

# Starkville Housing Authority Smoke-Free Policy

Resolution: 205

**Policy:** Effective January 1, 2018, the use of cigarettes, cigars, pipes, e-cigarettes or any other nicotine device; is prohibited inside Starkville Housing Authority properties. Smoking is allowed 25ft away from the buildings. No one, including applicants, tenants, guests, visitors, housing personnel and the general public shall use tobacco product in any interior area. Smokers and non-smokers may be admitted into Starkville Housing Authority Programs. Both, smokers and non-smokers as well as their visitors and guests must abide by the Smoke-Free Policy. Residents who violate the policy or whose visitors or guests violate the policy will be subject to lease termination.

**Exception:** This Policy will be effective January 1, 2018 for all new lease tenants, all applicants, guests, visitors, housing personnel and the general public. For those tenants whose initial lease date is on or before January 1, 2018, smoking will be allowed in tenant units until January 1, 2018.

**Purpose:** The purpose of this Smoke-Free Policy is to alleviate the actual and/or potential health hazards and/or medical problems to all residents and employees, fire safety issues and smoking damages to property including residential units, their property and any common areas.

**Responsibility:** It is the responsibility of Starkville Housing Authority staff to educate residents and visitors about the tobacco free policy. **Signage and printed material will be available for tenants and visitors at the main entrances at each of the housing complexes.**

It is the responsibility of the supervisors to educate their employees about this policy. Violation of this policy will be treated like any other policy infraction as stated in the employee handbook.

It is the responsibility of managers to educate old and new residents about this policy. Violation of the policy will be treated like any other lease violation. Residents who violate the policy or whose visitors or guests violate the policy will be subject to lease termination.

All individuals associated with Starkville Housing Authority have a responsibility to promote this policy and ensure that all visitors, vendors, subcontractors, old and new residents and fellow employees are aware that the Smoke-Free Policy is maintained.

## **Cessation**

**Resources:** Any employee or resident may be offered information regarding cessation programs and provided with access to tools to assist them in quitting if they choose.