

Instruction

AIDS Prevention Instruction

In accordance with law, HIV/AIDS prevention instruction shall be offered at least once in junior high or middle school and once in high school. Instruction shall be provided by trained instructors in appropriate courses and shall include: (Education Code 51201.5)

1. Information on the nature of AIDS and its effects on the human body.
2. Information on how the human immunodeficiency virus is and is not transmitted, including information on activities that present the highest risk of HIV infection.
3. Discussion of methods to reduce the risk of HIV infection, including:
 - a) Emphasize that sexual abstinence and abstinence from intravenous drug use are the most effective means for AIDS prevention.
 - b) Statistics based upon the latest medical information citing the failure and success rates of condoms and other contraceptives in preventing sexually transmitted HIV infection
 - c) Information on other methods that may reduce the risk of HIV transmission from intravenous drug use.
4. Discussion of the public health issues associated with AIDS.
5. Information on local resources for HIV testing and medical care.
6. Development of refusal skills to assist pupils to overcome peer pressure and use effective decision making skills to avoid high-risk activities.
7. Discussion about societal views on AIDS, including stereotypes and myths regarding persons with AIDS. This instruction shall emphasize compassion for persons with AIDS.

HIV/AIDS prevention instruction shall accurately reflect the latest information and recommendations from the United States Surgeon General, federal Centers for Disease Control, and the National Academy of Sciences. (EC 51201.5)

At the beginning of the school year, parents/guardians of students in grades 7-12 shall receive written notice explaining the purpose of HIV/AIDS prevention instruction and specifying that the parent/guardian may request that his/her child not receive this instruction. (EC 51201.5)

No student shall receive AIDS prevention instruction if his/her parent/guardian requests in writing that the student not receive this instruction. (EC 51201.5)

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that instructional materials related to HIV infection and AIDS prevention are available and appropriate for use with students of various ages and learning abilities, and that these materials may be used effectively with students who have special needs and those from a variety of ethnic, cultural, and linguistic backgrounds. (EC 51201.5)