

Statement on Smoking by the School of Nursing at Cleveland State University

The School of Nursing at Cleveland State University stands with the American Lung Association, the American Cancer Association and others who recognize that dangers of smoking, not only to smokers themselves, but to others exposed to second hand smoke. Cigarette smoke is directly linked to chronic obstructive lung diseases, cancer, stroke, coronary artery disease and increases health risks for both pregnant women and the developing child in utero. It is the most significant preventable cause of morbidity and premature mortality worldwide.

We believe that it is a healthy choice not to smoke and support efforts to create a smoke free environment at Cleveland State. We believe that policies regarding smoking on campus need to be enforced while the question of a totally smoke free University is calmly discussed by all members of the Cleveland State community.

We encourage all smokers, students, faculty or staff, at Cleveland State to stop smoking, or reduce the amount they smoke, but acknowledge that it is a difficult addiction to overcome. We recommend the American Lung Association website (www.lungusa.org) for those engaged in this struggle. We ask smokers on campus to be cognizant that smoking affects others and to demonstrate respect for non-smokers and the University community at large by abiding by all restrictions on acceptable smoking areas, and to demonstrate courtesy by proper disposal of the debris associated with their addiction.