

NUAMES Cell Phone & Smart Device Policy

Policy Effective Date: — 2025

Legal Reference: Utah Code § 53G-7-226 (SB178)

1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to support a focused learning environment by limiting distractions caused by personal electronic devices during instructional time, in compliance with Utah law.

2. Devices Covered

This policy applies to:

- Cellphones (smartphones, feature phones, flip phones)
- Smartwatches and wearable devices with communication function
- Tablets
- Emerging technologies acting as an extension of a cellphone (e.g., connected earbuds)
- Any non-school-issued personal communication device

3. General Rule

During classroom hours, students may not use, display, or access personal devices unless expressly allowed under an approved exception. Devices should be silenced and stored in backpacks, or classroom-designated areas.

Classroom hours include:

- All scheduled, teacher-supervised instructional time, including time when a teacher is not engaging in actual instruction
- Virtual or in-person learning sessions during regular school hours

Classroom hours do *NOT* include:

- Lunch periods

- Time between classes
- After-school activities (unless part of an extended learning program)
- Independent study time outside of scheduled instruction

4. Exceptions

Students may use devices during classroom hours only if:

- Responding to an imminent health or safety threat
- Responding to a school-wide emergency
- Contacting or reporting via the SafeUT Crisis Line
- Required by a student’s IEP or 504 plan
- Addressing a documented medical necessity (with parent and administrative approval)
- Accessing WSU Duo login
- Given permission by the teacher

School staff must be notified of any exception related to medical or disability accommodation.

5. Additional School Restrictions

NUAMES also restricts device use during:

- Assemblies and school-wide instructional events
- Any time when directed by school staff for safety, testing, or academic integrity purposes

6. Enforcement and Consequences

Violations will be handled progressively:

Offense	Consequence
1st	Verbal warning + device stored until end of period

- 2nd Device confiscated and held in office until parent retrieval

- 3rd Administrative referral, possible loss of extracurricular privileges

- Repeated Individualized behavior contract and/or restricted device use for remainder of term

Refusal to comply may result in disciplinary action per the school's code of conduct.

7. Policy Review and Updates

Any updates to Utah law or best practices may result in a revision of this policy. The school will provide notice of any changes.