# CALIFORNIA COLLEGE & UNIVERSITY SMOKE/TOBACCO-FREE POLICY REPORT CARD







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# 2021 College and University Report Card

California Public College and University Smoke and Tobacco-Free Policy Ratings

## INTRODUCTION

Over the last year, the COVID-19 pandemic has altered the way society interacts socially, professionally, and in the education system. California colleges and universities have been teaching and providing resources digitally and campus grounds have been nearly empty. Now with the ongoing roll-out of the COVID-19 vaccine, there is hope for reopening campuses and resuming inperson education, with some modifications.

During this transitional time back to being in-person, we all must take additional consideration of the potentials for respiratory distress and the lasting effects of a year of isolation on the students, staff, and faculty of each campus. Corona-virus often causes respiratory symptoms, including difficulty breathing and decreased lung function. Research shows tobacco use increases an individual's risk for more severe COVID-19 symptoms. Meanwhile, the increased levels of stress and anxiety from social isolation and concern over the pandemic may have resulted in the initiation or increase in commercial tobacco use and nicotine addiction.

Since the release of the United States Surgeon's General Advisory on E-Cigarette Use Among Youth in December 2018, which reported an increase of 78% in use of nicotine by high school students between 2017 and 2018, the rates of nicotine use has remained high. Findings from the 2020 National Youth Tobacco Survey reveal 23.6% of high school student report current use of commercial tobacco compared to 31.2% of high school-age youth in 2019. While the decrease in prevalence rates is promising, young people may be starting college with higher rates of addiction, as they age out of the youth category and transition into the stress of college and the pandemic.

In California, young adults continue to have the highest prevalence of tobacco and e-cigarette use compared to all other age groups. Overall, 24.6% of individuals 18-30 years old report using any tobacco products compared to 12.8% of commercial tobacco product use by teens and 13.5% use in adults over 30 years of age.<sup>2</sup>

The young adult years (18-25 years old) are an especially critical time in the development of a commercial tobacco addiction. The tobacco industry is aware of this, aggressively marketing its products to young people in an attempt to generate a new cohort of lifetime tobacco users. As California cigarette smoking declined 33.2% between 2003 and 2017, use of alternative tobacco products, including electronic smoking devices and flavored products, has increased.<sup>3</sup> Electronic smoking devices, or e-cigarettes, have increased in popularity over the last few



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years, as devices become smaller, more discrete, and emit less noticeable vapor clouds. Many of these devices come pre-filled with a potent nicotine salt-based solution.

Young adults are also increasingly using an assortment of devices to vaporize marijuana. College communities have been particularly impacted as rates of vaping among students has increased compared to other young adult populations in California. Between 2017 and 2018, college student vaping of nicotine increased from 6.1% to 15.5% compared to an increase from 7.9% to 12.5% among young adults not in college. The rate of vaping marijuana products has also increased among college students from 5.2% in 2017 to 10.9% in 2018. Marijuana vaping did not change among young adults not in college during the same time period, remaining at 8%.<sup>4</sup>

A recent study examining college student tobacco use prevalence concluded that college attendance may reduce young adult's risk of cigarette smoking but may not reduce the risk of using other tobacco products.<sup>5</sup>

One effective strategy for preventing young people from becoming addicted to tobacco and supporting those who are quitting is the adoption of smoke and tobacco-free policies. Smoke and tobacco-free environments positively shift social norms around commercial tobacco use. For these reasons, the young adult years are also a critical time



to ensure tobacco-free environments. As the demographic of commercial tobacco use in young adults shift toward e-cigarettes and higher rates of incoming students are already using tobacco products, California colleges have an opportunity to influence health behaviors of these young adults through campus policy. Despite this, college and university campuses often act as a stronghold of commercial tobacco-use, a place where smoking and vaping are still the norm, in an increasingly smoke-free world.

In order to counter the negative effects of tobacco on the college population, the American College Health Association (ACHA) has recommended all colleges and universities adopt a 100% smoke/tobacco-free campus policy.<sup>6</sup> Furthermore, organizations such as the American Cancer Society, The Truth Initiative, and CVS Health have contributed millions of dollars in grant funding to college and universities across the nation in an effort to produce the first commercial tobacco-free generation.

Since 1998, the California Youth Advocacy Network (CYAN), a project funded by the California Tobacco Control Program, has been supporting California colleges and universities in creating healthy campus environments by adopting and implementing smoke/tobacco-free policies. CYAN's College Program is the longest running program focused on commercial tobacco-free college campuses in the nation. In 2002, a group of students formed COUGH (Campuses Organized and United for Good Health), a statewide movement committed to promoting, establishing, and sustaining safer and healthier colleges through smoke/tobacco-free policy education, and treatment. Together, CYAN and COUGH have been working to advance the success of 100% smoke/tobacco-free policies on all institutions of higher learning in California.

The California College and University Smoke/Tobacco-Free Policy Report Card is a collaborative project of CYAN and COUGH. The Report reviews and assesses current tobacco use policies on all 148 public colleges and universities in the state. The first statewide Report was released in June 2016.

The purpose of this Report is to reveal tobacco use policy trends on campuses in California. Additionally, the aim of the Report Card is to educate and encourage college decision makers to adopt comprehensive smoke/tobacco-free policies that promote health and wellness for all members of their campus community.

