

<b>Noxious Odor Policy</b>	Policy No.:
Authority: University President	Policy Section: Student Affairs
Effective Date: August 25, 2025	Revised Date:
Applicable Groups: Campus-wide	Responsible Office: Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards
Policy Location:	

**POLICY STATEMENT:**

Students enrolled at this university are required to comply with all UMES rules. Violations of these rules may result in disciplinary action under the Code of Student Conduct, including sanctions affecting their enrollment and student status.

**PURPOSE OF POLICY:**

The purpose of a **Noxious Odor Policy** is to maintain a comfortable, healthy, and respectful environment for all members of the UMES community. This policy aims to:

1. **Promote a Pleasant Environment** – Ensure that shared spaces remain free from strong, offensive, or disruptive odors that may negatively impact others.
2. **Protect Health and Well-being** – Reduce exposure to odors that could trigger allergies, asthma, or other health concerns.
3. **Encourage Consideration and Respect** – Foster a community culture where individuals are mindful of the impact their personal habits (such as food, hygiene, smoking, or chemical use) have on others.
4. **Support Compliance with Regulations** – Align with health and safety codes or housing policies that regulate air quality and environmental conditions.
5. **Provide Guidelines for Enforcement** – Establish clear expectations and potential consequences for violations, ensuring fairness and consistency in addressing complaints.

**DEFINITIONS:**

1. A “*noxious odor*” is any fragrance or aroma so intense that it becomes noticeable to others and disruptive to those around, particularly when it emanates too strongly. Some examples include

smells from garbage, perfume, air fresheners, dirty laundry, incense, cigarettes, cannabis, cigars, pipes, or vape.

2. Cannabis smells are of particular concern. For this policy, “*odor of cannabis*” refers to any odor/smell detectable using normal perceptual faculties. The odor may come from any of the following, including but not limited to:
  - a) Cannabis smoke from burned cannabis in a bong, pipe, joint, etc.;
  - b) Cannabis vapor from a vaporizer, vaping device, etc.;
  - c) Cannabis tinctures, oils, lotions, or other preparations;
  - d) Cannabis edibles; and/or
  - e) Containers or packaging with cannabis and/or cannabis residue.

### **POLICY IMPLEMENTATION:**

This policy applies to all students, faculty, staff, and visitors on university property or engaged in university-sanctioned events.

If a noxious odor can be traced to a specific individual, room, or guest(s) of that room, the responsible parties will be held accountable.

### **Violations**

The University may determine a noxious odor to be a violation of the Code of Student Conduct; therefore, noxious odors and odors of cannabis are prohibited. The Code of Student Conduct violations may include:

1. **Disorderly Conduct** – Any offensive or bothersome act that disrupts the peace. This includes but is not limited to, conduct that is offensive or annoying to others or is disruptive to the rights of others, including excessive noise, noise after quiet hours, talking excessively loud, shouting, or loud music.
2. **Disruptive Behavior** - Substantial disruption or obstruction of university operations including but not limited to:
  - a. Interference of teaching, research, administration, disciplinary proceedings, University-sponsored activities or events (on or off campus), public service functions, or authorized non-University activities occurring on campus. This also includes any behavior—whether in or outside of class—that interferes with others’ academic work, creates disorder, or disrupts the regular and essential functioning of the University.
  - b. Classroom behavior that significantly disrupts either the faculty member’s ability to conduct the class or other students’ ability to benefit from the instructional program,
  - c. Off campus conduct that is disorderly and disrupts others in the community
3. **Non-compliance** -Failing to comply with the directions of an authorized University official, faculty, or staff member acting in the performance of his or her duties, or any other person responsible for a facility or registered function acting in accordance with those responsibilities. It

is the responsibility of the University official or person acting on behalf of the University to identify him or herself and to state the reasons for the direction that is given.

**Educational Sanctions**

Students found in violation of this policy will face the following sanctions. These are minimum sanctions for University of Maryland Eastern Shore students. Sanctions may be increased based on past disciplinary record, the severity of behavior, and/or the impact upon the community.

<b>University of Maryland Eastern Shore</b>	
<b>Noxious Odor Educational sanctions</b>	
<b>OFFENSE</b>	<b>EDUCATIONAL SANCTIONS</b>
<b>1st</b>	Verbal warning accompanied by written notification indicating that continued or repeated misconduct may result in additional disciplinary action.
<b>2nd</b>	Education Program on campus (ATOD Fee: \$100)
<b>3rd</b>	Disciplinary Conduct Probation
<b>4th</b>	Suspension 1 academic year

RELATED POLICIES: None

APPROVED:

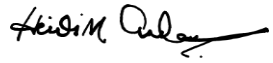
*Latoya Jenkins*

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Mrs. Latoya Jenkins (date)  
Vice President of Enrollment Management and Student Experience

*MJ*

Matthew A. Taylor, Esq.  
General Counsel

(date)



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Dr. Heidi M. Anderson  
President

(date)