

SMOKE-FREE WORKPLACE POLICY

From 1 March 2024, new laws called the Tobacco and E-Cigarette Products (Smoking Bans) Amendment Regulations 2023 (under section 52(2) of the Tobacco and E-Cigarette Products Act 1997) ban smoking and vaping in a variety of public outdoor areas in South Australia

The new laws will create smoke-free and vape-free outdoor areas in all public areas: o within early childhood services premises, and education and children’s services facilities (including schools), and within 10 metres of their boundaries.

This policy applies to:

- all staff, students, visitors, volunteers, contractors and tenants at all ATEC sites; and
- all activities that burn tobacco and tobacco related products, herbs or drugs, including cigarettes, cigars, pipes, water pipes and electronic cigarettes (vaping).

Where ATEC is a tenant, or occupies space, in a building or site owned or controlled by another organisation, staff, students, visitors, volunteers and contractors must also comply with the requirements of the site owner or controller.

Smoking Areas

There are no smoking/vaping areas at any ATEC site.

Responsibilities

Smoking and vaping are only permitted during scheduled breaks e.g. morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea.

Those who elect to smoke or vape, do so at their own risk and must use the bins/trays provided to discard cigarette butts.

Students under the age of 18 years of age are not permitted to smoke or vape whilst attending ATEC premises and/or functions. Severe penalties apply to those who supply minors with cigarettes and electronic cigarettes.

Quit Smoking Support

Workers who are interested in quitting smoking will be provided with the following assistance to do so:

- Contact Human Resources on 0438 557 350. HR can provide a range of support services including information on quitting and access to a number of services.
- Allowing staff to receive smoking cessation counselling from Quit line (13 78 48) during work hours.

Emergency Evacuation

Smoking and vaping are not prohibited during all stages of an emergency evacuation and emergency evacuation drills.

Breaches

While the emphasis will generally be on informal resolution and respectful communication of this policy, smokers should be aware that a breach of this Policy also breaches work health and safety legislation and tobacco control legislation as listed above.

Any repeated breaches may be dealt with under the appropriate disciplinary procedures relevant for staff and students.

Any issue involving smoking should be reported to the Supervisor/Manager of the area.

Penalties

A person who smokes or uses e-cigarettes in a public area declared by the regulations to be a public area in which smoking is banned is guilty of an offence.

Maximum Penalty: \$750

Expiation Fee: 105

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Example of Smoke Free Zones in Educational Facilities

