

# What Can I Do With a Degree in...



## Physical Education



The Bachelor of Science degree in Physical Education prepares graduates for a license to teach K-12 physical education and health.

### Job Outlook & Average Earnings

Physical Education professionals can be found teaching in grades K-12, in social service organizations, public institutions, and private businesses.

The 31st Annual AAEE Educator Supply and Demand Study (2007) reports Physical Education as a field with some surplus. Students may want to consider becoming certified to teach in additional subject areas and gaining relevant experience during college (see other side for more information on how to develop marketable skills).

The minimum salary for teachers with no experience in Oklahoma (based on 2007-2008 school year) is \$31,600. This may include fringe benefits such as employee retirement contributions. From [www.sde.state.ok.us](http://www.sde.state.ok.us)

For more information about salaries visit the American Federation of Teachers salary surveys website at <http://www.aft.org/salary/index.htm>

### Oklahoma will need Physical Education and Health Instructors...

According to a ranking by CalorieLab (<http://calorielab.com>), based on statistics from the CDC's BRFSS database, **Oklahoma is the 8th fattest state** with 65.1% of the state being either overweight or obese.

While the Oklahoma State Department of Health adopts many of the Healthy People 2010 objectives (<http://www.healthypeople.gov/>) and the Oklahoma Legislature passes more bills such as SB312 which "requires public elementary schools to provide physical education and health instruction for students in full day and kindergarten and grades one through five"\*, the need for instructors is expected to grow.

\* To see a brief summary of the Oklahoma Board of Health resolutions and legislative outcomes visit <http://www.ok.gov/health/pub/boh/state/index.html> (page 26).

### Possible Career Paths & Job Titles

- Physical Education Teacher
- Health Teacher
- Coach
- Athletic Director
- Fitness Instructor
- Professional Official or Umpire
- Outdoor Adventure Leader
- Sports Camp Counselor or Coordinator
- Sporting Goods Store Manager/Owner
- College Student Affairs Professional
- Community Service Administrator
- Public/Private School Administration\*
- Curriculum Development Specialist\*
- Junior College Instructor\*
- Professor\*

\* May require additional education.



The Physical Education program at OSU is accredited by the Oklahoma State Department of Education and the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education.



### Common Qualities of Physical Education Professionals

In *Great Jobs for Physical Education Majors* (Nancy Giebel, Ed.D., 2004) the following qualities are listed as common among individuals pursuing physical education career paths.

- Enjoy working with youth
- Commit to a lifetime of physical fitness
- Know subject fundamentals and technological skills
- Respond to teachable moments
- Willingly adapt lesson plans
- Cooperate as a team member

## Learn more about Physical Education by visiting these websites...

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Job Descriptions / Occupational Outlook Handbook  
<http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos069.htm>  
<http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos063.htm>

US Department of Health & Human Services  
<http://www.hhs.gov/>

PE Central  
*The website for Health and Physical Education*  
<http://www.pecentral.org/>

PE for Life  
<http://www.pe4life.org/>

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### PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Federation of Teachers  
<http://www.aft.org>

National Education Association  
<http://www.nea.org/index.html>

National Association for Sport and Physical Education  
<http://www.aahperd.org/naspe/>

Oklahoma Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance  
<http://www.oahperd.org/>

The American Sport Education Program  
<http://www.asep.com/>

National Federation of State High School Associations  
<http://www.nfhs.org/>

National Alliance for Youth Sports  
<http://www.nays.org/>

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### JOB-SEARCH WEBSITES

Teacher-Teacher.com  
<http://www.teachers-teachers.com/Oklahoma/index.cfm>

Oklahoma Teaching Jobs  
<http://www.oklahomateachingjobs.org/>

Oklahoma State School Boards Association  
<http://www.ossba.org>

Oklahoma Coaching Association Job listing site  
<http://www.okcoachesassn.com/board.asp?x=JOB&z=page>

Education America Network  
[www.educationamerica.net](http://www.educationamerica.net)

School Spring.com  
[www.schoolspring.com](http://www.schoolspring.com)

## Will you be marketable when you graduate?



Students in the College of Education get a significant amount of hands-on experience during their academic coursework. Physical Education majors experience 45 hours of assisting with real-life situations in schools and 14 weeks of student teaching. Some students get practical experience by participating in the National Youths Sports Program (NYSP), workshops, conferences, and other volunteer work.

### Also consider doing the following...

#### Investigate and research your career path

As you choose activities and experiences to participate in during college consider what skills and abilities you might develop. To see a detailed list of what skills are need to be a physical education teacher visit the Occupational Information Network (O\*NET®) website at  
<http://online.onetcenter.org/link/summary/25-1193.00>

#### Join student clubs and organizations

##### ***Kappa Kappa Iota***

A Professional Organization for Educators that promotes the advancement of education by providing an effective network for the exchange of education and teaching practices by educators.

##### ***Student Education Association***

An organization that helps members be more aware of the responsibilities and careers available in the teaching profession.

##### ***Physical Education Club***

This club's purpose is to foster a concern for the progress and development of physical education, advance standards within the discipline, encourage and initiate greater interaction among students, faculty, and alumni, and cooperate with and provide an opportunity for participation in professional organizations.

#### Join a national organization

Look into student memberships to national organizations. Listed on the left are a few of the professional organizations you will want to become familiar with.

#### Gain relevant experience

Volunteer in a local youth shelter or after school program. Volunteer as a coach for a youth team. Get a part-time or summer job working with children. Be a substitute teacher or teach at your place of worship.

#### Visit your Career Services office!

The College of Education Career Services assists students with all phases of their career development. Services offered include: resume development; job search assistance; career research resources; and preparation for the transition from school to work.

To make an appointment call 744-6350 or email [careersuccess@okstate.edu](mailto:careersuccess@okstate.edu)