

Fragrance-Free Fact Sheet: Faculty

what can you do as a faculty member?

As a faculty member, you have the opportunity to create a positive and inclusive space for students, staff, and colleagues. This fact sheet will equip you with specific steps you can take to create a safer classroom.

Personal Changes

- Reduce and limit your use of fragranced products whenever possible.
- Read ingredient labels before buying personal care products and household cleaning products. Watch out for “fragrance,” “scent,” or “parfum” ingredients, which are likely to contain hazardous chemicals.
- Be aware that some products marketed as “unscented” still contain fragrance. This is often identified as a “masking scent” on the ingredient list. It is a neutral-smelling synthetic fragrance designed to hide the smell of other ingredients in the product.
- If this seems overwhelming, try to instead choose products with fewer synthetic ingredients. Use phone apps like The Household Products Database, Skin Deep, or Think Dirty to help easily identify which products are safest.

In Your Classroom

- During the first class meeting, take the time to explain the fragrance-free initiative and rationale, your policies, and your commitment to listen to concerns and answer questions.
- Include language in your syllabus explaining the decision to create a fragrance-free space.

Example: In an effort to create accessible spaces for everyone, I ask that students refrain from wearing scented products such as perfume/colognes, hair products, cosmetics, and scented lotions while attending class, and avoid using scented soaps, shampoos, and detergents prior to class. These products can cause serious health issues for those with fragrance allergies and/or chemical sensitivities. For more information on being fragrance-free, please visit <http://sharetheair.ucla.edu>.

- Designate a non-discriminatory section of fragrance-free seating in your class in a well-ventilated place (possibly near open windows or an air purifier).
- Consider allowing fresh air breaks during class to allow individuals to take a break from disruptive fragrances.
- Before important events, such as exams, remind students to be fragrance-free, as scents can disrupt other students’ ability to perform

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In Your Office

- Use an air purifier rather than air fresheners or scented candles
- Post a sign on your office door or bulletin board.

Example: This is a Fragrance-Free Space

Please refrain from wearing scented products such as perfume, cologne, and fragrant personal care products while using this space.

We aim to maintain a welcoming and accessible environment for everyone who uses this space. Please refrain from wearing scented products such as perfumes/ colognes, scented lotions, clothing with strong detergent scents, etc. while using this space as they can trigger serious health issues for those with fragrance allergies. We appreciate your cooperation in making this area accessible!

More info on how to be fragrance-free and why can be found here:

<http://sharetheair.ucla.edu>

Thank you for your consideration for all members of our community.

- When scheduling office meetings, remind others of the policy; fragrances are designed to linger and may make the space inaccessible for later visitors.

Example: Please be aware that this is a fragrance-free office. To provide an accessible environment, I ask that you refrain from wearing scented products such as perfume/cologne or strongly scented personal care products during your visit. Thank you for your consideration of all members of our community. For more information on being fragrance-free, please visit <http://sharetheair.ucla.edu>.

