

A red apple is positioned at the top center of the page, partially overlapping a white rectangular frame. Below the apple, the text 'ARKANSAS NICOTINE-FREE SCHOOLS' is written in a white, spaced-out, sans-serif font. The background features a blue folder, a black pen, and a yellow pencil, all slightly out of focus.

ARKANSAS
NICOTINE-FREE
SCHOOLS

TOOLKIT

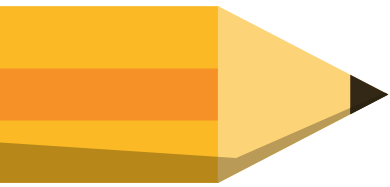
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Introduction

What is a Tobacco-Free and Nicotine-Free School?

A comprehensive nicotine-free policy prohibits all types of tobacco products including e-cigarettes. This policy would ideally apply to all students, staff, and visitors on all school owned and operated grounds. This would include school vehicles and all school-sponsored events. This policy must be enforced at all times to be considered effective.

In Arkansas, all public schools and public charter schools are already protected by Ark. Code Ann. §§ 26-57-254(b), which prohibits the use of all tobacco products on all school owned and operated grounds and property. This includes e-cigarettes, e-liquids, and alternative nicotine products.

According to the law, a person who violates this law can be fined an amount no less than \$10.00 and no more than \$100. This fine can be imposed by local law enforcement if they deem it necessary. While this is written into the law, CDC recommends a best-practice based approach, which will be outlined further in this toolkit. This fine may be best reserved for those who are found guilty of distributing, selling, and repeatedly using these products on school grounds.

In addition to the Arkansas law mentioned above, schools should be sure to educate staff, students, and visitors of the law prohibiting the use of all tobacco products. It is encouraged that schools provide additional prevention reminders in their student's daily lives. Please see APPENDIX A and G for more information.



**IN ARKANSAS,
IF YOUR
EDUCATIONAL
FACILITY
RECEIVES ANY
TYPE OF STATE
FUNDING, YOU ARE
REQUIRED TO
FOLLOW THIS LAW,
WHICH PROTECTS
STUDENTS, STAFF,
AND VISITORS
FROM TOBACCO
AND NICOTINE
PRODUCTS.**

Create a Nicotine-Free School!

This Arkansas Nicotine-Free Schools Toolkit is a guide to support your school's efforts to become tobacco and nicotine-free. This toolkit contains information about Arkansas state laws, resources to promote a nicotine-free environment, and examples of what can be done by all individuals to assist in this effort.





Using this Toolkit

This toolkit will assist you in the education of students, staff, visitors, and parents alike, providing one clear message to every person involved with your school.

This toolkit contains:

- A Scorecard to evaluate your current prevention and education methods.
- A review of the current laws and policies that protect your schools.
- Awareness tools & nicotine-free signage ideas.
- Resources to educate youth and prevent youth initiation.
- Resources for staff and parents to learn how they can be proactive.
- Information about starting a Project Prevent Chapter.



Where do You Begin?

You may be asking yourself, “What is the best way to protect my students from nicotine?” We have assembled this toolkit to help you plan, implement, and monitor nicotine use on your campus.

STEP 1

Know what laws/policies are currently in place for your school.

- Ensure you have comprehensive coverage of your school.
- If you are covered by the Arkansas law, you can review that in Appendix B.
- If you are NOT covered by the Arkansas law, ask for a copy of the nicotine policy from school administration.

If you are a private school or do not already have a policy in place, please see APPENDIX E for more information about implementing one.

STEP 2

Educate those MOST affected by this law/policy.

- Educating about the policy is as important as the policy itself.
- Placing nicotine-free signage, notifications, and messaging will encourage individuals to avoid nicotine use while on the campus.

There are numerous ways to communicate the nicotine-free law/policy. A great example of this education is repeating announcements at school-funded events such as football or homecoming events or during morning announcements. See more ideas on APPENDIX A.



STEP 3

Enforce the law/policy for ALL who break it.

- Enforcing a policy is following through on the actions outlined by it.
- Policy enforcement should be consistent across your campus.

Always follow the same steps every time an individual is in violation of the law/policy. This will make students more likely to follow the rules.



For example, student athletes often use these products without correct punishment. Coaches may not want to lose a valued player before a big game, but when one set of students are not made to follow the rules, it makes enforcement more difficult for all students.



Effectiveness of Comprehensive Nicotine-Free School Policies

According to the Surgeon General's 2001 Report "Reducing Tobacco Use," evidence shows that comprehensive school-based programs that include tobacco free policies, combined with community and mass-media efforts, can effectively prevent or postpone the onset of smoking by 20 to 40 percent among U.S. teens. This means that a coordinated effort to educate, prevent, and enforce these policies will be the most effective method to prevent youth use of nicotine products.

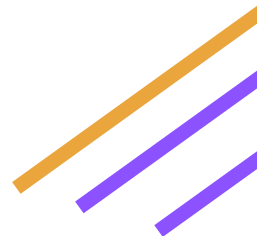


833-283-WELL

The Arkansas Department of Health's Tobacco Prevention and Cessation Program offers many resources to schools.

Services include:


- Free cessation counseling with Be Well Arkansas by calling 833-283-WELL.
 - Must be 13 years or older to call.
- Educational presentations and Speakers.
- Nicotine-free signage designs.
- Assistance with school based policies and procedures.




