

LOS ANGELES VALLEY COLLEGE SMOKE-FREE AND TOBACCO-FREE GUIDELINES



The primary goals of these guidelines are three-fold:

(1) to protect the health and welfare of the campus and community at-large by creating a healthy, smoke-free and tobacco-free culture, encouraging the cessation of smoking and the use of tobacco products, including electronic cigarettes, on the Los Angeles Valley campus.

(2) to guarantee the right of nonsmokers to breathe smoke-free air, by recognizing that the need to breathe smoke-free air shall have priority over the desire to smoke.

(3) to encourage a more productive living and learning environment for all members of our campus community.

Section 1. Findings and Intent

Because Los Angeles Valley College (LAVC) is committed to providing a safe and healthy working and learning environment for the students, faculty, and staff on its campus, and because LAVC serves as a conduit for social justice education and equitable practices, it hereby adopts the following smoke-free and tobacco-free guidelines, reinforcing **Los Angeles Valley College's Educational Master Plan**, Goal three, objectives to "Increase a healthy and safe college environment," and the Student Learning Outcome (SLO) of our accreditation standards "To promote the health and well-being of the student population."

According to the 2014 **U.S. Surgeon General's Report**, *The Health Consequences of Smoking—50 Years of Progress*, secondhand smoke exposure causes stroke in nonsmokers. The report also found that since the 1964 Surgeon General's Report on Smoking and Health, 2.5 million nonsmokers have died from diseases caused by tobacco smoke. (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. *The Health Consequences of Smoking—50 Years of Progress*. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion).

Based on a finding by the **California Environmental Protection Agency** in 2005, the **California Air Resources Board** has determined that secondhand smoke is a **toxic air contaminant**, finding that exposure to secondhand smoke has serious health effects, including low birth-weight babies; sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS); increased respiratory infections in children; asthma in children and adults; lung cancer, sinus cancer, and breast cancer in younger, premenopausal women; heart disease; and death. (California Air Resources Board (ARB), "*Appendix II Findings of the Scientific Review Panel: Findings of the Scientific Review Panel on Proposed Identification of Environmental Tobacco Smoke as a Toxic Air Contaminant as adopted at the Panel's June 24, 2005 Meeting*," California Air Resources Board (ARB), September 12, 2005. *Smoking and Health*, 2014.)

Unregulated, high-tech smoking devices, commonly referred to as electronic cigarettes, or "e-cigarettes," closely resemble and purposefully mimic the act of smoking by having users inhale

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vaporized liquid nicotine created by heat through an electronic ignition system. After testing a number of e-cigarettes from two leading manufacturers, the **Food and Drug Administration (FDA)** determined that various samples tested contained not only nicotine but also detectable levels of known carcinogens and toxic chemicals, including tobacco-specific nitrosamines and diethylene glycol, a toxic chemical used in antifreeze. The FDA's testing also suggested that "quality control processes used to manufacture these products are inconsistent or non-existent." ([n.a.], "*Summary of results: laboratory analysis of electronic cigarettes conducted by FDA*," Food and Drug Administration (FDA), July 22, 2009; <http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/PublicHealthFocus/ucm173146.htm> Accessed on: October 22, 2009.)

According to a more recent study, electronic cigarette emissions are made up of a high concentration of ultrafine particles, and the particle concentration is higher than in conventional tobacco cigarette smoke. (Fuoco, F.C.; Buonanno, G.; Stabile, L.; Vigo, P., "*Influential parameters on particle concentration and size distribution in the mainstream of e-cigarettes*," *Environmental Pollution* 184: 523-529, January 2014.) Electronic cigarettes produce an aerosol or vapor of undetermined and potentially harmful substances, which may appear similar to the smoke emitted by traditional tobacco products. Their use in workplaces and public places where smoking of traditional tobacco products is prohibited creates concern and confusion and leads to difficulties in enforcing prohibitive smoking guidelines.

According to the American Nonsmokers' Rights Foundation, **more than 1,300 colleges and universities in the United States have adopted smoke-free or tobacco-free policies and this number is rising steadily.** The **American College Health Association** "encourages colleges and universities to be diligent in their efforts to achieve a 100% indoor and outdoor campus-wide tobacco-free environment." **The United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)** has created the Tobacco-Free College Campus Initiative (TFCCI) to promote and support the adoption and implementation of tobacco-free policies at universities, colleges, and other institutions of higher learning across the United States. The smoking of tobacco, hookahs, or marijuana and the use of electronic cigarettes are forms of air pollution and constitute both a danger to health and a material public nuisance. **Accordingly, the Los Angeles Valley College Work Environment Committee finds and declares that the purposes of these guidelines are (1) to protect the health and welfare of the campus and community at-large by creating a healthy, smoke-free and tobacco-free culture, encouraging the cessation of smoking and the use of tobacco products, including electronic cigarettes, on the Los Angeles Valley campus. (2) to guarantee the right of nonsmokers to breathe smoke free air, by recognizing that the need to breathe smoke free air shall have priority over the desire to smoke; and (3) to encourage a more productive living and learning environment for all members of our campus community.**