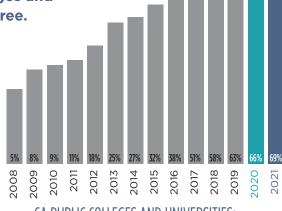
# Smoke/Tobacco-Free Policy Rationale

# **POLICY RATIONALE**

In recent years, the adoption of smoke/tobacco-free policies on college campuses nationwide has seen a dramatic increase. In Spring 2008, approximately 75 colleges had 100% smoke-free policies. As of April 1, 2021, that number has risen dramatically with 2,537 U.S. and tribal colleges and universities adopting 100% smoke-free policies. Of these campuses, 2,102 schools are 100% smoke and tobacco-free and prohibit the use of all commercial tobacco products on college/university property.<sup>7</sup>

National trends are consistent with what has been observed in California. In Spring 2008, only eight (5%) public colleges in the state were 100% smoke or tobacco-free. By Spring 2021, 102 (69%) of public colleges and universities in California are now 100% smoke or tobacco-free.

As more institutions of higher education adopt and implement strong commercial tobacco use policies, we gain a greater understanding of the impact of these policies. This knowledge along with findings from research conducted on the impact of other smoke and tobacco-free policies provide a strong rationale for why colleges and universities across the nation should continue to adopt 100% smoke/tobacco-free policies.



CA PUBLIC COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES: 100% SMOKE OR TOBACCO-FREE

#### DECREASE EXPOSURE TO SECONDHAND SMOKE

- Since the 1964 Surgeon General's Report, 2.5 million adults who were nonsmokers died because they breathed secondhand smoke.<sup>8</sup>
- The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has found secondhand tobacco smoke to be a risk to public health and has classified secondhand smoke as a group A carcinogen, the most dangerous class of carcinogen.<sup>9</sup>
- The California Air Resources Board has categorized secondhand smoke as a toxic air contaminant, the same category as diesel exhaust.<sup>10</sup>
- The Surgeon General of the United Stated concluded that there is no risk-free level of exposure to secondhand smoke and establishing smoke-free environments is the only way to prevent exposure.<sup>11</sup>
- Between 2016 and 2018, the rates of Californians exposed to tobacco smoke, e-cigarette aerosol, and marijuana smoke increased by 34.7%, with a 13% increase of e-cigarette smoke and 18.4% increase of marijuana smoke specifically. High schoolers report an exposure rate of roughly 30% to tobacco smoke, e-cigarette aerosol, or marijuana smoke while in a room or car.<sup>12</sup>

## CHANGE COMMERCIAL TOBACCO USE BEHAVIOR

- A study published in the British Medical Journal (2002) concluded that tobacco users
  who worked in a completely smoke-free environment were more likely to quit than their
  counterparts working in areas without strong smoke-free policies. Additionally, individuals
  working in smoke-free environments were more likely to decrease the number of cigarettes
  they smoked throughout the day.<sup>13</sup>
- Smoke-free campus policies are proven to decrease current smoking prevalence in students, decrease the amount of cigarettes used by those who continue to smoke, positively influence students' perceptions of peer smoking, change social norms around tobacco use, and increase

favorable attitudes towards regulation of tobacco. These findings are consistent with a study that found that college students who lived in smoke-free residences were more likely to be nonsmokers.<sup>14</sup>

# **DECREASE TOBACCO LITTER ON CAMPUS**

- Cigarette waste is extremely toxic to our environment. Cigarette butts contain the same toxic chemicals in tobacco smoke. The small filter, when wet, releases thousands of toxic chemicals back into the environment. These filters and chemicals are washed into waterways by water runoff.<sup>15</sup>
- Tobacco waste is common on campuses that are not smoke/tobacco-free. A 2010 study of litter at UC San Diego and San Diego State University revealed that in 80 volunteer hours, 31,410 cigarette butts were collected between the two campuses. This represented about 380 butts per volunteer per hour.<sup>16</sup>



- 100% smoke/tobacco-free policies are associated with reduced tobacco waste near building entrances compared with campuses with weaker policies. These reductions may reflect fewer cigarettes smoked near buildings and reduced exposure to secondhand smoke.<sup>17</sup>
- With the increase in e-cigarette use among youth and young adults, the presence of pods, cartridges, and e-juice bottles pose new litter and environmental concerns. Nicotine solutions and e-juice contain harmful chemicals and the plastic containers cannot be recycled. Furthermore, all these products have batteries that need to be properly disposed of.
- There still remains no appropriate or safe way to dispose of an e-cigarette, including those labeled as "disposable". Between the single-use plastics, hazardous chemicals, including nicotine and lead, and the lithium-ion batteries, vape waste is damaging to the environment and damaged vape products are a serious risk to individual safety.
- By eliminating tobacco litter, colleges are also decreasing fire risk on campus, decreasing the cost and time associated with cleaning up tobacco litter, and increasing campus beautification.

## **PROMOTE STUDENT SUCCESS**

- Smoke/tobacco-free policies can reduce the number of students that start using commercial tobacco as well as the amount of tobacco that students use, which helps young people progress to graduation by having a positive impact on their health.
- Historically, most tobacco users started smoking or using smokeless tobacco before the age
  of 18. Over the last ten years, this pattern of new addiction has been changing. A recent study
  found one-fifth of smokers reported starting after the age of 18. Among individuals who
  started using tobacco before 18, regular or daily smoking was not established until the ages of
  20 or 21.<sup>18</sup>
- One in eight California youth reported current tobacco use in 2018 (12.7%), with 84.3% of these young people using electronic smoking devices and 86.4% using flavored tobacco products.<sup>19</sup> As these youth tobacco users enter college, promotion of policy compliance and smoke and tobacco-free environments become an essential part of the transitionary process into college life.

