

# NORTH CAROLINA STATE PROFILE

Prepared with an interest in protecting the health and innocence of children, this profile provides an overview of sex education in North Carolina, 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 NORTH CAROLINA

LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS	YES	NO	N/A	LEGISLATIVE CODE
Sex Education Required	X			115C-81.30(a)
Sex Education Optional				
<b>If/When Provided, Sexual Education Must:</b>				
Be Medically Accurate*	X			115C-81.30(a.8)
Be Age Appropriate	X			115C-81.25(c)
Be Evidence-based			X	
Be Culturally Appropriate and Unbiased			X	
Reference/Stress Abstinence**	X			115C-81.30(a.1), 115C-81.30(a.3), 115C-81.30(a.4), 115C-81.30(a.6)
Include HIV Education	X			115C-81.25(11)
Be LGBTQ Inclusive		X		115C-81.30(a.1), 115C-81.30(a.5)
Include safety against sexual abuse	X			115C-81.30(a.12&13)
<b>Parental Role in Sexual Education:</b>				
Parents must be notified	X			115C-81.30(c)
Access to review curriculum	X			115C-81.30(c)
Opt-In			X	
Involvement in Curriculum development	X			115C-81.25(d)
Opt-Out Option	X			115C-81.30(b)
<b>Other:</b> Abortion References: Teach about the preventable risks for preterm birth in subsequent pregnancies, including induced abortion. 115C-81.30(a.9) Students may receive information about where to obtain contraceptives and abortion referral services only in accordance with a local board's policy regarding parental consent. 115C-81.30(d)				

**NOTE: Abortion is NOT to be promoted according to 115C-81.30(a.9) and 115C-81.30(d)**

\*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/north-carolina](http://StopCSE.org/north-carolina) or by emailing [StopCSE@FamilyWatch.org](mailto:StopCSE@FamilyWatch.org).



## II. NORTH CAROLINA SEX EDUCATION FEDERAL FUNDING PROFILE

### Federal Government Programs and Grants Awarded for North Carolina

**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](http://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.

- North Carolina received DASH funds totaling \$415,000 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.”

- North Carolina received PREP funds totaling \$1,500,383 in fiscal year 2017.<sup>i</sup>

**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.

- North Carolina 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.**

- North Carolina received a Title V award totaling \$2,363,117 in fiscal year 2017.<sup>ii</sup>

**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](http://SexEdReport.org))

- North Carolina received \$4,666,925 in funding for years 2015-2019.<sup>iii</sup>



### III. FEDERALLY FUNDED SEX EDUCATION PROGRAMS IN NORTH CAROLINA

**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/](http://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 North Carolina

Funding Source	Program or Curriculum	Funding Recipient
DASH	Every Teen Counts	SHIFT NC
DASH	<b>Making Proud Choices: An Adaptation for Out of Home Youth (MPC+)</b>	SHIFT NC
DASH	Sexual Health and Adolescent Risk Prevention (SHARP)	SHIFT NC
TPPP	<b>Making Proud Choices</b>	The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
TPPP	<b>Reducing the Risk</b>	The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
TPPP	<b>Draw the Line/Respect the Line</b>	The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
TPPP	Project AIM	SHIFT NC
TPPP	Seventeen Days	SHIFT NC
TPPP	<b>Making Proud Choices: An Adaptation for Out-of-Home Youth (MPC+)</b>	SHIFT NC
TPPP	Promoting Health Among Teens! Abstinence-Only (PHAT_AO)	SHIFT NC
TPPP	All4You!	SHIFT NC
TPPP	Sexual Health and Adolescent Risk Prevention (SHARP)	SHIFT NC
TPPP	<b>Get Real</b>	SHIFT NC
TPPP	Teen Health Project	SHIFT NC
TPPP	Wise Guys	Children’s Home Society of North Carolina, Inc.
TPPP	Taking Responsible Actions in Life (TRAIL)	Public Health Authority of Cabarrus County
TPPP	<b>Making Proud Choices</b>	The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health’s Women’s Health Branch
TPPP	<b>Reducing the Risk</b>	The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health’s Women’s Health Branch

TPPP	Parents Matter	The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health's Women's Health Branch
Title V	<b>Making a Difference</b> , Teen Outreach Program (TOP), Puberty: The Wonder Years, Smart Girl's Life Skills Training	The North Carolina Department of Public Instruction
Title V	Why Try	The North Carolina Department of Public Instruction
Title V	Boy to Men, Girl to Women	The North Carolina Department of Public Instruction
Title V	Successfully Teaching Middle School Health	The North Carolina Department of Public Instruction

See the full curriculum and training program and notice the harmful intent of SHIFT NC at - <http://www.shiftnc.org/resources/for-schools/healthy-youth-act-fags#content>

See [stopcse.org/cse-materials-index/](http://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 NORTH CAROLINA SEX EDUCATION LEGISLATION & GUIDELINES**

**The following laws and guidelines apply to sex education and how sex education is taught North Carolina.**

**According to (2016) North Carolina Education Chapter 115C<sup>iv</sup> (as of July 2, 2018)**  
115C-81.25 Health education<sup>v</sup>

The State Board of Education, through the Department of Public Instruction, shall, on a regular basis, review materials related to these objectives and distribute these reviews to local school administrative units for their information. This program includes age-appropriate instruction in:

- Disease control.
- Preventing sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS, and other communicable diseases. As used in this section, "HIV/AIDS" means Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome.

