

UConn Smoking Policy Frequently Asked Questions

1. Why did UConn revise the Smoking Policy to restrict smoking beyond the interior of its buildings?

The Smoking Policy Task Force found that of their research of peer institutions, approximately 70 percent have a complete ban on smoking and/or tobacco. The remaining 30 percent apply such bans to within a certain distance from buildings or facilities. UConn was the sole institution with no official policy restricting smoking beyond the interior of its buildings.

2. When did the revised Smoking Policy go into effect?

The revised smoking policy became effective on June 7, 2016.

3. Does the Smoking Policy apply to Storrs and the Regional Campuses? What about UConn Health?

The Smoking Policy applies to the main campus in Storrs as well as the Regional Campuses. This Policy does not apply to UConn Health. The UConn Health Policy is available at http://health.uconn.edu/policies/wp-content/uploads/sites/28/2015/07/policy_2010_02.pdf.

4. In what areas of campus is smoking prohibited?

Smoking is prohibited in all UConn owned and leased buildings, facilities and vehicles. Smoking is also prohibited within 25 feet of all campus buildings and residence halls. It is important to note that there may be large contiguous areas on campus where no smoking is permitted, due to the close proximity of buildings.

5. To whom does the smoking policy apply?

The smoking policy applies to all UConn employees, students, visitors, and guests. Organizers of public events, such as conferences, meetings, public lectures, social events, and cultural events using campus facilities must also be mindful of this Policy and encourage compliance.

6. For the purposes of the policy, how does UConn define smoking?

“Smoking” includes all tobacco-derived or containing products, including but not limited to, cigarettes, electronic cigarettes, cigars, pipes and similar products.

7. Are you requiring members of the faculty and staff quit smoking as a result of the smoking policy?

No, we are only asking them not to smoke in restricted areas on campus.

8. What about employees’ rights to smoke on campus?

There is no legal right to smoke under state or federal law. The prohibition of smoking in UConn buildings, facilities and vehicles as well as the prohibition of smoking within 25 feet of a UConn building or residence hall provides access to clean, smoke-free air while allowing individuals who smoke the right to do so in non-restricted areas of campus.

9. What is the responsibility of managers and/or supervisors in administering the Smoking Policy?

Individuals in management and/or supervisory roles are responsible for 1) understanding the fundamentals of the policy; 2) communicating the policy to faculty, staff, students, and visitors; and 3) enforcing the policy by holding employees and students accountable for complying with the policy and addressing policy violations consistently.

10. What will happen to employees that do not follow the policy?

The success of the Smoking Policy depends upon the thoughtfulness and cooperation of smokers and non-smokers. All faculty, staff, students, and visitors share the responsibility of complying with and enforcing this important policy through education and compliance. Employees who violate this policy may be subject to the progressive disciplinary process.

11. Is there help or support if I want to quit smoking?

Information on quitting smoking and more is available on this [website](#). If you are unable to access this site, please contact the Department of Human Resources at 860.486-1167 or HR@uconn.edu for assistance.