



No Smoking Policy Q & A / Cessation Resource List

Why does HAP want to implement a no smoking policy?

Support from the “Healthy Air Survey”

In February 2008 all HAP public housing residents were surveyed about their smoking behaviors and how they felt about a no smoking policy. The results showed that the majority of residents do not smoke, the majority of residents understood that secondhand smoke was harmful, and that the majority of residents showed support for an indoor no smoking policy. These results indicated to HAP that public housing residents were interested in and would support no smoking policies.

Health and Safety of our Residents and Site Staff

Smoking and secondhand smoke are well known human health hazards. Allowing smoking within apartment units exposes all residents and HAP site staff to these known carcinogens. Additionally indoor smoking poses a significant safety risk and is the #1 cause of residential fires in Oregon.

How will I be affected by the new policy?

No Smoking Areas

The no smoking policy would prohibit smoking in the following areas: common areas, including but not limited to community rooms, community bathrooms, lobbies, reception areas, hallways, laundry rooms, reception areas, stairways, offices and elevator, within all apartment units, and within 10 feet of building(s) including entry ways, porches, balconies and patios.

Residents, guests, visitors, service personnel and employees

This policy applies to everyone who visits, lives and works at HAP public housing properties. Residents would also be responsible for informing their guests of the no smoking policy.

What will I need to do?

Sign the No Smoking Lease Addendum

Residents will need to sign the “No Smoking Lease Addendum” that specifies that smoking will be prohibited in all indoor areas, your apartment unit, and within 10 feet of the building. Residents will need to sign the lease addendums by June 30, 2009 and the new policy would take effect on August 1, 2009.

How to comply with the new policy

The new no-smoking policy **does not mean** that residents will have to quit smoking in order to live in public housing. The new policy will only prohibit indoor smoking. Residents will still be able to smoke outside as long as they were at least 10 feet away from any building entry ways.

Smoking Cessation Resources

If a resident is interested in quitting smoking, your site staff and resident service coordinator(s) will be able to provide you with smoking cessation resources. Resident service coordinators have been provided with training in smoking cessation support and are available as a resource for residents during this transition. The Oregon Tobacco Quitline is also an excellent starting place for smoking cessation resources. Please see the back of this sheet for a listing of free and low cost smoking cessation resources.