



Policy Title:	Sexual Health Education & Contraception Availability Policy
Policy Owner:	Vice Provost for Student and Campus Life
Effective Date:	September 1, 2023
Last Updated:	September 20, 2023
Scheduled Review:	July 1, 2024

I. POLICY STATEMENT

Seattle University is committed to promoting a healthy campus community and addressing public health concerns. This policy addresses the purchase and distribution of contraception (as defined below) at Seattle University and establishes guidelines for students and employees related to the use of University resources in the distribution of contraception products.

II. PURPOSE & VISION

Seattle University recognizes the need to provide medically accurate sexual health education to the campus community and to play a role in addressing the ongoing sexual health crisis including the spread of sexually transmitted infections (STIs). This policy defines the obligations and limitations of students and employees in the care of our community's sexual health.

III. APPLICABILITY/RESPONSIBILITY

This Policy applies to all Seattle University employees and student organizations, as those terms are defined below. It applies to acts or behaviors occurring on University property, in the context of a University program or activity, or when using University resources regardless of the location.

The ability to enforce this Policy is vested within the appropriate supervisory structures within the University. This Policy does not replace, supersede, nor circumvent the rights and limitations established through the tenets of academic freedom and other University policies.

IV. DEFINITIONS

Contraception Product: A physical or medical method of preventing pregnancy and the spread of STIs before, during, or after sexual activity, including physical barrier methods of contraception (internal and external condoms/diaphragms), hormonal methods (such as the birth control pill and emergency contraception/Plan B), chemical contraceptives (such as spermicide), or combination physical and hormonal methods of contraception (intrauterine devices (IUDs) and implants).

Employee: A person receiving wages from the University, including faculty members and student-employees. The definition of "employee" does not include persons employed as medical staff with an affiliated organization, entity, or extension of Seattle University, unless the employee has a supervisory role or position of authority over Students.

Student: A person who is registered for at least one course at Seattle University, studying abroad or engaged in service activities, or, although not officially enrolled for a particular term, has clearly manifested an intent to attend, remain in attendance, or return to the University. Examples include but are not limited to: individuals who are enrolled, but not taking classes because of an academic break, or medical or other personal leave; persons who demonstrate the intent to enroll by attending orientation or paying a tuition deposit; and/or students participating in other institutions' study abroad programs.

Student Organization: An association or group of two or more students with a specific purpose or



focus, whether the group has registered or been recognized by the Center for Student Involvement or is a certified student organization in the School of Law.

V. SEXUAL HEALTH EDUCATION

Consistent with the Catholic intellectual tradition, debate and discourse with divergent perspectives and opinions are fundamental to the search for meaning and truth. Employees and students of Seattle University may discuss sexual health in a manner consistent with their education and teaching and the scope and ethics of their professional roles, training, and academic disciplines. In individual discernment with students, employees of Seattle University may refer students to any resources appropriate for their care and support. Students and student groups may engage in education and training regarding sexual health consistent with existing University policies and other aspects of this Policy.

VI. PURCHASE AND DISTRIBUTION OF CONTRACEPTION & SAFER SEX BARRIERS

Concerning the purchase and distribution of contraception and safer sex barriers, the following provisions are in place:

1. University resources, including financial, facilities and equipment, real estate, and human resources, may not be used to purchase and/or distribute contraception products, even if the products are obtained by donation. This includes the use of funding allocated to student organizations.
2. University employees and student organizations are permitted to refer students to local and online resources where they can obtain low- and no-cost contraception products. However, these resources cannot be promoted on the University website, on posted flyers, signage, chalk, or other promotional materials, using University resources, or on official University social media channels, including social media channels created or maintained by student organizations. In connection with the University’s commitment to open discourse and the free exchange of ideas, University employees, students, and student organizations are always permitted to discuss contraception.
3. Individual students, acting of their own volition and using their own resources, are not subject to this policy.

VII. ROLE OF ON-CAMPUS MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS REGARDING SEXUAL HEALTH

Seattle University respects the personal decisions that individuals and their healthcare providers may make regarding safer sex barriers, birth control, and contraception products, and in no way prohibits their possession or use in the context of medical care.

VIII. RELATED INFORMATION

Item	Description
University Links	Student Health Center TimelyCare Wellness and Health Promotion Code of Student Conduct Sexual Misconduct Policy Sexual Harassment Policy