

Appalachian State University

Smoking on University Property

I. Purpose

Appalachian State University (the “University”) is dedicated to maintaining a healthy work and learning environment. Research findings show that tobacco use in general, including smoking and breathing second hand smoke, constitutes a significant health hazard. In addition to causing direct health hazards, smoking contributes to institutional costs in other ways, including fire damage, cleaning and maintenance costs, and costs associated with employee absenteeism, health care, and medical insurance.

While the University has prohibited smoking inside its buildings and facilities since January 1, 2008, the policy now prohibits smoking in outdoor areas controlled by the University within 50 feet from University facilities.

Specifically, this policy is intended to eliminate the potential for exposure to secondhand smoke and the practical effect of this policy is that the campus should be smoke free. The university supports employees’ and students’ efforts to quit smoking and offers resources for smoking cessation. Employees on the state health plan should visit <http://statehealthplan.state.nc.us/>. Information also is available at <http://www.quitnownc.org/>. Students should visit <http://wellness.appstate.edu/pagesmith/13>.

For anyone interested in quitting smoking (a compilation of smoking-cessation resources) go to: <http://www.ihhs.appstate.edu/Outreach%20Programs/cessation.html>

II. Scope

The smoking policy applies to all students, university employees, visitors and guests of the University.

III. Definitions

- A. "Smoking" is defined as the use or possession of a lighted cigarette, lighted cigar, lighted pipe, or any other lighted tobacco product.
- B. A "Building" is defined as any permanent or temporary structure utilized for the support, shelter or enclosure of people, animals, or property. A "University Building" is defined as any building owned, supervised or occupied by Appalachian State University.
- C. "University Property" means University Buildings and grounds owned, leased, operated, controlled, or supervised by Appalachian State University. "University Buildings" include, but are not limited to: residence halls, classroom and office buildings,

workshops, gymnasiums, Appal Cart stops, athletic fields, parking decks, stairwells, inside and outside dining areas, vending areas, breezeways, and connectors.

- D. A "University Vehicle" is defined as a passenger carrying vehicle owned, leased, or otherwise controlled by the University and assigned permanently or temporarily to a University employee or to the University for official University business.

IV. Policy

- A. Smoking is prohibited within any University Building.
- B. Smoking is prohibited within 50 feet of any University Building.
- C. Smoking in University Vehicles is prohibited.
- D. The sale of tobacco products on campus is prohibited.
- E. The free distribution of tobacco products on campus is prohibited.
- F. All Appalachian groups and organizations are prohibited from accepting event sponsorship from tobacco brand companies.
- G. Littering is prohibited on campus. Smoking butts must be disposed of properly.

V. Implementation and Enforcement

- A. Enforcement of this policy will depend upon the cooperation of all faculty, staff, and students not only to comply with this policy but also to encourage others to comply with the policy in order to provide a healthy environment in which to work, study, and live.
- B. Violators of this policy are subject to a \$25 fine pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 143-598(b). Repeated or intentional non-compliance with the policy will be managed according to the following guidelines. Faculty members who violate this policy will be subject to the same disciplinary actions that accompany infraction of other university policies. Staff members who violate the policy will be subject to the same disciplinary actions that accompany infraction of other work rules or polices. Students who violate the policy will be subject to sanctions outlined in the Code of Student Conduct.

VI. Effective Date

The policy is effective **July 1, 2009**