



Rule Summary

East Texas A&M University prohibits smoking, vaping, and use of all forms of tobacco on university property. The University has a vital interest in maintaining a healthy and safe environment for its students, faculty, staff, and visitors.

Procedures and Responsibilities

1 GENERAL

- 1.1 The University prohibits smoking, vaping, and the use of all forms of tobacco products, on university property, including athletic and farm facilities/fields. The University prohibits any advertising, sale, or free sampling of smoking, tobacco, and/or vaping products on university property.
- 1.2 This rule applies to all employees, students, university affiliates, contractors, and visitors and is applicable twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week.

2 RESPONSIBILITIES

- 2.1 It is the responsibility of all members of the university community, including visitors, to observe these requirements. This rule relies on the thoughtfulness, consideration and cooperation of tobacco and vape users for its success. Those violating this rule should be reminded of this rule and asked to comply.
- 2.2 Department heads or others with a purview over facilities must ensure that the rule is communicated to everyone who occupies space in the facility.
- 2.3 Violations of this rule may result in corrective action as prescribed by The Texas A&M University System (system) policies and regulations and university rules and procedures. Visitors refusing to comply may be asked to leave campus.

3 EXEMPTIONS TO THE RULE

Exemptions to this rule may be requested for specific research, educational, or clinical activities to carry out the goals and objectives of the University through the Department of Emergency Management & Safety, which will work in conjunction with the vice president, or their designee, of the desired area of exception for approval.

4 SMOKING AND TOBACCO CESSATION PROGRAMS

The University is committed to supporting all students and employees who wish to stop using tobacco products. Information on tobacco and smoking are provided through links at our [Work Life Solutions Program](#) and through the [Counseling Center](#).

Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

Texas Penal Code § 48.01. [Smoking Tobacco](#)

Texas Labor Code § 411.103. [Duty of Employer to Provide Safe Workplace](#)

Texas Health and Safety Code, § 161.252 [Possession, Purchase, Consumption or Receipt of Cigarettes, E-Cigarettes, or Tobacco Products by Minors Prohibited](#)

Texas Administrative Code § 34.303, [Adopted Standards](#) (Adopts by rule applicable chapters of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Life Safety Code 101 (2012 Edition))

Texas Administrative Code, § 703.20 [Certification of Tobacco-Free Policy for Grant Recipients](#)

System Policy [34.05, Smoking](#)

Definitions

Smoking means the use or carrying of a lighted pipe, cigar, cigarette, tobacco, e-cigarette, or any other type of nicotine delivery device or smoking substance

Tobacco means all forms of tobacco products including but not limited to cigarettes, cigars, pipes, water pipes (hookah), bidis, kreteks, electronic cigarettes “e-cigarettes”, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chewing tobacco, and any non-FDA approved nicotine delivery device.

University Property means property located in the State of Texas that is owned, operated, leased, occupied, or under the administrative control of the President of Texas A&M University-Commerce. For purposes of this rule, this includes but is not limited to all grounds, agricultural land, buildings and structures, sidewalks, parking lots, walkways, and all vehicles owned, leased, or rented by A&M-Commerce.

Vaping means to inhale vapor through the mouth from a usually battery-operated electronic device (such as an e-cigarette) that heats up and vaporizes a liquid or solid.

Revision History

Approved March 27, 1998
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