Information about Youth E-Cigarette Use

Nationally, more than 3.6 million middle and high school students are current users of e-cigarettes. In 2011, 1.5% of high school students showed current use of e-cigarettes; in 2018, that number increased to 20.8%. Between 2017 and 2018, current e-cigarette use by high school students increased by 78% nationally, from 11.7% to 20.8%. These numbers will continue to rise unless a coordinated approach is taken against this issue.

27.5% of High school students vape
NYTS, 2019



5 Million middle and high school students are current e-cigarette users
NYTS, 2019



1 in 4 High school students reported purchasing e-cigs directly from stores



2019

NATIONAL YOUTH TOBACCO SURVEY

SHOWS

YOUTH e-cigarette use at ALARMING LEVELS

OVER 5 Million youth are currently using e-cigarettes



NEARLY 1 Million used the product daily



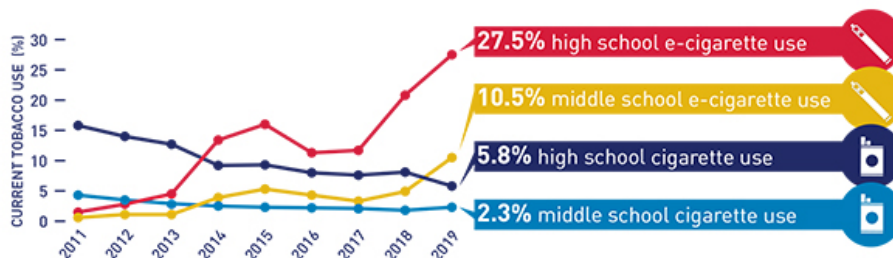
ABOUT 1.6 MILLION youth used the product frequently (on 20 or more days per month)

MAJORITY of the current e-cigarette users reported



as their usual brand

Current e-cigarette use has **INCREASED DRAMATICALLY**, while current cigarette use has dropped, **UNDERMINING PROGRESS** toward reducing overall tobacco use





NICOTINE REPORT CARD

This Report Card can be utilized to determine areas for improvement in your school's policy, education, and coordinated approach to youth nicotine use. If you answer no to any of the question below, please read about each one and how to correct your current policy.



Does a nicotine-free policy cover your campus?

- ✓ If you are covered by the Arkansas law or a policy that covers all nicotine products on and in all areas of school property, then your school gets an A+!
- ✗ If you are a private school that does not have a strong comprehensive policy, please consider adopting one of the policies provided to strengthen your policy! (See APPENDIX E) These policies assist in setting the standard for what is expected of your students, staff, and visitors. Once a policy has been accepted, a letter should be sent to each household informing them of the changes and encouraging them to talk with their children about the policy. The school staff should also speak to students often about the new policy and what this means for them.

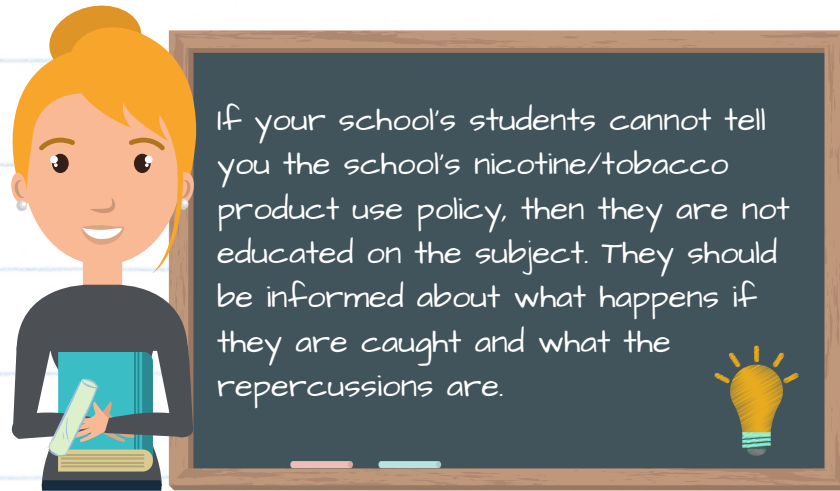
Does your campus have nicotine-free signage posted?

- ✓ If your school has posted signage at all entrances, all roadways, areas where visitors should be notified, sports and event stadiums, gymnasiums, and locker/bathrooms then your school gets an A+!
- ✗ If you do not have signage posted then you may be experiencing people using nicotine products when they are not supposed to be. It might be that the individuals are unaware of the policy and are not intentionally ignoring it. Signage should be placed at all entrances to the campus, all entrances to the building, and in any area where the school feels a problem may be persistent. Often, students use the restroom as a place to use e-cigarettes and other nicotine products. Placing a sign in restrooms may also discourage use in these areas. Signage should also be placed in all event areas where students and visitors may be. Proper signage will clear up any confusion about the nicotine policy for parents and visitors. (See APPENDIX D)



Does your campus promote the nicotine-free law/policy?

- ✓ If you promote this law/policy in all of your resources such as job descriptions, school websites, code of conduct, campus tours, PTA meetings, staff/student handbooks, etc., then your school gets an A+!
- ✗ If your school is not promoting the policy then you may see students, staff, and visitors use products in areas where they are not supposed to. Football games are often an event where we see parents, students, and sometimes staff using nicotine products because they are either uninformed or disregarding the law/policy. For a complete list of places to promote this policy/law, please see APPENDIX A.



