

Administrative Policy

Title: West Kentucky Community & Technical College Tobacco-Free Policy

Type: Establishment of a Tobacco-Free Institution for WKCTC Students, Faculty, Staff, and Visitors

Rationale: West Kentucky Community & Technical College is committed to providing students, employees and visitors with a safe and healthy environment. In light of this commitment, the college has become a tobacco-free institution. No consumption of any tobacco, e-tobacco product, or any vaporizing technology is allowed on any college property or in any college facility. The institution prominently displays notices of the tobacco-free policy at all college locations.

West Kentucky Community & Technical College will implement this policy on August 1, 2015. We aim to improve the lives of all students, faculty, staff, and visitors that enter our campus, and we strive to be a model for the larger community. Some of the reasons we have chosen to adopt this policy are to:

- Eliminate harmful exposure to second-hand smoke on campus
- Decrease the amount of tobacco litter on school grounds
- Offer a positive and healthy environment for underage students and visitors that frequent campus
- Better prepare students for transitions into four-year institutions and the workforce
- Supply necessary support for those who struggle with addiction or stress management
- Provide a safe and healthy environment for everyone to work and learn

Policy: West Kentucky Community & Technical College embraces its obligation to facilitate and enforce a tobacco-free policy for the lifelong benefit of its students, employees, and the community. The United State Surgeon General has concluded that there is no acceptable level of exposure to second hand smoke, and the negative health effects associated with all forms of tobacco use have been clearly documented. Therefore, as an institution of higher learning, it is our responsibility to educate students, faculty, staff, and the community about the importance of health and safety and to become a tobacco-free institution. We also, however, fully recognize the stresses that lead to tobacco use and its addictive nature. Therefore, we aim to support our students and employees throughout this process



by increasing access to affordable cessation resources and by offering alternative means of stress management through various partnerships with local health and wellness organizations.

Enforcing a tobacco-free policy is possible because the college places value on individual responsibility and leadership. As such, every member of the West Kentucky Community and Technical College community shares equally in the responsibility for adhering to and respectfully enforcing the tobacco-free policy.

Specifically:

- A. Tobacco use is prohibited on all college-owned property and within leased college office and classroom space. The use of all tobacco products, is prohibited on college-owned facilities and facilities leased and controlled by the college.
- B. Tobacco use is prohibited in all indoor and outdoor facilities, including entrance steps and ramps, restrooms, pedestrian walkways, entryways, terraces, and campus bus stops.

*At this time the policy will not be enforced in the passenger compartments of private automobiles. Tobacco litter is not permitted outside vehicles.

- C. Tobacco use is prohibited in college-owned or leased vehicles.
- D. Tobacco products will not be sold in college facilities.

The president is authorized to develop and implement procedures to implement this policy.

Monitoring: WKCTC campus security, Office of Student Affairs and faculty and staff.