East Tennessee State University is committed to providing a safe and healthy learning and living environment for the students, faculty, and staff on its campus. Therefore, East Tennessee State University hereby adopts the following indoor tan-free college campus policy.

Section 1: Findings and Intent
The 2014 Surgeon General’s Call to Action to Prevent Skin Cancer report concluded that there is a strong association between increased risk of skin cancer and indoor tanning use. As documented in the report, “indoor tanning is of strong concern because it has been estimated to be related to more than 400,000 cases of skin cancer in the United States each year: 245,000 Basal Cell Carcinomas (BCC), 168,000 Squamous Cell Carcinomas (SCC), and 6,000 melanomas.” Ultraviolet (UV) radiation exposure from indoor tanning is completely avoidable which allows for interventions to help reduce skin cancer related illness and deaths. The Call to Action set a national goal of preventing skin cancer and protecting youth from UV exposure. Two of these strategies are to, “support organizational policies that discourage indoor tanning by adolescents and young adults” and “enforce existing indoor tanning laws and consider adopting additional restrictions.”

Numerous studies have found that skin cancer is the most common type of cancer in the United States, with melanoma as one of the most common cancers diagnosed among young adults. A meta-analysis of 27 informative studies published in the British Medical Journal in 2012 found an increase in the risk for melanoma in people who first used indoor tanning facilities in their teen years and twenties. It concluded that the use of indoor tanning facilities before the age of 35 increases the risk for melanoma by 59 percent. Despite these risks, indoor tanning is common among adolescents and young adults with 37% of white adolescent females and 11 % of white adolescent males having used indoor tanning facilities at least once in their lifetime.

According to a recent study from the University of Massachusetts Medical School, indoor tanning facilities are commonly found on and around US college campuses. The study surveyed the top 125 US colleges and found that 48% had indoor tanning facilities either on campus or in off-campus housing, and 14% of colleges allow campus cash cards to be used to pay for tanning. Because adolescents are more likely to tan if they live in close proximity (within 2 miles) of an indoor tanning salon, on-campus tanning facilities pose a major threat to the health of the young adults in our nation. Additionally, the availability of unregulated indoor tanning devices in dormitory or college gym settings can further

5 Ibid
6 Ibid
increase health risks by increasing the amount of UV exposure experienced without operators or time
limits to possibly mitigate length of exposure.\(^9\)

Accordingly, East Tennessee State University finds and declares that the purpose of this policy is to
protect the public health and welfare by prohibiting indoor tanning on campus or in college buildings
(gyms, student centers, dormitories etc.).

**Section 2: Definitions**

a) “Phototherapy device” means equipment that emits ultraviolet radiation and is used in the
diagnosis or treatment of disease or injury.

b) “Tanning device” means equipment that emits electromagnetic radiation having wavelengths in
the air between 200 and 400 nanometers and that is used for tanning of human skin and any
equipment used with that equipment, including but not limited to protective eyewear, timers and
handrails. Such term shall not include a phototherapy device used, or prescribed for use, by a
physician.

c) “Tanning facility” means any location, place, area, structure, or business that provides persons
access to any tanning device, including tanning salons, health clubs, gyms, student centers,
dormitories, regardless of whether a fee is charged for access to the tanning equipment.

**Section 3: Policy**

In light of the above findings, the East Tennessee State University campus shall be Indoor Tan-Free
at the Platinum Level. The Platinum Level is reached upon meeting all of the required Skin Smart
Campus criteria, as outlined below, in a campus-wide policy.

As such, indoor tanning devices are prohibited on the East Tennessee State University campus or in
university-affiliated buildings.

Additionally, East Tennessee State University meets all of the following criteria:

- East Tennessee State University will not list any off-campus housing that includes indoor tanning
  as an amenity on the university’s off-campus housing listings website.
- East Tennessee State University will not permit any indoor tanning salon to be included as an ID
  BUC$ off-campus merchant.
- East Tennessee State University must provide access to educational programming (e.g.,
educational website) focusing on the risks of UV exposure and skin cancer prevention practices to
  students, faculty and staff at all times.

The success of this policy will depend on the thoughtfulness, consideration, and cooperation of all
students, faculty, and staff sharing in the responsibility for adhering to and enforcing this policy.

Violations of the policy will be treated in accordance with general campus disciplinary procedures.

This Policy shall be effective as of Monday, July 11, 2016.

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