

 RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE	Smoking	OFFICIAL POLICY
RESPONSIBLE OFFICE: <i>Human Resources</i>	POLICY OWNER: <i>Assistant Vice President for Human Resources</i>	EFFECTIVE DATE: 1977 REVISION HISTORY: 1993/07/01; 2004/08/30

PART 1. RATIONALE

It is the philosophy of Rhode Island College to provide everyone with a work/learning environment that offers the opportunity and resources to optimize their personal health and well-being. Since Environmental Tobacco Smoke (ETS) has been declared to be a Group A carcinogen and since it causes 53,000 deaths annually in nonsmokers, all Rhode Island College facilities will maintain a smoke-free environment effective March 1, 2005. This policy is designed in compliance with Chapter 23-20.10 of the Rhode Island General Laws entitled, "[Public Health and Workplace Safety Act](#)," which went into effect on March 1, 2005.

PART 2. SCOPE

This policy applies to the entire Rhode Island College campus, located in the Mt. Pleasant section of Providence and the Fruit Hill district of North Providence. It also applies to those off-campus locations indicated in Part 4, sections A and B of this policy.

PART 3. DEFINITIONS

building	Any built structure on the Rhode Island College campus; this includes enclosed structures as well as outdoor sports arenas.
smoking	The act of inhaling, exhaling, burning, or carrying any lighted cigar, cigarette, pipe, weed, plant, or other combustible substance in any manner or in any form; provided, however, that smoking shall not include burning during a religious ceremony. ¹

PART 4. STATEMENT OF POLICY

Every member of the Rhode Island College community is entitled to a smoke-free living and working environment, therefore:

- A. Smoking is prohibited in all Rhode Island College buildings, including offices, hallways, elevators, auditoria, residence halls, meeting rooms, community rooms, and Rhode Island College vehicles.
 - 1. The provisions of this policy shall not apply to any stage performance, provided that smoking is part of a theatrical production.
- B. Smoking is prohibited at meetings or conferences sponsored by Rhode Island College.

¹ Definition from R.I.G.L. §23-20.10-2(14)

- C. Smoking is allowed only in outdoor areas, provided that it occurs 50 feet from building entrance ways and vestibules or in the external designated areas.
- D. All buildings and facilities are clearly posted with "No Smoking in This Building" signs at the entrances.
- E. Employees who choose to smoke within the permitted areas must do so on their regularly scheduled breaks and meal periods.

PART 5. PROCEDURES

In conjunction with the Rhode Island College Office of Health Promotion, information on smoking cessation programs will be made available to all interested members of the Rhode Island College community.

PART 6. GUIDELINES

N/A

PART 7. RESPONSIBILITIES

Responsible Official	List of Responsibilities
Assistant Vice President for Administration	Direct the posting of required signage
Director, College Health Services	Provision of information on smoking cessation programs

PART 8. CONTACTS

Subject	Office or Position	Telephone Number	E-Mail
Policy Clarification	Office of Human Resources	(401) 456-8216	Employment@ric.edu

PART 9. POLICY ENFORCEMENT

Violation(s)	non-compliance with any provision of Part 4, Sections A-E
Potential consequences	Health Department regulations state that any employer who violates the act or state regulations pertaining to the act shall be liable for a civil penalty as follows: \$250 fine for first violation, \$500 fine for A second violation, and \$1,000 fines for a third or subsequent offenses
Where to report violations	Rhode Island Department of Health Office of Environmental Health Risk Assessment 3 Capitol Hill – Room 201 Providence, RI 02908-5097 Phone: (401) 222-3424

PART 10. FORMS/TEMPLATES/REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

Form, Template, or Document <i>(include web address if hyperlink is not available)</i>
RI Board of Education (formerly Board of Governors) Non-Smoking Policy
RI Department of Health Rules and Regulations Pertaining To Smoke-Free Public Places And Workplaces