

Purpose

Frank Phillips College is committed to providing a safe, healthy, and clean environment for students, faculty, staff, and visitors. Smoking and the use of tobacco products pose health risks and are inconsistent with our mission to promote wellness. The College District prohibits the use of tobacco products and e-cigarettes on College District property, in College District vehicles, and at College District-related activities, unless authorized by the College President or designee.

- Board Policy Manual GDA Local – [Tobacco and E-Cigarettes](#)
- Board Policy Manual DH Local Policy – [Employee Standards of Conduct](#)
- Board Policy Manual FLBD Legal Framework – [Student Conduct: Tobacco Use](#)

Policy

This policy applies to all students, employees, contractors, vendors, and visitors at all times.

Smoking, vaping, and the use of any tobacco products are prohibited on all college district properties, including:

- All buildings (academic, administrative, residential)
- Outdoor areas (courtyards, sidewalks, parking lots, athletic fields)
- College-owned or leased vehicles

Unless subject to an exception under law, an individual who is younger than 21 years of age commits an offense if the individual (*Health and Safety Code 161.252*):

1. Possesses, purchases, consumes, or accepts a cigarette, e-cigarette, or tobacco product;
or
2. Falsely represents himself or herself to be 21 years of age or older by displaying proof of age that is false, fraudulent, or not actually proof of the individual's own age in order to obtain possession of, purchase, or receive a cigarette, e-cigarette, or tobacco product.

Definitions

"Cigarette" means a roll for smoking that is made of tobacco or tobacco mixed with another ingredient and wrapped or covered with a material other than tobacco and that is not a cigar. *Health and Safety Code 161.081(1); Tax Code 154.001*

"E-cigarette" means an electronic cigarette or any other device that simulates smoking by using a mechanical heating element, battery, or electronic circuit to deliver nicotine or other substances to the individual inhaling from the device or a consumable liquid solution or other material aerosolized or vaporized during the use of an electronic cigarette or other device described by this provision. The term "e-cigarette" does not include a prescription medical device unrelated to the cessation of smoking. The term "e-cigarette" includes:

1. A device described by this definition regardless of whether the device is manufactured, distributed, or sold as an e-cigarette, e-cigar, or e-pipe or under another product name or description; and
2. A component, part, or accessory for the device, regardless of whether the component, part, or accessory is sold separately from the device.

Health and Safety Code 161.081(1-a)

"Tobacco product" means:

1. A cigar;
2. Smoking tobacco, including granulated, plug-cut, crimp-cut, ready-rubbed, and any form of tobacco suitable for smoking in a pipe or as a cigarette;
3. Chewing tobacco, including Cavendish, Twist, plug, scrap, and any kind of tobacco suitable for chewing;
4. Snuff or other preparations of pulverized tobacco; or
5. An article or product that is made of tobacco or a tobacco substitute and that is not a cigarette.

Health and Safety Code 161.081(5); Tax Code 155.001

Enforcement Procedures

Compliance is expected from everyone on campus. The following steps will be taken in case of violations:

1. First Violation: Verbal reminder of the policy.
2. Second Violation: Written warning issued to the individual.
3. Third Violation: Disciplinary action as per student or employee code of conduct.
4. Visitors who violate the policy may be asked to leave campus.

Disciplinary Actions

Students: Actions may include warnings, fines, or other sanctions as outlined in the Frank Phillips College Catalog [Standards of Student Conduct](#).

Employees: Actions may include warnings, performance reviews, or termination as per HR policies. See Employee Conduct and Welfare section of current [Frank Phillips College Employee Handbook](#).

Support for Tobacco Cessation

Resources for quitting tobacco use are available through Employee Retirement System of Texas [Choose to Quit Program](#), Texas Health and Human Services [Cessation Efforts](#), Human Resources, and local health agencies.

Effective Date

The Frank Phillips College No Smoking and Tobacco-Free Campus Policy is effective February 1, 2026.