

MODULE #3



Abortion Law Summary Nebraska and Iowa

**NE: Abortion is not legal after 12 weeks*

**IA: Abortion is not legal after 6 weeks or a heartbeat*

Parental Consent

In NE, if you are under the age of 18, a parent or guardian must give you permission to have an abortion. If getting the permission of a parent or legal guardian is not an option for you, you can seek a judicial bypass.

In IA, if you are under the age of 18, a parent or guardian must be notified beforehand of your decision to get an abortion. If getting the permission of a parent or legal guardian is not an option for you, you can seek a judicial bypass.

** NE & IA, a young woman may also obtain a judicial bypass (permission from a judge) to have the abortion without notifying a parent. If she is a victim of rape, abuse, or incest. **

Informed Consent

State law directs that women must receive counseling on the facts of abortion and then wait 24 hours before the procedure can be provided. This information includes:

1. The probable gestational age of the unborn child
2. The medical risks associated with the procedure, including, when medically accurate, infection, hemorrhage, danger to subsequent pregnancies, and infertility
3. The medical risks associated with carrying the pregnancy to term
4. She cannot be forced or required by anyone to have an abortion and is free to withhold or withdraw her consent for an abortion.

In addition, at least 24 hours prior to an abortion the woman must receive state-mandated information that includes:

1. That medical assistance benefits may be available for prenatal care, childbirth, and neonatal care
2. That the father is liable for child support, even if he has offered to pay for an abortion
3. The name of the physician who will provide the abortion
4. That she has the right to review state-prepared materials that describe the unborn child and list agencies that offer alternatives to abortion.

Nebraska & Iowa prohibits public funding for abortion for women eligible for state medical assistance for general health care unless the physician obtains prior authorization, and the procedure is necessary to preserve the woman's life, or the pregnancy is the result of rape or incest.

References: [State by State Guides to Abortion | U.S. Abortion Laws by State \(abortionfinder.org\)](#)

[Parental Consent & Notification Laws | Teen Abortion Laws \(plannedparenthood.org\)](#)