



movement advancement project ▶

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 bases of sexual orientation and gender identity. See [Cal. Edc. Code § 234](#) (2011).
- 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

- Law prohibits discrimination in schools on the bases of sexual orientation and gender identity. See [Conn. Gen. Stat. 10-15c](#), amended to include sexual orientation in 1997 and amended to include gender identity in 2011.

Delaware

- No law protecting LGBT students

District of Columbia

- Law prohibits discrimination in schools on the bases of sexual orientation and gender identity. See [D.C. Code § 2-1402.41](#) (2012).



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

- Law prohibits discrimination in schools on the bases of sexual orientation and gender identity. See [S.B. 3266](#) (2010).

Indiana

- No law protecting LGBT students

Iowa

- Law prohibits discrimination in schools on the bases of sexual orientation and gender identity. See [Iowa Code § 216.9](#) (2007).

Kansas

- No law protecting LGBT students

Kentucky

- No law protecting LGBT students

Louisiana

- No law protecting LGBT students

Maine

- Law prohibits discrimination in schools on the bases of sexual orientation and gender identity. See [5 M.R.S. § 4552](#) (2005).



Maryland

- No law protecting LGBT students

Massachusetts

- Law prohibits discrimination in schools on the bases of sexual orientation and gender identity. See [Mass. Gen. Laws, chapter 76, § 5](#), amended to include sexual orientation in 1993 and amended to include gender identity in 2011.

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

- Law prohibits bullying on the bases of sexual orientation and gender identity. See [Minn. Stat. § 363A.13](#) (1993).

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

- Law prohibits discrimination in schools on the bases of sexual orientation and gender identity. See [SB263](#) (2019).



New Jersey

- Law prohibits discrimination in schools on the bases of sexual orientation and gender identity. See [N.J. Stat. § 10:5-1](#) and [10:5-5](#), amended to include sexual orientation in 1991 and amended to include gender identity in 2006.

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

- Law prohibits discrimination in schools on the bases of sexual orientation and gender identity. See [A.B. 3661](#) (2010).

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

- Law prohibits discrimination in schools on the bases of sexual orientation and gender identity. See [ORS § 659.850](#) (2007).

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

- Law prohibits bullying on the bases of sexual orientation and gender identity. See [16 R.I. Gen. Laws § 16-21-33 \(2011\)](#).

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 bases of sexual orientation and gender identity. See [Vt. Stat. Ann. tit. 9, § 4502](#), amended to include sexual orientation in 2001 and amended to include gender identity in 2007.
- 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

- Law prohibits discrimination in schools on the basis of sexual orientation only. See [Wis. Stat. § 118.13](#) (2001).

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.