

FAQ

COMPREHENSIVE SEXUAL HEALTH EDUCATION



Principals will not implement sexual health education policy because they have "more important" things to worry about.

A strategy that we recommend is including teaching sexual health in a health teacher's job description. Another strategy is to recommend curriculum to the principal so they do not have the need to investigate this for themselves.



What if our teachers don't feel prepared?

The City Department of Public Health offers training to the community. A school administrator would solely need to request this from the City.



What curriculum should we choose?

The EPCTPPC has a list of curricula that is evidence-based, age and culturally appropriate. A SHAC can review this short list and choose the curricula.



What's the value of adopting a local policy when one already exists (Texas Education Code)?

It can help the administration make decisions efficiently and promote consistency across the school district. It can also reduce personal bias in teaching sexual health education. It supports teachers to take actions and responsibility without needing to receive yearly approval from administration and SHACs. A policy may serve as rationale for supporting sexual health education and in turn may mitigate controversy.



What type of information will be taught to my child?



School districts can teach about healthy habits, healthy relationships, and consent. Most importantly, you can be part of creating this policy and have a say about what gets taught at your child's school.

How are we going to address teen parents?

This is something that you can bring up to your SHAC to devise a solution that works for your community. We know pregnant and parenting teens are unable to finish school sometimes. A parenting class may allow young parents to get the information they want and need, and encourage them to stay in school.

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What is the P.A.P.A curriculum?

P.A.P.A stands for "Parenting and Paternity Awareness" and addresses parenting skills and responsibilities, child support and other legal rights that come with parenthood, relationship skills, including money management, communication skills, and marriage preparation, skills relating to the prevention of family violence, only if the school districts does not have a family violence prevention program. P.A.P.A is not sexual health education, it does not teach about abstinence, nor about preventing STIs, STDs, HIV/AIDS, or unplanned teen pregnancies.

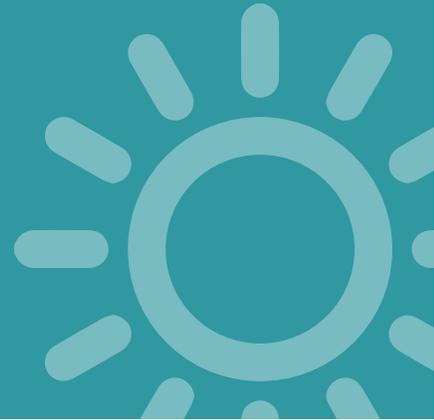
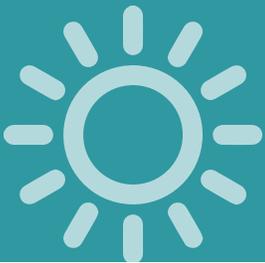
What are social norms?

Accepted behaviour within a particular group, community or culture. SHACs will be able to identify what program is more appropriate for their communities.



What is culturally appropriate?

Cultural appropriateness refers to having an approach that is adapted according to the target population which services, or programs will be applied to. For example, a program that has been studied with a population who has similar background to the one in which the program will be implemented into would be preferred because it would be more likely to be successful.



THIS INFORMATION WAS MODIFIED FROM A FAQ CREATED BY EL PASO COUNTY TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION COALITION.

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