

BRESCIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE GUIDELINES ON FRAGRANCE

Staff, Faculty and students of Brescia University College are requested to consider the health and well-being of others when applying fragrances and scented personal care products and to refrain from wearing excessive amounts of scented products.

Why Guidelines?

The Brescia University College Guidelines on Fragrance are designed to help employees and students at Brescia take steps to minimize the impact of their personal choices on others. More and more, individuals are affected negatively by the wide range of fragrances and scented products available for personal use. We tend to work and socialize in enclosed spaces in close proximity to one another for hours at a time, and this creates challenges. The Health and Safety Committee has responded to numerous requests to draft guidelines about fragrance.

The Details:

How can I tell if my use of scented products is excessive?

Personal fragrance should be limited to your personal space (the space an arm's-reach out from you—60 cm/2 feet). Remember that as a fragrance user you may become accustomed to the scent; you may think your use is quite light, when others around you might find the scent very strong.

Are there alternatives?

Many of the personal products we use have strong fragrances built in (deodorants, soap, hand lotion, face lotion, hair spray, etc.) These products are also available in unscented format. Consider using these alternatives, especially if you are in frequent contact with others who may be sensitive to chemical scents.

What if someone's scent affects me?

If you experience a negative reaction to fragrance or other scented personal products that someone is using, you are encouraged to approach that person-diplomatically! Explain that you are experiencing a reaction, and ask the person to please use less of the product. You are entitled to make the request, and to follow up with your supervisor if necessary.

What if someone approaches me about my use of fragrance?

Please respond generously and with caring. Consider the health situation of the person who has approached you, and how difficult it may have been for her/him to decide to mention the matter. Don't take it personally - the person is not reacting to you, but to a chemical or scent that has been included in one of the products you use.

Further Information

If you are interested in this topic, check out the following websites:

www.ccohs.ca/

www.trannyfest.com/scent/scent.html

www.andrearoase.com/

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Council November 22, 2002