

UMKC's Campus Free Expression Act of 2015 Guidelines

All members of the University of Missouri - Kansas City community, students, faculty, and staff share a mutual interest in maintaining conditions where the work of the University can go forward freely, in accordance with the highest standards of quality, institutional integrity, and freedom of expression. To that end, UMKC is committed to retaining an academic environment for free expression and debate where each member of the public has the freedom to speak, assemble peaceably, and to petition for redress of grievances.

The following regulations are adopted to govern the time, place, and manner of demonstrations and other assemblies that fall under the Missouri Campus Free Expression Act (MO Senate Bill 93) of 2015.

Members of the Public At Large

Members of the public engaging in expressive activity on campus should 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 of the spontaneous expressive activity can safely contain.
- Significantly disrupt University activities inside or outside of buildings (including classes).
- Significantly 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).
- 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. Other open flame devices and bonfires are strictly prohibited.
- Represent a threat to public safety, according to the discretion of UMKC Police.

Students and Student Organizations

A student at the University of Missouri - Kansas City assumes an obligation to behave in a manner compatible with the University's function as an educational institution and voluntarily enters into a community of high achieving scholars as part of their recognition process. Consequently, while members of the public may have the opportunity to express themselves freely; students and student organizations are held to higher standards and

may not engage in any type of harassment, bullying, retaliation, discrimination, or any other act violating the [University of Missouri Student Standard of Conduct](#).

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.
2. Expressive activity and expression covered under this policy must be in compliance with all applicable state and federal laws and University of Missouri policies, rules, and regulations.
3. 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 is prohibited. Persons or organizations causing such damage 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. 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. UMKC Police maintain ultimate discretion to end any activity if it is deemed to be a threat to campus safety.