



HAWAII

Hawaii received \$1,747,825 in federal funds for abstinence-only-until-marriage programs in Fiscal Year 2006.¹

Hawaii Sexuality Education Law and Policy

Hawaii's education policy states that, "in order to help students make decisions that promote healthy behaviors, the Department of Education shall instruct students that abstinence from sexual intercourse is the surest and most responsible way to prevent unintended pregnancies, sexually transmitted diseases [STDs] such as HIV/AIDS, and consequent emotional distress." The policy specifies that programs shall help students remain abstinent, help currently sexually active students become abstinent, and "provide youth with information on and skill development in the use of protective devices and methods for the purpose of preventing sexually transmitted diseases and pregnancy."

Hawaii's education policy further states that birth control devices may be discussed during human reproduction studies; however, "the distribution of condoms and other prophylactic devices to students shall be prohibited in the classroom, on the school campus or at any school-related activities."

Hawaii's *Health Content Standards* also state that sexual health should be addressed and tells schools which content areas are to be addressed, but does not give curricula guidelines or suggest curricula and does not go into detail as to what should be discussed.

Hawaii does not require parental permission for students to participate in sexuality or HIV/AIDS education nor does it say whether parents or guardians can remove their children from such classes.

See Hawaii Board of Education Policies 2100, 2110, and 2245.

Recent Legislation

Legislation Allows for Rapid HIV Testing

House Concurrent Resolution 293, introduced in March 2007, urges the Governor to allow rapid HIV testing in the state. The current Hawaii Administrative Rules outline strict requirements for the use of rapid HIV testing within the state, creating a barrier to the rapid testing tool. The resolution explains that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, and other major federal public health agencies strongly support rapid HIV testing since it increases awareness of HIV serostatus. HCR 293 was passed by the House and was sent to the Senate for debate. It is currently in the Senate Committee on Health.

Bills Mandate Sexual Health Education in State-Funded Entities

House Bill 464 and Senate Bill 1117, introduced in January 2007, would mandate that any recipient of state funding offering sexual health education must provide medically accurate, factual information that is age-appropriate. In addition, state-funded entities must provide education on both abstinence and contraception for the prevention of pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases. SB 1117 passed in the Senate and was sent to the House of Representatives, where it became a substitute for HB 464. SB 1117 currently resides in the House Committees on Education, Health, and the Judiciary.

Medical Accuracy Legislation Introduced

Introduced in January 2006, House Bill 2079 and Senate Bill 2172 require “any recipient of state funding that provides information or offers programs regarding sex, family planning, pregnancy counseling, or sexually transmitted diseases” to provide medically and factually accurate information that is age-appropriate. The legislation also requires that recipients teach about both abstinence and contraception. These bills define both “factual information” and “medically accurate” information. The House Bill was assigned to the Committee on Health. The Senate Bill was assigned to the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services.

House Bill 2060 closely resembles House Bill 2079 and Senate Bill 2172, but requires medically accurate information be taught by recipients of state and federal funding, while the other bills require medically accurate information be taught only by recipients of state funding. The bill was introduced in January 2006 and has passed the House Committees on Health and on Judiciary. It currently sits in the House Committee on Finance.

Senate Bill 2139, introduced in January 2006, would require the same standards from any recipient of state funding as described in House Bill 2079 and Senate Bill 2172, but would exempt programs that are “required to exclusively promote abstinence-only curriculum or programs.” The bill was passed by the Senate and by the House Committee on Health. It sits in the House Committee on Judiciary.

Senate Bill 1117, introduced in January of 2007, is similar to Senate Bill 2172 introduced last year. The bill specifies that “any recipient of state funding that provides sexual health education shall provide medically accurate, factual information that is age-appropriate and that includes education on both abstinence and contraception for the prevention of pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV.” The bill was referred to House Committee on Labor and Public Employment.

