

SIECUS State Profiles: Updated March 2020

Sex Ed State Law and Policy Chart

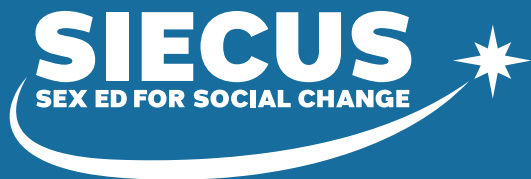


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Introduction

A patchwork of laws relating to sex education exist across the country, with varying requirements.

In some states, this has meant a lack of access to sex education or certain components of sex education, and in many other states **no access to comprehensive sexuality education for young people**. In response to the lack of uniformity in laws and policies regarding sex education across the nation, the following series of tables has been developed to assist with clarifying the state of sex education, HIV/STI instruction, and healthy relationships instruction in the United States.

Highlights:

- 28** states and the District of Columbia mandate sex education.
- 35** states require schools to stress abstinence when sex education or HIV/STI instruction is provided.
- 16** states require instruction on condoms or contraception when sex education or HIV/STI instruction is provided.
- 15** states do *not* require sex ed or HIV/STI instruction to be any of the following: age-appropriate, medically accurate, culturally responsive, or evidence-based/evidence-informed.
- 8** states require sex education or HIV/STI instruction to include information on consent.
- 8** states require culturally responsive sex education and HIV/STI instruction.
- 11** states have policies that include affirming sexual orientation instruction on LGBTQ identities or discussion of sexual health for LGBTQ youth.
- 9** states explicitly require teachers to portray LGBTQ people negatively in health education instruction or prohibit teachers from mentioning LGBTQ people.

How to read these tables

In general, these tables address whether states must provide sex education, HIV/STI instruction, and/or healthy relationships instruction in the United States; the quality of that education; what topics are included; and the rights parents and guardians may have regarding their children receiving such education. Each of the numbered headings below correspond to their respectively numbered tables. For additional context, please refer to the footnotes at the end of each table.

1. Requirements and quality of education

This first table outlines which states mandate sex education, HIV/STI instruction, and/or healthy relationships instruction. The “Xs” with an asterisk (*) indicate that the mandate is either found in the state’s administrative laws, regulations, or rules; policies; or curriculum standards. Still, these requirements have the full force and effect of law. Additionally, this table notes whether the education must be age-appropriate, evidence-based, culturally responsive, and/or medically accurate, when taught in the state.

To be clear, these quality standards may apply even if the type of education is not mandated. In other words, if a school elects to teach at least one of the three types of education tracked, then it must adhere to additional requirements.

a. Medically accurate sex education:

verified or supported by the weight of research conducted in compliance with accepted scientific methods and published in peer-reviewed journals, if applicable, or comprising information recognized as accurate, objective, and

complete. Some state definitions of “medically accurate” require that the department of health review the material for accuracy, others will mandate that curriculum be based on information from “published authorities upon which medical professionals rely.”

b. Age appropriate: suitable to particular ages or age groups of children and adolescents, based on the typical developing cognitive, emotional, and behavioral capacity typical for the age or age group.

c. Culturally responsive: affirming of culturally diverse individuals, families, and communities in an inclusive, respectful, and effective manner; including materials and instruction that are inclusive of race, ethnicity, language, cultural background, religion, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, and different abilities.

d. Evidence based: require curriculum to be based on proven, accredited publications and authorities that demonstrates the success or failure of specific initiatives.

2. Additional requirements – Sex education or HIV/STI instruction

This table describes the requirements to which a school must adhere if it elects to provide sex education or HIV/STI instruction. These additional requirements fall into several distinct categories:

- **Inclusion, or lack thereof, of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or queer (LGBTQ) people** – Language surrounding LGBTQ people varies tremendously in states' education laws across the country. These laws can be categorized as being either "inclusive," "neutral," or "discriminatory" toward LGBTQ people. Cells that are blank indicate states that do not have

any explicit language concerning LGBTQ people, instruction, or materials. The language also differentiates between sexual orientation and gender identity.

