



Indiana University Bloomington Operational Guidelines for Students for Campus Protests, Demonstrations, Picketing, Chalking, or Bridge Painting

Expressive activities may be undertaken in most outdoor areas of campus. Historically, Dunn Meadow (Assembly Grounds), outside Sample Gates, and all perimeter sidewalks maintained by the City of Bloomington are available for expressive activity. Students, faculty, staff, and visitors may want to offer a supportive or contrary opinion proximate to any campus program or activity. IU encourages civil dialogue and expression and sharing of opinions and beliefs that do not pose a threat of physical harm to any student, faculty, staff, or visitor.

IU Bloomington has designed and reserved the Arboretum and Dunn's Woods for reflection and quiet respite from the sounds of the rest of campus. Demonstrations, handing out flyers, tabling, and other forms of solicitation and expressive activity are not allowed in these areas.

To ensure that demonstrators and counter demonstrators do not interfere with the operations of Indiana University or the rights of others, individuals and groups engaged in expressive activity shall not:

- Engage in activity that violates any federal, state, or local law, including but not limited to threats of violence, infliction of harm, and vandalism;
- Disrupt activities in areas that are used for instructional, administrative, or residential purposes, or are not otherwise open to the general public, such as classrooms, studios, laboratories, residential space, or office areas;
- Obstruct pedestrian, vehicular, bicycle, or other traffic;
- Obstruct entrances or exits to buildings or driveways;
- Disrupt or preclude a scheduled speaker from being heard;
- Disrupt normal educational functions, business functions, scheduled ceremonies or events, including but not limited to athletic and cultural events;
- Damage property, including hard and vegetative landscaping features;
- Disrupt events or functions by using non-approved amplification (such as bullhorns or noise makers) or other sound (such as drums, gongs, banging on trashcans, etc.);
- Visually obstruct or cover up speakers, their supporters, protestors, signage of demonstrators or counter demonstrators;
- Camp overnight, including cooking, living outside or in overnight structures;
- Wear masks that are intended to obscure the identity of the wearer for the purpose of engaging in vandalism or other criminal activity, or are intended to intimidate or to make others fear for their safety.

Students may protest or demonstrate an event as long as they are not disruptive to that event. In the event that a demonstrator or counter demonstrator who is a University student, faculty member, or staff member is observed by a University official to be engaging in disruptive behavior in violation of these guidelines, that person will identify themselves upon request by the University official.

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Demonstrators and counter demonstrators not affiliated with Indiana University who are observed by a University official to be engaging in disruptive behavior in violation of these guidelines will be directed to leave the campus immediately or be subject to citation or arrest for trespassing. Members of a Demonstration Response Safety Team (comprised of IU officials from appropriate units) will staff protests or demonstrations to answer questions and help ensure safety.

Students found violating IU policies related to expressive activities according to the *IU Code of Student Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct* may be held accountable through the student conduct process. Students arrested may also face criminal and legal actions.

Guidelines for Chalking and Bridge Painting

Chalking and bridge painting are forms of expression and, as such, are allowed on the IUB campus, subject to the guidelines specified here. Chalking and bridge painting are limited to students, registered student organizations, official University departments or offices, faculty members, and staff members. All chalking and painting must otherwise adhere to University policies.

Chalking Guidelines

- Chalking is a temporary form of communication, typically used for meeting call-outs or immediate responses to current events. Therefore, it is permitted only in open areas on horizontal surfaces, such as sidewalks or plazas, which can reasonably be expected to be reached by rain and are not covered by an overhang.
- Specifically, chalking is prohibited in the following areas:
 - On exterior facades of buildings;
 - On surfaces such as walls, columns, terrace-retaining walls, trees, limestone benches, or covered entry walkways into a building;
 - On steps or stairs attached to or leading toward any buildings;
 - Underneath any covering (i.e., areas which will not be washed away by rainfall);
 - Within 10 feet of any door or building entrance.
- Only water-soluble stick type chalk (sidewalk chalk) is allowed. No spray chalk, markers, paints (latex or oil-based), or similar products may be used.



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Bridge Painting Guidelines

The bridges on Jordan Avenue between 10th Street and Law Lane have been designated for painting. Painting the bridges is on a first-come, first-use basis.

- Respectfully, individuals and organizations are expected not to cover or “guard” the bridges after painting them in order to prevent other persons or groups from painting over their work.
- Painting on sidewalks adjacent to the bridges is prohibited. (Chalking is allowed on the sidewalks.)
- Spilled paint on sidewalks must immediately be removed as it presents a serious slipping hazard to pedestrians, especially in cold weather.
- No other painting of any sort is permitted on any University property.

Violations of these guidelines constitute grounds for removal of the material by the campus Facilities Office, which reserves the right to charge for the cost of removal and any associated repairs. Individuals or organizations that violate these guidelines may be referred to the Office of Student Conduct, Bias Incident Reporting Team, and/or the Indiana University Police Department. They may also be subject to civil or criminal charges (e.g., vandalism), in addition to discipline under the student or employee disciplinary process appropriate to the nature of their relationship to the university.

Assistance

These guidelines are designed to prevent disruption of the University’s educational and business functions and other University events and activities, to protect individual and public safety, and to prevent destruction of property. These guidelines apply irrespective of the content of the expressive activity; in fact, they are designed to facilitate robust opportunities for expressive activity. The Office of Student Life and Learning (SLL) is available to help all students in planning safe, expressive activities that adhere to the guidelines provided above. SLL may be contacted at (812) 855-4311, iusll@indiana.edu, or by visiting its office in the Indiana Memorial Union, Room 371 of the Student Activities Tower.



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Q&A Section

What is the purpose of these guidelines?

These guidelines have been developed to inform students, faculty, staff, and visitors of the University's reasonable time, place, and manner restrictions in order to ensure that individual rights to free speech are not in conflict with the rights of students, faculty, and staff to pursue their education, to perform their jobs, and to participate in the university's cultural and athletic events.

Where can I chalk?

Chalking is permitted in open areas and on a horizontal surface, such as sidewalks or plazas, not covered by an overhang that can reasonably be expected to be reached by rain. Reminder: you cannot chalk on steps or stairs attached or leading toward any buildings.

Where can I paint?

The bridges on Jordan Avenue between 10th Street and Law Lane have been designated for painting. Painting the bridges is on a first-come, first-use basis.

What can I chalk/paint?

The university recognizes the rights of all students to engage in discussion, to express thoughts and opinions, and to write on any subject without university interference or fear of university disciplinary action (IU Code of Conduct, Section E). Chalking messages may not be threatening or target specific individuals. Chalking is not permanent and therefore can be removed or chalked over at any time by other students. The University will remove painting/chalking in prohibited areas.

Where do I go with complaints about what someone has chalked/painted?

If you believe that a chalking or bridge painting violates university policy, you may file a complaint with the Office of Student Life and Learning at IUSLL@indiana.edu and/or by using the Bias Incident Reporting Form at studentaffairs.indiana.edu/dean-students/incident-teams.

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