



## INDIANA

### **Amount of Required Physical Education:**

Indiana mandates physical education in grades K-8, and daily physical activity is required, which can include recess. The state also mandates that high schools provide physical education courses for students.

**High School Graduation Requirements:** Two credits in physical education (PE I & PE II) are required for all Indiana diplomas.

**Substitutions:** Through credit flexibility, any activity can be worked into an individual education plan if it helps the student meet the physical education course descriptions and standards. Schools may award credit in any course based on demonstration of proficiency against the academic standards without regard to a minimum amount of instruction. The physical education teacher develops the course requirements, assesses performance and grants the grade and credit.

**Exemptions/Waivers:** There is no exemption regarding physical education time or credit available in Indiana, with the exception of the credit flexibility mentioned above.

**Physical Activity:** The state does not require elementary schools to provide daily recess and does not require a minimum weekly amount of physical activity time for elementary school students although daily physical activity is required. Neither does the state require a minimum weekly amount of physical activity time for middle school/junior high school and high school students. Classroom physical activity breaks are not required, and Indiana does not prohibit the use of withholding physical activity, including recess, as punishment for disciplinary reasons, nor prohibit the use of physical activity as punishment for inappropriate behavior. Indiana does not support Safe Routes to School programs.

**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, nor does the state monitor the implementation of local school wellness policies.

**State Standards:** The state has developed standards for physical education with which all school districts are required to comply. The Indiana Academic Standards were adopted in 2008.

**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 the SPARK program.

**Class Size:** There is no teacher-to-student ratio requirement.

**Online Physical Education Courses:** The state allows required physical education credits to be earned through online physical education courses. Local schools determine what their policy is for allowing students to take PE online or through other alternative methods. Local schools also determine the online providers from which they will accept credit. For credit to be recognized by a local high school, the course must meet the state physical education course description and standards. Local schools decide who is eligible to take online courses.

**Student Assessment Requirements:** The state does not require standardized student assessment in physical education.

**Grade Point Average (GPA):** Physical education grades are included in a student's overall GPA.

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

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

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**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. A score of 153 on the PRAXIS II exam is required for certification.

**Professional Development of Physical Education**

**Teachers:** Professional development continuing education hours or credits are required to maintain/renew one's physical education teacher certification or licensure. State professional development funding has been provided in the past, but fiscal difficulties have resulted in severe cutbacks in professional development funding.

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

**National Board Certification:** The state does not actively encourage physical education teachers to become certified through the National Board Certification process.

**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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