

FRESNO COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
FRESNO COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Students
ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS

The County Superintendent and County Board believe that the use of alcohol or other drugs adversely affects a student's ability to achieve academic success, is physically and emotionally harmful, and has serious social and legal consequences. The County Superintendent or designee shall develop comprehensive programs and activities to foster safe, healthy, and drug-free environments that support academic achievement.

The County Superintendent's alcohol and drug prevention and intervention programs shall be coordinated with other school and community-based services and programs and shall promote the involvement of parents/guardians. The County Superintendent or designee may collaborate with community-based organizations, health providers, law enforcement agencies, local child welfare agencies, postsecondary institutions, businesses, and other public and private entities in program planning, implementation, and evaluation.

Prevention and intervention programs and activities may include, but are not limited to: (20 USC 7118)

1. Evidence-based drug and violence prevention activities and programs that educate students against the use of alcohol, tobacco, cannabis, smokeless tobacco products, and electronic cigarettes
2. Professional development and training for school staff, specialized instructional support personnel, and interested community members on drug prevention, education, early identification, intervention mentoring, recovery support services, and, where appropriate, rehabilitation referral
3. School-based mental health services, including early identification of drug use and referrals to counseling services, and/or partnerships with public or private health care entities that have qualified mental and behavioral health professionals
4. Programs and activities that provide mentoring and school counseling to all students, including students who are at risk of drug use and abuse

Instruction and Notification

The County Superintendent or designee shall provide science-based preventative instruction, consistent with law, the accompanying administrative regulation, and Superintendent and Board Policy 5141.52 – Suicide Prevention, which has been proven effective in helping students avoid the use of alcohol and other drugs.

All instruction and related materials shall consistently state that unlawful use of alcohol or other drugs is prohibited. Instruction shall not include any message on responsible use of drugs or alcohol when such use is illegal. (Health and Safety Code 11999.2)

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The County Superintendent or designee shall offer staff development activities for staff who implement the comprehensive drug and alcohol prevention and intervention program.

The County Superintendent or designee shall annually inform parents/guardians at the beginning of the first semester or quarter of the regular school year about the dangers associated with the use of synthetic drugs that are not prescribed by a physician, such as fentanyl, the possibility that dangerous drugs can be found in counterfeit pills, and the risks of social media being used as a way to market and sell synthetic drugs. Additionally, the County Superintendent or designee shall post such information on its website. (Education Code 48985.5)

Intervention, Referral, and Student Assistance Programs

The County Superintendent or designee shall inform school staff, students, and parents/guardians about early warning signs which may indicate alcohol and other drug use and about appropriate agencies offering intervention programs, counseling, referral, and other student assistance programs.

The County Superintendent strongly encourages any student who is using alcohol or drugs to discuss the matter with his/her parent/guardian or with any staff member. Students who disclose their use of alcohol or other drugs when seeking help from an intervention or recovery program shall not be disciplined for such use, including that, in accordance with Education Code 48900, students who voluntarily disclose their use of a tobacco product, controlled substance, alcohol, or an intoxicant of any kind in order to seek help through services or supports shall not be suspended.

Opioid Antagonists

Students in middle school, junior high school, high school, or adult school, may carry fentanyl test strips or a federally approved opioid antagonist for the emergency treatment of persons suffering, or reasonably believed to be suffering, from an opioid overdose, while on a school site or participating in a school activity. (Education Code 49414.6)

Additionally, students 12 years of age or older, while on a school site or participating in school activities, may carry and administer a naloxone hydrochloride nasal spray or any other opioid overdose reversal medication that is federally approved for over-the-counter nonprescription use for the purpose of providing emergency treatment to persons who are suffering, or reasonably believed to be suffering, from an opioid overdose. (Education Code 49414.35)

Enforcement/Discipline

Unless otherwise authorized by law, students shall not possess, use, or sell alcohol or other drugs and related paraphernalia on school grounds or at school-sponsored activities.

The County Superintendent or designee shall clearly communicate to all students, staff, and parents/guardians the policies, regulations, and school rules related to the use of alcohol and other drugs.

Any student found to be selling a controlled substance listed in Health and Safety Code

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11053-11058 shall be subject to discipline in accordance with County Superintendent/County Board policy. A student found to have committed another drug or alcohol offense, including possession or intoxication, may be referred to appropriate behavioral interventions or student assistance programs, and may be subject to discipline on a case-by-case basis in accordance with County Superintendent/County Board policy.

The County Superintendent or designee may use alternatives to the referral of a student to a law enforcement agency in response to an incident involving the student's misuse of an opioid, to the extent any alternative utilized is not in conflict with any law requiring that referral. (Education Code 49414.4)

Program Evaluation

The County Superintendent shall implement performance measures that will be used to periodically monitor and determine the effectiveness of County Superintendent programs in reducing drug and alcohol use. (20 USC 7116)

Adopted: undated

Amended: 10/15/2020, 11/20/2025

Legal Reference**Education Code**

- 44049 Known or suspected alcohol or drug abuse by student
- 44645 In-service training anabolic steroids
- 48900 Suspension or expulsion (grounds)
- 48900.5 Suspension, limitation on imposition; exception
- 48901 Smoking or use of tobacco prohibited
- 48901.5 Prohibition of electronic signaling devices
- 48902 Notification of law enforcement authorities; civil or criminal immunity
- 48909 Narcotics or other hallucinogenic drugs
- 48915 Expulsion; particular circumstances
- 49602 Confidentiality of pupil information
- 51202 Instruction in personal and public health and safety
- 51203 Instruction on alcohol, narcotics and restricted dangerous drugs
- 51210 Areas of study
- 51260-51269 Drug education
- 60041 Instructional materials
- 60110-60115 Instructional materials on alcohol and drug education

Business and Professions Code

- 25608 Alcohol on school property; use in connection with instruction

Health and Safety Code

- 11032 Narcotics, restricted dangerous drugs and marijuana
- 11053-11058 Standards and schedules
- 11353.6 Juvenile Drug Trafficking and Schoolyard Act
- 11357 Unauthorized possession of marijuana; possession in school or on school grounds

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11361.5 Destruction of arrest or conviction records

11372.7 Drug program fund; uses

11802 Joint school-community alcohol abuse primary education and prevention program

11999-11999.3 Alcohol and drug program funding; no unlawful use

124175-124200 Adolescent family life program

Penal Code

13860-13864 Suppression of drug abuse in schools

Vehicle Code

13202.5 Drug and alcohol related offenses by person under age of 21, but aged 13 or over;

Welfare and Institutions Code

828 Disclosure of information re minors

828.1 Disclosure of criminal records; protection of vulnerable staff & students

United States Code, Title 20

5812 National education goals

7101-7122 Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants

Management Resources**Websites**

U.S. Department of Education, Office of Safe and Healthy Students;

<http://www.safesupportivelearning.ed.gov>

California Department of Education, Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Prevention:

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/he/at>

California Healthy Kids: <http://www.californiahealthykids.org>

Office of Safe and Healthy Students: <https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oese/osh>