

NPC POLICY 8.130

Policy Name: Preservation of Learning Environment

Original Adoption: September 2016

Revised: September 2017

Next Scheduled Review: September 2018

Responsible Cabinet Member: Vice President for Student Affairs

Department/Office: Student Affairs

BACKGROUND/HISTORY

This is a policy addressing the rights and responsibilities of students, staff, and visitors regarding distribution of literature, obtaining petition signatures, and soliciting survey responses.

SCOPE

This policy affects students, staff, and visitors who wish to distribute literature, obtain petition signatures, and solicit survey responses.

AUTHORITY

Arkansas code Section 6-61-521 grants the authority to the Board of Trustees to establish rules and regulations for the institution. Section 4.100 of the Board of Trustees Statement of Policies grants authority to the President to implement the policies and procedures of the Board relating to college operations. The policies of National Park College fall within the following framework and hierarchy and, therefore, are subject to compliance with laws and regulations instituted by higher levels of authority:

1. Federal laws and regulations
2. State laws and regulations
3. Board of Trustees Statements of Policy
4. Faculty Handbook and College Catalog
5. Internal guidelines

In the event of a conflict between different levels in 1 through 5 above, the lower numerical heading shall take precedence over the higher numerical heading. Internal policies and procedures that apply to the operations of individual departments or academic divisions may not conflict with College policy, but may be more restrictive.

POLICY STATEMENT

National Park College recognizes and supports the rights of students, employees of all categories, and visitors to speak in public, distribute literature, obtain petition signatures, and solicit survey responses in designated areas of the campus at designated times. Reservations of this type of space is not required, but registration of your event is strongly encouraged to avoid scheduling conflicts. Please contact the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs if you wish to register an event.

National Park College is a learning institution. As such, it bears a responsibility to preserve the learning environment, ensuring that it remains free from harassment. Any visitors who interfere with

the educational process; present a safety risk for students, faculty, or staff; or impede student traffic may be asked to leave campus.

National Park College respects the First Amendment, and promotes the responsible exercise of free speech, a health exchange of diverse thoughts, and enlightening debate. Students, faculty, staff, and visitors are expected to understand observe NPC's student code of conduct as guidance for acceptable behavior.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Students, employees, and visitors are strongly encouraged to reserve designated areas through the office of the Vice President of Student Affairs.

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While National Park College is a state-supported entity, its primary purpose is to provide a safe learning and professional environment for its students, faculty, and staff. Activities that are inconsistent with this principle, or which may present a safety hazard, will not be permitted.

In order to maintain safety, security and order, ensure the orderly scheduling of campus facilities, ensure that vehicular and pedestrian traffic will not be impeded, and to preclude conflicts with academic and extra-curricular activities, National Park College may ask that external activities be limited to specific campus locations. Locations may vary depending on the time of day, the schedule of that day, and the type of activity.

These considerations will allow the College to avoid conflicting events with academic goals.

National Park College will remain neutral as to the content of any public speech or other form of expression.