

# Abortion Rights in Washington State

You have the legal right to choose an abortion

You have the legal right to decide to have a child

No one can make this decision for you, even if you are under 18

## Abortion is legal in Washington State

If you need abortion services, the [Northwest Abortion Access Fund](#) and the [National Abortion Federation](#) maintain a full list of abortion providers in Washington State.

Of the clinics that the Washington State Department of Health funds, [Cedar River Clinics](#) and four [Planned Parenthoods](#) provide abortion services.

### Who can I trust to perform an abortion?

Doctors, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, or other providers acting within their scope of care and licensed in Washington are the only health care providers who may perform abortions in this state. If you want to know about your options, you can call the [reproductive health clinic](#) nearest you. These clinics will give you the information on all options to let you make the best decision for you. Please be aware that 'crisis pregnancy centers' may try to influence your decision on which options to choose.

### How do I pay for an abortion?

Washington state law requires most health insurance plans that cover pregnancy care (referred to as 'maternity care') to also cover abortions. We encourage you to discuss your situation with your abortion provider or clinic.

If you have a Providence Large Group Health Plan provided through a Washington state employer, the Department of Health will pay for your abortion services. See our [Increasing Access to Reproductive Choice](#) page to get this coverage. The Department of Health may be able to pay for your abortion if you are uninsured. Check with your abortion provider or clinic. Both [Apple Health Managed Care Plan](#) and [Apple Health for Pregnant Women](#) also cover abortion services, post-abortion care, and post-abortion family planning.

If you are not eligible for Apple Health (Medicaid) and you're unsure if you have coverage or you don't know how you can pay for abortion services, call the clinic you're interested in and let them know if you are unsure of how to pay or unsure of your insurance status. They can help you understand your coverage, the cost of service, and if help is available.

### How do I keep information about my abortion private?

In Washington, a state law gives you extra privacy protection for health care services, including abortion. You need to tell your insurance company how to communicate with you. Otherwise, they'll send your information to the person who is paying for your insurance.

To do this you can print, complete, sign, and send this [Confidentiality Request Form \(PDF\)](#) to your health insurance company. You can also call your insurance company to request confidentiality. See the [Office of the Insurance Commissioner](#) webpage for more information.



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