

Northwestern State University Policy on Public Speech, Assembly and Demonstrations

Northwestern State University believes the free exchange of ideas is an essential part of a healthy university community.

Northwestern State University has right, in limited circumstances, to regulate registration of event, place and manner of public speech, assembly and demonstration.

Registration:

- should complete specified request for event approval. (form on next page)
- should apply at least 24-48 hours prior to the actual event date when possible and practical
- processing for non-student groups or groups outside the campus community may take up to 72 hours
- the Dean of Students makes every effort to approve applications quickly however applicants may not take action until an application is processed and approved.
- the requested event cannot:
 - interfere with another approved event
 - interfere with University operations
 - be scheduled during other major university events—as determined by Student Affairs

Place: University has designated 3 preferred locations; however, other locations may be considered
Preferred locations are:

- **Student Union Plaza;**
- **Prather Coliseum East Parking Lot (next to the tennis courts facing the coliseum);**
- **Green Space between CAPA and Varnado Hall.**

The person or organization applying will select only 1 spot.

Manner:

- Approved by Dean of Students or their designee
- Peaceful
- No harmful acts, destruction or defacement of property, physical assaults or threats thereof
- May not display or threaten to use or display firearms, explosives or weapons of any type
- Amplification devices cannot be used in the Student Union Plaza
- May not obstruct, disrupt, or attempt to force the cancellation of any event sponsored by the University or by any users authorized to use University facilities.
- May not block ingress or egress to roadways, buildings, exterior patios or plazas or gathering places.
- Speech cannot be projected into private areas or so to disrupt university classes or administrative functions

Sanctions:

- Individuals are subject to all sanctions in the NSU Student Code of Conduct.
- Individuals are subject to all sanctioning under the local, state and federal laws.

Non-Endorsement

- University doesn't endorse any group and makes no guarantees for any group.

Video/Audio Taping:

- University reserves right to video/audio tape any public speech, assembly or demonstration.

Application for Public Speech, Assembly or Demonstration

Any individual or organization may publically demonstrate in a peaceful manner after attaining the permission of the Dean of Student Affairs or their designee at: email-coninef@nsula.edu ,Room 309 Student Union, NSU, Natchitoches, LA 71497, Ph. 318-357-5286, FAX, 318-357-6502

An application must be made at least 24-72 hours in advance to the Dean of Students Office on this form.

1. The applicant's name: _____
2. Organization represented _____
3. Current Address: _____

| | | | |
|-------------------|------|-------|----------|
| Street or house # | City | State | Zip Code |
|-------------------|------|-------|----------|
4. Phone Number: _____
5. Email _____
6. Student ID or DL# if non student _____
7. Date of birth _____
8. The proposed location from designated areas _____
9. The date and time for the assembly or demonstration _____
10. The anticipated number of participants _____
11. List of authorized representatives of the organization who will be present along with their contact information (attach list);
12. The purpose of the assembly or demonstration _____
13. Signature of the applicant or, if an organization, authorized representative _____
14. Approved: _____

Dean of Students

The applicant is responsible for any facility use fee along with any charges associated with the required university support staff, i.e. police officers.

The Dean of Students or designee shall approve properly completed application unless there are reasonable grounds to believe that:

- a. the applicant or organization is under a disciplinary penalty prohibiting publicly assembling or demonstrating;
- b. the applicant or organization is under state or federal indictments or court orders;
- c. the applicant or organization failed to follow policy at a previously scheduled event;
- d. the proposed location is unavailable or inappropriate at the time requested;
- e. the proposed date and time are unreasonable or not made in a timely manner;
- f. the assembly or demonstration would unreasonably obstruct pedestrian or vehicular traffic;
- g. the speech will constitute a clear and present danger to the institution's orderly operation, to students, faculty or staff, or property, through advocacy of immediate action.