

What is the Smoke-free Illinois Act?

The Smoke-free Illinois Act protects the public from the harmful effects of exposure to tobacco smoke by prohibiting smoking in:

- indoor public places
- places of employment
- within 15 feet of any entrance, exit, windows that open or ventilation intake of a public place or place of employment

Public places and places of employment include, but are not limited to, restaurants, bars, bowling alleys, private clubs and gaming facilities.

Smoking is also prohibited in public conveyances, such as taxis, buses, shuttles, and any vehicle owned, leased or operated by the state of Illinois or a political subdivision of the state of Illinois.

The Smoke-free Illinois Act also includes the requirements for signage, describes how to lodge a complaint, the enforcement process and how fines will be determined for violations.

Local ordinances may have additional regulations on where smoking is prohibited. To learn more about any additional regulations in your area, please contact the Champaign-Urbana Public Health District at 217-352-7961.

For more information, please call:

217.352.7961



Public Health
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Champaign-Urbana Public Health District

www.cuphd.org

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201 West Kenyon Road
Champaign, IL 61820

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Indoor Public Places and Places of Employment in Illinois are now Smoke-free!

UNDERSTANDING THE SMOKE-FREE ILLINOIS ACT

A Guide for Restaurants and Bars

NOTICE:

As of January 1, 2008, indoor public places and places of employment in Illinois will be smoke-free.

This includes, but is not limited to, restaurants, bars, bowling alleys, private clubs and gaming facilities.

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What are the proprietor requirements for the Smoke-free Illinois Act?

Beginning **January 1, 2008**, business owners shall:

- Not permit smoking at their business, or within 15 feet from entrances, exits, windows that open and ventilation intakes.
- Post "No Smoking" signs at each entrance to the place of employment or public place where smoking is prohibited. "No Smoking" signs must comply with the specifications in the Smoke-free Illinois Act.
- All ashtrays must be removed from areas where smoking is prohibited.

There are no requirements for an employer to provide an outdoor shelter for smokers. As part of the workplace, private offices also must be smoke-free since smoking is prohibited throughout the workplace. Employers may also designate additional areas as smoke-free.

What signs are required to be posted?

"No Smoking" signs or the international "No Smoking" symbol, consisting of a pictorial representation of a burning cigarette enclosed in a red circle with a red bar across it, must be clearly and conspicuously posted in each public place and place of employment where smoking is prohibited.

Signs are available to download at the Illinois Department of Public Health website at www.idph.state.il.us or by calling CUPHD at 217-352-7961.

What will happen if I do not comply with the Smoke-free Illinois Act?

The purpose of the Smoke-free Illinois Act is to protect others from the harmful effects of secondhand smoke.

If a business owner fails to comply with the Smoke-free Illinois Act, an employee or patron may file a complaint. The Illinois Department of Public Health, state-certified local public health departments and local law enforcement agencies are designated enforcement agencies under the Smoke-free Illinois Act.

Businesses found in violation of the Smoke-free Illinois Act are subject to the following fines:

- **First Violation:** \$250
- **Second Violation:** \$500
- **Each Additional Violation within 1 Year of First Violation:** \$2,500 minimum

Fines for individuals who violate the Smoke-free Illinois Act are not less than \$100 and not more \$250 for each violation.



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What effect will the Smoke-free Illinois Act have on my business?

According to the 2005 Illinois Adult Tobacco Survey, eight in ten adults (80%) believe a ban on smoking in restaurants would not make a difference in how often they dine out. More than one in ten (12.6%) would dine out more often if there were a total ban on smoking in restaurants.

Studies of cities and states with smoke-free work place laws that include bars and restaurants provide strong evidence the law will have a neutral or even positive impact on business.

Additional studies of smoke-free workplaces, including restaurants and bars, show profits increase with the increased productivity of their employees and a decrease in maintenance costs.

How can I help employees and patrons who may want to quit smoking?

If you smoke and want to quit, or know someone who wants to quit, call the Illinois Tobacco Quit Line toll-free at:

866-QUIT-YES (866-784-8937)

This line is operated by the American Lung Association in collaboration with the Illinois Department of Public Health. This free telephone service provides smokers and people who want to help them quit with information and advice about how to quit successfully.

Additional programs are available through CUPHD. For more information call 217-352-7961.