



# Colorado

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, in partnership with ASCD, developed the Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child (WSCC) framework to highlight the need for schools to address all aspects of children’s physical, mental, and social well-being to help them learn and thrive. In 2019, Child Trends, the Institute for Health Research and Policy at the University of Illinois at Chicago, and EMT Associates, Inc. released the [first comprehensive analysis](#) of state statutes and regulations that address key topic areas in each of the WSCC’s 10 components as of September 2017. This updated profile documents the landscape of selected school health policies in Colorado as of September 2019 and describes how those policies have changed since 2017. The profile also newly incorporates information about whether states have non-codified policies on topics for which they do not have codified statutes or regulations. The full set of topic areas, along with applicable statutory and regulatory language, is available through the National Association of State Boards of Education’s (NASBE) [State Policy Database on School Health](#). The national summary report and profiles for each state can be found on the [Child Trends website](#).

## Policy Churn in Colorado Statutes and Regulations, 2017 to 2019



|  | Colorado | National |
|--|----------|----------|
| Community Involvement                          | 0%       | 11%      |
| Counseling, Psychological, and Social Services | 50%      | 22%      |
| Employee Wellness                              | 0%       | 0%       |
| Family Engagement                              | 12%      | 11%      |
| Health Education                               | 5%       | 3%       |
| Health Services                                | 4%       | 2%       |
| Nutrition Environment and Services             | 0%       | 3%       |
| Physical Education and Activity                | 0%       | 2%       |
| Physical Environment                           | 20%      | 13%      |
| Social and Emotional Climate                   | 11%      | 10%      |

WSCC Reference 0% 0%  
\*Orange shading indicates more churn in state policy than national average

# Colorado's approach to selected topic areas by domain

## Overall Coverage of the WSCC

|                                | SY 17-18      | SY 19-20                 | Change    |
|--------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|-----------|
| Coverage of WSCC               | Not addressed | Non-codified policy only | no change |
| State-Level Wellness Councils  | Not addressed | Not addressed            | no change |
| School-Level Wellness Councils | Not addressed | Not addressed            | no change |
| District Wellness Policies     | Encouraged    | Encouraged               | no change |

## Health Education

|   | SY 17-18                      | SY 19-20   | Change                       |
|---|-------------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| Discussion of LGB Topics in Health Education  | NA                            | Not addressed or law specifically allows for inclusion of LGB topics | topic was not coded for 2017 |
| National HE Standards                         | Referenced                    | Referenced   | no change                    |
| Bullying Prevention (within Health Education) | Required in all grade levels  | Required in all grade levels   | no change                    |
| Healthy Eating/Nutrition Curriculum           | Required in all grade levels  | Required in all grade levels   | no change                    |
| Mental and Emotional Health Curriculum        | Required in all grade levels  | Required in all grade levels   | no change                    |
| Personal Health and Wellness Curriculum       | Required in all grade levels  | Required in all grade levels   | no change                    |
| Suicide Prevention (within Health Education)  | Required in some grade levels | Required in all grade levels   | more supportive/prescriptive |
| Violence Prevention (within Health Education) | Required in all grade levels  | Required in all grade levels   | no change                    |

## Physical Education and Physical Activity

|                                       | SY 17-18                              | SY 19-20                              | Change    |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| Adaptive PE Requirements              | Addresses inclusivity of PE activity  | Addresses inclusivity of PE activity  | no change |
| PE Exemptions for Academics           | Not addressed                         | Not addressed                         | no change |
| PE Exemptions for Illness             | Not addressed                         | Not addressed                         | no change |
| PE Exemptions for Disabilities        | Not addressed                         | Not addressed                         | no change |
| PE Substitutions                      | Not addressed                         | Not addressed                         | no change |
| District Waivers from PE Requirements | Not addressed                         | Not addressed                         | no change |
| Physical Activity Throughout Day      | Encouraged                            | Encouraged                            | no change |
| National PE Standards (SHAPE America) | Referenced                            | Referenced                            | no change |
| Time for PE -- Elementary             | Not addressed                         | Not addressed                         | no change |
| Time for PE -- Middle                 | Not addressed                         | Not addressed                         | no change |
| Time for PE -- High                   | Not addressed                         | Not addressed                         | no change |
| Recess                                | Addressed or required less than daily | Addressed or required less than daily | no change |
| Sport Participation Fees              | Requires sport participation fees     | Requires sport participation fees     | no change |

## Social and Emotional Climate

|  | SY 17-18   | SY 19-20   | Change                       |
|--|--|--|------------------------------|
| Hazing Policy                                      | Encouraged   | Encouraged   | no change                    |
| Dating Violence Policy                             | Not addressed  | Not addressed  | no change                    |
| Limits on Exclusionary Discipline                  | Requires limits on use of suspension and expulsion                       | Requires limits on use of suspension and expulsion                       | no change                    |
| Alternatives to Exclusionary Discipline            | Required   | Required   | no change                    |
| School Resource Officer Training                   | Required   | Required   | no change                    |
| Limits on Referrals to Law Enforcement             | Not addressed or authorizes schools to refer to law enforcement          | Not addressed or authorizes schools to refer to law enforcement          | no change                    |
| Equitable Discipline Practices                     | Monitoring required  | Monitoring required  | no change                    |
| Multi-tiered Positive Behavior Supports            | Not addressed  | Encouraged   | more supportive/prescriptive |
| School climate surveys                             | NA   | Encouraged   | topic was not coded for 2017 |
| Social-Emotional Learning or Character Development | Encouraged   | Encouraged   | no change                    |
| Professional Development for Cultural Competency   | Encouraged   | Encouraged   | no change                    |
| Chronic Absenteeism Early Warning Systems          | Encourages or requires comprehensive student supports                    | Encourages or requires comprehensive student supports                    | no change                    |
| Bullying, Harassment, and Intimidation Policy      | Includes some components of U.S. Department of Education recommendations | Includes some components of U.S. Department of Education recommendations | no change                    |
| Professional Development for Bullying Prevention   | Not addressed  | Non-codified policy only   | no change                    |

