



BAKU
SLAVIC
UNIVERSITY



SMOKE-FREE CAMPUS POLICY



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SECTION 1.

1.1. INTRODUCTION

Baku Slavic University (BSU) recognizes that maintaining a healthy, smoke-free environment is essential for the physical and mental well-being of its students, staff, and visitors. This policy is aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 3 (Good Health and Well-being), specifically Target 3.a, which calls for strengthening the implementation of the World Health Organization (WHO) Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC).

BSU aims to provide a safe and clean learning environment by eliminating exposure to tobacco smoke and promoting public awareness about the harmful effects of smoking and second-hand smoke.

1.2. CURRENT SITUATION

Tobacco use remains one of the leading preventable causes of disease, disability, and death globally. In line with Azerbaijan's national commitment to public health and the Ministry of Health's tobacco control measures, BSU adopts a comprehensive smoke-free policy covering all university premises, indoor and outdoor areas, and university-organized events.



SECTION 2.

2.1. MISSION AND GOALS

To ensure a clean air environment, protect the university community from secondhand smoke exposure, and promote a culture of health and well-being.

- **Compliance:** Adherence to national tobacco control laws, WHO FCTC, and SDG 3 Target 3.a.
- **Protection:** Maintain 100% smoke-free indoor areas, smoke-free university events (academic, cultural, or sports), and ban all tobacco sales and advertisements on campus.
- **Prevention & Support:** Implement awareness campaigns, visual signage, and cessation assistance via counseling and medical referrals.
- **Environment & Safety:** Improve air quality, reduce fire risks, and minimize cigarette waste.
- **Equity & Access:** Guarantee clean air for all while providing accessible designated areas for smokers without normalizing tobacco use.

2.2. POLICY SCOPE

Applies to all students, faculty, staff, contractors, and visitors within:

- All BSU premises (main and secondary buildings, open spaces)
- University-organized events both on and off campus
- BSU-owned or leased transport vehicles
- Covers cigarettes, e-cigarettes, vapes, cigars, pipes, heated tobacco, hookahs, and any device emitting smoke, vapor, or aerosol.



SECTION 3.

3.1. INDOOR SPACES (100% SMOKE-FREE)

All BSU buildings—including classrooms, offices, auditoriums, dormitories, and shared spaces—are completely smoke-free. Entrances display “No Smoking” signs, and no ashtrays or smoking receptacles are provided inside or near doors.

3.2. DESIGNATED OUTDOOR SMOKING AREAS (DSAS)

- Located ≥ 10 meters away from entrances, windows, and air vents.
- Clearly marked with “Designated Smoking Area” signs and equipped with safe waste disposal units.
- Limited in number and periodically reviewed to minimize exposure and promote reduction in smoking prevalence.

3.3. UNIVERSITY EVENTS AND TRANSPORT

All BSU events—including conferences, sports games, cultural programs, and Graduation Day ceremonies—are entirely smoke-free.

Smoking is prohibited in university vehicles and indoor sports halls.

SECTION 4.

4.1. AWARENESS AND EDUCATION

BSU emphasizes education and positive reinforcement over punishment. The university organizes:

- Annual Health and Well-being Weeks focusing on tobacco-related harm reduction;
- Workshops and lectures in cooperation with the Ministry of Health and public NGOs on the dangers of smoking;



4.2. ENFORCEMENT

- Any violation of this policy will result in a formal warning for the first offense.
- Repeated violations may lead to disciplinary actions in accordance with the BSU Student and Staff Code of Conduct.
- The university encourages a peer-support approach to maintaining compliance, focusing on education and awareness rather than punishment.

SECTION 5.

5.1. SUPPORT AND CESSATION SERVICES

BSU actively supports individuals who wish to quit smoking by offering:

- Free counseling and psychological support via the Student Health Centre;
- Referral to national tobacco cessation programs in partnership with local health clinics;
- Access to educational materials, brochures, and self-help guides on quitting smoking;
- Periodic visits from medical experts to provide individual consultations and check-ups.



SECTION 6.

6.1. ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENT

Cigarette butts and smoking waste are significant pollutants. In line with SDG 13 and SDG 15, BSU:

- Conducts annual “Clean Campus” campaigns led by students;
- Promotes waste-free and smoke-free zones to reduce microplastic and chemical contamination;
- Encourages sustainable waste management practices and environmental awareness in all faculties.

SECTION 7.

7.1 MONITORING

The Health and Sustainability Committee shall:

- Conduct annual surveys on campus air quality and community satisfaction;
- Record and analyze violations and feedback;
- Assess participation in awareness activities and cessation programs.

7.2 EVALUATION AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

- The Smoke-Free Policy will be reviewed annually based on data collected from monitoring reports.
- Adjustments will be made to strengthen enforcement, improve awareness, and align with national and international health standards.
- Progress will be documented in BSU’s annual Sustainability and SDG 3 Report.



SECTION 8.

8.1. RESOURCES AND PARTNERSHIPS

BSU collaborates with:

- Azerbaijan Ministry of Health – Public Health and Reform Centre;
- World Health Organization Country Office;
- Youth Foundation and Red Crescent Society;
- Local NGOs specializing in health promotion and environmental protection.

These partnerships enhance awareness, funding, and the long-term sustainability of tobacco-free initiatives.

SECTION 9.

9.1. CONCLUSION

By enforcing this comprehensive Smoke-Free Policy, Baku Slavic University reaffirms its role as a leader in public health promotion, environmental responsibility, and student welfare.

This policy directly contributes to:

- SDG 3 – Good Health and Well-being
- SDG 12 – Responsible Consumption and Production
- SDG 13 – Climate Action

Through education, community engagement, and responsible governance, BSU continues to build a healthy, sustainable, and smoke-free academic environment.

Issued by: Higher Education Center of BSU

Issued Date: 15 November, 2024

Next Review: 21 November, 2026