

**BY ORDER OF THE COMMANDANT**  
**MEDICAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING CAMPUS**

**METC OPERATING INSTRUCTION 40-1**

**27 JANUARY 2012**



**Medical**

**TOBACCO USE POLICY**

**COMPLIANCE WITH THIS PUBLICATION IS MANDATORY**

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OPR: HQ METC/OPS

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Pages: 3

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This Operating Instruction (OI) implements DoD Directive 1010.10, *Health Promotion*, and established procedures to control tobacco use in Medical Education and Training Campus (METC) buildings, facilities, and vehicles. It also implements AFI 40-102, *Tobacco Use in the Air Force*, DoD Instruction 1010.15, *Smoke-Free DoD Facilities*, AR 600-63, *Army Health Promotion*, Title 41 Code of Federal Regulation, Part 102-74, *Facility Management*, and Executive Order 13058, *Protecting Federal Employees and the Public From Exposure to Tobacco Smoke in the Federal Workplace*. Failure to observe prohibitions and mandatory provisions of this directive in paragraph 3.3. by military personnel is a violation of Article 92, *Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ)*, as well as any other applicable articles of the UCMJ or provisions of Federal law. Violations may result in administrative disciplinary action by the military member's respective component command without regard to otherwise applicable criminal or civil sanctions for violations of related laws.

**1. Applicability.** This instruction applies to all Medical Education and Training Campus (METC) students, military faculty and staff, civilians and contract personnel, non-DoD contractors, visitors, and personnel of other Agencies and businesses that visit METC.

**2. Definitions.**

2.1. Tobacco. An American plant (*Nicotiana Tabacum*) of the Nightshade family is widely used for smoking and chewing, and as snuff.

2.2. METC Students. This definition includes all service members from the Army, Air Force, Coast Guard, and Navy enrolled in a METC program. Additionally, authorized governmental employees enrolled in a METC program are also included in this definition, unless otherwise agreed to by the METC Commandant. Finally, international students enrolled in a METC program will only be considered "METC Students" for the purposes of this instruction when this is consistent with the agreement negotiated by their government in securing their attendance at METC.

### 3. Program Elements.

3.1. Purpose. To explain the use of tobacco products in and around the METC and in the company of METC students.

3.2. Background. Tobacco use is a known cause of cancer, heart disease, stroke, and chronic obstructive pulmonary diseases such as emphysema and bronchitis. The use of tobacco by military personnel has been associated with negative impact on performance outcomes that can greatly reduce readiness. Smoking is known to decrease night vision, decrease stamina, increase injuries, and slow wound healing. The prevalence of cigarette smoking has increased statistically since 1998. According to the 2008 *DoD Survey of Health Related Behaviors Among Active Duty Military Personnel*, more than one-third of the Active Duty force still uses tobacco. Reducing tobacco use remains a high priority health promotion objective for the military.

3.3. Tobacco Use Policy. METC discourages the use of all tobacco products; the ill effects of tobacco use are well documented. **Members who engage in any of the prohibited activities listed in this paragraph and subparagraphs are subject to prosecution under Article 92, UCMJ, in addition to any other applicable provision of the UCMJ or Federal law.** To protect individuals from the harmful health hazards associated with tobacco usage and second-hand exposure to tobacco usage, the following prohibitions apply:

#### 3.3.1. Workplace.

3.3.1.1. METC prohibits tobacco smoking (cigar, cigarette, pipe, etc.) and the use of smokeless tobacco (spit/loose tobacco, electronic cigarettes, etc.) products inside the DoD buildings making up the METC workplace to protect the health of all workers, students, and visitors.

3.3.1.2. Smoking is also prohibited on all outdoor METC grounds, except designated outdoor smoking areas (if any).

3.3.2. METC Students. In addition to the location-specific prohibitions discussed in para. 3.3.1., the use of tobacco and smokeless tobacco (such as chewing tobacco, electronic cigarettes, snuff, etc.) is not authorized for any METC student during the

academic duty day (0800 to 1700). This includes academic-related installation and non-installation settings.

#### 4. Responsibilities.

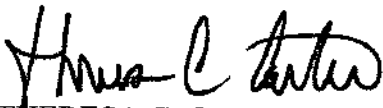
4.1. Human Resources personnel are responsible for implementing and monitoring smoking regulations, and supervisors are expected to enforce this regulation.

4.2. Employees. Employees are expected to exercise common courtesy and to respect the needs and sensitivities of coworkers/students with regard to the smoking policy. Smokers have a special obligation to keep designated smoking areas litter-free and to not abuse break and work regulations.

#### 5. Procedures.

5.1. Tobacco use by military faculty and staff, civilians, contract personnel, non DoD contractors, visitors, and personnel of other Agencies and businesses is prohibited in all METC facilities and restricted to designated smoking areas only.

5.2. Complaints about smoking issues should be resolved at the lowest level possible. Employees may contact the Human Resources Liaison at 210-808-1209 for complaints involving smoking related issues and the availability of smoking cessation programs.



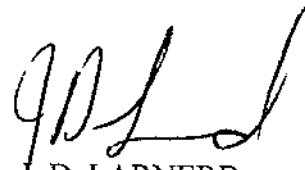
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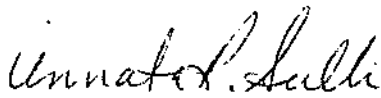
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