

University Policies and Procedures

Statement of Freedom of expression

Southeast Missouri State University is committed to creating a learning environment that facilitates an open exchange of ideas and respects the rights of students, faculty and staff. While the University encourages free speech and other forms of expression, it is also required in certain situations to restrict time, place, and manner of expression to protect the rights of all members of the University community, and to serve its educational mission. Towards these ends, the University has developed the following statements.

Public Expression

Six (6) free speech areas are designated around the University campus to provide unregulated free expression for students and other demonstrators. For these purposes, “demonstrator” means any person who is participating in legally protected expression. These areas are within ten feet diameters of each of the following four public information kiosks (located north of Kent Library, between the Serena Building and Brandt Hall, southeast of Scully Building, and east of Rhodes Hall), on the terraces outside Academic Hall, and on the University Center patio.

Demonstrators may not impede the flow of pedestrian or automobile traffic, nor use amplification devices that disturb the peace. Non-student demonstrators shall limit their activities to these public places, unless they are sponsored and accompanied by a registered student organization or University department. For public safety reasons, the University requests that demonstrators notify the Department of Public Safety and/or the Dean of Students of their intentions.

Legally prohibited forms of expression (e.g. obscenity, fighting words, harassment, littering, vandalism, verbal assault, and disturbance of the peace) are not permitted in these or other areas on campus. Offenders will be charged accordingly within the University’s judicial system.

Public Distribution of Printed Material

The free speech areas may be used to distribute printed materials to passer bys, and the brown kiosks and other Public Information Boards may be used to post any legally-protected printed material. Chalking on the horizontal, uncovered surfaces of sidewalks is also permissible. In all situations, the University reserves its trademarks, logotypes, and names for official use only. These public boards are the only locations that are permissible for non-University affiliated postings.

University Center Travel Policy

The following guidelines have been established for all students traveling on behalf of the University. All students are expected to adhere to these guidelines.

- Students are responsible for their behavior and will be held accountable to the Code of Student Conduct while traveling on behalf of the University.
- Student Government and Southeast Missouri State University do not allow consumption of alcohol at University sponsored/supported/affiliated functions. Representatives of Southeast Missouri State University are expected to abide by the laws of the state which they are in. Use of controlled substances is strictly prohibited under any circumstances.
- Respect should be shown at all times for others and all non-personal property.
- If an advisor or student leader feels that any student has not adhered to these guidelines and has behaved in a manner which is unprofessional, illegal, or irresponsible, that student could face judicial charges upon return to campus. (For more details regarding student rights and responsibilities see the Code of Student Conduct).
- If student organizations need to rent a car and University funds (i.e. SG or Department funding) are being used, then the student organization/student must use the University contracted company. Additional insurance may need to be purchased before traveling.
- Students may need to sign a travel wavier form.

Contact Information

[Coordinator for Student Involvement](#), University Center Room 414 or 651-2280