



The Smoke Free Illinois Law went into effect on January 1, 2008

Smoking is prohibited in a public place of employment. This means places where employees are required to enter, leave, or pass through during the course of employment. This includes but is not limited to bars, banquet halls, bowling alleys, casinos, churches, dormitories, offices, prisons, private clubs (including Elks, Moose, and VFW lodges), restaurants, and sports arenas.

Smoking is prohibited within 15 feet of any entrance, exit, window, and ventilation intake. No person may smoke in any vehicle owned, leased, or operated by the State or a political subdivision of the State. An owner shall reasonably assure that smoking is prohibited in indoor public places and workplaces unless specifically exempted by section 35 of Public Act 095-1029.

Exempted from the law and can allow smoking

- Private residences (except when used as a child care, adult day care, health care facility or any other home-based business open to the public).
- Retail tobacco stores (more than 80% of income comes from the sale of tobacco products and smoking devices and does not have a liquor, food, or restaurant license).
- Private and semi-private rooms in nursing homes and long-term care facilities that are occupied by one more persons, all of whom are smokers and have requested in writing to be placed or remain in a room where smoking is permitted and the smoke shall not infiltrate other areas of the nursing home.
- Hotel/motel rooms provided that all smoking rooms on the same floor must be contiguous and that smoke does not infiltrate into nonsmoking rooms or other smoking prohibited areas. Not more than 25% of rooms can be designated as rooms where smoking is allowed. The status of the rooms may not be changed except to permanently add nonsmoking rooms.
- Enclosed laboratories that are excluded from the definition of "place of employment" in section 10 of the act.
- Common smoking rooms in long-term care facilities operated under the authority of the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs that are accessible only to residents who are smokers and have requested in writing to have access to the common smoking room where smoking is permitted.

Responsibilities of a business owner

- Do not permit smoking in a public place, a place of employment, or within the distance required by the Act.
- Do not permit smoke to drift/infiltrate into a building or facility through an entrance, window, ventilation system, or other means.
- Post no smoking signs at every entrance/exit.
- Remove all ashtrays from all areas where smoking is prohibited.
- Communicate that smoking is prohibited to all existing and future employees.



Required signage

Signs will be required to be posted at all areas of ingress and egress. Signage is available to download and print at www.smoke-free.illinois.gov . If you wish to have signs made for your business, please make sure to check the Smoke Free Illinois Act Rules as there are specific signage requirements. A complaint phone line and website is required to be listed on the signs that are posted at each and every business entrance/exit.

Citations

Any person, corporation, partnership, association, or other entity violating the no smoking provisions of the Act may be issued a citation by one of the enforcement agencies in accordance with sections 40 and 45 of the act.

Enforcing agencies

DuPage County Health Department, local Law enforcement, and the Illinois Department of Public Health.

Report violations to

(630) 682-7400 (DuPage County Health Department)

(866) 973-4646 (Hotline set up by Illinois Department of Public Health) or online at

www.smoke-free.illinois.gov