

University of Wisconsin Oshkosh Tobacco Free Campus Policy Draft

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The University of Wisconsin Oshkosh acknowledges and supports the findings of the Surgeon General that tobacco use in any form, active and passive, is a significant health hazard. The University of Wisconsin Oshkosh further recognizes that tobacco smoke has been classified as a Class-A carcinogen.

The American College Health Association has adopted a NO TOBACCO USE policy and encourages colleges and universities to be diligent in their efforts to achieve a 100% indoor and outdoor campus-wide tobacco-free environment. (*Position Statement on Tobacco on College and University Campuses, Nov. 2011*)

In light of these health risks and recommendations, and in support of a safe and healthy learning and working environment, the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh will implement the following 100% tobacco-free campus policy on July 1, 2017.

2.0 DEFINITIONS

The term “tobacco product” means any product containing, made, or derived from tobacco that are intended for human consumption, whether chewed, smoked, absorbed, dissolved, inhaled, snorted, sniffed, or ingested by any other means. Examples include but not limited to, cigarettes; cigars; little cigars; dry snuff, moist snuff/chewing tobacco; snus; dissolvables; hookah; and blunt wraps.

The term “electronic cigarette” means any oral device that provides a vapor of liquid nicotine, lobelia, and/or other substance, and the use or inhalation of which simulates smoking. The term shall include any such devices, whether they are manufactured, distributed, marketed or sold as e-cigarettes, e-cigars, e-pipes, or under any other product name or descriptor. The Food and Drug Administration recognizes and has extended its authority to all tobacco products, including electronic cigarettes (Department of Health and Human Services, Aug. 2016)

Nicotine products not approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) as a smoking cessation product are also prohibited.

3.0 EXCEPTIONS

Nicotine replacement products approved by the FDA (patches, gum, etc.) may be used on campus to support those in the process of quitting.

This policy does not apply to the practice of cultural activities by American Indians that are in accordance with the American Indian Religious Freedom Act, 42 USC, sections 1996 and 1996a. All ceremonial use exceptions must be approved in advance.

4.0 STATEMENT OF POLICY

4.1 Smoking, use of e-cigarettes or use of other tobacco products is prohibited on all college-owned or operated grounds (including inside personal vehicles parked on college-owned property), college-owned or leased properties, and college-owned, leased or rented vehicles. This includes but is not limited to all college sidewalks, parking lots, landscaped areas and recreational areas; and at lectures, conferences, meetings and social and cultural events held on college property or grounds. Smoking, use of e-cigarettes or use of other tobacco products is also prohibited in the interior of all buildings and college residence halls.

4.2 This policy applies to all faculty, staff, students, clients, contractors and visitors during and after campus hours.

4.3 The University of Wisconsin Oshkosh will not sell, market or promote tobacco products.

4.4 We are an institution of higher education; therefore, education is the key to implementing this policy. We make people aware of the tobacco-free environment through electronic information, signage, notices in event programs, and marketing. An explanation of the tobacco-free campus policy is communicated to prospective and enrolling students and new employees. Additionally, we ask event planners to include information about the policy in materials distributed to all outside groups that use university facilities.

The expectation is that persons will voluntarily comply with the policy. It is the responsibility of everyone on campus to politely inform others of the policy and ask that they put out their cigarette and/or stop using tobacco products on campus.

4.5 Employee violations will be handled like other work rule or policy violations.