

Catalyst Academy Charter School Prohibition of Tobacco Products

INTRODUCTION

The Board recognizes that tobacco use by scholars and staff presents a health and safety hazard that can have serious consequences for both users and nonusers and the safety and environment of the schools.

The use of tobacco products is included in Title 55 Chapter 3800 of the Pennsylvania Code. The law reads as follows:

§ 3800.147. Use of tobacco.

- (a) Use or possession of tobacco products by children is prohibited.
- (b) Use or possession of tobacco products by staff persons is prohibited in the facility and during transportation provided by the facility.
- (c) If staff persons use tobacco products outside but on the premises of the facility, the following apply:
 - (1) The facility shall have written fire safety procedures. Procedures shall include extinguishing procedures and requirements that smoking shall occur only a safe distance from the facility and from flammable or combustible materials or structures.
 - (2) Written safety procedures shall be followed.
 - (3) Use of tobacco products shall be out of the sight of the children.

AUTHORITY

The Board prohibits tobacco use and possession of tobacco, electronic cigarettes or any tobacco-related device by students at any time in a school building and on any property, buses, vans and vehicles that are owned, leased or controlled by Catalyst Academy.

The Board prohibits tobacco use and possession of tobacco, electronic cigarettes, or any tobacco-related device by students at school-sponsored activities that are held off school property.

Catalyst Academy may initiate prosecution of a student who possesses or uses tobacco in violation of this policy. In addition, violations are subject to disciplinary action in accordance with the behavior support model at Catalyst Academy.

PROCEDURES

For purposes of this policy, **tobacco use** shall be defined as use and/or possession of a lighted or unlighted cigarette, cigar, and pipe; other lighted smoking product; and smokeless tobacco in any form.

For purposes of this policy, **electronic cigarette** means any oral device that provides a vapor of liquid nicotine, lobelia, and/or other substance, and the use or inhalation of which simulates smoking. The term shall include any such devices, whether they are manufactured, distributed, marketed, or sold as e-cigarettes, e-cigars, e-pipes, or under any other product name or descriptor.

For purposes of this policy, **tobacco-related devices** means cigarette papers, lighters, pipes for smoking, hookahs and any instrument used for inhaling tobacco smoke.

RESPONSIBLE PARTIES

The Director of Scholars or designee shall annually notify scholars, parents, and staff about Catalyst Academy's tobacco use policy by publishing such policy in the family handbook, parent newsletters, posted notices, and other efficient methods.

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) or designee shall develop procedures to implement this policy.