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Section 2. Definitions

A. “Electronic Smoking Device” means any product containing or delivering nicotine or any other substance intended for human consumption that can be used by a person in any manner for the purpose of inhaling vapor or aerosol from the product. The term includes any such device, whether manufactured, distributed, marketed, or sold as an e-cigarette, e-cigar, e-pipe, e-hookah, or vape pen, or under any other product name or descriptor.

B. “Hookah” means a water pipe and any associated products and devices which are used to produce fumes, smoke, and/or vapor from the burning of material including, but not limited to, tobacco, shisha, or other plant matter.

C. “Smoking” means inhaling, exhaling, burning, or carrying any lighted or heated cigar, cigarette, or pipe, or any other lighted or heated tobacco or plant product intended for inhalation, including hookahs and marijuana, whether natural or synthetic, in any manner or in any form. “Smoking” also includes the use of an electronic smoking device which creates an aerosol or vapor, in any manner or in any form, or the use of any oral smoking device for the purpose of circumventing the prohibition of smoking in this Article.

D. “Tobacco Product” means any substance containing tobacco leaf, including but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, pipe tobacco, hookah tobacco, snuff, chewing tobacco, dipping tobacco, bidis, blunts, clove cigarettes, or any other preparation of tobacco; and any product or formulation of matter containing biologically active amounts of nicotine that is manufactured, sold, offered for sale, or otherwise distributed with the expectation that the product or matter will be introduced into the human body by inhalation; but does not include any cessation product specifically approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for use in treating nicotine or tobacco dependence.

Section 3. Smoking and Tobacco Use discouraged on Campus

In light of the aforementioned findings, the Los Angeles Valley College campus strives to be entirely smoke-free and tobacco-free. These Smoke-free and Tobacco-Free Guidelines apply to all Los Angeles Valley College facilities, property, and vehicles, owned or leased, regardless of location. Smoking and the use of tobacco products shall not be permitted in any enclosed place, including, but not limited to, all offices, classrooms, hallways, waiting rooms, restrooms, meeting rooms, community areas, and performance venues. Smoking and the use of tobacco products shall also be discouraged outdoors on all Los Angeles Valley College campus property, including, but not limited to, parking lots, paths, fields, sports/recreational areas, and stadiums, as well as in all personal vehicles while on campus. These guidelines apply to all students, faculty, staff, and other persons on campus, regardless of the purpose for their visit.

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Section 4. Promotion and Sale of Tobacco Products Prohibited on Campus

In further recognition of the incompatibility of Los Angeles Valley College's educational mission and the promotion of tobacco products: No tobacco-related advertising or sponsorship shall be permitted on Los Angeles Valley College property, at college sponsored events, or in publications produced by the college newspaper with the exception of advertising in a newspaper or magazine that is not produced by the college and which is lawfully sold, bought, or distributed on Los Angeles Valley College property. For the purposes of these guidelines, "tobacco related" applies to the use of a tobacco brand or corporate name, trademark, logo, symbol, or motto, selling message, recognizable pattern or colors, or any other indicia of product identical to or similar to, or identifiable with, those used for any brand of tobacco products or company which manufactures tobacco products. No tobacco products or paraphernalia shall be sold or distributed as samples on university grounds, either in vending machines, the student union, or any area on campus.

Section 5. Dissemination of Guidelines

Copies of these guidelines shall be distributed to all faculty and staff and shall be included with information given to all admitted students. Information about the guidelines and how to comply with them shall also be posted on the Los Angeles Valley College website. Announcements concerning the guidelines and any changes to them shall be printed in campus newspapers and posted on the Los Angeles Valley College website to ensure that everyone fully understands the guidelines. **Signs designating the campus as smoke-free and tobacco-free shall be posted at all points of entry to the college campus and in various other conspicuous locations.** No ashtrays shall be provided at any location on campus.

Section 6. Transition Period

These guidelines are being announced **60** days prior to their implementation in order to give smokers time to adapt to their restrictions and to facilitate a smooth transition to a smoke-free and tobacco-free environment. On-site smoking cessation resources shall be made available to assist and encourage individuals who wish to quit smoking. Questions and problems regarding these guidelines should be handled through existing departmental administrative channels and administrative procedures.