



As of December 8, 2005, the Clean Indoor Air Act prohibits smoking in all indoor public spaces and workplaces throughout the state.

How the Smoke-Free Law Affects You - Frequently Asked Questions

Why did the law change?

The law was changed to protect employees and the public in Washington State from exposure to secondhand smoke. It amends the 1985 Clean Indoor Air Act to prohibit smoking in all public places and places of employment, and within twenty-five (25) feet or less of doors, windows that open, and ventilation intakes.

What does the law require me to do?

You are required to post "No Smoking" signs that are clearly visible at each entrance (including service, employee, or any door that can be opened from the outside) and in other prominent locations and notify employees and patrons that smoking is no longer permitted in your business. You are also required to prohibit smoking within 25 ft. of all doors, windows that open, and ventilation intakes.

What types of places are covered under the new law?

All indoor public spaces and workplaces, including restaurants, bars, skating rinks, bowling alleys and casinos, are required to be smoke-free. Hotels and motels must ensure that at least 75% of the rooms are smoke-free.

Does the law apply to private clubs such as Yacht Clubs, Country Clubs, and Fraternal Organizations?

Yes. The law applies to private clubs that have employees, volunteers, allow guests, or rent their facilities to the public. These businesses are required to be smoke-free.

Is smoking allowed in outside seating areas?

Smoking is permitted in outside seating areas that are more than twenty five (25) feet from building doors, windows that open, or ventilation intakes and do not offer any services requiring an employee to enter that area.

Can I provide an employee smoking room?

No. The law prohibits employers from providing employee smoking rooms.

Where can employees go to smoke?

Employees can smoke outside, at least twenty-five (25) feet away from building doors, windows that open, or ventilation intakes.

What should I do if someone starts smoking in an area where smoking is prohibited?

It is the responsibility of the business to inform the individual that he/she is in violation of the law. If the individual refuses to stop smoking or relocate to an outside area that is at least twenty-five (25) feet from away from building doors, windows that open, or ventilation intakes, contact your local law enforcement agency.

Where can I support employees or customers who want to quit smoking?

Contact the Washington State Tobacco Quit Line at 1-877-270-STOP (7867).

Additional Questions? Call 232-1707

or, check www.srhd.org/health/tobacco regularly for updates, information, forms, and other helpful documents related to the New Clean Indoor Air Act. This summary is not intended to be comprehensive or to provide an authoritative legal interpretation.

For more information please refer to the actual text of the law - download a copy at: www.srhd.org/health/tobacco



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