

**Rule No. 34.05.99.T1 (Effective 8/1/97; Revised 1/2/98)**  
(Supplements [System Policy 34.05](#))

## Smoking and Tobacco Use

PURPOSE: To establish guidelines, within the framework of System Policy, governing the use of tobacco products on Tarleton property

RULE: Tarleton State University restricts the use of tobacco products on institutional property in such a manner as to protect the health of students, employees, vendors, and visitors.

1. Tarleton's "smoking rule" is set forth in the institution's *Safety Manual*, stating:

*All University facilities, buildings, and vehicles, regardless of location or ownership, must be entirely smoke-free. This includes all foyers, entryways, classrooms, rest rooms, offices, athletic facilities (indoor and outdoor), eating areas, and university-owned/leased housing.*

2. The institution's commitment to a "smoke-free" rule is predicated upon:

a. sound medical research, which has established a clear connection between the use of tobacco products and serious health conditions;

b. determinations of the United States Surgeon General and the Environmental Protection Agency, which conclude that:

(1) breathing secondary smoke causes various diseases and allergic reactions in healthy non-smokers;

(2) separating smokers and non-smokers within the same air space does not eliminate exposure to environmental tobacco smoke for non-smokers; and

(3) tobacco smoke and secondary tobacco smoke are Class A carcinogens;

c. a desire to promote a safe, healthy, and pleasant environment for Tarleton students and employees, as well as visitors to the campus, including vendors.

3. Recognizing that individuals may choose to smoke, or to use other, smokeless tobacco products, the institution permits smoking, or the use of smokeless tobacco products, in designated areas on the campus. Such areas are to be outside, where ventilation minimizes the effect of the smoke as much as possible; may be officially designated as such by appropriate signs; must contain ashtrays or other receptacles for extinguishing smoking materials; and be located a sufficient distance away from entryways to avoid smoke being drawn into a campus building or facility.

4. If an individual (student, employee, vendor, or visitor) feels that there has been a violation of this Rule statement, the violation may be reported to the Tarleton Safety Manager, the Office of the Dean of Students, the Director of Human Resources, or, if the individual is an employee, the immediate supervisor or department head. It is expected that smokers and those

using smokeless tobacco products will voluntarily comply with both the spirit and the intent of this Rule statement.

5. Tarleton State University is not required to incur any expense, or make structural or other physical modifications, to accommodate the preferences of nonsmokers or smokers/smokeless tobacco users. Other accommodations, such as altering workplace schedules, rest periods/breaks, and the like, may be considered and determined to be appropriate at the department head's discretion.