

MONTANA TECH OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA

Montana Tech Tobacco and Nicotine Use Policy

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to describe Montana Tech's limits on the use of tobacco and nicotine on Montana Tech's campuses, including all facilities operated under the control of Montana Tech.

II. DEFINITION

For the purposes of this policy, "tobacco" is defined to include any tobacco product, including but not limited to any lighted or unlighted cigarette, cigar, pipe, bidi, hookah, and all forms of smokeless tobacco. The e-cigarette, a nicotine delivery device, is included in this policy. Also, any nicotine delivery device that has not been approved by the FDA for tobacco cessation programs is included in this policy.

III. BACKGROUND

Tobacco use and secondhand smoke have been identified by the Surgeon General to be the cause of preventable diseases. Additionally, in 2009, the Montana legislature decreed that the "right to breath smoke-free air has priority over the desire to smoke" (Montana Code 50-40-102). It is the policy of Montana Tech to promote the health, wellness, and safety of all employees, students, guests, visitors, and contractors while on campus. Because there is no safe tobacco product, the only logical action is to promote a campus that is free from tobacco. In order to support the health, wellness, and safety of employees, students, guests, visitors, and contractors, the campus was designated free of tobacco-use effective July 1, 2010.

IV. POLICY

- A. The use of tobacco (including cigarettes, cigars, pipes, smokeless tobacco, e-cigarettes, and all other tobacco products) by students, faculty, staff, guests, visitors, and contractors is prohibited on all properties owned or leased by Montana Tech, including:
 - a. all interior space on Montana Tech's campuses and property leased by Montana Tech;
 - b. all outside property or grounds on Montana Tech's campuses, including areas such as walkways, breezeways, bus shelters, parking lots, lawns, gardens, and patios;
 - c. all outside property leased by Montana Tech;
 - d. all vehicles leased or owned by Montana Tech;

- e. all indoor and outdoor athletic facilities, as well as in the grandstands of outdoor facilities.
- B. Campus-controlled advertising, sale, or distributing of tobacco is prohibited on Montana Tech's campuses.
- C. Littering any university property, whether owned or leased, with the remains or packaging of tobacco products is prohibited.
- D. Organizers and attendees at public events, such as conferences, meetings, public lectures, social events, cultural events, and sporting events using Montana Tech facilities are required to abide by Montana Tech's tobacco-free policy. Organizers of such events are responsible for communicating the policy to attendees and for enforcing this policy.

V. COMMUNICATION OF POLICY

Signs bearing the message "Tobacco-Free Campus" will be posted at vehicular and pedestrian entrances to Montana Tech, as applicable. Each building will display a decal that states, "Tobacco-Free Campus". However, the tobacco-free policy applies regardless of signage.

This policy is reproduced in the staff handbook, the student handbook, the annual catalog, and on the Montana Tech website.

VI. TOBACCO USE CESSATION PROGRAMS

Tobacco users are 7 - 10 times more likely to quit when they can access effective services to help them. Montana Tech is committed to supporting students and employees who wish to stop using tobacco.

Students and employees wanting to quit can access the Montana Quit Line at 1-800-784-8669 (1-800-QUIT-NOW). Employees on the MUS medical benefits plan can also contact the MUS Employee Benefits Department at 1-877-501-1722 or visit the MUS benefits website at www.mus.edu/choices to explore eligibility for the Tobacco Cessation Benefit.

VII. COMPLIANCE

All college employees, students, visitors, guests, and contractors are required to comply with this policy, which shall remain in effect at all times. Violation of this policy may be cause for disciplinary action in accordance with employee and student conduct policies.

VIII. EXCEPTIONS

- A. Instructional purposes allow for the use of tobacco products in laboratory and classroom instruction/experiments, or for artistic purposes. All research, educational, and/or artistic purposes that involve the use of tobacco on campus must be approved

in advance by the Chancellor of Montana Tech or his/her designee. Such use must be preceded by reasonable advance notice to the public.

- B. Specific activities used in connection with the practice of cultural activities by American Indians that are in accordance with the American Indian Religious Freedom Act, 42 U.S.C. sections 1996 and 1996a allow for the use of ceremonial tobacco. All ceremonial use exceptions must be approved in advance by the Chancellor of Montana Tech or his/her designee.
- C. Montana Tech employees travelling alone in cars leased from outside corporations (ex., Hertz) for the purposes of conducting university business are bound by the policies described in the terms of the lease. If more than one Montana Tech employee is travelling in the same vehicle, the policy defaults to that described in section 4.A.d of this policy.
- D. Montana Tech employees staying alone in hotel rooms while on university business are bound by the tobacco policies of the hotels in which they are staying. If more than one Montana Tech employee is staying in the same hotel room, the policy defaults to that described in section 4.A.a of this policy.
- E. Montana Tech employees working on other college campuses are bound by the policies of those campuses.

IX. AMENDMENTS TO THE POLICY

This policy may be amended by the Chancellor, after consultation with Montana Tech's students, faculty and staff.

Campus Review Completed: 04/01/10

Approved by Chancellor: 04/01/10

Effective: 07/01/10

Amended: 06/01/14

(Changes: Item II. Banned e-cigarettes and other nicotine-delivery products;
Item IX. Added "students" to those consulted on a proposed policy change.)

Donald M. Blacketter, Chancellor