

Title IX Milestones

June 23, 1972

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 enacted by Congress and signed by President Richard Nixon. It states: “No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.”

July 21, 1975

The Department of Health, Education, and Welfare (predecessor of U.S. Department of Education) issues final regulations for Title IX compliance. In athletics, high schools and colleges are given three years to comply. Elementary schools are given one year.

March 31, 1979

Skokie’s Niles West High School girls’ basketball team, one of the first girls’ basketball teams in Illinois following the passing of Title IX, wins the state championship.

December 11, 1979

Department of Health, Education, and Welfare issues final policy interpretation for intercollegiate athletics, stating that institutions are required to provide equal opportunity to men and women in athletic programs. It also issues a test measuring three different areas (“three-part test”) to help assess Title IX compliance.

February 28, 1984

Grove City v. Bell ruling from Supreme Court states that Title IX compliance is only required for programs in educational institutions that receive direct federal funding, such as financial aid. This ruling largely restricts the ability to apply Title IX regulation to athletic programs.

March 22, 1988

Civil Rights Restoration Act enacted. It reverses the Supreme Court ruling in *Grove City v. Bell* by mandating that any educational institution receiving federal funding must comply with Title IX in all of its programs, regardless of whether or not the program directly receives funding.

March 1992

NCAA publishes its Gender Equity Report on its Division I institutions. The study finds there is a large discrepancy in funding and participation rates between men’s athletic programs and women’s.

October 20, 1994

Equity in Athletics Disclosure Act (EADA) enacted. It requires educational institutions receiving federal funding to report gender equity information, such as participation, staffing, and revenues and expenses, for its athletic programs annually, beginning October 1996.

March 13, 1997

“Sexual Harassment Guidance: Harassment of Students by School Employees, Other Students, or Third Parties” issued by the U.S. Department of Education’s Office for Civil Rights (OCR). This guidance extends Title IX protection to include sexual harassment as a form of prohibited sex discrimination.

October 26, 2010

OCR issues “Dear Colleague Letter” stating that sex discrimination includes harassment based on an individual’s sexual orientation, thereby extending Title IX protection to individuals in the queer community.

May 13, 2016

U.S. Department of Education and Department of Justice release guidance that sex discrimination includes discrimination based on an individual’s gender identity, thereby extending Title IX protection to individuals who are transgender.

2017–2020

Trump administration rescinds and/or changes many Title IX protections.

June 16, 2021

Following the Supreme Court ruling in *Bostock v. Clayton County* (which found discrimination based on a person’s sexual orientation or gender identity to be discrimination based a person’s sex), OCR issues policy interpretation stating that Title IX prohibition of sex discrimination includes discrimination based on sexual orientation and discrimination based on gender identity.