- **Inclusive laws on sexual orientation** are those that include affirming instruction on lesbian, gay, bisexual, and queer (LGBQ identities) and discussion of sexual health for LGBQ youth.
- **Inclusive laws on gender identity** require sex education curriculum to include instruction on the emotional, behavioral and cultural characteristics attached to a person's assigned biological sex. Gender can be understood to have several components, including gender identity, gender expression and gender roles.
- **Neutral laws on sexual orientation** include information on LGBQ identities or mention LGBQ identities, but neither affirm the unique needs of LGBQ youth or intentionally discriminate against LGBQ youth.
- **Neutral laws on gender identity** include instruction on the emotional, behavioral and cultural characteristics attached to a person's assigned biological sex, but neither affirm the



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unique needs of young people beyond the binary including but not limited to gender nonconforming, transgender, and gender expansive youth, or intentionally discriminate against these youth.

- **Discriminatory laws on sexual orientation** require sex education curriculum to include discriminatory, stigmatizing, shame based, or medically inaccurate information about sexual orientation.
- **Discriminatory laws on gender identity** require sex education curriculum to include instruction on the emotional, behavioral and cultural characteristics attached to a person's assigned biological sex. Gender can be understood to have several components, including gender identity, gender expression and gender role.
- **Abortion as outcome of pregnancy (negative, affirming, or prohibited)** – States have different requirements regarding discussion of abortion in sex education classes. Some state laws prohibit instruction on abortion or require inclusion of medically inaccurate information written to dissuade students from viewing abortion as an acceptable

outcome of pregnancy, while curricula that are affirming of abortion promote or include instruction that is medically accurate, unbiased information about abortion as a valid outcome of pregnancy.

- **Contraception covered (limited or expansive)** – The extent that states require contraception to be covered varies.
 - **Limited** includes teaching methods such as condoms and vaguely mentions the concepts of contraception but does not go into detail. Some require that contraception is covered but emphasize the failure rate of various forms of contraception rather than its use.
 - State laws that require **expansive contraception** education include many if not all FDA-approved forms of contraception, including long-acting reversible contraception and condoms, and how to use the various forms.
- **Marriage promotion** – There are state laws containing language that require teachers to promote marriage—described explicitly as heterosexual and monogamous in many states—during sex education and HIV/STI instruction. Many of

these laws perpetuate the misconception that marriage is the only way to prevent unintended pregnancies and HIV/STIs. However, this is a misguided belief that contributes to both the stigma and isolation of married people who do have unintended pregnancies or contract HIV/STIs and the fallacy that unintended pregnancies and HIV/STIs are nonexistent or disappear in a marriage.

- **Healthy relationships instruction** – For this category, healthy relationships instruction includes instruction on communication skills, decision-making skills, violence prevention, child sexual abuse, consent, or sex trafficking. These columns in the table indicate which states require at least one component of healthy relationships instruction as part of mandated sex education or HIV/STI instruction and comprehensive healthy relationships instruction.
 - **Some healthy relationships:** mentioned healthy relationships teaching but does not go into detail about what is included in the lesson (requires a unit on healthy relationships).
 - **Comprehensive healthy relationships:** fully specifies instruction and clearly



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what students will receive. May include the time limits, and clearly articulate definitions so that instruction is not ambiguous.

- **Instruction implementation requirements** – Quality sex education is provided by well-trained educators, therefore tracking which states require schools to include some sort of teacher training is critical. States had three different types of teacher training requirements and sometimes required more than one type.
 - **Provide teacher training** – These types of laws require schools to provide or make available in-service teacher training for school officials, including administrators and teachers. It is often unclear whether attendance of school officials for trainings is mandated.
 - **Require a certificate or expertise to teach** – These types of laws require teachers or guest speakers and educators to possess a valid certificate to teach the specific health education course. Some laws require guest speakers to have expertise in health education to teach.

- **Require teachers to attend training** – Many laws require school officials to attend teacher training on relevant health education topics.

The teacher training requirement in this table specifically refers to sex education or HIV/STI instruction. For further information on teacher training requirements specifically for healthy relationships topics and instruction, please see table three.

3. Additional requirements – Healthy relationships instruction

The third table tracks each state's laws surrounding healthy relationships instruction, including which topics must be taught and whether the state requires a teacher training component, if healthy relationships topics are provided by the school. This table tracks two types of healthy relationships instruction – (1) topics required by the states' sex education and HIV/STI instruction laws and (2) healthy relationships instruction laws that are standalone from sex education and HIV/STI instruction. As there are some states that do not require sex education or HIV/STI instruction, but do require a type of healthy relationships instruction, this table reflects those differences. This table does

not track which healthy relationships topics are mandated by law, but rather which topics are required to be taught if some sort of healthy relationships instruction is required, either through a standalone law or as part of the state's sex education or HIV/STI instruction law.