Does your campus refer students who are caught using these products to certified cessation services?

- ✓ If your school refers ALL students who are caught using nicotine products to a mental health professional, addiction specialist, tobacco treatment specialist (see Appendix C), or the Arkansas Be Well Cessation Service to assist them in quitting, then your school gets an A+!
- ✗ Nicotine is a very addictive chemical, and youth are more susceptible to its effects and addictive qualities than their adult counterparts are. Referring students to cessation services is the best way to ensure they are appropriately helped. The Arkansas Department of Health Tobacco Prevention and Cessation Program offers free Tobacco Treatment Specialist training to school faculty and staff. Individuals who attend will gain the knowledge and ability to properly assist youth in their cessation efforts. If your school is interested in this training, please email adh.tpcp@arkansas.gov for more information.

Alternatively, a school faculty or staff member can direct the student(s) who are using nicotine to call Be Well Arkansas at 833-283-WELL.

(continued)

Be Well offers a four-session counseling service for individuals 13 years old and up. They provide free counseling and resources to Arkansans who would like to quit nicotine. They will only provide nicotine replacement therapy (NRT) for individuals who are at least 18 years old. Students who call can request a registration letter and a letter of completion can be sent to the student after the counseling sessions have been completed. This will aid in tracking those students who complete this program if required by the school.

Important Information:

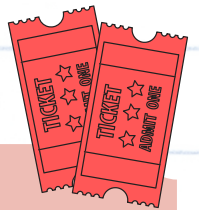
- Students who call can remain confidential.
- Faculty will NOT be able to call to determine the status of a student.
 - This is due to HIPAA protections.
- If the student would like to request cessation materials they can be sent to the school's address for them to confidentially collect and read.

Does your school make announcements at school-funded events?

- ✓ If your school makes frequent and recurring nicotine free announcements at all school funded events with signage displayed at all entrances and individuals to enforce the announcements, then your school gets an A+!
- ✗ If your school has parents, visitors, and sometimes students who use nicotine products at school funded events, then it may not be clear this is not allowed. Making frequent and recurring nicotine-free announcements at school football games is becoming more and more common in our state and around the country. This encourages individuals attending these games and events to refrain from utilizing their nicotine products. Announcements should be vocalized in a clear and common voice to all individuals in the area. In most cases it is recommended that chaperones, event coordinators, and school staff/faculty enforce this policy or law by approaching people who are in violation to remind them of the policy or law.

Example event announcement:

For the safety of our students, [school] is proud to have a 100 percent tobacco-free and vape-free school policy. At this time, we would like to remind everyone that the use of tobacco products or electronic cigarettes during tonight's sporting event is strictly prohibited. We appreciate your support and would like to thank you for keeping our school and stadium nicotine-free. Enjoy the game!

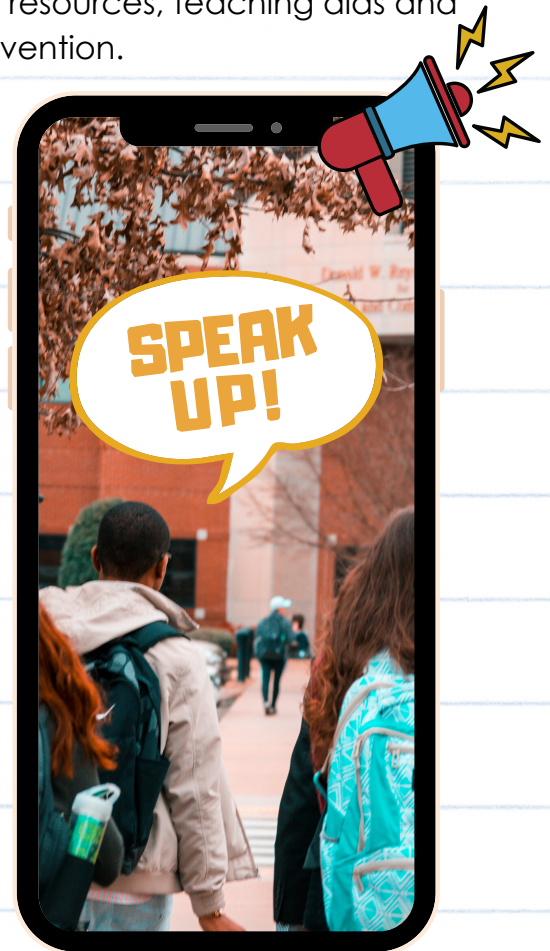


Does your school have a Project Prevent Chapter?

- ✓ If your school has a Project Prevent Chapter and all students, faculty, and staff know about their mission, then your school gets an A+!
- ✗ If your school does not have a Project Prevent Chapter it is recommended that you create one to encourage youth participation, leadership, and peer-to-peer education. Project Prevent is the statewide youth tobacco prevention program, encompassing middle school, junior high, and high school students. Its membership includes students in local chapters across the state.

Project Prevent offers several projects and activities to engage students throughout the year, including a statewide youth conference. The activities address one of three focus areas: prevention, education, and leadership. While most of the chapters involved with Project Prevent focus primarily on tobacco and nicotine, several address other health issues as well. There is no cost to form a Project Prevent chapter, and some may receive resources, teaching aids and even funding to further their efforts in tobacco prevention.

