

# SUNY Cortland Tobacco and Nicotine Free Policy

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## RATIONALE AND BENEFITS

As a leader in health and wellness, State University of New York College at Cortland (“SUNY Cortland”) understands that health is as important as education. SUNY Cortland is dedicated to providing a safe, healthy, comfortable, and productive living and learning environment for the entire campus community. Among the SUNY Cortland campus priorities are to become a national leader in the promotion of the physical, emotional, cultural and social well-being of all community members and to provide outstanding opportunities and support for healthy living.

SUNY Cortland recognizes the overwhelming scientific evidence assembled by the U.S. Surgeon General, Centers for Disease Control, Environmental Protection Agency, and World Health Organization, which demonstrates that tobacco is a profound agent of deadly diseases, responsible for millions of deaths worldwide each year, both to tobacco users and non-users. The SUNY Cortland tobacco- and electronic cigarette/electronic aerosol delivery device-free environment supports good health for the entire campus community. Additional benefits include campus sustainability and beauty.

Some of the reasons for SUNY Cortland’s commitment to maintain a tobacco and nicotine free campus include:

- Support the SUNY Cortland campus wellness priority.
- Respect for others, our campus environment, and reduction of health hazards for all campus community members.
- Prepare students for tobacco - and electronic cigarette/electronic aerosol delivery device-free workplaces.
- Prevent students attending SUNY Cortland from being targeted by any marketing, promotion, or distribution of tobacco or electronic cigarette/electronic aerosol delivery device products on campus.
- Discourage students from adopting or continuing to use any form of tobacco or electronic cigarette/electronic aerosol delivery devices.
- Continue being a leader among SUNY institutions in public health policy and wellness promotion.
- Decrease the use of tobacco or electronic cigarette/electronic aerosol delivery devices through social-norming.
- Reduce adolescent addition to. Address the usage of smokeless tobacco and electronic cigarette/electronic aerosol delivery devices.

## DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this document, the following definitions apply:

- *“Tobacco product”* is defined as any product made or derived from tobacco or which contain nicotine, intended for human consumption, including, but not limited to: cigarettes, cigars, hookah-smoked products, bidis, kreteks, electronic cigarettes, electronic aerosol delivery systems, smokeless tobacco and snus; term also includes herbal cigarettes (as defined by N.Y. Public Health Law 13-F) and nicotine-free electronic cigarettes. This definition does not include any product that has been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for sale as a tobacco use cessation product.
- *“Electronic Cigarette/Electronic Aerosol Delivery System”* means an electronic device that, when activated, produces an aerosol that may be inhaled. Electronic Aerosol Delivery System includes any component, and any liquid or other substance to be aerosolized, whether or not separately sold. Electronic Aerosol Delivery System does not include drugs, devices, or combination products authorized for sale by the state or U.S. Food and Drug Administration.
- *“College”* is defined as SUNY Cortland.

- “SUNY Cortland property” is defined as any property owned, leased or operated by SUNY Cortland.
- “Tobacco company” is defined as a company that manufactures and/or markets branded tobacco products. This includes any subsidiaries (but not including parent companies) which engage in business activities that are not in any way related to tobacco or tobacco or electronic cigarette/electronic aerosol delivery device.
- “Direct tobacco company holdings” are defined as corporate stock holdings directly owned by the College, not including stock holdings that may be owned through mutual funds or other indirect investments.

## KEY POLICY COMPONENTS

### *Tobacco and Nicotine Free Grounds*

- Tobacco and electronic cigarette/electronic aerosol delivery device use is prohibited everywhere within the perimeter on all SUNY Cortland property, both indoors and outdoors, as well as in College-owned vehicles, and in any vehicle on SUNY Cortland property.
- Tobacco and electronic cigarette/electronic aerosol delivery device use is prohibited at all College-sponsored, off-campus events.

