East Tennessee State University | Office of Human Resources PPP-53 Smoking/Tobacco Policy

Policy

Effective August 11, 2008, ETSU is a Tobacco-Free Campus, with smoking and all other tobacco usage permitted only inside private vehicles. This policy applies to all university buildings/grounds; ETSU-affiliated off-campus locations and clinics; any buildings owned, leased or rented by ETSU in all other areas; and ETSU facilities located on the campus of the James H. Quillen Veterans Affairs Medical Center at Mountain Home. Tobacco use is also prohibited in all state vehicles. This tobacco-free policy is in effect 24 hours a day year-round.

For purposes of this policy, "tobacco use" means, but is not limited to, the personal use of any tobacco product, whether intended to be lit or not, which shall include smoking tobacco or other substances that are lit and smoked, as well as the use of an electronic cigarette or any other device intended to simulate smoking and the use of smokeless tobacco, including snuff; chewing tobacco; smokeless pouches; any form of loose-leaf, smokeless tobacco; and the use of unlit cigarettes, cigars, and pipe tobacco.

Background

The university promotes a healthy, sanitary environment free from tobacco smoke and tobacco-related debris. The ETSU community acknowledges that long-term health hazards may accrue to people who use tobacco products or who are subjected to second-hand smoke. The failure to address the use of tobacco products on campus would constitute a violation of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Vocational Rehabilitation Act and Tennessee law.

Support

Understanding the addictive nature of tobacco products, ETSU will make every effort to assist those who may wish to stop using tobacco. The university offers current information about available resources via the Smoking Cessation Resources page.

Compliance

It is the responsibility of all members of the ETSU community to comply with this Tobacco-Free Campus Policy. Violations of the policy will be dealt with in a manner that is consistent with university procedures. There shall be no reprisals against anyone reporting violations of this policy.

Tobacco Free Campus Enforcement Policy

- 1. Violations to the tobacco free policy, particularly reoccurring violations, are to be reported to Public Safety 439-4480.
- 2. Any violator of the policy that refuses to comply or that becomes abusive toward the responsible party will be handled by Public Safety.
- 3. Violations will be forwarded to Human Resources for employee incidents or Student Affairs for student incidents. The individual department will handle the progressive discipline for repeat violators. Visitor violations will be forwarded to Public Safety and contractor violations to the Facilities Office.

Student violators are subject to progressive discipline for repeat violations.

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