Safe Schools Laws:
Anti-Bullying

No updates required since March 31, 2020

Alabama
- No law protecting LGBTQ students

Alaska
- No law protecting LGBTQ students

Arizona
- No law protecting LGBTQ students

Arkansas
- Law prohibits bullying on the bases of sexual orientation and gender identity
- Law prohibits bullying on the basis of association with someone with a listed characteristic
- See ACA § 6-18-514 (2011)

California
- Law prohibits bullying on the bases of sexual orientation and gender identity
- Law prohibits bullying on the basis of association with someone with a listed characteristic

Colorado
- Law prohibits bullying on the bases of sexual orientation and gender identity

Connecticut
- Law prohibits bullying on the bases of sexual orientation and gender identity
- Law prohibits bullying on the basis of association with someone with a listed characteristic

Delaware
- Law prohibits bullying on the bases of sexual orientation and gender identity
- See H.B. 268 (2012).
District of Columbia
- Law prohibits bullying on the bases of sexual orientation and gender identity
- Law prohibits bullying on the basis of association with someone with a listed characteristic
- See D.C. Law 19-167 (2012)

Florida
- No law protecting LGBTQ students

Georgia
- No law protecting LGBTQ students

Hawaii
- School regulation or teacher code prohibits bullying on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity
- See the Hawaii State Board of Education’s Student Safety and Welfare Policy 4211 (2008).

Idaho
- No law protecting LGBTQ students

Illinois
- Law prohibits bullying on the bases of sexual orientation and gender identity
- Law prohibits bullying on the basis of association with someone with a listed characteristic
- See S.B. 3266 (2010).

Indiana
- No law protecting LGBTQ students

Iowa
- Law prohibits bullying on the bases of sexual orientation and gender identity

Kansas
- No law protecting LGBTQ students

Kentucky
- No law protecting LGBTQ students
Louisiana
- No law protecting LGBTQ students

Maine
- Law prohibits bullying on the bases of sexual orientation and gender identity
- Law prohibits bullying on the basis of association with someone with a listed characteristic
- See MRS 20-A §6554, based on LD 1237 (2012).

Maryland
- Law prohibits bullying on the bases of sexual orientation and gender identity

Massachusetts
- Law prohibits bullying on the bases of sexual orientation and gender identity
- Law prohibits bullying on the basis of association with someone with a listed characteristic

Michigan
- No law protecting LGBTQ students

Minnesota
- Law prohibits bullying on the bases of sexual orientation and gender identity

Mississippi
- No law protecting LGBTQ students

Missouri
- No law protecting LGBTQ students
- State law prohibits schools or districts from adding LGBTQ protections to their anti-bullying and anti-discrimination policies. See Mo. Rev. Stat. § 160.775.3 (SB 894; 2006).

Montana
- No law protecting LGBTQ students

Nebraska
- No law protecting LGBTQ students
Nevada
- Law prohibits bullying on the bases of sexual orientation and gender identity
- Law prohibits bullying on the basis of association with someone with a listed characteristic

New Hampshire
- Law prohibits bullying on the bases of sexual orientation and gender identity
- Law prohibits bullying on the basis of association with someone with a listed characteristic

New Jersey
- Law prohibits bullying on the bases of sexual orientation and gender identity

New Mexico
- Law prohibits bullying on the bases of sexual orientation and gender identity
- Law prohibits bullying on the basis of association with someone with a listed characteristic
- See NMAC 6.12.7.7 and S.B. 288 (2019)
- Formerly, school regulation or teacher code prohibited bullying on the basis of sexual orientation only. See New Mexico Administrative Code § 6.12.7 (2006).

New York
- Law prohibits bullying on the bases of sexual orientation and gender (defined to include gender identity)
- See A.B. 3661 (2010).

North Carolina
- Law prohibits bullying on the bases of sexual orientation and gender identity
- Law prohibits bullying on the basis of association with someone with a listed characteristic

North Dakota
- No law protecting LGBTQ students
Ohio
- No law protecting LGBTQ students

Oklahoma
- No law protecting LGBTQ students

Oregon
- Law prohibits bullying on the bases of sexual orientation, defined to include gender identity

Pennsylvania
- No law protecting LGBTQ students

Rhode Island
- Law prohibits bullying on the bases of sexual orientation and gender identity

South Carolina
- No law protecting LGBTQ students

South Dakota
- No law protecting LGBTQ students
- State law prohibits schools or districts from adding LGBTQ protections to their anti-bullying and anti-discrimination policies. See S.D. Codified Laws § 13-32-14 (2012).

Tennessee
- No law protecting LGBTQ students

Texas
- No law protecting LGBTQ students

Utah
- School regulation or teacher code prohibits bullying on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity. See Rule 277-613 (2018).
Vermont
- Law prohibits bullying on the bases of sexual orientation and gender identity
- Law prohibits bullying on the basis of a family member with a listed characteristic

Virginia
- No law protecting LGBTQ students

Washington
- Law prohibits bullying on the bases of sexual orientation and gender identity
- See RCW 28A.300.285 and RCW 9A.36.080, amended to include sexual orientation in 2002 and amended to include gender identity in 2009

West Virginia
- School regulation or teacher code prohibits bullying on the bases of sexual orientation, gender identity, and association with someone with a listed characteristic
- See 126 CSR 99, also known as Policy 4373 (July 2012)

Wisconsin
- No law protecting LGBTQ students

Wyoming
- No law protecting LGBTQ students

U.S. Territories

American Samoa
- No educational laws or regulations that enumerate sexual orientation or gender identity

Guam
- Law prohibits bullying based on sexual orientation only. See Bill 41-31 (2011).

Northern Mariana Islands
- State Board of Education regulations prohibit bullying based on sexual orientation and gender identity (2011).
Puerto Rico

- In 2012, Puerto Rico passed the Students’ Bill of Rights, which guarantees equal educational opportunity to all students and explicitly includes sexual orientation and gender identity. The Puerto Rico Department of Education, which operates all public schools has adopted a policy prohibiting discrimination and bullying based on sexual orientation and gender identity (2017).

U.S. Virgin Islands

- Law prohibits bullying based on sexual orientation only (2014).