

ARIZONA STATE PROFILE

Prepared with an interest in protecting the health and innocence of children, this profile provides an overview of sex education in Arizona, including:

- I. Chart showing [legal requirements for sex education](#) in this state
- II. [Profile of federal funding](#) the state has been awarded for sex education
- III. Chart of federally funded [programs/curricula used in state schools](#)
- IV. Overview of the state's [sex education legislation/guidelines](#)
- V. List of [how parental rights are being undermined](#) in this state
- VI. [News articles](#) regarding sex education in the state
- VII. [Opt-out form](#) to protect your child from comprehensive sexuality education (CSE)
- VIII. Suggestions for how you can [help protect child health and stop CSE](#)
- IX. [Resources](#) for up-to-date information about sex education in this state
- X. Contact information to [connect with others](#) who are concerned about this issue.



I. LEGAL REQUIREMENTS FOR SEX EDUCATION IN ARIZONA

LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS	YES	NO	N/A	LEGISLATIVE CODE
Sex Education Required		X		
Sex Education Optional	X			15-711
If/When Provided, Sexual Education Must:				
Be Medically Accurate*	X			15-716
Be Evidence-based			X	
Be Age Appropriate	X			15-716
Be Culturally Appropriate and Unbiased			X	
Reference/Stress Abstinence**	X			15-716
Include HIV Education	X			15-716
Be LGBTQ Inclusive		X		15-716
Include safety against sexual abuse	X			15-716
Parental Role in Sexual Education:				
Parents must be notified	X			15-102, 15-716
Opt-In	X			15-102
Opt-Out Option	x			15-113, 15-716
Access to curriculum	X			15-102

*See each state's definition of "medically accurate."

**While requirement may say "abstinence-based" or to "stress abstinence" as the standard, many CSE programs only mention abstinence in passing; they don't establish abstinence as the expected standard and fail to emphasize abstinence as the only sure way to protect against pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases, including AIDS.

Note: This state profile has been prepared by Family Watch International and the Protect Child Health Coalition. While the information provided is as accurate as possible and is updated annually, **check the [Resources](#) listed below for any updates.** Also, **please alert us** if you are aware of any changes, proposed legislation or issues regarding CSE that may be occurring in your state by completing the contact form at StopCSE.org/Arizona or by emailing StopCSE@FamilyWatch.org.



II. ARIZONA SEX EDUCATION FEDERAL FUNDING PROFILE

Federal Government Programs and Grants Awarded for Arizona

WARNING: *While grant requirements may state that curricula/programs are to be “evidence based” or “medically accurate” in order to receive funding, research shows that, often, funds go to curricula/programs that are ineffective (See SexEdReport.org). In addition, content analyses show that many programs (Link to harmful CSE elements chart) normalize teen sex, encourage sexual pleasure-seeking, condone early sexual debut and promote high-risk sexual behaviors. It is important to look at the actual content of every curricula rather than relying on labels assigned to them.*

DASH—Division of Adolescent and School Health, a division of the Centers for Disease Prevention (CDC), works with community partners to provide training and resource development for so-called “HIV, STD, and pregnancy prevention” programs in school-based and community settings.

- Arizona received DASH funds totaling \$80,000 in fiscal year 2016.

PREP—The Personal Responsibility Education Programs, under the Family and Youth Services Bureau (FYSB), provides grants for sex education programs that are sometimes called “abstinence plus” programs and that focus on “both abstinence and contraception.”

- Arizona received PREP funds totaling \$1,050,744 in fiscal year 2017.

SRAE—Sexual Risk Avoidance Education grants go to curricula/programs that emphasize risk avoidance and teach youth to voluntarily refrain from non-marital sexual activity and other risky behaviors. Note: See warning above.

- Arizona received \$440,317 program funding in 2016.

Title V—The TITLE V State Abstinence Education Grant Program funds abstinence education and mentoring to promote abstinence. However, note that at least one Title V program promotes promiscuity as healthy and normal. As noted above, **it is important to look at the actual content of the curricula.**

- Arizona received a Title V award totaling \$1,756,349 fiscal year 2017.

TPP—The Teen Pregnancy Prevention program, through the Office of Adolescent Health (OAH), funds comprehensive sex education programs for children aged 10 to 19.

Note: Research shows that most TPP programs are ineffective at reducing pregnancy rates and some even increase risk. (See SexEdReport.org)

- Arizona received \$3,153,323ⁱ in TPP funding for the years 2015-2019.ⁱⁱ



III. FEDERALLY FUNDED SEX EDUCATION PROGRAMS IN ARIZONA

Note: Programs in **red** text have been analyzed and found to contain harmful content for children. Programs not in red may or may not have harmful content.

