

University Tobacco & Smoke-Free Policy

Introduction

Boston College is committed to providing a safe and healthy work, learning, and community environment. Tobacco use is a major cause of preventable disease and death. Smoking, tobacco use, and exposure to second-hand smoke have been found to cause heart disease, cancer, asthma, bronchitis, and other respiratory problems. Electronic devices, more commonly referred to as electronic cigarettes, pose health risks and contain detectable levels of carcinogens and toxic chemicals. The purpose of this policy is to provide reasonable protection of the health of all members of the Boston College community from the effects of all forms of smoking and tobacco use.

Definitions

Smoke or smoking is defined as the burning, inhaling, or exhaling, by means of any kind of lighted pipe, cigar, cigarette, hookah, vaporizer or other device, and any tobacco or other plant product, including marijuana. "Smoke" or "Smoking" also includes use of products containing or delivering nicotine intended or expected for human consumption, or any part of such a product, including but not limited to chewing tobacco, snus, snuff, or other similar products.

Property is defined as all campuses, buildings, facilities, grounds, and property (including vehicles) owned, leased, rented, contracted, used or controlled by Boston College. For avoidance of doubt, Property includes all indoor and outdoor space including private offices, academic and administrative buildings, all areas of residence halls, athletics venues, and dining facilities.

Policy

Smoking is prohibited at all times in or on all Property of Boston College regardless of location. It is the responsibility of all faculty, staff, students, parents, alumni and visitors to observe and enforce the smoking policy while on Boston College Property. In implementing and enforcing this policy, common courtesy and consideration toward others should be exercised.

The University's Faculty/Staff Assistance Program offers smoking cessation coaching for employees. Health Services and the Office for Health Promotion offer support for students. A full list of smoking cessation resources, including those supported by Harvard Pilgrim Health Care insurance plans, can be found through the Health and Well-being website [www.bc.edu/healthy-you].

Enforcement

Violations of this policy by undergraduate and graduate students will be referred to the Office of the Dean of Students. Violations of this policy by faculty and staff will be dealt with in accordance with procedures set forth in the FACULTY HANDBOOK and the EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK respectively. Violations may result in sanctions.

Annual Policy Review

The Office of the General Counsel is responsible for reviewing and revising this policy as required. Recommended additions, deletions, or revisions should be directed to the attention of this office.

This policy shall take effect on August 1, 2020.