

# Discrimination Protections for LGBTQ College Students

## Iowa Civil Rights Act (216.9): Unfair or discriminatory practices - education

This portion of the Iowa Civil Rights act states that it is against the law for any educational institution to discriminate against someone based on characteristic traits, including sexual orientation and gender identity. In this section, the law states that discrimination includes, but isn't limited to excluding or not allowing a person to participate in any academic, extracurricular, research, occupational training, or other program.

## Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972

Title IX covers sex based discrimination in education, but also covers sexual harassment, gender-based discrimination, and sexual violence. The law applies to male, female, and gender non-conforming students, faculty and staff.

Schools must have established protocol for handling reports of sex discrimination, sexual harassment, and sexual violence, and schools are responsible for ensuring that victims of these crimes can continue their education during the investigation.

This law covers the use of restrooms, locker rooms, and all other gender-segregated facilities.

## The 1st Amendment of the Constitution: Free Speech on Campus

Private institutions are not bound by the 1st Amendment. It is important that you know what type of college or university you are attending, and how it may impact your right to speak on issues you are passionate about.

Public colleges and universities have no obligation to fund student publications. The Supreme Court has held however, that if a public university voluntarily provides funds to groups, it can't withhold them from particular student publications simply because it may be viewed as controversial.



Information taken in part from the [www.ACLU.org](http://www.ACLU.org)

Questions or comments about this resource?  
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