

SECTION 5: COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT

PROGRESSIVE ENFORCEMENT FOR VISITORS

The first step in enforcing the policy with parents and visitors is to gently but assertively inform them about the policy. Many parents and visitors who use tobacco products or e-cigarettes on school property or at school events are either unaware of the policy or have forgotten about the policy. In these cases, a gentle verbal reminder is all that is needed to obtain compliance (see page 26 for sample statements for visitor enforcement as well page 16 for suggestions for how to communicate the policy to parents and other visitors).

When parents or other visitors are unwilling to comply with a request to refrain from tobacco or e-cigarette use on campus or at events, schools need to have a plan in place for appropriate enforcement. Examples may include a parent who refuses to stop smoking while waiting in his or her car to pick up a student or an attendee at a sporting event who refuses to stop smoking.

Here is a suggested progressive enforcement plan for parents and campus visitors who do not respond to a simple verbal request to refrain from using tobacco products or e-cigarettes on school property:

SAMPLE PROGRESSIVE ENFORCEMENT PLAN FOR VISITORS

FIRST VIOLATION: Make a clear statement about the need for visitors to comply with the school's policy, including a reason for the policy. (See Sample Statements for Visitor Enforcement on page 26)

SECOND VIOLATION: Inform the visitor of the policy again. Suggest that the visitor leave the school campus or event if they want to continue smoking, chewing, or using their e-cigarette device. Let them know that they will be required to leave if they continue to violate the policy.

THIRD VIOLATION: Ask security personnel or a school administrator to escort the visitor off campus or away from the school event.

At the point that a visitor needs to be escorted off campus, and they resist leaving, law enforcement may need to be called in to support school personnel.