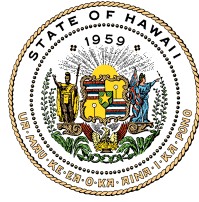


JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR



KEITH T. HAYASHI
SUPERINTENDENT

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
KA 'OIHANA HO'O NA'AUAO
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

OFFICE OF STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

August 9, 2024

TO: Department of Education Employees (All)

FROM: Annie Kalama 
Assistant Superintendent

SUBJECT: School Year 2024-2025 Electronic Smoking Device Flyer and Parent Letter

Copies of the school year 2024-2025 Electronic Smoking Device (ESD) flyers, parent letter, and posters have been printed and are being sent to schools for distribution to parent(s)/legal guardian(s).

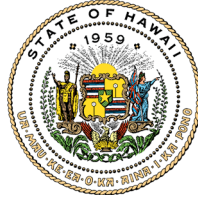
Pursuant to Act 206 (2018), Section 712-1258, Hawaii Revised Statutes, it is unlawful for any student under the age of 21 to purchase or possess any tobacco product or ESD. In addition, any tobacco product or ESD found in a student's possession is committing a Hawaii Administrative Rules, Chapter 19 offense. It shall be seized by the school administration and handled in accordance with the memorandum, dated August 1, 2023, *Disposal of Hazardous Material and Electronic Smoking Devices Procedures*, visit the [HIDOE-Memorandum portal](#).

Should you have further questions, please contact Marty Sepkowski, Educational Specialist, Student Support Section, at (808) 305-9658 or via email at marty.sepkowski@k12.hi.us.

AK:ms
Attachments

c: Superintendent
Deputy Superintendents
Assistant Superintendents
Hawaii State Public Charter School Commission

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR



KEITH T. HAYASHI
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STATE OF HAWAII
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HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

August 9, 2024

Dear Parent(s)/Legal Guardian(s):

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) cares about your keiki and is aware that there are numerous social pressures and misinformation about the devastating impact of tobacco and e-cigarette products. As such, the Department is committed to working with you to keep your keiki away from these products. Please talk to your keiki about making healthy choices and what the law is regarding these products for persons under the age of 21.

Pursuant to Hawaii Revised Statutes §712-1258, it is unlawful for any person under the age of 21 to purchase or possess any tobacco product or electronic smoking device (ESD). An ESD is defined as any electronic product that can be used to aerosolize and deliver nicotine or other substances to the person inhaling from the device. This includes, but is not limited to, an electronic cigarette, electronic cigar, electronic cigarillo, or electronic pipe, and any cartridge or other component of the device or related product.

In addition, any tobacco product and ESD found in a student's possession is a violation of the Hawaii Administrative Rules, Chapter 19 and shall be seized by school administration accordingly.

Should you have further questions, please talk to your keiki's school administration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Keith T. Hayashi".

Keith T. Hayashi
Superintendent

KTH:ms

VAPING

HARMS YOUR HEALTH

E-cigarettes can contain chemicals, such as formaldehyde, that can cause cancer.

Vaping can expose the user's lungs to harmful chemicals like formaldehyde, acrolein, and acetaldehyde, which are known to cause irreversible lung damage.^{1,3} Vape aerosol could be delivering metal particles like chromium, nickel, lead, tin and aluminum right into your lungs. Some of these metals are toxic.^{2,4}

Pursuant to [Hawai'i Revised Statutes §712-1258](#), it is unlawful for any person under the age of 21 to purchase or possess any tobacco product or electronic smoking device.⁵

Any tobacco product or electronic smoking device found in a student's possession is a violation of [Hawai'i Administrative Rules, Chapter 19](#) and shall be seized by school administration and handled in accordance with the memorandum for Disposal of Hazardous Material and Electronic Smoking Devices Procedures.⁶

It is UNLAWFUL

References

1. Goniewicz ML, Knysak J, Gawron M, et al. Levels of selected carcinogens and toxicants in vapour from electronic cigarettes. *Tobacco Control* 2014; 23:133-139.
2. Olmedo P, et al. Metal Concentrations in e-Cigarette Liquid and Aerosol Samples: The Contribution of Metallic Coils. *Environmental Health Perspectives* (Online). 2018.
3. Rubinstein ML, Delucchi K, Benowitz NL, Ramo DE. Adolescent Exposure to Toxic Volatile Organic Chemicals From E-Cigarettes. *Pediatrics*. 2018.
4. Williams M, Villarreal A, Bozhilov K, Lin S, Talbot P (2013) Metal and Silicate Particles Including Nanoparticles Are Present in Electronic Cigarette Cartomizer Fluid and Aerosol. *PLoS ONE*.
5. Hawai'i Revised Statutes. https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/hrscurrent/Vol14_Ch0701-0853/HRS0712/HRS_0712-1258.htm
6. State of Hawai'i Board of Education. Hawai'i Administrative Rules Under Title 8 Chapter 19. <https://boe.hawaii.gov/policies/AdminRules/Pages/AdminRule19.aspx>

More information and resources

fda.gov/youthvapingresources • livinghealthy.hawaii.gov/tobacco-free/vaping • health.hawaii.gov/tobacco/electronic-cigarettes

