



Delaware State University

Policy Number: 1-05: Tobacco-Free and Smoke-Free Campus Policy

Responsible Unit: Administrative Policies and Procedures; Office of Human Resources

Approval Date: 10/13/14

Revision Date:

1. Purpose

Delaware State University recognizes its responsibility to promote the health, welfare and safety of students, faculty, staff and others on campus property and at campus-sponsored activities. Research conclusively reveals that:

- Tobacco use is the single most preventable cause of death in the United States.
- Regular use of tobacco directly harms a person's health by causing cancer, respiratory and cardiovascular diseases, adverse pregnancy outcomes, and premature death.
- The college years are a time of increased risk for smoking initiation and transition from experimental to regular tobacco use. According to the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services, 99% of all regular smokers start by the age of 26.
- Second-hand smoke is a threat to the personal health of everyone, especially persons with asthma and other respiratory problems.
- Tobacco-free campuses create environments in which tobacco users find it easier to reduce their consumption or quit altogether.

In an effort to foster a healthier, more productive living/learning environment, and in keeping with DSU's commitment to green policies, Delaware State University is establishing a smoke-free and tobacco-free environment.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all Delaware State University faculty, staff, students, visitors and facilities.

3. Definition and Prohibited Uses

Tobacco use is prohibited. For the purposes of this policy, tobacco is defined as any type of tobacco product including, but not limited to: cigarettes, cigars, cigarillos, electronic cigarettes, pipes, bidis, snus, hookahs, blunts, smokeless, spit tobacco or snuff. E-cigarettes are also prohibited, regardless of whether they contain nicotine, as there is no evidence that the vapors emitted are safe for the person smoking or for those who breathe the secondhand vapor.

4. Transitional Designated Smoking Areas

As a way to transition the DSU community to become tobacco-free, effective January 1, 2015, there will be only four designated smoking areas on the main campus, and a single designated area at satellite locations. These unprotected areas will be clearly marked and will have an ashtray/cigarette butt receptacle.

Cigarette butt receptacles will be removed from all other campus locations. Tobacco use anywhere else on campus grounds will be prohibited. Students and employees will be allowed to smoke in their personal vehicles, provided that the windows are closed and waste products are disposed of properly.

5. Effective Date of Tobacco and Smoke Free University Facilities

Effective August 15, 2015, no person is permitted to use tobacco products at any time on any Delaware State University property. This applies to students, employees, visitors, vendors and attendees at any campus events, including conferences and sporting events. Tobacco use will be prohibited in all buildings, facilities, residential housing, indoor and outdoor spaces and the grounds owned by DSU. This policy applies to parking lots, walkways, DSU vehicles and also private vehicles parked or operated on DSU property. There will no longer be a designated smoking area anywhere on DSU property. Students, employees and visitors will need to leave the campus property in order to use tobacco.

Organizers of public events such as conferences, meetings, cultural events and sporting events are responsible for communicating the DSU tobacco-free policy to attendees at said events.

6. Tobacco Education

Delaware State University is committed to providing support to all University members who wish to stop using tobacco products. Students will be offered tobacco cessation counseling and resources through the Student Health Service; cessation programming will also be a component of the Healthy Hornets student wellness program. Employees enrolled in a State of Delaware Group Health Plan can access free of charge tobacco cessation prescription medications, health coaching, and more through the DelaWELL Health Management Program at <https://delawell.alerehealth.com> or 1-866-674-9103.

Employees that reside in Delaware, as well as any student currently enrolled at DSU, regardless of their state of residence, may also access the Delaware Quitline for free tobacco cessation resources and information at 1-866-409-1858 or access them online – www.quitsupport.com.

7. Tobacco Distribution and Promotion

Distribution or sale of tobacco, including any smoking device is prohibited on DSU property, grounds, and at any DSU-sponsored event or activity off campus. Tobacco advertising is prohibited on DSU property, grounds, at any school-sponsored event or activity off campus, and in all school-sponsored publications.

8. Notice

Signs bearing the message “Tobacco and Smoke-Free Campus” will be posted at each DSU main entrance. Signs shall include "No Smoking" or the international "No Smoking" symbol, which consists of a pictorial representation of a burning cigarette enclosed in a circle with a bar across it. Effective August 15, 2015, no ashtrays or designated smoking areas will be available on DSU property.

The tobacco policy will be posted on the campus website. Delaware State University shall also notify students, parents/guardians, staff, contractors, alumni and other school visitors of the tobacco-free and smoke-free policy in written materials including, but not limited, to handbooks, manuals, contracts, newspapers, and newsletters.

9. Enforcement

Adherence to this policy is the responsibility of all DSU students, faculty, staff and visitors. The success of this policy will depend on the courtesy and cooperation of both tobacco users and non-users. Everyone is responsible for respectfully following and helping to enforce the policy.

A person that observes a violation of this policy should attempt to resolve the problem informally by respectfully requesting that the individual comply with the tobacco-free and smoke-policy. If that is unsuccessful and the behavior persists, the individual should contact Campus Police.

Incident reports will be sent to either the Student Affairs Office or the Office of Human Resources. Repeat offenses by the same person shall be dealt with in accordance with student, staff and/or faculty codes of conduct and procedures. Visitors that repeatedly violate this policy may be denied access to University facilities.