Contact Laura Taylor to join Project Prevent and get your students the education they need to become champions against tobacco and nicotine! Call her at 501-364-3883 or email her at TaylorLB@archildrens.org today!





Responding to FAQs



What law covers Arkansas schools from nicotine products?

The law is Ark. Code Ann. §§ 26-57-254(b). It covers all tobacco and nicotine products on state-funded campuses throughout the entire state of Arkansas. This law was put in place to protect students, staff, and visitors from the harmful effects of secondhand smoke, as well as to decrease the number of youth who start using these products. (see APPENDIX B)



How do we get people to comply with this law or policy?

The best way to ensure people follow a law or policy is to educate about the law and the repercussions of not following the law or policy. Enforce the policy EVERY SINGLE TIME there is a violation. Making “exceptions” to the policy for certain people or not following through may enable individuals to disregard the policy.



Why are staff and visitors included in this policy or law?

The law, and most policies, state that no one is allowed to use nicotine products on state-funded campuses. Staff are included because youth who do not see the use of tobacco and nicotine in their environment are less likely to think the behavior is normal and acceptable. This will result in a decrease of youth initiation of tobacco and nicotine products.



Why do off-campus events have to be covered?

If your school is covered by the state law, off-site locations are required to be nicotine-free areas for everyone. A fine of \$10 to \$100 can be given by local law enforcement to anyone who violates this law. Individuals who violate this law can be asked to leave the premises, and a call to the local police can be made to report their violation. For a fine to be given, evidence of the violation must be presented to the officer or the officer must have seen the violation occur.



Off-site events are included because youth who see the use of tobacco and nicotine in their environment are more likely to think the behavior is normal and acceptable. This could result in an increase of youth initiation of tobacco and nicotine products leading to addiction.





Timeline for Adopting a New Policy Or Strengthening a Current One

If you are looking to adopt your first nicotine-free policy or create a new one altogether, there are some simple steps below to do just that. Implementing a policy can be a lengthy process, but do not be discouraged from protecting your school from nicotine.



STEP

A

EVALUATE

- Determine if your school has a tobacco/nicotine policy. If it does not, refer to examples. (See APPENDIX E or APPENDIX F)
- If your school DOES have a policy, evaluate its strength by checking out the report card in this guide.
- Once you have determined your necessary course of action, use the model policies in this guide to create the ideal policy for your school.



STEP

B

CHAMPION

- Present your findings and model policy ideas to your school's administration.
 - Work with administrators to insure what language will be most beneficial for your school.
- Make an initial presentation to your school board to make them aware of the deficits in your current policy.
 - This will probably be the first of several presentations you make to your school board in order to have the policy approved.
- Determine the exact steps to get this policy on the agenda for approval from the school board.



STEP

C

GATHER SUPPORT

- Present your suggested policy at PTA/PTO meetings. Other groups that have parental involvement such as band boosters and athletic booster clubs can also be a great source of support.
- Encourage them to attend upcoming school board meetings where your policy is on the agenda.



CONCLUDING PRESENTATION

STEP

D

- Present your finished policy to the school board. Provide the board with evidence from the CDC and other evidence-based programming to promote the passage of this policy.
 - You may take the policy included in this toolkit as an example to utilize.
- If possible, have concerned parents speak on behalf of this policy or have your Project Prevent team present reasons they feel the school needs this policy included.



NOTIFY

STEP

E

- If your policy passes, send a letter to parents with a copy of the policy. Educate all students and staff on the policy.
 - When notifying individuals, highlight the enforcement and action that will be taken if this policy is violated.
- Let the Tobacco Prevention and Cessation Program know by emailing them at adh.tpcp@arkansas.gov and include a scanned copy of your new approved policy.



About the Policy Timeline

The steps above are recommendations from the Tobacco Prevention and Cessation Program. We understand that each school, school board, and school district implements policies in different ways. These steps can be modified to fit your school's needs.

Schools that are already covered by the Arkansas State Law will utilize the policy provided in APPENDIX F to strengthen the already strong State Law. Schools that are not covered by the State Law will utilize the policy provided in APPENDIX E to implement a new policy into their school.

If you require further assistance implementing a policy in your school, you may email adh.tpcp@arkansas.gov or reach out to another school that has successfully implemented a policy for assistance.



PLACES TO PROMOTE THE POLICY AND LAW!

The following places are key areas to include the nicotine-free policy and cessation services:

- Job descriptions
- Employment applications
- Admissions website
- Student orientation
- Student handbook
- Staff handbooks
- Code of conduct
- Campus tours
- New staff orientation
- Contracts/agreements with vendors
- Computer login screens
- Libraries
- Report cards (to be signed)
- On event tickets
- Parent/teacher night/open house
- Student newspaper
- Visitor info packets

The following places are key areas to place signage and reminders about the law or policies:

- School restrooms
- Entrances to building
- Entrances to parking lots/gyms
- Entrances to events
- Pop-up signage at off-campus events
- Entrances to all locker rooms
- School buses
- Beside sign-in sheets for visitors
- In areas where nicotine use is problematic



Arkansas Code Title 26. Taxation § 26-57-254. Safety inspections on permitted products--Restrictions on use of e-liquid products and alternative nicotine products

(a) In order to assure that the citizens of this state receive only tobacco products, vapor products, alternative nicotine products, or e-liquid products that are fresh and not contaminated, and to ensure the safety of Arkansas youth, the Director of Arkansas Tobacco Control is authorized under this subchapter to:

(1) Inspect or cause to be inspected any tobacco product, vapor product, alternative nicotine product, or e-liquid container in places of storage or distribution authorized under this subchapter; and

(2) Require any tobacco products, vapor products, alternative nicotine products, or e-liquid containers found to be contaminated, damaged, or not fresh be removed from stock and be either returned to the proper wholesaler or manufacturer for disposal according to law or delivered to the Director of Arkansas Tobacco Control for destruction or disposal.