- Young adults who vape had the highest rate of flavored vape use at 91%, followed by adults age 25 to 34 at 89%.<sup>20</sup>
- As students graduate, they are transitioning into tobacco-free environments. In California, the majority of hospital and K-12 campuses are 100% smoke-free or tobacco-free. Nationwide, worksites, college campuses, health care centers, and outdoor recreational facilities are adopting comprehensive tobacco use policies.

## DECREASE EXPOSURE TO NEW AND EMERGING TOBACCO AND NICOTINE PRODUCTS

- Use of electronic smoking devices continues to increase among some age groups and is higher than combustible commercial tobacco use among teens and young adults.<sup>21,22</sup>
- After the EVALI (E-cigarette or Vaping Use-Associated Lung Injury) outbreak in 2019, cigarette
  and vaping use has decreased. While cigarette use has continued to decrease steadily
  throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, e-cigarette use experienced a dramatic decrease during
  the EVALI outbreak and the onset of the COVID-19 lockdowns. However, rates of e-cigarette
  use began to increase again in November of 2020.<sup>23</sup>
- In California, young adults are five times more likely to use e-cigarettes than those 30 and older, increasing from three times more likely from the previous year.<sup>21</sup>
- Through the use of flavors and appealing new designs, a new generation of young people are becoming addicted to nicotine and are becoming regular tobacco users.<sup>21,22</sup>
- New and emerging products may introduce young adults to tobacco use or promote dual use
  of cigarettes and smokeless tobacco products.<sup>21</sup>
- Hookah use has surpassed cigarette use among U.S. young adult college students.<sup>21</sup>
- E-cigarette vapor is a source of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and ultrafine/fine particles.<sup>21</sup>
- Use of products that mimic tobacco use, specifically e-cigarettes, may renormalize smoking and challenge the implementation and enforcement of tobacco-free policies that are proven to decrease tobacco use.
- Electronic devices have compatibility with marijuana-based solutions, introducing new policy compliance issues, as marijuana remains a schedule one drug at the federal level, making all marijuana substances illegal on any federally-funded campus, including public colleges and universities in California.
- Heated tobacco products, nicotine pouches, and "disposable" vapes are increasing in popularity due to their high nicotine content and subtle stealth designs that makes them harder to identify.<sup>23</sup>

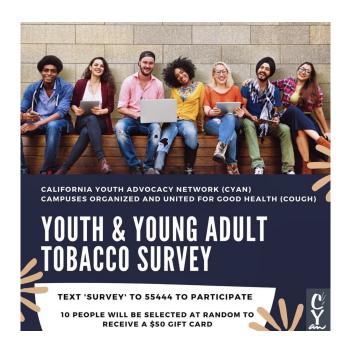


# Youth and Young Adult Tobacco Use Survey

In February 2021, CYAN, in partnership with students from the COUGH Leadership Board, launched a survey to assess commercial tobacco, nicotine, and marijuana use among California's youth and young adult populations. This survey collected data on youth and young adult tobacco and marijuana use behavior, the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on use, along with motivators and resources used for quitting.

#### **SURVEY SAMPLE**

A total of 423 individuals took the survey, with 50% reporting they were currently enrolled in a California college or university at the time of the survey. Among this group, 56% were 18-20 years old, 33% were 21-24 years old, and 11% were 25 years or older. Various college/university systems were represented with 21% of respondents from a community college, 8% from California State University (CSU), 15%



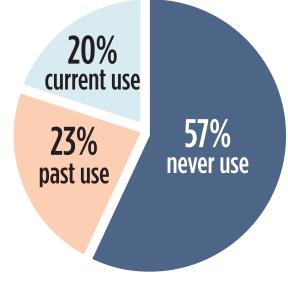
from University of California (UC), and 58% from a private university. There were no participants enrolled in a trade or technical college. The following findings are specific to participants who were currently enrolled in a college/university at the time of the survey.

## COMMERCIAL TOBACCO USE BEHAVIOR

When participants were asked how they viewed their commercial tobacco/nicotine use:

- Never Use: 57% of respondents reported they never vaped, smoked, or used tobacco/nicotine products
- Past Use: 23% reported past use, but no longer use these products
- Current Use:
  - 9% reported vaping, smoking, or using these products casually or in social settings,
  - 1% reported using these products at least once a month.
  - 3% reported use at least once a week, and
  - 7% reported use at least once a day

Among participants who reported current use:



HOW PARTICIPANTS VIEW THEIR COMMERCIAL TOBACCO/NICOTINE USE

- Stress and boredom were the top reported reasons for use, followed by friends/peer influence, like the taste, family/culture, and media or image influence. Other reasons cited include addiction, party/social settings, "it's good with alcohol", help focusing, manage anxiety, and for energy.
- E-cigarettes were the top product used among current users, followed by tobacco cigarettes, tobacco wraps used for smoking marijuana, hookah, smokeless tobacco, and cigars.

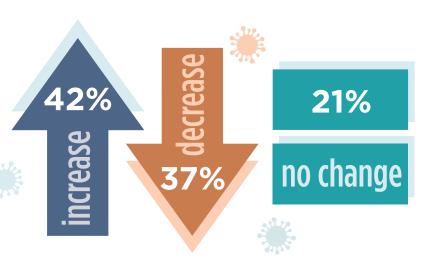
- 42% of current users reported an increase in use since the start of the pandemic, 37% reported a decrease in use, and 21% said use was about the same.
- Reasons for using tobacco/nicotine products more since the start of the pandemic included stress, anxiety, boredom, living at home, and lack of social gatherings or outlets.
- On the other hand, those who reported using tobacco/nicotine products less during the pandemic reported living at home, health risks for parents, limited gatherings or exposure to friends, money, and personal goal to quit as reasons for decreased use.

