



KEY POINTS:

- By action of the Oregon legislature, the smoke-free worksite law will expand to cover more worksites and protect more employees from exposure to secondhand smoke on January 1, 2009.
- The changes include: i) removing exemptions for bars, taverns, bowling centers, and bingo halls and ii) restricting smoking within 10 feet of workplace entrances, exits, windows, and air vents.
- To find out more about the state law, visit www.healthoregon.org/smokefree

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

What additional places will be smoke-free under the new law?

- Every enclosed area under the control of a public or private employer
- Bars and taverns, including bar areas of restaurants
- Bowling centers
- Bingo halls
- Hotels and motels (at least 75% of sleeping rooms)
- Work vehicles that are not operated exclusively by one employee

What do I need to do to comply? As an employer, it is your responsibility to ensure that your workplace is smoke-free. This means not allowing smoking in the workplace and within 10 feet of all entrances, exits, windows, and air intake vents.

- Inform all employees, customers and visitors of the law and its effective date.
- Post "No Smoking within 10 feet" signs at all building entrances and exits.
- Remove all ashtrays and other containers for smoking debris from your workplace and from within 10 feet of entrances, exits, windows, and ventilation intakes.
- Provide training to employees about how to ask visitors and patrons not to smoke.
- Encourage employees who smoke to quit and to call Oregon's toll-free QUIT LINE at 800-QUIT-NOW (800-784-8669) or, for Spanish, 877-2NO-FUME (877-266-3863).

What resources are available? We can help you to order "no smoking" signage through the State of Oregon and resources about quitting. Call 503-988-4163 and ask for Erik Vidstrand, Health Educator.

How is the law enforced? Employees and the public can report violations of the law by calling 1-866-621-6107 or completing an online form at www.healthoregon.org/smokefree. The Multnomah County Tobacco Prevention & Education Program follows-up on complaints to determine if there has been a violation and assist employers in meeting the requirements of the law. Fines for on-going non-compliance are issued by the Oregon Department of Human Services (\$500 per day with a maximum of \$2000 in a 30-day period).

Why is this policy needed? The law is designed to protect workers from secondhand smoke, which can cause life-threatening diseases including heart disease and lung cancer, as well as reduce the economic costs of tobacco-related health care costs.

