



POLICY STATEMENT 118 TOBACCO-FREE CAMPUS

POLICY DIGEST

Monitoring Unit: Office of Academic Affairs
Initially Issued: August 1, 2014
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I. PURPOSE

The use of tobacco products is harmful to health and imposes costs on LSU and all members of the LSU community. State law [RS 40:1291.23](#) requires LSU to adopt a smoke-free policy and authorizes LSU to adopt a tobacco-free policy. This policy is intended to comply with State law and to balance the individual liberty of members of the LSU community with concern for the significant negative health effects of tobacco use, the costs associated with campus facilities administration, and LSU's ability to recruit students, faculty, and staff.

II. DEFINITIONS

LSU Campus: all land, property, buildings, and other facilities owned, leased, or otherwise controlled by LSU. This includes any land, property, buildings, and other facilities that may be leased by LSU to private third parties, such as fraternities, sororities, affiliated foundations, or others.

Smoking: inhaling, exhaling, burning, carrying, or possessing any lighted tobacco product, including cigarettes, cigars, pipe tobacco, and any other lighted combustible plant material; it also means the use of electronic cigarettes and any other product that is used to deliver nicotine by means of smoke or vapor.

Tobacco Products: any and all forms of tobacco, including but not limited to cigarettes, cigars, pipes, water pipes (hookah), bidis, kreteks, smokeless tobacco, snuff, and chewing tobacco, as well as electronic cigarettes and any other product which is used to deliver nicotine by means of smoke or vapor. This does not include any FDA-approved product or device intended to assist the user to stop smoking or using tobacco products.

III. GENERAL POLICY

Smoking and the use of all tobacco products on the LSU Campus is prohibited. This prohibition applies to all individuals while on the LSU Campus, including faculty, staff, students, administrators, contractors, and visitors.

IV. PROCEDURES

- A. Exceptions to the prohibition of smoking and the use of other tobacco products are authorized as follows:
 1. Research involving tobacco products, provided the university employee obtains the prior approval of the Executive Vice President & Provost and the Vice President for Research &

Economic Development. Smoke, like any other laboratory air contaminant, shall be controlled and subject to any applicable health and safety standards.

2. By artists or actors who participate in university authorized performances that require tobacco use as part of the artistic production.
3. Educational, clinical, or other appropriate purposes with prior approval of the dean or director responsible for the facility as well as the Executive Vice President & Provost.

B. Enforcement

Effective implementation of this policy relies on the courtesy, respect, and cooperation of all members of the university community. It is expected that all members of the LSU community will comply with the policy voluntarily. For those who do not, punitive sanctions should not be imposed until other efforts, such as verbally addressing the issue with the tobacco user or formal warnings of potential disciplinary action, have failed.

1. A single violation of this policy shall not itself be cause for discipline to students, faculty, or staff. Repeated violations of this policy, after discussions with the tobacco user by an appropriate university official and, as appropriate, formal warnings against repeated violations, may be grounds for discipline.
2. If someone is seen using tobacco products on the LSU Campus, any member of the university community may inform the tobacco user of this policy and request that he or she comply. If the user does not comply or if the individual prefers not to directly confront the user, details of the policy violation may be brought to the attention of the appropriate university official responsible for the tobacco user as shown below.
 - a. For faculty members, the faculty member's department/unit head.
 - b. For staff, the employee's supervisor or the [Office of Human Resource Management](#).
 - c. For students, the [Office of Student Advocacy & Accountability](#).
 - d. For contractors, the Executive Director of Facilities Services, or a designee of the office, or to the head of the office for which the contractor is providing services.
 - e. Where the status of the tobacco user is unknown, the matter may be brought to the attention of any appropriate university official. Building coordinators are encouraged to designate an employee to whom concerns about tobacco use in the area near the building may be brought. Any appropriate university official to whom such a concern is brought should request the tobacco user to comply with the policy. If the user refuses to comply or the issue continues to occur, the representative should obtain the identity of the user and make a referral to the appropriate university official.
3. The official to whom the violation is referred will take action as he or she deems appropriate under the circumstances. This may include, but is not limited to, discussing the matter with the tobacco user immediately, issuing a warning letter notifying the user about the policy, requiring the user to meet with appropriate university officials for additional conversations, or for repeated violations, impose appropriate disciplinary sanctions for repeated refusal to

comply with university policy.

C. Notifications and Signage

Ashtrays are no longer provided on the LSU Campus. All ashtrays are to be removed, covered, or otherwise made unusable by the Office of Facility & Property Oversight. Campus signage shall be developed and implemented to inform students, faculty, staff, administrators, contractors, and visitors that LSU is a tobacco-free campus and cessation resources are available. Unit heads must convey information about this policy to their faculty and staff as appropriate.

D. Cessation Assistance

The university is committed to supporting all students and employees who wish to stop using tobacco products; and assistance is available. For a full listing of tobacco cessation resources please visit: <https://www.lsu.edu/shc/wellness/links.php>.

V. SOURCES

[Louisiana Revised Statute 40:1291.23](#)
[PS 49: Building Coordinator](#)