# **QUITTING COMMERCIAL TOBACCO PRODUCTS**

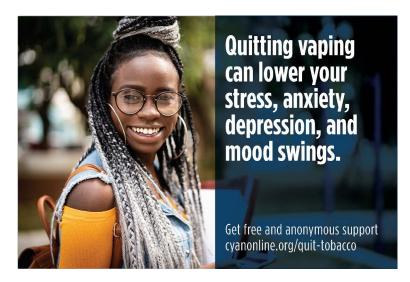
When current users were asked about quitting commercial tobacco products:

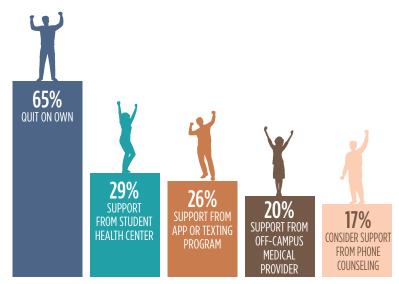
- Possible motivators for quitting include: more research about negative shortterm health effects, increased prices, health problems such as lung issues, if consumption becomes habitual or interferes with schoolwork, and to be healthier.
- 65% of respondents reported they preferred to quit tobacco on their own, while 29% said they would be interested in getting support from the student health center, 26% would use an app or a texting program, 20% were interested in a community-based medical provider, and 17% would consider phone counseling.

Respondents were also asked what tobacco treatment services they would like to see offered on their campus. Respondents wished to see better mental health care since stress or depression was a reason for use, withdrawal care, seminars on the dangers of tobacco and tips for quitting, a judgement free zone for people to talk about their experiences, text reminders, and virtual services.



CHANGE IN PARTICIPANTS COMMERCIAL TOBACCO/ NICOTINE USE DURING 2020/21 PANDEMIC





FAVORED QUITTING METHODS FOR COMMERCIAL TOBACCO/NICOTINE

# **Reopening Campuses in Fall 2021**

In Spring 2020, the world shifted to prevent and respond to the spread of the Coronavirus and over the last year. As vaccine rollouts continue and cities and campuses start to reopen, we must think ahead for this transitionary period. Coronavirus often causes respiratory symptoms, including difficulty breathing and decreased lung function. Research shows the tobacco use increases an individual's risk for more severe Coronavirus symptoms. Smoking and vaping doubles an individual's risk of developing a respiratory infection, by weakening the immune system and the body's ability to fight infections.<sup>24</sup> Smoking also doubles the risk of getting sicker from coronavirus, with people who smoke being 2.4 times more likely to get sick, admitted to an intensive care unit, needing mechanical ventilation, or dying, compared to non-smokers.<sup>25</sup> Vaping on its own can harm lung health at a cellular and organ level and worsen the body's ability to fight respiratory infections.<sup>26</sup>



Campus reopening plans are critical for the transitions from digital to in-person interactions and learning. California has one of the largest systems of higher education in the U.S. with over 2.1 million students in the California Community College System. With such a large proportion of students, it is essential to create safe environments for learning and growth. As such, there are several ways to expand access to support for student, staff, and faculty, including:

- Working towards the adoption of a 100% smoke and tobacco-free campus policy. By creating spaces free of secondhand smoke and tobacco waste, colleges and universities have an opportunity to normalize healthier behavior among students, staff, and visitors.
- Promoting existing and new smoke and tobacco-free policies on campus as students and employees return. This could be with new signage, including policy language in the welcome letters, and having updates on the front page of the website.
  - Sample language: "We are excited to welcome you back to our smoke and tobacco-free campus after so long! Let's continue to support our lung health by refraining from using any tobacco or nicotine products while on campus grounds. This includes smoking, vaping, and use of smokeless tobacco products. If you are quitting tobacco, visit the campus health center or go to cyanonline.org/quit-tobacco for free resources and support."
- Creating ample access to commercial tobacco quit resources in your health center and across campus. During the pandemic, many individuals have experienced higher levels of stress and anxiety, resulting in worsened addictions and introductions to new behaviors, such as vaping or other forms of nicotine and THC use. Students, staff, and faculty may need additional support in mitigating or quitting their nicotine use when back in-person.
- Developing COVID-19 friendly activities and hybrid events by continuing to sanitize and use proper CDC guidelines as they are released. Some students are opting to keep distance or have developed anxieties about larger gatherings of others, so it is helpful to continue digital activities as well as in-person activities.

# **Scoring Methodology**

CYAN maintains a database of tobacco use policies from all public colleges and universities in California. Policies have been collected and analyzed since 2001. The database is updated a minimum of two times per academic year. CYAN staff and COUGH student leaders utilize the database to track progress on the adoption and implementation of smoke/tobacco-free policies.

## DATA COLLECTION

The policies found in CYAN's database are collected from college/university websites, school catalogs, campus administrations, and District governing boards (California Community College system). Print copies of these policies are kept on file and the date of collection and review is noted on the policy. If CYAN is unable to locate an official written policy, the policy noted in the college/university catalog and/or manuals is collected as policy on file.



CATobaccoFreeColleges.org

# DATE OF POLICY REVIEW

COUGH students and CYAN staff did an extensive

policy review of all 148 public college and university policies in April and May 2021. Policies officially adopted by May 21, 2021, were reviewed for this Report. If a college/university adopted a policy but the policy has not been implemented, the officially adopted policy is what was reviewed and scored. If a college is considering a new policy but it has not been finalized and signed by administration, the current policy implemented on campus is the policy that was scored for this report.

