

How is **FASD** Recognized in the State of Alaska?

FASD stands for fetal alcohol spectrum disorders, a range of disabilities caused by prenatal alcohol exposure (PAE). As many as 1 in 20 children in the United States have an FASD. **To learn more, visit FASDUnited.org**



FASD is recognized by the State Department of Health.

Information is available on the Alaska Department of Health website: <https://health.alaska.gov/osmap/Pages/fasd.aspx>



The state does not include FASD in its definition of Developmental Disability.

Alaska Stat. § [47.80.900](#)



People with FASD may qualify for waiver services through the State.

Although FASD is not a named condition, a person with FASD may still qualify. There is no IQ cut off for waiver services, and individuals have to be diagnosed prior to age 22.



FASD is recognized by the state for Special Education services.

FASD is listed as a named condition under OHI, or Other Health Impairment.



The state tracks rates of alcohol-exposed pregnancies.

Questions about prenatal alcohol use are asked in the state's PRAMS survey.

How Are Alcohol-Free Pregnancies Supported in the State of Alaska?



The state requires a warning sign for alcohol sales.

Warning signs about the risks associated with prenatal alcohol exposure are required for both onsite and offsite alcohol sales.

Alaska Stat. § 04.21.065, Alaska Stat. § 04.21.080



18% of people binge drink.

Binge drinking is especially risky, whether or not someone is pregnant. Reducing alcohol use can improve health outcomes.



48% of pregnancies are unintended.

Prenatal alcohol exposure can happen before pregnancy is confirmed. When pregnancy is unintended, this may take at least 4-6 weeks, and many people continue drinking during this time.



13.5% of pregnancies in the United States are exposed to alcohol.

Effects are lifelong and can include mental health conditions, learning disabilities, sensory issues, and physical manifestations such as heart defects, hearing and visual impairments, and more.

Sources:

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- Gosdin LK, Deputy NP, Kim SY, Dang EP, Denny CH. Alcohol Consumption and Binge Drinking During Pregnancy Among Adults Aged 18–49 Years — United States, 2018–2020. *MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep* 2022;71:10–13.
- Alcohol Policy Information System. (2023) Warning Signs: Drinking During Pregnancy. <https://alcoholpolicy.niaaa.nih.gov/apis-policy-topics/warning-signs-drinking-during-pregnancy/24>
- Centers for Disease Control. Alcohol and public health: Alaska. <https://www.cdc.gov/alcohol/fact-sheets/states/excessive-alcohol-use-united-states.html#AK>
- Guttmacher Institute. State facts about unintended pregnancy: Alaska. https://www.guttmacher.org/sites/default/files/factsheet/ak_8_0.pdf

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Local Resource on FASD:



Alaska Center for
Fetal
Alcohol
Spectrum
Disorders