

### **Tobacco Use in MDH Facilities**

**The policies on tobacco use, as outlined below, are to be followed in all MDH owned or leased facilities (including local clinics, offices, WIC warehouses, etc.):**

- A. Tobacco use (including cigarettes, cigars, pipes, and smokeless tobacco) shall not be permitted inside any facility or vehicle owned or operated by the MDH.

<b>MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH GENERAL AGENCY MANUAL</b>	<b>TOPIC: GENERAL POLICIES SUBTOPIC:</b>
<b>EFFECTIVE DATE: AUGUST 6, 2007</b>	<b>REFERENCE</b>
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- B. "No smoking" signs are posted in all above areas to inform patients and visitors of this policy.
- C. Tobacco use by employees rendering services outside an MDH facility (home visits, sanitation inspection, etc.) is prohibited while performing their duties and in contact with patients or the public.
- D. The MDH Central Office campus is a tobacco-free environment. No tobacco use is permitted inside or outside of any buildings on the campus, including the parking garage. In addition, it is the intention of the MDH to provide a tobacco-free environment at all outlying locations operated by the MDH. As areas are designated tobacco-free, 30-day advance notification will be provided to employees to give them an opportunity to participate in smoking cessation programs offered by the MDH. Until such time as these locations are declared tobacco-free, designated smoking areas outside MDH facilities should be located away from general public entrances or building air intake vents.
- E. Any MDH employee that is currently a tobacco user and would like professional assistance in quitting can contact the agency's Division of Tobacco Policy and Prevention.
- F. Any exceptions to these policies must be approved by the State Health Officer in writing. Should any local condition suggest the need for an exception, please submit the request through the proper channels for approval. Failure to follow this written policy is a Group II offense and may result in disciplinary action by the agency.