4. Parent/Guardian notification

This final table indicates whether there is an opportunity for parents or guardians to either opt-out of or opt-in to each type of instruction on behalf of their children. It also indicates if there is language in the law that requires schools to either make the materials available for public view or for parents/guardians to review. Under an opt-in policy,

teachers need written permission from a parent or guardian before a student can attend a sex education class. Most states and school districts rely instead on opt-out policies for sex education, which automatically enroll all students, but allow parents to remove their children from instruction without penalty. Opt-out policies usually require school districts to send written notification to parents before sex education lessons are taught, including information on what is being taught and who will be teaching the class. It is then the responsibility of parents to inform the school district in writing if they do not wish their child to attend those lessons.



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From policy to practice

How to use this resource to enact change:

If you are an advocate:

- Advocate for comprehensive sexuality education programs that honor and respect the rights of young people, providing them with the tools they need to lead healthy lives.
- Require sex education and HIV/STI instruction to be age-appropriate, medically accurate, and culturally appropriate.
- Ensure teachers providing sex education receive ongoing training on HIV/STIs, healthy relationships, and consent.
- Work to remove state-level legal and policy barriers to LGBTQ-inclusive sex education in schools and require LGBTQ-inclusive programs.
- Form coalitions with parents, educators, policy makers, and young people to improve sex education in your state and your school district.

If you are a policy maker:

- Fund and/or support comprehensive sexuality education programs. Ensure policies for sex education will equip young people with the knowledge, skills, attitudes, and values they have a right to and need to lead healthy lives. Reject harmful programs that do not include information that is age-appropriate, medically accurate, and culturally appropriate.
- Develop sex education policies that align with the National Sexuality Education Standards.
- Work to remove state-level legal and policy barriers to LGBTQ-inclusive sex education in schools and require LGBTQ-inclusive programs.
- Require parental opt-out policies, rather than opt-in policies.
- Eliminate funding and/or support for abstinence-only-until-marriage (AOUM) or sexual risk avoidance (SRA) programs, which are harmful and ineffective.

1. Requirements and quality of education

S = Sex Education
HIV = HIV/STI Education
HR = Healthy Relationships Education

State	Sex education mandated	HIV/STI education mandated	Some healthy relationship content mandated	Comprehensive healthy relationship education mandated	If sex education, HIV/STI instruction, or healthy relationships instruction is provided, then instruction must be...			
					Age-appropriate	Evidence-based	Culturally appropriate	Medically accurate
Alabama		✓	✓		S, HIV, HR			
Alaska			✓		HR			
Arizona					HIV			HIV
Arkansas			✓		HR	HR		HR
California	✓	✓		✓	S, HIV, HR		S, HIV, HR	S, HIV, HR
Colorado				✓	S, HIV, HR	S, HIV, HR	S, HIV, HR	S, HIV, HR
Connecticut		✓						
Delaware	✓ *	✓ *	✓					
District of Columbia	✓ *	✓ *	✓ *		S, HIV, HR	S, HIV, HR		
Florida	✓		✓		HIV			
Georgia	✓	✓						
Hawaii	✓ *	✓ *		✓ *	S, HIV, HR			S, HIV, HR
Idaho								
Illinois		✓		✓	S, HIV, HR	S, HIV, HR		S, HIV, HR
Indiana		✓				HR		
Iowa		✓	✓		S, HIV, HR	S, HIV, HR	S, HIV, HR	S, HIV, HR
Kansas	✓ *							
Kentucky	✓ *	✓ *	✓ *		HR			
Louisiana								S, HIV, HR
Maine	✓	✓	✓		S, HIV, HR			S, HIV, HR
Maryland	✓ *	✓ *		✓	HR			
Massachusetts							S	
Michigan		✓						

