

University of Maine Tobacco and Smoke Free Policy

SUMMARY

The University of Maine joins with the American College Health Association (ACHA) in supporting the findings of the U.S Surgeon General that tobacco use in any form, active and passive, is a significant health hazard. The University of Maine further recognizes that secondhand smoke has been classified as a Group A carcinogen by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The University of Maine supports the finding that smoking and the use of tobacco products on campus grounds are detrimental to the health and safety of everyone. The University of Maine therefore promotes an environment where the students, faculty, staff, contractors, vendors, and visitors are not exposed to the harmful effects of secondhand smoke and all are supported in efforts to live tobacco-free.

POLICY STATEMENT

The University of Maine is dedicated to providing its students, staff, faculty, and visitors with a safe and healthy environment. The University of Maine is a 100% tobacco and smoke-free campus. This policy became effective on **January 1, 2011**.

This policy prohibits smoking and tobacco use, including electronic tobacco and nicotine delivery products:

- In all university owned, leased, and affiliated buildings, including residence halls and parking lots.
- Administrative facilities, classrooms, and fraternity and sorority houses.
- On all university-owned or leased grounds.
- At all university-sponsored events, both indoor and outdoor.
- In all university-owned, leased, or rented vehicles.
- In all vehicles parked on campus including parking lots.

The Tobacco and Smoke Free Policy applies to all students, faculty, staff, contractors, vendors, and visitors. Organizers of, and attendees at, public events, including but not limited to conferences, meetings, lectures, social events, cultural events and/or athletic events using university owned, leased, and affiliated property are subject to the University of Maine's Tobacco and Smoke Free Policy.

All students and employees should be familiar with the following laws relating to the sale of tobacco products.

- Federal law H.R. 1865 SEC 603 906(d) FFDC 21U.S.C.387f(d) states: "(5) MINIMUM AGE OF SALE.—It shall be unlawful for any retailer to sell a tobacco product to any person younger than 21 years of age."
[\[https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/1865/text#toc-H3554E0FF53864AAA95B27C6EAA9030E7\]](https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/1865/text#toc-H3554E0FF53864AAA95B27C6EAA9030E7).
- Maine State Law Title 22, §1555-B, states if an individual is under 21 years of age they cannot purchase tobacco products, unless the person was 18 years of age as of July 1, 2018. Find more details at the Maine Legislature website
[\[https://legislature.maine.gov/statutes/22/title22sec1555-B.html\]](https://legislature.maine.gov/statutes/22/title22sec1555-B.html).

In addition to prohibiting smoking and tobacco use, and to best support tobacco and smoke-free lifestyles, the University of Maine prohibits:

- The sale or distribution of all tobacco products and paraphernalia on campus or at any campus-sponsored events.

- The advertising and promotion of tobacco products on any owned, leased and affiliated property.
- The advertising and promotion of tobacco products in university publications, including but not limited to, newspapers and magazines.
- Accepting money or goods from tobacco companies, including campus groups, events, individuals, and athletic events.
- Littering the remains of smoking or tobacco products or packaging on any campus owned, leased, or affiliated property.

DEFINITIONS

- A. “Smoking” means inhaling, exhaling, burning, or carrying any lighted or heated cigar, cigarette, pipe or joint, or any other lighted or heated tobacco or plant product intended for inhalation, including hookahs and marijuana, including medical marijuana, whether natural or synthetic in any manner or in any form. “Smoking” also includes the use of an electronic smoking device which creates an aerosol or vapor, in any manner or in any form, or the use of any oral smoking device for the purpose of circumventing the prohibition of smoking in this policy. Examples of electronic smoking devices include Juul, IQOS, Pax Era, or any equivalent products. Students who use medical marijuana because of a disability should consult with Student Accessibility Services.
- B. “Tobacco” is defined as all tobacco-derived or containing products, including but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, little cigars, cigarillos, bidis, kreteks; all smokeless and dissolvable tobacco products, including but not limited to, dip, spit/spit-less, chew, snuff, snus and nasal tobacco, and any product intended to mimic tobacco, containing tobacco flavoring or delivering nicotine, including but not limited to electronic nicotine delivery systems, e-cigarettes, e-cigar, e-hookahs, vape pen, or any other product name or descriptor. Or the use of any other type of tobacco or nicotine product for the purpose of circumventing the prohibition of tobacco in this policy. This does not include products specifically approved by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for the purpose of cessation or nicotine replacement therapy. Find more details on what products are approved by the FDA at [\[https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/cder/daf/index.cfm\]](https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/cder/daf/index.cfm).

