07.03.01.C1 Political Campaign Events in University Facilities

Revised: December 22, 2025
Next Scheduled Review: December 22, 2030
Revision History

Rule Summary

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi (TAMU-CC) is required to remain neutral in partisan political activities as a state-supported institution of higher education. The university recognizes the constitutional rights and privileges of individual faculty, staff, and students concerning freedom of speech and participation in political events, subject to reasonable time, place, and manner restrictions. This rule implements state law and system policy governing political activities in facilities under the control of TAMU-CC.

Rule

1. ENDORSEMENT OF CANDIDATES AND OFFICEHOLDERS

   1.1. TAMU-CC must remain neutral about any partisan political activity to maintain its integrity as a public institution. TAMU-CC may not endorse, support, promote, recommend, or otherwise indicate partisan political support for any candidate for an elected office, or for any current officeholder of such an office, nor appear to endorse any stance on constitutional amendments or ballot propositions or any pending legislation. Further, TAMU-CC expects all faculty, staff, and students to avoid any behavior that might reasonably be construed as an official university endorsement or support of political candidates or partisan political activities.

   1.2. University employees are free to express their personal opinions on any matter, so long as such opinions are not offered as the opinions of TAMU-CC or The Texas A&M University System (System). When expressing personal opinions, university employees must inform their audience before and after presentations that the viewpoints expressed by the university employee are personal to the speaker and are not the official position of TAMU-CC or the System. University employees will conform in every respect to laws and policies governing their employment.

2. DISCRIMINATION BASED ON POLITICAL VIEWPOINT

TAMU-CC will not discriminate against any organization or individual based on political affiliation or doctrine, nor will it favor any political organization or doctrine over another.

3. USE OF UNIVERSITY FACILITIES

3.1. The use of TAMU-CC facilities by political candidates requires rental fees as well as charges for services utilized by the candidate in accordance with fee schedules and practices applicable to all non-university entities using university facilities and services. Candidates must adhere to university procedure *41.01.01.C0.01, Use of University Facilities*. Requests that can be reasonably and safely accommodated without detracting from the purpose and operations of the university will be considered.

3.2. Should TAMU-CC property or facilities be approved for use by political candidates or parties, a sign with the words that follow must be provided by the event's organizers to be displayed near the event.

> "As a state-supported institution of higher education, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi is required to remain neutral in partisan political activities. Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi does not endorse, recommend, or otherwise indicate partisan political support for any candidate for an elected office, or for any current officeholder of such an office. The university also does not endorse any stance on constitutional amendments, ballot propositions, or pending legislation. The use of university facilities and property for this political campaign event is permitted pursuant to Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi rule *07.03.01.C1, Political Campaign Events in University Facilities*."

4. ON-CAMPUS POLLING PLACES AND CAMPAIGNING DURING EARLY VOTING PERIODS AND ON ELECTION DAY

4.1. TAMU-CC facilities may serve at times as polling places during early voting periods and/or on Election Day. TAMU-CC may designate an area in the vicinity of the polling place for candidates to display signs, distribute materials, or engage in electioneering generally.

4.2. Candidates and their representatives must also comply with university rule *08.99.99.C1, Expressive Activity on Campus*.

4.3. Candidates and their representatives may participate in activities with recognized student organizations or faculty/staff groups as outlined in section 5 of this rule.

4.4. Candidates and their representatives must abide by both Nueces County

Election Department guidelines for polling places as well as Title 6 of the Texas Election Code.

4.5. Signage may be staked in the ground in designated areas only when TAMU-CC facilities serve as early voting and Election Day polling places, adhering to the following guidelines:

(a) Signs may not be larger than 24" x 16" and may not be staked more than six inches in the ground.

(b) Signage that violates this size limitation will be removed at the expense of the candidate.

(c) All signage must be removed within 48 hours of the closing of Election Day.

5. SPONSORSHIP OF POLITICAL CAMPAIGN MEETINGS, EVENTS, OR SPEECHES BY RECOGNIZED STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS OR FACULTY/STAFF GROUPS

Student organizations that are currently recognized by the TAMU-CC Student Activities or Recreational Sports departments and faculty or staff groups that are recognized by TAMU-CC, other than faculty or staff groups officially organized and staffed by the university and which were created for the purpose of conducting official university business, may invite candidates for political office or current officeholders to speak at the group's meetings in TAMU-CC facilities, provided the following conditions are met:

(a) If sponsoring political campaign meetings, events, or speeches in TAMU-CC facilities, the student organization must notify Institutional Advancement via email to the Senior Vice President of Institutional Advancement at least two weeks before the event occurs. Institutional Advancement will notify the President's Office.

(b) In the interest of encouraging and maintaining the exchange of ideas, faculty members have the privilege to invite any guest they wish to speak to their class. If the nature of the guest's visit relates to partisan political activity, the faculty member must notify Institutional Advancement via email to the Senior Vice President of Institutional Advancement at least two weeks prior to the speaker's visit. Institutional Advancement will notify the President's Office.

(c) Adherence to university procedure *24.01.99.C0.01, Guest Speakers, Lecturers, and Entertainers*, is expected.

(d) The organization or faculty/staff group sponsoring a non-university speaker has the responsibility to make clear the fact that the organization/group, not the university, is extending the invitation to speak and that any views the

speaker may express are their own and not necessarily those of TAMU-CC or the System.

6. VISITS BY CURRENT OFFICEHOLDERS

6.1. When the holder of a political office visits TAMU-CC, the officeholder will be afforded all due respect and courtesies to which they are entitled. However, the officeholder may not engage in any partisan political activities, including campaigning for themselves or on behalf of others, unless they comply with all relevant conditions within this rule.

6.2. If the officeholder has been invited to a TAMU-CC facility by a sponsoring recognized student organization or faculty/staff group, that campus entity must provide notification in accordance with section 5 of this rule. Notification must include the date and time of the planned visit, the purpose of the planned visit, the activities planned during the visit, and the impact of the planned visit on TAMU-CC.

7. USE OF TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-CORPUS CHRISTI SYMBOLS, INSIGNIA, AND OTHER IDENTIFYING MARKS

The use of any TAMU-CC symbol, insignia, or other identifiable mark in association with any partisan political activity, including campaigns by political candidates, is prohibited. See System Policy *09.02, Use of System Names and Indicia,* and university procedure *09.02.99.C0.01, University Name and Indicia Usage* for more details.

8. DISCLAIMER STATEMENT

TAMU-CC reserves the right to require that a statement be made prior to the presentation of any speaker that the views expressed are not necessarily those of the institution or the sponsoring group.

Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

Texas Election Code Title 6. Conduct of Elections
System Regulation *07.03.01, Political Campaign Events in Facilities Under the Control of The Texas A&M University System*
System Policy *09.02, Use of System Names and Indicia*
University Rule *08.99.99.C1, Expressive Activity on Campus*
University Procedure *09.02.99.C0.01, University Name and Indicia Usage*
University Procedure *24.01.99.C0.01, Guest Speakers, Lecturers, and Entertainers*
University Procedure *41.01.01.C0.01, Use of University Facilities*

This rule supersedes:

- *07.03.01.C1, Political Campaign Events on Property Under the Control of Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi*
- *07.03.01.C2, Political Campaign Events on Property Under the Control of Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi*

Contact Office

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