1. Requirements and quality of education (cont.)

S = Sex Education
HIV = HIV/STI Education
HR = Healthy Relationships Education

State	Sex education mandated	HIV/STI education mandated	Some healthy relationship content mandated	Comprehensive healthy relationship education mandated	If sex education, HIV/STI instruction, or healthy relationships instruction is provided, then instruction must be...			
					Age-appropriate	Evidence-based	Culturally appropriate	Medically accurate
Minnesota	✓	✓						
Mississippi	✓				S			
Missouri		✓	✓		S, HIV, HR			S, HIV, HR
Montana	✓ *	✓ *	✓ *					
Nebraska			✓		HR			
Nevada	✓	✓						
New Hampshire	✓ *	✓	✓ *					
New Jersey	✓ *	✓ *	✓		S, HIV, HR		S, HIV, HR	S, HIV, HR
New Mexico	✓ *	✓		✓	HIV, HR			
New York		✓ *			HIV			
North Carolina	✓	✓	✓		S, HIV, HR	S, HIV, HR		S, HIV, HR
North Dakota	✓							
Ohio	✓	✓	✓		HR			
Oklahoma		✓						HIV
Oregon	✓	✓		✓	S, HIV, HR	S, HIV, HR	S, HIV, HR	S, HIV, HR
Pennsylvania		✓			HIV			
Rhode Island	✓ *	✓	✓		S, HIV, HR		S, HIV, HR	S, HIV, HR
South Carolina	✓	✓	✓		S, HIV, HR			
South Dakota								
Tennessee	✓	✓	✓		S, HIV, HR			S, HIV, HR
Texas	✓ *	✓ *		✓	S, HIV			
Utah	✓	✓			HR			S, HIV, HR
Vermont	✓	✓		✓	HR			

1. Requirements and quality of education (cont.)

S = Sex Education
HIV = HIV/STI Education
HR = Healthy Relationships Education

State	Sex education mandated	HIV/STI education mandated	Some healthy relationship content mandated	Comprehensive healthy relationship education mandated	If sex education, HIV/STI instruction, or healthy relationships instruction is provided, then instruction must be...			
					Age-appropriate	Evidence-based	Culturally appropriate	Medically accurate
Virginia			✓		S, HIV, HR	HR		
Washington		✓			S, HIV, HR	S, HIV, HR	S, HIV, HR	S, HIV, HR
West Virginia	✓ *	✓	✓					
Wisconsin		✓						
Wyoming	✓	✓ *	✓ *					

- * Policies included in the table are state laws and state-wide rules, regulations, or standards that have the force of law. For a complete explanation of each state's sex education, HIV/STI instruction, and healthy relationships instruction policies, please refer to the law and policy section of each State Profile.
- + Evidence-informed programs use the best available research and practice knowledge to guide program design and implementation; however, due to a number of factors such as lack of funding, evidence-informed programs have not received the level of evaluation that evidence-based programs have received.
- Φ Source: Guttmacher Institute. (2020, February). *Sex and HIV Education*. Retrieved from <https://www.guttmacher.org/state-policy/explore/sex-and-hiv-education>.

2. Additional requirements – Sex education or HIV/STI instruction

State	If sex education or HIV/STI instruction is provided, then it must...						
	Stress or cover...		Be inclusive, neutral, or discriminatory toward LGBTQ People	Abortion as outcome of pregnancy (prohibit, negative, or affirming)	Promote heterosexual marriage	Include healthy relationships instruction ~	
	Abstinence	Contraception (expansive, limited)				Some	Comprehensive
Alabama	Stress	Cover, limited	Discriminatory		✓	✓	
Alaska						✓	
Arizona	Stress		Discriminatory		✓	✓	
Arkansas	Stress			Prohibit		✓	
California	Cover	Cover, expansive	Inclusive		✓		✓
Colorado	Stress	Cover, expansive	Inclusive	Affirming			✓
Connecticut				Prohibit			
Delaware	Stress		Neutral			✓	
District of Columbia	Cover		Neutral	Affirming		✓	
Florida	Stress		Discriminatory		✓	✓	
Georgia	Stress				✓	✓	
Hawaii	Stress	Cover, expansive					✓
Idaho	Stress						
Illinois	Stress	Cover, limited	Discriminatory	Negative	✓		✓
Indiana	Stress				✓		
Iowa			Neutral			✓	
Kansas						✓	
Kentucky	Stress				✓		
Louisiana	Stress		Discriminatory	Prohibit	✓	✓	
Maine	Stress	Cover, expansive				✓	
Maryland						✓	

