

Scripting

Tobacco-Free USC

The University of South Carolina passed a Campus Wide Tobacco Free policy on January 1, 2014. It is up to everyone to help spread awareness and make this policy successful. If you encounter someone using tobacco on campus, you might find the tips in the following acronym helpful in approaching that person.

S - “Smile” introduce yourself.

M - “Make” the assumption that the person doesn’t know the policy.

O - “Offer” resources for tobacco cessation.

K - “Kindly” remind the person of the tobacco-free policy.

E - “Enforce” the policy: ask the person to stop using the tobacco on campus.

Making sure the same language is being used with faculty, staff, students, contractors and visitors about the policy ensures a firm, polite and compassionate message. The following scripts provide useful examples on how to address someone using tobacco on campus.

Tobacco Use Script

“Hello, my name is [your name] and I am a(n) [position/student] here with the University of South Carolina. Are you are aware that we don’t allow the use of tobacco products of any kind on campus? Please respect our policy and put your cigarette (or cigar) out and dispose of it in a trash can. I also wanted to let you know that there are free resources here on campus to help you quit tobacco if you are ready. Visit the sc.edu/tobaccofreeusc web site for more information. I really appreciate your willingness to help us keep our campus tobacco free.”

Smokeless Tobacco Use Script

"Hello, my name is [your name] and I am a(n) [position/student] here with the University of South Carolina. Are you aware that we don't allow the use of tobacco products of any kind on campus? Sometimes people don't realize that our policy includes smokeless tobacco. Please respect our policy and dispose of it in a trash can right away. I also wanted to let you know that there are free resources here on campus to help you quit tobacco if you are ready. Visit the sc.edu/tobaccofreeusc web site for more information. I really appreciate your willingness to help us keep our campus tobacco free."

Electronic Cigarette Use Script

"Hello, my name is [your name] and I am a(n) [position/student] here with the University of South Carolina. Are you aware that we don't allow the use of tobacco products of any kind on campus? Sometimes people don't realize that our policy includes electronic cigarettes. Please respect our policy and put out your electronic cigarette. I really appreciate your willingness to help us keep our campus tobacco free."

Neighboring Property Use Script

"Hello, my name is [your name] and I am a [University position] here at the University of South Carolina. I'm aware that you're not on University property, but the University policy does ask that you please be respectful of our neighboring properties. Please be respectful of those around you who may be affected by your use of tobacco. Thank you for understanding."

In the event a person refuses to discard their tobacco, you may ask for their ID according to University Policy and report them to Student Conduct, their supervisor, Human Resources or the Unit Head for the Department if they are faculty.

If in the event the Community Member becomes hostile, walk away and contact campus police.