

UNIVERSITY OF WORLD ECONOMY AND DIPLOMACY

SMOKE-FREE AND TOBACCO-FREE CAMPUS POLICY

2025

Published by:
Office of Transformation and Strategic Development

1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

1.1. This Smoke-Free and Tobacco-Free Campus Policy (the "Policy") establishes the rules and institutional arrangements for maintaining a smoke-free and tobacco-free environment at the University of World Economy and Diplomacy ("UWED" or "the University").

1.2. The Policy forms part of the University's internal governance framework for healthprotection, student and employee wellbeing, safe facilities, orderly conduct and environmental responsibility.

1.3. The Policy shall be implemented in accordance with the legislation of the Republic of Uzbekistan and applicable internal regulatory documents of UWED.

1.4. The University adopts a comprehensive smoke-free and tobacco-free campus standard on premises owned, leased, occupied, managed or otherwise controlled by UWED. This institutional standard may be more restrictive than the statutory minimum where such additional restrictions are lawful and proportionate.

2. DEFINITIONS

"Smoking" —Inhaling, exhaling, burning or holding a lit cigarette, cigar, pipe, hookah or any other product that produces smoke.

"Vaping" — Using an e-cigarette or any similar device that produces vapour for inhaling, with or without nicotine.

"Tobacco product" — Any product made wholly or partly from tobacco that is smoked, heated, chewed, sucked or sniffed.

"Tobacco and nicotine devices" — E-cigarettes, heated tobacco systems, hookahs and similar devices that produce smoke, vapour or aerosol for inhaling, with or without nicotine.

"Nicotine product"— Any product containing nicotine that is meant to be taken into the body. This does not include licensed medicines used for treatment, such as nicotine patches.

"Heated tobacco product" — Tobacco that is heated instead of burned to produce an aerosol for inhaling.

"Smokeless tobacco" — Tobacco that is used in the mouth or nose without burning, such as naswar (nasvai), snuff and chewing tobacco.

"University premises"— Any land, building, room or facility that UWED owns, rents, manages or controls.

"University vehicle" — Any vehicle that UWED owns or hires, or that is used for University business.

3. PURPOSE

3.1. The purpose of this Policy is to protect students, employees, visitors and other members of the University community from exposure to tobacco smoke, vapour; promote a healthy learning and working environment; reduce fire and safety risks; and establish clear responsibilities for compliance and implementation.

4. OBJECTIVES

4.1. The objectives of this Policy are to:

- prevent involuntary exposure to environmental tobacco smoke, vapour and aerosol on University premises;
- support a campus culture that promotes health, wellbeing and responsible conduct;
- ensure that students, employees, contractors and visitors understand the University's smoke-free requirements;
- reduce tobacco-related litter, fire hazards and maintenance impacts;
- provide proportionate awareness and referral support for persons who wish to stop or reduce tobacco or nicotine use;
- ensure consistent implementation, monitoring and periodic review of smoke-free requirements across the University.

5. LEGAL AND INSTITUTIONAL BASIS

5.1. National legal basis

5.1.1. This Policy is based principally on the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated 24 May 2023 No. ZRU-844 "On Restriction of the Distribution and Consumption of Alcoholic and Tobacco Products", including the provisions concerning restrictions on tobacco use and use of tobacco-and-nicotine devices in public places, requirements for specially designated places, duties of responsible persons, and public education on the harms of tobacco use.

5.1.2. The Policy shall also be applied together with other applicable legislation of the Republic of Uzbekistan, including legislation and mandatory requirements relating to labour relations, occupational safety and health, fire safety, sanitary requirements, advertising and public order, insofar as they are relevant to implementation of this Policy.

5.2. UWED internal regulatory basis

5.2.1 Within the University, this Policy shall be read together with the UWED Charter and applicable internal regulatory documents governing employee conduct, student conduct, internal labour rules, fire and facility safety, residence rules, ethics and other relevant institutional requirements, including the UWED Code of Ethics (2025).

6. SCOPE

6.1. Persons covered

6.1.1. This Policy applies to all students, academic staff, administrative and technical employees, researchers, interns, contractors, service providers, vendors, tenants, visitors, guests and any other person present on University premises or participating in a University-organised activity.

6.2. Premises and settings covered

6.2.1. For the purposes of this Policy, University premises include all land, buildings, rooms, facilities and vehicles owned, occupied, managed by UWED, including:

- classrooms, lecture halls, offices, meeting rooms, libraries, laboratories, corridors, stairwells, lifts, sanitary facilities, dining and common areas;
- building entrances and exits, courtyards, walkways, green areas, sports and recreational spaces, and other outdoor areas within the University's control;
- student accommodation and other residential premises managed by UWED;
- vehicles owned by or on behalf of UWED;

- conference, event and other facilities used by UWED where the University has authority to set conditions of use.

6.2.2. University-organised events held off campus shall be conducted as smoke-free events to the extent that UWED controls the event arrangements and such requirements are consistent with applicable law and the rules of the host venue.

7. GENERAL POLICY REQUIREMENTS

7.1. UWED is a smoke-free and tobacco-free campus. Smoking, vaping, use of tobacco products, use of devices for the use of tobacco and nicotine, and use of non-therapeutic nicotine-containing products are prohibited on University premises at all times, subject to applicable law.

7.2. The prohibition applies equally to indoor and outdoor University-controlled areas and is not limited to normal teaching or working hours.

