

Physical Education And Activity

Instruction

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 a total period of time of not less than 200 minutes each 10 school days for students in grades 1-6 and not less than 400 minutes each 10 school days for students in grades 7-12. (Education Code 51210, 51222)

Students in grades 10-12 who have been granted a two-year exemption pursuant to Education Code 51241(b) shall be offered a variety of elective physical education courses of not less than 400 minutes each 10 school days. (Education Code 51222)

Monitoring Moderate to Vigorous Physical Activity

To monitor whether students are engaged in moderate to vigorous physical activity for at least 50 percent of physical education class or session time, the Superintendent or designee may:

1. Develop methods to estimate the amount of time students spend in moderate to vigorous physical activity or the number of students who are inactive during physical education classes

2. Provide physical education teachers with staff development, self-monitoring tools, stopwatches, and/or heart rate monitors to assist them in planning and assessing the level of activity in their classes

(cf. 4115 - Evaluation/Supervision)

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. (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 physical performance testing. 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)

Testing Variations

All students may be administered the state's physical fitness test 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)

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. Training recess and lunch supervisors on methods to engage students in moderate to vigorous physical activity

(cf. 1240 - Volunteer Assistance)

(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)
(cf. 5030 - Student Wellness)

2. Encouraging teachers to incorporate physical activity into the classroom
3. 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)

4. 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 Program)

5. 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)

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

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

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

(cf. 5142.2 - Safe Routes to School Program)