OP 91.301: SMOKING AND TOBACCO USE ON CAMPUS

PURPOSE

To provide uniform guidelines regarding smoking and the use of tobacco on the campus of Mississippi State University.

POLICY

Mississippi State University restricts smoking and use of tobacco products (cigarettes, cigars, pipes, smokeless tobacco, e-cigarettes, snuff, and chewing tobacco) on Mississippi State University property in the following manner:

1. Tobacco use in any form, including e-cigarettes, shall not be permitted in any university facility or in vehicles owned or leased by the university, regardless of location.

2. Mississippi State University is a Smoke-Free Campus. Smoking of any tobacco based product is prohibited on all university campuses.

3. Tobacco products will not be sold on campus or advertised in any campus publication.

4. This policy applies to all students, faculty, staff, and visitors.

For purposes of this policy, "smoking" means inhaling, exhaling, burning, carrying or possessing any lighted tobacco product, including cigarettes, cigars, pipe tobacco, e-cigarettes, and any other lit tobacco products.

Communications

Persons will be informed of this policy through signs posted in appropriate areas throughout the University; various University web sites including Human Resources Management, Athletics, Student Affairs, Longest Student Health Center; and regular electronic communication to all employees and students. Contractors will be notified of the Smoke-Free Campus policy at time of the contract awarding.

Respect and Responsibility

The success of this policy depends on the thoughtfulness, consideration, and cooperation of smokers and non-smokers. All members of the University community share in the responsibility for adhering to and supporting this policy.

Enforcement

The responsibility for the enforcement and communication of this policy rests with all members of the University community. Visitors, contractors, and other individuals on campus who are in

violation of the policy should be reminded of the policy and asked to comply with our smoke-free campus policy. All faculty, staff, and students who are in violation of this policy should be reminded of the policy and asked to comply and provided with information about smoking cessation programs offered by the University. Students who are repeatedly in violation of this policy can be referred to the Dean of Students office. Faculty and staff who are repeatedly in violation of this policy can be referred to their immediate supervisor.

Smoking Cessation Programs: A range of smoking cessation and support programs are available to any member of the University community who desires to quit smoking. The programs are administered by the Longest Student Health Center and Human Resources Management.

- Employees

  - Blue Cross Blue Shield insurance covers 12 weeks of Chantix medication with prescription.

  - BCBS Active Health provides cessation counseling remotely.

  - Any MS residents can receive counseling via phone or computer from the MS Tobacco Quit Line (1-800-QUIT-NOW) and nicotine replacement in the form of patches or gum.

  - If referred by doctor, employees can have one on one or small group counseling for tobacco cessation with a staff member at the Longest Student Health Center. No medication provided.

- Students

  - Any MS residents can receive counseling via phone or computer from the MS Tobacco Quit Line (1-800-QUIT-NOW) and nicotine replacement in the form of patches or gum.

  - If referred by doctor, students can have one on one or small group counseling for tobacco cessation with a staff member at the Longest Student Health Center. No medication provided.

REVIEW

The Vice President for Student Affairs is responsible for the review of this operating policy every four years or as needed.

REVIEWED BY

/s/ Regina Hyatt   06/06/2024
Vice President for Student Affairs   Date

/s/ Tracey N. Baham   06/06/2024
Associate Vice President, Institutional Strategy & Effectiveness   Date

/s/ Joan Lucas   06/18/2024
General Counsel   Date

APPROVED BY

/s/ Mark E. Keenum   07/22/2024
President   Date