7.3. UWED shall not establish designated smoking areas on University-controlled premises unless the Academic Council or another competent authority approves an exception following legal review. Nothing in national legislation requiring or permitting specially designated smoking areas shall be interpreted as creating an obligation for UWED to establish such an area where the law does not require it.

8. PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES

8.1. Smoking and use of tobacco or nicotine products

8.1.1. The following activities are prohibited on University premises:

- smoking cigarettes, cigars, pipes or other combustible products;
- using electronic cigarettes, vape devices or electronic nicotine-delivery systems;
- using heated tobacco products or tobacco-heating systems;
- using hookah or shisha devices;
- using smokeless tobacco or other non-therapeutic nicotine-containing products where such use is prohibited by this Policy or applicable legislation;
- any comparable activity that produces tobacco smoke, vapour or aerosol for inhalation.

8.2. Sale and distribution

8.2.1. The sale, offer for sale, free distribution or organised provision of tobacco products or devices for the use of tobacco and nicotine is prohibited on University premises and at University-controlled events, except where required for a lawful research, teaching or regulatory purpose specifically authorised in writing and conducted in accordance with applicable law.

9. RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

9.1. University leadership

9.1.1. The University leadership shall ensure that this Policy is formally implemented, appropriately resourced and periodically reviewed within the limits of available institutional resources.

9.2. Office of Youth Affairs

9.2.1. Subject to confirmation as Policy Owner, the Office of Youth Affairs shall coordinate student-facing awareness, prevention and wellbeing activities related to this Policy; receive implementation information from relevant units; and support preparation of the annual implementation summary.

9.3. Deans and Course Coordinators

9.3.1. Deans and course coordinators shall make students and staff in their area aware of this Policy. They shall deal with minor breaches with a reminder first and refer repeated breaches to the appropriate unit. They shall support the Office of Youth Affairs with awareness activities.

9.4. Office of Estates and Facilities Management

9.4.1. The Office of Estates and Facilities Management shall support implementation through appropriate signage, facility and vehicle controls, removal or non-installation of smoking receptacles where inconsistent with this Policy, and coordination of corrective action concerning the physical campus environment.

9.5. Human Resources Office

9.5.1. The Human Resources Office shall ensure that employees are informed of the Policy through appropriate induction and internal communication processes and shall coordinate any employee-related disciplinary referral in accordance with labour legislation and UWED internal rules.

9.6. Employees

9.6.1. Employees shall comply with the Policy, model appropriate conduct and, where it is safe and appropriate to do so, may courteously remind a person of the University's smoke-free requirements or refer the matter to the responsible unit.

9.7. Students

9.7.1. Students shall comply with the Policy and cooperate with lawful instructions issued by authorised University personnel in connection with implementation of the Policy.

9.8. Contractors and service providers

9.8.1. Contractors, vendors and service providers shall comply with the Policy while on University premises. Where appropriate, compliance requirements may be incorporated into contracts, procurement documents or site instructions.

9.9. Visitors and guests

9.9.1. Visitors and guests are required to comply with the Policy for the duration of their presence on University premises or participation in a University-controlled event.

10. COMMUNICATION AND AWARENESS

10.1. UWED shall maintain reasonable and visible communication of this Policy through measures such as:

- publication of the approved Policy on the official University website or other designated official platform;

- smoke-free signs at main campus entrances and other appropriate locations, including University vehicles where relevant;
- student orientation, staff induction or other appropriate information channels;
- periodic health, safety or wellbeing communications;
- notification of contractors, event organisers and service providers where necessary.

10.2. Communications shall be factual, non-stigmatising and consistent with applicable law and public-health guidance.

11. COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT

11.1. Compliance shall be managed in a proportionate, educative and legally compliant manner. The purpose of enforcement is to stop prohibited conduct, protect the University community and ensure consistent observance of the Policy.

11.2. Where a breach is observed, the usual response may include, as appropriate:

- a courteous reminder or instruction to stop the prohibited conduct;
- provision of information about the Policy and applicable smoke-free requirements;
- documentation of repeated or serious non-compliance where authorised;
- referral to the Ethics Committee for consideration under the UWED Code of Ethics (2025), or to the competent UWED authority for action under existing student, employment, contractual or facility rules.

11.3. This Policy does not create a new disciplinary penalty. Non-compliance with this Policy shall be regarded as a breach of the UWED Code of Ethics (2025) and shall be considered by the **Ethics Committee** in accordance with the procedures established by the Code of Ethics. Any disciplinary or contractual measure shall be taken only under applicable legislation, the UWED Code of Ethics (2025), valid UWED internal regulatory documents or the relevant contract.

11.4. A visitor who refuses to comply may be directed to cease the prohibited conduct and, where lawful and proportionate, may be required to leave the relevant University-controlled premises.

11.5. Employees and students are not expected to place themselves at risk or enter into confrontation in order to enforce this Policy.

unit, may be made in accordance with the University's document-control procedures.

12. FINAL PROVISIONS

12.1. The approved version shall be made accessible through an official UWED communication or publication channel.

12.2. Questions concerning interpretation of this Policy shall be referred to the Policy Owner and, where legal interpretation is required, to the University's competent legal adviser.

12.3. If any provision of this Policy is found to be inconsistent with mandatory legislation, the remaining provisions shall continue to apply to the extent legally possible, and the inconsistent provision shall be reviewed without undue delay.