

# OHIO STATE PROFILE

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

LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS	YES	NO	N/A	LEGISLATIVE CODE
Sex Education Required	X			3313.60, 3313.6011(C)
Sex Education Optional				
<b>If/When Provided, Sexual Education Must:</b>				
Be Medically Accurate*			X	
Be Age Appropriate			X	
Be Evidence-based			X	
Be Culturally Appropriate and Unbiased			X	
Reference/Stress Abstinence**	X			3313.6011(B), 3313.6011(C.1)
Include HIV Education			X	
Be LGBTQ Inclusive		X		3313.6011(C.1, 2, 3)
Include safety against sexual abuse	X			3313.6011(C.6)
<b>Parental Role in Sexual Education:</b>				
Parents must be notified			X	
Parent Involvement			X	
Access to review Curriculum	X			3313.60(G), 3313.212
Opt-In			X	
Opt-Out Option	X			3313.60(A.1.c)

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



## II. OHIO SEX EDUCATION FEDERAL FUNDING PROFILE

### Federal Government Programs and Grants Awarded for Ohio

***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.

- Ohio received DASH funds totaling \$443,750 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.”

- Ohio received PREP funds totaling \$1,737,571 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.

- Ohio received \$742,023 in SRAE 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.**

- Ohio received a Title V award totaling \$2,558,222 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))

- Ohio received \$960,964 in funding for years 2015-2019.<sup>iii</sup>



### III. FEDERALLY FUNDED SEX EDUCATION PROGRAMS IN OHIO

**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 Ohio

FUNDING SOURCE	PROGRAM OR CURRICULUM	FUNDING RECIPIENT
DASH		
TPPP	Draw the Line/Respect the Line	Cuyahoga County District Board of Health (CCBH)
TPPP	Reducing the Risk	Cuyahoga County District Board of Health (CCBH)
TPPP	All4You!	Cuyahoga County District Board of Health (CCBH)
PREP	Reducing the Risk	Ohio Department of Health
PREP	HAT Healthy Adolescent Transitions	OHIO Health Research and Innovation Institute
TITLE V	Choosing the Best	Ohio Department of Health
TITLE V	Relationships Under Construction	Ohio Department of Health
TITLE V	Rites of Passage	Ohio Department of Health
TITLE V	Responsible Social Values Program (RSVP)	Ohio Department of Health
TITLE V	For Keeps	Ohio Department of Health
TITLE V	Choices Matter	Ohio Department of Health
TITLE V	Abstinence and Marriage	Ohio Department of Health
SRAE	Choosing the Best	Healthy Visions
SRAE	Go for the Gold	Elizabeth's New Life Center (ENLC)

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 OHIO SEX EDUCATION LEGISLATION & GUIDELINES**

The following laws and guidelines apply to sex education and how sex education is taught in Ohio:

**According to (effective 2001; 2008 HB7) Ohio Education Title 33<sup>iv</sup> (as of July 2, 2018)  
3313.6011<sup>v</sup>**

As used in this section, "sexual activity" means sexual conduct or sexual contact, or both.

Instruction in venereal disease education shall emphasize that abstinence from sexual activity is the only protection that is one hundred percent effective against unwanted pregnancy, sexually transmitted disease, and the sexual transmission of a virus that causes acquired immunodeficiency syndrome.

The state board of education shall require course material and instruction in venereal disease education courses taught to do all of the following:

- Stress that students should abstain from sexual activity until after marriage;
- Teach the potential physical, psychological, emotional, and social side effects of participating in sexual activity outside of marriage;
- Teach that conceiving children out of wedlock is likely to have harmful consequences for the child, the child's parents, and society;
- Stress that sexually transmitted diseases are serious possible hazards of sexual activity;
- Advise students of the laws pertaining to financial responsibility of parents to children born in and out of wedlock;
- Advise students of the circumstances under which it is criminal to have sexual contact with a person under the age of sixteen
- Emphasize adoption as an option for unintended pregnancies.

Any model education program for health education the state board of education adopts shall conform to the requirements of this section.

**According to the Department of Education** - Upon written request of the student's parent or guardian, a student shall be excused from taking instruction in venereal disease education.<sup>vi</sup>

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

Based on Ohio 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 Ohio, the age when children can legally consent or agree to sex is 16.



## V. PARENTAL RIGHTS AT RISK IN OHIO

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 Ohio may consent to and receive:

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

In Ohio, parental consent is required for:

- Abortion services



## VI. NEWS HEADLINES FROM OHIO

**September 7, 2018 – “Teacher suspended over ethics quiz with questions about sex”**

[https://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2018/09/07/teacher-suspended-over-ethics-quiz-with\\_ap.html](https://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2018/09/07/teacher-suspended-over-ethics-quiz-with_ap.html)

**August 31, 2018 – “Survey of Ohio Teens Pinpoints Inconsistencies in Sex Ed”**

<https://www.clevescene.com/scene-and-heard/archives/2018/08/31/survey-of-ohio-teens-pinpoints-inconsistencies-in-sex-ed>

**April 30, 2018 – “Republican Bill Would Mandate Ohio Schools Teach About Fetal Development”**

<http://radio.wosu.org/post/republican-bill-would-mandate-ohio-schools-teach-about-fetal-development#stream/0>

**May 7, 2015 - “Sex ed: What kids are - and aren't – learning”**

<http://www.fox19.com/story/28994536/sexual-ed-disparities-in-cincinnati-schools>



## 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/ohio](http://stopcse.org/ohio)



## 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/Ohio](http://stopcse.org/Ohio) to connect.



## IX. RESOURCES

- Ohio Sexual/Health Codes 3313-6011 - <http://codes.ohio.gov/orc/3313>
- Ohio Title 33 Education - <http://codes.ohio.gov/orc/33>
- Ohio Codes - <http://codes.ohio.gov/orc/>
- Ohio Department of Education Health Education - <http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Learning-in-Ohio/Health-Education>
- Ohio Legislation - <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/?1>
- 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-tppp/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/ohio](http://www.stopcse.org/ohio) 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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<sup>i</sup> 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>

<sup>ii</sup> 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>

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

<sup>iv</sup> <http://codes.ohio.gov/orc/33>

<sup>v</sup> <http://codes.ohio.gov/orc/3313>

<sup>vi</sup> <http://education.ohio.gov/getattachment/Topics/Learning-in-Ohio/Health-Education/9-12-Health-Education-Curriculum.pdf.aspx>

<sup>vii</sup> <http://statelaws.findlaw.com/family-laws/legal-ages.html>

<sup>viii</sup> <https://www.legalmatch.com/law-library/article/age-of-consent-by-state.html?intakeredesigned=1>