

Minnesota Statute Health/Sex Education

1. State Standards are developed by the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) and adopted through the rule-making process, **except for health and the arts, which are developed and adopted by local school districts. Health and the arts are required academic standards, however.**
2. Child Sexual Abuse Prevention **may** be included in local school district health curriculum. The district may provide parents with information regarding warning signs of child sexual abuse.
3. Local school districts must develop and adopt a program to prevent and reduce the risk of sexually transmitted infections and diseases, assisted by the Minnesota Department of Education. One of the elements required in this program is a comprehensive, technically accurate, and updated curriculum **that includes helping students to abstain from sexual activity until marriage.**

<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/120B.021>

120B.021 REQUIRED ACADEMIC STANDARDS.

Subdivision 1. **Required academic standards.**

(6) **health, for which locally developed academic standards apply;** and

(d) **A school district may include child sexual abuse prevention instruction in a health curriculum, consistent with paragraph (a), clause (6). Child sexual abuse prevention instruction may include age-appropriate instruction on recognizing sexual abuse and assault, boundary violations, and ways offenders groom or desensitize victims, as well as strategies to promote disclosure, reduce self-blame, and mobilize bystanders. A school district may provide instruction under this paragraph in a variety of ways, including at an annual assembly or classroom presentation. A school district may also provide parents information on the warning signs of child sexual abuse and available resources.**

<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/121A.23>

Subdivision 1. **Sexually transmitted infections and diseases program.**

The commissioner of education, in consultation with the commissioner of health, shall assist districts in developing and implementing a program to prevent and reduce the risk of sexually transmitted infections and diseases, including but not exclusive to human immune deficiency virus and human papilloma virus. Each district must have a program that includes at least:

(1) planning materials, guidelines, and other technically accurate and updated information;

(2) a comprehensive, technically accurate, and updated curriculum that includes helping students to abstain from sexual activity until marriage;

(3) cooperation and coordination among districts and SCs;

(4) a targeting of adolescents, especially those who may be at high risk of contracting sexually transmitted infections and diseases, for prevention efforts;

(5) involvement of parents and other community members;

(6) in-service training for appropriate district staff and school board members;

(7) collaboration with state agencies and organizations having a sexually transmitted infection and disease prevention or sexually transmitted infection and disease risk reduction program;

(8) collaboration with local community health services, agencies and organizations having a sexually transmitted infection and disease prevention or sexually transmitted infection and disease risk reduction program; and

(9) participation by state and local student organizations.

The department may provide assistance at a neutral site to a nonpublic school participating in a district's program. District programs must not conflict with the health and wellness curriculum developed under Laws 1987, chapter 398, article 5, section 2, subdivision 7.

If a district fails to develop and implement a program to prevent and reduce the risk of sexually transmitted infection and disease, the department must assist the service cooperative in the region serving that district to develop or implement the program.