PE + Health = Student Success

BENEFITS OF HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION TO STUDENTS
★ Positive relationship with academic achievement and test scores
★ Positive association with attention, concentration, and on-task behavior
★ Encourages lifetime healthy habits
★ Strategy for reducing childhood obesity
★ Reduces discipline referrals and participation in high-risk behaviors

SCHOOLS CAN INFLUENCE HEALTHY BEHAVIORS

80% of students believe that PE is important to their overall school experience.

Findings from myCollegeOptions®/SHAPE America research study (2015): National sample includes 79,498 high school students.


HEALTHY STUDENTS ARE BETTER LEARNERS

Physical Fitness and Achievement Test Performance

Average Composite of 20 Student Brains Taking the Same Test


shapeamerica.org/advocacy  #SHAPEadvocacy
No Child Left Behind Act of 2001

- Health and physical education were not included as core academic subjects.
- Access to federal funding for health and physical education was limited.
- Health and physical education programs and funding were cut across the country.
- Carol M. White Physical Education Program (PEP) competitive grant was established. Funded at $47 million to $100 million from FY 2002 through FY 2016.

Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015

- Health and physical education are included in the law’s definition of a well-rounded education, along with 17 other subjects.
- ESSA congressional intent supports providing all students with a robust, well-rounded education experience that includes health and physical education.
- Health and physical education programs have access to funding under Titles I, II and IV.
- Title IV, Part A Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants authorizes block grants to states to support: well-rounded education (min. 20%), safe and healthy students (min. 20%), and effective use of technology. Health and physical education programs can be funded through all three areas of the block grant.
- The PEP grant and nearly two dozen other grant programs were consolidated into the Title IV, Part A block grants.
- The law authorizes Congress to appropriate up to $1.65 billion for Title IV, Part A in FY 2017.

President’s FY 2017 Budget Request

- The administration requested $500 million for Title IV, Part A for FY 2017—more than $1 billion less than ESSA authorizes Congress to appropriate.
- The president’s funding request does not reflect the importance that Congress assigned Title IV, Part A when it designated these block grants the third-largest authorized program under ESSA.
- Such a low level of funding, divided among numerous programs area, would limit flexibility and would not allow states and school districts to make a meaningful investment in student learning and well-being.

Please support bipartisan congressional intent by funding Title IV, Part A of the Every Student Succeeds Act at its authorized amount of $1.65 billion for FY 2017. Please ask the US Department of Education to issue guidance to states on all federal funding opportunities available through the Every Student Succeeds Act for health and physical education. Please send your state’s governor or state school chief a letter requesting that they support health and physical education as they prioritize and distribute federal education funding across the state.