

Boise State University Smoke-Free Campus Initiative Key Facts

- ② 86% of Boise State students (92% of faculty, 87% of staff) agree that universities should provide a smoke-free environment for students.
- ② 92.3% of Boise State students agree that the desire to breathe clean air should take precedent over smoker's desire to smoke.
- ② Over 25% of Boise State students are bothered by cigarette smoke daily on campus, with over 50% bothered at least weekly.
- ② Nonsmokers who are exposed to secondhand smoke have a 20% increase risk of heart disease.
- ② Secondhand smoke causes about 3000 lung cancer deaths per year and 35,000 ischemic heart disease deaths in U.S. nonsmokers.
- ② Smokers have lower grade point averages than nonsmokers.
- ② Daily smokers have been found to have even lower GPAs than high-risk drinkers.
- ② College students who are daily smokers are 5 times more likely to have either seriously thought about or attempted suicide than nonsmokers.
- ② College students who smoke have higher rates of respiratory infections and asthma and a higher incidence of bacterial meningitis.
- ② Smokers are absent from work 50% more often than nonsmokers.
- ② Smoking causes 1 out every 5 deaths annually in the U.S.
- ② There are 15 million college students, of these students; 1.7 million will die of smoking-related illnesses, or 1 out of 9.
- ② Boise State University provides students and employees access to a full range of nicotine replacement therapies and smoking cessation classes, programs and services.
- ② Currently, over 160 U.S. colleges and universities are entirely smoke-free.

Public Health and Public Policy

U.S. Surgeon General Report

“Smoking remains the leading cause of preventable death and disease in our nation.”
The Surgeon General’s report includes key actions to reduce tobacco use:

1. Passing and enforcing strong smoke-free environment regulations, which contribute to changing social norms, decrease tobacco consumption and increase smoking cessation.
2. Call on states to pass laws that will not restrict local governments from passing even stronger measures to protect their citizens from secondhand smoke.
3. Changing many facets of the social environment to reduce the broad cultural acceptability of tobacco use.

Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC)

“The CDC recommends establishing restrictive smoking policies on-campus because such policies have been shown to reduce smoking initiation rates, increase smoking cessation rates, and reduce exposure to environmental tobacco smoke. Enforcing restrictive outdoor smoking policies on-campus will protect the health of users and non-users and contribute to a cleaner campus environment.”

State of California

California became the first state to declare secondhand smoke a toxic air pollutant (01/26/06), because of its link to breast cancer. The unanimous decision by the state Air Resources Board relied on a September report that found a sharply increased risk of breast cancer in young women exposed to secondhand smoke. It also links drifting smoke to premature births, asthma, and heart disease, as well as other cancers and numerous health problems in children.

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<http://www.no-smoke.org/pdf/smokefreecollegesuniversities.pdf>

Over 250 U.S. communities have passed smoking bans in city parks and on public beaches.

Academic Impact

Pediatric Health News

A new study shows that exposure to environmental tobacco smoke, even at extremely low levels, is associated with decreases in certain cognitive skills, including reading, math, and logic and reasoning, in children and adolescents.

TTAC / College Tobacco Prevention Resource

<http://www.ttac.org/college/facts/negative-effects.html>

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