

POLICY  
RHODE ISLAND SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF

SMOKING POLICY

**Guiding Principle and Purpose**

Research has clearly demonstrated that smoking is harmful. RI School for the Deaf strives to provide a work environment that promotes good health and wellness and to provide for the maximum well-being of its students, employees and visitors. The School complies with all laws regarding smoking in the workplace.

**Policy**

In accordance with state law, smoking, the use of snuff or smokeless tobacco or the possession of a lighted cigarette, cigar, pipe, e-cigarette, including hookah pen, USB vaporizer pen or other kind of substance or item containing tobacco or nicotine associated with vaping is prohibited anywhere on school grounds. Moreover, students are prohibited from smoking, using snuff or smokeless tobacco or possessing a lighted cigarette, cigar, pipe, vape, e-cigarette or other vape product including hookah pen or USB vaporizer pen, or any other substance containing tobacco while engaged in school activities regardless of location.

Smoking marijuana is always prohibited.

The Rhode Island School for the Deaf promotes student health and prohibits the use of tobacco/nicotine products by staff and students on all school properties, including buses, vans, and all school-related activities. Teachers and staff must obey all laws related to smoking while engaged in any school business.

Health curriculum standards encourage refraining from smoking, and students are taught in all grades about the negative effects of smoking and nicotine use.

Those students or employees who smoke but desire to quit smoking may obtain materials on a variety of smoking cessation approaches with the assistance of the School Nurse.

**References**

RI Gen Laws §23-20.9-1 et sq.

Approved May12, 2012

Updated March 12, 2019