

VI – 8.10 POLICY ON SMOKING AT USM INSTITUTIONS

(Approved by the Board of Regents, June 22, 2012)

I. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

- A. Purpose. The University System of Maryland (USM) seeks to promote a healthy, smoke-free environment for students and employees. In recognition of the health risks of tobacco smoke, this policy establishes standards and requirements to provide a smoke-free environment for all USM faculty, staff, students, and visitors.
- B. Scope. This policy applies to all USM students, faculty, staff, contractors and employees of contractors providing services on USM campuses, agents, guests, and visitors.

II. DEFINITIONS

- A. “Institution Property” means any property owned, leased, or otherwise controlled or operated by an institution, including buildings, other structures and grounds, and vehicles owned or leased by the institution.
- B. “Smoking” means carrying or smoking a lighted tobacco product or the burning of any material to be inhaled including, but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, hookahs, and pipes.

III. PROHIBITIONS ON INSTITUTION PROPERTY

- A. Prohibitions against Smoking
 - 1. Consistent with Maryland law, smoking is not permitted in any institution building, including academic buildings, residence halls, administrative buildings, other enclosed facilities, or vehicles, except as provided in Section III(A)3, below.
 - 2. Smoking is prohibited on all institution grounds and property, including walkways, parking lots, and recreational and athletic areas, except as provided in Section III(A)3, below.
 - 3. Smoking in and on institution property will be permitted only as follows:
 - a. For controlled research, and educational, theatrical, or religious ceremonial purposes, with prior approval of the President or the President’s designee;
 - b. In limited and specific designated areas on institution grounds, as approved by the President; or
 - c. Subject to any other exception to this policy recommended by the President and approved by the Chancellor.

- B. Prohibitions against Sale. The sale of tobacco and smoking-related products is prohibited on institution property.

IV. SMOKING CESSATION ASSISTANCE

- A. Assistance Programs. Each institution may make available smoking cessation assistance to students, faculty and staff, which may include opportunities to participate in smoking cessation seminars, classes, and counseling and the availability of smoking cessation products and materials.
- B. Smoking Cessation Information. The President of each institution shall designate an individual or individuals to answer questions, refer students and employees to on-campus and outside resources, and otherwise provide information about smoking cessation assistance options and opportunities.

V. IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS

- A. Communication. Each institution shall provide initial and ongoing information to communicate the requirements of this policy, including:
 - 1. Dissemination of the key elements of the policy to faculty, staff, students, and others on websites and in appropriate written materials; and
 - 2. The placement of exterior and interior notices and signs announcing that smoking is prohibited.
- B. Community Outreach. Each institution will engage in outreach to the community, as appropriate, to facilitate coordination with local government authorities and to assist residents and businesses near the institution in preventing trespass and littering that may result if members of the campus community seek to smoke in nearby off-campus areas.
- C. Consequences. Each institution may establish appropriate consequences, which may include fines or disciplinary measures, for violations of this policy.
- D. Implementation. The provisions of this policy shall be implemented at each institution no later than June 30, 2013.