

University of Maine at Farmington Tobacco-Free Policy

Minimize

Preamble

The University of Maine at Farmington is committed to providing a healthy working and learning environment for the entire campus community. To that end, a tobacco-free campus shall be established. The purpose of this policy is to reduce harm from tobacco use and secondhand smoke, provide an environment that encourages persons to be tobacco-free, reduce health insurance and health care costs, and promote a campus culture of wellness.

Policy

(Effective January 1, 2012)

After extensive campus conversation over the last three years, and on the basis of an examination of scientific evidence available pertaining to health risks, the University of Maine at Farmington campus will be tobacco-free, inclusive of the athletic fields and parking lots, beginning in January 2012. This policy restriction covers all tobacco products, including but not limited to cigarettes, cigars, snuff, chewing tobacco, snus and non-FDA approved nicotine delivery devices, such as e-cigarettes.

The University will make available smoking cessation guidance through the Health Center and will provide assistance to those who are seeking to curb this medically harmful habit.

In establishing this policy, we join many other institutions of higher education across the nation in claiming health safety as a number one priority for all community members.

Enforcement Process for Tobacco-Free Policy (effective September 1, 2012)

- I. A three-strike warning system will be instituted for both staff and students.
- II. Upon the third strike, students will be adjudicated through the UMS Student Conduct Code, and a progressive fine—\$25, \$50, \$100—will be applied with the third and subsequent instances of non-compliance. Fines will be paid right away and not referred to students' financial accounts.
- III. Upon the third strike, staff non-compliance will be addressed through the Human Resources Department in conjunction with the staff member's supervisor. While no fines are planned, progressive discipline will be imposed as necessary.
- IV. State and local resources, such as the Maine Tobacco Hotline, the Maine Tobacco College Network, and the Healthy Community Coalition, will be identified in each case of student and staff non-compliance, and the Health Center for students. Referrals will also be made for students and staff to smoking cessation programs (not mandatory).

V. Public Safety is primarily responsible for the enforcement of the Tobacco-free Policy on campus and should be alerted by staff and students when persons are smoking on the campus.

Responsibilities

It is the shared responsibility of all members of the campus community to respect and abide by this policy.

Administrators, deans, directors, department chairs, supervisors and event sponsors will communicate the policy within their areas of responsibility.

The University of Maine at Farmington will provide access to tobacco cessation resources to UMF students and employees.

Implementation

The successful implementation of this policy depends on the courtesy and cooperation of the entire campus community.

Appropriate signage will be posted in campus facilities, on the UMF website and elsewhere to inform members of the campus community and visitors of the Tobacco-Free Campus Policy.

The policy will be communicated in appropriate university publications and contracts. University publications include but are not limited to electronic notifications, handbooks, brochures and other university-generated materials.