

UMKC's Campus Free Expression Act of 2015 Guidelines

The University of Missouri-Kansas City's facilities and grounds are intended for use by students, faculty and staff in support of UMKC's mission of teaching, research, service, and economic development. UMKC is also committed to protecting the freedom of expression and making its facilities and grounds available for expressive activities. The following regulations are adopted to govern the time, place, and manner of expressive activities that fall under the Missouri Campus Free Expression Act (MO Senate Bill 93) of 2015.

Expressive activity on campus must follow the following requirements. Expressive activities must be outside University buildings unless otherwise authorized by University personnel. Expressive activities must not:

- Attract a crowd larger than the location the spontaneous expressive activity can safely contain.
- Substantially disrupt University activities inside or outside of buildings (including classes).
- Substantially disrupt previously scheduled campus events.
- Utilize any amplification that disrupts adjacent University activities.
- Obstruct entrances or exits to buildings
- Obstruct vehicular or pedestrian traffic.
- Include camping or the use of temporary shelters (e.g., tents).
- Construct structures or set up items requiring penetration in earth, concrete, brick or similar surfaces on University grounds without prior authorization. To seek authorization, please complete a reservation here:
<https://go.umkc.edu/spacereservation>.
- Affix items to any permanent structure or grounds (railings, buildings, greenways, trees, etc.).
- Light any material on fire, provided that hand-held candles may be utilized with special permission of the UMKC Fire Marshal and use of University-provided grills may be used as approved. Other open flame devices and bonfires are strictly prohibited.
- Set up or maintain any "display" unless it is a) staffed at all times; b) accompanied by signage identifying the individual or organization that set it up; and c) placed to minimize interference with University maintenance activities or other operations. A "display" means an item that is designed to or does stand on its own without being held or supported by a person. Items that are carried or held by people (such as hand-carried signs, flags, or banners) are not considered displays.
- Injure persons, damage or destroy property, or threaten to cause such injury or damage.
- Create safety hazards, or jeopardize the safety and security of participants or others.
- Occupy a building without authorization when it is normally closed according

to its usual schedule (i.e., when it is not accessible to individuals other than those with building keys, access badges or codes, etc.)

- Hold demonstrations, protests, rallies, vigils, or assemblies or maintain displays for more than 8 hours during a 24-hour period without an approved reservation.
- Violate any applicable federal or state law or regulation or any applicable local government ordinance.
- Violate the [University's Equal Employment/Educational Opportunity and Nondiscrimination Policy](#), [Sexual Harassment under Title IX](#) policy, or other applicable University rule or policy.

Additional Provisions

The following provisions apply to both reservation requests and spontaneous expressive activities.

1. *Distribution of Written Material*. Non-commercial pamphlets, handbills, circulars, newspapers, magazines and other written materials may be distributed on a person-to-person basis in open areas outside of buildings and other closed structures on the campus. Materials may not be left in untended receptacles or piles and may not be left on vehicles. Materials not officially published by the University or a recognized student organization may not state or imply that they are connected with the University.
2. Students and student organizations may not engage in any type of activity violating the [University of Missouri Student Standard of Conduct](#).
3. Persons or organizations engaging in activity that results in damage or destruction of property owned or operated by the University or property belonging to students, faculty, staff, or guests of the University may be held financially responsible.
4. Persons or organizations responsible for an activity covered under this policy must remove all signs and litter from the area at the end of the event. Otherwise, persons or organizations responsible for the event may be held financially responsible for any cleaning costs. Any items left behind or unattended (including memorials) may be removed after the event.
5. To request a reservation of University facilities or grounds, complete the appropriate space reservation request located here: <https://go.umkc.edu/spacereservation> When assessing a reservation request or when informed of spontaneous expressive activities on campus, University of Missouri - Kansas City personnel must not consider the content or viewpoint of the expression or the possible reaction to that expression, except to the extent such factors are relevant to assessing appropriate security measures.
6. University personnel may not impose restrictions on individuals or organizations engaged in expressive activities due to the content or viewpoint of their expression or the possible reaction to that expression. In the event that other persons react negatively to this expression, University personnel can take all necessary steps to ensure public safety while allowing the expressive activity to continue.
7. The end of each semester involves especially significant official use of facilities

and grounds and especially significant interest in maintaining an environment free of disruption. Accordingly, special restrictions apply to use of facilities and grounds near the end of each semester. Only official academic and administrative units of the University, University-related foundations and the University alumni association, and registered student organizations with approval of their faculty advisor and campus leadership, are allowed to reserve spaces after the last day of classes through the end of University commencement activities. Scheduled or unscheduled expression that could create noise disruption on campus will not be allowed during that period.

8. UMKC Police maintain ultimate discretion to end any activity if it is deemed to be a threat to campus safety.