Scope of Policy & Rationale:

The Surgeon General of the United States has determined that cigarette smoking causes over 350,000 preventable deaths annually in this country. More than 19% of all absenteeism is attributable to smoking-relating illnesses. Furthermore, numerous studies have concluded that smoking adversely affects the health of those persons who are “passively” exposed to tobacco smoke as well. Increased risk of cancer, impaired lung function, bronchitis, pneumonia, and other respiratory illnesses have been documented in individuals passively exposed to tobacco smoke. Eye irritation, nasal congestion and aggravation of existing health conditions have also been recorded in those “passively” exposed to smoking.

In view of these and similar findings and in the interest of protecting the health and well being of the entire Temple University community, Temple University has adopted the following policy statement on smoking.

Policy Statement

I. General Policy Statement on Smoking

Temple University is committed to providing a smoke-free environment for everyone at Temple. All university facilities are designated as non-smoking, and smoking is also prohibited within 25 feet of a main entrance, exit or operable window of a university building. In addition, all indoor university sponsored activities taking place in facilities not owned or operated by Temple University will be smoke-free in those areas under the university’s control.
II. Related Policies

Smoking is prohibited in all university-owned vehicles. The university bans all sales of cigarettes and other tobacco products through any university-controlled unit, including vending machines. Subject to constitutional limitations, advertising of tobacco products is prohibited in university publications.

III. Implementation

All university students, faculty, administrators, staff and visitors are responsible for cooperating to achieve the goal of this policy.

IV. Enforcement

1. The university’s enforcement of this policy for all students will be as follows: Smoking in university facilities is a minor violation under the Student Conduct Code. Violation of the policy on smoking will be handled in the same way as other minor violations of the code.

2. The university’s enforcement of this policy for resident students in university housing facilities will be as follows: Violations of this policy by residential students in university housing facilities will be addressed by the residential judicial system.

3. Outside of university housing facilities, enforcement of this policy for residential students will be the same as for all other students, as detailed in subparagraph 1 above.

4. For university employees, this policy will be enforced in accordance with rules and regulations in the Employee Manual.

V. Prior Related Policies

This policy supersedes and replaces all prior policies on this subject matter, including without limitation the Policy on Smoking in Pearson and McGonigle Halls, issued by the Office of the President on October 18, 1988.

Notes

1. Dates of official enactment and amendments:

2. History:

The March 11, 2003, amendment deleted Section III.2 and III.3 referring to the President’s Committee on Smoking Policy Implementation and the Fresh Start Smoking Cessation program, both of which were no longer in existence. The amendment also deleted the entire second paragraph of Section IV.2, thereby allowing policy violations by students living in university housing facilities to be handled by the residential judicial system, with no further instruction provided by the policy. The same amendment also amended Section V.2 to provide that any university property leased to another person or entity may provide in the lease for exceptions to the policy as permitted by law, deleted Section V.3 and V.4 (all psychiatric units are now part of the Temple University Health System and are not covered by Temple University policy), and added Section VII.

The August 26, 2003, amendment added the provision prohibiting smoking within 25 feet of entrances, exits and operable windows.

The April 1, 2010 amendment updated the language and removed outdated provisions, including limited exceptions.

Initial Policy Effective Date:
July 1, 1990

Last Amended:
April 1, 2010

3. Cross References/Appendix:
None