



Policy 5.31

Tobacco Free Campus

Approved 5/2011

Philosophy

Mesabi Range Community & Technical College recognizes that the use of tobacco in any form poses serious and long-term health risks to all individuals who use or are exposed to it. Therefore, Mesabi Range College is committed to creating a clean, safe, and healthy learning and working environment for all students, employees, and visitors on college property.

Policy

As of August 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 all college-owned vehicles.

Definitions

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

Smokeless Tobacco Products: Smokeless tobacco consists of the use of snuff, chewing tobacco, smokeless pouches, or other forms of loose leaf tobacco.

Facility/Grounds: Any building or structure, athletic playing field, playground, parking lot or any other outdoor property owned, leased, or contracted by Mesabi Range College; any vehicle owned, leased or contracted by Mesabi Range College.

Enforcement

Enforcement of this policy is dependent on the cooperation of all students, staff, faculty and visitors to promote a clean, safe, healthy environment in which to work, study, and live. This policy is not applicable in a private vehicle.

Cessation Programs and Services

To support Mesabi Range College 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 Life.

Violations

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 can result in a \$50.00 fine and a hold will be placed on the students' record until the fine is paid. Persistent offenders may be subject to additional sanctions per the Student Conduct Code.

Exceptions

1. An exception for instructional purposes allows for the use of tobacco products in laboratory and classroom instruction/experiments, or artistic purposes. All research, educational, and/or artistic purposes that involve the use of tobacco on campus must be approved by the Provost 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 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 Provost or his/her designee.

Review/Revision History:

Approved through Shared Governance 5/10/11