

Tobacco & Nicotine Free Preschool & Childcare

Iowa's **Smoke Free Air Act** requires childcare homes and centers to be smoke free, however this does not apply to smokeless tobacco. To ensure your students, employees, and visitors are protected from exposure to tobacco and nicotine, you can implement a tobacco and nicotine free childcare or preschool policy.

Reasons to Implement a Tobacco and Nicotine Free Preschool or Childcare

Cleaner Facility

- Employees who use tobacco or nicotine throughout the day may have residue and harmful toxins on their clothes, hair, and skin, called **thirdhand smoke**. As they enter a home or childcare facility, those toxins are released into the air, exposing children and reducing air quality.

Protect Health

- Exposure to thirdhand smoke could increase a child's risk for asthma, allergies, and other health implications.

Role Model

- Childcares and preschools are safe places where children learn and grow. Staff can role model the importance of a healthy lifestyle by not using or smelling like tobacco.
- The use of e-cigarettes and other Electronic Smoking Devices (ESDs) has the potential to re-normalize smoking behavior.

Benefit Employer

- It is beneficial for an employer to promote a tobacco and nicotine free environment as it may reduce direct healthcare costs to the business, reduce absenteeism, and increase productivity.

For more information, resources, or assistance please contact:

Name:	Phone:
Organization:	Email:



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