(b)(1) It is a violation for any person to use a tobacco product, vapor product, alternative nicotine product, or e-liquid product in or on the grounds of any school, child care facility, or healthcare facility.

(2) As used in this subdivision:

(A) "Child care facility" means the same as provided in § 20-78-202(2) ;

(B) "Healthcare facility" means the same as provided in § 20-27-1803(6) ; and

(C) "School" means:

(i) Any buildings, parking lots, playing fields, playgrounds, school buses, or other school vehicles; or

(ii) Any off-campus school-sponsored or school-sanctioned events with respect to any public, charter, or private school where children attend classes in kindergarten programs or grades one through twelve (1 -- 12).

(c) On and after July 22, 2015, all alternative nicotine products and e-liquid containers containing nicotine sold at retail in this state shall satisfy the child-resistant packaging effectiveness standards described in § 26-57-203 when tested in accordance with the method described by 16 C.F.R. § 1700.20 , as it existed on January 1, 2015.

(d) As used in this section, "e-liquid container" means a bottle or other container of e-liquid that is sold or provided for mixing at retail and is marketed or intended for use in a vapor product, but does not include e-liquid contained in a cartridge that is sold, marketed, or intended for use in a vapor product if the cartridge is prefilled and sealed by the manufacturer and is not intended to be opened by the consumer.

Arkansas Code Title 6. Education § 6-21-609. Prohibition against smoking, the use of tobacco or tobacco products, or the use of e-cigarettes

(a) As used in this section, "e-cigarette" means an electronic oral device that provides a vapor of nicotine or another substance that, when used or inhaled simulates smoking, including without limitation a device that:

(1) Is composed of a heating element, battery, or electronic circuit, or a combination of heating element, battery, and electronic circuit;

(2) Works in combination with a liquid nicotine delivery device composed either in whole or in part of pure nicotine and propylene glycol and manufactured for use with e-cigarettes; and

(3) Is manufactured, distributed, marketed, or sold as an e-cigarette, e-cigar, e-pipe, or under any other name or descriptor.

(b) Smoking tobacco, the use of tobacco or tobacco products, or the use of e-cigarettes is prohibited:

(1) In or on real property owned or leased by a public school district, including a public charter school; or

(2) In or on personal property, including without limitation school buses, owned or leased by a public school district, including a public charter school.

(c) A copy of this statute shall be posted in a conspicuous location at every entrance to each building owned or leased by a public school district and every school bus used to transport public school students.

(d) A person who violates this section commits a violation punishable by a fine of not less than ten dollars (\$10.00) nor more than one hundred dollars (\$100).

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT
PUBLICHEALTHLAWCENTER.ORG/RESOURCES/US-E-CIGARETTE-REGULATIONS-50-STATE-REVIEW/AR



WHAT IS TOBACCO TREATMENT SPECIALIST (T.T.S.) TRAINING?

The Tobacco Treatment Specialist (T.T.S.) training program is a nationally accredited course by the Council of Tobacco Treatment Training Programs. Participants in this program will be certified to treat tobacco dependence if they successfully complete the full program and pass a certification exam.

The program exceeds the required 24 hours of core competency training and all of the documented competencies including:

- Counseling skills
- Motivational interviewing
- Treatment planning
- Pharmacotherapy
- Relapse prevention

MD Anderson is one of 21 sites accredited by the Council for Tobacco Treatment Training Programs (CTTP) to provide a four-day class for individuals interested in seeking Tobacco Treatment Specialist (TTS) Training and Certification (CTTS). The program offers the highest quality of tobacco treatment training based on the most up-to-date evidence-based tobacco cessation research and treatment strategies.

We welcome participants from all health care disciplines and cultures. Our goal is to train interdisciplinary health care providers and public health professionals to become tobacco cessation champions for their organizations and communities.

For more information, contact:

Cessation Section

Be Well Arkansas | Tobacco Prevention and Cessation Program

adh.tpcp@arkansas.gov | 501-280-4688





PLEASE DON'T SMOKE OR VAPE IN THIS AREA



DO NOT USE NICOTINE PRODUCTS ON THIS CAMPUS



NICOTINE-FREE POLICY

The [SCHOOL NAME] School Board recognizes that the use of nicotine products is a health, safety, and environmental hazard for students, employees, visitors, and school facilities. The Board believes that the use of nicotine products on school grounds, in school buildings and facilities, on school property or at school-related or school-sponsored events is detrimental to the health and safety of students, staff and visitors.

