



College Affairs Committee Policy Recommendation

Background

[SB 754](#) (2017), which among other things increased the age for buying/using tobacco product from 18 to 21, included a provision for community colleges. The Oregon Community College Association, in partnership with the Oregon Health Authority, provided Oregon community colleges with sample policy language to align with the bill's requirements. This proposal recommends an update to COCC's existing policy and aligns with sample language.

Existing Policy: G-18-0

Smoking or the use of smokeless tobacco is limited to campus parking lots only, unless otherwise posted. Use in parking lots adjacent to buildings must be 25 feet away from any portion of the building. During high fire danger periods, smoking will be banned completely.

Proposed New Language

Possession of tobacco products and inhalant delivery systems by persons under the age of 21 is prohibited in all Central Oregon Community College buildings and grounds. Use in parking lots adjacent to buildings and 25 or more feet away from the building by persons over the age of 21 is permitted. Smoking will be banned completely during high fire danger periods.

"Persons" in the above paragraph is defined as all students, employees, volunteers, visitors, vendors, and contractors. Exceptions to this policy are made for a person for whom a tobacco or nicotine product or a substance to be used with an inhalant delivery system has been lawfully prescribed.

Implementation Notes

The Oregon Health Authority recommended that community colleges provided students with access to cessation materials. This information is already provided on COCC's website: Services → Student Life → Awareness Options → Smoked. Quit for Good.

Additionally, campus staff will take the following actions upon recommendation from College Affairs and approval by the President:

- Campus Services will update door signage.
- Alicia Moore will post an announcement to Bobcat Community.
- College Relations will include the policy in its student e-newsletter at least once per year.