See examples exposing harmful content in various CSE curricula and materials at stopcse.org/cse-materials-index/. For example, the analysis of [Making a Difference](#), shows CSE programs sexualize children and encourage promiscuity and risky sexual behavior, typically without providing medically accurate information about the long-term risks associated with early sexual debut and experimentation.

Federally Funded Sex Education Programs / Curricula in Arizona

Funding Source	Program or Curriculum	Funding Recipient
TPPP	Making a Difference!	Child & Family Resources
TPPP	Reducing the Risk	Child & Family Resources
TPPP	Be Proud! Be Responsible! Be Protective!	Child & Family Resources
TPPP	Making Proud Choices!	TPPP—Touchstone Behavioral Health
PREP	Teen Outreach Program (TOP)	Arizona Facts of Life; Arizona Youth Partnerships, Tucson Urban League, University of Arizona Cooperative Extension-Maricopa, Yuma County
PREP	iCuídate!; Teen Outreach Pregnancy	Mariposa Community Health Center
PREP	Promoting Health Among Teens (PHAT)	BJ Foundation, Pima Prevention Partnerships, U of A Cooperative Extension-Maricopa
PREP	Be Proud! Be Responsible! Be Protective!	Teen Outreach Pregnancy ARIZONA 14 Services
PREP	Making Proud Choices!	BJ Foundation, Promoting Health Among Teens (PHAT), Pima Prevention Partnerships
TITLE V	Choosing the Best Series	AZ Dept of Health
TITLE V	Promoting Health Among Teens! - Abstinence-Only	AZ Dept of Health
TITLE V	Teen Outreach Program (TOP)	AZ Dept of Health
TITLE V	Peer Assisted Leadership (PAL)	AZ Dept of Health
TITLE V	WAIT Training	AZ Dept of Health
TITLE V	Active Parents of Teens	AZ Dept of Health
TITLE V	Can We Talk	AZ Dept of Health
TITLE V	Making a Difference!	AZ Dept of Health
TITLE V	Let's Talk	AZ Dept of Health
SRAE Grants	Choosing the Best Series	Arizona Youth Partnership
SRAE Grants	Making a Difference!	Arizona Youth Partnership

See stopcse.org/cse-materials-index/ for a menu of examples and analyses exposing the harmful elements to children of specific curricula and other CSE materials.



IV. OVERVIEW OF ARIZONA SEX EDUCATION LEGISLATION & GUIDELINES

The following laws and guidelines apply to sex education and how sex education is taught in Arizona.

According to 2018 Arizona Rev. Statute Title 15

Sexual Education Requirement (15-711)ⁱⁱⁱ

- Sexual Education is not required.
- All school districts with existing sex education curricula shall include instruction on the laws relating to sexual conduct with a minor for pupils in grades seven, eight, nine, ten, eleven and twelve. Each school district may develop its own course of study to meet the requirements of this section

Parental Involvement (15-102)^{iv}

- Procedures must be put into place for Parents to have:
 - A right to consult with teachers and administrators to develop and adopt policy for parent involvement.
 - A right to learn about the course of study for their children and review learning materials including the *source* of any supplemental educational materials.
 - A right to object to any learning material or activity that may be harmful and may withdraw their children from the class, program or activity. Harmful includes objection to material or activity because it questions beliefs or practices in sex, morality or religion.
 - School cannot provide sex education to a pupil without a parent's written permission for the child to participate.
 - A right to be notified in advance and given a chance to withdraw their children from any instruction or presentations regarding sexuality in courses other than formal sex education.
 - A right to learn about the nature and purpose of clubs, curriculum, extracurricular activities that have been approved by the school.
 - Public educational institution shall obtain signed, written consent from a students' parent before using video, audio or electronic materials that may be inappropriate for the *age* of the student.
- Parents have a right to:
 - Opt in to a sex education curriculum if one is provided
 - Opt out of assignments related to sex education
 - Opt out of instruction on the acquired immune deficiency syndrome
 - Public review of courses of study and textbooks related to sex education
 - Inspect the school district policies and curriculum
 - Review learning material and activities *in advance*. If parent objects to materials, classes, activities or programs on a basis that the material is harmful, they may withdraw student and request an alternative assignment. (15-113)

- Expect each school district and charter school shall obtain written informed consent from the parent of a pupil before administering any survey that solicits personal information about the pupil regarding sexual behavior or attitudes
- Expect at the beginning of every school year, every school district and charter school shall obtain written informed consent from the parent of a pupil to participate in any survey regarding a pupil's sexual behavior or attitudes. (15-117B)
- Request that charter school or school district provide any available information in a timely manner regarding a survey administered such as the name of survey, date it will be administered, method of administering survey, amount of time, type of information being collected, reasons for administering survey.
- Make sure the department of health and services has reviewed instruction materials to determine their medical accuracy.
- Request their pupil be removed from instruction on the acquired immune deficiency syndrome and the human immunodeficiency virus
- On written request, parents can access instructional materials or films being used or will be considered for use by the school district.

