

# Smokefree Air Act

## FACT SHEET



### Overview

The Smokefree Air Act prohibits smoking in all enclosed areas within places of employment, including restaurants. Smoking is also prohibited in the outdoor seating or serving areas of restaurants.

### Restaurant Definitions

- ▶ The Smokefree Air Act defines “restaurant” as eating establishments...which offer food to the public, guests, or employees, including the kitchen and catering facilities in which food is prepared on the premises for serving elsewhere, and including a bar area within a restaurant.
- ▶ The Smokefree Air Act defines “bar” as an establishment in which the serving of food is incidental to the consumption of alcoholic beverages. Incidental food service is limited to the service of pre-packaged snack foods, popcorn, the reheating of commercially prepared foods that do not require assembly. (See the Fact Sheet titled, “Bars.”)
- ▶ A food service establishment, with or without a liquor license, that prepares food beyond the limited food preparation described in the definition of a bar is considered a restaurant for the purposes of the Smokefree Air Act.

### Restaurant Definitions

- ▶ Smoking is prohibited in all enclosed areas of a restaurant. These areas include dining areas, entrance areas, restrooms, hallways, stairways, storage rooms, and kitchens.
- ▶ Smoking is prohibited in all outdoor seating or serving areas of restaurant. These areas include all outdoor places where customers are seated or served food or beverages.
- ▶ Smoking is not prohibited in a defined outdoor area of a restaurant, such as a patio or a portion of a patio, provided that there is no seating in such area and no restaurant employee serves food or beverages to a patron in such area.

### Duties of Proprietors

Owners, operators, managers and persons having custody or control of a restaurant are required to take certain actions in order to comply with the Smokefree Air Act. These include:

- ▶ Not permitting smoking in any indoor area declared nonsmoking by the Smokefree Air Act
- ▶ Posting no-smoking at every entrance to areas where smoking is prohibited
- ▶ Removing all ashtrays from areas where smoking is prohibited (See the Fact Sheet titled, “Duties of Proprietors,” for more information.)

*The information provided in this document is not intended to be legal advice. Please consult state statutes or contact an attorney for additional information about the Smokefree Air Act (Iowa Code 142D)*

### CONTACT

Iowa Health and Human  
Services Division of  
Behavioral Health

☎ 1-888-944-2247

🌐 [hhs.iowa.gov/smokefreeair](https://hhs.iowa.gov/smokefreeair)