2. Sex education or HIV/STI instruction (cont.)

State	If sex education or HIV/STI instruction is provided, then it must...						
	Stress or cover...		Be inclusive, neutral, or discriminatory toward LGBTQ People	Abortion as outcome of pregnancy (prohibit, negative, or affirming)	Promote heterosexual marriage	Include healthy relationships instruction ~	
	Abstinence	Contraception (expansive, limited)				Some	Comprehensive
Massachusetts	Neutral						
Michigan	Stress			Prohibit	✓		
Minnesota	Cover						
Mississippi	Stress			Prohibit	✓		
Missouri	Stress	Cover, limited			✓	✓	
Montana						✓	
Nebraska						✓	
Nevada						✓	
New Hampshire						✓	
New Jersey	Stress		Inclusive			✓	
New Mexico	Stress	Cover, expansive				✓	
New York	Stress						
North Carolina	Stress	Cover, expansive	Discriminatory		✓	✓	
North Dakota	Stress				✓		
Ohio	Stress				✓	✓	
Oklahoma	Stress		Discriminatory				
Oregon	Stress	Cover, expansive	Inclusive				✓
Pennsylvania	Stress (HIV)						
Rhode Island	Stress	Cover, expansive	Inclusive			✓	
South Carolina	Stress	Cover, limited	Discriminatory	Prohibit	✓	✓	
South Dakota	Stress					✓	

2. Sex education or HIV/STI instruction (cont.)

State	If sex education or HIV/STI instruction is provided, then it must...						
	Stress or cover...		Be inclusive, neutral, or discriminatory toward LGBTQ People	Abortion as outcome of pregnancy (prohibit, negative, or affirming)	Promote heterosexual marriage	Include healthy relationships instruction ~	
	Abstinence	Contraception (expansive, limited)				Some	Comprehensive
Tennessee	Stress				✓	✓	
Texas	Stress	Cover, limited	Discriminatory		✓	✓	
Utah	Stress				✓	✓	
Vermont	Cover	Cover, limited		Affirming			✓
Virginia	Cover				✓	✓	
Washington	Stress	Cover, limited	Neutral				
West Virginia	Cover	Cover, limited			✓	✓	
Wisconsin	Stress		Neutral				
Wyoming	Stress					✓	

- This section tracks whether there is a healthy relationships instruction component if sex education or HIV/STI instruction is provided. Healthy relationships instruction in this guide refers to instruction in at least one of the following categories: communication skills, decision-making skills, violence prevention, child sex abuse, consent, characteristics of a healthy relationship, and sex trafficking. Violence prevention instruction refers only to prevention of violence in the context of relationships or sexual violence, such as domestic abuse/violence, dating abuse/violence, intimate partner violence, sexual abuse and assault, rape, unwanted sexual advances, and child abuse.

Φ Source: Guttmacher Institute. (2017, October). *Sex and HIV Education*. Retrieved from <https://www.guttmacher.org/state-policy/explore/sex-and-hiv-education>.

3. Additional requirements – Healthy relationships instruction

State	If healthy relationships instruction is provided, then it must...				
	Include a teacher training requirement ◊	Teach about...			
		Communication skills	Decision-making skills	Violence prevention	Consent °
Alabama	1	✓		✓	
Alaska	1, 2, 3			✓	
Arizona					
Arkansas				✓	
California °	1, 2, 3	✓	✓	✓	✓
Colorado		✓	✓	✓	✓
Connecticut	1			✓	
Delaware	1, 3	✓	✓	✓	
District of Columbia	1, 3		✓	✓	
Florida					
Georgia	1			✓	
Hawaii		✓	✓	✓	✓
Idaho					
Illinois	1			✓	✓
Indiana					
Iowa	1			✓	
Kansas				✓	
Kentucky		✓	✓		
Louisiana	1	✓	✓	✓	
Maine		✓	✓		
Maryland	1, 3			✓	✓

3. Healthy relationships instruction (cont.)

State	If healthy relationships instruction is provided, then it must...				
	Include a teacher training requirement ◊	Teach about...			
		Communication skills	Decision-making skills	Violence prevention	Consent °
Massachusetts					
Michigan	1, 2		✓		
Minnesota			✓		
Mississippi					
Missouri	1, 3		✓	✓	✓
Montana		✓	✓		
Nebraska	1				
Nevada		✓	✓		
New Hampshire		✓	✓	✓	
New Jersey		✓	✓	✓	
New Mexico		✓	✓	✓	
New York	1, 3				
North Carolina	1	✓	✓	✓	
North Dakota					
Ohio	1, 3				
Oklahoma					✓
Oregon	1, 3	✓	✓	✓	
Pennsylvania					
Rhode Island	1	✓	✓	✓	
South Carolina				✓	
South Dakota					

3. Healthy relationships instruction (cont.)

State	If healthy relationships instruction is provided, then it must...				
	Include a teacher training requirement ◊	Teach about...			
		Communication skills	Decision-making skills	Violence prevention	Consent °
Tennessee		✓	✓		
Texas	1, 3	✓	✓	✓	
Utah*	1	✓	✓	✓	
Vermont		✓	✓	✓	
Virginia		✓ Φ		✓	✓
Washington	1	✓	✓		
West Virginia		✓	✓	✓	
Wisconsin				✓	
Wyoming		✓	✓		

◊ This indicates whether schools in the state must: 1) provide teacher training, 2) require a certificate or expertise to teach, and/or 3) require teachers to attend training. For more information, please refer to the introduction portion of this document.

