Tobacco-Free

[AGENCY]

**What is a Tobacco-Free [AGENCY]?**

A tobacco-free **[AGENCY]** ensures that everyone who works, visits, and does business with **[AGENCY]** is able to breathe clean, smoke-free air. Committed to promoting and protecting the health of our employees, **[AGENCY]** is proud to join a growing number of state agencies in support of the tobacco-free campus initiative.

On **[MONTH DAY, YEAR]**, **[AGENCY]** announced the implementation of its tobacco-free campus policy **[HYPERLINK TO POLICY]**. Effective **[MONTH DAY, YEAR]**, the use of any kind of tobacco product will not be permitted in any facility or on any property, owned or controlled by **[AGENCY]**.

**Why did we decide to go tobacco-free?**

Claiming the lives of more than 59,000 South Carolinians since 2005, smoking costs the state an estimated $2.173 billion in health care costs each year. The intent of this policy is to create an environment that promotes tobacco prevention, eliminates the risks associated with secondhand smoke, and is conducive to quitting the use of tobacco.

**Covered Individuals**

The rules outlined in this policy apply 24 hours a day, seven days a week to all **[AGENCY]** employees, clients, contractors, vendors, and visitors.

**Definitions**

* ***Tobacco and smoking products*** include all products that are tobacco-derived or contain tobacco, including but not limited to cigarettes, electronic cigarettes, cigars, cigarillos, pipes, water pipes, smokeless tobacco products (chew, pouches, snuff), or any device intended to simulate smoked tobacco. This does not include nicotine replacement therapy, such as nicotine gum, patches, and lozenges.
* ***[AGENCY]* *property*** includes all buildings, facilities, grounds and spaces leased, owned or controlled by the **[AGENCY]**, regardless of whether signs are posted or not.

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**Beginning [MONTH DAY, YEAR]**

Use of any kind of tobacco product will not be permitted in any facility or on any property, owned or controlled by [AGENCY].

**Use of Tobacco Products**

Smoking and the use of tobacco products are prohibited on **[AGENCY]** property. No ashtrays, receptacles, or smoking shelters will be permitted. In addition, the use of tobacco products is prohibited in **[AGENCY]**-owned, operated, or leased vehicles, as well as in personal vehicles parked on **[AGENCY]** property. **[AGENCY]** discourages the use of tobacco products by all covered individuals on properties adjacent to **[AGENCY]** property.

**Enforcement of the Policy**

Enforcement of this policy is the responsibility of all **[AGENCY]** employees. Tobacco-free campus policy information cards will be provided to help facilitate education about and enforcement of the policy.

**Tobacco Cessation Resources**

Tobacco cessation programs are available for **[AGENCY]** employees, visitors, and clients to help individuals quit or abstain from tobacco use. For more information about tobacco cessation, please visit **www.scdhec.gov/quitforkeeps**.

**S.C. Tobacco Quitline**

The S.C. Tobacco Quitline is a **free** counseling service that helps South Carolina smokers and tobacco users quit. Launched in 2006, the Quitline has served over 58,000 people, helping thousands of South Carolinians quit tobacco use, and providing support to doctors, family members, and friends who want to encourage a loved one to quit. For help, call **1-800-QUIT-NOW**.