



Cyprus International University

No-Smoking Policy

Version	Approved by	Date	Revised Date
v.2	CIU Executive Board	29 December 2020	10 January 2023

Purpose

Cyprus International University recognizes the hazards of smoking for people's health and the environment and is committed to ensuring that policy and practice comply with Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus' law 44/2008. The University's main objective is to create smoke-free areas and generally protect staff, students, and visitors from the effects of involuntary, passive smoking.

Smoke-Free Definition

'Smoke-Free' in this context refers to the elimination of all tobacco-based products, including cigarettes, pipes, cigars, hand-rolled cigarettes, etc., as well as any variety of electronic cigarettes such as e-cigarettes, vapes, etc.

Scope:

This policy applies to all students, faculty, staff, visitors, and contractors on university property, including:

- All indoor spaces (classrooms, offices, common areas, restrooms)
- Outdoor spaces (campus grounds, athletic facilities, parking lots)
- University-sponsored events, whether on or off campus

Policy Statement:

1. Prohibition of Smoking:

Smoking is strictly prohibited on all university property. This includes the use of:

- Traditional tobacco products (cigarettes, cigars, pipes)

- Electronic smoking devices (e-cigarettes, vape pens, hookahs)

2. Definition of Smoking:

Smoking encompasses any activity involving the inhalation, exhalation, burning, or carrying of any lighted tobacco product or electronic device designed to deliver nicotine or other substances.

3. Designated Areas:

If designated smoking areas are established, they will:

- Be located at least 25 feet away from building entrances, windows, and air intake systems to minimize secondhand smoke exposure.
- Be clearly marked with appropriate signage and maintained for cleanliness.
- Include seating and ash disposal containers to encourage responsible use.

4. Signage:

Comprehensive signage will be placed throughout the campus, including:

- Smoke-free zone signs at all entrances and high-traffic areas.
- Directional signs to designated smoking areas (if applicable).
- Informational posters highlighting the health risks associated with smoking and the benefits of a smoke-free environment.

5. Enforcement and Compliance:

- The university community is encouraged to uphold the policy through peer accountability.
- Initial violations will be met with education and a friendly reminder of the policy.
- Repeated violations may lead to disciplinary action as per the university's code of conduct, which may include:
 - Written warnings
 - Referrals to counseling services
 - Disciplinary measures for students or staff, up to and including suspension or termination.

6. Support for Cessation:

The university will provide comprehensive support for individuals who wish to quit smoking, including:

- Access to counseling services and health professionals specializing in tobacco cessation.
- Workshops and support groups focused on quitting smoking.
- Information on nicotine replacement therapies (patches, gum) and medications that can assist with cessation.
- Online resources and a dedicated webpage with tips, success stories, and links to external support organizations.

7. **Community Engagement:**

- The university will involve the community in the policy's implementation and evaluation through:
 - Regular surveys to gather feedback on the policy's effectiveness and any areas for improvement.
 - Focus groups or forums to discuss concerns, suggestions, and experiences related to the smoke-free policy.
- An advisory committee may be formed, comprising students, faculty, and staff, to oversee policy enforcement and community outreach.

8. **Policy Review:**

- This policy will undergo a comprehensive review every two years.
- The review process will include analysis of compliance rates, feedback from the community, and consideration of new research and best practices in tobacco control.

Effective Date:

This policy will take effect on [insert date].

Implementation Strategies

1. **Awareness Campaign:**

- Launch an ongoing awareness campaign that includes:
 - Orientation sessions for new students and staff to introduce the smoke-free policy.
 - Informational materials distributed via email, newsletters, and campus publications.
 - Events such as "Smoke-Free Days" or health fairs to promote the policy and smoking cessation resources.

2. **Training for Staff and Faculty:**

- Conduct regular training sessions for staff and faculty on:
 - The details of the smoke-free policy.
 - Strategies for promoting the policy in their departments.
 - How to support students and colleagues in their efforts to quit smoking.

3. **Feedback Mechanism:**

- Establish a dedicated online platform (such as a survey or forum) for community members to provide feedback, report violations, and suggest improvements to the policy.

Conclusion

The university is dedicated to fostering a safe, healthy, and inclusive environment. Your cooperation in adhering to this smoke-free policy is essential for creating a supportive community. Thank you for being so committed to a healthier campus.