SUBJECT:	Physical Plant				
POLICY:	601.3 Tobacco Use				
PROCEDURE:					
EFFECTIVE:	January 2011	**REVISED:**	July 2019	**REVIEWED:**	August 2023

Introduction and Purpose

Great Falls College MSU (GFC MSU) promotes the health, wellness, and safety of employees, students, guests, visitors, and contractors while on College property. Tobacco use and exposure to secondhand smoke present preventable health risks. Montana Code Annotated 50-40-102 recognizes that the need to breathe smoke-free air has priority over the desire to smoke.

The purpose of this policy is to provide a healthier learning and working environment. Smoking and the use of tobacco products, vaping devices, and nontherapeutic nicotine products are prohibited on College property, except as provided in this policy or Policy 607.1, Smudging on Campus.

~~Tobacco usage, nicotine delivery system usage, and secondhand smoke have been identified by the Surgeon General to be the cause of preventable diseases. Additionally, in 2009, the Montana legislature decreed that the "right to breath smoke-free air has priority over the desire to smoke" (Montana Code Annotated 50-40-102). It is the policy of Great Falls College MSU (GFC MSU) to promote the health, wellness, and safety of all employees, students, guests, visitors, and contractors while on campus property. The purpose of this policy is to create a healthier learning environment.~~

~~Therefore, all use of smoking, tobacco, and nicotine delivery products on campus property is strictly prohibited.~~

~~Definition~~**Definitions**

Smoking: Inhaling, exhaling, burning, or carrying any lighted or heated cigarette, cigar, pipe, hookah, or other product intended for smoking.

Tobacco and nicotine products: Products containing tobacco or nicotine intended for human consumption, including cigarettes, cigars, pipe tobacco, bidis, chewing tobacco, dip, snuff, smokeless tobacco, and nicotine pouches. This definition includes nicotine derived from tobacco and synthetic nicotine.

Vaping devices: Electronic cigarettes and other devices used to produce an aerosol or vapor for inhalation, whether or not the substance contains nicotine.

Nontherapeutic nicotine products: Nicotine products other than FDA-approved tobacco-cessation medications or nicotine replacement therapies.

FDA-approved tobacco-cessation medications and nicotine replacement therapies, including patches, gum, and lozenges, are permitted and are not prohibited products under this policy.

~~For the purposes of this policy, "smoking and tobacco products" include, but not limited to cigarettes, cigars, pipes, bidi, hookahs, smokeless tobacco, chewing tobacco, dip, snuff, electronic cigarettes, vaping devices, and any other product packaged for smoking, the simulation of smoking or that may be considered a gateway to smoking or tobacco use. FDA Approved cessation devices are permissible.~~

Policy

A. ~~The~~Smoking and the use of ~~smoking~~tobacco products, vaping devices, and nontherapeutic nicotine products by ~~all~~any ~~persons~~person ~~is~~are prohibited on all properties owned or leased by GFC MSU, including:

1. ~~a. all~~All interior and exterior spaces.
2. ~~b. all~~All vehicles leased or owned by GFC MSU.

B. Advertising, sale, or distribution of ~~smoking~~tobacco products, vaping devices, and ~~tobacco~~nontherapeutic nicotine products is prohibited on GFC ~~MSU's~~MSU ~~property.~~property, except for activities expressly permitted under the Exceptions section.

C. ~~Smoking~~Tobacco and ~~tobacco~~nicotine industry and related company sponsorship of campus groups, events, individuals, and departments is prohibited. This includes scholarships, sponsorship of faculty positions, and recruiting for employment.

D. Littering ~~any~~ GFC MSU property with ~~the remains of~~ tobacco ~~products~~or nicotine product waste, including cigarette butts, pouches, cartridges, and disposable vaping devices, is prohibited.

E. Organizers and attendees at public events, ~~such as~~including conferences, meetings, public lectures, social events, and cultural events ~~using~~held on GFC MSU ~~property~~property, ~~are~~must ~~required~~comply ~~to~~with ~~abide~~this ~~by~~policy ~~GFC~~and ~~MSU's~~any ~~tobacco-free~~applicable ~~policy.~~exceptions. ~~Organizers~~Event ~~of such events~~organizers are responsible for communicating ~~the~~these ~~policy~~requirements to attendees and ~~for~~coordinating ~~enforcing~~enforcement ~~this~~with ~~policy.~~appropriate College personnel.

Compliance

All persons must comply with this policy at all times, except when participating in an activity permitted under the Exceptions section.

~~All persons are required to comply with this policy, which shall remain in effect at all times.~~ Refusal to comply ~~with this policy~~ may ~~be~~result ~~cause for~~in disciplinary action in accordance with applicable employee ~~and~~or student conduct ~~policies.~~policies ~~Refusal~~and procedures, including applicable collective bargaining agreements. Visitors, guests, and contractors who refuse to comply ~~with the policy by visitors, guests and contractors~~ may be ~~grounds~~required ~~for~~to ~~removal from~~leave campus.

Exceptions

1. Research and Laboratory Activities

~~The following activities may be conducted as exceptions to the policy subject to advance approval as indicated.~~

~~A.~~ The use of ~~smoking~~tobacco ~~and~~products, ~~tobacco~~vaping devices, or nicotine products in laboratory experiments ~~including all~~or research ~~that involves the use of smoking and tobacco on campus~~ must be approved in advance by the CEO/Dean or designee. ~~Such~~Approved ~~use~~activities must comply with applicable law and College safety requirements and must be preceded by reasonable advance notice to the ~~public.~~public ~~Nothing~~when ~~in~~smoking, ~~this policy is intended to prohibit research on smoking and tobacco companies~~vapor, or ~~smoking~~other ~~and~~exposure ~~tobacco~~may ~~products.~~occur.

Nothing in this policy prohibits research concerning tobacco or nicotine companies or their products that does not involve otherwise prohibited use.

2. Native American Cultural and Ceremonial Activities

The College recognizes and supports traditional Native American cultural and religious practices, including ceremonial tobacco use, consistent with applicable law.

Smudging activities covered by Policy 607.1, Smudging on Campus, are governed by that policy and Procedure 607.1.1. Their notification and procedural requirements apply instead of the advance-approval requirements in this policy. Activities permitted under Policy 607.1 do not require separate CEO/Dean approval under Policy 601.3.

Ceremonial tobacco use outside the scope of Policy 607.1 must be approved in advance by the CEO/Dean or designee and conducted in accordance with applicable law and College safety requirements.

These exceptions do not authorize recreational tobacco, vaping, or nontherapeutic nicotine use.

References

- Montana Code Annotated 50-40-102, Intent—Purpose.
- Montana Code Annotated 50-40-104, Smoking in Enclosed Public Places Prohibited—Notice to Public—Places Where Prohibition Inapplicable.
- American Indian Religious Freedom Act, 42 U.S.C. § 1996.
- GFC MSU Policy 607.1, Smudging on Campus.
- GFC MSU Procedure 607.1.1, Smudging on Campus.

~~B. Specific activities used in connection with the practice of cultural activities by American Indians that are in accordance with the American Indian Religious Freedom Act, 42 U.S.C. sections 1996 and 1996a allow for the use of ceremonial tobacco. All ceremonial use exceptions must be approved in advance by the CEO/Dean or designee.~~