

Document Status: Draft Update

General Personnel

5:50 Drug- and Alcohol-Free Workplace; E-Cigarette, Tobacco, and Cannabis Prohibition

Title has been updated. Original Title: Drug- and Alcohol-Free Workplace; Tobacco Prohibition

All District workplaces are drug- and alcohol-free workplaces.^{PRESSPlus1}

All employees are prohibited from engaging in any of the following activities while on District premises or while performing work or being on call^{Q1} for the District:^{PRESSPlus2}

1. Unlawful manufacture, dispensing, distribution, possession, or use of an illegal or controlled substance.
2. Distribution, consumption, use, possession, or being impaired by or under the influence of an alcoholic beverage; being present on District premises or while performing work for the District when alcohol consumption is detectible, regardless of when and/or where the use occurred.
3. Distribution, consumption, possession, or use, or being impaired by or under the influence of medical cannabis; being present on District premises or while performing work for the District when impaired by or under the influence of cannabis, regardless of when and/or where the use occurred, unless distribution, possession, and/or use is by a school nurse or school administrator pursuant to Ashley's Law, 105 ILCS 5/22-33.^{PRESSPlus3} The District considers employees impaired by or under the influence of cannabis when there is a good faith belief that an employee manifests the specific articulable symptoms^{PRESSPlus4} listed in the Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act (CRTA).^{PRESSPlus5}

For purposes of this policy a controlled substance means a substance that is:

1. Not legally obtainable,
2. Being used in a manner different than prescribed,
3. Legally obtainable, but has not been legally obtained, or
4. Referenced in federal or State controlled substance acts.

For purposes of this policy, District premises^{PRESSPlus6} means workplace as defined in the CRTA in addition to District and school buildings, grounds, and parking areas; vehicles used for school purposes; and any location used for a School Board meeting, school athletic event, or other school-sponsored or school-sanctioned events or activities.

School grounds means the real property comprising any school, any conveyance used to transport students to school or a school-related activity, and any public way within 1,000 feet of any school ground, designated school bus stops where students are waiting for the school bus, and school-sponsored or school-sanctioned events or activities. "Vehicles used for school purposes" means school buses or other school vehicles.

As a condition of employment, each employee shall:

1. Abide by the terms of the Board policy respecting a drug- and alcohol-free workplace; and
2. Notify his or her supervisor of his or her conviction under any criminal drug statute for a violation occurring on the District premises or while performing work for the District, no later than five calendar days after such a conviction.

Unless otherwise prohibited by this policy, prescription and over-the-counter medications are not prohibited when taken in standard dosages and/or according to prescriptions from the employee's licensed health care provider, provided that an employee's work performance is not impaired.

To make employees aware of the dangers of drug and alcohol abuse, the Superintendent or designee shall perform each of the following:

1. Provide each employee with a copy of this policy.
2. Post notice of this policy in a place where other information for employees is posted.
3. Make available materials from local, State, and national anti-drug and alcohol-abuse organizations.
4. Enlist the aid of community and State agencies with drug and alcohol informational and rehabilitation programs to provide information to District employees.
5. Establish a drug-free awareness program to inform employees about:
 - a. The dangers of drug abuse in the workplace,
 - b. Available drug and alcohol counseling, rehabilitation, re-entry, and any employee assistance programs, and
 - c. The penalties that the District may impose upon employees for violations of this policy.
6. Remind employees that policy 6:60, Curriculum Content, requires the District to educate students, depending upon their grade, about drug and substance abuse prevention and relationships between drugs, alcohol, and violence. [PRESSPlus7](#)

E-Cigarette, Tobacco, and Cannabis Prohibition

All employees are covered by the conduct prohibitions contained in policy 8:30, *Visitors to and Conduct on School Property*. The prohibition on the use of e-cigarettes, ^{PRESSPlus8}tobacco, and cannabis products applies both (1) when an employee is on school property, and (2) while an employee is performing work for the District at a school event regardless of the event's location.

Tobacco shall have the meaning provided in 105 ILCS 5/section 10-20.5b of the School Code.

Cannabis shall have the meaning provided in the CRTA, 410 ILCS 705/1-10.

E-Cigarette is short for electronic cigarette and includes, but is not limited to, any electronic nicotine delivery system (ENDS), electronic cigar, electronic cigarillo, electronic pipe, electronic hookah, vape pen, or similar product or device, and any components or parts that can be used to build the product or device. ^{Q2}

District Action Upon Violation of Policy

An employee who violates this policy may be subject to disciplinary action, including termination. In addition or Aalternatively, the School Board may require an employee to successfully complete an appropriate drug- or alcohol-abuse rehabilitation program.

