



GITAM: GANDHI INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT

(Deemed to be University u/s 3 of the UGC Act, 1956)

A Category – I Deemed to be University

Visakhapatnam | Hyderabad | Bengaluru

**The Policy for
Smoke Free Campus**

Contents

1	Introduction	1
2	Purpose and context	1
3	University Policy Statement	1
4	Responsibilities	2
5	Compliance	2
5.1	Dealing with Non-Compliance.....	3
6	Definitions	3
6.1	Smoke and Smoking:	3
6.2	Smoking Device:	3
6.3	Tobacco Products:	4

1 Introduction

The aim of this policy is to align with the provisions of the Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement, Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, supply, and Distribution) Act, 2003. In accordance with Section 4 of this act, smoking is forbidden in public places under the Tobacco Act. This policy seeks to contribute to the establishment of a healthy and pleasant atmosphere for everyone within the GITAM University community, including students, faculty, administrators, staff, visitors, and other members.

- a. Smoking is prohibited on all University Premises. Smoking is also prohibited at and around all entrances to University Premises.
- b. This policy applies to anyone who enters any property owned or governed by the University, including students, faculty, staff, and visitors.
- c. The University is committed to ensuring the health, safety, and welfare of its employees whilst at work and its students and visitors while on campus. The University has adopted the following principles:
- d. All persons on University Premises are entitled to a smoke-free environment.
- e. Sale of all tobacco products and electronic nicotine delivery systems or e-cigarettes is prohibited on University Premises

2 Purpose and context

The purpose of this policy and associated procedures is to maintain a healthy environment at GITAM University premises as Smoke-Free environments.

The University also has an obligation under the Admin Manual to prohibit smoking in public places and to prevent the spread of tobacco smoke into smoke-free areas under its control.

3 University Policy Statement

In accordance with GITAM's obligations under the COPTA Act, as amended, and driven by the University's commitment to providing a healthy and comfortable

environment for all its community members, smoking, which includes cigarettes, cigars, pipe tobacco, and the use of electronic cigarettes, is strictly prohibited at all times within the University campus. This prohibition extends to all University buildings, residence halls, their surroundings, clinics, laboratories, classrooms, private offices, balconies, plazas, vestibules, loading docks, and all other campus premises. Smoking is also prohibited near any building entrance or areas that may obstruct covered walkways or ventilation systems.

To ensure compliance, signs will be prominently displayed at the entrances of each building and in highly visible locations across GITAM's property, informing all individuals who enter or occupy the premises that smoking is not allowed. All persons on University Premises Must not smoke anywhere on University Premises and must cooperate with the University in the implementation of this policy.

4 Responsibilities

Resident Managers and Security staff of areas, Faculty, and students under their responsibility, must:

- a. Ensure staff and students are aware of this policy.
- b. Understand their responsibility to ensure the policy is enforced.
- c. Ensure complaints regarding alleged breaches of the policy are dealt with quickly and effectively.
- d. Establish whether a breach has taken place before dealing with non-compliance.

5 Compliance

The effectiveness of this policy relies on the mindfulness, consideration, and cooperation of both smokers and non-smokers. It is the duty of every member within the University community to adhere to this policy.

Should conflicts arise among employees concerning smoking-related matters, they should be brought to the attention of their respective supervisory personnel. If necessary, these conflicts may be referred to the Human Resources Officer for the

respective unit. In the case of conflicts among students, they should be directed to the Dean of Campus Life. Any members of the GITAM community suspected of smoking within university facilities or on University grounds in violation of this policy may face disciplinary actions as per the appropriate procedures. Students found to be in breach of the policy are subject to disciplinary measures through the relevant student judicial process. Visitors, including vendors, contractors, and service providers, will be subject to any available remedies that the University may impose.

As per applicable law and GITAM policy, any individual has the right to voice objections to smoking without the fear of facing retaliation.

5.1 Dealing with Non-Compliance

- Smoking within the premises of the University where it is prohibited is considered misconduct.
- Smoking/chewing tobacco, spitting, drinking alcohol, or taking drugs are strictly prohibited on the University premises. Hence, if anybody is found indulging in these activities, he shall be punished as per the rules.
- Drinking alcohol, consuming drugs, smoking, chewing tobacco, spitting, etc., are strictly prohibited in the hostel premises. Hence, if anybody is found indulging in these activities, they shall be punished as per the rules.

6 Definitions

6.1 Smoke and Smoking:

To inhale, exhale, burn, heat, carry, or possess lighted or heat- not-burn Tobacco, Cannabis or other herbal products, including cigarettes, electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes), cigars, cigarillos, pipe tobacco, hookahs or other products capable of being inhaled, or to burn, heat, vaporize or atomize any products for inhalation including tobacco, Cannabis or illegal substances.

6.2 Smoking Device:

Any product or device containing or delivering any substance intended for human consumption can be used by a person in any manner for the purpose of inhaling

vapor or aerosol from the product or device. The term includes any such device, whether manufactured, distributed, marketed, or sold as, without limitation, an e-cigarette, e-cigar, e-pipe, e-hookah, or vape pen, or under any other product name or descriptor.

6.3 Tobacco Products:

Products composed in whole or in part of tobacco, including tobacco leaves and any extract of tobacco leaves, but do not include any products for use in nicotine replacement therapy. They include, but are not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, cigarillos, pipe tobacco, and specialized tobacco products such as chewing Tobacco, smokeless tobacco, and snuff.
