

SMOKING POLICY

BACKGROUND

In January, 1990, the Clean Indoor Air Act (Act) required that stringent regulations governing smoking be implemented in indoor areas open to the public. In passing this law, the State Legislature found that “there is a substantial body of scientific research showing that breathing secondhand smoke is a significant health hazard for nonsmokers.” The purpose of this Act is to preserve and improve the health, comfort and environment of the people of this State by limiting exposure to tobacco smoke.

Further, in June 2012, the SUNY Board of Trustees passed a resolution directing all SUNY campuses to begin the work necessary to be tobacco free. Becoming a tobacco use restricted campus is the next step in that process.

The provisions of this Act governing public places, coupled with the directions of the SUNY Board of Trustees, prohibit tobacco use except in designated smoking areas, which are to be clearly marked and separated from any area in which tobacco use is not permitted.

POLICY

This policy restricts and/or prohibits tobacco use in the workplace in conformity with the Clean Indoor Air Act and the SUNY Board of Trustees resolution.

- Tobacco use is permitted in designated areas only. It is prohibited in all other areas of the campus. Those areas, along with other related information, may be found at Potsdam.edu/studentlife/healthservices/upload/tobaccorestrict.pdf.

ENFORCEMENT

The success of this policy will depend upon the thoughtfulness, consideration and cooperation of tobacco users and non-tobacco users. All employees and members of the College community share the responsibility for adhering to and enforcing the policy.

We anticipate that most instances of violation of this policy can be remedied through education and/or informal reminders. As smoking regulations are College policy, serious or repeat violations may subject employees to disciplinary action as contained in the appropriate articles of the union contracts.