountability report card required by Education Code 33126 and 35256. (Education Code 60800)

(cf. 0510 - School Accountability Report Card)

Testing Variations

All students may be administered the ~~state's physical fitness test~~ FITNESSGRAM with the following test variations: (5 CCR 1047)

1. Extra time within a testing day
2. Test directions that are simplified or clarified

All students may have the following test variations if they are regularly used in the classroom: (5 CCR 1047)

1. Audio amplification equipment
2. Separate testing for individual students provided that they are directly supervised by the test examiner
3. Manually Coded English or American Sign Language to present directions for test administration

Students with a physical disability and students who are physically unable to take all of the test shall undergo as much of the test as their physical condition will permit. (Education Code 60800; 5 CCR 1047)

Students with disabilities may be provided the following accommodations if specified in their individualized education program (IEP) or Section 504 plan: (5 CCR 1047)

1. Administration of the test at the most beneficial time of day to the student after consultation with the test contractor
2. Administration of the test by a test examiner to the student at home or in the hospital
3. Any other accommodation specified in the student's IEP or Section 504 plan for the physical fitness test

(cf. 6159 - Individualized Education Program)

(cf. 6164.6 - Identification and Education Under Section 504)

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Identified English learners may be allowed the following additional test variations if regularly used in the classroom: (5 CCR 1048)

1. Separate testing with other English learners, provided that they are directly supervised by the test examiner
2. Test directions translated into their primary language, and the opportunity to ask clarifying questions about the test directions in their primary language

Additional Opportunities for Physical Activity

The Superintendent or designee shall implement strategies for increasing opportunities for physical activity outside the physical education program, which may include, but not be limited to:

1. Encouraging teachers to incorporate physical activity into the classroom
2. Establishing extracurricular activities that promote physical activity, such as school clubs, intramural athletic programs, dance performances, special events, and competitions

(cf. 6145 - Extracurricular and Cocurricular Activities)
(cf. 6145.5 - Student Organizations and Equal Access)

3. Incorporating opportunities for physical activity into before- or after-school programs and/or child care and development programs

(cf. 5148 - Child Care and Development Program)
(cf. 5148.2 - Before/After School Programs)

4. Exploring opportunities for joint use of facilities or grounds in order to provide adequate space for students and community members to engage in recreational activities

(cf. 1330.1 - Joint Use Agreements)

5. Developing business partnerships to maximize resources for physical activity equipment and programs

(cf. 1700 - Relations Between Private Industry and the Schools)

6. Developing programs to encourage and facilitate walking, bicycling, or other active transport to and from school

(cf. 5142.2 - Safe Routes to School Program)

6/96 Approved 11/96
(3/03 11/03) 7/07
12/12/07
8/10 11/16/16