The Board acknowledges that adult employees and visitors serve as role models for students. The Board recognizes that it has an obligation to promote positive role models in schools and to promote a healthy learning and working environment, free from unwanted nicotine use for the students, employees, and visitors on the school campus and owned property.

Nicotine Use Prohibited

No student, staff member, or school visitor is permitted to use any nicotine product at any time, including:

- in any building, facility, or vehicle owned, leased, rented or chartered by [SCHOOL NAME]; or
- on any school grounds and property – including athletic fields and parking lots – owned, leased, rented or chartered by [SCHOOL NAME]; or
- at any school-sponsored or school-related event on-campus or off-campus.

In addition, school district employees, school volunteers, contractors or other persons performing services on behalf of [SCHOOL NAME] are also prohibited from using nicotine products at any time while on duty and in the presence of students, either on or off school grounds. Further, no student shall be permitted to possess a nicotine product or part of a nicotine product or device while in any school building; while on school grounds or property; or at any school-sponsored or school-related event, or at any other time that students are under the authority of school personnel. Nicotine products may be included in instructional or research activities in public school buildings, if the activity is conducted or supervised by the faculty member overseeing the instruction or research project, and the activity does not include smoking, chewing, or otherwise ingesting or inhaling the nicotine product.

Definitions for the purposes of this policy, the following definitions have the following meanings:

1) “Nicotine Product” means:

- (a) Any product containing, made, or derived from tobacco or nicotine that is intended for human consumption, whether smoked, heated, chewed, absorbed, dissolved, inhaled, snorted, sniffed, or ingested by any other means, including, but not limited to cigarettes, cigars, little cigars, chewing tobacco, pipe tobacco, snuff;
- (b) Any electronic nicotine device that delivers nicotine or other substances to the person inhaling from the device, including, but not limited to an electronic cigarette, cigar, pipe, or hookah;
- (c) “Nicotine product” includes any component, part, or accessory of a nicotine product.

2) “Nicotine use” means smoking, chewing, dipping, or any other use of tobacco products, including electronic nicotine delivery systems.



Signage

Signs will be posted in a manner and location that adequately notifies students, staff, and visitors about the 100 percent nicotine-free schools policy. These signs will be posted at all entrances to the grounds as well as all entrances to the building. In some cases, signs will be placed in high use areas such as, bathrooms where it is typical for students to use nicotine products.

Enforcement for Students Using Nicotine Products

First Offense:

- Students who violate the school's nicotine use policy will be referred to a Tobacco Treatment Specialist, or the free Be Well Arkansas Cessation Service for the first offense to this policy.
 - Students must be 13 years or older to call Be Well AR.
 - Be Well AR is open Monday – Friday from 8:00am to 4:00pm.
- Students, if applicable, will provide an official letter of registration and a letter of completion to the Be Well Arkansas Cessation Service (1-833-283-9355).
- Parents/guardians will be notified of this violation as well as further actions taken by the school.

Reoccurring Offense:

- Parents will be called to the school for a meeting with school administration to educate parents of the policy/law.
- Students will be given two days of in-school suspension where they will be required to research and write a paper on the dangers of the product they were caught using.
- Students may be required to re-enroll in Be Well Arkansas after a period of 6 months from the first start date.
- Students will be required to complete MD Anderson's ASPIRE course online and give the certification to school administration.

Enforcement for Students Selling or Distributing Nicotine Products

Every Offense:

- Students who violate the school's nicotine use policy will be referred to a Tobacco Treatment Specialist, or the free Be Well Arkansas Cessation Service for the first offense to this policy.
 - Students must be 13 years or older to call Be Well AR.
 - Be Well AR is open Monday – Friday from 8:00am to 4:00pm.
- Parents will be called into the school for a meeting with school administration to educate about the law/policy.
- The students will be suspended for three days minimum per violation.
- Students will be required to complete MD Anderson's ASPIRE course online and give the certification to school administration.



Enforcement for Staff and Visitors

Consequences for employees who violate the tobacco use policy will be in accordance with personnel policies and may include verbal warning, written reprimand, or termination. Visitors using tobacco products will be asked to refrain while on school property or leave the premises. Law enforcement officers may be contacted to escort the person off the premises or cite the person for trespassing if the person refuses to leave the school property. Forfeiture of any fee charged for admission will be enforced for visitors violating this policy.

Opportunities for Cessation

The administration will direct individuals who may be addicted to nicotine to cessation services in either the school or resources such as Be Well Arkansas. Cessation services should be the first step to helping students become free of tobacco and nicotine.

For more information about this service, please email adh.tpcp@arkansas.gov

Prevention Education

The administration will consult with the Arkansas Department of Health to receive materials for education and prevention of nicotine products. Schools may also contact adh.tpcp@arkansas.gov to learn about opportunities for student, staff, and parent education events, such as presentations, health fairs, and available resources.

These opportunities will provide greater understanding of the health hazards of nicotine use and the impact of tobacco use as it relates to providing a safe, orderly, clean and inviting school environment. The administration should not use programs sponsored by a tobacco company.

Procedures for Implementation

The administration will develop a plan for communicating the policy that may include information in student and employee handbooks, announcements at school-sponsored or school-related events, and appropriate signage in buildings and around the school campus. An enforcement protocol, which identifies consequences for students, staff and visitors who violate the policy, will be created and communicated to all students, staff and parents.

