



movement advancement project ►

LGBTQ Youth: LGBTQ Curricular Laws

No updates required since October 20, 2021

LGBTQ-Inclusive Curricular Standards: These laws explicitly require the state’s curricular standards to include LGBTQ people and history, such as in subjects like history, civics, or social studies. Often these laws also require inclusive representation of other communities, such as specific communities of color, people with disabilities, or religious minorities. Visit [GLSEN](#) to learn more about the importance of inclusive curricular standards, as well as the difference between curricular standards and curriculum.

Negative Law: Parental Opt-Out of LGBTQ-Inclusive Curricula: The laws require parents to be notified in advance of any LGBTQ-inclusive curricula and allow parents to opt their children out of these classes. These laws build on existing state laws about parental notification and opt-out for sex education, but the LGBTQ opt-out laws are distinct because they require parental notification and opt-out for *any* LGBTQ-inclusive content, regardless of whether or not in the context of sex education. For more about sex education policy, including parental notification laws, see [SIECUS](#)'s research.

Negative Law: “Don’t Say Gay” Laws or Regulations: These policies restrict school teachers and staff from discussing LGBTQ issues and people. These polices are written to bar such discussion within sex education programming, but they are often vaguely written and can be misapplied by schools to limit discussion and inclusion of LGBTQ people and issues in other parts of the curriculum, school events and programs, and even extracurricular activities (e.g., incorrectly interpreted to prohibit Gay-Straight Alliances). For more information, contact [GLSEN](#).

Alabama

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws or regulations
- Formerly had “Don't Say Gay” regulation. See [Alabama State Code § 16-40A-2\(c\)\(8\)](#) (1992). Repealed by [HB 385](#) (2021).

Alaska

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws or regulations

Arizona

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws or regulations
- Formerly had “Don’t Say Gay” regulation (2012), repealed by [SB 1346](#) (2019).

Arkansas

- State law requires **parental notification of LGBTQ-inclusive curricula** and allows parents to opt children out. See [SB 389](#) (April 2021).



California

- State law requires **LGBTQ-inclusive curricular standards**. See [SB48](#) (2011).

Colorado

- State law requires **LGBTQ-inclusive curricular standards**. See [HB1192](#) (2019).

Connecticut

- State law requires **LGBTQ-inclusive curricular standards**. See [HB6619](#), included in budget bills [SB1202](#)/[HB6689](#) (see Sec 29(b) item 25, p44 of HB6689) (2021).

Delaware

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws or regulations

District of Columbia

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws or regulations

Florida

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws or regulations

Georgia

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws or regulations

Hawai'i

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws or regulations

Idaho

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws or regulations

Illinois

- State law requires **LGBTQ-inclusive curricular standards**. See [HB246](#) (2019).

Indiana

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws or regulations

Iowa

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws or regulations

Kansas

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws or regulations

Kentucky

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws or regulations



Louisiana

- State has “**Don't Say Gay**” regulation. See [La. Rev. Stat. § 17:281A\(3\)](#) (1993).

Maine

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws or regulations

Maryland

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws or regulations

Massachusetts

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws or regulations

Michigan

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws or regulations

Minnesota

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws or regulations

Mississippi

- State has “**Don't Say Gay**” regulation. See [Miss. Code Ann. § 37-13-171](#) (1998).

Missouri

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws or regulations

Montana

- State law requires **parental notification of LGBTQ-inclusive curricula** and allows parents to opt children out. See [SB 99](#) (April 2021).
 - Law is written as requiring parental notification of sex education, but defines sex education to include any information about sexual orientation or gender identity.

Nebraska

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws or regulations

Nevada

- State law requires **LGBTQ-inclusive curricular standards**. See [AB261](#) (2021).

New Hampshire

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws or regulations

New Jersey

- State law requires **LGBTQ-inclusive curricular standards**. See [S1569/A1335](#) (2019).

New Mexico

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws or regulations



New York

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws or regulations

North Carolina

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws or regulations
- Formerly had “Don’t Say Gay” law, repealed in 2006.

North Dakota

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws or regulations

Ohio

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws or regulations

Oklahoma

- State has “**Don't Say Gay**” regulation. See [Okla. Stat. tit. 70, § 11-103.3\(D\)](#) (1995).

Oregon

- State law requires **LGBTQ-inclusive curricular standards**. See [HB2023](#) (2019).

Pennsylvania

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws or regulations

Rhode Island

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws or regulations

South Carolina

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws or regulations
- Formerly had “Don’t Say Gay” law ([Act No. 437](#), 1988), repealed by [court settlement](#) (2020).

South Dakota

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws or regulations

Tennessee

- State law requires **parental notification of LGBTQ-inclusive curricula** and allows parents to opt children out. See [HB 529 / SB 1229](#) (May 2021).

Texas

- State has “**Don't Say Gay**” regulation. See [Texas Health & Safety Code § 85.007](#) (1991).

Utah

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws or regulations
- Formerly had “Don’t Say Gay” regulation ([Utah Code § 53A-13-101](#), 2004), repealed by [SB 196](#) (2017).



Vermont

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws or regulations

Virginia

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws or regulations

Washington

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws or regulations

West Virginia

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws or regulations

Wisconsin

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws or regulations

Wyoming

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws or regulations

U.S. Territories

American Samoa

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws or regulations

Guam

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws or regulations

Northern Mariana Islands

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws or regulations

Puerto Rico

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws or regulations

U.S. Virgin Islands

- None of these LGBTQ-specific curricular laws or regulations