BOSTON UNIVERSITY
SMOKING POLICY

Introduction:

The City of Boston Public Health Commission recently issued regulations that prohibit smoking in the workplace.

The regulations cover all work spaces, common work areas, auditoriums, classrooms, conference and meeting rooms, elevators, hallways, medical facilities, cafeterias, employee lounges, staircases, restrooms and all other enclosed areas in the workplace. Exceptions to the regulations include private residences and hotel rooms that are designated as smoking rooms. In addition, smoking is allowed if it is a part of a theatrical performance or religious ritual. Certain other exemptions apply to establishments engaged in the sale of tobacco products such as retail tobacco stores and smoking bars.

In accordance with the Workplace Smoking Restrictions Regulation issued by the City of Boston Public Health Commission, it is the responsibility of all employers to provide a smoke-free environment for all employees working in an enclosed workplace. The purpose of this policy is to comply with this Regulation and to provide reasonable protection to the health of employees and others from the effects of tobacco smoke in the workplace.

Policy

Smoking is prohibited in all Boston University facilities and enclosed workplace areas. This includes all offices, work spaces, common work areas, auditoriums, classrooms, conference and meeting rooms, elevators, hallways, medical facilities, cafeterias, employee lounges, staircases, parking garages, restrooms, all other enclosed areas in the workplace and all University student residences. Exempted from this policy are private residences. This policy applies to all employees, students, clients, consultants, vendors, contractors, guests, and visitors.

Anyone who violates this policy is subject to disciplinary action. Disputes which involve smoking in the workplace should be addressed to the employee’s immediate supervisor. Disputes involving students should be addressed to the Dean of Student’s Office or the Residence Hall or Area Director if it involves a housing matter.

Student Housing

Smoking is prohibited in all University student residences.
Smoking Cessation

All employees and students are encouraged to quit smoking. Information concerning smoking cessation programs are available through the American Cancer Society and through the University’s Occupational Health Center.

Questions concerning this policy may be directed to the Human Resources Office at 617-353-2380 or the Office of Housing at 617-353-3511 on the Charles River Campus and the Human Resources Office at 617-638-4610 on the Medical Campus.

The Workplace Smoking Restrictions Regulation issued by the City of Boston may be obtained at their website www.bphc.org.

November 17, 2011