

REGULATION

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Related Entries: AE, AE-RA, IFC

Responsible Office: OFFICE OF ACADEMICS, DIVISION OF CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION, AND ASSESSMENTS

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

A. PURPOSE

To establish procedures for the implementation of a planned and sequential physical education program for students in Anne Arundel County Public Schools (AACPS).

B. BACKGROUND

State law requires a physical education instructional program in public schools for grades Prekindergarten through 12. AACPS further recognizes that physical education for students is an important component of the Coordinated School Health Program, Board of Education of Anne Arundel County (Board) Policy AE – Wellness, Administrative Regulation AE-RA – Wellness, and the Maryland School Health Council.

C. DEFINITIONS

1. *Maryland Physical Education Framework* – the Maryland framework that defines what students should know and be able to do in physical education in each grade.

D. PROCEDURES

1. The requirements for students attending AACPS shall be administered in accordance with the policies of the Board, subject to any modifications permitted by law. Furthermore, the physical education program in AACPS shall be aligned to the Maryland Physical Education Framework, which is designed to meet the National Standards for Physical Education as outlined by the Society of Health and Physical Educators (SHAPE) America. The National Standards state that a physically literate person:
 - a. Demonstrates competency in a variety of motor skills and movement patterns;
 - b. Applies knowledge of concepts, principles, strategies, and tactics related to movement and performance;

- c. Demonstrates the knowledge and skills to achieve and maintain a health-enhancing level of physical activity and fitness;
 - d. Exhibits responsible personal and social behavior that respects self and others;
and
 - e. Recognizes the value of physical activity for health, enjoyment, challenge, self-expression, and social interaction.
2. An AACPS physical education teacher shall provide ongoing assessments that monitor a student's cognitive, affective, and psychomotor progress towards the achievement of the content standards that align with the Maryland Physical Education Framework and the SHAPE America Grade-Level Outcomes.
 3. An AACPS physical education teacher shall provide reasonable accommodations as necessary to ensure students with disabilities or students who are temporarily unable to participate an equal opportunity to participate, to the fullest extent possible.
 4. AACPS shall provide ongoing professional development for teachers of physical education to ensure effective delivery of the physical education program.
 5. AACPS shall provide a teacher-to-student ratio for physical education classes consistent with those of other subject areas or classrooms.
 6. AACPS shall provide facilities and materials of instruction to implement the curriculum for the number of students served.
 7. AACPS shall regularly evaluate the implementation and effectiveness of the physical education program.
 8. AACPS may not:
 - a. Authorize a student to substitute other activities for a standards-based physical education program for graduation credits, including interscholastic sports, community-based sports, physical therapy, Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps, or marching band;
 - b. Waive the standards-based physical education requirement needed to meet graduation requirements;
 - c. Excuse students from the standards-based physical education program to participate in content area classes or to complete classwork assignments in other content areas; or

- d. Withhold students from the standards-based physical education program as a punishment, unless the student is also removed from the regular classroom setting as part of an in-school suspension or similar disciplinary intervention.

Regulation History: Issued 09/06/06; Revised 08/31/21; Technical Edit 06/17/25

Note Previous Regulation History: None

Legal References: Sections 7-409 and 7-4B of the Education Article; Code of Maryland Regulations 13A.04.13 Program in Physical Education