

9.1.7 Tobacco and Smoke-Free Campus Policy

The use of all forms of tobacco products on property owned, leased, rented, in the possession of, or in any way used by the University or its affiliates is expressly prohibited. "Tobacco Products" is defined as cigarettes, cigars, pipes, all forms of smokeless tobacco, clove cigarettes and any other smoking devices that use tobacco such as hookahs or simulate the use of tobacco such as electronic cigarettes.

Further, this policy prohibits any advertising, sale, or free sampling of tobacco products on University properties. This prohibition includes but is not limited to all areas indoors and outdoors, buildings and parking lots owned, leased, rented or otherwise used by the University or its affiliates. The use of tobacco products is prohibited in all vehicles – private or public vehicles - located on University properties.

This policy applies to all persons who enter the areas described above, including but not limited to students, faculty, staff, contractors and subcontractors, spectators, and visitors. All events hosted by a University entity shall be tobacco-free. All events hosted by outside groups on behalf of the University shall also be tobacco-free.

In accordance with the Georgia Smoke Free Air Act of 2005, Title 31 Chapter 12A, the goal of the policy is to preserve and improve the health, comfort and environment of students, employees and any persons occupying or visiting our campuses.

Enforcement

The overall enforcement and authority of this policy lies with the President of the institution, but it is also a shared community responsibility, which means all students, faculty, and staff share in the responsibility to help keep the campus tobacco-free.

Violation of Policy

Violation of this policy may result in corrective action under the Student Code of Conduct or campus human resource policies. Visitors refusing to comply may be asked to leave campus.

Penalties for Violations

Violations of the Tobacco and Smoke-Free Campus Policy as stated in the Student Code of Conduct can be referred to the Student Conduct Office by means of the on-line incident report form. First offenders will be issued a policy reinforcement and warning letter by the Student Conduct Office. Second offender students will be referred to the Alcohol and Other Drug Education Center for educational or cessation programs. Third offenders are subject to community service and fines.