

Policy Name: Tobacco-Free Campus Policy
Policy Number: 6501
Effective Date: August 15, 2013
Revision Date:
Responsible Party: Student Health Services
Approved: Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs

INTRODUCTION & PURPOSE

The Surgeon General has determined tobacco use and secondhand smoke causes significant health hazards and preventable disease. As noted by the 2009 Montana legislature (Montana Code 50-40-102) the “right to breathe smoke-free air has priority over the desire to smoke.” Montana State University Billings is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment free from tobacco use for its students, employees, and visitors.

A tobacco-free campus:

1. Provides a healthy and safe environment free from tobacco;
2. Protects people from exposure to secondhand smoke;
3. Eliminates litter associated with tobacco use;
4. Creates an environment more conducive in quitting tobacco for current users.

POLICY STATEMENT

The use, sale, or distribution of tobacco products is prohibited on all properties owned, operated, or leased by Montana State University Billings.

- A. Definition of tobacco: Tobacco is defined as all tobacco-derived or containing products, including, but not limited to,
 1. cigarettes (clove, bidis, kreteks),
 2. cigars and cigarillos,
 3. hookah- smoked products, and
 4. oral tobacco (spit and spitless, smokeless, chew, snuff).
 5. Additionally, any nicotine delivery device that has not been approved by the FDA for cessation is included in this policy.
- B. Usage: The usage of tobacco by students, employees, visitors, guests, and contractors is prohibited on all properties owned, operated, or leased by MSU Billings.
- C. Defined tobacco-free environments: Tobacco is prohibited on all property owned, operated, or leased by MSU Billings and satellite campuses, including:
 1. all interior space on the MSU Billings campus and property leased by MSU Billings
 2. all outside property or grounds on MSU Billings campuses, including areas such as walkways, parking lots, sky bridges, and patios;
 3. all outside property leased by MSU Billings;
 4. all vehicles owned or leased by MSU Billings;
 5. all indoor and outdoor athletic facilities.
- D. Sale, distribution and advertising of tobacco products:
 1. The sale of tobacco products and tobacco-related merchandise (including logo-containing items) is prohibited, regardless of the vendor.
 2. The distribution or sampling of tobacco products is prohibited on all property owned, operated, or leased by MSU Billings, regardless of the vendor.
 3. All tobacco industry promotions, advertising, marketing, and distribution are prohibited on campus owned and leased properties.

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- E. Tobacco industry sponsorship:
 - 1. The sponsorship of athletic events, programs, athletes, campus groups, student organizations, events, departments and individuals by the tobacco industry and related companies is prohibited.
 - 2. No university publication shall accept any form of advertising of tobacco products.
 - 3. The University will not accept any direct or indirect funding from tobacco companies.
- F. Littering: The littering of campus owned, operated or leased property with tobacco products is prohibited.
- G. Public events:
 - 1. MSU Billings offers a wide range of public events, such as conferences, meetings, public lectures, social events, cultural events, and sporting events on campus owned and leased properties.
 - 2. All organizers and participants of these events are required to abide by MSU Billings' tobacco-free policy.
 - 3. Organizers of such events are responsible for communicating the policy to attendees and for enforcing this policy.
- H. Exceptions: The following activities may be conducted as exceptions to the policy subject to advance approval as indicated.
 - 1. The use of tobacco products in laboratory and classroom instruction/experiments, or for artistic purposes.
 - a. All research, educational, and/or artistic purposes that involve the use of tobacco on campus must be approved in advance by the Provost or designee. Such use must be preceded by reasonable advance notice to the public.
 - b. Nothing in this policy is intended to prohibit research on tobacco companies or tobacco products.
 - 2. Specific activities used in connection with the practice of cultural activities by American Indians that are in accordance with the American Indian Religious Freedom Act, 42 U.S.C. sections 1996 and 1996a allow for the use of ceremonial tobacco.
 - 3. All ceremonial use exceptions must be approved in advance by the Chancellor or designee.
- I. Communication: MSU Billings will conduct ongoing and comprehensive marketing and signage strategies to ensure that all University visitors, vendors, guests and all others arriving on campus owned or leased property are aware of the policy.
- J. Cessation opportunities:
 - 1. Students who wish to quit tobacco can utilize Student Health Services to discuss options with a medical provider.
 - a. Students have already paid the Health Services fee by registering for seven or more credits.
 - b. It is an optional fee for students taking less than seven credits. Students may also receive cessation help in the form of free Quit Kits available at Student Health Services.
 - 2. Employees who wish to quit tobacco and are on the MUS medical benefits plan can contact the MUS Employee Benefits Department at 1-877-501-1722 or visit the MUS benefits website at www.mus.edu/choices to explore eligibility for the Tobacco Cessation Benefits.
 - 3. Both students and employees can also access the Montana Quit Line at 1-800-QUIT-NOW(1-800-784-8669).
- K. Compliance:
 - 1. Based upon MSU Billings' commitment to providing a clean and healthy environment free from tobacco, a cooperative effort and compliance is expected by all students, employees, visitors, guests, and contractors. Most universities use an educational

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enforcement approach and report that it works well. Good will and shared responsibility will be the keynotes of successful policy implementation. This policy is in effect at all times.

2. If repeated contacts with individuals who choose to be non-compliant with this policy are not successful, an online reporting form is available at www.msubillings.edu/studenthealth.
 - a. This form will be utilized by personnel in Student Health Services or designees in an attempt to effectively address issues of noncompliance.
 - b. If these attempts by personnel in Student Health Services or designees are not successful, information related to student non-compliance will be forwarded to the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Office, and, as a result, may mean disciplinary action through the Student Code of Conduct process.
 - c. Information from the reporting form regarding persistent non-compliance by employees will be forwarded and may result in disciplinary action implemented by the immediate supervisor as well as the utilization of progressive discipline through Human Resources.
 3. Refusal to comply with this policy by visitors, guests, and contractors may be grounds for removal from campus. If such situations arise, University Police should be notified.
- L. Contacts:
1. Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs McMullen Hall 201 (406) 657-2307
 2. Human Resources McMullen Hall 310 (406) 657-2278
 3. University Police Office in the Parking Garage (406) 657-2147