Iowa Department of Public Health
Promoting and Protecting the Health of Iowans

Tobacco-Free/Nicotine-Free Policy guidelines for use with Preschools and Child Care Centers/Homes

Fact and Purpose:
The *[preschool/child care]* finds that:

a) Tobacco use is the single most preventable cause of death in the United States[1]; and

b) Children are exposed to tobacco advertising that leads to favorable beliefs about tobacco use, plays a role in leading young people to overestimate the prevalence of tobacco use, and increases the number of young people who begin to use tobacco[2]; and

c) Electronic cigarettes can increase nicotine addiction among young people and may lead children to try other tobacco products that are known to cause disease and lead to premature death[3]; and

d) Imitation tobacco products may lead children to use tobacco by desensitizing them to the dangers of tobacco and advancing the false idea of tobacco use as socially acceptable[4]; and

e) Tobacco products (extends to all types of tobacco, nicotine and electronic smoking device (ESD) products), once consumed in public spaces, are often discarded on the ground requiring additional maintenance expenses, diminish the beauty of outdoor grounds, and pose a risk to toddlers due to ingestion; and

f) The prohibition of tobacco and nicotine use at all times will serve to protect the health, safety and welfare of staff, students and visitors.

Policy

[Preschool/ child care] facilities and grounds, including [preschool/child care] vehicles, are off limits for tobacco and nicotine use including but not limited to cigarettes, cigars, chewing tobacco, snuff, pipes, snus, Electronic Smoking Devices (ESD) and nicotine products that are not Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved for tobacco cessation. This requirement extends to students, employees and visitors. This policy applies at all times, including [preschool/child care]-sponsored and non-[preschool/child care] sponsored events. Persons failing to abide by this policy are required to extinguish their smoking material, dispose of the tobacco/nicotine product or leave the [preschool/child care] premises immediately. It is the responsibility of the administration/upper management to enforce this policy.

Effective Date:
This policy statement is effective immediately upon the date of adoption.

_____   _____
Appropriate Official   Date

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To ensure the preschool/child care has a strong tobacco-free/nicotine-free policy, <u>and to qualify for free window clings and outdoor signage</u>, the policy must explicitly include all of the following:

- ✓ Policy must extend to all types of tobacco, nicotine and ESD products (i.e. not only cigarettes; include all tobacco, ESDs and nicotine products not approved by the FDA for cessation.)

- ✓ Policy must extend to employees, students & visitors

- ✓ Policy must apply at all times, including school-sponsored & non- school-sponsored events

- ✓ Policy must extend to school vehicles

- ✓ Policy must extend to entire preschool/child care property to receive metal signage

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1. Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids. *Tobacco Overview.* Retrieved November 10, 2015, from http://www.tobaccofreekids.org/facts_issues/tobacco_101/
2. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. *The Health Consequences of Smoking—50 Years of Progress: A Report of the Surgeon General.* Atlanta, GA: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Office on Smoking and Health, 2014.
3. U.S. Food and Drug Administration, FDA warns of health risks posed by e-cigarettes (2009), available at http://www.fda.gov/ForConsumers/ConsumerUpdates/ucm173401.htm.
4. Jonathan D. Klein & Steve St. Clair, *Do Candy Cigarettes Encourage Young People to Smoke?*,321 BRIT. MED. J. 362 (2000), *available at* http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/full/321/7257/362.