Events of Note*Schools Decide to Show Film on Tolerance*

Maui, HI; June 2005

In June 2005, administrators at the King Kekaulike High School addressed some complaints from parents over their plan to show *It's Elementary*, a film that teaches tolerance towards lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning individuals. The parents explained that the film would only present the view that homosexuality is an acceptable lifestyle, a view with which the parents disagree. They recommended that the school also show *I Do Exist*, a film featuring a man who claims to have changed his sexual orientation from gay to straight. The film was written and produced by Warren Throckmorton, a “reparative therapist” with a degree from the conservative Grove City College (PA) and connections to the “ex-gay” movement. Despite the complaints, the school decided to show *It's Elementary* without the accompanying “ex-gay” film.²

Hawaii's Youth: Statistical Information of Note³

- In 2005, 38% of female high school students and 34% of male high school students in Hawaii reported ever having had sexual intercourse compared to 46% of female high school students and 48% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2005, 4% of female high school students and 6% of male high school students in Hawaii reported having had sexual intercourse before age 13 compared to 4% of female high school students and 9% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2005, 8% of female high school students and 10% of male high school students in Hawaii reported having had four or more lifetime sexual partners compared to 12% of female high school students and 17% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2005, 29% of female high school students and 19% of male high school students in Hawaii reported being currently sexually active (defined as having had sexual intercourse in the three months prior to the survey) compared to 35% of female high school students and 33% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2005, among those high school students who reported being currently sexually active, 44% of females and 53% of males in Hawaii reported having used condoms the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 56% of females and 70% of males nationwide.
- In 2005, among those high school students who reported being currently sexually active, 14% of females and 11% of males in Hawaii reported having used birth control pills the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 21% of females and 15% of males nationwide.
- In 2005, among those high school students who reported being currently sexually active, 21% of females and 27% of males in Hawaii reported having used alcohol or drugs the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 19% of females and 28% of males nationwide.
- In 2005, 83% of high school students in Hawaii reported having been taught about AIDS/HIV in school compared to 88% of high school students nationwide.
- In 2000, Hawaii's abortion rate was 34 per 1,000 women ages 15–19 compared to a teen abortion rate of 24 per 1,000 nationwide.⁴
- In 2004, Hawaii's birth rate was 36 per 1,000 women ages 15–19 compared to a teen birth rate of 41 per 1,000 nationwide.⁵

Title V Abstinence-Only-Until-Marriage Funding

Hawaii received \$162,787 in federal Title V funds in Fiscal Year 2006. The Title V abstinence-only-until-marriage grant requires states to provide three state-raised dollars or the equivalent in services for every four federal dollars received. The state match may be provided in part or in full by local groups. Hawaii matches the federal money with \$129,699 in state funding. The Hawaii Department of Health oversees this funding.

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The Hawaii Department of Health has four goals for this funding:

- To increase understanding that sexual abstinence outside of marriage is the expected social standard;
- To promote healthy lifestyle behaviors, responsible living, and shape positive growth experience among youth through the development of personal and social skills;
- To strengthen family relationships through parenting and communication skills among parents/significant adults; and
- To develop and sustain strengths and assets among youth related to physical, intellectual, social, emotional, and spiritual well-being.

The Hawaii Department of Health gives one grant to the Boys and Girls Club of Honolulu, which implements the “Smart Moves” program in four sites. The Smart Moves program emphasizes the eight-point federal definition of “abstinence education.” A modified curriculum for “Start Smart Program for Pre-Teens” addresses all eight of the legislatively mandated criteria needed for abstinence-only-until-marriage programs to receive Title V funding.

The Boys and Girls Club of Honolulu targets young people ages 10–12. Parents and adults also participate in activities. Young people ages 13–17 are involved in the program as peer mentors. The program uses *Smart Moves*, a curriculum designed to encourage youth to abstain from risk-taking behavior. Classes are held in after-school or community-based settings as Hawaii’s sexuality education law requires in-school programs to have a comprehensive approach.

The Smart Moves program will be evaluated for both process and outcome. The evaluation will examine sexual intercourse rates, attitudes about abstinence, STD rates, teen pregnancy rates, and birth rates among young people ages 15–17. The University of Hawaii receives \$18,000 per year to continue its work on the evaluation.

Community-Based Abstinence Education (CBAE) and Adolescent Family Life Act (AFLA) Grantees

There are two CBAE grantees in Hawaii: Catholic Charities of Honolulu (receives two grants) and Maui Youth and Family Services. There are no AFLA grantees in Hawaii.

