
SECTION: J - Students
POLICY TITLE: Electronic Devices at School
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1. PURPOSE AND PHILOSOPHY

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for the appropriate use of electronic devices while students are in school.

2. GUIDELINES FOR USE

2.1. This policy includes but is not limited to the following electronic devices:

- 2.1.1. a cell phone which includes a smartphone, feature phone, mobile phone, satellite phone, or personal digital assistant,
- 2.1.2. emerging technology which is a device that can act in place of or as an extension of an individual's cell phone,
- 2.1.3. a smart watch which is a wearable computing device that closely resembles a wristwatch or other time-keeping device with the capacity to act in place of or as an extension of an individual's cellphone. A smartwatch does not include a device that can only receive and display notification or information without the capability to respond.
- 2.1.4. No electronic devices shall be during school hours except during lunch and as outlined in section 3.
- 2.1.5. Students may have electronic devices in their possession but they must be turned off during the school day.
- 2.1.6. Electronic devices may be appropriately used before and after school. If, however, that device causes a disturbance on school grounds, it may be confiscated. See Policy CC Form B.
- 2.1.7. Students shall not use electronic devices at any time or place for:
 - 2.1.7.1. Activities which disrupt the educational environment,
 - 2.1.7.2. Illegal activities in violation of state or federal laws or regulations

- 2.1.7.3. Unethical activities, such as cheating on assignments or tests,
- 2.1.7.4. Immoral or pornographic activities,
- 2.1.7.5. Activities which violate Board of Trustees policies and procedures relating to student conduct and harassment,
- 2.1.7.6. Activities that invade the privacy of others.

3. EXCEPTIONS

- 3.1. Exceptions to this policy may be granted by the UCAS administration for the following reasons:
 - 3.1.1. to respond to an imminent threat to the health or safety of an individual
 - 3.1.2. to respond to a school-wide emergency
 - 3.1.3. to use the SafeUT Crisis Line
 - 3.1.4. for a student's IEP or Section 504 accommodation plan,
 - 3.1.5. to address a documented medical necessity that is approved by school administration, or
 - 3.1.6. Other reasons approved by the UCAS administration.
- 3.2. A parent may request an accommodation for their student to briefly use a cellphone, smart watch, or emerging technology in a specified area during non-instructional time.

4. CONSEQUENCES FOR VIOLATION

- 4.1. Teachers (employees, counselors, technicians, secretaries, other staff, etc.) may confiscate electronic devices if used in violation of the above guidelines.
- 4.2. Confiscated electronic devices will be returned to the student or to the parent.
- 4.3. Refusal to surrender electronic devices upon request is considered insubordination and will result in suspension.
- 4.4. Misuse of electronic devices may result in students losing computer access, Mountainland Technology (MTECH) and/or Utah Valley University (UVU) access, suspension, or expulsion.
- 4.5. Electronic equipment that has been seized may be subject to search.

5. CONFISCATED ELECTRONIC DEVICES

- 5.1. Only licensed UCAS personnel (unless other employees are specifically identified in policy) may confiscate student electronic devices.
- 5.2. Licensed UCAS employees are discouraged from searching or reviewing material or numbers stored on student electronic devices except under compelling circumstances. Thus, students and parents should be informed and understand that confiscated electronic devices may be subject to search by school officials in certain circumstances.
- 5.3. Licensed UCAS employees may search an electronic device if the device is found by the employee for the limited purpose of determining the device's owner.
- 5.4. UCAS will do their best to guard and protect confiscated electronic devices, but are not responsible

for loss, damage, theft.

6. OTHER PROVISIONS

- 6.1. Picture taking or recording by students is strictly forbidden in school or school activity private areas such as locker rooms, counseling sessions, restrooms, etc.
- 6.2. Students are responsible for their own electronic devices. If devices are borrowed or taken and misused by non-owners, device owners are jointly responsible for the misuse or policy violation(s).
- 6.3. Parents and students will be notified of this policy as early as possible in the school year. The policy will be covered in the Utah County Academy of Sciences (UCAS) Student Handbook.

REFERENCES

UCAS POLICY CC
UTAH ADMIN. CODE R277-495, et seq.
S.B. 69, 2026 Utah Legislative Session

FORMS

None

HISTORY

Revised. – June 16, 2026. Definitions and guidelines for cell phone restrictions in section 2.1 – 2.1.3. Updates to exceptions in section 3.1.1 – 3.1.3

Updated – October 2018

Approved – March 19, 2013
