

# TOBACCO USE PREVENTION AND CONTROL FOUNDATION

## RULES PROCESS OF THE TOBACCO USE PREVENTION AND CONTROL FOUNDATION

### Mission and Overview

Senate Bill 192 created the Ohio Tobacco Use Prevention and Control Foundation (TUPCF). The Foundation is governed by a 20-member Board of Trustees. The board is charged with the oversight of the estimated \$1.2 billion endowment the Ohio Tobacco Use Prevention and Control Endowment is scheduled to receive over the next 12 years. The Foundation has also been entrusted with the responsibility of distributing grant monies to public and private organizations. The grants will be used to reduce tobacco use among all Ohioans with a focus on youth, pregnant women, regional populations, and any other group(s) disproportionately affected by tobacco use.

### **Foundation Purpose and Principles**

To address Ohio's alarmingly high smoking rates and the many ramifications for its citizens, the Tobacco Use Prevention and Control Trust Fund was created to help reduce tobacco use across the state. This Foundation is charged with developing a comprehensive and aggressive plan to foster tobacco prevention and cessation efforts throughout the state. With this charge in mind, TUPCF has adopted the following as its purpose:

### **To Prevent and Control the Use of Tobacco In Ohio**

Building upon this purpose statement, the Foundation guides its actions through the following principles.

- Support the use of programs that are based on research and best-practices models
- Build upon and coordinate with existing programs that have a demonstrated history of effectiveness in tobacco use prevention and cessation
- Support local and statewide partnerships between organizations dedicated to tobacco use prevention and cessation
- Assure cultural competence and sensitivity in programming
- Develop a long-range, comprehensive approach to tobacco-use prevention and cessation
- Assure that portions of the campaign are youth led
- Assure that the board is independent from political or industry influence
- Demonstrate a dedication to the health of all Ohioans
- Strive to provide programs and services throughout all regions of the state.

### TUPCF's rule-making process and how to give input

TUPCF's rule making process is consistent with the requirements found in section 119.03 of Ohio Revised Code. However, in addition to those requirements, TUPCF may include interested parties in the rule drafting process prior to the initial filing.

TUPCF will send copies of proposed rules to organizations or associations believed to represent affected individuals in addition to anyone else who requests copies of proposed rules. Members of the public interested in receiving notice of proposed rules should contact the Executive Director of TUPCF at 246 N. High St., 7<sup>th</sup> floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215 (Phone: 614-644-1114).

After proposed rules are initially filed and notice is provided to interested parties, TUPCF will accept and consider comments, preferably in writing, from interested parties regarding the proposed rules throughout the rule-making process.

Interested parties are encouraged to attend the public hearing held for the purpose of soliciting comments and suggestions. Although the public hearing presents a unique opportunity for interested parties to formally present their comments in person to representatives of TUPCF, comments may be submitted in writing prior to or during the hearing. All written and oral comments will be considered part of the official record.

Although the nature of the rule-making process sometimes makes it difficult for an agency to incorporate suggestions offered late in the process and still comply with statutory deadlines, TUPCF will continue to consider comments submitted after the public hearing. However, comments offered after the public hearing should be submitted as quickly as possible to give TUPCF an opportunity to fully consider and review the comments.

In addition to providing input throughout the entire rule making process, individuals with questions about particular rules or the rule making process in general should feel free to call the person identified as the TUPCF contact on the rule summary and fiscal analysis forms.

Lastly, upon filing a rule in final form, TUPCF will send a copy of the rules to known interested parties and anyone else who has requested to be placed on the mailing list described above.