

**RCW 28A.300.537 Adverse childhood experiences—Healthy youth**

**survey.** (1)(a) The health care authority, in collaboration with the office of the superintendent of public instruction, the department of health, and the liquor and cannabis board, must incorporate questions related to adverse childhood experiences into the healthy youth survey that are validated for children and would allow reporting of adverse childhood experiences during childhood to be included in frequency reports. The questions must be administered for two cycles of the healthy youth survey and then evaluated by the agencies for any needed changes.

(b) Student responses to the healthy youth survey are voluntary and must remain anonymous.

(c) The aggregated student responses to the adverse childhood experiences questions must be made publicly available and disaggregated by state, educational service district, and county.

(d) School districts and school buildings must be provided the aggregated student responses of their students.

(e) The student response data specified in (c) and (d) of this subsection must comply with state and federal privacy laws.

(2) School districts are encouraged to use the information about adverse childhood experiences in their decision making and to help improve services for students. [2020 c 251 s 2.]

**Intent—2020 c 251:** "(1) The legislature stated in RCW 70.305.005 that "adverse childhood experiences are a powerful common determinant of a child's ability to be successful at school and, as an adult, to be successful at work, to avoid behavioral and chronic physical health conditions, and to build healthy relationships."

(2) The legislature recognizes that the healthy youth survey is a voluntary and anonymous survey administered every two years to students in sixth, eighth, tenth, and twelfth grades.

(3) The legislature intends to include questions related to adverse childhood experiences in the healthy youth survey to help assess the prevalence of adverse childhood experiences throughout the state. The legislature further intends for these data to help inform school district and community decision making and improve services for students." [2020 c 251 s 1.]