The Board shall take disciplinary action with respect to an employee convicted of a drug offense in the workplace within 30 days after receiving notice of the conviction.

Should District employees be engaged in the performance of work under a federal contract or grant, or under a State contract or grant of \$5,000 or more, the Superintendent shall notify the appropriate State or federal agency from which the District receives contract or grant monies of the employee's conviction within 10 days after receiving notice of the conviction.

Disclaimer ^{PRESSPlus9}

The Board reserves the right to interpret, revise or discontinue any provision of this policy pursuant to the **Suspension of Policies** subhead in policy 2:240, *Board Policy Development*.

LEGAL REF.:

Americans With Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. §12114.

Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Pilot Program, 410 ILCS 130/.

Controlled Substances Act, 21 U.S.C. §812; 21 C.F.R. §1308.11-1308.15.

Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988, 41 U.S.C. §8101 et seq.

Safe and Drug-Free School and Communities Act of 1994, 20 U.S.C. §7101 et seq.

30 ILCS 580/, Drug-Free Workplace Act, ~~30 ILCS 580/~~.

105 ILCS 5/10-20.5b.

410 ILCS 82/, Smoke Free Illinois Act.

410 ILCS 130/, Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Program Act.

410 ILCS 705/1-1 et seq., Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act.

720 ILCS 675, Prevention of Tobacco Use by Persons under 21 Years of Age and Sale and Distribution of Tobacco Products Act.

820 ILCS 55/, Right to Privacy in the Workplace Act.

21 C.F.R. Parts 1100, 1140, and 1143.

23 Ill.Admin.Code §22.20.

CROSS REF.: 5:10 (Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment), 5:120 (Employee Ethics; Conduct; and Conflict of Interest), 6:60 (Curriculum Content), 8:30 (Visitors to and Conduct on School Property)

Questions and Answers:

*****Required Question 1.** An employee is on call when the employer schedules him or her with at least 24 hours' notice to be on standby or otherwise responsible for performing employment-related tasks either at the employer's location or another previously-designated location. Consult the board attorney regarding how the board wants to treat employees who may be considered on call, e.g., superintendents, principals, coaches, and/or maintenance workers, etc. Has the board adopted the phrase "or being on call" into this policy?

- Yes (default)
- No. (IASB will remove "or being on call")

*****Required Question 2.** Optional. Including the statutory example that includes the term vape pen provides notice that vaping products are also prohibited through the term e-cigarette. Choose from the following options:

- Include the default sentence. (default)
- Replace "includes, but is not limited to, any electronic nicotine delivery system (ENDS), electronic cigar, electronic cigarillo, electronic pipe, electronic hookah, vape pen, or similar product or device, and any components or parts that can be used to build

the product or device" with "shall have the meaning provided in the Prevention of Tobacco Use by Minors and Sale and Distribution of Tobacco Products Act, 720 ILCS 675/1(a-9)."

PRESSPlus Comments

[PRESSPlus 1.](#) This policy is renamed. The new text in the title includes E-Cigarettes (**PRESS** Advisory Board feedback) and Cannabis (Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act (CRTA), 410 ILCS 705/, added by P.A. 101-27 legalizing recreational cannabis use for persons over the age of 21).

Cannabis remains a *Schedule I* (c)(17) controlled substance under federal law, meaning that it has no currently accepted medical use in addition to a high potential for abuse. This policy continues to prohibit employees from using cannabis as allowed by the CRTA.

With the passage of the CRTA, each board and superintendent may wish to engage in a risk management conversation about the district's drug- and alcohol- free policy enforcement and discipline goals. Enforcement and discipline goals depend upon a board's risk-level tolerance and community expectations. For more information, see f/n 2 of sample policy 5:50, available at PRESS Online by logging in at www.iasb.com.

Consult the board attorney before implementing a drug testing program to enforce this policy.

