

Smoke-free Environment

University Health System recognizes the value in projecting a healthy image in our community, and adopted a tobacco-free and smoke-free environment at every campus.

Smoking not only harms health but it hurts the health of others. Exposure to second-hand smoke (also called environmental tobacco smoke or passive smoking) includes exhaled smoke as well as smoke from burning cigarettes. This position is supported by the U.S. Surgeon General who has said, “Smoking cessation (stopping smoking) represents the single most important step that smokers can take to enhance the length and quality of their lives.”

We need your help!

It is important that all staff help to create and maintain a supportive environment for compliance by:

- Assisting protective services in enforcing the policy.
- Taking a compassionate approach when interacting with smokers on our campus.
- Staying consistent with your approach towards all infractions.

Placing the burden of enforcement solely on protective services staff is impractical. That’s why we are asking all employees to take part in enforcing the policy. Try using these strategies:

- Approach smokers with courtesy, respect, and in a non-confrontational manner.
- Politely inform them of the policy, but don’t engage them in conversation or debate; simply provide information and walk away.
- Encourage them not to smoke on campus, and if necessary, direct them to locations away from the property.