

UIC Policies and Procedures

SUBJECT: Tobacco-Free Campus

APPLIES TO: All Faculty, Staff, Students, Patients and Visitors

DATE ISSUED: March 15, 2013

REVIEW DATE: 01/01/2014 and Each Year thereafter

OBJECTIVE:

The University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC), subject to State of Illinois statutes, is committed to creating and maintaining a healthy, productive environment for all its students, faculty, staff, patients and visitors. Compelling evidence now exists linking exposure to secondhand smoke with increased health risks for nonsmokers. The presence of tobacco products on campus poses a health risk for everyone at UIC.

AUTHORITY:

Public Act 095-0017, Smoke Free Illinois Act, and University of Illinois General Rules Concerning University Organization and Procedure, Article I, Section 2(e).

POLICY:

In recognition of environmental tobacco and smoke health risks, the University intends to provide a tobacco-free environment for its faculty, staff, students, patients and visitors. Effective July 1, 2013, UIC will become a tobacco-free campus (including smokeless tobacco products). "Tobacco Products" is defined as all forms of tobacco, including but not limited to cigarettes, cigars, pipes, water pipes (hookahs), chew, electronic cigarettes, and smokeless tobacco products. As of the effective date, tobacco product use will be prohibited on all campus grounds, in all campus- and Campus Auxiliaries-owned properties, and in all university-owned vehicles, and in private vehicles while on campus. This tobacco-free policy will be clearly posted and can be referenced in the policy and procedures section on the Human Resources website (www.hr.uic.edu), on the campus website (www.uic.edu), and in other relevant publications. Key components of the policy will also be shared with families, alumni, patients and visitors, and will be posted on signage around campus (e.g., "Welcome to our Tobacco-Free Campus").

REGULATIONS:

This policy applies to all university buildings, facilities, grounds, and university-owned vehicles, as they are considered property of the University, whether owned or occupied, in whole or in part, by UIC. Tobacco use is also prohibited in student residence halls without limitation to any portion of the living quarters of any student residence hall, such as sleeping rooms, dining areas, restrooms, laundry areas, lobbies, and hallways that are owned and operated or otherwise utilized by UIC students, faculty, staff and/or visitors.

The sale of tobacco products is prohibited in all University buildings, facilities and grounds under the authority of the Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois.

PROCEDURES/ENFORCEMENT:

The success of this policy depends upon the thoughtfulness, consideration, and cooperation of all smokers and non-smokers. All members (faculty, staff, students, patients and visitors) of the campus community share the responsibility for adhering to this Policy and encouraging others to comply with this Policy in order to maintain a healthy, productive environment. Any concerns should be brought to the attention of the individuals responsible for the operation of the University facility in question and/or the Supervisor responsible for the work area. Any exceptions to this General University Policy must be approved by the Tobacco-Free Campus appropriate executive officer or designated representative.

“Tobacco-Free” signs shall be clearly and conspicuously posted in each public place and place of employment. All ashtrays shall be removed from University property.

New students and staff will be informed of the Tobacco-Free Campus Policy at orientation. Deans, Directors, Departments Heads, and/or their designees are responsible for implementing this policy by assuring the policy is communicated to all current and future students and staff members.

Although we are confident of the thoughtfulness, consideration, and cooperation of all involved, repeated violations of this policy may lead to discipline of students and progressive discipline of employees up to and including termination of employment.

ASSISTANCE WITH TOBACCO DEPENDENCE:

Assistance to faculty, staff and students who may need help in quitting tobacco is available through the Tobacco Treatment Center located within the Pulmonary and Digestive Clinic in the Outpatient Care Center, Suite 3C; to schedule an appointment, please call 312-996-1682 or 312-996-3800. For questions, call or email Dr. Lori Wilken, Pharm D, 312-996-6110 ext 4 or lwilken@uic.edu. For telephone counseling without an appointment, call the Illinois Tobacco Quit Line at 1-866-QUIT-YES.

Additional resources on tobacco dependence are also available through the Respiratory Health Association website at <http://www.lungchicago.org/quit-smoking/>.