

# Westfield State University

Policy concerning:

**Section** Personnel

**Number** 2140

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APPROVED:

REVIEWED: April 2017

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## SMOKE FREE/TOBACCO & MARIJUANA FREE CAMPUS

### BACKGROUND

1. On Thursday, August 28, 1997, an amendment to Section 22 of M.G.L. c.270 was signed prohibiting smoking in state buildings. Specifically this bill prohibits smoking anywhere in 1) the State House; 2) any building owned by the Commonwealth; and 3) any space occupied by a state agency or department of the Commonwealth but located in a building not owned by the Commonwealth.
2. On December 10, 2009 the Board of Trustees voted to authorize the President, on or about January 1, 2011, to impose a complete tobacco ban making the university smoke and tobacco free.

On November 8, 2016, Massachusetts voters approved Ballot Question 4, authorizing the recreational use and possession of marijuana by adults in the Commonwealth. Despite the passage of this law, the possession and use of marijuana on campus is prohibited. The University must comply with the federal Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act, which prohibits use or possession of marijuana on campus grounds.

### POLICY

1. Smoking and/or the use of tobacco and/or marijuana products will not be permitted on any University property or University leased property including buildings, grounds, walkways, parking lots, wooded areas and all other property owned or operated by the University. The only exception to this prohibition is that the smoking of tobacco cigarettes only may be allowed in designated areas approved by the University President and marked by appropriate signage.
2. Smoking and/or the use of tobacco and/or marijuana products in University owned or leased vehicles is prohibited. Smoking and/or the use of tobacco and/or marijuana products is also prohibited in personal vehicles when those vehicles are on University property.
3. The use of edibles, THC pills, and vaporizer devices including, but not limited to, hookah pens, marijuana pens and e-cigarettes is prohibited on all University property or University leased property as described in #1 above.

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4. All campus constituents have a collective responsibility to promote the safety and health of the campus community and, therefore, share in the responsibility of policy compliance. Individuals observed smoking and/or using tobacco or marijuana in any form, are to be reminded, in a professional and courteous manner, of the University policy.
  5. Students in violation of this policy shall be referred to the University student conduct system for disciplinary proceedings for repeated offenses. Employees in repeat violation of this policy will be referred to Human Resources.
  6. To assist those who wish to stop the use of tobacco or marijuana products, the Human Resources Department, the Health Services Department, the Counseling Center and the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) can direct employees and students to tobacco and marijuana cessation programs which the University might provide.
  7. Any questions regarding the interpretation of this Policy rest within the authority of the Vice President, Student Affairs (for students) and the Assistant Vice President for Human Resources (for employees).

## REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed bi-annually by the Vice President of Student Affairs.