STATUTORY PROFILE

# Georgia

## School-Based Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Laws

Child sexual abuse is a serious, preventable public health issue. It happens in homes, schools and other places, but it can be prevented before it occurs. States and territories have applied a variety of legislative strategies to address the problem. To better understand what they are doing to prevent child sexual abuse, we collected and summarized relevant laws.

**Here's what we found in Georgia as of 2022:**

### EDUCATION AND AWARENESS

State laws intended to protect school children by educating them and/or the adults in their lives about the risks of sexual abuse and misconduct.

| POLICY TYPE | STATUTE | DESCRIPTION |
|---|---|---|
| **School Curriculum and Trainings** | ADULTS Yes | **Required** for teachers. |
| | CHILDREN Yes | **Required** for students in grades K-9. |

### SCHOOL PERSONNEL POLICIES

State laws intended to create safe schools through hiring, dismissal and other personnel practices.

| POLICY TYPE | STATUTE | DESCRIPTION |
|---|---|---|
| **Hiring/Dismissal Policy** | Yes | **Addressed** in state law. |
| **Fingerprints** | Yes | **Required** by state law. |
| **Background Checks** | CRIMINAL Yes | **Required** for teachers, licensed staff and non-licensed staff. |
| | MISCONDUCT No | **Not required** by state law. |
| | DISCIPLINARY No | **Not required** by state law. |
| **Reference Checks** | No | **Not required** by state law. |
| **Licensure** | No | License revocation for school sexual misconduct is **not addressed** in state law. |

### STANDARDS FOR CONDUCT

State laws that set minimum standards for adults' conduct in schools.

| POLICY TYPE | STATUTE | DESCRIPTION |
|---|---|---|
| **Code of Conduct/ Ethics** | Yes | **Required** by state law. |

### LEGAL ACCOUNTABILITY

State laws criminalizing sexual misconduct by a person in a position of authority to further ensure safety in schools and communities.

| POLICY TYPE | STATUTE | DESCRIPTION |
|---|---|---|
| **Position of Authority** | Yes | Sexual relationships with a youth by a person in a position of authority are **addressed** in state law. |

## WHAT'S NEXT?

The next phase of this project will evaluate whether these laws reduce school-based child sexual abuse. Together, we can create safe school environments for children and prevent child sexual abuse. Visit Prevent Child Abuse America's project page at bit.ly/4byhfQV to learn more.

NCSL NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF STATE LEGISLATURES

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ENOUGH ABUSE end child sexual abuse

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