

Several laws protect transgender students from discrimination at school:

- **Title IX** is a federal law banning sex discrimination in schools. Courts have made it clear that that includes discrimination against someone because they are transgender or don't meet gender stereotypes or expectations. Title IX applies to all schools (including both K-12 schools and colleges) that get federal money, including nearly all public schools.
- **State laws and school district policies** in many places also protect transgender students from discrimination. You can find information about some of these laws or policies on [NCTE's School Action Center](#). Hundreds of school districts around the country also have policies that ban discrimination based on gender identity or expression or sexual orientation.
- **The Equal Access Act** requires all student organizations, such as a Gay-Straight Alliance or Pride Alliance, to be treated equally. This means that schools cannot ban certain types of groups or single them out for worse treatment.
- **The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)** protects personal information about students in school records, and in most cases it makes it illegal for schools to share that information with others without permission from a student or (if the student is a minor) their parents. This includes information about their transgender status or medical history.
- **The First Amendment** of the U.S. Constitution protects students' freedom speech and freedom of expression. That includes the right to dress according to your gender identity, talk about being transgender openly, and express your gender in other ways.

<https://transequality.org/know-your-rights/schools>

CALIFORNIA LAWS

- California Education Code S 200, 1998 – Mandates equal rights and opportunities for All students ([PDF available](#))
- California Student Safety and Violence Prevention Act of 2000 (AB 537) – Right to a safe learning environment, prohibits harassment and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity/expression ([PDF available](#))
- Seth’s Law (AB 9), 2011 – Schools must adopt anti-bullying policies and procedures and school personnel are required to intervene. ([PDF available](#))
- The FAIR Education Act (SB 48), 2012 – Updates educational guidelines to include the positive contributions of LGBTQ+ people ([PDF available](#))



CALIFORNIA LAWS

- AB 1266 Amend., 2014 Section 221.5 Ed. Code: Pupil Right to Sex Non-discrimination based on actual gender identity ([PDF available](#))
- AB 496, 2014 – Training for health care providers regarding LGBTQ+ ([PDF available](#))
- AB 827, 2015 - Requires all California School Districts to have anti-LGBTQ bullying policies and procedures in place (Seth's Law) and require LGBTQ training for all California Educators. ([PDF available](#))
- AB 329 (Healthy Youth Act), 2016 – Sex Ed and HIV prevention to reflect all relationships including LGBTQ+ ([PDF available](#))
- AB 2246 and (AB 1808 supports AB 2246) – Suicide prevention policy that includes LGBTQ+ youth and includes training for staff. ([What I Wish My Parents Knew-PDF available](#))

