



Student Affairs

Policy & Procedure

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Issuing Office: University Health Services

Policy Number: FY16-UHS-001-01

Policy Name: UMass Boston Tobacco-Free Campus

Original Date Issued: Tuesday, December 23, 2015

Revision #: 01

Last Update: May 27, 2021

Effective Date: November 19, 2015

Implementation Date: January 19, 2016

Purpose of Policy:

There is considerable evidence that concentrations of smoke are harmful to nonsmokers, as well as smokers. Findings of the Surgeon General indicate that tobacco use in any form, active and passive, is a significant health hazard. The University of Massachusetts Boston has a responsibility to its faculty, staff, students, and visitors to provide a safe and healthy environment.

The Tobacco-Free Campus Policy is intended to eliminate exposure to secondhand smoke, provide an environment supportive of tobacco-free lifestyles, mitigate the risk of accidental fire, eliminate the health risks associated with expectoration from smokeless tobacco, and eliminate the environmental impact of cigarette litter.

With this action, the University of Massachusetts Boston will join the other four campuses of the UMass System, which have implemented a tobacco-free campus policy.

Applicable to: To everyone and anyone on campus, including students, staff, faculty, contractors, and visitors.

Definitions:

Tobacco: For the purposes of this policy, “tobacco” refers to any and all tobacco and/or nicotine products, whether inhaled or ingested, as well as electronic cigarettes.

Tobacco use: Any consumption of tobacco. Usage regulation in this policy does not restrict the legal possession of tobacco.



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Policy:

1. In compliance with state law, the use of tobacco is prohibited in all buildings, including all buildings owned or leased by the University of Massachusetts Boston.
2. The use of tobacco is also prohibited on all university grounds, including the Bayside property.
3. The use of tobacco is prohibited inside all university owned or leased vehicles, regardless of location.
4. Applications for exceptions to this policy may be sought (e.g., for religious celebrations or practices, artistic performances, and smoking research).

The chancellor has appointed a Tobacco-Free Policy Committee representative of students, faculty, and staff to promote the success of this policy. Members include representatives from:

Student Affairs
University Health Services
Faculty Council
Human Resources
Environmental Health and Safety
Undergraduate Student Government

Faculty and staff shall have access to on campus coaching and counseling, including private consultation and group cessation programming, through the University Health Services and through the Employee Assistance Program (EAP).

The university will develop and fund a smoking cessation program to assist students, faculty, and staff who wish to quit smoking

Procedure:

The success of this policy will depend on the thoughtfulness, consideration, and cooperation of smokers and nonsmokers. Students, faculty, and staff have a collective responsibility to promote a healthy and safe campus community and therefore share the responsibility of enforcement. Enforcement will be on the basis of voluntary actions by the university community, with an emphasis on education. Individuals observed smoking will be reminded in a professional and courteous manner, by volunteers trained by the Tobacco-Free Policy Committee, of the university's policy and the availability of cessation programs.



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Annual communications and clear signage (including in all parking areas), flyers, information resources, announcements, and a dedicated web page will inform students, faculty and staff of the policy. Additional communications will be issued in the first year.

Future procedures being developed by the Tobacco-Free Policy Committee:

- Enhance the smoking-cessation resources available to students, faculty, and staff;
- Determine how to manage complaints and exceptions to the Policy; and
- Recommend a budget for future implementation plans and materials.

Oversight Department: University Health Services

Responsible Party within Department: Executive Director for University Health Services

Monitoring:

This policy will be reviewed annually during the first three years by the executive director to ensure the Tobacco-Free Policy Committee has completed its tasks. The Department of Public Safety will document complaints and forward to the Tobacco Free Policy Committee to enhance the policy if warranted.

Authority:

MGL CHAPTER 270 CRIMES AGAINST PUBLIC HEALTH, Section 22 Smoking in Public Places.

Related Documents: