

No smoking at public transport stops and stations

What is happening?

Smoking or vaping is banned at all public transport stops and stations in the ACT from 1 October 2017. The smoking ban is made under the *Smoke-Free Public Places Act 2003*.

Where does this ban apply?

Smoking or vaping is banned within 5 metres of **all** public transport stops and at all transport stations in the ACT. This includes:

- Platforms of passenger railways and light rail stations,
- Bus stops and bus stations,
- Bus stop seating areas, and
- Taxi ranks.

The ban applies regardless of whether the area is covered or uncovered.

What about electronic cigarettes?

All electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes) and personal vaporisers are considered smoking products and are included in the ban.

Will there be signage to show where smoking is banned?

The diverse range of transport stops make it difficult to have one rule for signage. Not all transport stops will display permanent signage about the ban.

All transport stations will be required to display 'No Smoking' Signage. These signs will appear at all bus, train and light rail stations.



No Smoking Sign – ACT Public Transport Stations

Does the smoking ban apply at all times?

Yes, the smoking ban applies at all times, even if public transport is not operating.

In recognising the City Bus Station area also operates as an entertainment area, the smoking ban does not apply to this station between 11pm and 6am. This exemption helps to protect public safety late at night when public transport services are not frequently operating.

How is this enforced?

ACT Government Inspectors appointed under the *Smoke-Free Public Places Act 2003* are authorised to enforce the ban at public transport stops and stations. Officers from Access Canberra, ACT Policing and Transport Canberra and City Services are appointed as inspectors for this ban.

What do I do if I see someone smoking at a bus stop or train station?

If there is an ongoing problem, please call Access Canberra on 132281 or contact a Transport Officer if you are at a station.

How does the law affect private property that is within 5 meters of a public transport waiting area?

Private areas (for example a home garden or courtyard) that are generally not accessible to the public are not public places and therefore are not captured in the smoke-free area.

A vehicle travelling on a road within five metres of a bus stop or a light rail station is also not included in the smoke-free area.

Is there a penalty for smoking at a public transport waiting area?

People who smoke or vape in a declared smoke-free area may face a fine of \$110.

Fines of up to \$440 maybe issued by authorised officers if a person continues to smoke at a public transport stop or station in contravention of a direction to stop smoking.

How can I find out more?

For more information visit the ACT Health website on health.act.gov.au/smokefree.

Accessibility

If you have difficulty reading a standard printed document and would like an alternative format, please phone 13 22 81.



If English is not your first language and you need the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS), please call 13 14 50.

For further accessibility information, visit: www.health.act.gov.au/accessibility

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