



# Luna Community College Campus Tobacco Use Policy

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The United States Surgeon General, in his 2006 report on The Health Consequences of Involuntary Exposure to Tobacco Smoke, concluded:

- Secondhand smoke causes heart disease, lung cancer, and many other serious illnesses.
- There is NO defined amount of secondhand smoke; breathing even a little secondhand smoke can be dangerous to your health.
- Separate "no smoking" and "smoking" sections DO NOT protect you from secondhand smoke. Neither does filtering the air or opening a window.

In June 2007, the State of New Mexico enacted the Dee Johnson Clean Indoor Air Act (Sections 24-16-1 et seq, NMSA 1978) requiring 100% smoke-free work places, including private offices, retail stores, restaurants and bars.

The National Cancer Institute states that smokeless tobacco, including chewing tobacco and snuff, contains twenty-eight (28) different carcinogens proven to cause cancers of the lip, tongue, cheeks, gums, and the floor and roof of the mouth and other diseases of the mouth.

**In light of these findings and legislation Luna Community College (LCC) shall implement a Tobacco Use Policy effective August 1, 2010**

Luna Community College is committed to wellness, prevention and providing a healthy environment in which to learn, work and visit.

## **1. Definitions**

1.1 Carcinogen - a substance or agent that can cause cancer. Radiation and some chemicals and viruses are carcinogens.

1.2 Chewing Tobacco – can be referred to as smokeless tobacco, spit tobacco, chew, snuff, pinch or dip.

- Chewing tobacco consists of loose tobacco leaves that are sweetened and packaged in pouches. You put a wad of the tobacco between your cheek and gum and hold it there, sometimes for hours at a time
- Plug is chewing tobacco that has been pressed into a brick shape, often with the help of syrup, such as molasses, which also sweetens the tobacco. After cutting a piece off, you place it between your cheek and gum.

- Twist is flavored chewing tobacco that has been braided and twisted into rope-like strands. You place it between your cheek and gum.
- Snuff is finely ground or shredded tobacco leaves. It's available in dry or moist forms and is packaged in tins or tea bag-like pouches. Dry forms of can be sniffed into the nose. Using snuff is also called dipping.
- Snus (pronounced snoos) is a newer smokeless, spit less tobacco product that originated in Sweden. It comes in a pouch that you stick between your upper lip and gum.

1.3 Clove Cigarettes - cigarettes made with a blend of tobacco, cloves and other flavors

1.4 Hookahs - a pipe with a long flexible tube that draws the smoke through water. It is traditionally used for smoking tobacco, which is often flavored

1.5 Secondhand Smoke - Passive smoking is the inhalation of smoke, called secondhand smoke (SHS) or environmental tobacco smoke (ETS), from tobacco products used by others. It occurs when tobacco smoke permeates any environment, causing its inhalation by people within that environment.

## **2. Smoking Prohibited**

Smoking is strictly prohibited within campus buildings including offices, hallways, waiting rooms, restrooms, lunchrooms, elevators, meeting rooms all community work areas and vehicles. This policy applies to all property owned, leased, operated, or under the control of LCC. This policy applies to all employees, students, contractors and visitors.

Furthermore, tobacco use is defined as inhaling, exhaling, burning, carrying or holding any lighted tobacco product, including all types of cigarettes, cigars, pipes, smokeless tobacco, chewing tobacco and snuff, and all other tobacco products, and other legal smoking preparations, including but not limited to hookahs, electronic cigarettes and clove cigarettes.

## **3. Designated Outdoor Tobacco Use Areas**

Smoking and the use of any tobacco products are prohibited on all College property except in a small number of designated outdoor areas authorized by this policy. Smoking and tobacco use are limited to the confines of designated areas which are clearly marked, and individuals choosing to smoke or use tobacco in designated areas are responsible for properly disposing of all smoking and tobacco litter in the receptacles provided. These designated areas are being provided to create a positive transition for individuals who currently use tobacco as LCC phases into a totally tobacco-free environment.

As students and employees achieve success in quitting smoking and stopping the use of tobacco the number of designated areas will be reduced within a three-year period.

Designated tobacco use areas shall be not less than 25 feet from any enclosed area , to insure that secondhand smoke does not enter the building through doors, windows, ventilation systems or any other means and that employee's, student's and visitor's do not have to walk through the smoking area to enter or exit the building.