## COMMUNITY COLLEGES: DISTRICT POLICIES VERSUS CAMPUS POLICIES

Community college districts have the authority to regulate tobacco use on the campuses within their district. Some districts create district-wide smoke/tobacco-free policies for all of the colleges within the district while others have a standard policy for the district but allow individual colleges to adopt stronger policies. Regardless of who has the authority to adopt a smoke/tobacco-free policy (i.e., district versus campus), CYAN reviewed the tobacco use policies from all 115 community college campuses. In many cases, these policies were the same as the district policy. In some cases, a college's policy was either stronger or weaker than the district policy. If a campus policy was found to be weaker than the district policy, the campus policy is the policy that was scored.

The Report authors recognize district policies are the minimum policy a college must have; however, if a college's policy is weaker than a district's policy, it is noted in this report in order to encourage administration to strengthen their smoke/tobacco-free policy to the district policy or stronger.

#### **POLICY ANALYSIS AND GRADING**

All public college/university tobacco use policies were reviewed and scored using the same scoring instrument. Only written policies were analyzed for this report. CYAN did not take into consideration how well a policy was implemented or enforced.

#### A TOTAL OF SEVEN POLICY TYPES WERE IDENTIFIED AND USED TO SCORE POLICIES INCLUDING:

- 1. 100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including electronic smoking devices Smoking, the use of commercial tobacco products, and the use of electronic smoking devices are prohibited on all indoor and outdoor property. Products covered under this policy include, but are not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, pipes, water pipes (hookah), e-cigarettes, chewing tobacco, spit tobacco, snus, snuff, and dissolvable tobacco products.
- 2. 100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free Smoking and the use of commercial tobacco products are prohibited on all indoor and outdoor property. Products covered under this policy include, but are not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, pipes, water pipes (hookah), chewing tobacco, spit tobacco, snus, snuff, and dissolvable tobacco products.
- **3. 100% Smoke-Free** Smoking of commercial tobacco products is prohibited on all indoor and outdoor property. Products covered under this policy include, but are not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, pipes, and water pipes (hookah).
- **4. Parking Lots Only** Smoking and/or the use of commercial tobacco products is prohibited on campus with the exception of parking lots or designated areas in parking lots.
- 5. Designated Smoking Areas Smoking and/ or the use of commercial tobacco products is prohibited on campus with the exception of designated smoking areas on campus.
- 6. Perimeter or Entryways Smoking and/ or the use of commercial tobacco products is prohibited within a certain distance from buildings, entranceways, exits, windows, and/or air intake units. Policy must prohibit smoking 20-ft or more from buildings (current state law prohibits smoking within 20-ft of state-owned buildings)



7. Policy not in compliance with current state law (no smoking within 20-ft of buildings)

If an institution's smoke/tobacco-free policy included language on electronic smoking devices or e-cigarettes, the campus was awarded 5 bonus points. Colleges with 100% smoke/tobacco-free policies, including electronic smoking devices, did not receive additional bonus points as the points were build in to the final score.

Once scores were finalized, colleges were assigned a grade based on the policy score they received.

# **OVERALL SMOKE/TOBACCO-FREE POLICY GRADES**

POLICY TYPE	SCORE	GRADE
100% smoke/tobacco/vape-free	100 POINTS	A+
100% smoke/tobacco-free	95 POINTS	Α
100% smoke-free, including electronic smoking devices	90 POINTS	A
100% smoke-free	85 POINTS	В
Parking lots only, including electronic smoking devices	75 POINTS	С
Parking lots only	70 POINTS	С
Designated smoking areas, including electronic smoking devices	65 POINTS	D
Designated smoking areas	60 POINTS	D
Perimeter or Entryways, including electronic smoking devices	35 POINTS	F
Perimeter or Entryways	30 POINTS	F
No written policy or policy not in compliance with current state law	0 POINTS	F

# RATIONALE FOR LOW SCORES FOR DESIGNATED SMOKING AREA POLICIES

CYAN applauds administrators who have adopted outdoor air policies to reduce secondhand smoke on campus. Designated smoking area policies, including policies that limit smoking to parking lots only, may seem like a good idea to allow commercial tobacco users a place to smoke or vape; however, they have many more disadvantages than benefits. A study from Stanford University found that in outdoor designated areas with multiple smokers, levels of toxic air contaminants from secondhand smoke may be the same or higher than indoors, therefore, creating a hazardous environment to individuals standing in or around these areas. Additionally, secondhand smoke is proven to travel outside of designated areas.

Areas designated for commercial tobacco use have also been found to encourage tobacco use by creating a social environment for daily and non-daily commercial tobacco users. By increasing the number of individuals smoking in one area, students are more likely to believe that more people smoke than actually do. This misperception affects the norm of commercial tobacco use on campus and may also contribute to increased use. Finally, designated areas are often heavily littered and smell of toxic tobacco waste. Unless regularly cleaned and maintained, these areas are unhealthy, smelly, and an eyesore.

# **Report Findings**

# STRONG COMPREHENSIVE POLICIES

As of May 2021, 102 of California 148 public colleges and universities are 100% smoke-free. Of these, 92 campuses are 100% smoke and tobacco-free, including electronic smoking devices. In the past year, four campuses adopted a 100% smoke or tobacco-free policy, including electronic smoking devices. All four of these new policies were adopted by a California Community College. Within the last few years, the majority of institutions strengthened their policies to address the use of all commercial tobacco products (including e-cigarettes) versus smoke-free or designated areas policies. Additionally, campuses are strengthening language to include the burning or vaporization of any product, such as marijuana or other plant-based products, on campus property.

