

SMOKING AND TOBACCO USE

Smoke-Free Policy

Date Approved:

Responsible Office: Human Resources

Responsible Executive: Executive Director of HR, Compliance & Security

Policy

To provide a healthy working environment for the College community, RVCC is a smoke-free environment. This includes all tobacco and electronic smoking/vaping devices. Persons in violation of this policy are subject to citations, fines, and/or other disciplinary actions.

Scope

The policy prohibits the use by students, staff, faculty and visitors of tobacco products, vaping devices, electronic cigarettes, or any other form of ingestion of tobacco products anywhere on the college campus including in buildings, on the grounds of the campus, in college leased vehicles, at sporting events or at any other indoor or outdoor event or activity.

Sanctions

- Security begins handing out tickets to people they observe smoking.
 - 1st offense: Warning
 - 2nd offense: \$25 fine
 - 3rd offense: \$50 fine
 - 4th and subsequent offenses: \$75

Appeals

Students who appeal may go to the Office of the Dean of Student Affairs. On a case-by-case basis, on-campus Community Service may be used ONCE as a substitute for the second offense.

Summary of the New Jersey Smoke-Free Air Act

The New Jersey Legislature finds and declares that tobacco is the leading cause of preventable disease and death in the State and the nation. Tobacco smoke constitutes a substantial health hazard to the nonsmoking majority of the public. Electronic smoking devices have not been approved as to safety and efficacy by the federal Food and Drug Administration, and their use may pose a health risk to persons exposed to their smoke or vapor because of a known irritant contained therein and other substances that may, upon evaluation by that agency, be identified as potentially toxic to those inhaling the smoke or vapor. The separation of smoking and nonsmoking areas in indoor public places and workplaces does not eliminate the hazard to nonsmokers if these areas share a common ventilation system. It is clearly in

the public interest to prohibit the smoking of tobacco products and the use of electronic smoking devices in all enclosed indoor places of public access and workplaces.

Full text of the NJ Smoke-Free Air Act: http://www.njgasp.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/sfaa_2010_w-ecigs.pdf

Resolution approved by Forum, May 2018

On January 1, 2019, Raritan Valley Community College will be a smoke-free campus by prohibiting the use of tobacco products and electronic smoking devices on campus. To achieve this end, the College will undertake an awareness and cessation campaign as part of a countdown to January 1, 2019. A detailed policy will be developed in the Fall 2018 semester to take effect January 1 that establishes an enforcement system of warnings and fines, as well as more effective use of student and employee identification cards.

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Revised and reaffirmed

- May 2019

Communication – This policy is communicated to the College community in the following documents:

- College Catalog
- Faculty Handbook
- Student Handbook
- College Website