Smoking Regulations

Policy Statement:

I. Valencia College (“Valencia”) is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for its students, employees, and visitors. Extensive scientific evidence confirms a causal relationship between human exposure to secondhand tobacco smoke and human disease, and demonstrates that there is no safe level of exposure to environmental tobacco smoke. Accordingly, it is the intent of the District Board of Trustees to promote the health of our students, employees, and visitors by establishing a smoke free college environment.

II. Smoking is defined as the burning of tobacco or any other type of material in any type of smoking media or equipment, and any object or device intended to simulate such use, including without limitation cigarettes, cigars, pipes, and electronic cigarettes, and using or carrying the same. The sale of cigarettes and other tobacco products and the free distribution of tobacco products are prohibited.

III. Smoking is prohibited on all property and facilities owned, leased, or operated by Valencia. This includes all buildings, bridges, walkways, sidewalks, parking lots and garages, on-campus streets and driveways, grounds, exterior open spaces, and personal vehicles in these areas. Smoking is also prohibited in all Valencia-owned or leased vehicles, whether or not on Valencia property. Littering the campus with the remains of tobacco products or any other disposable product is prohibited. All Valencia employees, students, visitors, contractors/vendors, and others are expected to comply with this policy at all times.

IV. In furtherance of this policy, Valencia actively promotes and provides smoking cessation assistance to students and employees who wish to stop using tobacco products. Assistance to students, faculty and staff to overcome addiction to tobacco products and information regarding cessation programs is available through (HR/Wellness or other web address).

V. This policy shall not apply to facilities leased or used by the College for college-sponsored events that take place off campus. In these circumstances, the smoking policy of the facility
shall be applicable.

VI. The President or designee is authorized to develop procedures as necessary to implement this policy.

Procedures:

I. Compliance with Policy and Reporting Violations

A. Adherence to this policy is the responsibility of all Valencia College students, faculty, staff, and visitors. It is expected that all students, faculty, staff, and visitors to campus comply with this policy. Members of our Valencia campus community are empowered and encouraged to respectfully inform others about the policy in an ongoing effort to enhance awareness and encourage compliance. Anyone who witnesses or otherwise becomes aware of a violation of this policy may report the violation to the appropriate College representative:

1. Reports of student violations should be made to the Dean of Students for the campus on which the violation occurred.

2. Reports of employee violations should be made to the Campus President for the campus on which the violation occurred.

3. Reports of visitor or contractor/vendor violations should be made to College Security.

B. Students or employees deemed to have violated this policy may be subject to College disciplinary action. The appropriate Dean of Students or Campus President may determine the type and manner of discipline to be given pursuant to the Student Code of Conduct, Human Resources Employee Handbook, or other applicable College regulations or policies.

C. Visitors who violate this policy, including contractors/vendors and those acting on their behalf, may be denied access to College property.

Related Documents/Policies:

None

Policy History:

Adopted 12-11-74; Amended 12-15-82; Formerly 6Hx28:4-27; Amended 11-20-85; Amended 7-17-91; Amended 11-18-92; Amended 9-19-00; Proposed Amendment 8-27-12, Formerly 6Hx28:04-34
Procedure

History:

Proposed Adoption 8-27-12