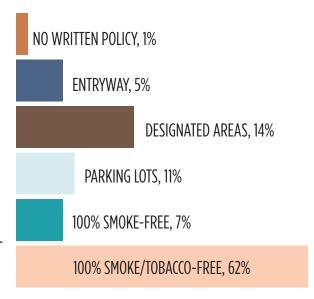


102 OF CALIFORNIA'S 148 PUBLIC COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES ARE 100% SMOKE OR TOBACCO-FREE

# **SMOKE/TOBACCO-FREE POLICIES BY TYPE**

As previously noted, college and university smoke and/or tobacco-free policies are categorized by type. There are seven different policy classifications. Each classification takes into consideration the strength of the policy and commercial tobacco products included. Policies that include language on electronic smoking devices, or e-cigarettes, receive additional points.

A majority (62%) of public institutions of higher education are 100% smoke and tobacco-free. Approximately 14% of colleges have a designated area policy and 10% have a parking lots only policy. A significant amount of progress has been made in the adoption of 100% smoke or tobacco-free policies with only 6% of public campuses having entryway/perimeter policies or no written policy.



# SMOKE/TOBACCO-FREE POLICIES BY SYSTEM

#### UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

The University of California (UC) system, including 10 educational campuses and five medical hospitals, is 100% smoke and tobaccofree, including electronic smoking devices. The entire system went smoke and tobacco-free in January 2014 after a system-wide policy was adopted by the University of California Office of the President in January 2012 (UCLA, UCSF, and UCSD implemented policies prior to this date).



## **CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY**

In April 2017, the California State University system adopted a 100% smoke and tobacco-free policy, including electronic smoking devices. The executive order signed by Chancellor White, required all 23 CSU campuses to implement a comprehensive smoke/tobacco-free policy by September 1, 2017. The system-wide policy has resulted in all public four-year universities in California being 100% smoke/tobacco-free institutions.

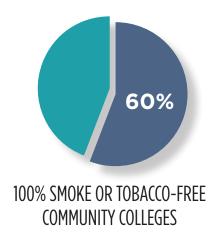


## CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Currently 60% (69/115) are 100% smoke or tobacco-free. Of these, 59 campuses are 100% smoke/tobacco-free, including e-cigarettes and 10 campuses are 100% smoke-free, including e-cigarettes.

In May 2018, the Board of Governors for the California Community College system adopted a resolution to provide guidance and support for all California Community Colleges to adopt and implement 100% smoke and tobacco-free policies. In April 2020, the Student Senate of California Community Colleges (SSCCC) adopted a Smoke and Tobacco-Free California Community Colleges Resolution. The Resolution makes it a legislative priority for all California Community Colleges to implement a 100% smoke and tobacco-free policy, while also encouraging the implementation of tobacco treatment programs on campus.

In most cases, community college district governing bodies have adopted policies that apply to all property owned or operated by the district. However, in some cases, district leadership designates policy-making authority to local campus administrators.



# FOUR-YEAR INSTITUTIONS VS. TWO-YEAR INSTITUTIONS

There are stark differences in the type of tobacco use policies adopted and implemented by four-year universities compared to community colleges. California is home to 33 public four-year institutions (10 UC, 23 CSU) and 115 two-year colleges. When comparing data collected from UC/CSU campuses and community colleges, some interesting findings were made.



# **COMMUNITY COLLEGE REGIONAL DATA**

Since the previous report in May 2020, several campuses in **Region 8 in Los Angeles and Orange Counties** adopted 100% smoke and tobacco-free policy including **Cerritos College**, **Coastline College**, and **Orange Coast College**. In **Region 1 in Plumas County**, **Feather River College** also adopted a 100% smoke and tobacco-free policy in May 2021. **Region 10 in San Diego County** continues to be a standout region where 100% of public colleges and universities, including all community colleges, are smoke and tobacco-free.

# Conclusion

Current California law prohibits smoking within 20-ft of a main exit, entrance, or operable window of a public building, including colleges and universities. The law allows California Community College campuses, campuses of the California State University, and campuses of the University of California to adopt and enforce additional smoking and tobacco control policies that are more restrictive than the law.



The UC and CSU systems have committed all University-owned and leased property as 100% smoke/tobacco-free. In May 2018, the Board of Governors for the California Community College system adopted a resolution urging all campuses to adopt 100% smoke and tobacco-free policies and in April 2020, the Student Senate of California Community Colleges adopted a similar resolution. During the 2020-2021 academic year, four community colleges adopted a 100% smoke and tobacco-free policy or guidelines, including electronic smoking devices. CYAN and COUGH are optimistic these resolutions will lead to a smoke/tobacco-free community college system by 2023.

Public health is a top priority as states and communities continue to address a teen vaping epidemic and work to reopen after the COVID-19 pandemic. While the coronavirus is a new and novel respiratory illness, researchers have confirmed that smoking and vaping increases an individual's risk of contracting the virus and worsens health outcomes should someone get sick with the virus. A strong body of evidence shows that smoke and tobacco-free policies prevent people from starting tobacco use as well as encourage individuals who do use tobacco to quit. As college and universities contemplate when and how to reopen their physical campuses, administrators should strongly consider implementing comprehensive smoke and tobacco-free policies; increase access to free commercial tobacco treatment services on campus; promote existing and new smoke/tobacco-free policies to students, staff, and faculty as they return; and continue to follow CDC guidelines for safe practices during in-person events.

