

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **UWF to adopt Tobacco-Free Campus Policy in August**

**Pensacola, Fla. – March 21, 2016** – The University of West Florida will join the extensive list of U.S. colleges and universities to adopt a Tobacco-Free Campus Policy, effective Aug. 1, 2016.

The Tobacco-Free Campus Policy prohibits the use of any tobacco product or derivative by employees, students and visitors on all university-owned property.

“As an institution, we pride ourselves on being proactive in the reduction of the many risks associate with tobacco use,” said UWF President Judith Bense. “The adoption of this policy will align with our continued mission to create a healthy campus community.”

This decision was made following an extensive process. UWF will join more than 20 Florida campuses that are tobacco-free or smoke-free. By addressing the concerns associated with second hand smoke, this policy allows UWF to continue making strides toward creating a safe, clean and healthy learning and working environment.

The University has developed an accessible smoking cessation program to assist those who choose to break tobacco addictions. Initiatives within Wellness Services, Student Health Services and Counseling and Psychological Services are readily available for students, faculty and staff.

For more information, including issues related to tobacco use, links to helpful resources, and frequently asked questions please visit [uwf.edu/tobaccofree](http://uwf.edu/tobaccofree).

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