



Free Speech, Demonstrations, and Political Campaigns

There are campus policies to ensure unobstructed access, non-disruption of academic and University authorized activities, and specific venue policies regarding posters, banners, picket signs, and amplified sound. Please confer with individual campus locations for specific policies. Student Life and Learning is available to help provide an orientation on your rights and responsibilities, in order to promote public health, safety, and welfare in accordance with this policy. Please contact us at 812-855-4311, email iusll@indiana.edu, or stop in our office at Indiana Memorial Union Room 371 of the Student Activities Tower.

Please note: Indiana University has designed and reserved the following spaces for reflection and quiet from the sounds of the rest of campus: The Arboretum, Dunn's Woods and Jordan River Fields (located directly south of Woodburn Hall). Handing out flyers, tabling, and other forms of solicitation and demonstration are not allowed in these areas.

A Note to Indiana University Students

Students may engage in peaceful protests, demonstrations, and picketing that do not disrupt functions of the university and subject to the appropriate regulation concerning time, place and manner. If a student feels that this right has been violated, the student may file a request with the Dean of Students for an investigation and appropriate action." (*Code of Student Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct*, Part I, Section E, page 4, approved by Indiana University Board of Trustees, June 24, 2005)

If you are approached by demonstrators and you do not wish to engage in discussion with them, it is advisable to refrain from provoking or ridiculing them.

You may report incidents that you regard to be motivated by bias to the Incident Teams by calling 855-8188 or emailing (incident@indiana.edu).

If you feel that your physical access to the campus and its facilities is being blocked or that your personal safety is being violated or threatened, you may call the IU Police Department at 911 in emergency situations or 855-4111 in non-emergencies.



POLICY: Indiana University Free Speech Rights and Responsibilities

As an institution of higher education, Indiana University is committed to the free exchange of ideas. In accordance with its responsibilities under the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, Indiana University affords students, faculty, staff and visitors the right to assemble and express their opinions in public areas of the campus. The University is committed to protecting the free speech rights of students, faculty, staff and guests. Indiana University respects the Campus Community's rights to free speech and expressive activity (such as assembling, speaking, writing, publishing and inviting speakers on any subject)¹ within public and designated public forums, but also acts to preserve public health, safety and welfare, the normal business uses of the campus, and the rights of others to legitimately use and enjoy the campus.

Indiana University, as a public institution, does not take any position on or action against a message or a speaker based on the content of the message. While you are here, you may see or hear demonstrators who express ideas that you consider to be distasteful. Please remember that Indiana University does not endorse the message of any particular speaker or group of speakers.

The University may regulate the time, place, and manner of free speech and expressive activities in order to prevent unreasonable interference or disruption of its educational, research, outreach and business functions, normal or scheduled uses of University property by the Campus Community, as well as protecting public health, safety and welfare.

There are numerous locations on campus available to express your views. Dunn Meadow (Assembly Grounds), outside Sample Gates, and all perimeter sidewalks maintained by the City of Bloomington are available for free speech activity. Students and citizens may want to offer a supportive or contrary opinion proximate to any campus program or activity. IU encourages civil dialogue, expression and sharing of opinions and beliefs. The following general conditions of use apply to all areas on the University campus:

- Activities may not be conducted in a manner that violates any federal, state or local law.
- Activities may not be conducted in a manner or at a time or place that is either incompatible or unreasonably interferes with the educational, research, service, or other legitimate functions of the University.
- Activities may not be conducted in a manner that violates the rules, regulations, or policies of the Indiana University Code of Student Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct.
- Activities may not be conducted in a manner that violates applicable fire or safety regulations.
- Activities may not disrupt academic activity, block egress (i.e. block safe access to exits and entrances, hallways, sidewalks, streets etc.) or pose a threat to the personal safety of community members.
- Overnight camping is not a form of expression and, therefore, permission will not be granted to cook or live in overnight structures.



POLICY: Guidelines for Political Campaign Invitations, Events, and Activities

Indiana University encourages students, staff, and faculty members to exercise their constitutional right to vote and to actively participate and express their opinions regarding local, state, and national political candidates, issues, and referendums. However, as a public institution, Indiana University receives tax exempt status under sections 115 and 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. In order to maintain this status, the University shall not participate or intervene in any political campaign and must prevent its resources from being used in any way that could appear to support a political candidate.

Examples of University resources that should not be used to support a political campaign or candidate include but are not limited to:

- The University’s name, logo, or other identifying mark;
 - Note: For more information, please refer to <http://policies.iu.edu/policies/categories/financial/licensing-trademarks/FIN-LT-licensing-and-trademark-policy.shtml>
 - The University’s funds, facilities, office supplies, photo equipment, letterhead, telephones, fax machines, computers, etc.;
 - The University’s information technology resources such as email, websites and on-line discussion boards.
 - Note: For more information, please refer to <http://informationpolicy.iu.edu/policies/IT01>
1. Student Organization Sponsored Invitations and Events:
 - i. “Student organization” refers to a student group that is recognized in accordance with any specific campus policies or practices.
 - ii. A student organization hosting an event may extend invitations to candidates to come and speak. A student organization is not obligated to invite all legally-qualified candidates if the student organization is using its own funds and resources. However, no campaign fundraising may occur and the student organization must include a brief statement when introducing the candidate that the University does not endorse or oppose any candidate or organization in connection with this or any other political campaign or election.
 - iii. The nature of the event will determine the facility rental charge that a student organization will be assessed. If it is a campus community event and is not open to the general public, then the normal fees, if any, assessed to a student organization for facility rental and usage fees can be applied. However, if the event is open to the general public, facility rental and usage fees must be charged.
 - iv. Appropriate steps should be taken by student organizations to avoid the appearance of the University’s endorsement of or opposition to any candidate.



I. Examples of Prohibited Activities:

- A. The University shall not expressly or impliedly endorse any candidate for public office.
- B. Hyperlinks to the websites of candidates for public office shall not be placed on the University's website in any manner that favors one candidate over another.
- C. No political fundraising may occur on university property or through the use of the University's technology resources.
- D. Student organizations shall not use the name of the University or any trademark of the University, such as a logo, in connection with political candidates or partisan political activities. Additional information about the policies and regulations related to logos and licensing can be found at: <http://policies.iu.edu/policies/categories/financial/licensing-trademarks/FIN-LT-licensing-and-trademark-policy.shtml>
- E. Student organizations shall not use University funds on behalf of a candidate for public office in a political campaign or to influence the public legislature.
- F. The foregoing is not exhaustive. Maintaining its 501(c)(3) tax status is of the utmost importance to the University and sensible judgment and due diligence should be exercised in arranging any event or activity that involves political activity.

For the full policy, please visit the PDF at <http://gov.iu.edu/policies/faculty-activity.shtml>.