

Massachusetts

Language included in their law around who can return to play:

“201.011: Medical Clearance and Authorization to Return to Play

Each student who is removed from practice or competition for a head injury or suspected concussion, or loses consciousness, even briefly, or exhibits signs and symptoms of a concussion shall obtain and present to the Athletic Director, unless another person is specified in school policy or procedure, a Department Post Sports-Related Head Injury Medical Clearance and Authorization Form (herein after “Medical Clearance and Authorization Form”), or school-based equivalent, prior to resuming the extracurricular athletic activity. This form must be completed by a physician or one of the individuals as authorized by 105 CMR 201.011(A).

The ultimate return to play decision is a medical decision that may involve a multidisciplinary approach, including consultation with parents, the school nurse and teachers as appropriate.

(A) Only the following individuals may authorize a student to return to play:

- (1) A duly licensed physician;
- (2) A duly licensed athletic trainer in consultation with a licensed physician;
- (3) A duly licensed nurse practitioner in consultation with a licensed physician;
- (4) A duly licensed physician assistant under the supervision of a licensed physician; or
- (5) A duly licensed neuropsychologist in coordination with the physician managing the student’s recovery.

(B) Physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, licensed athletic trainers and neuropsychologists providing medical clearance for return to play shall verify that they have received Department-approved training in post traumatic head injury assessment and management or have received equivalent training as part of their licensure or continuing education.”

Full text of Massachusetts law –

<http://www.mass.gov/eohhs/docs/dph/com-health/injury/105-cmr-201.pdf>

Massachusetts website –

<http://www.mass.gov/eohhs/gov/departments/dph/programs/community-health/dvip/injury-prevention/sports-related-concussions-and-head-injuries.html>

Pennsylvania

Language included in its law regarding who can return to play:

"Appropriate medical professional." All of the following:

(1) A licensed physician who is trained in the evaluation and management of concussions OR A LICENSED OR

CERTIFIED HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL TRAINED IN THE EVALUATION AND MANAGEMENT OF CONCUSSIONS AND DESIGNATED BY SUCH LICENSED PHYSICIAN.

(2) A licensed psychologist neuropsychologically trained in the evaluation and management of concussions or who has postdoctoral training in neuropsychology and specific training in the evaluation and management of concussions.

Full text of Pennsylvania law –

<http://www.legis.state.pa.us/CFDOCS/Legis/PN/Public/btCheck.cfm?txtType=HTM&sessYr=2011&sessInd=0&billBody=S&billTyp=B&billNbr=0200&pn=1637>

Pennsylvania website –

<http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt?open=514&objID=666239&mode=2>