



## Top 10 Requirements for Tennessee Sex Education in schools

- 1 The Local Education Agency (LEA) must conduct AT LEAST one public hearing to give members of the public the opportunity to speak and express their opinions and concerns. The meeting should be scheduled not less than once each September (TCA 49-6-1302 (c))
- 2 The LEAs must not use the services of any individual or organization that endorses student nonabstinence as appropriate or acceptable, or promote gateway sexual activity. (TCA 49-6-1304)
- 3 The Family Life Curriculum must be abstinence centered and MUST encourage abstinence regardless of a student's current or prior sexual experience. (TCA 49-6-1304 (a))
- 4 The Family Life Curriculum must teach students the value of reserving the expression of sexual activity for marriage. (TCA 49-6-104)
- 5 The curriculum must not promote, implicitly or explicitly, any gateway sexual activity that encourages students to experiment with non-coital sexual activity. (TCA 49-6-104)
- 6 LEAs must notify parents no less than 30 days prior to commencing instruction of family life curriculum of their ability to examine the instructional materials. (TCA 49-6-1305)
- 7 Parents must be notified no less than 30 days prior to instruction that they may excuse their student from ANY PORTION of the family life curriculum in the form of a written request to the student's instructor, school counselor, or principal. (TCA 49-6-1305)
- 8 Students excused from ANY or ALL portions of family life curriculum SHALL NOT be penalized for grading purposes "if the student satisfactorily performs alternative health lessons." (TCA 49-6-1305)
- 9 An LEA is not required to provide instruction through a sexual orientation curriculum or gender identity curriculum, however, if they choose to provide instruction, they MUST notify parents no less than 30 days prior to commencing instruction, whether or not it is offered as part of a family life program. (TCA 49-6-1308)
- 10 Parents are permitted to examine the sexual orientation curriculum or gender identity curriculum and confer with the instructor, school counselor or principal regarding ANY or ALL portions of the curriculum. Any parent wishing to excuse their student from ANY or ALL portions of a sexual orientation curriculum or gender identity curriculum must submit a request in writing to the student's principal. (TCA 49-6-1308)