



ILLINOIS

The state of Illinois passed legislation that mandates the collection of student fitness data. The state adopted FitnessGram® as the assessment tool to measure student fitness levels. Data collection occurs at every grade level between 3-12, with the results only being reported to various stakeholders during grades 5, 7, and 10. Visit the Illinois Department of Education [website](#) to acquire more information on the physical education accountability system.

(1) THE PROCESS OF DEVELOPING THE ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM

It took one to two years for the state to establish the accountability system once a decision was made to begin the process. The cost was attributed to meetings or travel costs for the committee members. The state education agency provided funding.

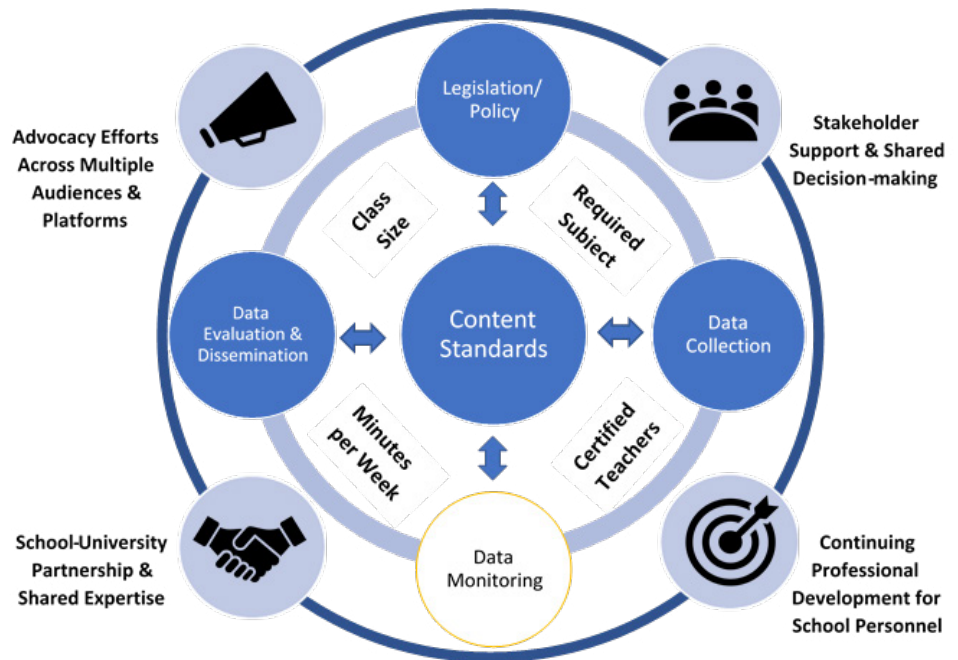
(2) THE SLAC-PE FRAMEWORK

(A) CONTENT STANDARDS

Illinois has content standards (last updated in 2017) that align with each of the SHAPE America National Standards.

(B) CRITICAL ELEMENTS OF ROBUST ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEMS

- **Legislation/policy:** There is legislation for the accountability system (Title 23, Code 1, Subtitle D, Part 1), which mandates assessing and reporting student fitness data.
- **Data Collection:** Students’ fitness levels are required to be measured every year in 3-12th grades and reported in 5th, 7th, and 10th grades using FitnessGram®. Teachers submit data through the online system and stored in the “Illinois Web Application Security (IWAS) system.”
- **Data Monitoring:** There is no data monitoring system in place.
- **Data Dissemination/Evaluation:**
 - *The state level:* The state shares the collected data with the state legislature.
 - *The district/county level:* The district/county shares the collected data with the public.



(3) OTHER FACTORS

- **Factors that helped in developing:** Legislative support; support from some progressive district superintendents; support from state public health advocacy group were the factors that helped in developing the system.
- **Challenges in developing:** Parental pushback was the challenges in developing the system.
- **Factors that helped in implementing:** Legislative mandate was the factors that helped in implementing the system.

- **Challenges in implementing:** Misunderstanding of how to measure FitnessGram® for various populations, specifically those with disabilities, difficulty in finding time for qualified physical education teachers to perform the assessment, and no penalty for failure to assess fitness nor for failure to report were the identified challenges in implementing.