

HAWAII STATE PROFILE

Prepared with an interest in protecting the health and innocence of children, this profile provides an overview of sex education in Hawaii, 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 HAWAII

LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS	YES	NO	N/A	LEGISLATIVE CODE
Sex Education Required		X		
Sex Education Optional	X			HRS 321-11
If/When Provided, Sexual Education Must:				
Be Medically Accurate*	X			HRS 321-11.1
Be Age Appropriate	X			HRS 321-11.1
Be Evidence Based	X			HRS 321-11.1
Be Culturally Appropriate and Unbiased	X			101.13
Reference/Stress Abstinence**	X			HRS 321-11.1, 103.5(1, 5), 2210(a,b)
Include HIV Education	X			HRS 321-11.1, 103.5(5)
Be LGBTQ Inclusive			X	
Include Safety Against Sexual Abuse	X			HRS 321-11, 103.5(2)
Parental Role in Sexual Education:				
Parents Must be Notified	X			103.5, HRS 321-11
Opt-In			X	
Opt-Out Option	X			HRS 321-11, 103.5, 101.13

*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/Hawaii or by emailing StopCSE@FamilyWatch.org.



II. HAWAII SEX EDUCATION FEDERAL FUNDING PROFILE

Federal Government Programs and Grants Awarded for Hawaii

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.

- Hawaii received DASH funds totaling \$64,283 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.”

- Hawaii received \$ 250,000 in PREP funding 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.

- Hawaii received NO SRAE program funds 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.**

- Hawaii received a Title V award totaling \$191,116 in 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)

- Hawaii received NO TPP funding for 2017.ⁱ



III. FEDERALLY FUNDED SEX EDUCATION PROGRAMS IN HAWAII

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 www.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 Hawaii

Funding Source	Program or Curriculum	Funding Recipient
DASH	N/A	N/A
TPPP	N/A	N/A
PREP	Teen Outreach Program (TOP)	Hawaii State Department of Health
TITLE V	Pono Choices	Hawaii Department of Health
SRAE	N/A	N/A

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 HAWAII SEX EDUCATION LEGISLATION & GUIDELINES

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

According to Hawaii HRS 321-11 (Revised 2016) (up to date 2018)

[§321-11.1]ⁱⁱ Medically accurate sexuality health education.

(a) Sexuality health education programs funded by the State shall provide medically accurate and factual information that is age appropriate and include education on abstinence, contraception, and methods of disease prevention to prevent unintended pregnancy and sexually transmitted disease, including human immunodeficiency virus.

(b) For the purposes of this section:

"Age appropriate" means suitable to a particular age or age group based on developing cognitive, emotional, and behavioral capacity typical for that age or age group.

"Factual information" means medical, psychiatric, psychological, empirical, or statistical information that is verified or supported by research conducted by recognized medical, psychiatric, psychological, and public health professionals or organizations.

"Medically accurate" means verified or supported by research conducted in compliance with accepted scientific methods and recognized as accurate and objective by professional organizations and agencies with expertise in the relevant field, such as the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the American Public Health Association, the American Academy of Pediatrics, and the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.

"Sexuality health education" means education in any medium regarding human development and sexuality, including education on pregnancy, family planning, and sexually transmitted diseases.

According to The Hawaii Department of Education

Policy 103.5ⁱⁱⁱ SEXUAL HEALTH EDUCATION

In order to help students make decisions that promote healthy behaviors, the Department of Education shall provide sexual health education to include age appropriate, medically accurate, health education that:

- (1) Includes education on abstinence, contraception, and methods of infection prevention to prevent unintended pregnancy and sexually transmitted infection, including human immunodeficiency virus;
- (2) Helps students develop relationships and communication skills to form healthy relationships that are based on mutual respect and affection and are free from violence, coercion and intimidation;
- (3) Helps students develop skills in critical thinking, problem solving, decision making and stress management to make healthy decisions about sexuality and relationships;
- (4) Encourages student to communicate with their parents, guardians and/or other trusted adults about sexuality; and
- (5) Informs students of available community resources. Instruction will emphasize that abstention from sexual intercourse is the surest way to prevent unintended pregnancies, sexually transmitted infections such as HIV/AIDS, and consequent emotional distress.

A description of the curriculum utilized by the school shall be made available to parents and shall be posted on the school's website prior to the start of any instruction. A student shall be excused

from sexual health instruction only upon the prior written request of the student's parent or legal guardian. A student may not be subject to disciplinary action, academic penalty or other sanction if the student's parent or legal guardian makes such written request. Approved: 9/95 Amended: 6/15

Note: Approved curriculum^{iv}

[Draw the Line, Respect the Line](#)

[Family Life and Sexual Health \(F.L.A.S.H.\)](#)

[HealthTeacher.com](#)

[Making a Difference](#)

[Pono Choices^v](#)

[Positive Prevention](#)

[Reducing the Risk \(RTR\)](#)

Note: The above is a list of Hawaii Department of Education "approved curriculum." 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 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.

