

02/05/2021

Dear Physical Plant Planning Committee,

I am writing to express Sodexo's support for adopting a commercial tobacco-free campus policy at UW-Eau Claire.

Commercial tobacco use is linked to cancer for both users and people exposed to secondhand smoke from commercial tobacco products. According to the American Cancer Society, those cancers include the following: lung, kidney, bladder, stomach, colorectum, liver, acute myeloid leukemia, oral cavity and pharynx, larynx, esophagus, pancreas, and uterine cervix, with new research implicating tobacco use in prostate cancer as well. 19% of new cancer diagnoses are caused by smoking and could be avoided, and **commercial tobacco use continues to be the world's most preventable cause of death.**

We know that many universities around Wisconsin and the United States have adopted commercial tobacco-free campus policies for the health, safety and beauty of their campuses, including other UW schools like UW-Stout, UW-River Falls, UW-Stevens Point, UW-Milwaukee, and UW-Health Science Campus, in addition to many community colleges and private institutions around the state. Many area businesses have adopted commercial tobacco-free facility policies as well, including Mayo Clinic Systems, Marshfield Clinic, and HSHS Sacred Heart.

Please know that you have our enthusiastic support for UW-Eau Claire to adopt a commercial tobacco-free campus policy.

Sincerely,

Armando Chacon

Armando Chacón
General Manager, Sodexo
University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire