

University of St. Thomas Policies

SMOKE AND TOBACCO-FREE CAMPUS POLICY

Policy Number: G.02.04

SCOPE

All students, faculty, staff, administrators, guests, visitors, and contractors.

PURPOSE

The University's policy to promote a smoke/tobacco-free environment aligns with our mission and institutional efforts to provide a healthy community for students, faculty, staff, administrators, and visitors. Therefore, smoking is not permitted on any University-owned and managed property.

POLICY/PROCEDURE

1. Smoking is defined for the purposes of this policy as the use of any product, including smoking devices that emanate smoke or vapor visibly. Tobacco products include but are not limited to cigarettes, cigars, pipe, snuff, chewing tobacco, and other products usually identified with tobacco use. The use of tobacco products involves smoking, dipping, chewing, or any other method of ingesting the chemicals contained in tobacco products, including e-cigarettes and vaping.
2. This policy prohibits smoking and applies to all University-owned and managed property and areas, including classrooms, offices, meeting and conference rooms, garages, reception areas, eating facilities, and other locations on the UST campus. The University will not enforce any University property leased to an outside entity, and those entities will comply with the City of Houston ordinance related to smoking. (Banning smoking within 25 feet of building entrances and exit doors is consistent with the City of Houston Ordinance.)
3. Smoking is prohibited in all vehicles leased or owned by the University of St. Thomas, including rental vehicles paid for with University funds.
4. On-campus housing is classified as a "residential area" rather than a workplace. Accordingly, there is a separate policy (please refer to the Residence Life Handbook and Policies).
5. No tobacco-related advertising or sponsorship shall be permitted on University property or at University events.
6. All University of St. Thomas students, faculty, staff, administrators, guests, visitors, and contractors are required to always comply with this policy. Non-compliance with this policy may result in disciplinary action through the designated dean or department manager.
7. The offices of Counseling and Wellness Services and Human Resources offer a wide variety of resources and support for smoking and tobacco cessation.

APPROVED: Dr. Richard Ludwick

Date of Original Formation: October 3, 2014

Revision Number: 2

Effective Date: June 1, 2023
