

Tobacco and Vape Free Community Colleges



Purpose

From 2017-2021, the Orange County Tobacco Use Prevention Program (TUPP) partnered with subcontractor Waymakers and 7 community colleges in Orange County to promote and work towards adoption of 100% tobacco and vape free policies.



Why?

All K-12 schools, University of California (UC), and California State University (CSU) systems have 100% tobacco and vape-free campuses. Only 2 of the 9 community colleges in Orange County were 100% tobacco and vape free at the start of the project in 2017. Establishing a tobacco-free campus is a crucial part of advancing and achieving health equity on college campuses.



What was done to achieve the goal?

- Showed need for a policy through activities such as student opinion surveys and Photovoice.
- Recruited and engaged students by creating a student task force on each campus.
- Established a partnership with the college health center directors.
- Worked with a subcontractor to build awareness of 100% smokefree policies and how to adopt them at community colleges and districts.

At the end of the project, 2 of the 7 community colleges adopted a 100% tobacco and vape free policy: Orange Coast College and Coastline College in the Coast Community College District. TUPP will continue to work with colleges of the Coast Community College District.



OUTCOMES

College/Policy Criteria	Coastline Community College	Orange Coast College	Golden West College
100% Tobacco Free	✓	✓	
100% Vape Free	✓	✓	
Outdoor Areas	✓	✓	✓
Parking Lots	✓	✓	
Residential Areas	✓	✓	✓
Other Exemptions	None	None	None

Lessons Learned and Recommendations

- Connect and engage with college leadership, staff, and student task forces.
- Be aware of college and student schedules and timelines.
- Learn the process for each campus or district for changing policy.
- Create an enforcement plan to make sure policy is followed.