Effective Date

This policy shall take effect in full on [INSERT DATE].

Signature

Signature of appropriate official: _____ Date: _____

Title of official: _____



EXPANSION POLICY

The [SCHOOL NAME] School Board recognizes that the use of nicotine products is a health, safety, and environmental hazard for students, employees, visitors, and school facilities. The Board believes the Arkansas State Law Ark. Code Ann. §§ 26-57-254(b) as an important piece of legislation that must be followed at all times. The Board also believes that the use of nicotine products on school grounds, in school buildings and facilities, on school property or at school-related or school-sponsored events is detrimental to the health and safety of students, staff and visitors.

The Board acknowledges that adult employees and visitors serve as role models for students. The Board recognizes that it has an obligation to promote positive role models in schools and to promote a healthy learning and working environment, free from unwanted nicotine use for the students, employees, and visitors on the school campus and owned property.

Nicotine Use Prohibited

No student, staff member, or school visitor is permitted to use any nicotine product at any time, including:

- in any building, facility, or vehicle owned, leased, rented or chartered by [SCHOOL NAME]; or
- on any school grounds and property – including athletic fields and parking lots – owned, leased, rented or chartered by [SCHOOL NAME]; or
- at any school-sponsored or school-related event on-campus or off-campus.

In addition, school district employees, school volunteers, contractors or other persons performing services on behalf of [SCHOOL NAME] are also prohibited from using nicotine products at any time while on duty and in the presence of students, either on or off school grounds. Further, no student shall be permitted to possess a nicotine product or part of a nicotine product or device while in any school building; while on school grounds or property; or at any school-sponsored or school-related event, or at any other time that students are under the authority of school personnel. Nicotine products may be included in instructional or research activities in public school buildings, if the activity is conducted or supervised by the faculty member overseeing the instruction or research project, and the activity does not include smoking, chewing, or otherwise ingesting or inhaling the nicotine product.

Definitions for the purposes of this policy, the following definitions have the following meanings:

1) “Nicotine Product” means:

- (a) Any product containing, made, or derived from tobacco or nicotine that is intended for human consumption, whether smoked, heated, chewed, absorbed, dissolved, inhaled, snorted, sniffed, or ingested by any other means, including, but not limited to cigarettes, cigars, little cigars, chewing tobacco, pipe tobacco, snuff;
- (b) Any electronic nicotine device that delivers nicotine or other substances to the person inhaling from the device, including, but not limited to an electronic cigarette, cigar, pipe, or hookah;
- (c) “Nicotine product” includes any component, part, or accessory of a nicotine product.

2) “Nicotine use” means smoking, chewing, dipping, or any other use of tobacco products, including electronic nicotine delivery systems.



Signage

Signs will be posted in a manner and location that adequately notifies students, staff, and visitors about the 100 percent nicotine-free schools policy. These signs will be posted at all entrances to the grounds as well as all entrances to the building. In some cases, signs will be placed in high use areas such as, bathrooms where it is typical for students to use nicotine products.

Enforcement for Students Using Nicotine Products

First Offense:

- Students who violate the school’s nicotine use policy will be referred to a Tobacco Treatment Specialist, or the free Be Well Arkansas Cessation Service for the first offense to this policy.
 - Students must be 13 years or older to call Be Well AR.
 - Be Well AR is open Monday – Friday from 8:00am to 4:00pm.
- Students, if applicable, will provide an official letter of registration and a letter of completion to the Be Well Arkansas Cessation Service (1-833-283-9355).
- Parents/guardians will be notified of this violation as well as further actions taken by the school.

Reoccurring Offense:

- Parents will be called to the school for a meeting with school administration to educate parents of the policy/law.
- Students will be given two days of in-school suspension where they will be required to research and write a paper on the dangers of the product they were caught using.
- Students may be required to re-enroll in Be Well Arkansas after a period of 6 months from the first start date.
- Students will be required to complete MD Anderson's ASPIRE course online and give the certification to school administration.

Enforcement for Students Selling or Distributing Nicotine Products

Every Offense:

- Students who violate the school’s nicotine use policy will be referred to a Tobacco Treatment Specialist, or the free Be Well Arkansas Cessation Service for the first offense to this policy.
 - Students must be 13 years or older to call Be Well AR.
 - Be Well AR is open Monday – Friday from 8:00am to 4:00pm.
- Individual violating this policy are subject to a fine, by local law enforcement, of no less than \$10 and no more than \$100 per violation and will be reported to local law enforcement.
- Parents will be called into the school for a meeting with school administration to educate about the law/policy.
- The students will be suspended for three days minimum per violation.
- Students will be required to complete MD Anderson's ASPIRE course online and give the certification to school administration.



Enforcement for Staff and Visitors

Consequences for employees who violate the tobacco use policy will be in accordance with personnel policies and may include verbal warning, written reprimand, or termination. Visitors using tobacco products will be asked to refrain while on school property or leave the premises. Law enforcement officers may be contacted to escort the person off the premises or cite the person for trespassing if the person refuses to leave the school property. Forfeiture of any fee charged for admission will be enforced for visitors violating this policy. A fine may be given, by local law enforcement, to the person violating the policy of no less than \$10 and no more than \$100 per violation.

Opportunities for Cessation

The administration will direct individuals who may be addicted to nicotine to cessation services in either the school or resources such as Be Well Arkansas. Cessation services should be the first step to helping students become free of tobacco and nicotine.

