

Prairie View A&M University
UNIVERSITY RULE

07.03.01.P1 Political Campaign Events on Property Under the Control of Prairie View A&M University

Approved April 6, 2001
Revised February 25, 2002
Revised September 7, 2016
Revised March 2, 2021
Revised October 7, 2022
Next Scheduled Review: October 7, 2027



Rule Statement

As a state-supported institution of higher education, Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) is required to remain neutral in political activities. The university recognizes the constitutional rights and privileges of individual faculty, staff, and students concerning freedom of speech and participation in political events. While PVAMU encourages the free exchange of ideas and will protect freedom of speech, the university maintains its right to impose reasonable time, place, and manner restrictions regarding political activities on university property.

Reason for Rule

This rule provides guidance governing the use of PVAMU property and facilities for political activities and events.

Official Procedures and Responsibilities

1. INSTITUTIONAL NEUTRALITY

- 1.1 PVAMU will remain neutral in regards to any partisan political activity. The university will not endorse, support or promote any political candidate or any partisan political activity. Furthermore, all university employees including faculty, staff, and students should avoid any behavior that could reasonably be interpreted as official university endorsement or support of political candidates or partisan political activities.

2. DISCRIMINATION BASED ON POLITICAL VIEWPOINT

- 2.1 PVAMU will not discriminate against any organization or individual on the basis of political affiliation or doctrine, nor will it favor any political organization or doctrine over another.

3. USE OF UNIVERSITY FUNDS, SERVICES, OR FACILITIES

- 3.1 In accordance with System Policy [07.03 Conflicts of Interest, Dual Office Holding and Political Activities](#), no PVAMU employee shall expend or authorize the expenditure of any university funds, services, or supplies for the purpose of influencing the outcome of any election, or partisan political activity.

- 3.2 Political candidates or non-institutional affiliates are not permitted to reserve university facilities for political campaign events.
- 3.3 Recognized student organizations, faculty, and staff groups may reserve university facilities for speakers or programs related to political events on campus. University organizations/groups desiring to sponsor such an event must complete a [Request to Schedule an Event/Program/Sales/Solicitation Form](#) and submit it to the Office of Student Engagement for approval prior to the event.
- 3.4 All approved political events held on campus are subject to the guidelines within University Administrative Procedures [61.99.99.P0.03 Freedom of Expression](#) and [41.01.01.P0.01 Use of University Facilities](#).

4. VISITS BY CURRENT POLITICAL OFFICEHOLDERS

- 4.1 In any circumstance where the nature of an officeholder's visit is not clear prior to arrival, university officials should use their best efforts to determine in advance if the officeholder will be engaging in any partisan activities during the visit. The President or designee may request a written statement from the sponsoring campus organization to clarify the nature of the visit.

5. USE OF SYMBOLS, INSIGNIA, AND OTHER IDENTIFYING MARKS

- 5.1 Prairie View A&M University prohibits the use of its name, logos, symbols, insignias, or other identifying marks in the endorsement, support, or promotion of political candidates or partisan political activities.

6. SPONSORSHIPS OF POLITICAL EVENTS BY RECOGNIZED STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS OR FACULTY/STAFF GROUPS

- 6.1 Recognized student organizations and faculty and staff groups may sponsor candidates for political office or current officeholders to speak at a university event in accordance with all applicable university requirements. In sponsoring a partisan political activity on campus, a recognized student organization or faculty/staff group must be responsible for seeking the appropriate approvals for any space requests, communicating and collaborating with the appropriate university officials about the event. On days when a venue is being used as a polling site, all campaign materials must be at least 100 feet from any entrance.

7. DISCLAIMER STATEMENT

- 7.1 PVAMU reserves the right to require that a statement be made prior to the presentation of any speaker or on promotional materials that the views expressed by the speaker are not necessarily those of Prairie View A&M University, The Texas A&M University System (A&M System), or the sponsoring group.

8. POLLING PLACE GUIDELINES FOR ELECTIONEERING

- 8.1 All parties must abide by the State of [Texas Election Code 62.013](#), as it relates to all political signage.
- 8.2 All parties must abide by State of [Texas Election Code 61.004](#), as it relates to operation of sound amplification devices (including sound trucks).

- 8.3 All signage on the PVAMU campus must adhere to the following:
 - 8.3.1 May not obstruct ramps, walkways or driveways;
 - 8.3.2 Must be in the designated area (see [PVAMU Election Polling Place Map](#)); and,
 - 8.3.3 Signs must be removed immediately after the voting period has ended.
- 8.4 During the time a campus polling place is open for voting, no candidate for public office or any of their representatives may:
 - 8.4.1 Disrupt classes or other university activities;
 - 8.4.2 Violate federal or state laws;
 - 8.4.3 Violate any A&M System Regulation or Policy;
 - 8.4.4 Violate any PVAMU University Rule or Procedure;
 - 8.4.5 Post signs inside university buildings;
 - 8.4.6 Post signs that include the insignia/logo of the A&M System or PVAMU;
 - 8.4.7 Post messages on campus electronic message boards; or,
 - 8.4.8 Damage university property in any way.
- 8.5 Due to space limitations on campus, signage will be restricted to:
 - 8.5.1 No more than four (4) signs per candidate; and,
 - 8.5.2 No more than 2x3 feet in size.
- 8.6 Due to underground water, gas, and other utility lines, outside digging equipment including: diggers, t-bars, shovels, spades, augers or other machinery is prohibited without prior written consent from the University Police Department.

Definitions

Electioneering – includes the posting, use, or distribution of political signs or literature.

Voting Period – the period beginning when the polls open for voting and ending when the polls close or the last voter has voted, whichever is later.

Related Statutes, Policies, Regulations and Rules

[System Policy 07.03, Conflicts of Interest, Dual Office Holding and Political Events](#)

[System Regulation 07.03.01, Political Campaign Events on Property Under the Control of The Texas A&M University System](#)

[UAP 41.01.01.P0.01 Use of Facilities](#)

[UAP 61.99.99.P0.03 Freedom of Expression](#)

[Texas Election Code](#)

[PVAMU Election Polling Place Map](#)

Contact Office

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University Police Department	936-261-1375
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