SEC-028 No Smoking or Vaping

Effective Date Thursday, October 9, 2008

Status Final

Last Revised Tuesday, September 23, 2025

Policy Type University

Contact Office Environmental Health and Safety

Total Rewards

Oversight Executive
Vice President and Chief Human Resources Officer Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer Executive Vice President and Provost

Applies To Academic Division.

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Reason for Policy

The University has established requirements to provide faculty, staff, students, and visitors with a smoke-free, vapor-free environment in which to work and learn while protecting them from the potential health hazards from exposure to smoke or vapor. In addition, the prohibition on smoking assists the University in its compliance with the American National Standards Institute (ANSI)/American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) Standard 62 and the Virginia Indoor Clean Air Act.

Definition of Terms

Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS)

Description

Electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes) and vaping devices that are battery-operated devices designed to deliver nicotine and other additives to the user in an aerosol. The cartridges contained in these devices contain a mixture of liquids, which may include propylene glycol, glycerol, nicotine, and chemical flavorings.

Smoking

Description

The carrying or holding of any lighted pipe, cigar, or cigarette of any kind or any lighted smoking equipment or the lighting, inhaling, or exhaling of smoke from a pipe, cigar, or cigarette of any kind.

Vaping

Description

Drawing in and exhaling an aerosol, commonly called vapor; the act of using an electronic cigarette.

Policy Statement

Smoking and/or using Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS) by faculty, staff, students, and visitors are prohibited inside facilities owned or leased by the University (including all on-Grounds housing facilities) and in University-owned vehicles. This activity is also prohibited *(1) within 25 feet of all entries, outdoor air intakes, and operable windows;* and (2) in any outside area adjacent to a facility whose configuration and/or other physical conditions allow smoke/vapor either to enter and affect the internal environment or to unduly affect the environment of those entering or exiting the facility.

Virginia law prohibits the purchase and possession of tobacco products, nicotine vapor products (e-cigarettes), and alternative nicotine products by anyone under 21 years of age (with the exception of active-duty military personnel).

1. **Responsibilities:**
   The ***Office of Environmental Health & Safety*** is responsible for assisting:
   - Departments, upon request, in the evaluation of designated outside smoking/vaping areas to comply with this policy.
   - Departments and Facilities Management in the determination of appropriate signage to be posted.

   All members of the University community are responsible for:
   - Observing this policy.
   - Promoting compliance with the policy by all visitors to the University.

   Each supervisor, manager, department head, director, dean, etc., is responsible for enforcing the provisions of this policy in their areas of respective accountability.

2. **Compliance with Policy:**
   Failure to comply with the requirements of this policy may result in disciplinary action up to and including termination or expulsion in accordance with relevant University policies as well as prosecution in accordance with state and federal law.

   Direct questions about this policy to Environmental Health and Safety or Total Rewards.

Procedures

Report issues of non-compliance to the facility's building coordinator. For instances where there is no designated building coordinator, report issues of non-compliance to a manager.

Related Information

STU-001: Use of Alcoholic Beverages and Prohibition of Other Drugs
Title 15.2, Chapter 28.2 of the Virginia Indoor Clean Air Act
ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 62.1-2022 – Ventilation for Acceptable Indoor Air
Executive Order 41 (2006): Banning Smoking in State Offices and Vehicles
Medical Center Policy: Creating a Tobacco, Smoke, and Vape Free Environment

Policy Background

Previous version of this policy contained in a memorandum issued by the provost dated 2/20/1989.

Major Category Safety, Security and Environmental Quality

Next Scheduled Review Saturday, September 23, 2028

Revision History

Confirmed 9/23/25; Updated Reference in Related Information 11/28/22; Added Note 5/29/20; Updated 11/22/19; Revised 11/11/16; 10/13/15, 4/29/14, 9/3/08. Updated 1/18/07.

Approved By Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer

Approved Date Friday, June 9, 2006