



San Bernardino County Department of Public Health

California Government Code Sections 7596–7598 Smoking in Public Places & Places of Employment

SCOPE: Smoking is prohibited:

- inside a public building, which is a building owned and occupied, or leased and occupied, by the state, a county, a city, or a California community college district;
- in an outdoor area within 20 feet of a main exit, entrance, or operable window of a public building;
- in lobbies, lounges, waiting areas, elevators, stairwells, and restrooms that are a structural part of a covered public parking lot or a building to which such a parking lot is attached; and
- in a passenger vehicle owned by the state.

This law explicitly permits local governments and campuses (e.g., a campus of the University of California, the California State University, or the California community college system) to pass more restrictive ordinances, regulations, and policies.

Note: The workplace smoking restrictions in California Labor Code section 6404.5 also apply.

EXCEPTION: The smoking prohibition does not apply to private living areas of public buildings or to the parking areas of covered public parking lots. Smoking may be allowed in any outdoor area of a public building unless otherwise prohibited by state or local law and a sign describing the prohibition is posted by the state, county, or city agency, or other appropriate entity.