

Snapshot of Connecticut's Public Health Laws

Laws and policies can either help or hurt efforts to keep people and communities safe. Policy work is important to ensure existing laws support state and local efforts to provide access to services for people living with HIV, STD, SUD and Viral Hepatitis and those at risk.

Connecticut has robust HIV statutes that have been amended over the years as the HIV landscape has changed. Unlike many states, Connecticut does not have specific HIV criminalization laws. HIV Testing laws focus on access, consent and confidentiality.

Connecticut's laws have had a tremendous impact on the states' HIV epidemic. Shortly after needle exchange legislation was enacted and programs were started there was a 47% reduction in new HIV cases. After mandatory testing of pregnant women was enacted in 1999, there was a decrease in mother to child transmission from 25% to less than 1%. In 2022, Routine HIV and HCV testing laws were passed to work toward end the syndemic.

Connecticut's HIV laws can be found at the following links:

Routine HIV and HCV Testing (Primary Care)	19a-7o	Chapter 368a - Department of Public Health (ct.gov)
Routine HIV Testing (Emergency Departments)	19a-490cc	Chapter 368v - Health Care Institutions (ct.gov)
Syringe Services Programs (Drug User Health)	19a-124	Chapter 368a - Department of Public Health (ct.gov)
Connecticut AIDS Drug Assistance Program (CADAP)	19a-127r	Chapter 368a - Department of Public Health (ct.gov)
General Consent for HIV Testing	19a-582	Chapter 368x - AIDS Testing and Medical Information (ct.gov)
Limitations on Disclosure of HIV Information (Confidentiality)	19a-583	Chapter 368x - AIDS Testing and Medical Information (ct.gov)
Informing and Warning Partners of Possible HIV Exposure	19a-584	Chapter 368x - AIDS Testing and Medical Information (ct.gov)
Disclosure of HIV Information	19a-585	Chapter 368x - AIDS Testing and Medical Information (ct.gov)
HIV Testing for Insurance Purposes	19a-586	Chapter 368x - AIDS Testing and Medical Information (ct.gov)
HIV Testing, Prevention (PrEP) and Treatment of Minors for HIV	19a-592	Chapter 368x - AIDS Testing and Medical Information (ct.gov)
HIV Testing of Pregnant Women and Newborns	19a-593	Chapter 368x - AIDS Testing and Medical Information (ct.gov)

Connecticut's STD Statutes can be found at the following link:

Examination or Treatment of Minors for STDs	19a-216	Chapter 368e - Municipal Health Authorities (ct.gov)
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Connecticut's Hepatitis Statutes can be found at the following link:

Hepatitis Testing	19a-7o	Chapter 368a - Department of Public Health (ct.gov)
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Connecticut's SUD Statutes (Good Samaritan Laws) can be found at the following links:

Anyone can Administer Naloxone Without Liability or Penalty	17a-714a	Chapter 319j - Addiction Services
Criminal Immunity to Anyone Seeking Medical Help for Overdose	21a-279	Chapter 420b - Dependency-Producing Drugs (ct.gov)
Vending Machine for Access to Clean Syringes	PA 21-192	https://www.cga.ct.gov/2021/BA/PDF/2021SB-00895-R01-BA.PDF