

Classification: Health and Safety

Approving Authority: President

Responsible Authority: Office of the Administration and Finance

Implementing Authority: Office of the Administration and Finance (employees, visitors, vendors) –
Office of Student Affairs (students)

Effective Date: 2026

Review: 2028

No Smoking and Tobacco Control Policy

(Issued in Compliance with Iraqi Anti-Smoking Law No. 19 of 2012)

1.0 Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this policy is to protect students, faculty, staff, contractors, visitors, and guests from the health, environmental, economic, and social harms associated with smoking and passive (involuntary) smoking, and to promote a safe and healthy academic and working environment consistent with Iraqi public health objectives and international standards in higher education.

2.0 Scope

This policy applies to all students, faculty, staff, and visitors of the University while on university premises, attending University-sponsored activities, or representing the University in any official capacity within or outside Iraq.

3.0 Legal Authority and Context

3.1 This policy is issued in the name of the people and in full compliance with Iraqi Anti-Smoking Law No. (19) of 2012, enacted pursuant to Articles (61) and (73) of the Constitution of the Republic of Iraq. As a licensed higher education institution operating within Iraq, the American University of Iraq – Baghdad (AUIB) is legally obligated to comply with and enforce the provisions of this law, particularly those relating to the prohibition of smoking in educational institutions and other public places as stipulated in Article (4) of the law.

3.2 Legal Basis: Iraqi Anti-Smoking Law No. (19) of 2012, Official Gazette of Iraq, Issue No. 4234 (April 2, 2012).

4.0 Definitions

4.1 Smoking: The use of tobacco products of all kinds, including cigarettes, shisha (waterpipes), and pipes.

4.2 Passive (Involuntary) Smoking: Inhaling tobacco smoke generated by others.

4.3 Tobacco: Tobacco plants of all kinds and their parts, including roots, leaves, fruits, and seeds.

- 4.4 Electronic Smoking Devices: Any electronic or heated device used to inhale nicotine or other substances in aerosolized or vaporized form, including e-cigarettes and vaping devices, which are regulated under this policy as a public-health measure.

5.0 Policy Statement

In accordance with Iraqi Anti-Smoking Law No. (19) of 2012, AUIB adopts a smoke-free campus policy. Smoking is prohibited in all areas specified in this policy to ensure protection from passive smoking and to fulfill the university's legal and institutional responsibilities as an educational institution.

5.1 Prohibition of Smoking:

- 5.1.1 Indoor Areas: Smoking is strictly prohibited inside all buildings and enclosed spaces owned, leased, or controlled by AUIB, including but not limited to classrooms, laboratories, libraries, offices, meeting rooms, student residences, dining facilities, student centers, and common areas.
- 5.1.2 University Vehicles: Smoking is prohibited in all university-owned, leased, or operated vehicles.
- 5.1.3 Outdoor Areas: To further protect against passive smoking and in alignment with international best practices, AUIB extends smoking prohibitions to outdoor campus areas (except where designated), including courtyards, walkways, pedestrian areas, outdoor seating spaces, and areas in close proximity to building entrances, exits, windows, and air-intake systems.

5.2 Designated Smoking Areas:

- 5.2.1 Where permitted by law, AUIB may designate limited smoking areas in accordance with Article (5) of the Iraqi Anti-Smoking Law. Any designated smoking area must be explicitly approved by the university, clearly marked, physically separated from non-smokers, and located away from building entrances, pedestrian traffic, and ventilation systems. The absence of a clearly designated smoking area shall not be interpreted as permission to smoke. AUIB reserves the right to modify or eliminate designated smoking areas.

5.3 Education and Awareness

- 5.3.1 In accordance with Article (2) of the Iraqi Anti-Smoking Law, AUIB shall support awareness and educational efforts regarding the harms of smoking and passive smoking, including signage, orientation programs, and health awareness initiatives.

5.4 Compliance and Enforcement

- 5.4.1 Violations may result in disciplinary action under applicable student conduct codes, employee policies, or contractual terms. Visitors and contractors who fail to comply may be asked to leave the campus or have their access restricted. Violations may also result in fines or penalties imposed by the university.



5.5 Institutional Responsibility

5.5.1 AUIB acknowledges its responsibility under Iraqi law to enforce smoking prohibitions within its facilities. Failure to implement or enforce this policy may expose the university to legal penalties. All academic and administrative units share responsibility for supporting compliance.

5.6 Policy Review and Amendment:

5.6.1 This policy shall take effect upon approval and shall be reviewed periodically to ensure continued compliance with Iraqi law, instructions issued by the Ministry of Health, regulations of the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, and evolving public-health standards.