



**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT  
OF EDUCATION**

**TOM TORLAKSON**  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF  
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

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October 4, 2018

Dear County and District Superintendents and Charter School Administrators:

## **Notification of Comprehensive Sexual Health Education and Program Monitoring Requirements**

The California Department of Education (CDE) would like to remind you that the California Healthy Youth Act (CHYA) (California *Education Code [EC]* sections 51930–51939) went into effect on January 1, 2016. California’s school-based comprehensive sexual health education, which is governed by the CHYA, has the following purposes:

1. To provide pupils with the knowledge and skills necessary to protect their sexual and reproductive health from HIV and other sexually transmitted infections and from unintended pregnancy.
2. To provide pupils with the knowledge and skills they need to develop healthy attitudes concerning adolescent growth and development, body image, gender, sexual orientation, relationships, marriage, and family.
3. To promote understanding of sexuality as a normal part of human development.
4. To ensure pupils receive integrated, comprehensive, accurate, and unbiased sexual health and HIV prevention instruction and provide educators with clear tools and guidance to accomplish that end.
5. To provide pupils with the knowledge and skills necessary to have healthy, positive, and safe relationships and behaviors. *EC* Section 51930(b)(1)–(5).

All local education agencies (LEA) must be in compliance with the CHYA, and are responsible for creating and maintaining programs which meet minimum fiscal and programmatic requirements.

Federal and state laws require the CDE to monitor implementation of categorical programs operated by LEAs. Pursuant to the CHYA, the CDE will be monitoring implementation of comprehensive sexual health education programs throughout the state; beginning with the 2018-19 school year, this monitoring is incorporated into the CDE’s Federal Program Monitoring (FPM) process.

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The CDE will notify LEAs selected for monitoring in 2018–19 in follow up correspondence, giving LEAs adequate time to prepare.

For an overview of the FPM process, please visit the CDE Compliance Monitoring web page at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/cr/>. For information and available resources regarding the CHYA, please visit the Comprehensive Sexual Health & HIV/AIDS Instruction web page at [www.cde.ca.gov/ls/he/se](http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/he/se).

If you have any questions regarding this subject, please contact Sharla E. Smith, Comprehensive Sexual Health Education Consultant, Coordinated School Health and Safety Office, by phone at 916-319-0914 or by e-mail at [shsmith@cde.ca.gov](mailto:shsmith@cde.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

Stephanie Papas, Interim Division Director  
Coordinated School Health and Safety Office

SP:shs