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UTHealth

The University of Texas
Health Science Center at Tyler

Origination Date: 07/2004

Last Approved: 03/2016

Last Revised: 02/2016

Next Review: 03/2019

Owner: *Kimberly Griffin: Dir Of Human Resources*

Policy Area: *Human Resources and Employment*

References:

Tobacco Free Campus

Scope:

This policy applies to all UTHSCT staff. Visitors and Patients are appropriately informed.

Purpose:

Effective July 1, 2004, UTHSCT became a tobacco-free campus. The tobacco free policy was established in the interest of the health and safety of the institution's patients, employees, volunteers and the public. The purposes of this policy are to eliminate smoking and tobacco use on campus, including electronic or vapor cigarettes or products; provide a smoke free, healthful environment; reduce risks to the patients, including possible adverse effects of smoking or tobacco on treatment; reduce the risks of passive smoking; and reduce the risks of fire.

POLICY:

Patients, employees, volunteers, students, other staff, and the public are prohibited from smoking and other tobacco use on any UTHSCT campus or property and in all state-owned vehicles.

Restrictions:

Smoking and other tobacco use is prohibited on the UTHSCT campus, which includes, without limitation, the use of cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, products that may contain tobacco or nicotine, and electronic cigarettes or vapor producing devices that mimic the appearance of smoking. The prohibition applies not only to the buildings and grounds on the institution's campus, but also to any building owned, leased, operated or otherwise controlled by UTHSCT. The prohibition also applies to use in private vehicles on the grounds. If compliance cannot be achieved, UTHSCT police under the Texas Penal Code, Section 48.01, or Texas Education Code 51.202, may enforce the tobacco free and no smoking policy. The violation of the penal code provision is a Class C misdemeanor with a possible fine of \$500 per occurrence.

A UTHSCT supervisor may authorize regular break periods; however, UTHSCT does not authorize employees to use these break periods, on or off campus, to smoke.

Failure to comply with this policy may result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination.

References:

Joint Commission EC.1.30
Texas Penal Code 48.01

Texas Education Code 51.202:

Attachments:

No Attachments

Applicability

UTHealth

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