

(Sample)
Sun Safety Policy for Schools



Nevada Senate Bill 159, which became law July 1, 2019, requires public and private schools to implement sun safety policy and to allow students to possess and self-administer sunscreen in school settings. SB 159 specifies that sunscreen *must not* be considered an over-the-counter medication.

The following policy is now in effect for *(Your School Name)*.

Introduction and Rationale

We are committed to protecting the health and safety of students and staff while providing and encouraging appropriate physical activities and opportunities. Students and staff spend time in the sun during school hours and before and after school in recreation and sports programs. Local weather and environmental conditions are often at intensities that may result in negative health consequences, including sunburns.

Too much sun exposure can be dangerous. Overexposure to the sun's ultraviolet (UV) radiation seriously threatens human health. In addition to the immediate effect of sunburn, exposure to excess UV radiation can cause a potentially fatal skin cancer, immune system suppression, premature aging and cataracts. Children are especially susceptible to harmful UV radiation and childhood exposure and sunburns in childhood are a primary indicator for developing skin cancer later in life.

About 1 in 5 Americans will develop skin cancer during their lifetime, despite the preventable nature of the disease. Educating children about sun safety and making sun protection a part of school culture is crucial to protecting our children and youth, and to reducing skin cancer incidence in Nevada.

The following **Policy and Guidelines** are adopted by *(Your School Name)*:

During **all outdoor activities** including but not limited to: PE Classes; Athletic Practices and Competitions; Field Trips; Before- and After-School activities; Recesses; and Club Meetings, *(Your School Name)* students and staff are allowed and encouraged to use the following protective measures:

- Wear protective clothing, including hats and sunglasses
- Apply SPF 30+ sunscreen and reapply at least every two hours
 - Students may bring and apply their own sunscreen
 - Schools may provide sunscreen for students, staff
- Apply and reapply SPF lip balm
- Access shade when outdoors, as appropriate
- Limit exposure during peak midday hours, as possible and as appropriate

Attribution: Following requirements of Nevada SB 159 and the recommendation of the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention, the National School Boards of Education, American Academy of Dermatology, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Nevada School Boards Association, Nevada Dermatology and Dermatologic Surgery Association, Nevada Cancer Coalition, and many others, we hereby create this policy as of

_____, _____.