



TOBACCO FREE CAMPUS

PURPOSE

Tusculum University (University) is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for its students, faculty, staff and campus visitors. Because tobacco products have well-known health risks associated with their use and secondhand exposure that put all members of the Tusculum community at risk, the University has initiated a tobacco-free campus policy effective January 1, 2019.

SCOPE and AUDIENCE

This policy applies to all students, employees, University affiliates, contractors and visitors and is applicable twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week.

DEFINITION of TOBACCO PRODUCTS

Tobacco product is defined as any lit or unlit cigarette (including electronic cigarettes), cigar, pipe, bidi, clove cigarette, and other smoking product, as well as smokeless or spit tobacco also known as dip, chew, snuff or snus, in any form.

POLICY

The use, distribution, or sale of tobacco products, including the carrying of any lit smoking instrument, in University buildings or in or upon other University premises, sidewalks or parking lots adjoining University property or inside University-owned, rented or leased vehicles, or in your personal vehicle on University property is prohibited.

Tobacco and nicotine product advertisements are prohibited in university-sponsored publications and/or advertisements.

ENFORCEMENT

All University students, employees, visitors and contractors are required to comply with this policy, which shall remain in force at all times.

Any University student or employee found to be in violation of the tobacco-free policy will be subject to a monetary fine. Tickets will be issued by campus safety officer for violations of Tusculum's tobacco-free policy.

Any visitor or contractor found to be violating this policy shall be asked to discontinue the disallowed activity, and any failure by a visitor or contractor to discontinue the disallowed activity after being requested to do so shall result in the visitor or contractor being escorted off University premises by campus safety.

PENALTIES

Student Fines

Any Tusculum student found to have violated this policy shall be subject to the following fines:

1st ticket – Warning; All subsequent tickets - \$25.00 fine.

All fines must be paid within seven (7) days of ticketing. Fines not paid within seven (7) days will automatically double in amount.

A student with a pending fine or fines may not register for classes or have transcripts released until all fines are paid in full.

Any student wishing to appeal a fine arising from the finding of a violation of this policy may do so with the Dean of Student Affairs.

Employee Fines

Any Tusculum employee found to have violated this policy shall be subject to the following fines:

1st ticket – Warning; All subsequent tickets - \$25.00 fine.

All fines must be paid within seven (7) days of ticketing. Fines not paid within seven (7) days will automatically double in amount.

Any employee wishing to appeal a fine arising from the finding of a violation of this policy may do so with the Chief of Human Resources.

Any employee who marked “No” on the Tobacco User question on the open enrollment benefit election form and is later found to be using tobacco will be assessed the difference in the higher tobacco-user medical plan premiums retroactively and charged the higher tobacco user health plan premium going forward.

AWARENESS and EDUCATION

The implementation of this policy will be augmented by an awareness and education campaign that includes but is not limited to:

- Notification of Tusculum’s Tobacco-Free Campus policy to current and prospective students and employees through communication available on the University web site;
- Notification during the admission and enrollment process and/or during new hire orientation for faculty and staff, as applicable;
- Informational meetings, postings, and electronic notifications;
- Tobacco cessation programming for students and employees;
- Signs and notices bearing the message “TU Proud To Be Smoke & Tobacco Free” or similar signage will be posted at major vehicular crossways, pedestrian crosswalks and building entrances. However, the Tobacco-Free Campus policy applies to all University property whether or not notices are posted.

The State of Tennessee offers help to quit on its web site at <http://www.tnquitline.org/>.

NOTE: Tusculum University has the maximum discretion permitted by law to interpret, administer, change, modify, or delete this policy at any time with or without notice. Changes can only be made if approved in writing by the President of Tusculum University. Any delay or failure by Tusculum to enforce any work policy or rule will not constitute a waiver of Tusculum's right to do so in the future.