

Smoke Free UB Policy

Approved by the Breathe Free UB Committee: December 6, 2017

Date Established: TBD

Date Last Updated:

Category: Administration and Governance

Responsible Office: to be determined

Responsible Executive: to be determined

Summary

The University at Buffalo is committed to providing a healthy, comfortable, and safe smoke-, vape- and tobacco-free environment for its students, faculty, staff, and visitors.

Policy Statement

The University at Buffalo (UB, university) supports an environment where its students, employees, and visitors are not exposed to secondhand smoke. Therefore, smoking, vaping and the use of tobacco-related products is prohibited on all university-managed property, both indoors and outdoors. This includes but is not limited to:

- all buildings on the North, South, Downtown and Medical campuses, classrooms, lecture halls, residences, residence halls, apartments, laboratories (not including labs which have received a waiver from the Erie County Health Commissioner to conduct smoking research), offices, work areas, study areas, reception areas, meeting rooms, lobbies, hallways, stairwells, elevators, eating areas, lounges, restrooms
- off-site locations such as the Anderson Gallery, UB Downtown Gateway, Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, Educational Opportunity Center, Ira G. Ross Eye Institute, Jacobs Executive Development Center, and Baird Research Park
- locations including near building air intakes, parking lots and garages, sidewalks, roads, athletic fields, tracks, bleachers/grandstands, outdoor paths, fields and open land areas
- all partially enclosed areas including, but not limited to covered and uncovered walkways, breezeways, bus stop shelters, loading docks, building entrances, and exterior stairways and landings
- all vehicles owned and leased by the University at Buffalo or its affiliated organizations.

Organizers of and attendees at public events, such as conferences, meetings, lectures, social events, cultural events, and/or athletic events using university-managed property will be required to abide by the Smoke Free UB policy. Organizers of such events are responsible for communicating this policy to attendees.

Background

1. Health risks associated with smoking are well documented. Research findings show that tobacco use, including smoking and breathing secondhand smoke, constitutes a significant health hazard. Smoking also contributes to institutional costs including fire damage, cleaning and maintenance, and costs associated with employee absenteeism, health care, and medical insurance.
2. Regardless of whether it is inhaled indoors or outdoors, people exposed to secondhand smoke inhale the same chemicals that smokers do, including 33 hazardous air pollutants and 47 chemicals restricted as hazardous waste.
3. Members of the UB community who smoke are inadvertently exposing those who don't smoke to dozens of deleterious chemicals, many of which cause cancer or are regulated at hazardous waste sites, increasing the risk for premature sickness and death.

Applicability

This policy applies to all members of the university community including but not limited to faculty, staff, students, volunteers, trainees, supplemental staff employed through contract agencies or outside trade unions, vendors, guests, and visitors.

Definitions

Secondhand Smoke

A mixture of the smoke or vapor given off by the burning end of a cigarette, electronic cigarette, cigar, cigarillo, pipe, bidis, kretek, water pipe, bong, hookah, heat-not-burn product, other nicotine delivery device and the smoke exhaled from the lungs of smokers.

Smoking

Burning any type of matter or substance that contains tobacco including but not limited to cigarettes, electronic cigarettes, cigars, cigarillos, pipes, bidis, kreteks, water pipes, bongs, hookahs and heat-not-burn products.

Tobacco-related

Applies to the use of a tobacco brand or corporate name, trademark, logo, symbol, motto, selling message, recognizable pattern or colors, or any other indicia of product identical to or similar to, or identifiable with, those used for any brand of tobacco products or company which manufactures tobacco products.

Vaping

The use of an electronic cigarette or "e-cigarette" — any battery-operated device that contains cartridges filled with a combination of nicotine, flavor and chemicals that are turned into vapor and inhaled by the user.

University-managed Property

Property or facilities either owned, leased, or controlled by the University or its related entities, also referred to as “campus”.

University Organizations

Institutionalized organizations for students and/or staff that receive funding directly from the university, and which are coordinated or directed by university staff. Affiliate organizations include those societies, clubs, or the like which are formed because of the special interest of any particular group of students.

Responsibility

Effective implementation of this policy depends on the courtesy, respect, and cooperation of all members of the University at Buffalo community.

All Members of the University Community

Comply with this policy in a courteous, respectful, and cooperative manner.

Supervisors (University and Vendors)

Communicate this policy to their employees and volunteers.

Event Organizers

Communicate this policy to event attendees.

Procedure

Effective Date

This Smoke Free UB policy supersedes all previous smoke free policies, though the provisions of the UB Smoke Free Policy dated December 1, 2009 and last updated August 1, 2010 remain in effect:

- The University at Buffalo shall be entirely smoke-free effective August 1, 2009
- All designated smoking areas will be eliminated.
- All ash receptacles will be removed.
- New “No Smoking” signs or the international symbol for “No Smoking” will be placed at various locations on campus and in University-owned vehicles.
- Cigarettes, electronic cigarettes, cigars, cigarillos, pipes, bidis, kreteks, water pipes, bongos, and hookahs will not be sold on university grounds.

