Revision Responsibility: Vice President for Student Affairs
Responsible Executive Officer: President

Source/Reference: TBR Policy 3:05:01:01
T.C.A. § 49-7-135
T.C.A. § 4-4-121

PURPOSE

To promote the safety and health of students, employees, and visitors to the Columbia State campuses and property.

DEFINITIONS

Tobacco Products – Tobacco products include, but are not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, pipe smoking, smokeless tobacco products (chewing tobacco and snuff), electronic and vaporing products (commonly known as "e-cigarettes " or "vapes").

Smoking – Smoking is the inhaling, exhaling, or burning of tobacco products or unregulated nicotine products, including using any device or product intended to simulate smoked tobacco.

POLICY

I. All Campus Locations

A. There shall be no smoking or use of tobacco products, including the use of e-cigarettes, in any building or vehicle owned or leased by the College or otherwise located on any Columbia State Campus.

B. The use of mouth tobacco products (including dipping, chewing) is prohibited in all College buildings, facilities, and College-owned or leased vehicles.

C. The sale or sampling of smoking and tobacco products is forbidden on all property owned or controlled by the College.

II. Grounds and Open Air Areas

Smoking or use of tobacco products is prohibited on all grounds and in all open air areas owned or leased by the College.

III. Personal Vehicles

Tobacco products are permitted in a personal vehicle legally parked in College parking areas. Smoke and tobacco products must be confined within the vehicle.

IV. Enforcement Policies

All members of the College Community are responsible for compliance with this policy. Violators of the smoking and tobacco use policy will be subject to normal administrative/student disciplinary/personnel procedures.

V. College Awareness Plan

A. The policy shall be published on the College Website, in the College *Catalog and Student Handbook*, and in the policies and procedures manual.

B. Prospective employees will receive notice of the policy upon their application for employment.

C. Organizers/supervisors of events are responsible for informing prospective visitors of the policy.

D. Periodic notices will be placed in other College publications.

VI. This updated policy went into effect on November 3, 2014, and is enforceable.

Revised: November 20, 1990; August 30, 2002 (policy revised using new policy format); October 1, 2003 (deleted "smoking room in Jones Student Center" under Section I., Policy); June 28, 2005 (the president and vice presidents reviewed and revised policy to bring it into compliance with Tennessee Code Annotated 49-7-135; deleted Item V. "Smoking at all extended campus centers and sites is regulated by the organization that controls the facility." and renumbered remaining items; deleted the section on Procedures, "This policy will be widely communicated through standard institutional communication channels."); September 28, 2011 (Deleted Item V., new policy format and updated title); November 3, 2014 (Updated title and policy to include prohibition of e-cigarette and vaporing products and to institute a College free from smoking and tobacco). Reviewed March 2019; Reviewed/accepted by Cabinet, approved/signed by the President September 13, 2022. Reviewed June, 2026.