



YOUR RIGHTS TO ABORTION CARE IN OHIO:

WHAT ARE MY RIGHTS TO ABORTION ACCESS IN OHIO?

- Currently, in Ohio, abortion is legal up to 21 weeks and 6 days LMP (last menstrual period).
- Patients can receive care on the day of their appointment without any state-mandated delays.
- The abortion pill (also known as medication abortion) is offered up to 12 weeks and 0 days LMP.
- Patients can be prescribed the abortion pill mifepristone via a telemedicine appointment.
- In addition to medical doctors, advanced practice clinicians – such as physician assistants, nurse practitioners, and certified nurse midwives - can prescribe mifepristone.

**The state of Ohio prohibits abortion performed in response to genetic anomaly (for example, a diagnosis of Down syndrome).*

IS THE “HEARTBEAT” BILL BLOCKED IN COURT?

Yes. As of October 2024, an Ohio court permanently struck down Senate Bill 23, a law that banned abortions after fetal cardiac motion is detected, at approximately six weeks.

WHERE CAN I OBTAIN ABORTION SERVICES?

There are currently six full-service clinics open in Ohio that provide both surgical and medication abortion. These clinics are Northeast Ohio Women’s Center (Akron), Planned Parenthood Bedford Health Center (Bedford Heights), Planned Parenthood of Southwest Ohio (Cincinnati), Preterm (Cleveland), Planned Parenthood East Health Center (Columbus), and Women’s Med Center of Dayton (Kettering).

There are also three additional clinics that provide medication abortion services: Your Choice Healthcare of Columbus, Northeast Ohio Women’s Center (Shaker Heights), and Toledo Women’s Center.

HOW CAN I OBTAIN FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR ABORTION CARE?

Abortion Fund of Ohio (AFO) is Ohio’s statewide abortion fund, they provide financial assistance and practical support (transportation/housing, etc..) to help patients afford contraception, emergency contraception, and abortion services. AFO distributes funds to clinics across Ohio. If you need help accessing abortion care, visit www.abortionfundofohio.org or call 614-300-7811.

RECENT HISTORY:

After *Roe v. Wade* was overturned by the U.S. Supreme Court in June 2022, Ohio abortion advocates, including the ACLU of Ohio, came together to put forth a statewide ballot measure to amend Ohio’s Constitution to add explicit protections for abortion care, so that our rights were never again at the whim of individual politicians or judges. This measure, “The Right to Reproductive Freedom with Protections for Health and Safety Amendment” enshrines the explicit and fundamental right to abortion in the Ohio Constitution, and forbids the state from burdening, prohibiting, penalizing, and interfering with access to abortion. The measure passed with 56% of the vote on November 7, 2023, and became law on December 7, 2023.

The ACLU of Ohio has been at the forefront of this issue, working through the legal system to dismantle other abortion restrictions that remain part of Ohio law.

In August 2024, an Ohio state court blocked a law that required patients to wait at least 24 hours after their first in-person appointment to have an abortion.

In September 2024, two additional restrictions were dismantled; one that blocked providers from prescribing mifepristone for abortion according to the best medical evidence, and another that prevented advanced practice clinicians – such as physicians assistants, nurse practitioners, and certified nurse midwives from providing medication abortion.

In October 2024, an Ohio state court permanently blocked the six-week ban from taking effect. This decision was the third historic application of Ohio’s new Reproductive Freedom Amendment.

The ACLU of Ohio will continue fighting to expand abortion access for all under the Reproductive Freedom Amendment.