

Providing HIV/AIDS Prevention Education Remotely

The [AIDS Omnibus Act](#) requires HIV/AIDS prevention education yearly in grades 5–12.

The need for medically accurate sexual health education is greater than ever as students spend more time online and often have more unsupervised time. Remote instruction related to HIV prevention education offers districts several opportunities to:

- address social emotional health by focusing on communication skills, empathy and compassion;
- address the importance of affirmative consent and online safety; and
- tie HIV prevention strategies to COVID-19 prevention strategies.

Because there are no specific requirements in the law regarding the minutes/hours allotted to HIV prevention instruction, districts have significant latitude in meeting this requirement, and do not need to report their plans for instruction to OSPI. Though it is not best practice to use standalone videos for HIV/AIDS prevention instruction, there are a few available online that have been reviewed for alignment with state requirements:

- [HIV and Me: Marissa's Story, 5th grade video](#) in alignment with the KNOW HIV/AIDS prevention curriculum. This should be used with the [teacher's discussion guide](#). The video is available on YouTube.
- [Understanding HIV/AIDS: Learn the Facts, Fight the Stigma, Stay Safe, 6th grade video](#), in alignment with KNOW. The video is available on YouTube.
- [AMAZE video series](#), including lesson plans and discussion guides.

Additional online and remote learning resources are available on OSPI's [HIV and Sexual Health Education Resources](#) webpage.

Offering any kind of sexual health instruction remotely poses a challenge for many school districts. Effective instruction on these topics requires trusting relationships between educators and students as well as a safe and supportive learning environment. The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) encourages districts to take into consideration whether they can provide instruction in a way that is equitable and sensitive to the needs of all students in the classroom.



Given the sensitive nature of HIV prevention instruction, educators may want to review the following recommendations for offering sexual health education remotely:

- Oregon Dept. of Education – [Key Tips for Sexuality Education and Erin’s Law Instruction During Distance Learning](#) (document refers to Oregon’s requirements, but all teaching tips are relevant for educators in any state)
- UnHushed - [Teaching Middle School and High School Sex Ed Online during a Pandemic](#) (while focus is on secondary instruction, several points are relevant to elementary instruction also)
- [Puberty: The Wonder Years Distance Learning Adaptations](#) (several general tips, not necessarily specific to that curriculum)
- ETR - [Adapting Sexual Health Education for a Virtual Environment](#) (more geared to secondary instruction)

OSPI staff members stand ready to assist districts in navigating these challenging times. Please let us know how we can assist you.

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