

Tobacco use, including cigarette smoking, cigar smoking, and smokeless tobacco use, remains the leading preventable cause of death in the United States. Each year cigarette smoking accounts for approximately five million deaths (including over 400,000 in the United States alone)¹. This year, in Vermont alone, 42,000 children will be exposed to secondhand smoke at home, and 600 of our students will become daily smokers (a third of whom will die prematurely as a result)². In an effort to reduce and prevent the dangerous impacts that tobacco has on our youth, grant funding is available to Vermont school districts and supervisory unions through the Vermont Agency of Education. Funds are appropriated annually by the Vermont Legislature to support these local education agencies (LEAs) in coordinating programs and implementing tobacco prevention strategies at the local level based on these Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommendations:

- Prohibit tobacco use at all school facilities and events;
- Encourage and help students and staff to quit using tobacco;
- Provide developmentally-appropriate instruction in grades K-12 that address the social and psychological causes of tobacco use;
- Are part of a coordinated school health program through which teachers, students, families, administrators, and community leaders deliver a consistent message about tobacco use; and
- Are reinforced by community-wide efforts to prevent tobacco use and addiction.

The list below serves as a sample of activities that an LEA may conduct using AOE grant funds if supported by their needs assessment.

Policy : Communication and enforcement of local policies and procedures; implementation of CDC's *School Health Index*; organization of coordinated school health teams.

Instruction: Development of local health education scope and sequence; development of local health education assessments; utilization of CDC's *Health Education Curriculum Analysis Tool*.

Curriculum: CDC recommends that tobacco prevention curricula be introduced in elementary school, intensified in middle school, and reinforced throughout high school. With this in mind, grant funds can cover activities and fees associated with implementing tobacco prevention curricula which may include: coordination, staffing, training, travel, and curricula materials and supplies to enhance and expand delivery.

Training: Staff and student leader professional development.

Family/Community Involvement: Local enhancement of statewide tobacco prevention media campaigns; hosting parent dialogue nights; youth/adult partnership activities, etc.

Tobacco-Use Cessation Efforts: Linking students, staff and family members to cessation resources.

Evaluation: Participation in statewide program evaluations conducted by the Vermont Tobacco Evaluation and Review Board's independent evaluator; local and statewide data collection efforts such as *Youth Risk Behavior Survey*.

¹ http://www.tobaccofreekids.org/facts_issues/tobacco_101/

² http://www.tobaccofreekids.org/facts_issues/toll_us/vermont

FY14 Agency of Education Formula Allocations by LEA

SD/SU	enrollment	Amount	SD/SU	enrollment	Amount
Addison Central SU	1,702	\$10,893	Orange East SU	1,151	\$7,366
Addison Northeast SU	1,577	\$10,093	Orange North SU	699	\$5,500
Addison Northwest SU	1,068	\$6,835	Orange Southwest SU	828	\$5,500
Addison Rutland SU	1,321	\$8,454	Orange Windsor SU	859	\$5,500
Barre SU	2,357	\$15,085	Orleans Central SU	1,067	\$6,829
Battenkill Valley SU	363	\$5,500	Orleans Southwest SU	999	\$6,394
Bennington Rutland SU	888	\$5,683	Rice Memorial HS	380	\$5,500
Blue Mountain SD	400	\$5,500	Rivendell Interstate	440	\$5,500
Burlington SD	3,603	\$23,059	Rutland Central SU	976	\$6,246
Burr & Burton Academy	688	\$5,500	Rutland City SD	2,278	\$14,579
Caledonia Central SU	652	\$5,500	Rutland Northeast SU	1,455	\$9,312
Caledonia North SU	895	\$5,728	Rutland South SU	874	\$5,594
Chittenden Central SU	2,488	\$15,923	Rutland Southwest SU	599	\$5,500
Chittenden East SU	2,621	\$16,774	Rutland Windsor SU	369	\$5,500
Chittenden South SU	3,911	\$25,030	South Burlington SD	2,354	\$15,066
Colchester SD	2,115	\$13,536	Southwest Vermont SU	3,100	\$19,840
Dresden (SAU 70)	366	\$5,500	Springfield SD	1,325	\$5,500
Essex Caledonia SU	448	\$5,500	St Johnsbury Academy	919	\$5,882
Essex North SU	189	\$5,500	St Johnsbury SD	604	\$5,500
Essex Town SD	1,218	\$7,795	Thetford Academy	319	\$5,500
Franklin Central SU	2,674	\$17,114	Washington Central SU	1,510	\$9,664
Franklin Northeast SU	1,517	\$9,709	Washington Northeast	566	\$5,500
Franklin Northwest SU	2,101	\$13,446	Washington South SU	626	\$5,500
Franklin West SU	1,524	\$9,754	Washington West SU	1,832	\$11,725
Grand Isle SU	556	\$5,500	Windham Central SU	873	\$5,500
Hartford SD	1,551	\$9,926	Windham Northeast SU	1,167	\$7,469
Lamoille North SU	1,773	\$11,347	Windham Southeast SU	2,455	\$15,712
Lamoille South SU	1,551	\$9,926	Windham Southwest SU	623	\$5,500
Lyndon Institute	603	\$5,500	Windsor Central SU	980	\$5,500
Milton SD	1,575	\$10,080	Windsor Northwest SU	438	\$5,500
Montpelier SD	944	\$6,042	Windsor Southeast SU	1,117	\$7,149
North Country SU	2,583	\$16,531	Windsor Southwest SU	901	\$5,766
			Winooski SD	734	\$5,500
			TOTAL FOR ALLOCATIONS	83,239	\$576,357

