

Policy Against Gambling

Code (Item 2.06) Illegal gambling is not permitted at Fitchburg State University. Examples of prohibited conduct include, but are not limited to, the following activities:

- Betting on or selling “pools” pertaining to athletic or other events
- Card-playing, either “in person” or in an online environment, for money
- The use of university property, including phones and internet servers, for illegal gambling activities
- Involvement in bookmaking activities
- Online gambling, which the United States Government has deemed to be illegal.

The university recognizes that, for some individuals, gambling can become a destructive pattern of behavior. Resources are available on campus to assist individuals that may be experiencing problems related to gambling. The Counseling Services Office (978-665-3152) or the Massachusetts Council on Compulsive Gambling (1-800-426-1234, masscompulsivegambling.org) can provide such resources as appropriate.

Policy Against Hazing

Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 269 Sections 17 through 19 prohibit hazing and requires Fitchburg State University to certify that the university has adopted a disciplinary policy with regard to the organizers and participants in hazing. Accordingly, the following policy has been adopted:

Hazing is defined as any conduct or method of initiation into any student organization, team, group, etc., whether on public property, which willfully or recklessly endangers the physical or mental health of any student or other person no matter how good the end result or intent. Such conduct includes but is not limited to:

- Applying any substance to a person’s body or belongings, such as whipped cream or paint
- Forced listening to loud, repetitive music or recordings
- Whipping, paddling or other beating
- Personal servitude
- Pranks such as streaking, panty raids, scavenger hunts, etc.
- Forced or coerced wearing of conspicuous clothing not normally in good taste, such as togas
- Extended deprivation of sleep, adequate study time, rest or extended isolation
- Forced or coerced branding/tattoos
- Deprivation of food or water
- Forced calisthenics
- Exposure to settings or conditions that adversely affect the physical health or safety of any student or which subjects such student or other person to extreme mental stress
- Individual or group interrogations
- Involuntary consumption of any food, liquor, beverage, drug or other substance, or any other brutal treatment or forced physical activity which is likely to adversely affect the physical health or safety of any student or other person

Hazing is banned in any form as a practice by an organization, group or team, etc. using the Fitchburg State University name, or claiming to act in any way under the supervision of Fitchburg State University. Any individual or organization found responsible of practicing hazing, in any form, is subject to penalty, including dismissal from Fitchburg State University, and, in the case of a recognized student organization, loss of recognition. An individual in an alleged violation of the Hazing Policy may not use consent as an acceptable reason for participation. Anyone with knowledge that another person is the victim of hazing shall immediately report such act to the Dean of Student Affairs or designee.

Fitchburg State University shall issue to every student organization, team, group, etc. which is recognized by Fitchburg State University or is known to exist as an unaffiliated student group, student team or student organization a copy of the Fitchburg State University Hazing Policy and Chapter 269, Sections 17 through 19.

Poster Policy

Only organizations recognized by the Student Government Association (SGA) can promote events. An individual cannot promote an event using a poster, flyer or promotional items on an SGA bulletin board. Example: a local concert or party at a club cannot be advertised by an interested person or employee who attends Fitchburg State University. The individual may be referred to student conduct for this offense.

The organization’s name must appear on the poster, flyer, notice, table tent or handout. The advertisement will be removed if the sponsoring organization’s name does not appear anywhere on the item.

No poster may contain any advertising for, reference to or theme of alcohol. For example: names of beer brands, pictures of alcohol, Booze Cruise, Get Wrecked Party, Free Drinks, 2 for 1, Open Bar; or any numerical prices for drinks, such as 0 cents suds, \$1 for a drink or \$4 a pitcher. These will not be approved. Mass posting in parking lots is not allowed.

Only SGA bulletin boards can be used to display posters. Administrative and departmental bulletin boards are not to be used.

All posters/flyers must be SGA approved with the official stamp and signed by a current SGA member. Those not stamped and signed will be removed. In the event of multiple flyers, one flyer must be stamped and kept on display in the SGA Office. No more than 40 flyers or notices will be approved unless requested in writing to the Public Development Committee.

All posters/flyers will be approved for a maximum of 14 days. Items must be removed by the sponsoring organization by the expiration date.

No poster larger than 3 feet by 3 feet will be approved. Larger ones will be removed.

All flyers and notices of wanted, for sale, for rent and services such as typing must also be approved by the Office of Student Development. A maximum of two copies for each posting of this type are allowed.

All flyers must be placed in specific bulletin board space. If the flyer is found outside this space for any reason or is not SGA approved, the poster will be removed and no poster for the same individual, address or phone number will be approved for the remainder of the semester. Please refer to the bulletin board locations at the end of this section.

Posters found covering other posters or in violation will be taken down. Posters in violation will be kept in the SGA Office for 24 hours. The organization in violation will then be notified of the offense. Poster privileges of the organization will be revoked until it meets with the Student Organization Committee (SOC).

After two violations in one semester, the SOC will decide on appropriate disciplinary action or may refer it to student conduct.

Unauthorized persons found taking down posters may be referred to student conduct. Authorized persons are members of the SOC, the Office of Student Development, or any official SGA member.

Any specific concerns should be submitted to the SGA in writing two weeks in advance.

Posters from outside vendors are approved in the Student Development Office.

SGA Bulletin Boards are located as follows:

- Thompson Hall lobby
- Edgerly Hall on the left when entering either door from Quad
- Condike Science Building front door
- Anthony Building hall bulletin board
- Conlon Fine Arts Building front lobby
- Three specified SGA bulletin boards in the Conlon Industrial Arts Building;
- Designated area in Hammond Hall
- North Street Bistro
- Percival Hall lobby

Off-campus advertisements must be approved in the Office of Student Development; posting will be done by office staff. Poster size is limited to 8.5 inches by 11 inches and posting is limited to designated G-lobby bulletin boards.

Privacy and Confidentiality Regulations

A Family Educational Rights & Privacy Act (FERPA) administrator directs the Privacy and Confidentiality Regulations. Copies of the regulations as part of FERPA are posted on bulletin boards at the university and kept on file at the Registrar's Office. Students should note that if any of these regulations should conflict with applicable provisions of the Family Educational Rights & Privacy Act of 1974 as amended, or with any regulations promulgated pursuant to said act, the provisions of said federal act or federal regulations shall control.

Raffle Policy

Recognized student organizations may sponsor raffles when authorized by the associate dean of Student Development and coordinated with the Financial Services Office. All raffles must be conducted in compliance with the Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 271, Section 7A.

Smoking Policy

Effective July 1, 1994, Fitchburg State University became a smoke-free environment. Smoking and vaping are not allowed inside any university building including residence halls. Smoking and vaping not permitted within 25 ft of any building entrance.

Those members of the university community who have special difficulties in complying with a smoke-free environment are urged to seek the assistance of either the Human Resources or the Health Services offices.

Solicitation Policy

Each year the university receives requests from students, community and national agencies to sell products or services on the campus. To ensure student privacy, the university adheres to the following policy: no individual solicitation of any kind will be permitted except when students wish to market a product or service which is unavailable through present campus agencies and which is needed by the campus community as determined by the Office of Student Affairs. Recognized campus organizations may, however, solicit for worthy projects. Permission for solicitation must be obtained from the Office of Student Development. All organizations or individuals not affiliated with the university who wish to distribute printed materials must work with the Office of Student Development.