



DISTRICT OFFICES

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BURLINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT PROCEDURE

PROCEDURE CODE G7PC: CONDOM AVAILABILITY AND SEXUAL HEALTH EDUCATION

Summary

In order to protect and promote the health of young Vermonters, Vermont State Law requires that school districts, supervisory unions/districts, and independent schools have appropriate procedures in place to implement a comprehensive health education curriculum that includes sexual health education and to make condoms available to all secondary students grade 7-12. Research shows that well-designed, well-implemented school-based STD prevention programs may significantly reduce sexual risk behaviors among students. Public health and health care organizations with expertise in sexual and reproductive health (the National Association of School Nurses, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American Medical Association, the American Public Health Association, the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecologists, etc) support comprehensive sexual health education as best practice and recommend that it be provided to youth of all ages. Outcomes of such programs include a delay in first sexual intercourse, a decrease in the number of sex partners, and an increase in condom or contraceptive use. There is no evidence that participation in such programs increases the likelihood of students engaging in sexual activity. **To support preventative health and wellness initiatives for Burlington School District students and in accordance with 16 V.S.A. §132, condoms will be made available at all Burlington School District schools that house grades 7-12.**

Sexual Health Education

Sexual Health Education instruction will be provided as part of the curriculum in our middle and high school health classes. This includes instructions and information about barrier methods, including proper condom use and dental dams. Students do not have to have completed this instruction to access barrier methods; additional information on the use of condoms will be provided at access points.

Delegation of Responsibilities

School teams, in consultation with BSD nursing and administrative staff, shall determine the best manner in which to make condoms available to students. BSD shall provide condoms and dams in locations that are safe and readily accessible for students, without unnecessary barriers to obtaining condoms/dams or stigma surrounding access. Information about proper use that represents all students, inclusive of gender identity, sexual orientation, and ethnicity, will also be available. School Nurses (or administrative assistant in a building where a school nurse is not housed) will coordinate with the District Lead Nurse and Planned Parenthood of Northern New England to ensure each secondary school's supply of condoms is maintained.

Implementation of Condom Availability

School nurses and building administrators have identified the following locations where condoms, safely stored in a container, will be made accessible for students:

- *Outside or in the entry to the nurse's offices
- *In the Student Support Services Offices

No student age 12 or older will be refused access to condoms through this program. Minors age 12 and older in Vermont have a legal right to access a full range of reproductive and sexual health services without parent/guardian permission. Minors age 12 and older are provided access to condoms in a variety of settings and may purchase them without parental consent. Condoms and dams are available to all students in BSD middle and high schools, so 6th graders who

are not yet 12 will also have access. We encourage parents/guardians to have a conversation with their middle and high school students about condoms and dams, their purpose, and proper use.

Information about condom and dam usage will be made available in these same locations. Other locations may be added as appropriate. Any student in good standing with the Advocates for Sexual Knowledge Peer Educator Program from PPNNE may also give out safer sex supplies and educational information at school as part of their peer educator duties, if they so choose.

Information will be provided by schools to students and families to promote awareness of the condom availability program. This will include family communication, announcements during comprehensive sex education instruction, one-to-one meetings with student support services staff, and/or posters.

Program Evaluation

The Youth Risk Behavior Survey (released every two years) and the School Health Profiles (released every other year) will serve as a tool to assess and inform progress of this program.

References

- [Memo: Comprehensive Sexual Health Education and Condom Availability Programs](#). Mark Levine, M.D., Commissioner, Department of Health, Daniel M. French, Ed.D., Secretary, Agency of Education, (January 30, 2020).
- [National Association of School Nurses' Position Statement: Sexual Health Education in Schools](#).
- [Vermont Youth Risk Behavior Survey 2019](#)
- [Burlington School District YRBS 2019](#)

Clerical Information

BSD Version:	BSD G7 Procedure Condom Availability
Date Adopted:	11/14/25
Legal Reference(s):	16 V.S.A. § 131 16 V.S.A. § 132 18 V.S.A. § 4226
Policy Reference:	G7 CURRICULUM COORDINATION