

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
speakupteens.org or kidscounsel.org

Planned Parenthood

ppct.org 1-800-230-PLAN

Bridgeport 203-366-0664
211 State 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 860-953-6201
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
982 East Main St. 203-696-3260

GBAPP (Greater Bridgeport Adolescent Pregnancy Program)
1470 Barnum Ave. 203-366-8255

Optimus Healthcare
64 Black Rock Ave. 203-579-5000

Ralphola Taylor Center
790 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. 860-550-7500
401 New Britain Ave. 860-241-0712

Community Health Services
500 Albany Ave. 860-249-9625

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

Latino Community Services
184 Wethersfield Ave. 860-296-6400

New Haven

Cornell Scott-Hill Health Center
226 Dixwell 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. 203-503-3530

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
2800 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

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Is it Confidential?

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

What do to if you need help.

Is it Confidential? Important Information about STIs, HIV/AIDS, Birth Control, Abortion, and Safe Havens. What to do if you need help.

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 can help your partner get treatment even if s/he does not come to the office or clinic. Your doctor or clinic can give you a prescription or medication to take to your partner. This is called Expedited Partner Therapy and helps stop the spread of STIs.

Will my parents find out?

You have a right to be tested and treated for an STI without telling your parents.

A doctor's office or a 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?

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.

The information in this brochure is intended as reference only and should not be interpreted as legal advice. If you need specific information about the law, please call 860-570-5327 or 203-335-0719.

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.

Some doctors or clinics may ask you to tell your parents before they prescribe any birth control for you, but this is not required by law.

If you are 12 or younger, the doctor or clinic has to report your name, age and address to DCF.

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 may speak to you about involving your parents, but the final decision is yours and will be kept confidential.

If you are under 16, the doctor 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.