**Parental Review.** – The State Board of Education shall make available to all local school administrative units for review by the parents and legal guardians of students enrolled at G.S. 115C-81.25 Page 2 those units any State-developed objectives for instruction, any approved textbooks, the list of reviewed materials, and any other State-developed or approved materials that pertain to or are intended to impart information or promote discussion or understanding in regard to the prevention of sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS, to the avoidance of out-of-wedlock pregnancy, or to the reproductive health and safety education curriculum. The review period shall extend for at least 60 days before use.

### **115C-81.30 Reproductive health and safety education provided by local school administrative units<sup>vi</sup>**

Each local school administrative unit shall provide a reproductive health and safety education program commencing in the seventh grade. Materials used in this instruction shall be age-appropriate for use with students. Law enforcement agencies, criminal justice agencies, and nongovernmental organizations with experience in sex-trafficking prevention and awareness may provide materials and information. Information conveyed during the instruction shall be objective and based upon scientific research that is peer reviewed and accepted by professionals and credentialed experts in any of the following fields: sexual health education, adolescent psychology, behavioral counseling, medicine, human anatomy, biology, ethics, or health education. Reproductive health and safety instruction provided by the local school administrative units shall do the following:

- Teach that abstinence from sexual activity outside of marriage is the expected standard for all school-age children.
- Present techniques and strategies to deal with peer pressure and offering positive reinforcement.
- Present reasons, skills, and strategies for remaining or becoming abstinent from sexual activity.
- Teach that abstinence from sexual activity is the only certain means of avoiding out-of-wedlock pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases when transmitted through sexual contact, including HIV/AIDS, and other associated health and emotional problems. As used in this section, "HIV/AIDS" means Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome.
- Teach that a mutually faithful monogamous heterosexual relationship in the context of marriage is the best lifelong means of avoiding sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS.
- Teach the positive benefits of abstinence until marriage and the risks of premarital sexual activity.
- Provide opportunities that allow for interaction between the parent or legal guardian and the student.
- Provide factually accurate biological or pathological information that is related to the human reproductive system.
- Teach about the preventable risks for preterm birth in subsequent pregnancies, including induced abortion, smoking, alcohol consumption, the use of illegal drugs, and inadequate prenatal care.
- Teach about sexually transmitted diseases. Instruction shall include how sexually transmitted diseases are and are not transmitted, the effectiveness and safety of all federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved methods of reducing the risk of contracting sexually transmitted diseases, and information on local resources for testing and medical care for sexually transmitted diseases. Instruction shall include the rates of infection among pre-teen and teens of each known sexually transmitted disease and the effects of contracting each sexually transmitted disease. In particular, the instruction shall include information about the effects of contracting the Human Papilloma Virus, including sterility and cervical cancer.
- Teach about the effectiveness and safety of all FDA-approved contraceptive methods in preventing pregnancy.
- Teach awareness of sexual assault, sexual abuse, and risk reduction. The instruction and materials shall:
  - Focus on healthy relationships.
  - Teach students what constitutes sexual assault and sexual abuse, the causes of those behaviors, and risk reduction.
  - Inform students about resources and reporting procedures if they experience sexual assault or sexual abuse.
  - Examine common misconceptions and stereotypes about sexual assault and sexual abuse

- Teach about sex trafficking prevention and awareness. Each local school administrative unit shall:
  - Collaborate with a diverse group of outside consultants where practical, including law enforcement with expertise in sex-trafficking prevention education, to address the threats of sex trafficking.
  - Collaborate with a diverse group of outside consultants, including law enforcement with expertise in sex trafficking, on a referral protocol for high-risk pupils and minors.

Each local board of education shall adopt a policy and provide a mechanism to allow a parent or a legal guardian to withdraw his or her child from instruction required under subdivisions (10) through (13) of subsection (a) of this section.

**Parental Review and Consent.** – Each school year, before students may participate in any portion of (i) a program that pertains to or is intended to impart information or promote discussion or understanding in regard to the prevention of sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS, or to the avoidance of out-of-wedlock pregnancy or (ii) a reproductive health and safety education program, whether developed by the State or by the local board of education, the parents and legal guardians of those students shall be given an opportunity to review the objectives and materials as provided in G.S. 115C-81.25(d). Local boards of education shall adopt policies to 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 or all of these programs.

