

BACK TO SCHOOL

YOUR GUIDE TO LGBTQ+ STUDENTS' RIGHTS IN MAINE



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EQUALITYMAINE

BACK TO SCHOOL



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You have the right to:

- wear clothing consistent with your gender identity or gender expression.
- to play sports on the team that best matches your gender identity.
- access educational information about LGBTQ+ subjects.
- free speech and expression.
- privacy regarding your assigned sex at birth.
- be protected from discrimination, bullying, or harassment based on sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or HIV status.
- Form a Gender- Sexuality Alliance (GSA) that gets treated the same as every other non-curricular group. This means equal funding, access to facilities, and the ability to choose your group's name.

WHAT DO I DO IF MY RIGHTS ARE VIOLATED?

Document your experience - keep copies & screenshots of emails and texts and record the dates and times of any incidents. Talk to a teacher you trust and take note of conversations with any school staff so you can show that you have followed procedure and that the school is aware of your concerns. Be sure to follow your school's anti-bullying or harassment policies (search your school's website).

If the concern is related to gender or sex discrimination:
Talk to the school's Title IX coordinator.

If you need additional support:

Ask GLAD for free and confidential legal information, assistance, and referrals.

glad.org/issues/school-resources-youth-maine/
GLADAnswers@glad.org | 800-455-GLAD.



To further protect your rights, join or start a Gender-Sexuality Alliance at school. To start a GSA, find a supportive teacher or staff member to be the faculty advisor. Find interested students who would be willing to join. Look for your school's guidelines for starting a club on your school's website. Visit glsen.org/support-student-gsas for more resources on starting a GSA at your school!