

**ATHENS CITY SCHOOLS VAPE AWARENESS, EDUCATION, AND
PREVENTION POLICY**

The purpose of this policy is to establish a vape awareness, education, and prevention program to prohibit the possession and use of prohibited tobacco, tobacco products, electronic nicotine delivery systems, e-liquids, and alternative nicotine products by students in public K-12 schools.

A. Student Prohibition:

The possession or use of tobacco, tobacco products, electronic nicotine delivery systems, e-liquids, and alternative nicotine products is prohibited by any student at Athens City Schools, on a school bus, or at any school-sponsored function.

B. Violation:

Any student who violates the prohibition contained within this policy may be subject to graduated consequences, which may include, but are not limited to:

- a. Notification of the student's parent or legal guardian shall be made regarding the violation.
- b. Required participation in the Alabama State Board of Education-approved vaping awareness, education, and prevention class.
- c. In-school suspension, out-of-school suspension, or placement in an alternative school.
- d. Referral of the matter to the juvenile court for disposition.
- e. Or, any combination of the foregoing.

(Note that school officials are not limited to the foregoing consequences, or required to implement them in that order. Disciplinary consequences may be tailored for each situation.)

C. Complaint procedure:

Complaints may be made against students for violations of this policy. When a complaint is lodged against a student for violating the prohibition, the complaint must be memorialized in writing. An anonymous report may not be used as the sole basis for imposition of formal disciplinary action. Once a complaint is made against a student for a violation, the complaint form should be forwarded to the principal (or designee) for investigation.

The complaint form must include all of the following information: Student name; Date, time, and location of violation; Description of violation; Name(s) of witness(es); Any other pertinent information. A complaint form is included in this policy.

(Note that the existence of this procedure does not preclude any student, school employee, or other person from reporting a violation of this policy by other means.)

D. Investigation Procedure and Response:

Once the principal (or designee) receives a complaint with respect to a violation of this policy, then he/she may investigate the alleged violation. If the principal (or designee) concludes that a violation has occurred, then the principal (or designee) shall proceed to take such disciplinary action as he/she determines is warranted, which may include the student being subject to the consequences listed above in “B”.

Any and all consequences shall conform with applicable disability, anti-discrimination, education laws, and school discipline policies. Additionally, where the complaint form has been used as set forth herein, a copy of the complaint form and any disposition report shall be placed in the student’s permanent record.

E. Miscellaneous:

Nothing in this policy shall be construed to infringe on any right provided to a student pursuant to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, or the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, provided that student information related to this policy shall be included as necessary into any and all Individualized Education Plans (IEPs), behavioral intervention plans, and other similar documents.

F. Employee Prohibition:

The use of tobacco, tobacco products, electronic nicotine delivery systems, e-liquids, and alternative nicotine products by any teacher, administrator, or other school employee on the campus of any public K-12 school is prohibited.

Adopted: March 24, 2026

Authority: Alabama Act 2025-403

ACS Vaping Complaint Form

Name of student violating the policy: _____

Date of Violation: _____ Time of violation: _____ Location
of Violation: _____

Description of the Violation: _____

Name(s) of witness(es) to violation of the policy: _____

Other pertinent information: _____
