

Tobacco-Free Las Positas

Building Towards A Healthier Campus for All

Do you want a healthier, cleaner, and more environmentally friendly Las Positas campus? Learn more about why Las Positas should adopt a 100% smoke and tobacco-free policy.

People support smoke and tobacco-free campuses for many reasons, including: Reducing exposure to toxic secondhand smoke and vape so everyone can breathe healthier air. Supporting support people who want to quit using tobacco. Rejecting tobacco industry targeting of young adults, communities of color, and the LGBTQ+ community. Becoming more accessible for people with health issues like asthma.

What's the trend?

These campuses are already 100% smoke and tobacco-free, including no vaping:

- 62 of California's 115 community college campuses
- All 10 UC and 23 CSU campuses
- 2,100 college/university campuses in the U.S.

100% smoke and tobacco-free means: smoking, vaping, all other forms of tobacco use, and marijuana smoking and vaping are not allowed anywhere indoors and outdoors on campus.



Isn't Las Positas already smoke-free?

No, not yet. In 2015, Las Positas adopted a policy that prohibits smoking and vaping inside all campus buildings and in all outdoor areas of campus **except** that smoking and vaping is still allowed in parking lots. Check out Las Positas' smoking policy at www.laspositascollege.edu/safety/smoking-policy.php

How does Las Positas compare? We've fallen behind. Sadly, Las Positas' current smoking policy gets only a C grade in the 2022 *College and University Smoke/Tobacco-Free Policy Report Card*. **We can do better.**

The current policy was a good step forward in 2015, but now the policy is out of date and far behind other California community colleges. **It's time to close the gaps** and strengthen the policy so that it can better protect the health of our campus community. **Las Positas deserves to breathe smoke-free air.**

What's the problem at Las Positas?

Exposure to secondhand smoke and vape is common. A 2019 survey of Las Positas students, faculty and staff found that **58% were exposed to secondhand smoke** and **61% were exposed to secondhand vape** on campus. Nearly a quarter of respondents (**22%**) **had an allergy or sensitivity—like asthma**—that's triggered by breathing secondhand smoke or vape. Students, faculty, and staff who have health issues should not have to risk their health to come to school or work.

Awareness about Las Positas' smoking policy is low. It turns out **only 25%** of respondents knew the right information about our policy: **smoking and vaping is only allowed on campus in parking lots.** Another troubling fact? 6.6% of respondents think it's okay to vape *inside* campus buildings, even though that's prohibited by both campus policy *and* state law.



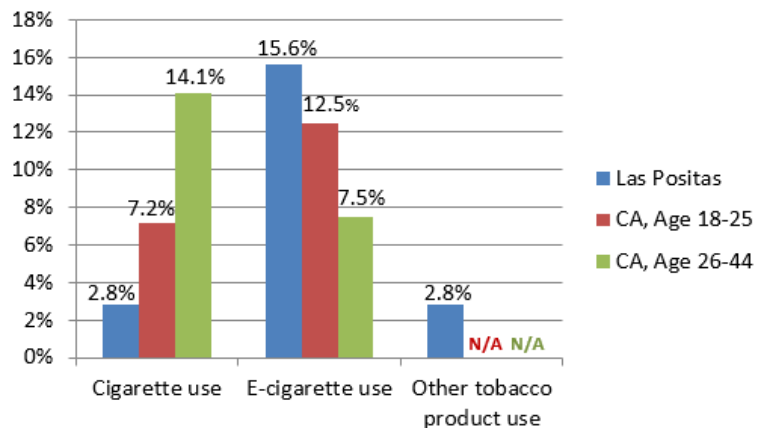
What does tobacco use look like at Las Positas?

The good news? The 2019 Las Positas survey found that the vast majority of respondents (89.2%) had not used any type of tobacco products—including smoking and vaping—in the last 30 days.

Also good news: only 2.8% of Las Positas respondents smoked cigarettes, which is significantly less than the statewide rates for people ages 18-25 and 26-44.

The bad news? Nearly 16% of Las Positas respondents used e-cigarettes/vapes, which is much higher than the California vaping rates for people ages 18-25 (12.5%) and ages 26-44 (7.5%).

Tobacco Use at Las Positas vs. California



Is there support for a stronger campus policy?

Yes! Nearly 3/4 of survey respondents (72%) support strengthening Las Positas' policy to either not allow smoking and vaping everywhere on campus or everywhere on campus except for one designated smoking area. **Let's make it happen!**

Tobacco-Free Las Positas

Our Goal: We are a team of student leaders who are fighting back and protecting the next generation by advocating for a 100% smoke and tobacco-free Las Positas campus.

Our Vision: Adopt and enforce a 100% smoke and tobacco-free policy at Las Positas to protect the health of all students, faculty, staff and others in our campus community.

What have we done so far? We have been working to educate our campus community and build support for adopting a stronger policy, including engaging with the Las Positas College Student Government (LPCSG) and building towards a resolution of support for a 100% smoke and tobacco-free policy. We also created a change.org petition that got over 200 people to support this policy change for our campus.

What's next? The Las Positas leadership has the ability to enact a 100% smoke and tobacco-free policy. Important next steps to achieving that policy change are for the LPCSG and Academic Senate to adopt a resolution of support for Las Positas to adopt a stronger campus policy.



How You Can Help

Want to get involved? Join our Las Positas team of Young Adult Leaders (YALs) who are educating the community about the need for a tobacco-free campus and are working to make change.

Visit us at www.apichat.org and **follow us** on [Instagram](#).

