

Smoke-Free Campus Environment

Summary/Purpose: To provide notice of and guidelines about the smoke-free environment at The University of Mississippi.*

Smoking is prohibited at all times, and at all locations of The University of Mississippi Oxford campus, including University-owned facilities, properties, and grounds. This includes but is not limited to the following:

- The interior of all University-owned buildings;
- All outside property or grounds of the Oxford campus, including sidewalks, parking lots, recreational areas and partially enclosed areas such as walkways, breezeways, patios, porches, gazebos, tents and bus shelters;
- Within any University of Mississippi-owned vehicles, including buses, vans, shuttles, golf carts and all other University vehicles; and
- All indoor and outdoor athletics venues and facilities.

This policy applies to all faculty, staff, students, visitors, and contractors.

For purposes of this policy, “smoking” means inhaling, exhaling, burning, carrying or possessing any lighted tobacco product, including cigarettes, cigars, pipe tobacco, and any other lit tobacco products, including electronic cigarettes that emit smoke.

The University also prohibits littering the campus with remains of any tobacco products. Additionally, the University-controlled advertising, sale, or free sampling of tobacco products is prohibited on campus, regardless of the vendor.

Organizers and attendees at public events, such as conferences, meetings, public lectures, social events, cultural events, and athletic events using University-owned facilities, grounds, and properties are required to abide by University of Mississippi policy. Therefore, organizers of such events are responsible for communicating to attendees the policies of the University and for enforcing this policy.

Communication: Persons will be informed of this policy through:

- Signs posted in appropriate areas throughout the University
- Various University web sites including Human Resources, Alumni Affairs, Athletics, Health Center, Counseling Center, and others
- UM Smoke-Free Campus web site (www.olemiss.edu/smokefree)
- E-mail communication to all employees and students
- *The M Book*
- Other University publications and communications.

Respect and Responsibility: The success of this policy depends on the thoughtfulness, consideration, and cooperation of smokers and non-smokers. All members of the University community share in the responsibility for adhering to and enforcing this policy. Any complaints should be brought to the attention of the appropriate University authorities and anyone who complains shall be protected against retaliation.

The University of Mississippi

Enforcement: The responsibility for the enforcement and communication of this policy rests with all members of the University community and the University Police Department.

Visitors, contractors, and other individuals on campus who are in violation of the policy should be reminded of the policy and asked to comply with our smoke-free campus policy.

All faculty, staff, and students who are in violation of this policy should be reminded of the policy and asked to comply. Refusal to comply with this policy could result in citations and fines. For complete information about policy enforcement, go to www.olemiss.edu/smokefree.

Smoking Cessation Programs: The Health Center and Counseling Center offer a range of smoking cessation and support programs for any member of the University community who desires to quit smoking. The University's employee health insurance plan covers the full cost for three months of cessation medications. To learn more about smoking cessation programs available to students and employees, please go to www.olemiss.edu/smokefree.

*This policy is being introduced to the University community in August 2012; strict enforcement of the policy begins January 1, 2013.