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Peace College adopts a 100% tobacco-free policy

Raleigh- Peace College recently became the latest North Carolina university to adopt a 100% tobacco-free campus policy.

The policy, which will prohibit all forms of tobacco use and sales on school grounds and at school events, was recently announced to students and will go into effect on January 1, 2009.

According to the NC Health & Wellness Trust Fund, which works with the state's colleges and community colleges to develop and implement tobacco use policies, Peace is the 20th institution of higher learning in North Carolina to adopt such a policy.

"This policy shows that Peace College is dedicated to the health and wellbeing of their students and staff," said Vandana Shah, the executive director of the NC Health and Wellness Trust Fund (HWTF). "Tobacco-free policies help save lives and money, and we look forward to working with Peace to implement this very important policy."

Peace officials will work with HWTF to prepare students, staff and visitors for the new policy. Cessation resources, such as [QuitlineNC](http://QuitlineNC.com) (1-800-QUIT-NOW), will be provided free of charge to students and staff.

The 100% Tobacco-Free Colleges Initiative provides assistance to all NC campuses in adopting and implementing comprehensive, campus-wide tobacco use policies. This program is similar to HWTF's highly successful 100% Tobacco-Free Schools Initiative, which worked with all 115 school districts to adopt and implement 100% Tobacco-Free School policies.

ABOUT THE NC HEALTH AND WELLNESS TRUST FUND

The NC Health and Wellness Trust Fund makes North Carolina stronger, both physically and economically, by funding programs that promote preventive health. Created by the General Assembly in 2000 to allocate a portion of North Carolina's share of the national tobacco settlement, HWTF has invested \$199 million to support preventive health initiatives and \$102 million to fund prescription drug assistance programs. For more information, please visit www.HealthWellNC.com

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