



Yeshiva University

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Smoke Free / Tobacco Free Workplace and Campus Policy

Yeshiva University prohibits smoking and the use of tobacco products throughout its workplace and campuses.

I. Purpose and background

In order to provide employees, students and others with a smoke-free and tobacco-free environment and to comply with New York State and New York City regulations and statutes, it is the policy of Yeshiva to prohibit smoking and the use of tobacco products in all Yeshiva owned or leased buildings, facilities, and property.

II. Policy

A. Smoking and the use of tobacco products is prohibited in all indoor areas of Yeshiva buildings and facilities (including all residence halls, clinics, laboratories, classrooms, private offices, libraries, lobbies, lounges, food service areas, hallways, stairwells, bathrooms and student areas), as well as all balconies, rooftops, vestibules and loading docks, and within close proximity to or causing the obstruction of, any building entrance, covered walkway or ventilation system.

B. Smoking and the use of tobacco products is prohibited in vehicles owned or leased by Yeshiva for use in its operations (excluding vehicles leased by YU for its senior administrators).

C. Smoking and tobacco use may be permitted for educational, clinical, artistic, religious or ceremonial purposes with prior approval of the appropriate Yeshiva senior administrator, in consultation with the Chief of Security.

D. “No Smoking, Electronic Cigarette Use, and Smokeless Use” signs are prominently and conspicuously posted in all appropriate locations of the workplace in accordance with the Smoke-Free Air Act.

E. “Smoking” is defined as inhaling, exhaling, burning, or carrying any lighted or heated cigar, cigarette, pipe, or other device designed to accomplish, enable or imitate the act of smoking, including electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes), hookahs, and all vapor/vaping devices. This applies to any substance, including cannabis.

F. "Tobacco products" is defined as all tobacco-derived or containing products, including but not limited to, cigarettes (including clove, bidi, and kretek), cigars, cigarillos, hookah-smoked products, electronic cigarettes or vapor/vaping devices, and oral tobacco (e.g., spit and spitless, smokeless, chew, dip, snuff, snus) and nasal tobacco. It also includes any product intended to mimic tobacco products, contain tobacco flavoring or deliver nicotine. This definition does not include any product that has been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for sale as a tobacco-use cessation product.

G. Outdoor Smoking Locations -- All campus entryways and landscaped areas have been designated as SMOKE FREE / TOBACCO FREE areas and where possible, designated smoking/tobacco areas have been assigned. Please contact the Security Department to determine the outdoor smoking/tobacco locations at your campus. Those who smoke or use tobacco products at outdoor smoking/tobacco locations are expected to be courteous and respectful, and to discard tobacco products, packaging, and other potential litter in appropriate receptacles. Note that per applicable law, smoking is prohibited in the plaza on Amsterdam Avenue and West 185th Street.

H. This policy applies to all Yeshiva faculty, staff, and students, as well as all alumni, volunteers, visitors, contractors and vendors. The enforcement of this Policy is the responsibility of the Security Department. Violators may be subject to disciplinary action up to, and including, termination of employment (in the case of employees); suspension and expulsion (in the case of students) and/or a campus ban. Violators may also be subject to sanctions under applicable law.

I. Inquiries, complaints or disputes about smoking and the use of tobacco products in the workplace and campuses should be directed to the Chief of Security at (212) 960-5221 or the Chief Human Resources Officer at (646) 592-4335. Employees can also report violations of the Smoke-Free Air Act by calling 311.

J. Employees and applicants for employment who exercise or attempt to exercise any rights granted under the Smoke-Free Air Act and/or this policy are protected from retaliatory adverse personnel action as defined in the applicable regulations. If employees or applicants feel any such adverse employment action has been taken against them for exercising their rights under the Smoke-Free Air Act and/or this policy, they should contact the Chief Human Resources Officer at (646) 592-4335.

K. Yeshiva will provide a written copy of this policy upon request to any employee or prospective employee.

L. A copy of this policy will be provided upon request to interested and appropriate regulatory agencies.