California colleges and universities have made good progress on restricting commercial tobacco use, exposure, and waste on campus. It is the hope of CYAN and COUGH that California colleges and universities will continue to work on comprehensive smoke/tobacco-free policies that promote good health and protect campus communities from the negative effects of commercial tobacco. We appreciate the opportunity to partner with all California colleges and universities as they move forward with adopting and implementing these policies or continue working on increasing policy compliance to prevent and treat commercial tobacco and nicotine addiction.



# **UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA**



College Name	Grade	Policy Type	
BERKELEY	<b>A</b> +	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes	
DAVIS	<b>A</b> +	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes	
IRVINE	<b>A</b> +	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes	
LOS ANGELES	<b>A</b> +	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes	
MERCED	<b>A</b> +	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes	
RIVERSIDE	<b>A</b> +	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes	
SAN DIEGO	<b>A</b> +	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes	
SAN FRANCISCO	<b>A</b> +	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes	
SANTA BARBARA	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes	
SANTA CRUZ	<b>A</b> +	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes	

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# **CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY**



College Name	Grade	Policy Type
BAKERSFIELD	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
CHANNEL ISLANDS	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
СНІСО	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
DOMINGUEZ HILLS	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
EAST BAY	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
FRESNO	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
FULLERTON	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
HUMBOLDT	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
LONG BEACH	<b>A</b> +	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
LOS ANGELES	<b>A</b> +	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
MARITIME ACADEMY	<b>A</b> +	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
MONTEREY BAY	<b>A</b> +	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
NORTHRIDGE	<b>A</b> +	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
POMONA	<b>A</b> +	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
SACRAMENTO	<b>A</b> +	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
SAN BERNARDINO	<b>A</b> +	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
SAN DIEGO	<b>A</b> +	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
SAN FRANCISCO	<b>A</b> +	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
SAN JOSE	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
SAN LUIS OBISPO	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
SAN MARCOS	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
SONOMA	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
STANISLAUS	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes

# Community Colleges by Region





Includes the following Counties: Butte, Del Norte, Glenn, Humboldt, Lassen, Modoc, Plumas, Shasta, Siskiyou, Tehema, Trinity



District	College Name	Grade	Policy Type
Butte-Glenn	BUTTE	D	Designated Smoking Areas, including e-cigarettes
Feather River	FEATHER RIVER	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
Lassen	LASSEN	F	Perimeter (20-ft or more), including e-cigarettes
Redwoods	COLLEGE OF THE REDWOODS	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
Shasta- Tehama-Trinity	SHASTA	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
Siskiyou Joint	COLLEGE OF THE SISKIYOUS	D	Designated Smoking Areas, including e-cigarettes



The policy this academic year



Includes the following Counties: Amador, Colusa, El Dorado, Lake, Mendocino, Napa, Nevada, Placer, Sacramento, Sierra, Solano, Sutter, Yolo, Yuba



District	College Name	Grade	Policy Type
Los Rios	AMERICAN RIVER	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
Los Rios	COSUMNES RIVER	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
Los Rios	FOLSOM LAKE	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
Los Rios	SACRAMENTO CITY	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
Lake Tahoe	LAKE TAHOE	D	Designated Smoking Areas, including e-cigarettes
Mendocino- Lake	MENDOCINO	D	Designated Smoking Areas
Napa Valley	NAPA VALLEY	D	Designated Smoking Areas, including e-cigarettes
Sierra Joint	SIERRA	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
Solano	SOLANO	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
Yuba	WOODLAND	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
Yuba	YUBA	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes



Includes the following Counties: Alameda (Part) , Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo, Sonoma



District	College Name	Grade	Policy Type
Contra Costa	CONTRA COSTA	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
Contra Costa	DIABLO VALLEY	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
Contra Costa	LOS MEDANOS	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
Marin	COLLEGE OF MARIN	D	Designated Smoking Areas, including e-cigarettes
Peralta	BERKELEY CITY	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
Peralta	COLLEGE OF ALAMEDA	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
Peralta	LANEY	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
Peralta	MERRITT	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
San Francisco	CITY COLLEGE OF SAN FRANCISCO	A	100% Smoke-Free, including e-cigarettes
San Mateo County	CANADA	С	Parking Lots, including e-cigarettes
San Mateo County	COLLEGE OF SAN MATEO	С	Parking Lots, including e-cigarettes
San Mateo County	SKYLINE	D	Designated Smoking Areas, including e-cigarettes
Sonoma County	SANTA ROSA JUNIOR	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes



Includes the following Counties: Alameda (Part) , Monterey, San Benito, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz



District	College Name	Grade	Policy Type
Cabrillo	CABRILLO	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
Chabot-Las Positas	СНАВОТ	С	Parking Lots, including e-cigarettes
Chabot-Las Positas	LAS POSITAS	С	Parking Lots, including e-cigarettes
Foothill-De Anza	DE ANZA	С	Parking Lots, including e-cigarettes
Foothill-De Anza	FOOTHILL	С	Parking Lots, including e-cigarettes
Gavilan	GAVILAN	С	Parking Lots, including e-cigarettes
Hartnell Joint	HARTNELL	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
Monterey Peninsula	MONTEREY PENINSULA	С	Parking Lots, including e-cigarettes
Ohlone	OHLONE	A	100% Smoke-Free, including e-cigarettes
San Jose- Evergreen	EVERGREEN VALLEY	С	Parking Lots, including e-cigarettes
San Jose- Evergreen	SAN JOSE CITY	A	100% Smoke-Free, including e-cigarettes
West Valley- Mission	MISSION	С	Parking Lots, including e-cigarettes
West Valley- Mission	WEST VALLEY	С	Parking Lots, including e-cigarettes



