

Vincennes University Tobacco User Surcharge



Vincennes University's greatest asset is the well-being of its employees. The institution's wellness initiatives are designed to prevent illness, improve quality of life and decrease health care costs. Tobacco users on the Vincennes University health care plan will pay a \$35 biweekly surcharge for the 2019 plan year.

All employees covered under a Vincennes University health care plan must certify annually whether you and/or your spouse (if covered under VU's plan) use tobacco products or are tobacco-free by completing the online Tobacco Affidavit. The deadline to complete this Affidavit is **Friday, November 9, 2018 at 4 p.m.** for the 2019 plan year. Please refer to the Instructions for Electronic Signature of Tobacco Affidavit for detailed instructions for completing this online form. **If the online certification is not completed, the surcharge will be automatically applied effective January 1, 2019 and will remain in place for the 2019 plan year.**

Tobacco includes any form of tobacco products that are smoked (e.g. cigarettes, cigars, pipes), applied to the gums (dipping and chewing tobacco), and/or inhaled as snuff.

Tobacco-Free Employees

- To certify as a non-tobacco user, you and your spouse (if covered under VU's plan) must be tobacco-free. Complete the Affidavit by November 9, 2018 and the \$35 biweekly surcharge will be waived for the 2019 plan year.
- Intentional falsification of this affidavit could lead to the loss of health care coverage.

Tobacco Users

- If you and/or your spouse are a tobacco user (if covered under VU's plan), certify the Affidavit by November 9, 2018 by 4 p.m. as such and VU will provide opportunities for you to waive the surcharge.
- Those who are interested in a tobacco cessation program may contact Chris Gardner, Benefits Coordinator, at cgardner@vinu.edu or the University Primary Care Center for more information.
- The VU employee medical plan will cover 100% of the cost of tobacco cessation prescription drugs. Coverage is limited to a 180-day supply per covered individual per year. Covered prescription drugs include Chantix, Zyban (bupropion), and Nicotrol. Upon successful completion of the program (the employee and spouse become tobacco-free) the surcharge will be waived.