AMITY UNIVERSITY MAHARASHTRA

Established vide Maharashtra Act No.13 of 2014, of Government of Maharashtra, and recognized under Section 2 (f) of UGC Act 1956.

Revision History Smoke-Free Policy

Date	Policy Status
15 January 2017	Policy Created
09 February 2019	Minor Revision
02 March 2021	Minor Revision
16 June 2022	Minor Revision
15 June 2023	Minor Revision
25 August 2024	Minor Revision

AMITY UNIVERSITY MAHARASHTRA

Established vide Maharashtra Act No.13 of 2014, of Government of Maharashtra, and recognized under Section 2 (f) of UGC Act 1956.

Smoke-Free Policy

Date: 15 January 2017

SECTION 1: BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

The smoke-free policy is made under Good Health and well-being. The purpose of the implementation of the smoke-free policy is to avoid passive, active smoking and damage to the health of the people living in the University Premises.

SECTION 2: SCOPE

The policy is applicable to all the people, including staff, students, and visitors at the University Premises and during the traveling in the University Bus and leased vehicles.

SECTION 3: POLICY STATEMENT

The University implements the policy to prohibit tobacco products at all indoor and outdoor campus locations. Following activities are strictly prohibited in all the areas of the University:

(a) Possession &/or Consumption of Cigarettes, Hookah, other smoking devices, alcoholic drinks, narcotics/drugs, or encouraging or inciting any other person to do so is prohibited (Please note that Narcotic Drugs & Psychotropic Substances Act views drug offenses very seriously and punishments are stiff even for small quantities).

(b) Possession &/or consumption of Chewing tobacco, paan, gutka, etc., or encouraging or inciting any other person is prohibited.

(c) Smoking, use of narcotics, possession, and consumption of alcoholic beverages or gambling in any form is prohibited.

(d) The smoking of any substance is **not permitted** in any of the Classrooms, Faculty Halls or cabins, Hostels, cafeteria, seminar halls, auditoriums, sports ground, or any open or closed spaces in the University premises. This also extends to at least a 1km radius of the University campus.

(e) Amity University Maharashtra is committed to fostering the good health and well-being of all members of its University community. We also aim to reduce pollution and hazardous air pollutants through this prohibition. Medical research confirms the many health risks of smoking and tobacco usage as well as the negative effects of second-hand smoke. In an effort to mitigate

the health hazards of smoking and tobacco use, we are becoming a fully smoke-free and tobacco-free institution beginning with the start of the 2016 academic year and henceforth.

(f) The policy covers all property and vehicles owned, leased, rented, or operated by Amity University Maharashtra and includes cigarettes, cigars, pipes, e-cigarettes, dipping tobaccos, snuff, other smokeless tobacco, hookah, marijuana, cannabis, and related electronic and other products.

(g) This policy means that smokers are allowed to smoke only in public areas outside the campus limits. The policy pertains to everyone associated with the University community, including students, employees, contracted service employees, vendors and visitors.

(h) **Communication.** The policy is published widely through various University outlets and will be included in the *Student Handbook* and *website*. Signage indicating that the University is smoke-free and tobacco-free are posted on campus. Existing policies, regulations, and penalties governing smoking and tobacco usage inside university property will remain in effect as promulgated.

(i) **Compliance**. Anyone who elects to continue to smoke or use tobacco products on public sidewalks must stay clear of any building entrances and dispose of these items properly in the designated areas provided on the periphery of the campus.

(j) During the first few years of implementation, enforcement consisted of policy reminders by Campus Vigilance officers and other community members, without reprisals, along with the distribution of educational material that fosters smoking and tobacco usage cessation. However, with the passage of time, we are a mature University with less intervention and reminders for the smoke-free campus.

(k) **Support to Foster Smoking and Tobacco Usage Cessation.** The University will continue to sponsor programs and events that increase awareness of the negative effects and health risks of smoking and tobacco usage. The Counseling Office (managed by AIBAS) and the Amity Clinic office will offer supportive services and information for those who wish to quit smoking and tobacco usage.

The cooperation of all university members is needed to ensure a healthy environment for everyone.

SECTION 4: PROCEDURE

The director Administration will be the authority for execution of the Smoke-Free Policy under the guidance of the Hon. Vice-Chancellor.

Anyone found indulging in smoking activity may get panelized with the decision by the committee. The committee will decide the disciplinary actions.

SECTION 5 : DEFINITIONS

As Stated in the Amity University Act 2014 (Mah. Act No. XIII OF 2014) Dated 24, June 2014 , Reg. No. MH/MR/South-344/2014-16, as Stated in:

Section 5, Sub-section (xxviii)

(xxviii) To make arrangements for promoting health and general welfare of the students and employees of the University.

https://htedu.maharashtra.gov.in/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/Amity-University-Act-2014.pdf

https://www.ugc.ac.in/oldpdf/ragging/recosuggeragginghei.pdf

AMITY UNIVERSITY MAHARASHTRA

Established vide Maharashtra Act No.13 of 2014, of Government of Maharashtra, and recognized under Section 2 (f) of UGC Act 1956.

Smoke-Free Policy

Policy Review Date: 9th February 2019

In continuation with the Smoke-Free Policy created and in effect from Date: 15th January 2017, the revision is done on the 09th February 2019.

In addition to the existing policy statements, the following clause is added.

(i) Head of the Institutions of all Schools will conduct at least one session in a year to provide the smoke policy information to all the students.

(ii) Any outside person/persons engaged in the activities will be reported to the local police station, and legal action will be initiated.

The said additions to the existing policy are made, considering the increasing student admissions at the University from the country's different states, and in line with the rules are regulated specified by the UGC, Ministry of HRD, and state education regulatory bodies.

AMITY UNIVERSITY MAHARASHTRA

Established vide Maharashtra Act No.13 of 2014, of Government of Maharashtra, and recognized under Section 2 (f) of UGC Act 1956.

Smoke-Free Policy

Policy Review Date: 02 March 2021

In continuation with the Smoke-Free Policy created and in effect from Date: 15th January 2017, further revised on the 09th February 2019.

The University Committee as reviewed the smoke-free policy on 2nd March 2021, and decided to keep the policy without any change.

AMITY UNIVERSITY MAHARASHTRA

Established vide Maharashtra Act No.13 of 2014, of Government of Maharashtra, and recognized under Section 2 (f) of UGC Act 1956.

Smoke-Free Policy

Policy Review Date: 16 June 2022

In continuation with the Smoke-Free Policy created and in effect from Date: 15th January 2017, further revised on the 09th February 2019. The University Committee as reviewed the smoke-free policy on 2nd March 2021, and decided to keep the policy without any change.

* The University Committee on the smoke free policy is reviewed on 16th June 2022, and decided to keep the policy without any changes.

AMITY UNIVERSITY MAHARASHTRA

Established vide Maharashtra Act No.13 of 2014, of Government of Maharashtra, and recognized under Section 2 (f) of UGC Act 1956.

Smoke-Free Policy

Policy Review Date: 15 June 2023

In continuation with the Smoke-Free Policy created and in effect from Date: 15th January 2017, further revised on the 09th February 2019. The University Committee reviewed the smoke-free policy on 2nd March 2021, and decided to keep the policy without any change. The University Committee on the smoke free policy is reviewed on 16th June 2022 and decided to keep the policy without any changes.

The University Committee on the smoke free policy is reviewed on 15th June 2023 and decided to keep the policy without any changes.