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[PRESSPlus 2.](#) To align with best practices for identifying and subsequently initiating discipline of employees for violating this policy (especially with the passage of the CRTA) and any possible collective bargaining agreement provisions, the superintendent may want to convene the **Employee Substance Abuse Prevention Committee**. See sample administrative procedure 2:150-AP, *Superintendent Committees*, available at PRESS Online by logging in at www.iasb.com. **Issue 102, October 2019**

[PRESSPlus 3.](#) 410 ILCS 130/25(b) prohibits discipline or arrest of school nurses and/or administrators for acting in accordance with *Ashley's Law*, 105 ILCS 5/22-33, amended by P.A. 101-370, eff. 1-1-20. Employers may enforce drug-free workplace policies when they are applied in a nondiscriminatory manner. 410 ILCS 705/10-50(a), added by P.A. 101-27, includes disciplining employees – even those who are a *registered qualifying patient* – for violating a drug-free workplace policies (410 ILCS 130/50 and 705/10-35(a)(1), added by P.A. 101-27). Contact the board attorney for advice concerning the Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Program Act (Medical Cannabis Program Act (MCPA)). **Issue 102, October 2019**

[PRESSPlus 4.](#) Specific articulable symptoms listed in 410 ILCS 705/10-50(d), added by P.A. 101-27, include: the employee's speech, physical dexterity, agility, coordination, demeanor, irrational or unusual behavior, or negligence or carelessness in operating equipment or machinery; disregard for the safety of the employee or others, or involvement in any accident that results in serious damage to equipment or property; disruption of a production or manufacturing process; or carelessness that results in any injury to the employee or others. In contrast to the CRTA, the MCPA, while listing the same specific, articulable, symptoms, does not require an employer to have a *good faith belief* that a *registered qualifying patient* is under the influence of cannabis. 410 ILCS 130/50(f), and scheduled to be repealed on 7-1-20. **Issue 102, October 2019**

[PRESSPlus 5.](#) 410 ILCS 705/10-35 and 10-50(a), added by P.A. 101-27 allows reasonable, nondiscriminatory, zero-tolerance policies. If the district seeks to discipline an employee on the basis that he or she is under the influence of or impaired by cannabis, it must afford the employee a reasonable opportunity to contest the basis of the determination. **Contact the board attorney for advice concerning this provision and whenever the district seeks disciplinary action or dismissal of an employee on the basis of the cannabis prohibitions in the policy.** See f/n 9 of sample policy 5:50, available at PRESS Online by logging in at www.iasb.com, for more information about civil, criminal, and other penalties available under the CRTA. **Issue 102, October 2019**

[PRESSPlus 6.](#) 410 ILCS 705/10-35 and 10-50(a), added by P.A. 101-27, allows employers to prohibit cannabis in the *workplace*. Many attorneys agree it is a best practice for employers to define workplace in policies that prohibit cannabis. 410 ILCS 705/10-50(h), added by P.A. 101-27, defines *workplace* as the employer's premises, including any building, real property, and parking area under the control of the employer or area used by an employee while in performance of the employee's job duties, and vehicles, whether leased, rented, or owned – and may be further defined by the employer's written policy when it is consistent with this definition.

This policy's definition of workplace expands the above CRTA definition to areas that board policy and/or the School Code impose duties upon districts to keep students safe, including:

1. The *school property* definition from policy 8:30, *Visitors to and Conduct on School Property*;
2. The *school grounds* definition at 105 ILCS 5/10-27.1A(d); and
3. Places that school districts must prevent and respond to bullying, including vehicles used for school purposes. 105 ILCS 5/27-23.7(a)

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[PRESSPlus 7.](#) Optional. This statement serves as a display of good judgement and a

reminder to employees that 105 ILCS 5/27-13.2 and 23.4 (provided it can be funded by private grants or the federal government) require districts to educate students about the dangers of substance abuse. To remove this statement, strike it and choose "Adopted with Additional District Edits" as the Save Status. **Issue 102, October 2019**

[PRESSPlus 8](#). While 720 ILCS 675, amended by P.A. 101-2, excludes e-cigarettes from its definition of tobacco, it does not address vaporization. Prohibiting *e-cigarettes* aligns with the district's obligation to maintain a safe, smoke-free environment and is logical extension of 105 ILCS 5/10-20.5b, The Smoke Free Illinois Act (410 ILCS 82/), and The Prevention of Tobacco Use by Minors and Sale and Distribution of Tobacco Products Act, 720 ILCS 675, amended by P.A. 101-2 (raising the legal age to buy tobacco and e-cigarette products to 21 years of age). In addition, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration now regulates e-cigarettes. For more information about e-cigarettes, see f/n 18 of sample policy 5:50, available at PRESS Online by logging in at www.iasb.com. **Issue 102, October 2019**

[PRESSPlus 9](#). Optional best practice text. **Issue 102, October 2019**