

# Maine Tobacco-Free Healthcare Organization Policy Template

[Healthcare Organization] is dedicated to providing its patients, visitors, staff, volunteers, and providers with a safe and healthy environment. [Healthcare Organization] is a 100% smoke-free and tobacco-free campus, effective [Date].

[Healthcare Organization] recognizes the US Surgeon General's findings that tobacco use in any form, active and passive, is a significant health hazard. [Healthcare Organization] recognizes that smoking and the use of tobacco products on campus grounds is detrimental to the health and safety of everyone. This organization supports an environment where patients, visitors, staff, providers, and vendors are not exposed to the harmful effects of secondhand smoke and are supported in efforts to live tobacco-free. Therefore, [Healthcare Organization] has adopted a 100% smoke-free and tobacco-free campus policy, that exceeds state law (22 M.R.S.A. § 1580-A).

This policy prohibits all smoking and the use of all tobacco:

- In all [Healthcare Organization] owned, leased, satellite, and affiliated buildings or at any location (onsite or offsite) where any [Healthcare Organization] staff work.
- On all [Healthcare Organization] owned or leased grounds.
- At all [Healthcare Organization] sponsored events – both indoor and outdoor.
- In all [Healthcare Organization] owned, leased, or rented vehicles, on or off [Healthcare Organization] grounds.
- In all personal vehicles parked on [Healthcare Organization] owned, leased, and affiliated property, including parking lots, etc.
- At all events hosted or organized by [Healthcare Organization].

The smoke-free and tobacco-free campus policy applies to all patients, visitors, volunteers, staff, providers, vendors, and contractors including organizers of and attendees at, public events, including but not limited to, conferences, meetings, lectures, social events, and/or cultural events using [Healthcare Organization] owned, leased, and affiliated property who are required to abide by [Healthcare Organization]'s smoke- and tobacco-free policy.

In addition to prohibiting smoking and tobacco use and to best support smoke-free and tobacco-free lifestyles, [Healthcare Organization]:

- Will not sell or distribute tobacco products and paraphernalia.
- Does not support advertising and promotion of tobacco products in publications.
- Will not accept donations from the tobacco industry, including divesting itself of tobacco company stock.

## Definitions

A. "Smoking" means inhaling, exhaling, burning or carrying any lighted or heated cigar, cigarette, pipe or joint, or any other lighted or heated tobacco or plant product intended for inhalation, including hookahs and marijuana, whether natural or synthetic in any manner or in any form. "Smoking" also includes the use of an electronic nicotine delivery system or e-cigarette which creates an aerosol or vapor, in any manner or in any form, or the use of any oral smoking device for the purpose of circumventing the prohibition of smoking in this policy. Non-smoked marijuana products including, but not limited to, edibles and dabs are also included in this policy.



**Healthcare organizations can reinforce their commitment to health by adopting a tobacco-free policy.**

B. "Tobacco" is defined as all tobacco-derived or tobacco-containing products, including but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, little cigars, cigarillos, bidis, kreteks; all smokeless and dissolvable tobacco products, including but not limited to, dip, spit/spit-less, chew, snuff, snus and nasal tobacco; and any product intended to mimic tobacco, containing tobacco flavoring or delivering nicotine, including but not limited to, electronic nicotine delivery systems, e-cigarettes, e-cigars, e-hookahs, vape pens, or any other product name or descriptor. Or the use of any other type of tobacco or nicotine product for the purpose of circumventing the prohibition of tobacco in this policy. This does not include products specifically approved by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for the purpose of cessation or nicotine replacement therapy.

## **Procedures**

This policy will be communicated through tobacco-free signs posted at all property entrances and throughout the facility, and through staff and patient education, including being written into training manuals and new employee orientation. Everyone is required to comply with [Healthcare Organization]'s tobacco-free policy. Enforcement of this policy will follow the standard procedures of the facility for staff, patients, and visitors.

**Information regarding tobacco treatment resources, such as onsite counseling and the Maine QuitLink (1-800-QUIT-NOW and MaineQuitLink.com) will be made available for tobacco users who are interested in quitting.**

All [Healthcare Organization] employees are required to observe and promote compliance with the smoke-free and tobacco-free policy. Staff are expected to be good neighbors and refrain from using tobacco products on the property of nearby businesses and residences.

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