

SCOPE

This policy applies to all Nazareth University (the “University”) faculty, staff, students, clients, vendors, contractors, and visitors.

BACKGROUND

The University acknowledges and supports the findings of the United States Surgeon General, which reports that the use of tobacco, and recreational nicotine-containing products in any form, active and passive, is a significant health hazard. The University further recognizes that environmental tobacco smoke has been classified as a Class-A carcinogen. The Surgeon General reports that establishing a smoke-free workplace is the only effective way to ensure that secondhand smoke exposure does not occur in the workplace, as ventilation and air cleaning technologies cannot completely control exposure to nonsmokers. In light of these health risks, and in support of a safe and healthy learning and working environment, the University has established the following tobacco, vape, and marijuana-free campus policy to be implemented on August 1, 2023.

DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this policy, “tobacco or vape” is defined to include any lighted or unlighted cigarette (e.g., clove, bidis, kreteks, etc.), e-cigarettes, cigars, cigarillos, pipes, vaping and vapor devices, hookah products, and any other smoking product; and any smokeless, spit or spitless, dissolvable, or inhaled tobacco products, including but not limited to dip, chew, snuff, or snus, in any form (e.g., orbs, sticks, strips, pellet, etc.). “Smoking” means inhaling, exhaling, burning, or carrying any lighted or heated cigar, cigarette, pipe, or any other lighted or heated tobacco or vape product intended for inhalation, whether natural or synthetic, in any manner or any form.

For the purposes of this policy, "marijuana" refers to all parts of the Cannabis sativa plant, whether growing or not, the seeds thereof, and any compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture, or preparation of such plant, its seeds, or resin. This includes, but is not limited to, marijuana flowers, buds, leaves, stems, concentrates, extracts, oils, edibles, tinctures, and any other form in which marijuana is consumed or used. It encompasses both recreational and medicinal marijuana products containing tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) or other cannabinoids, regardless of the method of consumption (smoking, vaping, eating, etc.).

Policy created: August 1, 2017

Updated: August 1, 2023

POLICY STATEMENT

Effective August 1, 2023, smoking tobacco, using vape products, and consuming marijuana is prohibited on all University grounds; University-owned or leased properties; and University-owned, leased, or rented vehicles, regardless of their location. This includes but is not limited to all University sidewalks, parking lots, paths, landscaped areas, fields, stadiums, and recreational areas. Smoking, vaping, and marijuana consumption are prohibited in all enclosed areas, including but not limited to offices, classrooms, hallways, waiting rooms, restrooms, meeting rooms, community areas, performance venues, private residential spaces within University housing (including dormitories and student group housing located on University property), and during lectures, conferences, meetings, and social and cultural events held at the University.

MARIJUANA PROHIBITION

In addition to the prohibition on tobacco and vape products, the use, possession, sale, distribution, or cultivation of marijuana is strictly prohibited on all University grounds, University-owned or leased properties, and University-owned, leased, or rented vehicles, in accordance with federal law. The University abides by the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. § 812), including the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act (DFSCA), which requires institutions of higher education to maintain a drug-free campus. Therefore, individuals are not permitted to use or possess marijuana, regardless of the purpose or legality under state laws, on University premises.

POLICY DETAILS

- Tobacco, vape, and all smoking materials need to be extinguished and disposed of prior to entering the University campus/property. Improper disposal includes but is not limited to:
 - a. Spitting smokeless tobacco product;
 - b. Littering (i.e., throwing cigarette butts out of windows or onto the ground);
 - c. Any activity that creates fire hazards, such as failing to properly extinguish tobacco, vape, or marijuana products prior to disposal.

- The University is committed to being a good neighbor in our campus communities, and that includes being mindful of litter, loitering, and second-hand smoke as a result of off-campus tobacco, vape, or marijuana use.

- The sale of tobacco, vape, or marijuana products or tobacco- or marijuana-related merchandise (including items that display tobacco or marijuana company logos) is prohibited in and on all University property, at all University-sponsored events regardless of the vendor or in publications produced by the University, with the exception of advertising in a newspaper or magazine that is not produced by the University and which is lawfully sold, bought, or distributed on University property. For the purposes of this policy, “tobacco- or marijuana-related” means the use of a tobacco or marijuana brand or corporate name, trademark, logo, symbol or motto, selling message, recognizable pattern or colors, or any other indicia of product identical to or identifiable with, those used for any brand of tobacco, vape, or marijuana products or company which manufactures tobacco, vape, or marijuana products.
- The free distribution or sampling of tobacco, vape, or marijuana products and associated products is prohibited on all University-owned or leased property and at University-sponsored events.

EXCEPTIONS TO THE POLICY

Tobacco, vape, and marijuana use may be permitted for educational, clinical, or artistic purposes with prior approval of the dean or director responsible for the facility, the Provost, or appropriate vice president only under the following circumstances:

- A. In support of the requirements of sponsored research related to tobacco, vape, or marijuana, as part of the controlled research requirements. Smoke or marijuana consumption produced in the conduct of the research will be treated as a contaminant and will be appropriately controlled. If approved, this exception will be in effect only for the duration of the particular research study.
- B. By actors or artists who participate in University-authorized performances that require smoking, vaping, or the use of tobacco, vape, or marijuana products as part of the artistic production. Under these circumstances, ONLY the use of a simulated smoking device or simulated marijuana product will be allowed. If approved, this exception will only be in effect for the duration of the approved performances.

COMPLIANCE

This policy is part of the University's commitment to creating a healthy and sustainable environment for all members of the University community and is designed to be positive and health-directed. The University acknowledges the addictive nature of tobacco, vape, and marijuana and recognizes the extraordinary challenge of breaking their use. The University is not requiring faculty, staff, and students to quit using tobacco, vape, or marijuana products but does expect the policy to be adhered to by all individuals on University property.

The primary goal of the policy is to achieve voluntary observance by educating faculty, staff, students, vendors, and visitors about the policy. The enforcement of the policy is viewed as the shared responsibility of all those in the campus community, tobacco, vape, and marijuana users, and non-users alike.

More information about the University's tobacco, vape, and marijuana-free initiative can be found at: naz.edu/tobacco. The University will provide cessation resources information, including the Quitline number 1-800-QUIT-NOW.

AMENDMENTS OR TERMINATION OF THIS POLICY

The University reserves the right to modify, amend, or terminate this policy at any time.