

Funding for Abstinence Education in Washington State

In federal fiscal year 2006 Washington State Received \$2,499,202 in federal funding for abstinence-only education.

What is this funding?

Part of the 1996 Welfare Reform Law earmarked \$100 million for abstinence-only-until-marriage education. This money is separated into 3 funding streams that include strict guidelines that recipients must adhere to, including an eight-point definition of abstinence-only-until-marriage education.

What is the definition of abstinence-only-until-marriage?

According to Section 510(b) of Title V of the Social Security Act, P.L. 104–193, abstinence education means a program that:

A	has as its exclusive purpose teaching the social, psychological, and health gains to be realized by abstaining from sexual activity;
B	teaches abstinence from sexual activity outside marriage as the expected standard for all school-age children;
C	teaches that abstinence from sexual activity is the only certain way to avoid out-of-wedlock pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases, and other associated health problems;
D	teaches that a mutually faithful monogamous relationship in the context of marriage is the expected standard of sexual activity;
E	teaches that sexual activity outside of the context of marriage is likely to have harmful psychological and physical effects;
F	teaches that bearing children out-of-wedlock is likely to have harmful consequences for the child, the child's parents, and society;
G	teaches young people how to reject sexual advances and how alcohol and drug use increase vulnerability to sexual advances, and
H	teaches the importance of attaining self-sufficiency before engaging in sexual activity.

What are the three funding streams?

The three funding streams for the federal abstinence money are:

- AFLA: the Adolescent Family Life Act (AFLA)
- Title V (welfare reform)
- SPRANS-CBAE: Special Project of Regional and National Significance – Community Based Abstinence Education (SPRANS-CBAE).

The recipients of these funding streams must adhere to the definition above, but in different ways. Title V and AFLA recipient programs can not teach anything that is *inconsistent* with any of the eight points but they don't have to explicitly teach ALL of the eight points. In contrast, SPRANS-CBAE programs are required to teach and include ALL eight points listed above.

Who is getting federal money for abstinence education in Washington?

The 2005 Abstinence-only education money grantees are:

Grantee	Amount of Grant	Type of Grant
Washington State Department of Health	\$814,663 federal	<i>Title V:</i> to be used for youth-based media literacy projects and a statewide public awareness campaign. The ultimate goal is to reduce teen pregnancies and STDs among youth.
Clarkston School District (Eastern Border of WA)	\$753,614 over 3 years	<i>SPRANS-CBAE</i> (Implementation Grant)
AWARE Program (Abstinence, Wait-training and relationship education)	\$130,925	<i>SPRANS-CBAE</i>
Pregnancy Resource Center	\$391,000	<i>SPRANS-CBAE</i>
Teen-Aid	\$800,000	<i>SPRANS-CBAE</i>

States who receive Title V funding are also required to match the federal dollars with state or local dollars (can be in-kind) in a ration of four to three; for every four federal dollars, the state must match it with 3 dollars. In 2003, the Department of Health lost state matching funds.

In Washington State, our Department of Health is required to apply for Title V funding as outlined in RCW 74.12.410:

The department of health shall maximize federal funding by timely application for federal funds available under P.L. 104-193 and Title V of the federal social security act, 42 U.S.C. 701 et seq., as amended, for the establishment of qualifying abstinence education and motivation programs. The department of health shall contract, by competitive bid, with entities qualified to provide abstinence education and motivation programs in the state.

The department of health shall seek and accept local matching funds to the maximum extent allowable from qualified abstinence education and motivation programs.