



University of Colorado

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BOARD OF REGENTS

1 1. UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO LEGAL ORIGINS, GUIDING PRINCIPLES, AND
2 PRINCIPLES OF ETHICAL BEHAVIOR
3

4 **Policy 1.D: Freedom of Expression**
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6 1.D.1 As required by Regent Law, the University of Colorado shall protect the freedom of
7 expression of its students, faculty, and staff on campus and in its programs and
8 activities.
9

10 1.D.2 This policy addresses speech that occurs on University of Colorado campuses, but not
11 speech occurring in the course of research or in the classroom instructional
12 environment. Speech in research and teaching is governed Regent Policies 5.B and 7 .
13

14 1.D.3 Use of University Grounds, Buildings and Facilities:
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16 (A) No campus shall designate any area as a free speech zone or otherwise
17 limit free expression to a predetermined and designated area of campus.
18 Generally accessible outdoor areas on the campuses shall be available to
19 members of the university community for free expression in accordance
20 with campus policies authorized by this section.
21

22 (B) The president of the university shall adopt, in accordance with university
23 policy and applicable external law, regulations and procedures governing
24 the use of university grounds, buildings, and facilities not located upon any
25 university campus.
26

27 (C) The chancellor of each campus shall adopt, in accordance with university policy
28 and applicable external law, regulations and procedures governing the use of
29 university grounds, buildings and facilities on that campus.
30

31 (1) The use of university grounds, buildings, and facilities shall be limited to
32 members of the university community, except as the use by others is
33 specifically authorized under regulations adopted in accordance with
34 university policy and applicable law.
35

36 (2) The use of university grounds, buildings, and facilities may be subject to
37 requirements that govern the time, place, and manner of expression,
38 including scheduling requirements, but all such requirements must be:
39

40 (a) Reasonable;

41 (b) Justified without reference to the content of the expression;

- 42 (c) Narrowly tailored to protect the university environment, prevent
43 disruption of university activities, or serve another significant
44 university interest;
45 (d) Leave open ample alternate channels for communication of the
46 information or message.
47
48 (3) The use of university, grounds, buildings, and facilities by members of the
49 university community may be conditioned upon the payment of reasonable
50 expenses incurred by the campus in hosting an event. Any such fees shall
51 be determined based upon the campus's good faith estimate, based upon
52 the application of objective criteria, of the actual expenses it shall incur in
53 hosting an event. In no instance shall a campus assess any such
54 expenses in a manner that is based upon disapproval of the substantive
55 message that the speaker expresses.
56
57 (4) Nothing in this section grants members of the university community the
58 right to materially disrupt previously scheduled or reserved activities
59 occurring on university grounds, buildings, and facilities.
60
61 (D) Freedom of Expression by University of Colorado Faculty
62
63 (1) When engaged in teaching and research, faculty enjoy the associated
64 rights and observe the associated responsibilities of academic freedom as
65 expressed in Article 5, Part B of the Laws of the Regents and Regent
66 Policy 5.B.
67
68 (2) University faculty are citizens and members of a learned profession. When
69 university faculty speak or write as citizens, not in furtherance of their
70 university duties or in the course and scope of their university employment,
71 on matters of political, academic, artistic, or social concern, the university
72 shall not censor their expression, initiate disciplinary action against them,
73 or otherwise subject the faculty members to adverse employment actions
74 because it disapproves of the substance of their expression.
75
76 (3) When university faculty speak or write as citizens, not in furtherance of
77 their university duties or in the course and scope of their university
78 employment, they must make every effort to indicate that their expression
79 is their own and does not represent the opinion or position of the
80 university.
81
82 (4) The freedom of expression recognized in this section does not grant
83 university faculty the right to refuse to perform official duties, to materially
84 disrupt the university environment or university activities, or to disregard
85 the standards of ethical conduct as expressed in Article 1, Part D of the
86 Laws of the Regents or Regent Policy 1.C.
87

88 (E) Freedom of Expression by University of Colorado Staff

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- 90 (1) University staff are citizens. When university staff speak or write as
- 91 citizens, not in furtherance of their university duties or in the course and
- 92 scope of their university employment, on matters of political, academic,
- 93 artistic, or social concern, the university shall not censor their expression,
- 94 initiate disciplinary action against them, or otherwise subject the staff
- 95 members to adverse employment actions because it disapproves of the
- 96 substance of their expression.
- 97
- 98 (2) When university staff speak or write as citizens, they must make every
- 99 effort to indicate that their expression is their own and does not represent
- 100 the opinion or position of the university.
- 101
- 102 (3) The freedom of expression recognized in this section does not grant
- 103 university staff the right to refuse to perform official duties, to materially
- 104 disrupt the university environment or university activities, or to disregard
- 105 the standards of ethical conduct as expressed in Article 1, Part D of the
- 106 Laws of the Regents or Regent Policy 1.C.

107

108 (F) Freedom of Expression by University Students

- 109
- 110 (1) When engaged in educational activities, university students enjoy the
- 111 associated rights and observe the associated responsibilities of academic
- 112 freedom as expressed in Article 7, Part B of the Laws of the Regents.
- 113
- 114 (2) University students are citizens. When university students speak or write
- 115 as citizens on matters of political, academic, artistic, or social concern, not
- 116 in furtherance of their studies or in the course of their academic duties, the
- 117 university shall not censor their expression, initiate disciplinary action
- 118 against them, or otherwise subject the students to adverse academic
- 119 actions because it disapproves of the substance of their expression.
- 120
- 121 (3) The freedom of expression recognized in this section does not grant
- 122 university students the right to materially disrupt the university environment
- 123 or university activities or to disregard the standards of conduct as
- 124 promulgated under Article 7, Part B of the Laws of the Regents.

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127 **History:**

- 128 • Adopted: TBD
- 129 • Revised:
- 130 • Last Reviewed: TBD
- 131