Cellular Devices in School

A. Legal Authority/Reference

- UCA 53G-7-227 Cellular device prohibition
- R277-495 Electronic Devices in Public Schools

B. Definitions

1. "AI Glasses" – means wearable eyewear that:
   a. Incorporates one or more sensors, including cameras, microphones, accelerometers, gyroscopes, or biometric sensors.
   b. Uses artificial intelligence, machine learning algorithms, or neural networks to process, analyze, or interpret data captured by the sensors in real-time or near real-time.
   c. Provides information, overlays, translations, identification, or other augmented content to the wearer through visual displays, audio output, or haptic feedback, and
   d. May transmit, store, or share data to external devices, networks, or cloud-based services.
   e. Does not include:
      i. Prescription eyeglasses or sunglasses without electronic components
      ii. Wearable devices used solely for reading glasses or vision correction without data collection or processing capabilities.
      iii. Protective eyewear that contains only passive sensors without artificial intelligence processing capabilities, or
      iv. Virtual reality headsets designed primarily for immersive gaming or entertainment.

2. "Cellphone" - means a handheld, portable electronic device that is designed to be operated using one or both hands and is capable of transmitting and receiving voices, data, or text communication.

   a. by means of
      i. cell network,
      ii. satellite network, or
      iii. other wireless technology.
   b. Includes:
      i. smartphones,
      ii. feature phones,
      iii. mobile phones,
      iv. satellite phone, or
      v. personal digital assistant that incorporates capabilities similar to a cellphone.

3. "School hours" means the time from the beginning of the school day, as designated by the school's bell schedule, until the end of the school day, as designated by the school's

bell schedule, including all instructional time, lunch periods, recess, and transition times between classes.

a. Beginning 5 minutes before 1st period
b. Ending at the conclusion of the last scheduled period of the day (including FLEX period)

4. "Emerging Technology" means any other device that has or will be able to act in place of or as an extension of an individual's cell phone.

5. "Smart Watch" means 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 tan individual's cell phone.
   a. Does not include a wearable device that can only.
      i. Tell time.
      j. Monitor an individual's health informatics.
      k. Receive and display notification or information without the capability to respond, or
      l. Track the individual's physical location.

C. Prohibitions of the Use of Devices

A student in attendance may not use a cell phone, smart watch, AI glasses, or emerging technology at InTech **during** school hours, except lunchtime.

1. Regardless of the location of the student
   a. Including any area of the InTech campus (including corridors, restrooms, parking/blacktop, or BTECH administer areas)

2. Regardless of the schedule of the student

3. a. Including students who have release periods, hall passes or are otherwise present in the building/on campus during school hours.

4. Except as allowed by law:
   a. To respond to an imminent threat to the health or safety of an individual
   b. To respond to a school-wide emergency
   c. Using the Safe UT Crisis Line/App
   d. In accordance with a student's IEP or 504 accommodation plans
   e. To address a medical necessity
   f. Upon approval of a written request for accommodation of a parent for the student to use a cellphone, smart watch or emerging technology in a specified area of the school ***between*** classes.

5. Teachers may allow specific exceptions in their own classroom.
   a. So long as they do so on an even basis

The exception does not create difficulties for instruction or school operations in other locations.

D. Consequences for Violations

1. Confiscation

    a. A staff member may confiscate a device used at a prohibited time.
        i. The device will be stored in the main office for student pickup.
        ii. Or, for repeat offences, the device may be stored in the main office for parent pickup.
    b. Students who refuse to allow their device to be confiscated will be suspended for a day (3-6 class period).

2. Grading

    a. Students using a device during assessment may be presumed to be cheating.

3. Searches

    a. Searches of devices may only be conducted by administrators if otherwise allowed/required by law.

4. Extended Restriction

    a. The executive director may extend restrictions on individual student use of cell phones, smart watches, or emerging technologies to non-classroom hours during the school day, including:
        i. Lunch periods
        ii. Other school activities

Document History

25 Sept 2026 Added AI glasses

01 July 2026 Replaced “class time” with “school day.”

23 Oct 2025 Policy Origination