



NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

ACADEMY OF AMERICAN STUDIES



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Dear Parents, Guardians, or Custodians of Newly Admitted High School Students:

Health education that teaches responsible decision-making enables students to be more productive in school and in life. As a complement to the health education that students receive, the NYC Department of Education's HIV/AIDS education program requires a Condom Availability Program (CAP) at public high schools that can help reinforce students' decision-making in and out of the health education classroom.

According to state law, through CAP, students in grades 9-12 may request free condoms, medically accurate health information, and health referrals from trained school staff. As a parent, guardian, or custodian, you may ask the school not to provide your adolescent with condoms. Per Public Health Law § 2504, you are not permitted to make this request if your child 1) is 18 years of age or older; 2) has been or is currently married; 3) is a parent, and/or 4) is entitled under law to give consent for himself/herself.

To request that your child not receive condoms through CAP, you must write a letter to me that includes:

- Full name of student
- Grade of student
- Student's identification number (Note: If you do not have this information, we will provide it for you)
- The following statement: " _____ (Full name of student) should not receive condoms through the Condom Availability Program."
- Your signature as parent, guardian, or custodian

If you change your mind and decide that your child can request free condoms, you can send me a letter at any time during the school year. CAP-trained staff members are committed to ensuring the confidentiality of all students, including those who do not participate in the program.

We encourage you to have conversations about sexual health and other health topics at home to best support your young adult in making positive health choices. Thank you for working together with us to help New York City students feel valued, healthy, and able to thrive.

Sincerely,

William C. Bassell
Principal