

TCA Statement on SB 12

The school year following each legislative session always brings new laws and procedures. This year, [SB 12](#), effective September 1, 2025, is generating multiple requests for guidance due to its breadth and the changes it will require in many school counseling programs.

TEA has released draft rules for the implementation of SB 12, which can be [viewed here](#) and is directing districts to follow those rules in the interim.

We encourage school counselors and all educators to monitor and participate in the SB 12 rulemaking process in your district. If you have questions about specific programs or activities, ask for written guidance from your campus and district administrators.

Until rules are adopted, there is likely to be a variety of interpretations and implementations across school districts.

In the absence of final rules, TCA encourages you to observe the statutory language of SB 12, some of which is highlighted below, as you plan your school counseling program for the year ahead.

- Districts are required to notify parents regarding any change in services or monitoring of a student's mental, emotional, or physical health.
- DEI is prohibited in school districts.
- Gender Transitioning support from school districts is prohibited.
- Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity instruction and student clubs are prohibited.
- Human sexuality instruction requires an opt-in from a student's parent.
- Districts are required to adopt and implement a policy related to posting of the instructional plan or syllabus for each course taught in the district prior to each semester.
- Districts are required to develop a parent engagement policy.
- Districts must have parent participation plans and communicate them annually to parents.
- Requires ISDs to post information about their grievance policies online, allow grievances to be submitted online, and provide information on how to appeal grievances at each level.
- Districts are required to notify parents within one business day when they suspect that a criminal offense has been committed against the parent's child.
- Districts must offer at least two parent-teacher conferences annually, up from one.