#### **4. Designated Smoking Areas**

- 4.1 Area 1 will be located on the west side of the Technologies Building.
- 4.2 Area 2 will be located between the Allied Health Building and the IPC Cafeteria on the west side.
- 4.3 Area 3 will be located across the street from the Early Childhood Center and east of the Automotive Building.
- 4.4 Santa Rosa Satellite will have a designated area to be located in the parking lot
- 4.5 Springer Satellite will have a designated area to be located across the street
- 4.6 Mora Satellite will have a designated area to be located across the street

#### **5. Compliance, Cooperation and Enforcement**

The success of maintaining a tobacco-free campus requires thoughtfulness, consideration, and cooperation between smokers and nonsmokers. Members of our campus community are empowered to respectfully inform others about this policy in an ongoing effort to enhance awareness and encourage compliance. Enforcement of this policy will depend upon the cooperation of all faculty, staff, students, and visitors not only to comply with this policy, but also to encourage others to comply with the policy, in order to promote a healthy environment in which to work and study.

Enforcement relies on personal integrity and commitment to follow the policies of LCC. Violators may be informed of the policy by any member of the LCC community and referred to designated smoking locations. Violations may be reported to Security or the Life/Safety Coordinator. Such reports shall be investigated and if necessary referred to the employees' supervisors, executive administrators or in the case of students, to ACCESS Center Director / Vice President of Student Support Services as outlined in Student Code of Conduct. Employee personnel policy or student discipline policy should be followed if disciplinary action, other than asking the violator to stop, is taken.

#### **6. Penalties**

Any person who violates these policies, rules and procedures shall be subject to appropriate College disciplinary action and to penalties under New Mexico statutes. Students will be referred to the ACCESS Center, Staff and Faculty will be referred to the Human Resource

Department. Discipline can vary from a verbal or written warning through probation, suspension and/or dismissal from the College.

Statutory penalties for indoor smoking include fines set forth in NMSA 1978, § 24-16-10. A person eighteen years of age or older who violates a provision of this Ordinance is subject to:

- A. a fine not to exceed one hundred dollars (\$100) for the first violation;
- B. a fine not to exceed two hundred dollars (\$200) for the second violation within any consecutive twelve-month period of the first violation; and
- C. a fine not to exceed five hundred dollars (\$500) for the third and each subsequent violation within any consecutive twelve-month period of a previous violation.

#### **7. Posted No Smoking and Smoking-Permitted Areas**

To advise persons of the existence of no smoking areas or smoking-permitted areas, signs shall be posted as follows:

- 1.) For each indoor workplace or indoor public place where smoking is prohibited pursuant to this Policy, a "NO SMOKING" sign shall be posted where it is clear, conspicuous and easily legible at each public entrance. Posting of "NO SMOKING" signs is the responsibility of the owner, operator, manager or other person having control of the indoor workplace or indoor public place; and
- 2.) For each designated area where smoking is permitted pursuant to this Policy, a "SMOKING PERMITTED" sign shall be posted where it is clear, conspicuous and easily legible.

#### **8. Education, Support Groups, and Services for Smokers and Users of Tobacco Products**

In light of the numerous adverse health effects associated with active smoking and tobacco use, the College will provide information and educational services to faculty, staff, and students about the hazards of smoking and tobacco use and assistance in quitting for students, faculty, and staff who wish to do so. The College encourages support groups on campus for smokers and users of tobacco products in the process of cutting down or quitting.

It is the goal of Luna Community College to be 100% Tobacco Free; this will be accomplished through reducing the amount of designated tobacco use areas over a three year period. LCC will provide assistance with smoking cessation programs to those wishing to quit smoking or using other tobacco products, free of charge

In addition to consulting with their own health care providers, students, faculty, and staff may get assistance from:

Area Health Education (AHEC) – (505) 454-2583

Tobacco Quit Line, 1-800-QUIT-NOW (784-8669)

American Cancer Society Quit For Life Program operated by Free & Clear

1-800-227-2345 or [www.quitnow.net](http://www.quitnow.net)

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

<http://mylastdip.com/> My Last Dip, a web-based smokeless tobacco cessation program

<http://www.chewfree.com/> A free smokeless tobacco program on the internet.

<http://www.nidcr.nih.gov/> Spit Tobacco: A Guide for Quitting, this guide is intended to help you design your own plan for quitting.