Third-Party Vendors

- The sale of tobacco products on campus is prohibited. This includes the delivery of tobacco products to the campus by means of a delivery service of any kind.
- The free distribution of tobacco products to university organizations is prohibited.
- University organizations and affiliated organizations are prohibited from accepting money or gifts from tobacco companies, directly or indirectly. This includes sponsorship

of parties by tobacco companies, distribution of free, reduced, or full price tobacco products, or any promotional items. This does not apply to research funding.

- Tobacco-related advertising is permitted in a newspaper or magazine not produced by the university and which is lawfully sold, bought, or distributed on university-managed property; this includes student-run newspapers.
- Tobacco-related advertising or sponsorship is not permitted:
 - on university-managed property, including billboards or signage in stadiums or on campus, and at university-sponsored events
 - in publications produced by the university.

Notification

This policy will be made known to all UB employees, students, guests, visitors, volunteers, trainees, and supplemental staff employed through contract agencies or outside trade unions.

Employee Notification

Employees will be informed of the Smoke Free UB policy:

1. Presentation during all new-employee orientations
2. Printed and online information included given to all employees
3. By signage placed near doorways and loading docks
4. During health and safety instructional activities
5. By their supervisors

Student Notification

Students will be informed of the Smoke Free UB policy:

1. Presentation during all student orientations (first-year, transfer, international, graduate student, etc.)
2. Printed and online information included given to enrolled students
3. By signage placed near exterior doorways, popular gathering spaces, along walkways, and in residence halls, stairwells and entranceways

Vendor and Contractor Notification

The Smoke Free UB policy will be made known to vendor and contractors through the SUNY Contract/Purchasing bid template

Visitor and Guest Notification

Visitors and guests will be informed of the Smoke Free policy through:

1. Signage placed at campus entrances, major intersections and on directory displays
2. Public address announcements at all university-sponsored activities, including public lectures, arts and entertainment events, commencements, and sporting events.

Additionally, the Smoke Free UB policy will be:

1. communicated to all prospective hires, students, vendors, and contractors
2. announced in various university publications and sites

3. distributed to all event sponsors.

Support and Education

The university understands the addictive nature of smoking and the reality that breaking the habit is extremely difficult for many people. The university will make every effort to assist and encourage those who wish to stop smoking and will offer smoking cessation programs, accessible tobacco treatment, and counseling. Employees should contact the Wellness and Work/Life Balance Office and students should contact Wellness Education Services for assistance with smoking cessation.

Upholding the Policy

It is the responsibility of all members of the UB community (employees, students, guests, visitors, volunteers, trainees, and vendors and contractors) to uphold this policy.

1. If a community member witnesses any person who is violating this policy, they should:
 - a. Courteously inform the offender of the Smoke Free UB policy.
 - b. If the offender continues to smoke, the community member may notify UB Police.
2. UB Police will then:
 - a. Courteously inform the offender of the smoke-free policy.
 - b. Request that the offender cease and refrain from smoking.
3. If the offender is (1) a visitor or guest and (2) non-compliant, the officer will explain that they will be asked to leave the campus because they are in violation of the no smoking policy.
4. If the offender is (1) a vendor or contractor and (2) non-compliant, the officer will issue a notice of the violation to the offender, and provide a copy to Procurement.
5. If the offender is (1) a student and (2) non-compliant, the officer will issue a notice of the violation to the offender, and provide a copy to the Office of Judicial Affairs & Student Advocacy who may decide to impose the following:

First Violation:

- choice 1 — 2 hours of community service (academic hold placed to block class registration/graduation until completed)
- choice 2 — \$50 fine

2+ Violations:

- choice 1 — 2+2 hours of community service for each additional violation with previously stated academic hold
- choice 2 — \$50 fine

5+ Violations:

- Academic hold placed and mandatory counseling required

Additional Violations:

- possible suspension or expulsion

6. If the offender is (1) an employee and (2) non-compliant, the officer will issue a notice of the violation to the offender, and provide a copy to the employee's supervisor and to HR who may decide to impose the following:

First Violation:

- choice 1 – 2 hours of community service or wellness session
- choice 2 – \$50 fine

2+ Violations:

- choice 1 – 2+2 hours of community service for each additional violation
- choice 2 – \$50 fine

5+ Violations:

- Mandatory counseling required

In cases where employees are represented under a collective bargaining agreement, UB will administer policies and procedures including this policy as outlined in the respective collective bargaining agreement.

Contact Information

Department Name:

Room Number and Building:

Buffalo, NY 14xxx

Phone: 716-###-####

Email:

Website: