

Policy subject: Smoke-Free Policy	Policy number: 14/P.D/2024	Date of last revision: 2024/11/15
Implementing body: Administrative Affairs Department	Implementing start date: 2024/11/20	Policy reference: Planning and Development Department

Overview

The Smoke-Free Policy at Palestine Ahliya University aims to create a healthy, tobacco-free environment for students, faculty, staff, and visitors. The policy prohibits smoking and the use of tobacco-related products across all university premises, including indoor and outdoor spaces. This initiative supports the university's commitment to reducing health risks, promoting wellness, and providing a clean, safe environment for learning and research.

Objectives

- Promote a Healthy Environment:** Reduce health risks from smoking and secondhand smoke.
- Encourage Smoke-Free Choices:** Support adoption of smoke-free living through cessation programs.
- Comply with Health Regulations:** Align with national tobacco control policies.
- Support Smoking Cessation:** Offer resources like counseling and programs to help individuals quit.
- Reduce Tobacco Waste:** Minimize litter from tobacco products.

Scope

This policy applies to:

- All Campus Areas:** Classrooms, offices, residence halls, libraries, sports facilities, and more.
- All Individuals:** Students, faculty, staff, visitors, and contractors.
- All Tobacco Products:** Cigarettes, cigars, smokeless tobacco, e-cigarettes, and any nicotine-related substances.

Statements

- Commitment to Health:** The university is dedicated to improving health by maintaining a smoke-free campus.
- Support for Smokers:** The university provides resources to help individuals quit smoking.
- Zero Tolerance for Violations:** Strict enforcement of the policy with clear consequences.
- Environmental Responsibility:** Ensuring a clean campus by reducing tobacco-related litter.

Procedures

1. **Policy Implementation:**
 - **Policy Announcement:** Communicated via website, emails, and signage.
 - **Clear Signage:** No-smoking signs placed in key areas.
 - **Orientation:** New students and staff will be informed about the policy.
2. **Designated Smoking Areas (If Applicable):**
 - **Outdoor Smoking Zones:** May be designated far from main areas, equipped with disposal bins.
 - **No Smoking Near Buildings:** Smoking prohibited near entrances and high-traffic areas.
3. **Smoking Cessation Support:**
 - **Counseling:** One-on-one support for quitting.
 - **Workshops:** Offer tools and resources for quitting.
 - **External Referrals:** Referrals to local and online cessation programs.
4. **Compliance and Enforcement:**
 - **Community Responsibility:** All members are responsible for upholding the policy.
 - **Training:** Staff will be trained to handle violations and assist smokers.
 - **Consequences:**
 - Students: Warnings and disciplinary actions for repeated violations.
 - Faculty/Staff: Warnings and possible disciplinary actions.
 - Visitors: Asked to leave or banned for repeated violations.
5. **Monitoring and Evaluation:**
 - **Compliance Checks:** Regular monitoring to ensure adherence.
 - **Review:** Policy reviewed every two years for effectiveness.
6. **Environmental Cleanliness:**
 - **Proper Disposal:** Disposal units will be provided in designated smoking areas.
 - **Clean Campus:** Ongoing efforts to maintain cleanliness and reduce tobacco waste.

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs):

1.	Number of Violations of Smoke-Free Policy
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