**Information on Contraceptives and Abortion Referral Services.** – Students may receive information about where to obtain contraceptives and abortion referral services only in accordance with a local board's policy regarding parental consent. Any instruction concerning the use of contraceptives or prophylactics shall provide accurate statistical information on their effectiveness and failure rates for preventing pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS, in actual use among adolescent populations and shall explain clearly the difference between risk reduction and risk elimination through abstinence. The Department of Health and Human Services shall provide the most current available information at the beginning of each school year.

**Prohibition on Distribution of Contraceptives.** – Contraceptives, including condoms and other devices, shall not be made available or distributed on school property.

**School Health Coordinators.** – School health coordinators may be employed to assist in the instruction of any portion of the comprehensive school health education program. Where feasible, a school health coordinator should serve more than one local school administrative unit. Each person initially employed as a State-funded school health coordinator after June 30, 1987, shall have a degree in health education.

**Duty of Local School Administrative Units.** – Each local school administrative unit shall provide a comprehensive school health education program that meets all the requirements of this section and all the objectives established by the State Board. Each local board of education may expand on the subject areas to be included in the program and on the instructional objectives to be met. (2017-126, s. 5.)

### **Age of Majority<sup>vii</sup> =**

Based on North Carolina law, anyone under the age of 18 is considered a minor, while those 18 years old and older are considered adults.

### **Age of Consent<sup>viii</sup> =**

In North Carolina, the age when children can legally consent or agree to sex is 16.



## V. PARENTAL RIGHTS AT RISK IN NORTH CAROLINA

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 North Carolina may consent to and receive:

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

In North Carolina, parental consent is required for:

- Abortion services



## VI. NEWS HEADLINES FROM NORTH CAROLINA

**April 20, 2018 - “NC parents urged to keep kids home Monday to protest 'graphic, gender-bending' sex ed”**

<https://www.newsobserver.com/news/local/education/article209364474.html>

**February 7, 2018 - “Parents don’t want this Planned Parenthood sex ed program in their kids’ schools”**

<https://www.newsobserver.com/news/local/article198799994.html>

**February 14, 2018 - “N.C. school district votes to end widely used sex education program amid outcry”** <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/debate-over-planned-parenthood-sex-education-program-north-carolina/>

**February 15, 2018 - “Large North Carolina School System to Change Sex Ed Classes”** <https://www.usnews.com/news/best-states/north-carolina/articles/2018-02-15/large-north-carolina-school-system-to-change-sex-ed-classes>



## 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/north-carolina](http://stopcse.org/north-carolina)



## 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/](http://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/](http://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/north-carolina](http://stopcse.org/north-carolina) to connect.



## IX. RESOURCES

- Public Schools of North Carolina Healthful Living Resources - <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/curriculum/healthfulliving/resources/>
- North Carolina Chapter 115C-81 pages 5-7 Health and Sexual Education- [https://www.ncleg.net/EnactedLegislation/Statutes/PDF/BySection/Chapter\\_115C/GS\\_115C-81.30.pdf](https://www.ncleg.net/EnactedLegislation/Statutes/PDF/BySection/Chapter_115C/GS_115C-81.30.pdf)
- North Carolina Chapter 115C: Elementary and Secondary Education - <https://www.ncleg.net/gascripts/Statutes/StatutesTOC.pl?Chapter=0115C>
- North Carolina General Statutes - <https://www.ncleg.net/gascripts/Statutes/StatutesTOC.pl>
- North Carolina Legislation - <https://www.ncqa.state.nc.us/>
- U.S. 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](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](http://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](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/north-carolina](http://www.stopcse.org/north-carolina) 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](mailto:StopCSE@familywatch.org)

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- i U.S. Department of Health and Human Services <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/fysb/resource-library/search#?area%5B1981%5D=1981&type%5B5168%5D=5168&sort=recent&ajax=1>
  - ii U.S. Department of Health and Human Services <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/fysb/resource-library/search#?area%5B1981%5D=1981&type%5B5168%5D=5168&sort=recent&ajax=1>
  - iii <https://www.hhs.gov/ash/oah/grant-programs/teen-pregnancy-prevention-program-tpp/about/index.html>
  - iv <https://www.ncleg.net/gascripts/Statutes/StatutesTOC.pl?Chapter=0115C>
  - v [https://www.ncleg.net/EnactedLegislation/Statutes/PDF/BySection/Chapter\\_115C/GS\\_115C-81.25.pdf](https://www.ncleg.net/EnactedLegislation/Statutes/PDF/BySection/Chapter_115C/GS_115C-81.25.pdf)
  - vi [https://www.ncleg.net/EnactedLegislation/Statutes/PDF/BySection/Chapter\\_115C/GS\\_115C-81.30.pdf](https://www.ncleg.net/EnactedLegislation/Statutes/PDF/BySection/Chapter_115C/GS_115C-81.30.pdf)
  - vii <http://statelaws.findlaw.com/family-laws/legal-ages.html>
  - viii <https://www.legalmatch.com/law-library/article/age-of-consent-by-state.html?intakeredesigned=1>