

# CLEARING THE AIR

## Information for Smokers/Tobacco Users

### 1 Are smokers/tobacco users being singled out?

**No.** The rules on smoking/tobacco use are for the health and wellbeing of everyone across the University of California, particularly non-smokers who do not wish to be subjected to the health hazard presented by tobacco use.

### 2 What if I don't want to quit smoking/using tobacco?

These rules do not prevent you from smoking in general; they only apply to smoking and tobacco use by individuals while on University of California property.

### 3 Why are e-cigarettes included in the policy?

The FDA does not consider e-cigarettes to be a safe nicotine delivery system or smoking cessation strategy and their use is prohibited on university property. For more information on E-cigarettes, view "[E-Cigarettes – Double-edge Sword](#)" from UCR Professor Prue Talbot.

### 4 Can I smoke in my car?

**No.** The prohibition on smoking and tobacco use includes the campus' parking lots and structures.

### 5 Are all UCs tobacco free or just UCR?

While specific policies are being tailored to each university/facility, the policy will apply across the University of California, not merely at UC Riverside.

### 6 What authority does the University have to enforce the policy?

Under the authority of [California Government Code 7597.1](#), the governing body of the University of California has the authority to set enforcement standards for the campus, including the imposition of fines.

### 7 Why not establish designated smoking areas?

While UCR has previously had designated smoking areas, the tobacco smoke does not just stay in a designated area. In order to protect individuals who do not wish to be subjected to second-hand smoke and the potential health risks associated with it, a campus-wide policy was put in place.

### 8 Isn't this about personal choice? Is the University infringing on my rights?

There is no moral judgement here. The University is not asking you to stop smoking/using tobacco, only that you abide by these policies while on UCR property and not subject others to the potentially harmful substances found in tobacco products, including second-hand smoke.

### 9 Isn't this the same as banning alcohol, fattening foods or sugary drinks? They are bad for you as well.

While there are many things in life that are unhealthy; second-hand tobacco smoke has been shown to cause harm to individuals who are not users.

## 10 My question is not addressed here. Where else can I look?

- Download our [Quick Facts](#) to see if your question is addressed;
- if not, please send an email to [tobaccofree@ucr.edu](mailto:tobaccofree@ucr.edu).

## 11 I would like to comment on the policy. Whom can I contact?

Questions and comments may be sent by email at [tobaccofree@ucr.edu](mailto:tobaccofree@ucr.edu).