

Minimum Distance Smoking and Vaping Policies

The Nevada Clean Indoor Air Act does not ban smoking and vaping outside. However, many local businesses have experienced secondhand smoke and e-cigarette emissions entering their building/s through doors, windows and heating systems. To address this, some businesses have chosen to adopt voluntary no-smoking policies restricting smoking and vaping right outside the building. Such policies help to decrease tobacco smoke and e-cigarette emissions from entering a building and allow customers and employees to enter a facility with less exposure. Another benefit of adopting a minimum distance policy is decreased litter and risk of fire near the building.

Policy Language

Minimum distance policy language can be simple and brief. It needs to include information detailing how far someone has to be from a building to smoke. Some businesses have chosen 25 feet in their policy to match that of federal buildings, but many have opted for farther. Some businesses may expand this policy to include electronic vaping devices too. Finally, it is recommended to include the start date the policy is in effect.

Sample Policy #1

The Nevada Revised Statute 202.2483 prohibits smoking inside Business's Name. Additionally, Business Name expands this to include no smoking within specified distance feet of this building (or of all buildings). The effective date of the policy is Month Day, Year. All employees share in the responsibility for adhering to and enforcing this policy.

Sample Policy #2

The Nevada Revised Statute 202.2483 prohibits smoking inside Business Name. Additionally, Business Name expands this to include

- *No smoking within distance feet of building/s*
- *No vaping inside of the Business Name building/s*
- *No vaping within distance feet of building/s*

The effective date of the policy is Month Day, Year. All employees share in the responsibility for adhering to and enforcing this policy.

Policy Implementation

It is recommended that employers notify employees of the new policy at least one month in advance. Some tobacco users may use this as an opportunity to quit. 1-800-Quit-Now is a free service, funded by the CDC, to help adults quit all forms of tobacco, including e-cigarettes. The following statement can be added to the end of a policy, or can be included in education about the policy:

Those employees who currently use tobacco products and would like to take this opportunity to quit are invited to pursue the cessation options being offered in the community by calling the Nevada Tobacco Quitline at 1-800-Quit-Now.

For help with implementing a minimum distance policy, including receiving free smoke-free window decals and tobacco cessation information, please contact: GetHealthy@WashoeCounty.us.