

**SALT LAKE COUNTY COUNTY-WIDE POLICY ON
SMOKING AND USE OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS IN
AND ON COUNTY FACILITIES AND GROUNDS**

Purpose -

Salt Lake County is genuinely concerned with the safety and well-being of County employees. This policy intends to foster the safety and health of all County employees and visitors, both smokers and nonsmokers, and to reduce smoking, use of Tobacco products, and secondhand smoke exposure in and on county facilities and grounds.

Background -

As of 2020 more than 1,300 Utahns die annually because of their own smoking and tobacco use. The Utah economy loses \$542 million annually to smoking attributable medical and productivity costs. Laws and policies that ban smoking and tobacco use in public places reduce secondhand smoke-related diseases and help smokers quit. Tobacco smoke or smoke from any other plant, is harmful to health of smokers and nonsmokers, especially those with allergies or respiratory or cardiovascular disease. Tobacco and non-tobacco smoke are a public health nuisance and a case of material annoyance, discomfort, and physical irritation to nonsmokers. Reducing smoking and tobacco use at the workplace and community increases productivity, decreases absenteeism, and lowers excess medical expenditures and other costs associated with its use. Salt Lake County is committed to providing assistance to employees and visitors who wish to stop smoking and/or using tobacco products. Tobacco cessation is the single most important step users can take to enhance the length and quality of their lives.

Reference -

Utah Indoor Clean Air Act, Utah Code Title 26, Chapter 38
Utah Administrative Rule R392-510

1.0 Definitions –

- 1.1 Public building – Any enclosed, indoor area which:
 - 1.1.1 is used by the general public, and/or
 - 1.1.2 is a place of employment; and
 - 1.1.3 includes, but is not limited to, elevators, rest rooms, cubicles, lobbies or waiting areas, hallways, training rooms, and indoor parking areas.
- 1.2 Public meeting- all meetings open to the public.
- 1.3 Smoking – includes, but is not limited to, carrying a lighted cigar, cigarette, pipe, or any other heated products (including electronic cigarettes and hookah).

- 1.4 Tobacco Products – Cigarettes, electronic cigarettes, cigars, pipes, smokeless tobacco, other products containing tobacco or nicotine, any plant product intended for inhalation or exhalation, a natural or synthetic tobacco substitute, a natural or synthetic flavored tobacco product, or any product intended to circumvent the prohibition of smoking in this policy. Tobacco products do not include FDA-approved tobacco cessation products, such as nicotine patches or gum.
- 1.5 Grounds – All county property including parking lots, parks, and golf courses.
- 1.6 Designated Smoking and Tobacco Use Areas – A marked area where smoking and tobacco use is permitted, in compliance with the Utah Indoor Clean Air Act, R392-510-9.

2.0 Policy –

- 2.1 All Salt Lake County buildings, whether owned by the County or leased, are public buildings. No person shall smoke or use tobacco products in a County public building. Smoking and using tobacco products are also prohibited at public meetings. Smoking and use of tobacco products are also prohibited on all county grounds and properties, outside of designated smoking or tobacco use areas.
- 2.2 The Salt Lake County Government Buildings are designated as smoke free campuses and smoking, or use of tobacco products are only permitted in designated smoking and tobacco use areas. Individuals shall extinguish their smoking materials at designated receptacles located within 25 feet of the entrances to County facilities prior to entering that facility.
 - 2.2.1 Designated smoking and tobacco use areas may be determined by the Division or Agency.
- 2.3 Smoking and tobacco use are prohibited in all vehicles owned by the County or leased for County use.
- 2.4 Signs bearing the prohibition or restriction of smoking and tobacco use will be posted in parking lots, and outside common areas of the facilities and will include the tobacco cessation number.
- 2.5 In compliance with the Utah Indoor Clean Air Act 26-38-3.5, the exemption for Native American ceremonies shall apply as set forth therein.

3.0 Enforcement -

- 3.1 Effective implementation of these guidelines depends upon the courtesy, respect, and cooperation of all members of the community. The County is responsible for primary enforcement of this policy at county facilities in compliance with the Utah Indoor Clean Air Act. In buildings where security personnel are present (including the Government Center) personnel shall remind individuals who are smoking or using tobacco products upon entering and inside County facilities, that smoking/use of tobacco products is not permitted.
- 3.2 Complaints for violations by County employees of the Utah Indoor Clean Air Act shall be brought to the attention of that employee's supervisor. The supervisor will determine the appropriate action to be taken in accordance with Human Resources Policy and Procedures # 5702, Standards of Conduct.
- 3.3 Repeated violations of the Utah Indoor Clean Air Act as outlined for Salt Lake County in this policy are subject to legal action by the Salt Lake Health Department in a court of appropriate jurisdiction. Employees may also be subject to disciplinary action.

4.0 Tobacco Cessation for Employees -

- 4.1 The following cessation assistance and resources are available to employees:
 - 4.1.1 Salt Lake County medical benefits cover coaching and several medications to assist with tobacco cessation.
 - 4.1.2 The *Utah Tobacco Quit Line* (1-800-QUIT-NOW, 1-800-784-8669) provides free telephone-based counseling and other assistance to uninsured Utah residents. Callers may be eligible for free nicotine replacement therapy (patch and gum).
 - 4.1.3 *Way to Quit* (www.waytoquit.org) provides customized support to help people quit tobacco and nicotine on their own terms. This online tool provides free educational materials, web coaching, text support, and more. Participants may be eligible for free nicotine replacement therapy (patch and gum).
 - 4.1.4 County employees who attend cessation programs and/or stop using tobacco are eligible for additional points through the Healthy Lifestyles Incentive Program.

APPROVED and PASSED this 8th of March, 2022

Salt Lake County Council


Chair

Approved as to Form:

Jason S. Rose Digitally signed by Jason S. Rose
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Senior Attorney