Title 16: Education

Chapter 23: COURSES OF STUDY

16 V.S.A. § 909. Tobacco use, alcohol and drug abuse prevention education curriculum

§ 909. Tobacco use, alcohol and drug abuse prevention education curriculum

(a) The department of education, in conjunction with the alcohol and drug abuse council, and where appropriate, with the division of health promotion, is hereby authorized and directed to develop a sequential alcohol and drug abuse prevention education curriculum for elementary and secondary schools. The curriculum shall include teaching about the effects and legal consequences of the possession and use of tobacco products.

(b) The department of education shall:

(1) provide for pre-service and in-service training programs for school personnel on alcohol and drug abuse prevention and on the effects and legal consequences of the possession and use of tobacco products. At least one training program shall be made available in electronic format. Each superintendent shall determine the content, duration, and frequency of training on issues concerning alcohol and drug abuse for the districts in his or her supervisory union;

(2) provide teaching materials which are appropriate to the age and learning ability of the students;

(3) provide technical assistance to the local school districts for implementation of the curriculum;

(4) encourage coordination of effort with existing community resources.

(c) [Repealed.] (Added 1983, No. 51, § 3, eff. April 22, 1983; amended 1987, No. 162 (Adj. Sess.), § 1; 1995, No. 52, § 2; 1997, No. 58, § 11; 2007, No. 154 (Adj. Sess.), § 8.)

Chapter 23: COURSES OF STUDY

16 V.S.A. § 906. Course of study

§ 906. Course of study

(a) In public schools, approved and recognized independent schools and in home study programs, learning experiences shall be provided for pupils in the minimum course of study.

(b) For purposes of this title, the minimum course of study means learning experiences adapted to a pupil's age and ability in the fields of:

(1) Basic communication skills, including reading, writing, and the use of numbers;

(2) Citizenship, history, and government in Vermont and the United States;

(3) Physical education and comprehensive health education including the effects of tobacco, alcoholic drinks, and drugs on the human system and on society;

(4) English, American and other literature;

(5) The natural sciences; and

(6) The fine arts. (Added 1969, No. 298 (Adj. Sess.), § 65; amended 1981, No. 151 (Adj. Sess.), § 4; 1987, No. 132 (Adj. Sess.); No. 270 (Adj. Sess.), § 4, eff. Sept. 1, 1989; 1989, No. 44, § 4, eff. June 1, 1990.)

Title 16: Education

Chapter 1: ADMINISTRATION GENERALLY

16 V.S.A. § 131. Definitions

§ 131. Definitions

For the purposes of this subchapter, "comprehensive health education" means a systematic and extensive elementary and secondary educational program designed to provide a variety of learning experiences based upon knowledge of the human organism as it functions within its environment. The term includes the study of:

- (1) Body structure and function, including the physical, psychosocial and psychological basis of human development, sexuality and reproduction;
- (2) Community health to include environmental health, pollution, public health and world health;
- (3) Safety including:
 - (A) first aid, disaster prevention, and accident prevention; and
 - (B) information regarding and practice of compression-only cardiopulmonary resuscitation and the use of automated external defibrillators;
- (4) Disease, such as HIV infection, other sexually transmitted diseases, as well as other communicable diseases, and the prevention of disease;
- (5) Family health and mental health, including instruction which promotes the development of responsible personal behavior involving decision making about sexual activity including abstinence; skills which strengthen existing family ties involving communication, cooperation, and interaction between parents and students; and instruction to aid in the establishment of strong family life in the future, thereby contributing to the enrichment of the community; and which promotes an understanding of depression and the signs of suicide risk in a family member or fellow student that includes how to respond appropriately and seek help and provides an awareness of the available school and community resources such as the local suicide crisis hotline;
- (6) Personal health habits including dental health;
- (7) Consumer health including health careers, health costs and utilizing health services;
- (8) Human growth and development, including understanding the physical, emotional and social elements of individual development and interpersonal relationships including instruction in parenting methods and styles. This shall include information regarding the possible outcomes of premature sexual activity, contraceptives, adolescent pregnancy, childbirth, adoption, and abortion;
- (9) Drugs including education about alcohol, caffeine, nicotine and prescribed drugs;
- (10) Nutrition; and
- (11) How to recognize and prevent sexual abuse and sexual violence, including developmentally appropriate instruction about promoting healthy and respectful relationships, developing and maintaining effective communication with trusted adults, recognizing sexually offending behaviors, and gaining awareness of available school and community resources. An employee of the school shall be in the room during the provision of all instruction or information presented under this subdivision (11). (Added 1977, No. 131 (Adj. Sess.), § 1, eff. March 3, 1978; amended 1987, No. 270 (Adj. Sess.), § 1; 2005, No. 114 (Adj. Sess.), § 2; 2009, No. 1, § 3, eff. July 1, 2011; 2011, No. 151 (Adj. Sess.), § 1, eff. May 16, 2012; No. 156 (Adj. Sess.), § 29, eff. May 16, 2012.)