



Healthy
Communities
Study

How Communities
Shape Children's Health

**SSA ATTACHMENT 16
HEALTHY COMMUNITIES STUDY**

HEALTHY COMMUNITIES STUDY

SCHOOL PHYSICAL ACTIVITY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PROTOCOL

SCHOOL PHYSICAL ACTIVITY RESOURCE ASSESSMENT (PARA)

The following document contains the physical activity environmental assessment protocol that will be followed to assess the physical activity resources available at the schools. A modified version of the Physical Activity Resource Assessment (PARA) form will be completed based upon observations in up to four schools (two elementary and two middle schools) per community from which the sample of children/families was recruited. The Battelle community liaison will observe the school's outdoor features of the environment related to physical activity. This form characterizes the features, amenities, and incivilities of the physical activity environment(s) in the school, the hours, availability, and capacity of the facilities, and size and cost of use of these environments.



THE SCHOOL PHYSICAL ACTIVITY RESOURCE ASSESSMENT (SCHOOL PARA)

There is little to no public reporting burden of this collection of information as it is completed by research staff. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING FORM FOR THE FOUR SCHOOLS SELECTED FOR OBSERVATIONS IN THE COMMUNITY DURING THE LIAISON'S VISIT.

B1. Start Time and End Time fields with AM/PM indicators.

B1a. School ID field and B1b. Liaison ID (Observer) field.

B2. Approximate size (size of entire school property) with checkboxes for small, medium, large, and Don't Know.

B3. Capacity (posted fire capacity for indoor facilities) with checkbox for Don't Know.

B4. Cost with checkboxes for Free, Pay at the door, Pay for only certain programs, Other, and Don't Know.

B5. Hours of Operation with checkboxes for open/close times and Don't Know.

B6. Signage - Hours with checkboxes for Yes, No, and Don't Know.

B7. Signage - Rules with checkboxes for Yes, No, and Don't Know.



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Feature	Rating			
	Not present	Poor	Mediocre	Good
B8. Baseball field	0	1	2	3
B9. Basketball courts	0	1	2	3
B10. Soccer field	0	1	2	3
B11. Bike rack	0	1	2	3
B12. Play equipment	0	1	2	3
B13. Pool >3 ft deep	0	1	2	3
B14. Sandbox	0	1	2	3
B15. Sidewalk	0	1	2	3
B16. Tennis courts	0	1	2	3
B17. Trails - running/biking	0	1	2	3
B18. Volleyball courts	0	1	2	3

Amenity	Rating			
	Not present	Poor	Mediocre	Good
B19. Wading pool <3ft	0	1	2	3
B20. Access points	0	1	2	3
B21. Bathrooms	0	1	2	3
B22. Benches	0	1	2	3
B23. Drinking fountain	0	1	2	3
B24. Landscaping efforts	0	1	2	3
B25. Lighting	0	1	2	3
B26. Picnic tables	0	1	2	3
B27. Shelters	0	1	2	3
B28. Shower/Locker room	0	1	2	3
B29. Trash containers	0	1	2	3

Incivilities	Rating	
	Not Present	Present
B30. Auditory annoyance	0	1
B31. Broken glass	0	1
B32. Dog refuse	0	1
B33. Evidence of alcohol use	0	1
B34. Evidence of substance use	0	1

Incivilities	Rating	
	Not Present	Present
B35. Graffiti/tagging	0	1
B36. Litter	0	1
B37. Overgrown grass	0	1
B38. Sex paraphernalia	0	1
B39. Vandalism	0	1

Comments:

THE SCHOOL PHYSICAL ACTIVITY RESOURCE ASSESSMENT (SCHOOL PARA)

Sources and References

- 1) Lee RE, Booth KM, Reese-Smith JY, Regan G, Howard HH. The Physical Activity Resource Assessment (PARA) instrument: evaluating features, amenities, and incivilities of physical activity resources in urban neighborhoods. *Int J Behav Nutr Phys Act.* 14 September 2005; 2:13.