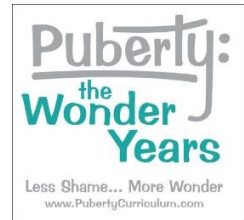


Tennessee Laws Related to Family Life Education:

Addressed by

***Puberty: The Wonder Years* for Grades 4, 5, and 6**



The chart below describes how *Puberty: The Wonder Years* for grades 4, 5, and 6 meets criteria as outlined in Tennessee laws and policy related to teaching family life education.

Tennessee Laws Related to Sex Education	Criteria Satisfied			Notes
	Yes	Partial	No	
Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-6-1301 et seq.¹				
Family life education programs are optional, except in two circumstances: 1. Counties where the teen pregnancy rate exceeds 19.5 pregnancies per 1,000 females aged 11 through 18 must provide Family Life Education in each public school. (law) ² 2. School districts that accept Coordinated School Health (CSH) funding must include an HIV/AIDS education component within their family life education curriculum. (policy)		Partial		Puberty education provided for grades 4, 5, and 6.
Curriculum shall be age-appropriate.	Yes			
HIV Education is no longer required by state law. However, school districts that accept Coordinated School Health (CSH) funding must include an HIV/AIDS education component within their family life education curriculum. ³			No	Recommend implementation of the <i>Michigan Model</i> for Health HIV prevention lessons. ⁴
Requires parents or guardians to be notified in advance of a family life program, allowed to examine Instruction materials and provide written consent for a student to participate in or opt-out of family life education.	Yes			A sample notification letter, invitation to preview materials, and consent letter are provided for each grade. All family materials are provided in English and Spanish.

¹ National Council of State Legislators. Retrieved from <http://www.ncsl.org/research/health/state-policies-on-sex-education-in-schools.aspx>.

² National Association of State Boards of Education. Retrieved from http://www.nasbe.org/healthy_schools/hs/state.php?state=Tennessee

³ TSBE Policy 4.204 “Standards and Guidelines for Tennessee’s Coordinated School Health Program” Retrieved from <http://www.comptroller.tn.gov/Repository/RE/revisedHIV/AIDS.pdf>.

⁴ Michigan Model for Health Clearinghouse. <http://www.mmhclearinghouse.org/default.aspx?p=viewcat&showpage=1>

Tennessee Laws Related to Sex Education	Criteria Satisfied			Notes
	Yes	Partial	No	
Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-6-1303⁵				
Family life education curriculum must exclusively and emphatically promote sexual risk avoidance through abstinence, regardless of a student's current or prior sexual experience. In addition, it must...	Yes			
(1) Encourage sexual health by helping students understand how sexual activity affects the whole person including the physical, social, emotional, psychological, economic, and educational consequences of nonmarital sexual activity.		Partial		Focuses on potential consequences of unintended pregnancy.
(2) Teach the positive results of avoiding sexual activity, the skills needed to make healthy decisions, the advantages of and skills for student success in pursuing educational and life goals.		Partial		Focuses on positive results of avoiding sexual activity and skills to do so.
(3) Provide factually and medically-accurate information.	Yes			
(4) Teach students how to form pro-social habits that enable students to develop healthy relationships, create strong marriages, and form safe and stable future families.		Partial		Focuses on developing healthy relationships with family and friends.
(5) Encourage students to communicate with a parent, guardian, or other trusted adult about sex or other risk behaviors.	Yes			
(6) Assist students in learning and practicing refusal skills that will help them resist sexual activity	Yes			
(7) Address the benefits of raising children within the context of a marital relationship and the unique challenges that single teen parents encounter.		Partial		Focuses on positive reasons to delay parenting until in a committed adult relationship, such as marriage.
(8) Discuss the interrelationship between teen sexual activity and exposure to other risk behaviors such as smoking, underage drinking, drug use, criminal activity, dating violence, and sexual aggression.			No	
(9) Educate students on the age of consent, puberty, pregnancy, childbirth, sexually transmitted diseases, and the financial and emotional responsibility of raising a child.		Partial		Focuses on puberty, pregnancy, childbirth, and responsibilities of parenthood.
(10) Teach students how to identify and form healthy relationships and how to identify and avoid unhealthy relationships.	Yes			

⁵ National Council of State Legislators. Retrieved from <http://www.ncsl.org/research/health/state-policies-on-sex-education-in-schools.aspx>.

Tennessee Laws Related to Sex Education	Criteria Satisfied			Notes
	Yes	Partial	No	
Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-6-1304^{6,7}				
Instruction may not encourage students to experiment with “gateway sexual activity.”	Yes			
May not provide or distribute materials that condone, encourage, or promote student sexual activity among unmarried students.	Yes			
May not provide or distribute materials that condone, encourage, or promote student sexual activity among unmarried students.	Yes			
May not display or conduct demonstrations with devices specifically manufactured for sexual stimulation; or distribute contraception on school property; provided, however, medically-accurate information about contraception and condoms may be provided so long as it is presented in a manner consistent with the other requirements and clearly informs students that only abstinence removes all risk.	Yes			
Allows a parent or legal guardian of a student enrolled in family life to file a complaint with the director of schools if they believe that a teacher, instructor, or representative of an organization has not complied with the requirements of code 49-6-1301 to 1304.			No	Lessons do not address this.

For more information about teaching Health Education in Tennessee public schools, review the Tennessee Health Education Standards: <http://www.tn.gov/education/article/health-pe-wellness-standards>.

⁶ National Council of State Legislators. Retrieved from <http://www.ncsl.org/research/health/state-policies-on-sex-education-in-schools.aspx>.

⁷ National Association of State Boards of Education. Retrieved from http://www.nasbe.org/healthy_schools/hs/state.php?state=Tennessee