

Outdoor Areas

Proprietors of public places and places of employment may implement in-house smoking policies regarding their outdoor areas.

Smoke-Free Campuses

Many proprietors of public places and places of employment in Arizona are choosing to provide smoke-free campuses for their visitors, employees, and other patrons. The Act allows proprietors to declare an entire outdoor area as non-smoking.

Smoke-Free Areas

Proprietors may choose to designate certain areas as smoke-free areas by clearly identifying these areas.

Outdoor Designated Smoking Areas

The Act does **not** require proprietors to provide designated smoking areas; however, they may choose to do so. Designated smoking areas must be located at least 20 feet away from entrances, open windows, or ventilation systems. Encouraging residents, visitors, employees or other patrons to smoke in these designated areas is recommended.

Smoke-Free Arizona Program officials **cannot** enforce in-house smoking policies established by the management. Those who choose not to use designated smoking areas may be in violation of the in-house smoking policy; however, they are not in violation of the Act **if** they are at least 20 feet away from entrances, open windows, or ventilation systems.

Tips for Designating Outdoor Smoking Areas and Smoke-Free Areas

As a proprietor, if you choose to designate your campus as smoke-free, please consider:

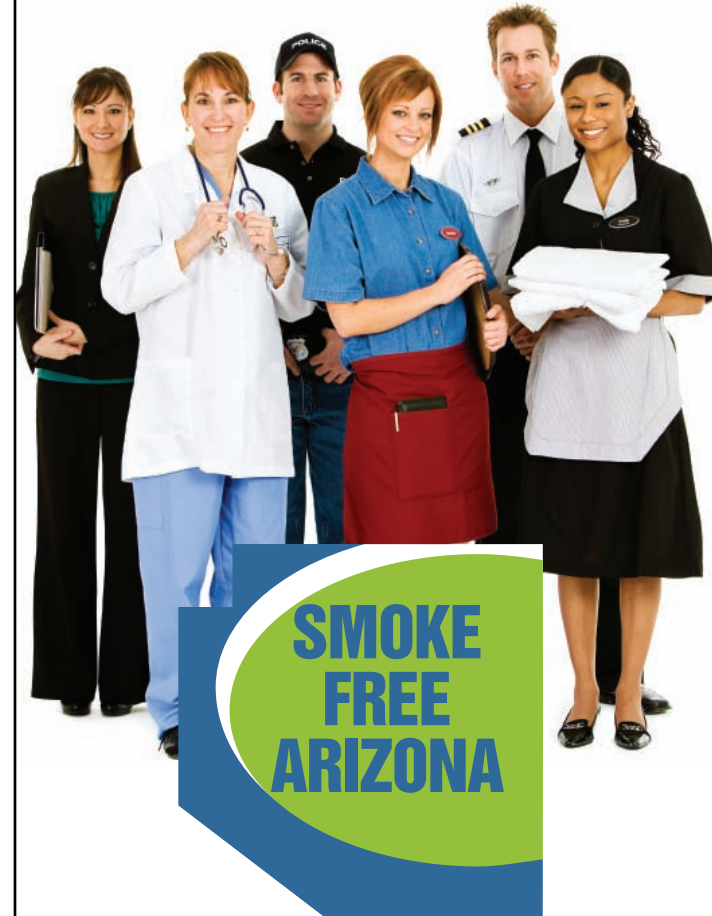
- Clearly identifying the campus as smoke-free; and
- Educating residents, visitors, employees, or other patrons about your smoke-free campus policy.

As a proprietor, if you choose to designate smoke-free areas, please consider:

- Clearly identifying the areas as non-smoking; and
- Educating residents, visitors, employees, or other patrons about where smoking is prohibited.

As a proprietor, if you choose to designate smoking areas, please consider:

- Providing directional signs for individuals looking for the designated smoking area; and
- Educating residents, visitors, employees, or other patrons about where smoking is allowed.



The Smoke-Free Arizona Act Clearing the Air for Employers

For More Information or to Order Free Signage

Visit: smokefreearizona.org

Call: 1-877-AZSTOPS (1-877-297-8677)

Email: smokefreearizona@azdhs.gov



Arizona Department of Health Services
Office of Environmental Health
Smoke-Free Arizona Program
150 North 18th Avenue, Suite 430
Phoenix, AZ 85007-3247



The Smoke-Free Arizona Act prohibits smoking inside most enclosed public places and places of employment and within 20 feet of entrances, open windows, or ventilation systems.

As an Employer

These are the simple things you need to do as an employer or person in charge to comply with the Smoke-Free Arizona Act, A.R.S. § 36-601.01 (“the Act”):

- Remove all indoor ashtrays and smoking receptacles and move all outdoor ashtrays and smoking receptacles at least 20 feet away from entrances
- Post the required “No Smoking” signs at every entrance into your establishment, available free of charge online at smokefreearizona.org
- Educate all existing and prospective employees about the Act
- Prohibit anyone including employees, vendors, and customers from smoking inside and within 20 feet of all entrances into your place of business
- Politely inform violators smoking inside or within 20 feet of an entrance to extinguish it or to go outside and at least 20 feet away from the entrance to smoke



Educating your Employees About the Act

The following tips can be used to communicate with your employees:

Existing Employees

- Discuss the requirements of the Act at staff meetings or distribute memos or paycheck inserts
- Add a “No Smoking” policy to your employee manual
- Post your “No Smoking” policy on your company website
- Display an informational poster in the employee lounge or break room
- Distribute Smoke-Free Arizona brochures during employee training
- Include articles in your employee newsletter about the requirements of the Act and the health effects of secondhand smoke
- Encourage employees to visit smokefreearizona.org for more information about the Act

Resources are available online for employees who want to quit at ashline.org or by calling the **Arizona Smoker’s Helpline** at 1-800-556-6222.

Prospective Employees

- Add a brief description of the Act on your employee application form
- Include an agreement policy that explains the requirements of the Act on the application and requires the applicant to check a box confirming that they have read the information
- Discuss the requirements of the Act briefly during candidates’ interviews
- Disclose your smoking policy on your company website
- Post a link to smokefreearizona.org on your website

Outdoor Patios and the 20 Foot Rule

Outdoor patios are one of the seven exemptions of the Act and therefore smoking is allowed on outdoor patios. If an outdoor patio is less than 20 feet from any entrance, open window, or ventilation system of an establishment, smoking is still allowed, but only if the proprietor uses a method that:

- Provides a smoke-free entrance into the establishment
- Does not permit tobacco smoke to drift into the establishment through entrances, open windows, ventilation systems, or other means

If an outdoor patio of a public place or place of employment is located within 20 feet of any entrance, open window, or ventilation system, smoking is allowed anywhere on this outdoor patio as long as tobacco smoke does not enter into the enclosed area.

In order to prevent smoke from drifting into the establishment, some proprietors have chosen to use methods or a combination of methods such as, but not limited to, air curtains, physical barriers, fans, or blowers. Please keep in mind that these methods are only examples and not a requirement of the Act.

This brochure was created to help proprietors, managers, or business owners inform employees, vendors, or customers about the requirements of the Smoke-Free Arizona Act so they can achieve compliance in their place of business.