

UHA, Utah Hospitals & Health Systems Association
POLICY STATEMENT

TOBACCO FREE HOSPITALS

The use of tobacco products is the number one source of preventable death and disability in the United States. The Surgeon General has warned that there is no safe level of secondhand tobacco smoke. Because of these health risks and the mission of hospitals as healthcare organizations, the Utah Hospitals & Health Systems Association recommends tobacco free hospitals to better serve the interests of the health and welfare of patients, staff, employees and visitors. Smoking and tobacco products should be prohibited on all hospital properties. This includes all buildings, parking lots, and grounds.

UHA recommends that all Utah hospitals:

- Create and implement a tobacco free hospital campus policy to provide a safe and healthy environment for all of its patients, employees, volunteers, and visitors.
- Present a positive example to the public by making no tobacco use a normal practice on hospital property and among hospital staff.
- Assist both patients and employees who wish to quit using tobacco products.
- Be a leader in the community by encouraging tobacco free environments.

Adopted by UHA Board of Trustees, March 28, 2008