

North America Alcohol, Tobacco & Marijuana Student Policy

OIEG Oxford International Education Group

Name of Institution

7th February 2022

4th November, 2024

**Alcohol, Tobacco & Marijuana
Student Policy**

Name of Policy

Effective Date

Revision Date

Halifax, Toronto & Vancouver

Alcohol

The legal drinking age in British Columbia, Nova Scotia and Ontario is 19. Students are reminded to consume alcohol responsibly and to ensure they have planned a safe route home if they intend on drinking alcohol. Students may not come to school while under the influence of alcohol and may not consume alcohol on the school premises. It is illegal for anyone under the age of 19 to buy, be served or consume alcohol, or to enter a drinking establishment. It is illegal for anyone over the age of 19 to purchase alcohol for a minor.

Tobacco

In British Columbia, Nova Scotia, and Ontario, smoking is prohibited in most indoor public spaces, including restaurants, pubs, bars, lounges, clubs, malls, on public transportation, or in any other enclosed public space or building. These provinces have smoke-free regulations that protect individuals from secondhand smoke in these areas.

The legal smoking age is 19 in both British Columbia and Nova Scotia. In Ontario, the legal age to smoke and purchase tobacco products is also 19, except in Toronto, where the legal smoking age is 16 for smoking, though individuals must be 19 to purchase tobacco. It is illegal for anyone under the legal age to buy tobacco or to smoke in public spaces.

Additionally, smoking is banned in outdoor areas such as playgrounds, sports fields, and near building entrances in many municipalities within these provinces.

Marijuana

As of October 17, 2018, recreational marijuana (cannabis) is legal in Canada for anyone 19 years of age or older. Students may not come to school while under the influence of marijuana. Students are prohibited from bringing marijuana to school and may not consume marijuana in any form on school premises. Students are reminded that while

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cannabis is legal in Canada, taking cannabis out of the country by car, airplane, or any other method is illegal.

It is recommended that students familiarize themselves with their home country's laws regarding cannabis, as their country may prohibit recreational marijuana use for its citizens even when they are abroad and students who choose to use marijuana in Canada may face harsh penalties on returning home. Students who choose to use marijuana should do so responsibly and ensure they have all relevant information in order to maintain their own safety and good health. Illegal Drugs Students must obey and respect all Canadian laws. It is illegal to use, buy or sell heroin, cocaine and other illegal drugs in all of Canada.

New York City

Alcohol

In New York, the legal drinking age is 21 years old. Students are reminded to consume alcohol responsibly and to plan a safe way home if they intend to drink. Students are not allowed to come to school while under the influence of alcohol and are prohibited from consuming alcohol on school premises. It is illegal for anyone under the age of 21 to purchase, be served, or consume alcohol, or to enter a drinking establishment such as a bar or nightclub. Additionally, it is illegal for anyone over the age of 21 to purchase alcohol for someone under the legal drinking age.

Tobacco

In New York, smoking is prohibited in most indoor public spaces, including restaurants, bars, lounges, clubs, malls, on public transportation, or in any other enclosed public space or building. These regulations are part of the state's efforts to protect individuals from the dangers of secondhand smoke.

The legal smoking age in New York is 21, in line with both the federal and state laws that prohibit the sale and distribution of tobacco products to anyone under the age of 21. It is illegal for anyone under the legal age to purchase tobacco products, and smoking is also banned in many outdoor areas such as playgrounds, sports fields, and near building entrances. Smoking is prohibited in certain areas of public parks and beaches as well.

Additionally, the use of e-cigarettes and vaping devices is regulated in the same way as tobacco smoking, meaning vaping is also banned in most public indoor spaces and certain outdoor areas.

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Marijuana

As of March 31, 2021, recreational marijuana (cannabis) is legal in New York for adults aged 21 years and older. Adults are allowed to possess up to 3 ounces of cannabis flower and 24 grams of concentrated cannabis for personal use. However, marijuana use is not permitted on school grounds or in the vicinity of schools, and students are prohibited from being on school property while under the influence of marijuana. Additionally, students are not allowed to bring marijuana to school or consume it in any form on school premises.

While cannabis is legal in New York, it is important to remember that transporting marijuana across state lines remains illegal, regardless of local laws. Taking marijuana out of New York by car, plane, or any other method is against federal law and could result in serious legal consequences.

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