

TOBACCO PROHIBITION

**CODE E-8
(Mandatory)¹**

Policy

It is the policy of the Rutland Southwest Supervisory Union and its member districts to prohibit the use of tobacco on school grounds in accordance with state law. This ban extends to any student, employee or visitor to the school, and applies at all times, whether or not school is in session. Students are, furthermore, prohibited from possessing tobacco products at all times while under the supervision of school staff or at school sponsored activities. The Superintendent or designee shall develop procedures, rules and regulations that are in his or her judgment necessary to implement this policy and, at a minimum, will include provisions ensuring that tobacco products are confiscated when found in the possession of students and that referrals to law enforcement agencies are made when appropriate.

Definitions

For purposes of this policy and administrative rules and procedures developed pursuant to this policy:

1. **School grounds** means any property and facilities owned or leased by the school and used at any time for school related activities, including but not limited to school buildings, school buses, areas adjacent to school buildings, athletic fields and parking lots.¹
2. **School sponsored activity** means activities including but not limited to field trips, project graduation events, sporting events, work internships and dances.
3. **Tobacco product** has the same meaning as set forth in 7 V.S.A. 1001(4), as amended from time to time.²

¹ The definitions of “school grounds” and “school sponsored activity” used in this policy are the same as those found in the Department of Education model policy on Possession and Use of Tobacco Products.

² The term “tobacco product” is defined in 7 V.S.A. 1001(4) as “cigarettes, cigars, cheroots, stogies, periques, granulated, plug cut crimp cut, ready rubbed, and other smoking tobacco, snuff, snuff flour, Cavendish, plug and twist tobacco, fine-cut and other chewing tobaccos, shorts, refuse scraps, clippings, cuttings and sweepings of tobacco, and other forms of tobacco prepared in a manner suitable for chewing or smoking in a pipe or otherwise, or both for chewing and smoking.”

Ira School District: Since the Ira School District does not operate a school at any level, it is the policy of the Ira School District to revert back to the Rutland Southwest Supervisory Union Policy should a situation arise needing action.

	Date Adopted	Replaces Policy
Rutland Southwest Supervisory Union	7/20/09	Tobacco Prohibition 9/25/06
Ira Town School District	9/8/09	None
Middletown Springs Town School District	11/20/08	Tobacco Prohibition 1/12/06
Poultney Town School District	5/19/09	Tobacco Prohibition
Tinmouth Town School District	6/8/09	Tobacco Prohibition 9/11/95
Wells Town School District	4/22/09	Tobacco Prohibition 12/14/05
