

## MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVESRITY

### STUDENT AFFAIRS OP 91.301: Tobacco Use on Mississippi State University Property

Date: August 31, 2006

Revised: \_\_\_\_\_, 2012

#### I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for the implementation of a policy on the prohibition of tobacco use at Mississippi State University.

#### II. POLICY

- A. Effective January 1, 2013, Mississippi State University will start a tobacco free program which will result in total prohibition of the use of tobacco products on university property by August 1, 2014. At that time of full implementation the use of tobacco products (including cigarettes, cigars, pipes, smokeless tobacco, Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems or other tobacco products) by faculty, faculty, staff and visitors will be prohibited at all times on all Mississippi State University property:
1. in all interior spaces of Mississippi State University;
  2. on all outside property or grounds of Mississippi State University; including partially enclosed areas such as walkways, breezeways and bus shelters;
  3. in Mississippi State University vehicles, including buses, vans, and all other university vehicles;
  4. in all indoor and outdoor athletic facilities, as well as the grandstands of outdoor facilities.
- B. Effective January 1, 2013 the university will limit the permitted locations for tobacco use near campus buildings or university facilities to one designated location per building or facility. Each designated location will be at least 25 feet from building entrances, open windows, or ventilations systems. The designated tobacco use location for each building will

be determined by Campus Landscape in cooperation with the Campus Master Planner.

Effective August 1, 2014 the full prohibition of tobacco use will begin.

- C. The university prohibits the campus-controlled advertising, sale, or free sampling of tobacco products on campus.
- D. The university prohibits the display of tobacco manufacturers' logos on university websites, stationary and products. An exception to this prohibition may be granted by the Vice President for Student Affairs in some circumstances in which tobacco cessation programming or research is underwritten by tobacco manufacturers.
- E. Littering the campus with remains of tobacco products or any other disposable product is prohibited.
- F. Organizers and attendees at public events, such as conferences, meetings, public lectures, social events, cultural events and sporting events using Mississippi State University facilities will be expected to abide by Mississippi State University policy. Organizers of such events are responsible for communicating the policy to attendees.
- G. Campus organizations are prohibited from accepting money or gifts from tobacco companies. Sponsorship of tobacco cessation programming or research that is underwritten by tobacco companies is permitted by this policy.
- H. Closed personal vehicles are exempt from this policy

### **III. COMMUNICATION OF POLICY**

Signs bearing the message "Tobacco Free Campus" may be posted as appropriate at vehicular and pedestrian Mississippi State University entrances. University buildings may display a decal that states "Tobacco Free Facility". However, the tobacco free policy applies on the grounds around all Mississippi State University facilities, whether or not signs are posted. No ashtrays or smoking shelters will be provided on tobacco free university property.

### **IV. TOBACCO USE CESSATION PROGRAMS**

Mississippi State University is committed to support all Mississippi State students and employees who wish to stop using tobacco products. Assistance to students, faculty, and staff to overcome addiction to tobacco products is available through the Longest Student Health Center. There is no charge for these cessation programs except for medications that may be required for certain programs.

#### **V. EXCEPTIONS AND LIMITATIONS**

Controlled research using tobacco is permitted with approval of the dean or director responsible for the facility, the Provost or appropriate vice president. Tobacco use may be permitted for educational, clinical, or religious ceremonial purposes with prior approval of the dean or director responsible for the facility, the Provost or appropriate vice president.

#### **VI. COMPLIANCE**

Adherence to this policy is the responsibility of all Mississippi State University students, faculty, staff and visitors. It is expected that all students, faculty, staff and visitors to campus comply with this policy. Members of our campus community are urged to respectfully inform others about the policy in an ongoing effort to enhance awareness and encourage compliance.

#### **VII. EFFECTIVE DATE**

This policy is effective May 15, 2013.

#### **VII. REVIEW**

The Vice President for Student Affairs is responsible for the review of this operating policy every four years or as needed.