## Counseling, Psychological and Social Services

|  | SY 17-18             | SY 19-20               | Change                       |
|--|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------------|
| School-based or School-linked Mental Health Services | Encouraged           | Encouraged             | no change                    |
| Professional Development for Trauma                  | Not addressed        | Required               | more supportive/prescriptive |
| Professional Development for Mental Health           | Encouraged           | Required               | more supportive/prescriptive |
| Early Identification and Referral                    | Screening authorized | Encouraged or Required | more supportive/prescriptive |
| Professional Development for Suicide Prevention      | Encouraged           | Encouraged             | no change                    |
| Suicide Prevention Policy                            | Not addressed        | Encouraged             | more supportive/prescriptive |
| School Counseling - Elementary                       | Encouraged           | Encouraged             | no change                    |
| School Counseling - Secondary                        | Encouraged           | Encouraged             | no change                    |

## Employee Wellness

|                         | SY 17-18      | SY 19-20      | Change    |
|-------------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------|
| Staff Wellness Programs | Not addressed | Not addressed | no change |

## Physical Environment

|   | SY 17-18   | SY 19-20   | Change                       |
|---|--|--|------------------------------|
| <b>Emergency Operations Plans</b>                 | Required, but no plans for reviews or updates                  | Required, with regular reviews and updates                     | more supportive/prescriptive |
| <b>Threat assessment</b>                          | NA   | Encouraged   | topic was not coded for 2017 |
| <b>Security and safety assessments</b>            | NA   | Encouraged   | topic was not coded for 2017 |
| <b>Multi-hazard Practice Drills</b>               | Required, with required or encouraged interagency coordination | Required, with required or encouraged interagency coordination | no change                    |
| <b>Alcohol and Drug Use Intervention Programs</b> | Encouraged   | Encouraged   | no change                    |
| <b>Corporal Punishment</b>                        | Neither permits nor prohibits use                              | Neither permits nor prohibits use                              | no change                    |
| <b>Restraint and Seclusion</b>                    | Limits use and includes comprehensive protections              | Limits use and includes comprehensive protections              | no change                    |
| <b>Tobacco and Vaping Policies</b>                | NA   | Addresses vaping   | topic was not coded for 2017 |

## Health Services

|  | SY 17-18                                      | SY 19-20                                      | Change                       |
|--|---|---|------------------------------|
| <b>School-based Health Services</b>              | Addresses on-campus health centers or clinics | Addresses on-campus health centers or clinics | no change                    |
| <b>School Nurse Availability</b>                 | Not addressed                                 | Addressed, but nurse availability limited     | more supportive/prescriptive |
| <b>Healthy School Start Times</b>                | NA  | Not addressed                                 | topic was not coded for 2017 |
| <b>Preventive Health Screenings - Elementary</b> | Required                                      | Required                                      | no change                    |
| <b>Preventive Health Screenings - Middle</b>     | Required                                      | Required                                      | no change                    |
| <b>Preventive Health Screenings - High</b>       | Required                                      | Required                                      | no change                    |
| <b>Vaccination Waivers</b>                       | Allowed for religious or moral reasons        | Allowed for religious or moral reasons        | no change                    |
| <b>Referrals to Community Health Providers</b>   | Not addressed                                 | Not addressed                                 | no change                    |

## Family Engagement

|   | SY 17-18   | SY 19-20   | Change    |
|---|------------|------------|-----------|
| <b>Family Engagement Plans</b>                                | Required   | Required   | no change |
| <b>Professional Development on Family Engagement</b>          | Encouraged | Encouraged | no change |
| <b>Family Engagement in Local Governance</b>                  | Required   | Required   | no change |
| <b>Family Engagement in Policymaking on School Discipline</b> | Required   | Required   | no change |

## Nutrition Environment and Services

|   | SY 17-18  | SY 19-20  | Change    |
|---|---|---|-----------|
| <b>USDA School Nutritional Standards</b>          | Required  | Required  | no change |
| <b>Unhealthy Marketing Restrictions</b>           | Not addressed   | Not addressed   | no change |
| <b>Strategies to Increase Breakfast</b>           | Recommended or restricted to certain schools or students    | Recommended or restricted to certain schools or students    | no change |
| <b>Access to Potable Water Throughout Day</b>     | Recommended   | Recommended   | no change |
| <b>Competitive Food (Outside of School Meals)</b> | Addressed, does not meet federal requirements in all grades | Addressed, does not meet federal requirements in all grades | no change |
| <b>Unpaid Meal Charge Policy</b>                  | Not addressed   | Not addressed   | no change |

## Community Involvement

|  | SY 17-18                  | SY 19-20                  | Change    |
|--|---------------------------|---------------------------|-----------|
| <b>Community Involvement in Local Governance</b> | Required                  | Required                  | no change |
| <b>School-Community Interagency Partnerships</b> | Encouraged                | Encouraged                | no change |
| <b>Community Use of Public School Facilities</b> | Authorized and Encouraged | Authorized and Encouraged | no change |