Charter Schools or School Districts:

- On request, a charter school or school district shall provide any available information in a timely manner to the parent of a pupil regarding a survey administered regarding sexual behavior or attitudes.
- Shall not discriminate against students or parents on the basis of a religious viewpoint or religious expression. (15-110)
- No school district or charter school in this state may endorse or provide financial or instructional program support to any program that does not present childbirth and adoption as preferred options to elective abortion. (15-115A)
- No school district or charter school in this state may allow any presentation during instructional time or furnish any materials to pupils as part of any instruction that does not give preference, encouragement and support to childbirth and adoption as preferred options to elective abortion. (15-115B)
- A school district or charter school shall provide an alternative educational activity for any pupil whose parent does not consent for that pupil to participate in a survey conducted pursuant to subsection A of this section. (15-117F)

Instruction on acquired immune deficiency syndrome; department assistance. (15-716^v)

- May provide instruction to kindergarten programs through the twelfth grade on acquired immune deficiency syndrome and the human immunodeficiency virus.
- The district develops its own course of study and shall be age appropriate, medically accurate, promote abstinence, dispel myths regarding transmission of human immunodeficiency virus.
- Shall *not* include in its course of instruction which promotes a homosexual life-style, portrays homosexuality as a positive alternative life-style, and suggests that some methods of sex are safe methods of homosexual sex.
- Can request the department of health and services or department of education shall review materials to determine their medical accuracy. They shall also suggest course of study, teacher training and list of available films and other teaching aids.
- The school district shall notify all parents of their ability to withdraw their child from the instruction on the acquired immune deficiency syndrome and the human immunodeficiency virus

Sex Education curricula and sexual conduct with a minor (15-711,721)

- All school districts with existing sex education curricula shall include instruction on the laws relating to sexual conduct with a minor for pupils in grades seven, eight, nine, ten, eleven and twelve.
- The governing board shall approve the course of study, the basic textbook for each course, all units recommended, supplemental books, teaching aids relating to sex education.
- All meetings of committees authorized for the purposes of textbook review and selection be open to the public
- Make selection of textbooks being considered available within sixty days, for review by the public
- Before the approval of materials, board must provide information at the district's website, make textbooks available to public at meetings, gather comment, make at least one copy of material available for parental review at any time.

Age of Majority =

Based on Arizona law, anyone under the age of 18 is considered a minor, while those 18 years old and older are considered adults. ^{vi}

Age of Consent =

In Arizona, the age when children can legally consent or agree to sex is 18. ^{vii}



V. PARENTAL RIGHTS AT RISK IN ARIZONA

Warning! Most CSE programs put parental rights at risk by either encouraging or requiring that parents not be notified and/or by instructing children how to access such things as abortion, contraception and other so-called health services **without parental notification or consent.**

It is particularly dangerous to encourage students in this way, particularly considering the fact the laws often support what is being taught in CSE programs. For example:

Without notifying or receiving consent from their parents, minor children in Arizona may consent to and receive:

- All contraceptive services
- All STI (sexually transmitted infection) services

In Arizona, parental consent is required for:

- Abortion services



VI. NEWS HEADLINES FROM ARIZONA

May 1, 2018 – “A lack of inclusive sex education in Arizona could cause a rise in HIV/AIDS diagnoses,”
Cronkite News <https://cronkitenews.azpbs.org/2018/05/01/a-lack-of-inclusive-sex-education-in-arizona-could-cause-a-rise-in-hiv-aids-diagnoses/>

June 11, 2017- “Sex, seniors and STDs Sexually transmitted diseases are on the rise among older adults, just not in Arizona”
http://www.myheraldreview.com/free_access/sex-seniors-and-stds/article_aebee0e6-4e52-11e7-8bb6-cf9653a55fa1.html

April 25, 2017 – “Arizona sex education falls short”
<http://arizonasonoranewsservice.com/arizona-sex-education-falls-short/>

Aug. 16, 2017 – “Mesa Parents Learn Sex Ed Before Their Teens Attend Class”
<http://www.12news.com/news/education/mesa-parents-learn-sex-ed-before-their-teens-attend-class/464546378>

