

24 HOUR INFORMED CONSENT LAW

West Virginia has a 24 hour informed consent law pertaining to all women choosing to have an abortion.

ALL PATIENTS

West Virginia's 24 hour informed consent law requires that you are provided certain information at least 24 hours before an abortion is performed. At Kanawha Surgicenter we have taken measures to make this process a simple one for you. The state literature may be picked up at our center, faxed, or we can mail them to you or for your convenience click on the link below, print and bring along with you at the time of your scheduled appointment. By completing the form in the privacy of your home you will save considerable time and avoid making an extra trip. To open the attached PDF file, you must have Acrobat® Reader® installed to view the file.

ALL MINORS

Minors who are seeking to have an abortion in West Virginia have a choice of involving their parent(s) or guardian or seeking a waiver of parent or guardian notification. Minors who are married, graduated from high school, or legally emancipated are exempt from this process and may sign their own consents themselves.

A minor who wishes to tell her parent or guardian about the pregnancy may do one of the following:

1. Bring a parent or guardian with her to the clinic to with proper ID.
2. Have the parent or guardian sign a letter before a notary public stating that he or she waives the right to be notified about the abortion procedure and brings only the letter with her to the clinic.

A minor who does not wish to tell a parent or guardian may select one of the following options:

1. Obtain a waiver letter from a doctor not associated with Kanawha Surgicenter, indicating that the doctor finds the girl mature enough to make the abortion decision on her own, or that it would not be in the girl's best interest to notify her parent or guardian.
2. Obtain a waiver by a judge. Details on this option may be obtained by calling our office.

Our telephone counseling staff will discuss the documentation needed to prove eligibility for exemptions and provide instructions on the exact language needed in letters. Please call for more information on requirements for minors.