

Drew University Smoke, Tobacco and Nicotine-Free Campus FAQs

When did the smoke/tobacco/nicotine-free policy go into effect?

The Drew University Smoke, Tobacco and Nicotine-Free Campus Policy will go into effect on January 1, 2021.

What does the policy mean?

This policy means that smoking, tobacco and/or nicotine products, or any other substance or matter that can be smoked or vaped, are prohibited in any facility or property owned and/or controlled by Drew University. This includes all buildings, fields, parking lots and sidewalks.

Who must comply with this policy?

All Drew faculty, staff, students, agents, contractors and all visitors, vendors and guests of the University.

Do smoke/tobacco-free policies really improve health?

Yes. According to the U.S. Surgeon General, in the United States, smoking is the leading cause of death and preventable disease. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention clearly states that an entire campus community can benefit from a smoke/tobacco-free campus. By implementing this policy, students, faculty and staff will benefit by not being exposed to harmful chemicals in secondhand smoke and e-cigarette aerosol, and tobacco use will no longer be viewed as a socially acceptable practice. This policy will help to prevent people from initiating the use of tobacco products and promote cessation. Enforcing a smoke/tobacco/nicotine-free policy can have a tremendous impact on the overall health of the Drew community by helping to reduce the risks of certain cancers, heart disease, lung disease and compromised immune systems.

What is the difference between a smoke-free and tobacco-free policy?

A smoke-free policy prohibits the use of tobacco, nicotine, non-tobacco or non-nicotine products that emit smoke. It is intended to protect non-smokers from secondhand smoke. A tobacco-free policy is more inclusive and covers products that emit smoke as well as smokeless tobacco products, thus, emphasizing the health of smokers, smokeless tobacco users and non-smokers. According to the Americans for Nonsmokers' Rights Foundation, approximately 83% of smoke-free campuses are also tobacco-free.

What products are prohibited by this policy?

Any product made or derived from tobacco or nicotine including, but not limited to, cigarettes, bidis, cigars, cheroots, stogies, periques, granulated, plug cut, crimp cut, ready-rubbed and any other smoking tobacco, any smokeless, spit or spitless, dissolvable or inhaled or ingested tobacco products, snuff, snuff flour, cavendish, plug and twist tobacco, fine-cut and other chewing tobaccos, shorts, refuse scraps, clippings, cuttings and sweepings of tobacco, and any other forms of tobacco prepared in a manner that makes the tobacco suitable for chewing or

smoking, or for chewing and smoking, or any other substance or matter that can be smoked or vaped.

Any device, component or accessory used to deliver tobacco or nicotine products, or non-tobacco or non-nicotine products, to the person utilizing such device, component or accessory.

Any product or substance containing any amount of tobacco or nicotine, or non-tobacco or non-nicotine product, that is intended to be smoked, absorbed, inhaled and/or ingested, including but not limited to juuls, vapes, pods, flavored pods, dab pens, hookahs, waterpipes, etc.

Why is smokeless tobacco included in this policy?

There is no safe form of tobacco use. Nicotine, the chemical that causes addiction, is present in all tobacco products. Approximately 28 different carcinogenic chemicals have been identified as being present either in tobacco, or take form during its production process. Smokeless tobacco has been related to various health problems including, but not limited to, addiction, cancer, precancerous mouth lesions, heart disease and pregnancy risks.

Does this policy also apply to e-cigarettes?

Yes. According to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (“FDA”), e-cigarettes are neither a safe nicotine delivery system, nor a safe smoking cessation strategy. Therefore, the use of e-cigarettes is prohibited on University property and are in violation of this policy.

Is possession of tobacco products a violation of the policy?

Although personal possession of tobacco products is allowed on campus, the smoking and/or use of any tobacco and/or nicotine products is prohibited on campus.

Are there designated smoking areas on campus?

No, there are no designated smoking areas on campus.

Is the smoke/tobacco/nicotine-free policy a violation of my civil rights?

