

**GBEFA ©**  
**STAFF USE OF DIGITAL WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS OR**  
**ELECTRONIC DEVICES WHILE OPERATING A MOTOR VEHICLE**

Arizona law (A.R.S. 28-914, effective January 1, 2021), states that a person may not operate a motor vehicle on a street or highway if the person does either of the following:

- A. physically holds or supports with any part of the person's body either of the following:
  - 1. portable wireless communication device, except that a person may use a portable wireless communication device with an earpiece, headphone device or device worn on a wrist to conduct a voice-based communication.
  - 2. a stand-alone electronic device.
- B. writes, sends or reads any text-based communication, including a text message, instant message, e-mail or Internet data, on a portable wireless communication device or stand-alone electronic device.

This does not apply to either of the following:

- A. the use of voice-based communications, including through the use of a portable wireless communication device or stand-alone electronic device, to direct the writing, sending, reading or other communicating of any text-based communication.
- B. the use of a portable wireless communication device or stand-alone device when used in a hands-free manner for:
  - 1. navigation of the motor vehicle.
  - 2. use of a global positioning system.
  - 3. obtaining motor vehicle information or information related to driving a motor vehicle.

This also does not prohibit the operation of a motor vehicle while using a device, including a device that is accessible through an interface that is embedded in a motor vehicle, that allows communication without the use of either of the driver's hands, except to activate or deactivate a function of the device.

An operator may use a portable wireless communication device:

- A. to report illegal activity or summon emergency help.
- B. that was permanently or temporarily affixed to the motor vehicle to relay information in the course of the operator's occupational duties between the operator and either: i) a dispatcher, ii) a digital network or software application service.

*"Portable wireless communication device:"*

- A. means a cellular telephone, a portable telephone, a text-messaging device, a personal digital assistant, a stand-alone computer, a global positioning system receiver or a substantially similar portable wireless device that is used to initiate or receive communication, information or data.
- B. does not include a radio, citizens band radio, citizens band radio hybrid, commercial two-way radio communication device or its functional equivalent, subscription-based emergency communication device, prescribed medical device, amateur or ham radio device or in-vehicle security, navigation or remote diagnostics system.

*"Stand-alone electronic device"* means a portable device other than a portable wireless communication device that stores audio or video data files to be retrieved on demand by a user.

The Superintendent will develop training to implement this policy prior to the effective date.

Adopted: date of Manual adoption

LEGAL REF.: A.R.S. 15-341  
15-514  
28-914  
28-963  
28-3164

CROSS REF.: EEAE – Bus Safety Program  
EEAEA – Bus Driver Requirements, Training and Responsibilities  
EEAG – Student Transportation in Private Vehicles  
EEB – Business and Personnel Transportation Services  
GBEA - Staff Ethics  
GBEB - Staff Conduct  
GBEBB - Staff Conduct With Students  
GCQF - Discipline, Suspension, and Dismissal of Professional Staff Members  
GDQD - Discipline, Suspension, and Dismissal of Support Staff Members  
IJNDB - Use of Technology Resources in Instruction  
JIC - Student Conduct