

Smokefree Air Act

FACT SHEET



Overview

The Smokefree Air Act regulates smoking in specified outdoor areas. Unless the law specifies that smoking is completely regulated in an area, the law does not specify a distance where smoking is regulated from the entrances to buildings.

Entertainment Venues

Smoking is not allowed in the designated seating areas (permanent or temporary) of outdoor entertainment venues where members of the general public assemble to witness entertainment events, including but not limited to:

- ▶ Sports arenas
- ▶ Stadiums
- ▶ Standing-room only
- ▶ Chairs, seats and bleachers
- ▶ Amphitheaters
- ▶ Festival-style seating

Seating/Serving Areas of Restaurants

- ▶ Smoking is prohibited in all outdoor seating or serving areas of restaurant. These areas include all outdoor places where customers are seated and/or are 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

Public Grounds

The Smokefree Air Act requires the posting of “no smoking” signs to inform persons they are entering a nonsmoking place. Signs must be posted at every entrance to a public space, place of employment, area declared a nonsmoking place, and outdoor areas where smoking is prohibited. See “Sign Requirements” factsheet for sign specifications.

- ▶ The Smokefree Air Act prohibits smoking on the grounds of state and local government buildings.
- ▶ The person having custody or control of the grounds of the public building should define the outdoor areas used in connection with that building and properly post the outdoor entrances with “no smoking” signs as required by the Smokefree Air Act.
- ▶ Outdoor areas of a public building that are not used in connection with that building are not regulated by the Smokefree Air Act.

CONTACT

Iowa Health and Human Services Division of Behavioral Health

☎ 1-888-944-2247

🌐 hhs.iowa.gov/smokefreeair

School Grounds

- ▶ Smoking is prohibited on school grounds, including parking lots, athletic fields, playgrounds, tennis courts, and any other outdoor area under the control of a school.
- ▶ Smoking is prohibited inside any vehicle located on school grounds.
- ▶ The Smokefree Air Act requires schools to remove all ashtrays from public places where smoking is prohibited.

Public Transit Stations

- ▶ Smoking is prohibited on school grounds, including parking lots, athletic fields, playgrounds, tennis courts, and any other outdoor area under the control of a school.

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)

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