



TOBACCO-FREE POLICY

I. Introduction

Scientific evidence overwhelmingly demonstrates that smoking and tobacco-use causes millions of deaths worldwide each year of smokers and non-smokers, alike. Suffolk County Community College believes that since good health is an essential component of a successful workplace and educational experience, College faculty, staff and students must be provided with a healthy, safe and comfortable working and learning environment. The *Tobacco-Free Policy* is designed to promote respect for others and the environment, and relies largely on the consideration and cooperation of tobacco users and non-users for its successful implementation.

II. Definitions

- A. Association. Suffolk Community College Association, Inc.
- B. College. Suffolk County Community College, which encompasses its three campuses (Michael J. Grant, Ammerman and Eastern), the Culinary Arts and Hospitality Center, and the Sayville Downtown Center.
- C. College Property. Any property owned, leased or operated by Suffolk County Community College.
- D. Smoking. The combustion of any tobacco product or any similar article or combustible substance, in any manner or in any form, or the heating or ignition of an electronic cigarette.
- E. Tobacco. All tobacco and tobacco-derived products, including, but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, hookah-smoked products, clove cigarettes, electronic cigarettes, and smokeless tobacco. This definition does not include any product that has been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for sale as a tobacco-use cessation product.

III. Policy

A. Smoking is prohibited on College property, both indoors and outdoors, as well as in College- and Association-owned or leased vehicles. Individuals are prohibited from smoking in vehicles located on College Property.

B. This policy applies to all students, employees, visitors, vendors and contractors.

IV. Compliance

A. Cooperation. Enforcement of this policy will depend on the cooperation of all members of the College community, both to comply, personally, and to encourage others' compliance.

B. Communication. The *Tobacco-Free Policy* will be widely and regularly disseminated through all available channels, including the College website, College briefs, public announcements, signage, and employee and student publications.

C. Education. Non-compliance with the *Tobacco-Free Policy* will prompt an initial educational response, including information regarding the existence of the policy, the rationale for the policy and the availability of smoking cessation support services both on and off campus.

D. Resolution. Repeated non-compliance will be resolved in accordance with the appropriate student conduct or employee discipline policies. Employees and students will be treated respectfully in the consistent observance of the policy.

V. Cessation

Understanding the addictive nature of tobacco-use and that breaking such addiction is difficult for many, the College will make reasonable efforts to assist those employees and students who wish to stop using tobacco. Students can access smoking cessation programs and services at the College's Health Services Offices. Employees can access smoking cessation support services through the Employee Medical Health Plan or through their

respective union-offered plans. Additionally, the New York State Smokers' Quitline can be accessed online at www.nysmokefree.com.

VI. Policy Review

The College will establish a Tobacco-Free Evaluation Committee which will meet regularly in order to identify and address needs and concerns related to this policy, including implementation, communication, compliance, enforcement and cessation resources.

VII. Effective Date

This policy shall be effective as of August 27, 2015.

Board of Trustees
March 19, 2015