

CLASS SIZES AND STUDENT-EDUCATOR RATIOS

Class size ratios help ensure effective instruction, individualized support, and student engagement. Smaller classes foster better educator-student interaction, improving academic achievement and social development. Maintaining balanced ratios enhances the opportunity for all students to access quality learning. The below class size limits promote optimal learning environments, reduce overcrowding, and support the District's educators in delivering tailored, high-quality instruction to diverse student populations.

For the purposes of this policy, "Educator" is defined as a teacher, or certified paraprofessional.

- A. **Student-Educator Ratios/Class Size Limits:** To successfully carry out its educational programming and instructional needs, the School Board establishes the following student-educator limitations for each class:
 1. Kindergarten - Grade 2: The District will strive to achieve a maximum class size of 25 students per educator. However, it is the policy of the School Board that class sizes for Kindergarten through grade two should whenever possible, be limited to 20 students or less, per educator.
 2. Grade 3- Grade 5: The District will strive to achieve a maximum class size of 30 students per educator. However, it is the policy of the School Board that class sizes for grades three through five should, whenever possible, be limited to 20 students or less, per educator.
 3. Middle School – High School: The District will strive to achieve a maximum class size of 30 students per educator. However, it is the policy of the School Board that high school class sizes should whenever possible, be limited to 25 students or less, per educator.
- B. **Exceptions:** The Student-Educator ratios and class size limits above may be exceeded in the following circumstances:
 - a. Study halls,
 - b. Band classes,
 - c. Choir classes,
 - d. Large group instruction (including, but not limited to, lectures, and showings of educational television and films),
 - e. Laboratory classes (including science and CTE programs), the maximum class size shall be determined by the number of workstations available, alongside the size and design of the classroom,
 - f. Physical Education (PE),
 - g. Library media instruction, and
 - h. STEM classes.

Legal References:

NH Statutes

RSA 21-N:8-d, I (c)

NH Dept of Ed Regulation

N.H. Code Admin. Rules Ed 306.12

N.H. Code Admin. Rules Ed 306.14

Description

Recruitment of Educators in New Hampshire

Description

Provision of Staff and Staff Qualifications

Class Size

Legal References Disclaimer: These references are not intended to be considered part of this policy, nor should they be taken as a comprehensive statement of the legal basis for the Board to enact this policy, nor as a complete recitation of related legal authority. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

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