



University Engagement

Political Campaigning on Campus

Voter Registration - The University has guidelines for **University-Sponsored** voter registration drives. These guidelines are attached. If a student organization or department is planning a campus-wide registration drive we ask them to abide by these guidelines to try to ensure the integrity of the drive and make sure that students are actually getting registered. Organizations that are interested in voter registration should consider working with the American Democracy Project. ADP registers voters through the on-line platform, TurboVote.

Candidates, campaign volunteers, and other individuals/organizations cannot be prohibited from registering students to vote. They do not have to have our permission or abide by our guidelines. Students should understand that there is some risk associated with registering to vote through an individual or organization that is not associated with the University. The University cannot ensure that registration forms completed with outside organizations will be submitted.

Campaigning - Candidates and campaign volunteers, including those not associated with campus, can campaign on campus in public spaces, including outdoor areas and common areas in classroom buildings and other buildings. Volunteers can engage in conversation, distribute printed materials, solicit volunteers, register voters, make informal speeches, and engage in other behavior that we allow in public spaces, so long as they abide by university policies and procedures. Campaign activities are not allowed in Residence Halls.

Candidates that would like to schedule a table in HMSU or Dede Plaza must be associated with a student organization. This guideline is consistent with the University's practice of only allowing student organizations to schedule tables at these locations.

Campaign flyers and printed materials can be posted on bulletin boards or other areas that are available for public posting. Banners and table tents in the Commons or other University venues that support a specific candidate or party are prohibited. Chalking is allowed on flat, horizontal outdoor spaces that are not under cover. Water soluble chalk must be used.

Campaign yard signs are prohibited on campus.

Electioneering (from the 2020 Indiana Election Day Handbook) - State law defines “electioneering” as expressing support or opposition to any candidate or political party or expressing approval or disapproval of any public question in any manner that could reasonably be expected to convey support or opposition to another individual. “Electioneering” includes wearing or displaying an article of clothing, sign, button, or placard that states the name of any political party or includes the name, picture, photograph, or other likeness of any currently elected federal, state, county, or local official. A person who commits electioneering within the polls or the chute commits a Class A misdemeanor. “Electioneering” does not include any materials a voter may bring with them into the voting booth to assist them with voting. While a poll worker may ask that a voter remove or cover-up the “electioneering” items, a voter who does not comply with the request does not lose their right to vote. The person should be offered a regular ballot, if otherwise qualified. However, poll workers may file a complaint with the county election board, which could result in a class A misdemeanor prosecution.

The first floor of the Hulman Memorial Student Union, including the commons, is considered the chute for the ISU Vote Center. Electioneering is prohibited at the ISU Vote Center, including within HMSU, on Election Day.

Voter Interference and Intimidation – Federal law protects an individual’s right to enter the chute, wait in line to enter the vote center and vote without interference. Candidates and their volunteers, members of the ISU community, and the general public are prohibited from interfering with voters by questioning them about their registration status or knowledge or preference of candidates, recommending voters go to a different vote center, or offering refreshments or other enticements for voters to stay in line. Campaigns and individuals are discouraged from coming to the ISU Vote Center with the intention of engaging, supporting or other interfering with voters.

Campaign Events - Candidates that would like to schedule any University venue for an event should be directed to Conference and Event Services. <http://venues.indstate.edu/>