### *Advertising, Promotions, & Sales*

- Tobacco and electronic cigarette/electronic aerosol delivery device sales are prohibited anywhere on the SUNY Cortland campus.
- The College will not accept advertising, marketing, distribution, or promotion of tobacco or electronic cigarette/electronic aerosol delivery device products.

### *Sponsorships, Gifts, Funding*

All grants, gifts, solicitations, and proposals to Cortland for such funds must have the approval of the College and must conform to the College's Mission Statement, culture of wellness, SUNY policies, and applicable laws and regulations. In addition, SUNY Cortland will not invest in any direct tobacco or electronic cigarette/electronic aerosol delivery device company holdings.

### *Cessation*

Understanding the addictive nature of tobacco and electronic cigarette/electronic aerosol delivery device use, and that breaking that addiction is extremely difficult for many people, the College will make every reasonable effort to assist those employees and students who wish to stop using tobacco or electronic cigarette/electronic aerosol delivery devices. The campus will promote and provide evidence-based cessation resources. Students can access cessation treatment, including counseling and nicotine replacement therapy, at Student Health Service. Employees can access support through the Employee Assistance Program. Please note that medically approved nicotine replacement therapy is not a violation of the policy.

## COMPLIANCE

This policy is driven by respect for others and the environment and relies on the thoughtfulness, consideration, and cooperation of tobacco and electronic cigarette/electronic aerosol delivery device users and non-users for its success. Enforcement of this policy depends on the cooperation of all members of the SUNY Cortland campus community, both to comply and encourage others to do so. It is the responsibility of all members in the College community to observe this tobacco and electronic cigarette/electronic aerosol delivery device use policy.

SUNY Cortland will inform members of the campus community about the tobacco and electronic cigarette/electronic aerosol delivery device policy by widely disseminating information on a regular basis. The tobacco and electronic cigarette/electronic aerosol delivery device policy is clearly posted in employee and student handbooks, on the campus website, and as part of other publications.

The policy is shared with parents, alumni, and visitors through media, campus announcements, the website and other means. Key components of the policy are posted on signage around campus (e.g., tobacco and nicotine use is not allowed on campus grounds). Public announcements will address the policy at events on campus. Policy non-compliance prompts an initial educational response which will include information regarding the existence of the policy, the rationale for the policy, and the availability of nicotine cessation support services both on and off campus. Repeated non-compliance is referred to the appropriate campus student conduct or employee supervisory system for resolution. Employees and students are treated respectfully in the consistent observance of the policy.

To enhance SUNY Cortland's commitment to a tobacco and electronic cigarette/electronic aerosol delivery device free culture, the College will encourage and partner with surrounding merchants, municipalities, landlords, residents, and tobacco and nicotine control advocacy groups and other local stakeholders to enact community tobacco and electronic cigarette/electronic aerosol delivery device free policies.

## **POLICY REVIEW**

SUNY Cortland maintains a broad-based Tobacco Advisory Committee to identify and address needs and concerns related to this policy, implementation, compliance, and cessation. The Tobacco Advisory Committee will review this policy annually to ensure that it is sustained, effective, timely, and in accordance with state and federal laws.

## **HISTORY AND POLICY EFFECTIVE DATE**

Recognizing the hazards of smoking, in 1989 SUNY Cortland restricted smoking to certain designated areas on campus. Since then, additional studies have indicated that exposure to second-hand smoke and electronic cigarette/electronic aerosol delivery devices is a significant risk for everyone. All forms of tobacco and electronic cigarette/electronic aerosol delivery devices are now known to be harmful and highly addictive. SUNY Cortland cares deeply about the health of all its campus members. As an employer and an institution of higher education, the College is committed to providing a safe working, living, and educational environment. Tobacco and nicotine use is inconsistent with the Campus culture of wellness. Therefore, SUNY Cortland became a 100% tobacco and electronic cigarette/electronic aerosol delivery device free campus on January 1, 2013.

Originally Endorsed by President's Cabinet	July 25, 2011
Revisions Approved by President's Cabinet	May 7, 2018
Next Review Cycle	April 2019