

Instruction

HIV/Aids Prevention Instruction

Instruction and Materials

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the district's sexual health and HIV/AIDS prevention instruction and materials are: (Education Code 51933, 51934):

1. Age appropriate

Age appropriate refers to topics, messages, and teaching methods suitable to particular ages or age groups of children and adolescents, based on developing cognitive, emotional, and behavioral capacity typical for the age or age group.

2. Factually and medically accurate and objective

Medically accurate means verified or supported by research conducted in compliance with scientific methods and published in peer-reviewed journals, where appropriate, 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.

3. Available on an equal basis to a student who is an English learner, consistent with the existing curriculum and alternative options for an English learner, as otherwise provided in the Education Code

4. Appropriate for use with students of all races, genders, sexual orientations, and ethnic and cultural backgrounds, and students with disabilities

5. Accessible to students with disabilities, including, but not limited to, the provision of a modified curriculum, materials, and instruction in alternative formats and auxiliary aids

6. Not teaching or promoting religious doctrine

7. Not reflecting bias or promoting prejudice against students in protected categories of discrimination pursuant to Education Code 220

Other district courses that may include subject matter related to that which is presented in HIV/AIDS prevention shall not be subject to the requirements of Education Code 51930-51939 pertaining to instructional content, teacher training, and parental notification and consent, if such courses contain: (Education Code 51932)

1. Solely a description or illustration of human reproductive organs that may appear in a textbook adopted pursuant to law on physiology, biology, zoology, general science, personal hygiene, or health

2. Instruction or materials that discuss gender, sexual orientation, or family life and do not discuss human reproductive organs and their function.

Additional Requirements for HIV/AIDS Prevention Instruction

HIV/AIDS prevention instruction shall be offered at least once in junior high or middle school and once in high school. (Education Code 51934)

Instruction shall accurately reflect the latest information and recommendations from the United States Surgeon General, the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the National Academy of Sciences. The district's curriculum shall satisfy the criteria listed in items #1-7 in the section entitled "Instruction and Materials" above and shall also include: (Education Code 51931, 51934)

1. Information on the nature of HIV/AIDS and its effects on the human body

2. Information on the manner in which HIV 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. Emphasis that sexual abstinence, monogamy, the avoidance of multiple sexual partners, and abstinence from intravenous drug use are the most effective means for HIV/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 HIV/AIDS
 5. Information on local resources for HIV testing and medical care
 6. Development of refusal skills to assist students in overcoming peer pressure and using effective decision-making skills to avoid high-risk activities
 7. Discussion about societal views on HIV/AIDS, including stereotypes and myths regarding persons with HIV/AIDS and emphasizing compassion for persons living with HIV/AIDS.

Professional Development

The district's instruction shall be provided by instructors trained in the appropriate courses who are knowledgeable of the most recent medically accurate research on human sexuality, pregnancy, and sexually transmitted diseases. (Education Code 51932, 51933, 51934)

The Superintendent or designee shall cooperatively plan and conduct in-service training for all district personnel who provide HIV/AIDS prevention education, through regional planning, joint powers agreements, or contract services. (Education Code 51935)

In developing and providing in-service training, the Superintendent or designee shall cooperate and collaborate with the teachers who provide HIV/AIDS prevention education and with the California Department of Education (CDE). (Education Code 51935)

The district shall periodically conduct in-service training to enable district personnel to learn new developments in the scientific understanding of HIV/AIDS. In-service training shall be voluntary for district personnel who have demonstrated expertise or received in-service training from the CDE or federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (Education Code 51935)

Use of Consultants or Guest Speakers

The Superintendent or designee may contract with outside consultants with expertise in comprehensive sexual health or HIV/AIDS prevention education, including those who have developed multilingual curricula or curricula accessible to persons with disabilities, to deliver the instruction or to provide training for district personnel. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that any instruction provided by an outside speaker or consultant complies with Board policy, administrative regulation, and Education Code 51930-51939. (Education Code 51933, 51934, 51936)

Parent/Guardian Notification

At the beginning of each school year, or at the time of a student's enrollment, parents/guardians shall be notified about instruction in HIV/AIDS prevention education, as well as research on student health behaviors and risks, planned for the coming year. The notice shall advise parents/guardians: (Education Code 48980, 51938)

1. That written and audiovisual educational materials to be used in HIV/AIDS prevention education are available for inspection
2. That parents/guardians may request in writing that their child not receive HIV/AIDS prevention education
3. That parents/guardians have a right to request a copy of Education Code 51930-51939
4. Whether the HIV/AIDS prevention education will be taught by district personnel or outside consultants

If the district chooses to use outside consultants or to hold an assembly with guest speakers to teach the HIV/AIDS prevention education, the notification shall include: (Education Code 51938)

- a. The date of the instruction
- b. The name of the organization or affiliation of each guest speaker
- c. Information stating the right of the parent/guardian to request a copy of Education Code 51933-51934

If the arrangements for instruction by outside consultants or guest speakers are made after the beginning of the school year, the district shall notify parents/guardians by mail or another commonly used method of notification no fewer than 14 days before the instruction is given. (Education Code 51938)

Parents/guardians shall be asked to sign and return to the school an acknowledgment that they have received the notification. If a parent/guardian wishes to excuse his/her child from instruction, he/she must provide a separate written request, as specified in Board policy.