

Tobacco and Cannabis Free Policy

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to (1) promote the health and welfare of community members and visitors by prohibiting smoking and the use of tobacco products, including electronic cigarettes, on the Goucher College campus; (2) enable nonsmokers to breathe smoke-free air, by recognizing that the need to breathe smoke-free air shall have priority over the desire to smoke; and (3) encourage a healthier, more productive living/learning environment for all members of the campus community.

II. SCOPE

This policy applies to faculty, staff, students, and visitors.

III. DEFINITIONS

Electronic Smoking Device: Any product containing or delivering nicotine or any other substance (including cannabis) that can be used by a person in any manner for the purpose of inhaling vapor or aerosol from the product. The term includes any such device, whether manufactured, distributed, marketed, or sold as an e-cigarette, e-cigar, e-pipe, e-hookah, or vape pen, or under any other product name or descriptor.

Hookah: A water pipe and any associated products and devices which are used to produce fumes, smoke, and/or vapor from the burning of material including, but not limited to, tobacco, shisha, or other plant matter.

Smoking: Inhaling, exhaling, burning, or carrying any lighted or heated cigar, cigarette, or pipe, or any other lighted or heated tobacco or plant product intended for inhalation, including hookahs and marijuana, whether natural or synthetic, in any manner or in any form. Smoking also includes the use of an electronic smoking device that creates an aerosol or vapor, in any manner or in any form, or the use of any oral smoking device for the purpose of circumventing the prohibition of smoking.

Tobacco Product: Any substance containing tobacco leaf, including but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, pipe tobacco, hookah tobacco, snuff, chewing tobacco, dipping tobacco, bidis, blunts, clove cigarettes, or any other preparation of tobacco; and any product or formulation of matter containing biologically active amounts of nicotine that is manufactured, sold, offered for sale, or otherwise distributed with the expectation that the product or matter will be introduced into the human body by inhalation; but does not include any cessation product specifically approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for use in treating nicotine or tobacco dependence (e.g. patches or lozenges).

IV. SMOKING IS PROHIBITED ON GOUCHER COLLEGE CAMPUS

Tobacco: The Goucher College campus shall be entirely tobacco-free. The Drug & Tobacco-Free Policy applies to all Goucher facilities, property, and vehicles, owned or leased, regardless of location. Smoking and the use of tobacco products shall not be permitted in any buildings or outdoor areas on any Goucher campus property, including, but not limited to, parking lots, paths, fields, sports/recreational areas, and wooded areas, as well as in all personal vehicles while on campus. This policy applies to all students, faculty, staff, and other persons on campus, regardless of the purpose for their visit.

Cannabis: Although Maryland state law permits the use of medical and recreational cannabis (21 years of age or older), the use, possession, and/or cultivation of cannabis remains a crime under federal law. As a recipient of federal funding, Goucher College is required to prohibit the use and/or possession of all federally classified controlled substances, including cannabis. Therefore, the possession and use of cannabis in any form, even if accompanied by a medical prescription, is prohibited on all College property and/or during any College activity.

V. PROMOTION AND SALE OF TOBACCO & CANNABIS PRODUCTS PROHIBITED ON GOUCHER COLLEGE CAMPUS

In further recognition of the incompatibility of Goucher's educational mission and the promotion of tobacco/cannabis products, no tobacco/cannabis-related advertising or sponsorship shall be permitted on college property, at Goucher-sponsored events, or in publications produced by the College. For the purposes of this policy, "tobacco/cannabis-related" applies to the use of a tobacco/cannabis brand or corporate name, trademark, logo, symbol, or motto, selling message, recognizable pattern or colors, or any other indicia of product identical to or similar to, or identifiable with, those used for any brand of tobacco/cannabis products or company which manufactures tobacco/cannabis products. No tobacco/cannabis products or paraphernalia shall be sold or distributed as samples on college grounds, in vending machines, or any area on campus.

VI. DISSEMINATION OF POLICY; SIGNAGE

Copies of this policy shall be distributed to all faculty and staff by the associate provost for faculty affairs and by Human Resources and shall be included with information given to all admitted students in the onboarding process. Information about the policy and how to comply with it shall also be posted on the Goucher website. Announcements concerning the policy and any changes to it shall be posted on the Goucher website to ensure that an up-to-date policy is easily accessible. Signs prohibiting smoking and the use of tobacco/cannabis products shall be posted at all points of entry to the campus.

VII. ENFORCEMENT OF POLICY; PENALTIES

This policy shall be enforced by all the members of the Goucher community. Violators of this policy will be reported and are subject to disciplinary action by the relevant office (dean of students, HR or the provost office).

RESPONSIBLE OFFICE

Students: [Office of the Dean of Students](#)

Staff: [Office of Human Resources](#)

Faculty: Office of the Provost

VIII. HISTORY

Adopted: July 2018. Updated: August 2023.