Includes the following Counties: Alpine, Calaveras, Fresno, Inyo, Kern, Kings, Madera, Mariposa, Merced, Mono, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tulare, Tuolumne



District	College Name	Grade	Policy Type
Kern	BAKERSFIELD	<b>A</b> +	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
Kern	PORTERVILLE	<b>A</b> +	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
Merced	MERCED	<b>A</b> +	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
State Center	CLOVIS	<b>A</b> +	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
State Center	FRESNO CITY	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
State Center	REEDLEY	<b>A</b> +	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
San Joaquin Delta	SAN JOAQUIN DELTA	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
Sequoias	COLLEGE OF THE SEQUIOAS	U	Parking Lots, including e-cigarettes
West Hills	WEST HILLS COLLEGE - COALINGA	F	Perimeter (20-ft or more), including e-cigarettes
West Hills	WEST HILLS COLLEGE - LEMOORE	F	Perimeter (20-ft or more), including e-cigarettes
Yosemite	COLUMBIA	D	Designated Smoking Areas, including e-cigarettes
Yosemite	MODESTO	F	Perimeter (20-ft or more)



Includes the following Counties: Los Angeles (Part), San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura



District	College Name	Grade	Policy Type
Allan Hancock	ALLAN HANCOCK	D	Designated Smoking Areas, including e-cigarettes
Antelope Valley	ANTELOPE VALLEY	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
San Luis Obispo County	CUESTA	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
Santa Barbara	SANTA BARBARA CITY	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
Santa Clarita	COLLEGE OF THE CANYONS	D	Designated Smoking Areas, including e-cigarettes
Ventura County	MOORPARK	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
Ventura County	OXNARD	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
Ventura County	VENTURA	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
West Kern	TAFT	D	Designated Smoking Areas, including e-cigarettes







District	College Name	Grade	Policy Type
El Camino	сомртом	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
El Camino	EL CAMINO	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
Glendale	GLENDALE	A	100% Smoke-Free, including e-cigarettes
Los Angeles	EAST LOS ANGELES	A	100% Smoke-Free, including e-cigarettes
Los Angeles	LOS ANGELES CITY	A	100% Smoke-Free, including e-cigarettes
Los Angeles	LOS ANGELES HARBOR	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
Los Angeles	LOS ANGELES MISSION	D	Designated Smoking Areas, including e-cigarettes
Los Angeles	LOS ANGELES PIERCE	С	Parking Lots, including e-cigarettes
Los Angeles	LOS ANGELES SOUTHWEST	F	Perimeter (20-ft or more), including e-cigarettes
Los Angeles	LOS ANGELES TRADE-TECH	D	Designated Smoking Areas, including e-cigarettes
Los Angeles	LOS ANGELES VALLEY	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
Los Angeles	WEST LOS ANGELES	D	Designated Smoking Areas, including e-cigarettes
Pasadena Area	PASADENA CITY	A	100% Smoke-Free, including e-cigarettes
Santa Monica	SANTA MONICA	D	Designated Smoking Areas, including e-cigarettes





	District	College Name	Grade	Policy Type
*	Cerritos	CERRITOS	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
	Citrus	CITRUS	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
*	Coast	COASTLINE	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
	Coast	GOLDEN WEST	С	Parking Lots, including e-cigarettes
*	Coast	ORANGE COAST	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
	Long Beach	LONG BEACH CITY	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free including e-cigarettes
	Mt. San Antonio	MT. SAN ANTONIO	D	Designated Smoking Areas, including e-cigarettes
	North Orange County	CYPRESS	F	Perimeter (20-ft or more), including e-cigarettes
	North Orange County	FULLERTON	A	100% Smoke-Free, including E-cigarettes
	Rancho Santiago	SANTA ANA	С	Parking Lots, including e-cigarettes
	Rancho Santiago	SANTIAGO CANYON	С	Parking Lots, including e-cigarettes
	Rio Hondo	RIO HONDO	D	Designated Smoking Areas, including e-cigarettes
	South Orange County	IRVINE VALLEY	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
	South Orange County	SADDLEBACK	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes

Denotes campus has adopted policy this academic year







District	College Name	Grade	Policy Type
Barstow	BARSTOW	F	Perimeter (20-ft or more)
Chaffey	CHAFFEY	D	Designated Smoking Areas, including e-cigarettes
Copper Mountain	COPPER MOUNTAIN	D	Designated Smoking Areas, including e-cigarettes
Desert	COLLEGE OF THE DESERT	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
Kern	CERRO COSO	F	No policy/less than state law
Mt. San Jacinto	MT. SAN JACINTO	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
Palo Verde	PALO VERDE	F	Perimeter (20-ft or more)
Riverside	MORENO VALLEY	A	100% Smoke-Free, including e-cigarettes
Riverside	NORCO	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes
Riverside	RIVERSIDE CITY	A	100% Smoke-Free, including e-cigarettes
San Bernardino	CRAFTON HILLS	D	Designated Smoking Areas, including e-cigarettes
San Bernardino	SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY	D	Designated Smoking Areas, including e-cigarettes
Victor Valley	VICTOR VALLEY	A+	100% Smoke/Tobacco-Free, including e-cigarettes









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California Youth Advocacy Network (CYAN) provides training and technical assistance to individuals, organizations, and coalitions advocating for tobacco-free communities. CYAN works with youth, young adults, services members, and all those working with these populations on any tobacco-related issue.



It is the mission of COUGH, a statewide student-led coalition, to ensure a healthy campus environment free of tobacco and tobacco industry presence. COUGH is committed to promoting, establishing, and sustaining safer and healthier California colleges and universities through tobacco-free policy, education, and cessation.



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