Is it Confidential?

Important information about STIs, HIV/AIDS, Birth Control, Abortion and Safe Havens.

Where to go for help

School-Based Health Clinics
Do I have the same rights to confidential health care at school?

All the rights to confidential health care that apply to private medical providers also apply at a school clinic. The only difference is that your school clinic requires a form with your parent's signature before they can treat you for anything (not just STIs or birth control).

This form is usually filled out at the beginning of the school year, but can be filled out at any time.

Questions about your legal rights?
Center for Children's Advocacy
860-570-5327 or 203-335-0719
speaktup teens.org or kidscounsel.org

Planned Parenthood
pct.org  1-800-230-PLAN
Bridgeport  203-366-0664  211 East Main St., 2nd floor
Hartford  860-728-0203  1229 Albany Ave.
New Haven  203-503-0450  345 Whitney Ave.
Stamford  203-327-2722  1039 E. Main St.
West Hartford  860-953-6021  1030 New Britain Ave.

HIV/AIDS and STI Hotlines

National HIV/AIDS Hotline  1-800-232-4636
National STI Hotline  1-800-227-8922

Community Health Centers
Bridgeport
Optimus Healthcare 862 East Main St. 203-696-3260
GBAPP (Greater Bridgeport Adolescent Pregnancy Program) 1470 Banum Ave. 203-368-6255
Optimus Healthcare 64 Black Rock Ave. 203-579-5000
Ralphola Taylor Center 79 Central Ave. 203-576-7430
Southwest Community Health Center 968 Fairfield Ave. 203-330-6000
46 Albion St. 203-330-6000 For questions: 203-332-3518

Hartford
AIDS Connecticut 110 Bartholomew Ave. 860-951-4833
Adolescent Medicine Gengras Ambulatory Building 1000 Asylum St. Suite 1026 860-714-4332

Connecticut Children's Primary Care Center 76 New Britain Ave. 860-837-6800
Charter Oak Health Center 21 Grand St. 860-559-7200 401 New Britain Ave. 860-241-0712
Community Health Services 500 Albany Ave. 860-249-9825
Hartford Health Department 131 Coventry Street 860-757-4830 HIV/AIDS and STI Testing 860-543-8820
Hartford Hospital Women's Ambulatory Health Services 111 Park St. 860-972-2780
Latinos Community Services 184 Wethersfield Ave. 860-296-6400

New Haven
Cornell Scott-Hill Health Center 220 Dowell Ave. 203-503-3000
Fairhaven Community Health Center 374 Grand Ave. 203-777-7411
Cornell Scott-Hill Health Center 428 Columbus Ave. 203-503-3000
Cornell Scott-Hill Women's Health Services 911 State St. 203-503-3500

Safe Havens for Newborn Babies
If you cannot take care of your new baby, bring the baby to any hospital emergency room. Here are some locations:
Bridgeport Bridgeport Hospital 267 Grant St. 203-384-3566
St Vincent’s Medical Center 280 Main St. 203-576-5171
Hartford
Connecticut Children’s Medical Center 282 Washington St. 860-545-9200
Hartford Hospital 80 Seymour St. 860-545-2515
St. Francis Hospital and Medical Center 114 Woodland St. 860-714-4001
The Hospital of Central Connecticut 100 Grand St. New Britain 860-224-5671
New Haven
Hospital of Saint Raphael 1354 Chapel St. 203-789-3464
Yale-New Haven Hospital 20 York St. 203-688-2222
Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI)

How old do I have to be to get tested or treated for an STI without my parent’s permission?

You can get tested and treated for an STI by your doctor or a clinic at any age. If you are 12 or younger, the doctor or clinic has to report your name, age and address to DCF (Department of Children and Families). If you test positive for chlamydia or gonorrhea, you have a right to be tested and treated for an STI without telling your parents. A doctor’s office or clinic that tests you for an STI cannot even send a bill to anyone but you. Most clinics will not ask you to pay the full amount. Ask the doctor about this. The doctor’s office or clinic must report certain diseases to the Department of Public Health. But, the information will still be confidential.

HIV/AIDS

Can I get tested or treated for HIV/AIDS without my parent’s permission?

You can get tested for HIV/AIDS by your doctor or a clinic. Testing You have the right to get tested for HIV/AIDS without your parent’s permission. A doctor can tell your partner if you test positive, but only if your partner has the same doctor, and the doctor believes that your partner is at risk of becoming infected, and believes that you won’t tell your partner by yourself. Treatment If you are under 18, the doctor will have to get your parent’s permission to treat you for HIV/AIDS unless the doctor thinks you would not get treatment if your parents found out.

Birth Control

Can I get birth control without my parent’s permission?

In Connecticut, you can get birth control or emergency contraception at any age without your parent’s permission. Emergency contraception (the morning after pill) is also a kind of birth control. A doctor or clinic may speak to you about involving your parents, but the final decision is yours and will be kept confidential.

Abortion

Do I need my parent’s permission to get an abortion?

You do not need your parent’s permission to get an abortion in Connecticut. A doctor or clinic has to explain your choices, but s/he is not allowed to talk you into a decision. You will have to sign a form saying that you received information about your choices.

Safe Havens for Newborns

What if I have a baby and can’t take care of it?

You can give up custody of your baby (age 30 days or younger) to the staff of any hospital emergency room. You will not be arrested as long as the baby has not been abused or neglected.

What happens to my baby when I give up custody?

Within 24 hours of the time you leave the hospital, the hospital must contact DCF. DCF will take custody of your baby and will develop a permanent plan for the baby. The plan will include a court hearing to apply for legal termination of your parental rights to free the baby for adoption. The court will schedule a hearing within 30 days of DCF’s application. Termination of parental rights can be granted at the first hearing.