CLARIFICATIONS

The following may be permitted:

- Controlled research with prior approval from the University of Maine’s Institutional Review Board.
- Religious ceremonial tobacco use with prior approval from the University of Maine Division of Student Life.

PROCEDURES

The policy will be communicated through the following:

- New student orientation.
- New employee orientation.
- Campus social media accounts periodically.
- Statement and link to policy on every job posting.
- An email to every employee before October 1 annually.
- Information about the campus policy on the University’s website.
- Signage posted in key campus locations such as entrances, buildings, parking lots, etc.

The success of this policy depends on the thoughtfulness, consideration, and cooperation of everyone. It is the responsibility of all members of the University of Maine campus community to comply with this policy.

Information regarding smoking and tobacco cessation resources is made available for smokers and tobacco users who are interested in quitting. Employees can take advantage of the Employee Assistance Program. Students can contact the Student Wellness Resource Center.

Those interested in scheduling a conference, meeting, lecture, social event, or cultural event on campus can contact the department of Conferences and Institutes for tobacco and smoke-free accommodations. Housing is available on campus and tobacco and smoke-free lodging in the community can be arranged as well. More information can be found at [<http://www.umaine.edu/conferences/housing-services>].

ENFORCEMENT

All University of Maine employees and students are subject to the University of Maine's Tobacco and Smoke Free Policy. Visitors, vendors, and guests to the University of Maine are also subject to this policy. Enforcement of this policy is viewed as the shared responsibility of all those in the campus community. The primary goal is to achieve voluntary compliance by educating students, faculty, staff, contractors, vendors, and visitors about the policy and providing smoking cessation assistance to those who seek it.

Members of the campus community who see individuals using tobacco on the University of Maine campus are asked to politely inform these individuals that the University of Maine policy prohibits smoking and the use of tobacco anywhere on campus grounds. Communication should be polite, brief, educational, and non-confrontational.

Violations can be handled in a variety of ways, including the following:

- Students who are found in violation may be referred to the Dean of Students, Office of Residence Life, and/or the Office of Community Standards, Rights, and Responsibilities. Multiple infractions may result in progressive discipline.
- Faculty and staff who violate the policy are subject to procedures in accordance with the University of Maine's human resource policies and applicable contracts. Supervisors will be notified and assist in the discipline process and are expected to remind individuals of the policy to encourage compliance.
- Contractors, vendors, and visitors who violate the policy will be informed that the university is a tobacco and smoke free campus, and those who continue to violate the policy following warnings may be escorted off-campus.

CAMPUS RESOURCES

- Cutler Health Center: 207-581-4000
 - Healthcare services for students and employees
- Employee Assistance Program: 1-877-622-4327
 - Offered to employees through Cigna health insurance
- Student Wellness Resource Center: 207-581-1423
 - Confidential counseling and resources for students

LOCAL RESOURCES

- Bangor Public Health & Community Services: 207-992-4530
- The Quit Link - Maine Tobacco Helpline: 1-800-207-1230
- Maine CDC - Quit Vaping Resource via Text Message: Text Maine to 88709

WEB RESOURCES

- American Cancer Society [www.cancer.org]
- American Lung Association [www.lung.org]

- American Lung Association in Maine [www.lung.org/about-us/local-associations/maine.html]
- Bangor Public Health & Community Services
[<https://www.bangorpublichealth.org/community/tobacco-ecig-vaping-prevention/>]
- Breathe Easy Coalition of Maine [www.breathetheasymaine.org]
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [www.cdc.gov/tobacco]
- Maine CDC/Prevention and Truth Initiative's text-based resource for quitting vaping
[www.vapefreemaine.com]
- Office of the Surgeon General [www.hhs.gov/surgeongeneral/index.html]
- Prevention for ME [www.preventionforme.org]
- Project Know [www.projectknow.com/tobacco/]
- The Quit Link [www.thequitlink.com]
- Surgeon General Reports on Smoking and Tobacco Use
[www.hhs.gov/surgeongeneral/reports-and-publications/tobacco/index.html]
- American College Health Association's Position Statement on Tobacco on College and University Campuses
[www.acha.org/documents/resources/guidelines/ACHA_Position_Statement_on_Tobacco_Nov2011.pdf]