

TOBACCO USE PROHIBITED REGULATION

Introduction

- Oklahoma City Public School District understands the concern of parents, educators, students, and community members regarding the adverse effects of tobacco and secondhand smoke. We want to provide a safe and healthy environment for our students, staff, and community and set the proper example for our students.
- This policy is intended to improve the health and safety of all individuals using the schools.

Definitions

For the purposes of this policy, the following definitions apply:

School property is defined as all property owned, leased, rented, managed, or otherwise controlled by the school district including vehicles and any outdoor property, such as sporting facilities and parking lots.

Tobacco Product is defined as a product that contains or is derived from tobacco and is intended for human consumption, excluding drugs or devices approved for cessation by the United States Food and Drug Administration. This includes e-cigarettes / vaping devices with or without nicotine.

Staff includes, but is not limited to, full-time, part-time, and contract employees.

24/7 Tobacco-free Campus is defined as a campus where tobacco use is prohibited anywhere, at any time, and by any person. This extends to school vehicles and school-sponsored or school-sanctioned events, including those held off-campus.

Prohibitions

- Tobacco Product use is prohibited anywhere on School Property, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, by any person. This policy extends to personal vehicles while such vehicles are on School Property, school vehicles, and school-sponsored or school-sanctioned events, including those held off-campus.
- This policy applies to employees of the school district, students, visitors, and any other person present on School Property. This policy also applies to all public school functions (sporting events, concerts, etc.) and any outside agency using the district's facilities, including stadiums. This policy is in effect 24 hours per day, seven days per week.
- The District will not accept donations of gifts, money, or materials from the tobacco industry. This district will not participate in any type of services, events, or programs that are funded by the tobacco industry.
- Students are prohibited from possessing Tobacco Products on School Property and at any off-site, school-sponsored meeting or event, including, but not limited to, field trips and athletic events.
- Ash receptacles, such as ash trays or ash cans, are not permitted on School Property.

Implementation and Enforcement

- Signs will be posted in prominent places on school property to notify employees, students, visitors, and any other person present that smoking or other use of Tobacco Products is prohibited. The policy will be presented yearly in student and staff handbooks.
- The success of this policy will depend upon the thoughtfulness, consideration, and cooperation of tobacco users and nonusers. All individuals on school premises share in the responsibility for adhering to and enforcing this policy. All students will receive instruction on avoiding tobacco use. Ultimately, each site administrator will take appropriate steps to enforce the policy.

- Employees are warned that violation of this policy may lead to dismissal action. Staff members who violate this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with the employee bargaining agreements. Information about the Oklahoma Tobacco Helpline will be provided to staff members in violation of this policy in order to provide a resource for tobacco cessation.
- Visitors who violate this policy shall be subject to a verbal request to the individual to stop. If the visitor refuses to stop, the individual will be requested to leave the school premises. If the individual refuses to leave, the individual will be referred to local authorities.
- Students violating this policy will be disciplined. The school administrator will confiscate the prohibited Tobacco Product. For a first violation, the student's parents will be contacted. For a second violation, the student will be subject to disciplinary action to include, but not be limited to, community service and tobacco education programs.
- Violation of the tobacco law may be referred to ABLE Commission.

Tobacco Cessation Support

- The District will refer employees, parents/guardians, family members, and students (13 and older) interested in quitting tobacco use to the Oklahoma Tobacco Helpline and other cessation resources, if available.
- The District will promote the Oklahoma Tobacco Helpline (1-800-QUIT-NOW or OKHelpline.com) to ensure awareness of the statewide services that are available.
- The District will communicate and promote the available tobacco cessation benefits and insurance coverage for employees to all prospective employees, new employees at the time of hire, and all existing employees on an annual basis.

**REFERENCE: 21 O.S. §1247
63 O.S. §1-1522, et seq.
20 U.S.C. §6083
Board Minutes dated April 5, 2004**

OSSBA Policy CKDA