



Consent by Minors to Medical Treatment

Under Illinois law, a minor is generally a person who has not attained the age of 18 years.¹ In general, a minor cannot consent to medical treatment, and a parent, guardian, or person *in loco parentis* must consent to the treatment of a minor. However, there are statutes that permit a minor to consent that depend upon either the minor's legal status or the medical condition or treatment sought by the minor. This is an abridged summary. Please see the [Consent by Minors to Medical Treatment article](#) for important details.

Legal Status	Medical Condition or Treatment
<div>Minors may consent to any medical treatment if</div> <div>↓</div> <div>Married</div> <div>↓</div> <div>Emancipated</div> <div>↓</div> <div>a Parent</div> <div>↓</div> <div>Pregnant</div>	<div>17+ years of age may consent<ul style="list-style-type: none">•To outpatient counseling or psychotherapy.•To donate blood without written permission or authorization from a parent or guardian.</div> <div>16+ years of age may consent<ul style="list-style-type: none">•To voluntary inpatient admission to a mental health facility, but a parent or guardian must be notified.•To donate blood with written permission or authorization from a parent or guardian.</div> <div>14+ years of age may consent<ul style="list-style-type: none">•To primary care under certain circumstances if living separate from his/her parents or legal guardian, unable or unwilling to return to parent's residence, and managing his/her own personal affairs.</div> <div>12+ years of age may consent<ul style="list-style-type: none">•To healthcare services or counseling related to prevention, diagnosis, or treatment of STD or drug and alcohol abuse.•To outpatient counseling or psychotherapy; until age 17, limited to eight, 90 minute sessions unless subject to an exception.•To STD and HIV testing, including anonymous HIV testing.•May object to involuntary inpatient admission to a mental health facility and the minor must be discharged.</div> <div>No minimum age or legal status provided<ul style="list-style-type: none">•To sexual assault or abuse diagnosis, treatment, and counseling, including emergency hospital services, forensic services, and follow up treatment.•To birth control services if failure to provide creates a serious health hazard, if referred by certain individuals/entity, or with parental/guardian consent.</div>

¹ Probate Act of 1975, 755 ILCS 5/11-1.