

Policy for Cigarette Smoke and Tobacco use.

College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University have responsibilities to their employees, students and visitors to maintain a naturally safe and healthful environment. Research findings show that tobacco use in general, including smoking and breathing secondhand smoke, presents significant health hazard to the public. In addition to causing direct health hazards, smoking contributes to institutional costs in other ways, including high risk for fire damage, cleaning and maintenance costs, and costs associated with employee absenteeism, health care, and medical insurance.

College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University therefore have set the following policy regarding tobacco:

- Smoking and the use of tobacco product is prohibited in all college and university buildings and other partially or fully enclosed structures, except designated private college and university residence hall rooms and specified private Monastic residences.
- Smoking and the use of tobacco product is prohibited in all college and university owned or operated vehicles except for those permanently assigned to individuals.
- Smoking outside of campus building must take place at least 25 feet from any entrance and/or exit, building fresh air intake and should reflect discretion near public/visitor entrances or near a non-smoker.
- The sale or free distribution of tobacco products, the advertisement or acceptance of money or merchandise demonstrating loyalty for Tobacco Company or agent on College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University campuses is prohibited.

Various campus entities may chose to expand this policy statement to provide clarity within their program or departmental guidelines. Check department handbooks and other plans specific to your area, for any detailed information.

State Regulation

[Minnesota Clean Indoor Air Act](#) (with Freedom to Breathe amendments)

Resources:

- Minnesota Department of Health [Tobacco Prevention and Control](#)
- The American Lung Association ["Quitting Smoking" Secondhand Smoke](#)
- The Association for Nonsmokers Minnesota ["Putting A Workplace Smoking Policy in Place: A Guide for Employers"](#) (pdf 78k/4p)
- CDC, Tobacco Information and Prevention Source ["Making Your Workplace Smokefree - A Decision Maker's Guide"](#)
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency [Secondhand Smoke](#)