Federal and State Funding for Abstinence-Only-Until-Marriage Programs in FY 2006

| Abstinence-Only-Until-Marriage Grantee Length of Grant | Amount of Grant | Type of Grant (includes Title V, CBAE, AFLA, and other funds) |
|---|--------------------------------------|---|
| Hawaii Department of Health www.hawaii.gov/health | \$162,787 federal \$129,699 state | Title V |
| Boys and Girls Club of Hawaii | \$135,400 | Title V sub-grantee |

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| Abstinence-Only-Until-Marriage Grantee Length of Grant | Amount of Grant | Type of Grant (includes Title V, CBAE, AFLA, and other funds) |
|---|------------------------|--|
| Catholic Charities of Honolulu 2003–2006 | \$735,031 | CBAE |
| DUAL GRANTEE 2006–2011 www.catholiccharitieshawaii.org | \$600,000 | CBAE |
| Maui Youth and Family Services 2005–2008 www.myfs.org | \$250,007 | CBAE |

Title V Abstinence-Only-Until-Marriage Coordinator

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Hawaii Organizations that Support Comprehensive Sexuality Education

ACLU of Hawaii
P.O. Box 3410
Honolulu, HI 96801
Phone: (808) 522-5900
www.acluhawaii.org

Planned Parenthood of Hawaii
1350 South King St., Suite 310
Honolulu, HI 96814
Phone: (808) 589-1156
www.plannedparenthood.org/hawaii/

Hawaii Organizations that Oppose Comprehensive Sexuality Education

Hawaii Christian Coalition
1336 Dillingham Blvd.
Honolulu, HI 96817
Phone: (808) 842-0707
www.hi-christian.com

Hawaii Family Forum
6301 Pali Hwy.
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Phone: (808) 203-6704
www.hawaiifamilyforum.org

Hawaii Right to Life
1019 University Ave., #7B
Honolulu, HI 96826
Phone: (808) 943-1595
www.hrtl.org

Newspapers in Hawaii

The Garden Island
Lester Chang
Staff Writer
3137 Kuhio Hwy.
Lihue, HI 96766
Phone: (808) 245-3681 ext. 225

Hawaii Hochi
Assignment Editor
917 Kokea St.
Honolulu, HI 96817
Phone: (808) 845-2255

Honolulu Advertiser
Beverly Creamer
Education Reporter
P.O. Box 3110
Honolulu, HI 96802
Phone: (808) 535-8013

Honolulu Star-Bulletin
Lucy Young-Oda
Assistant Editor
500 Ala Moana Blvd.
Honolulu, HI 96813
Phone: (808) 529-4762

The Maui News
Community News Reporter
100 Mahalani St.
Wailuku, HI 96793
Phone: (808) 244-3981

Tribune-Herald
Education Editor
355 Kinoole St.
Hilo, HI 96720
Phone: (808) 935-6621

West Hawaii Today
Colleen Marshall
Medical/Health Reporter
75-5580 Kuakini Hwy.
Kailua-Kona, HI 96740
Phone: (808) 329-9311

¹ This refers to the fiscal year for the Federal Government which begins on October 1 and ends on September 30. The fiscal year is designated by the calendar year in which it ends; for example, Fiscal Year 2006 begins on October 1, 2005 and ends on September 30, 2006.

² Jim Brown, "Hawaii Parents Protest School's Plan to Show Pro-Homosexual Video to Kids," *Agape Press*, 3 June 2005, accessed 6 June 2005, <<http://headlines.agapepress.org/archive/6/32005c.asp>>.

³ Unless otherwise cited, all statistical information comes from: Danice K. Eaton, et. al., "Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance—United States, 2005," *Surveillance Summaries, Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*, vol. 55, no. SS-5 (9 June 2006): 1-108, accessed 26 January 2007, <<http://www.cdc.gov/HealthyYouth/yrbs/index.htm>>.

⁴ U.S. *Teenage Pregnancy Statistics: Overall Trends, Trends by Race and Ethnicity and State-by-State Information* (New York: The Guttmacher Institute, February 2004), accessed 26 January 2007, <<http://www.guttmacher.org/pubs/2006/09/12/USTPstats.pdf>>.

⁵ *National Vital Statistics Reports 55.01* (Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics, 2006), 10, accessed 26 January 2006, <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr55/nvsr55_01.pdf>.