

MechSE *WELLness*

A02 Smoke-Free Environment

Intent: Deter smoking, minimize occupant exposure to second-hand smoke and reduce smoke pollution.

The average life expectancy of a smoker is 10 years less than that of a non-smoker. Cigarettes contain about 600 ingredients that form over 7,000 compounds when burned, with at least 69 of those known to be carcinogenic. Health issues of smoke include asthma attacks, respiratory infections, coronary heart disease, stroke, lung cancer, and sudden infant death syndrome. There are also strong links between exposure to cigarette smoke and impaired cognitive development, damaging our intelligence potential!

Impact: Smoke-free environments achieve the highest quality of indoor air and contribute to cognitive health.

Requirements for the Sidney Lu Mechanical Engineering Building:

1. Use signage to communicate and prohibit indoor smoking and use of e-cigarettes.
2. Use signage to communicate and prohibit outdoor smoking within 25 feet of all entrances.
3. Where smoking is allowed, use signage to communicate the hazards of smoking.

How do we accomplish these requirements? The design of the facility includes vestibules, entry mats, wise choices of paints and materials in furniture, plants, and posting “no idling” signs in our rented parking spaces. Our ongoing efforts include continuously tweaking the HVAC system to push air out when you come in to reduce dust infiltration, monitoring MERV 13 and bag air filters to capture as much as possible, and implementing policies to reduce dust, VOCs, and other harmful materials or gases. Along with campus, we restrict all cigarette smoking and use of e-cigarettes in and around our facility.



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