

13.5.06 - College Business Operations: Security

Date: 01/01/1991

Smoke-Free Environment

Last Update: 08/15/2012

PURPOSE

To establish Baylor College of Medicine as a smoke-free institution. BCM endorses the findings of the U.S. Surgeon General:

(a) Smoking and use of Tobacco products causes lung cancer, heart disease, and emphysema and may complicate pregnancy;

(b) Smoking Tobacco products by pregnant women results in fetal injury, premature birth, and low birth weight;

(c) Tobacco smoke contains carbon monoxide, nicotine, carcinogens, mutagens and other toxic chemicals;

(d) Quitting smoking greatly reduces serious risks to health.

POLICY

All persons are prohibited from smoking or otherwise using Tobacco products within the confines of College property, facilities, buildings or vehicles. "Tobacco" means all forms of tobacco products, including but not limited to cigarettes, cigars, pipes, water pipes (hookah), bidis, kretkes, electronic cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff and chewing tobacco. This policy covers all College facilities, owned, operated, leased, occupied or controlled by the College, including, but not limited to, College buildings and grounds, corridors, lavatories, classrooms, offices, waiting rooms, laboratories, clinics, parking lots, entrances, lounges, sidewalks, walkways and eating areas. It also extends to College-operated vehicles.

PROCEDURE

Baylor College of Medicine Security and appropriate administrative personnel are responsible for enforcing this policy. They will advise people violating this policy to extinguish smoking materials. Employees, students, faculty, etc. who refuse to comply will be reported to Human Resources--Employee Relations. Continued violators will be subject to the College disciplinary process.

Faculty, staff, residents, postdoctoral fellows and students who persist in violating this policy should be counseled by their supervisor, following the standard College procedures. The BCM Human Resources--Benefits Department is available to assist smokers in identifying smoking cessation programs, which may help them break their smoking habit, although no one may be required to attend such a program.

Visitors who refuse to comply with this policy will be escorted off the premises.