

When will the tobacco-free policy go into effect?

August 7, 2015

Who does the policy apply to?

Everyone on USC Aiken's campus – students, staff, faculty, visitors, vendors, contractors, etc.

What does tobacco-free mean?

The use of any tobacco product is prohibited on all university property. This includes all tobacco-derived or containing products, including but not limited to cigarettes, cloves, bidis, e-cigarettes, cigars and cigarillos, pipes, water pipes, hookah, smokeless tobacco (chew, snus, etc.).

Why are e-cigarettes prohibited by this policy?

E-cigarettes contain nicotine, which is a derivative of tobacco. The policy prohibits tobacco and all tobacco-derived products.

Why is smokeless tobacco prohibited by this policy?

Smokeless tobacco is a tobacco product. Prohibiting the use of smokeless tobacco reduces the unintended consequence of smokers turning to smokeless tobacco use on campus.

Where can I use tobacco?

The use of tobacco products is prohibited on all university grounds including the Convocation Center and University Housing.

Are other colleges and universities tobacco-free?

As of April 2, 2015, there are now at least 1,543 100% smoke free campuses in the United States. Of these, 1043 are 100% tobacco-free including USC Columbia, USC Beaufort, USC Upstate, Lander University, Francis Marion University, and all public universities in Georgia. The American Nonsmokers' Rights Foundation maintains a complete list of colleges and universities with tobacco-free policies. www.no-smoke.org/pdf/smokefreecollegesuniversities.pdf

Do students, faculty and staff have to quit using tobacco products?

No, the university only requires people to refrain from using tobacco while they are on campus. For those who are ready to quit, there are resources available for individuals including personalized counseling, electronic messaging and web based programs.

Where is the Tobacco Policy located?

The complete policy is located at <http://web.usca.edu/policy/policy-index/facilities-management/afcmn-107.dot>

Resources for Students, Faculty and Staff:

- The USC Aiken Psychology Clinic is a psychological service, training and research center that provides treatment for clients with a variety of concerns. Creating an individualized tobacco cessation plan will be offered to students, faculty and staff at USC Aiken. Please click here for more information on how to contact the Psychology Clinic to set up your initial appointment <http://web.usca.edu/psychology/pdf/psychologybrochure2013-preparedbyMarketing.pdf>
- Quit for Life for State Health Plan members (Medication & Coaching) - Call 1-866-QUIT4LIFE
- SC State Quitline for Uninsured and Underinsured 1-800-QUIT-NOW (784-8669)
- The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (S.C. DHEC) offers treatment and resources to all residents of South Carolina, as well as links to helpful tools for anyone, regardless of residence. www.scdhec.gov/health/chcdp/tobacco/quit-for-keeps

What can people do to manage their cravings while on campus?

Nicotine replacement therapy products, such as gum and lozenges, are available for purchase at nearby pharmacies, convenience stores and supermarkets.

Is help available to those who aren't affiliated with the university?

Yes. The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (S.C. DHEC) offers treatment and resources to all residents of South Carolina, as well as links to helpful tools for anyone, regardless of residence. www.scdhec.gov/health/chcdp/tobacco/quit-for-keeps

Who will enforce the tobacco-free policy?

Enforcement is everyone's business. As members of the USC Aiken community, students, faculty and staff are responsible for maintaining a safe and healthy campus environment. Students and employees are encouraged to politely and compassionately address violators using the university's scripting guide. You can find the guide at <http://web.usca.edu/initiatives/tobacco-free-usca/>

If you feel there is a repeat offender that is not complying with reminders you can report them through the web at <http://web.usca.edu/initiatives/tobacco-free-usca/>.

If I have additional questions who should I contact?

Mila Padgett, Brian Enter and Dr. Brian Parr are co-chairs for the Healthy 4 Life committee. You can contact any of them at the following email addresses:

- Mila Padgett milap@usca.edu
- Brian Enter brianen@usca.edu
- Dr. Brian Parr brianp@usca.edu