

OCCIDENTAL COLLEGE PLASTIC BAN

Proposed by the Students of UEP300

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I. Proposed Policy

The Students of UEP300 propose the ban of single-use plastic from all Dining Facilities on the Occidental College campus in an effort to reduce waste production from the college, lessen environmental impact, and encourage thoughtful consumption on part of the greater student body. The Campus Dining Department has already taken initiatives to supply compostable utensils and to-go bags, and this policy intends to expand on those measures. Changes will apply to the following Campus Dining facilities: Marketplace, Tiger Cooler, Coffee Cart, and catered meals (including Berkus Dinner).

II. Policy Details and Timeline

This policy will take on a two-step approach over the 2019-2020 academic year in an attempt to maintain a smooth transition. The preoperational Phase One introduces single-use plastic alternatives to Campus Dining. Phase Two ends the purchases of single-use plastic products and imposes increased charges and a Plastic Tax on the remaining single-use plastic product reserves. Both of these phases work to lessen the consumption of single-use plastics, which can be defined as products (and their individual packaging) containing plastics, which are intended to be disposed of after a single use. Examples of single-use plastic products currently available through Campus Dining include: bottled beverages, chip bags, straws, to-go containers, etc. Bulk food dispensers will be used for feasible products in an effort to reduce plastic consumption while still providing options to students.

Phase	Date	Projects
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Phase One	Spring 2019 Semester	- Select Plastic Ban Committee - Begin research on single-use plastic alternatives
	Fall 2019 Semester	- Begin stocking single-use plastic alternatives - Purchase only non-plastic replacements for any necessary equipment
Phase Two	Spring 2020 Semester	- Complete stocking of single-use plastic alternatives - Stop purchasing single-use plastics - Impose Plastic Tax on remaining single-use plastic food product reserves - Impose charges for plastic to-go containers, straws

This two-phase plan has been thoughtfully applied in order to ensure product availability and smooth transition for facilities, students, and faculty. Upon adoption of this Ban, the Plastic Ban Committee (as proposed in Section IV) will research and determine prospective alternatives to single-use plastic products already sold at Campus Dining facilities.

The taxes and additional charges proposed in Phase Two are:

- A. \$4 charge for to-go containers (50% discount for Student ID)
- B. \$3 charge for small to-go containers (50% discount for Student ID)
- C. \$2 charge for straws (50% discount for Student ID)
- D. 50% plastic tax on plastic food packaging
- E. 50% plastic tax on plastic beverage containers

These taxes and charges will help discourage the purchase of plastic. While the increase in cost is proportionally quite high, we believe that changes in cost will prove effective in increasing awareness of plastic consumption. Eco clamshells will remain available, and will still afford the user a 25¢ discount off their purchase.

The money acquired from the taxes and charges will be allocated towards Campus Dining funds to purchase alternative single-use products. As stated in Phase One, upon adoption of the Ban, Campus Dining maintains the responsibility to purchase non-plastic replacements of multiple-use plastic products (ex. carts, trays, reusable plates, etc.).

III. Stakeholders/Impacts

This Policy Applies to:

1. Occidental Students
2. Staff
3. Faculty
4. Visitors

IV. Monitor

A Plastic Ban Committee will be created to monitor the implementation of the Ban. The group will consist of the proposed Lead Student Intern for Sustainability Research and Implementation, five selected student volunteers, and the Associate Directors of Campus Dining (or another relevant official of comparable position). The Plastic Ban Committee will release a Implementation Report every quarter of the school year, which will communicate progress of the Ban to the public.

V. Enforcement

This policy will take a top-down approach to enforcement. The Occidental Associate Directors of Campus Dining and supervisors of each Campus Dining facility will mandate and ensure that these policies are followed.