Safe Schools Laws:
Nondiscrimination

No updates required since July 23, 2019

Alabama
• No law protecting LGBT students

Alaska
• No law protecting LGBT students

Arizona
• No law protecting LGBT students

Arkansas
• No law protecting LGBT students

California
• Law prohibits discrimination in schools on the basis of association with someone with a listed characteristic

Colorado
• Law prohibits discrimination in schools on the bases of sexual orientation and gender identity. See SB 08-200 (2008).

Connecticut

Delaware
• No law protecting LGBT students

District of Columbia
Florida
- No law protecting LGBT students

Georgia
- No law protecting LGBT students

Hawaii
- Law prohibits discrimination in schools on the bases of sexual orientation and gender identity, by explicitly interpreting federal Title IX prohibitions against sex discrimination to include sexual orientation and gender identity. See H.B. 1489 (2018).
- 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 LGBT students

Illinois

Indiana
- No law protecting LGBT students

Iowa

Kansas
- No law protecting LGBT students

Kentucky
- No law protecting LGBT students

Louisiana
- No law protecting LGBT students

Maine
Maryland
- No law protecting LGBT students

Massachusetts

Michigan
- No state law explicitly protecting LGBT students
- State agency explicitly interprets existing sex protections to include both sexual orientation and gender identity (2018). See Michigan Civil Rights Commission's Interpretive Statement.

Minnesota

Mississippi
- No law protecting LGBT students

Missouri
- No law protecting LGBT students

Montana
- No law protecting LGBT students

Nebraska
- No law protecting LGBT students

Nevada
- No law protecting LGBT students

New Hampshire
New Jersey

New Mexico
- No law protecting LGBT students
- School regulation or teacher code prohibits discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation only. See NM Administrative Code 6.60.9.9.

New York

North Carolina
- No law protecting LGBT students

North Dakota
- No law protecting LGBT students

Ohio
- No law protecting LGBT students

Oklahoma
- No law protecting LGBT students

Oregon

Pennsylvania
- No law protecting LGBT students
- State agency explicitly interprets existing sex protections to include both sexual orientation and gender identity (2018). See Pennsylvania’s Human Relations Commission’s Guidance on Discrimination on the Basis of Sex Under the Pennsylvania Fair Educational Opportunities Act (PFEOA).
- School regulation or teacher code prohibits discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation only
Rhode Island

South Carolina
- No law protecting LGBT students

South Dakota
- No law protecting LGBT students

Tennessee
- No law protecting LGBT students

Texas
- No law protecting LGBT students

Utah
- No law protecting LGBT students
- School regulation or teacher code prohibits discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation only. See Utah Administrative Code Rule R277-515.

Vermont
- Law prohibits discrimination in schools on the basis of association with someone with a listed characteristic

Virginia
- No law protecting LGBT students

Washington
- Law prohibits discrimination in schools on the bases of sexual orientation and gender identity. See RCW 28A.642.010, amended to include sexual orientation in 2002 and amended to include gender identity in 2009.

West Virginia
- No law protecting LGBT students
Wisconsin

Wyoming
- No law protecting LGBT students

U.S. Territories
American Samoa
- No educational laws or regulations that enumerate sexual orientation or gender identity.

Guam
- No nondiscrimination laws enumerate sexual orientation or gender identity.

Northern Mariana Islands
- State Board of Education regulations prohibit discrimination and harassment based on sexual orientation (2002).

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
- In 2017, the Attorney General provided guidance requested by the education commissioner clarifying that discrimination against transgender students was illegal under federal civil rights laws.