

Curriculum Reform Messaging Guide

This guide is designed to help you find an answer to questions from faculty, admin, and other students, and craft a strong argument about why curriculum reform to improve abortion and repro health education is necessary.

Not all of these will apply at your school. Pick what works for you. Don't forget the power of personal and patient stories. This guide focuses on abortion, but adding other reproductive health and justice content is just as essential.

Why should we improve/add reproductive health education at this school?

- To remain competitive in an international market, our school needs to offer cutting edge reproductive healthcare education
- “The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists supports education for students in health care fields as well as clinical training for residents and advanced practice clinicians in abortion care in order to increase the availability of trained abortion providers.” ([ACOG recommendations](#))
- The need for a comprehensive family planning curriculum- one that includes abortion education- is upheld by an American Medical Association policy, in which the organization “supports the education of medical students, residents and young physicians about the need for physicians who provide termination of pregnancy services, the medical and public health importance of access to safe termination of pregnancy, and the medical, ethical, legal and psychological principles associated with termination of pregnancy.” (Res. 315, I-94; Reaffirmed: CME Rep. 2, A-04; Modified: CME Rep. 2, A-14)
- Abortion is one of the most common surgical procedures in the US. Every doctor will encounter a patient who has had an abortion in the past or will receive one in the future
- Students at this school want it
 - Our survey data shows that students want it/ that students feel current abortion education is inadequate
 - X number of students show up to our events, demonstrating an interest in this training
 - These other student groups have signed onto our letter stating that we want this education
 - Personal/patient anecdotes
- In general abortion education is acceptable and valued by medical students ([source](#))
- Our community/state/country needs more trained abortion and repro healthcare providers
 - Go to [Guttmacher.org](#) to find stats and info about abortion care in your state/country
 - Share personal/patient anecdotes
- Even learners who don't plan to provide abortions can benefit from the training in counseling and procedural skills ([source](#))
- Abortion care is extremely similar to miscarriage care. Miscarriages are extremely common. Students should know how to care for a miscarriage

- If abortion is illegal or heavily restricted in your state or region: We have the right to free speech and providing information is not a crime. Additionally, students studying in one region may end up practicing in another (check your region's laws or ask a lawyer/law student). You can find additional information and safety guidelines in our [Safety Considerations Post-Roe Event Guide](#).