Policy 101.13^{vi}

- Student discussion of issues which generate opposing points of view shall be considered a normal part of the learning process in every area of the school program. The depth of the discussion shall be determined by the maturity of the students.
- Teachers shall refer students to resources reflecting all points of view. Discussions, including contributions made by the teacher or resource person, shall be maintained on an objective, factual basis. Stress shall be placed on learning how to make judgments based on facts.
- Opt-out process - Instructional staff or administration will notify parents or legal guardians of controversial issues that will be discussed in the classroom or through other school activities. This notification may be done through a general letter about the lesson or activity. Parents or legal guardians may also, on their own volition, write a letter to the school administrators or a teacher to have their child excluded from a specific lesson or activity. If such a letter is received, the student must be provided with an alternative learning activity. The parents or legal guardians have an obligation to notify the school administrator or teacher prior to the lesson or activity.
- If parents and legal guardians receive notification from instructional staff or administration of controversial issues to be discussed in the classroom or through other school activities, that notification will include an area for the parent/legal guardian to sign in order to exclude their child from the event, instruction or activity. This signed opt-out must be sent even if the parent/legal guardian had previously written a letter to exclude the student from a specific lesson or activity.

Policy 2210^{vii} (1995)

"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 such as HIV/AIDS, and consequent emotional distress. The abstinence-based education program shall:

- a. support abstinence from sexual intercourse and provide skill development to continue abstinence;

- b. help youth who have had sexual intercourse to abstain from further sexual intercourse until an appropriate time; and
- c. 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.”

Policy 2245^{viii}

“The Board of Education is committed to the health education of our students which may include, within its study of human reproduction, a discussion of birth control devices but 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.”

Note: Staff from the Department’s Office of Curriculum, Instruction, and Student Support participated in this work, with a focus on reviewing the curriculum for alignment with the state’s HCPS III’s health education benchmarks. Other tools used in the review included the previously mentioned Health Education Curriculum Analysis Tool (HECAT), National Health Education Standards and the CDC’s Characteristics of an Effective Health Education Curriculum.^{ix}

Age of Majority =

Based on Hawaii law, anyone under the age of is considered a minor, while those 17 years old and older are considered adults.^x

Age of Consent =

In Hawaii, the age when children can legally consent or agree to sex is 16.^{xi}



V. PARENTAL RIGHTS AT RISK IN HAWAII

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:

In Hawaii, without notifying or receiving consent from their parents, minor children—**age 14 and older**--may consent to and receive:

- All contraceptive services*
- All STI (sexually transmitted infection) services*
- All prenatal care services*

*Health care providers may inform minor parents, but are not required to do so.



VI. NEWS HEADLINES FROM HAWAII

May 2, 2018 – “The Battle for Sex Ed Funding’s Future” <http://www.seattleweekly.com/news/the-battle-for-sex-ed-fundings-future/>

February 1, 2018 – “Bill aims to prevent child sex abuse”
<http://www.hawaiitribune-herald.com/2018/02/01/hawaii-news/bill-aims-to-prevent-child-sex-abuse/>

January 8, 2018 - Survey shows scope of sex harassment, dating violence at UH
<http://www.hawaiinewsnow.com/story/37218245/report-10-of-uh-students-experienced-sexual-harassment>

January 3, 2018 – “Sex education in schools should cover consent”
<http://www.westhawaiiitoday.com/2018/01/03/opinion/national-views/sex-education-in-schools-should-cover-consent/>

2017- “Sex Education in Public Schools Takes Center Stage at Legislature”
<http://www.hawaiinewsnow.com/story/6135450/sex-education-in-public-schools-take-center-stage-at-legislature>



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/hawaii



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/Hawaii to connect.



IX. RESOURCES

- Family Watch International – familywatch.org
- Hawaii DOE Sexual Health policy 103 - <http://www.hawaiipublicschools.org/TeachingAndLearning/HealthAndNutrition/sexed/Pages/default.aspx>
- Hawaii DOE Parents rights - <http://www.hawaiipublicschools.org/ConnectWithUs/FAQ/Pages/Parent-opt-out-for-child.aspx>
- Hawaii State Legislature - <http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov>
- HRS 321-11.1 - http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/hrscurrent/vol06_ch0321-0344/HRS0321/HRS_0321-0011_0001.htm
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Resource TPPP funding 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>
- State of Hawaii Board of Education policy 2245 - <http://boe.hawaii.gov/policies/2200series/Pages/2245.aspx>

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 <http://www.stopcse.org/hawaii> 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 <https://www.hhs.gov/ash/oah/grant-programs/teen-pregnancy-prevention-program-tpp/about/index.html>
 - ii https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/hrscurrent/vol06_ch0321-0344/HRS0321/HRS_0321-0011_0001.htm
 - iii http://www.hawaiipublicschools.org/DOE%20Forms/Health%20and%20Nutrition/BOE103_5_061615.pdf
 - iv <http://www.hawaiipublicschools.org/TeachingAndLearning/HealthAndNutrition/sexed/Pages/default.aspx>
 - v **This is the curriculum the DOE uses**
<http://www.hawaiipublicschools.org/DOE%20Forms/PonoChoicesImplementationReport.pdf>
 - vi <http://www.hawaiipublicschools.org/ConnectWithUs/FAQ/Pages/Parent-opt-out-for-child.aspx>
 - vii Page 7 <http://www.hawaiipublicschools.org/DOE%20Forms/PonoChoicesImplementationReport.pdf>
 - viii Page 7-8 <http://www.hawaiipublicschools.org/DOE%20Forms/PonoChoicesImplementationReport.pdf>
 - ix Page 13 <http://www.hawaiipublicschools.org/DOE%20Forms/PonoChoicesImplementationReport.pdf>
 - x Age of Majority <http://statelaws.findlaw.com/family-laws/legal-ages.html>
 - xi Age of Consent <https://www.legalmatch.com/law-library/article/age-of-consent-by-state.html?intakeredesigned=1>