For more information about this service, please email adh.tpcp@arkansas.gov

Prevention Education

The administration will consult with the Arkansas Department of Health to receive materials for education and prevention of nicotine products. Schools may also contact adh.tpcp@arkansas.gov to learn about opportunities for student, staff, and parent education events, such as presentations, health fairs, and available resources. These opportunities will provide greater understanding of the health hazards of nicotine use and the impact of tobacco use as it relates to providing a safe, orderly, clean and inviting school environment. The administration should not use programs sponsored by a tobacco company.

Procedures for Implementation

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Effective Date

This policy shall take effect in full on [INSERT DATE].

Signature

Signature of appropriate official: _____ Date: _____

Title of official: _____



DON'T LET YOUR KIDS FUTURE GO UP IN SMOKE

Help your teenager understand the real dangers of tobacco.
Give them the tools they need to make smart choices about tobacco.



VISIT ASPIRE ONLINE

ASPIRE

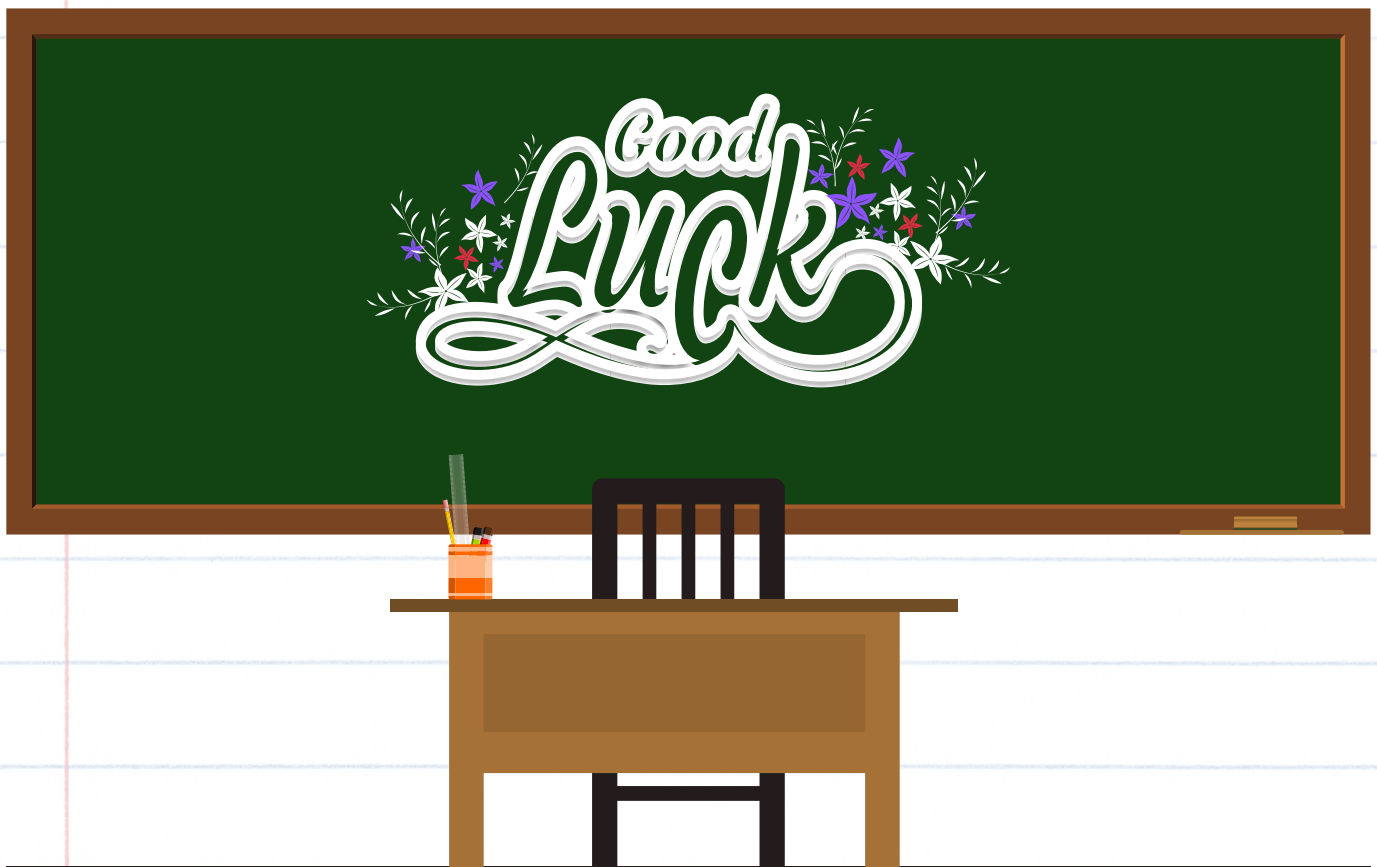
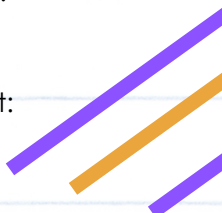
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS
MD Anderson
Cancer Center
Making Cancer History™

www.mdanderson.org/ASPIRE



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For comments, questions, or concerns please
email adh.tpcp@arkansas.gov or call 501-280-4688