No, the decision to smoke or use tobacco and/or nicotine products is a personal one, not a constitutional right. Rather, a smoke/tobacco/nicotine-free campus protects the rights of all people to breathe air that is clean and smoke-free. Drew has a responsibility to its students, faculty and staff to provide them with a safe environment. As part of this responsibility, Drew must regulate activities that affect the health and wellness of its community. Under this policy, the rights and privileges of both smokers and non-smokers are preserved by allowing all people to breathe clean air on campus, while allowing smokers to continue using tobacco and/or nicotine products off campus.

Are there any other educational institutions that have gone smoke/tobacco-free?

Yes. According to the American Nonsmokers' Rights Foundation, as of January 2, 2020, "at least 2,487 campuses are 100% smoke-free. Of these, 2,062 are 100% tobacco-free [83%], 2,094 prohibit e-cigarette use, 1,111 prohibit hookah use and 485 prohibit smoking/vaping marijuana."

How will this policy be enforced?

The policy is intended to be preventive not punitive. Therefore, this policy will be implemented through education. The smoke/tobacco/nicotine-free policy will be communicated to the Drew community through electronic information, signs and notices. All new and prospective students and employees will be notified of this policy, as well as guests, contractors and vendors using Drew property and facilities. Our expectation is that the Drew community will comply with the policy and will politely inform others about it, if they observe someone violating the policy. If a member of the Drew community refuses to comply with the policy, a student will be referred to Student Conduct, and faculty and staff will be reported to their supervisor.

What should I do if I see someone smoking and/or using tobacco products on campus?

Students, faculty and staff who observe someone smoking and/or using tobacco products on campus should respectfully inform the individual(s) of the policy prohibiting smoking and/or tobacco use anywhere on University property.

What resources will be available to me to help me stop using tobacco products?

Students, faculty and staff who are interested in smoking cessation programs can visit:

- a. Health Services, Holloway Annex, 973-408-3413;
- b. The McClintock Center for Counseling and Psychological Services, Holloway Annex, 973-408-3398;
- c. Morristown Medical Center, 100 Madison Avenue, Morristown, NJ, 973-971-7971
- d. Atlantic Health Center Lung Cancer Screening Program, 844-228-LUNG (5864)

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention offer many free resources and information on [smoking cessation](#). Drew University Student Health Services can provide one-on-one counseling, develop individualized plans that include online and possibly off-campus smoking cessation resources, and follow-up for those affected. In addition, Health Services can also provide OTC nicotine replacement products to assist with tobacco cessation.

What about neighbors of Drew University?

Drew is committed to maintaining a positive relationship with our neighbors that border our campus and are asking our students, faculty and staff to assist us with this endeavor. We expect all members of the Drew community to respect the property of others by not littering and/or congregating in areas and, therefore, creating a cloud of smoke that people must walk through.

Are there any exceptions to this policy?

Yes. Individuals may request an exception to this policy under special circumstances including certain outdoor laboratory and classroom instruction/experiments, as well as certain outdoor cultural or religious ceremonies/events. Examples of exemptions may include, using tobacco products to extract/determine nicotine levels or showing the effect of nicotine/smoke on other substances, communal smoking of a sacred pipe, etc. To request an exemption please contact either the Associate Dean of Students, University Chaplain or the Associate Dean of Faculty in Arts and Sciences. Also, products approved by the FDA for the purposes of smoking cessation (e.g., nicotine patches, etc.) are not considered to be prohibited tobacco and/or nicotine products under this policy. The FDA has not approved e-cigarettes, juuls and other vaping devices as smoking cessation products and, therefore, are prohibited.

Who do I contact if I have additional questions about the policy?

If you have any questions, please contact William Petrick, Associate Dean of Students, at 973-408-3453 or Maria Force, Director of Human Resources, at 973-408-3515.

FAQ's were drafted and included guidance from Trinity College (Dublin), University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point, Skidmore and University of California.