° Definitions of consent vary across legislative texts; however, California's legislative definition is the most explicit and concise, defining consent as the affirmative, conscious, and voluntary agreement to engage in sexual activity.

* Utah requires that "refusal skills" be taught in health education classes.

Φ Source: Guttmacher Institute. (2017, October). *Sex and HIV Education*. Retrieved from <https://www.guttmacher.org/state-policy/explore/sex-and-hiv-education>.

4. Parent/guardian notification

S = Sex Education
HIV = HIV/STI Education
HR = Healthy Relationships Education

State	If sex education, HIV/STI instruction, or healthy relationships instruction is provided, then it must provide parent/guardian notification		
	Opt-in	Opt-out	Must make materials available
Alabama		HIV	
Alaska		HR	S
Arizona	S	HIV	S, HR
Arkansas		HR	HR
California		S, HIV, HR	
Colorado		S, HIV, HR	S, HIV, HR
Connecticut		S, HIV	HIV
Delaware			
District of Columbia		S, HIV	S, HIV
Florida		S, HIV	
Georgia		S, HIV	
Hawaii		S, HIV, HR	S, HIV, HR
Idaho		S	
Illinois		S, HIV, HR	S, HIV, HR
Indiana ^	S, HR	S	S, HR
Iowa		S, HIV, HR	S, HIV, HR
Kansas			
Kentucky			
Louisiana		S, HIV	S, HIV, HR
Maine		S, HIV	
Maryland		S, HIV	S, HIV, HR
Massachusetts		S, HIV	S, HIV
Michigan		S	S, HR

4. Parent/guardian notification (cont.)

S = Sex Education
HIV = HIV/STI Education
HR = Healthy Relationships Education

State	If sex education, HIV/STI instruction, or healthy relationships instruction is provided, then it must provide parent/guardian notification		
	Opt-in	Opt-out	Must make materials available
Minnesota		S, HIV, HR	S, HIV, HR
Mississippi ×	S, HIV, HR	S, HIV, HR	S, HIV, HR
Missouri		S, HIV, HR	S
Montana			
Nebraska			HR
Nevada	S, HIV		S, HIV, HR
New Hampshire		S, HIV, HR	
New Jersey		S, HIV, HR	HR
New Mexico		S, HIV, HR	
New York		HIV	HIV
North Carolina +	S, HIV, HR	S, HIV, HR	S, HIV, HR
North Dakota			
Ohio		HIV, HR	HR
Oklahoma		S, HIV	S, HIV
Oregon		S, HIV, HR	S, HIV, HR
Pennsylvania		HIV	HIV
Rhode Island		S, HIV, HR	S, HIV, HR
South Carolina		S, HIV, HR	S, HIV, HR
South Dakota			
Tennessee		S, HIV, HR	
Texas		S, HIV	
Utah	S, HIV		S, HIV
Vermont		HIV	
Virginia		S, HIV, HR	S, HIV, HR

4. Parent/guardian notification (cont.)

S = Sex Education
 HIV = HIV/STI Education
 HR = Healthy Relationships Education

State	If sex education, HIV/STI instruction, or healthy relationships instruction is provided, then it must provide parent/guardian notification		
	Opt-in	Opt-out	Must make materials available
Washington		HIV	
West Virginia		HIV	HIV
Wisconsin		S, HIV	S, HIV
Wyoming			

- ^ Indiana requires schools to make two attempts to receive written parental permission in order for students to participate in sex education. If permission is not confirmed or denied after two attempts, students are automatically enrolled, and parents may subsequently withdraw students from instruction.
- × Mississippi requires schools to “inform the parents of their right to request the inclusion of their child” in sex education instruction and that, “upon the request of any parent, the school shall excuse the parent’s child from such instruction or presentation.”
- + North Carolina requires local boards of education to adopt policies that provide opportunities “either for parents and legal guardians to consent or for parents and legal guardians to withhold their consent to the students’ participation” in any part of the North Carolina School Health Education Program.

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