

# **WSU Tri-Cities Tobacco-Free Campus Policy**

*Effective Date: August 22, 2016*

Washington State University Tri-Cities acknowledges the findings of the United States Surgeon General that tobacco use in any form, active and passive, is a significant health hazard. The university further recognizes that the United States Environmental Protection Agency classifies environmental tobacco smoke as a class A carcinogen.

In light of these health risks, and in support of a safe and healthy learning/working environment, WSU Tri-Cities establishes the following Tobacco-Free Campus Policy, prohibiting the use, sale, or advertising of tobacco products in or on the Tri-Cities campus, including all leased properties occupied by WSU Tri-Cities.

## **Definitions**

For the purposes of this policy, terms used herein are defined as follows:

### *Tobacco Products:*

Cigarettes, cigars, pipes, hookah, all forms of smokeless tobacco, electronic cigarettes, clove cigarettes and other alternative products made primarily with tobacco.

### *Premises:*

All buildings, grounds, state-owned vehicles and equipment (motor pool, maintenance) including, but not limited to, parking lots, bus stops, all WSU-maintained streets or sidewalks, recreational fields, all open common areas within the WSU Tri-Cities campus, and the WSU-controlled portion of all properties leased by WSU Tri-Cities

## **Resources**

WSU Tri-Cities is committed to assist employees, students, patients, visitors and others, regardless of institutional affiliation in the campus community who use tobacco. WSUTC may make available to such persons resources intended to assist persons who use tobacco.

## **Communication and Compliance**

The following WSU Tri-Cities persons and departments are responsible for ensuring that the WSU Tri-Cities smoking and tobacco use policy is communicated to employees, students, visitors, and others in the WSU Tri-Cities community as indicated:

- a) Human Resources regarding employees;
- b) Student Services regarding students;
- c) Department supervisors and leads regarding their visitors, guests, and contractors;
- d) Communications and scheduling offices regarding their visitors, guests, and contractors;
- e) Finance and Administration regarding outside contractors and vendors;
- f) The Chancellor's Office regarding partner institutions, its visitors, and guests;

The above departments are responsible for enforcement of the smoking and tobacco use rules with the assistance of all members of the WSU Tri-Cities community. Each department will establish

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procedures and protocols, consistent with each other and with this Tobacco-Free Campus Policy. Such procedures and protocols shall be designed to assist and encourage students and employees to participate in tobacco cessation programs, comply with this policy, and describe sanctions for repeat offenders.

Employees may be subject to corrective or disciplinary action and students may be subject to student conduct action.

Public safety officers are authorized to control and regulate facilities use as prescribed by this policy.

## **Sanctions**

Efforts will be made to eliminate the need for sanctions by first informing employees, students and visitors of the policy before they arrive and by providing appropriate information and care while they are on WSU Tri-Cities premises. Any person who repeatedly violates the WSU Tri-Cities smoking and tobacco use policy may be asked to leave the premises and/or may be removed and subject to trespass admonition. Employees may be subject to corrective or disciplinary action and other sanctions available to enforce this policy.

## **Signage**

Signs declaring WSU Tri-Cities as "tobacco-free" shall be posted at the campus entries and other conspicuous places.

## **Disclosure of Policy and Information**

All faculty and staff are encouraged to assist in the implementation and enforcement of this policy by making tobacco product users aware of the requirements of this policy.

Employees, students and visitors will be advised of this policy in a manner determined by the above-described responsible persons.

## **Exemptions**

This Tobacco-Free Campus Policy shall not apply to the following:

1. The use of FDA-approved nicotine replacement products, provided that those products deliver the nicotine dose directly to the user, without exposure to others. Examples of acceptable devices include skin patches, chewing gum, and lozenges.
2. IRB-approved research projects.
3. Any additional exemptions require the written approval of the Chancellor.