

# SMOKE-FREE PALMETTO STATE CERTIFICATION

More than half of SC residents live in places that do not guarantee clean, indoor air. Local governments that have achieved comprehensive smoke-free protections applicable to all indoor workplaces, restaurants, and bars (includes e-cigarettes/vapes) deserve recognition for their leadership and commitment to the health and well-being of their community.

## CERTIFICATION CRITERIA

Standards for **Smoke-Free Palmetto State Certification** are straightforward. To become certified, local governments must adopt and implement clean air protections that prohibit smoking and the use of e-cigarettes and vapes in all indoor workplaces, restaurants, and bars.

**Clean air—free of both secondhand smoke and vaping toxins—remains the standard to protect health.**



## CONTACT US

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# SMOKE-FREE BUILDS BETTER ECONOMIES

**Smoke-Free Palmetto State Certification** was developed by public health experts informed by decades of research about the effect comprehensive smoke-free policies have on both local businesses and the health of the community.

**FACT**—Both smokers and non-smokers prefer to work in and/or to visit smoke-free environments (especially restaurants and bars)

**FACT**—Business owners boost their bottom line by saving thousands of dollars in building/property maintenance costs, increased productivity, lower liability insurance premiums, and lower employer-sponsored health insurance premiums with smoke-free workplaces

**FACT**—Property free from tobacco trash (butts and vape cartridges) and air pollution (secondhand smoke and vaping aerosol) appear clean and inviting to prospective clients, customers, and visitors

# HEALTHY PEOPLE IN HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

Science shows that smoking harms more than just the smoker. Secondhand smoke and aerosols from e-cigarettes/vaping cannot be cleaned from the air through filters or ventilation and can travel into "non-smoking" sections.

**FACT**—There is no risk-free level of secondhand smoke exposure

**FACT**—E-cigarettes release aerosol that can contain dangerous chemicals, NOT harmless water vapor

**FACT**—Exposure to secondhand smoke in the workplace causes heart disease and various cancers among nonsmokers

**FACT**—People protected by comprehensive smoke-free policies live longer, healthier lives and have fewer heart-related hospital emergencies

# PROMOTION AND SUPPORT

Smoke-Free Palmetto State Certification is an achievement that demonstrates your commitment to improving lives in your community. Proudly display your **Smoke-Free Palmetto State Certification** with an official web banner/button and window decal. DPH staff can also provide media materials and attend press opportunities to present your certificate of distinction.

