



Tobacco Free Campus Riverland Policy #5.31

PURPOSE:

To create a healthy, clean, and safe learning and working environment for all students and employees and complying with the intent of the Minnesota Clean Indoor Air Act, Minnesota State Colleges and Universities guidance, and other relevant legislation.

In light of findings of the U.S. Surgeon General that exposure to second-hand tobacco smoke and the use of tobacco are significant health hazards, the college intends to establish a tobacco-free environment.

The success of this policy will depend upon the cooperation of all faculty, staff, and students to comply with this policy and to encourage others to comply with the policy in order to promote a healthy, clean, and safe environment in which to work, study, and live.

APPLICABILITY:

Effective July 1, 2011, smoking, tobacco use, and tobacco sales (including the use or sales of smokeless tobacco products) are prohibited on college-owned, operated, or leased property, including in college-owned, rented, or leased vehicles. Free distribution of tobacco products on campus or at college-sponsored events is also prohibited.

CESSATION PROGRAMS AND SERVICES: To support Riverland students and employees who wish to reduce and/or quit using tobacco products, a variety of tobacco cessation resources and services are available through Student Services and Human Resources offices.

VIOLATIONS: Enforcement of this policy will depend upon the cooperation of all faculty, staff, and students as well as campus visitors not only to ensure that Riverland Community College is truly tobacco-free but also to help and encourage others to comply with the policy.

In the event of a violation, the person will be informed verbally of Riverland Community College's Tobacco-Free Campus Policy. Should that person continue to violate the policy, a report should be made to the appropriate office: in the case of an employee, to that person's supervisor; in the case of a student, to the college student conduct officer; in the case of a visitor, to the president's office or either of the vice presidents' offices.

Violations of this policy by employees will be handled through the progressive disciplinary process as outlined in the employee's bargaining unit contract.

Violations by students will be handled through the progressive disciplinary process as outlined in the student handbook: <http://www.riverland.edu/studenthandbook/index.cfm>.

Persistent offenders may be subject to additional sanctions per the Student Conduct Code.

POLICY EXCEPTIONS:

1. All research, educational, and/or artistic purposes that involve the use of tobacco on campus, must be approved by the college president or his/her designee. Such use must be preceded by reasonable advance notice to the public.
2. This policy does not apply to specific activities when tobacco is used in connection with the practice of cultural activities, including those of American Indians that are in accordance with the American Indian Religious Freedom Act, 42 U.S.C. sections 1996 and 1996a. All ceremonial use exceptions must be approved in advance by the college president or his/her designee.
3. Tobacco use inside private vehicles is permitted as long as tobacco users demonstrate respect for individuals and the environment.

SCOPE: All employees and students.

DEFINITIONS:

Smoking: The burning of any type of lighted pipe, cigar, cigarette, bidi, glove cigarette, electronic cigarettes, or any other smoking equipment, whether filled with tobacco or any other type of smoking material.

Smokeless Tobacco Products: Smokeless or spit tobacco including, but not limited to snuff, dip, chewing tobacco, snus, smokeless pouches, or other forms of loose-leaf tobacco in any form.

Electronic delivery device: Any product containing or delivering nicotine, lobelia, or any other substance intended for human consumption that can be used by a person to simulate smoking in the delivery or nicotine or any other substance through inhalation of vapor from the product. Electronic delivery device includes any component part of a product, whether or not marketed or sold separately. Electronic delivery device does not include any product that has been approved or certified by the United States Food and Drug Administration for sale as a tobacco-cessation product, as a tobacco-dependence product, or for other medical purposes, and is marketed and sold for such an approved purpose. **2014 Minnesota Session Laws, Ch., 291, Art. 6, Sec. 33.**

DOES THIS POLICY HAVE A PROCEDURE? Yes

<http://www.riverland.edu/studenthandbook/index.cfm> (click on “Offices & Services” tab and select “Policies & Procedures” for complete list of policies and procedures)

LIST RELATED POLICIES, PROCEDURES OR FORMS:

2014 LAWS OF MINNESOTA, CH. 291, ART. 6, SEC. 6, Subd. 5. Electronic cigarettes.

- (a) The use of electronic cigarettes, including the inhaling or exhaling of vapor from any electronic delivery device, as defined in section 609.685, subdivision 1*, is prohibited in the following locations:
 - (1) any building owned or operated by the state, home rule charter or statutory city, county, township, school district, or other political subdivision;
 - (2) any facility owned by Minnesota State Colleges and Universities and the University of Minnesota;
 - (3) Any facility licensed by the commissioner of human services; or

- (4) any facility licensed by the commissioner of health, but only if the facility is also subject to federal licensing requirements.
- (b) Nothing in this subdivision shall prohibit political subdivisions or business from adopting more stringent prohibitions on the use of electronic cigarettes or electronic delivery devices.

** An “electronic delivery device” means any product containing or delivering nicotine, lobelia, or any other substance intended for human consumption that can be used by a person to simulate smoking in the delivery of nicotine or any other substance through inhalation of vapor from the product. Electronic delivery device includes any component part of a product, whether or not marketed or sold separately. Electronic delivery device does not include any product that has been approved or certified by the United States Food and Drug Administration for sale as a tobacco-cessation product, as a tobacco-dependence product, or for other medical purposes, and is marketed and sold for such an approved purpose.*

2014 Minnesota Session Laws, Ch., 291, Art. 6, Sec. 33.

Submit completed form and policy to the Cabinet Member responsible for the division affected by the proposal. This section to be completed by President’s Office.

Date Issued: 5/4/2011; 9/11/2014
Responsible Division / Author: Administration / Human Resource Director
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