



777 ELSBREE STREET, FALL RIVER, MA 02720 • 508.678.2811 • BRISTOLCC.EDU

## Tobacco-Free College Policy

### **I. Purpose**

The Bristol Community College tobacco-free campus policy provides a healthy working and learning environment. The purpose of this policy is to reduce harm from secondhand smoke, provide an environment that encourages persons to be tobacco free, establish a campus culture of wellness, reduce health insurance and health-care costs, and promote a tobacco-free future.

The 2006, U.S. Surgeon General's Report states that there is no safe level of exposure to secondhand smoke. Breathing secondhand smoke for even a short time can be harmful and set processes in motion such as cancer, heart disease, or respiratory conditions.

### **II. Policy**

Bristol Community College shall be a tobacco-free campus. The use of tobacco is prohibited within college buildings, walkways, in college or state fleet vehicles, and on college owned property, not otherwise leased to another organization. This policy applies to all faculty, staff, students, contractors, vendors, and visitors at all college locations. In support, Bristol Community College provides comprehensive tobacco cessation and prevention services.

This policy prohibits the use of any oral tobacco product.

Smoking will only be permitted in private vehicles parked on campus.

Successful implementation of this policy requires a college-wide cooperative effort. All members of the college community are urged to assist in this endeavor.

Complaints concerning employees of the College should be brought to the attention of the employee's immediate supervisor or in the alternative to the Vice President of Human Resources or the Associate Director of Human Resources. Complaints concerning students should be brought to the attention of a campus police officer, who may refer the matter to the Vice President of Student Affairs; and any official actions taken will be in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct. It is anticipated that violators would first be admonished and provided with educational literature. Disciplinary measures would be expected to be reserved for repeat infractions and infractions that interfere with the College's academic or workplace needs or responsibilities. Visitors who fail to comply with the policy may be prohibited from remaining on or returning to campus. In all cases, Campus Police will assist in helping students and employees who identify a violation.

### **III. Responsibilities**

It is the responsibility of all members of the campus community, including visitors, to observe this policy.

All administrators, deans, directors, department chairs, and supervisors will communicate the policy to everyone within their areas of responsibility.

Campus Police and Public Safety is responsible for determining policy applicability and will answer policy related questions.

It is the responsibility of Health Services to provide information regarding tobacco prevention and cessation.

#### **IV. Procedures**

The policy will be communicated to all members of the campus community. Education regarding the College's tobacco-free policy will be included in formal orientation for all incoming students and employees.

Sufficient signage will be posted to inform members of the campus community and its visitors, including contractors and vendors, of the policy.

Compliance with this policy is the shared responsibility and the right of all Bristol Community College staff, students, and faculty members. The success of this policy will depend upon the courtesy, respect, and cooperation of users and non-users of tobacco products.

This policy becomes effective June 7, 2010.

Education and treatment are the preferred intervention for violators, but violators may also be subject to fines and disciplinary action.

#### **V. Resources**

American Cancer Society

[www.cancer.org/](http://www.cancer.org/)

Healthy City Fall River

[www.healthycityfallriver.org/personalhealth-cessation](http://www.healthycityfallriver.org/personalhealth-cessation)

Americans for Nonsmokers' Rights

[www.no-smoke.org](http://www.no-smoke.org)

American College Health Association

[www.acha.org/info\\_resources/tobacco\\_statement.pdf](http://www.acha.org/info_resources/tobacco_statement.pdf)

American Cancer Society's Smoke-Free College Campus

[www.cancer.org/docroot/com/content/div\\_northwest/com\\_5\\_1x\\_smoke-free\\_college\\_campus\\_initiative.asp](http://www.cancer.org/docroot/com/content/div_northwest/com_5_1x_smoke-free_college_campus_initiative.asp)

The BACCHUS Network

[www.tobaccofreeu.org](http://www.tobaccofreeu.org)

College Tobacco Prevention Resource

[www.ttac.org/college](http://www.ttac.org/college)