



Board Policy Series

900 Series: Ten Commandments

Module 900: *Ten Commandments*

The Ten Commandments Module 900 provides a comprehensive summary of statutes and regulations that apply to charter schools in regard to posting of the Ten Commandments.

Table of Contents

900.010. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 1. Purpose of Policy

Section 2. Policy Provisions

900.010. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 1. Purpose of Policy.

Universal Academy (hereafter “the school”) is required to display in a conspicuous place in each classroom of the school a durable poster or framed copy of the Ten Commandments

Section 2. Policy Provisions.

Section 2.1. Poster Requirements.

A poster or framed copy of the Ten Commandments must:

- a. include only the text of the Ten Commandments as provided in a size and typeface that is legible to a person with average vision from anywhere in the classroom in which the poster or framed copy is displayed; and
- b. be at least 16 inches wide and 20 inches tall.

Section 2.2. Text Requirements.

The text of the poster or framed copy of the Ten Commandments must read as follows:

- "The Ten Commandments
- I AM the LORD thy God.
- Thou shalt have no other gods before me.
- Thou shalt not make to thyself any graven images.
- Thou shalt not take the Name of the Lord thy God in vain.
- Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.
- Honor thy father and thy mother, that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.
- Thou shalt not kill.
- Thou shalt not commit adultery.
- Thou shalt not steal.
- Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.
- Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's house
- Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his cattle, nor anything that is thy neighbor's."

Section 2.2. Donated or Purchased Poster Requirements.

A Universal Academy elementary or secondary school in which each classroom does not include a poster or framed copy of the Ten Commandments must:

- a. accept any offer of a privately donated poster or framed copy of the Ten Commandments provided that the poster or framed copy meets the requirements of Sections 2.1 and 2.2 and does not contain any additional content.
- b. may, but is not required to, purchase posters or copies that meet the requirements of Sections 2.1 and 2.2 using district funds.

Section 2.3. No Exemption to Posting Requirement.

- a. Notwithstanding any other law, a public elementary or secondary school is not exempt from this section.
- b. The attorney general shall defend a public elementary or secondary school in a cause of action relating to any claims arising out of a school's compliance with this section. In a cause of action defended by the attorney general under this subsection, the state is liable for the expenses, costs, judgments, or settlements of the claims arising out of the representation. The attorney general may settle or compromise any and all claims under this subsection.