June 29, 2016 – “Four things you need to know about TUSD’s new sex ed policy”
https://tucson.com/thisistucson/schools/things-you-need-to-know-about-tusd-s-new-sex/article_c746f5cc-3e3b-11e6-b055-4f4632bb38c0.html

Feb. 15, 2016 - “AZ Bill would allow sex ed homosexuality inclusion”
<http://www.azcentral.com/story/news/arizona/politics/2016/02/15/arizona-bill-would-allow-homosexuality-taught-sex-ed/80405440/>

Jan. 26, 2016 – “Law Would Make Sex Ed Opt-Out In All Arizona Schools, Starting In Kindergarten”
<http://kjzz.org/content/256304/law-would-make-sex-ed-opt-out-all-arizona-schools-starting-kindergarten>



VII. OPT-OUT FORM

By signing a parental non-consent form, also known as an opt-out form, parents can protect their children from being subjected to harmful CSE programs. Download and print the provided form and modify it as needed (see included instructions). Sign it and take it to your child’s school, and ask that it be put on file as part of your child’s permanent record and that all teachers and instructors be notified.

A sample opt-out form, provided by Liberty Counsel, along with instructions for use, can be found at: StopCSE.org/arizona



VIII. GET INVOLVED TO STOP CSE

You can get involved to stop CSE and protect the health and innocence of children across the U.S. and in countries around the world:

1. Sign the Stop CSE petition at stopcse.org/petition/
2. Watch the “War Against Children” documentary and share this link to the documentary with your friends and neighbors at stopcse.org/film/
3. Connect with others in your state who are working to Stop CSE in your schools to see how you can get involved. Go to stopcse.org/arizona to connect.



IX. RESOURCES

- Arizona Legislation - <https://www.azleg.gov/>
- Arizona 2017 Rev. Statute Title 15 - <https://www.azleg.gov/arsDetail/?title=15>
- Arizona Department of Education Health Standards - <http://www.azed.gov/standards-practices/standardshealth/>
- Legislation websites by state - <https://www.congress.gov/state-legislature-websites>
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Resource TPPP page - <https://www.hhs.gov/ash/oah/grant-programs/teen-pregnancy-prevention-program-tpp/current-grantees/index.html>
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Resource other state funding - <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/fysb/resource-library/search#?area%5B1981%5D=1981&type%5B5168%5D=5168&sort=recent&ajax=1>
- TPPP Funding - <https://www.hhs.gov/ash/oah/grant-programs/teen-pregnancy-prevention-program-tpp/about/index.html>
- Abstinence Education Grant Program Medical Accuracy Guide https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/fysb/medical_accuracy_aegp.pdf

Additional Resources:

- DOCUMENTARY: *The War on Children: The Comprehensive Sexuality Education Agenda* (FWI Documentary) – <https://stopcse.org>
- STUDY: Re-Examining the Evidence: School-based Comprehensive Sex Education in the United States (IRE Study) – www.sexedreport.org
- REPORT: An Evidence-Based Response to a Critique of Abstinence Education (IRE Report) - https://www.comprehensivesexualityeducation.org/wp-content/uploads/IRE_Response_To_Santelli_Article_4-20-18.pdf



X. CONNECT WITH OTHERS

Let us put you in contact with other people and organizations who are actively involved in helping to protect the health and innocence of children.

Fill out the contact form on www.stopcse.org/arizona or email us your name, city, state, school district, and any questions or concerns you may have and we will put you in contact with people from your state or one of our national representatives.

Email Address: StopCSE@familywatch.org

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ⁱ TPPP Funding - <https://www.hhs.gov/ash/oah/grant-programs/teen-pregnancy-prevention-program-tpp/about/index.html>

ⁱⁱ <https://www.hhs.gov/ash/oah/grant-programs/teen-pregnancy-prevention-program-tpp/about/index.html>

ⁱⁱⁱ See Title 15-117 here <https://www.azleg.gov/viewdocument/?docName=https://www.azleg.gov/ars/15/00711.htm>

^{iv} See Title 15-102 through 15-117 here <https://www.azleg.gov/arsDetail/?title=15>

^v 15-711 through 15-730 -

<https://www.azleg.gov/viewdocument/?docName=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.azleg.gov%2Fars%2F15%2F00711.htm>

^{vi} Age of Majority - <http://statelaws.findlaw.com/family-laws/legal-ages.html>

^{vii} Age of Consent - <https://www.legalmatch.com/law-library/article/age-of-consent-by-state.html>