Postings by Students, Recognized Student Organizations, and Student Groups.

Applicability | All University units
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Responsible Office | Office of the Dean of Students
Responsible Administrator | Dean of Students

(A) Policy Statement and Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to define where, when and how posting materials by students, recognized student organizations, and student groups is permitted on the Bowling Green State University campuses. Posting includes printed materials, painting and chalking.

(B) Definitions

(1) The “approving office” is the office designated in Section (D) to approve and stamp a posting.

(2) “Recognized student organization” means a group of people who are associated with each other and who have registered with the University as a student organization as outlined in Student Organizations Policy 3341-2-36.

(3) “Student” means any person who is currently enrolled on a full-time or part-time basis at BGSU.

(4) “Student group” means a group of people who are associated with the University and each other but who have not registered, or are not required to register, as a student organization (e.g., athletic teams, spirit groups, military organizations, honor societies, musical or theatrical ensembles, bands, and/or clubs).

(C) Policy

Any student, recognized student organization, or student group must obtain approval before posting. Postings are permitted only in locations described in Section (D) of this policy.

Each item to be posted must bear the stamp of the approving office, which will indicate an expiration date. Students, recognized student organizations and/or student groups must remove postings before or on the expiration date.
Consistent with the BGSU Freedom of Expression Policy 3341-2-45, approval of postings on University general-purpose bulletin boards and by means of sandwich boards will be granted on a content and viewpoint-neutral basis except that posting by students, recognized student organizations, and student groups must not refer to the availability or sale of alcoholic beverages.

(D) Permitted Types of Postings

(1) Signs, Notices, Posters, or Fliers

(a) University General-Purpose Bulletin Boards

Students, recognized student organizations and student groups may post signs, notices, posters, or fliers on University general-purpose bulletin boards. These bulletin boards are identified by a QR code that links to this policy.

Postings must not obstruct other postings and must not be larger than 11 inches by 17 inches. Each poster is limited to one posting per bulletin board.

The Office of the Dean of Students, which may delegate authority, is the approving office for University general-purpose bulletin boards. The expiration date shall be two weeks from the date of approval.

(b) University Residences

Posting of signs, notices, posters, or fliers within University residence halls shall be in accordance with the Community Living Standards Policy 3341-2-15 and the residence hall advertising policy.

The Office of Residence Life is the approving office for University residence halls.

(2) Sandwich Boards

Recognized student organizations and student groups may put up sandwich boards and other self-standing, temporary forms of advertisement in outdoor locations only. All such items must be sponsored by a recognized student organization or student group and must be stamped and approved by the Office of the Dean of Students or designee before they are displayed.

These items are subject to the following restrictions: each item must be stamped; must not be higher than three feet or wider than four feet, must not be posted for more than five calendar days from the date of approval; must be at least twenty feet from any doorway; and must not obstruct pedestrian or vehicular travel.

(E) Other Postings Prohibited

Posting is not permitted except as allowed by this policy. Any unauthorized or expired posting will be removed.
(F) Painting and Chalking

Painting any sidewalk, grass, building or any other surface except for the Spirit Rock is prohibited and considered vandalism. Anyone wishing to paint the Spirit Rock may contact Conference & Event Services to make a reservation.

Recognized student organizations and student groups may use chalk (but not spray or paint chalk) on sidewalks to publicize campus events. Messages must be at least twenty feet from the entrance of any University building. The use of chalk on buildings or any other University property is prohibited.

Each chalked message should include the date(s) of the publicized campus events. To the extent consistent with normal campus operations, the University will make a reasonable effort not to remove a properly located chalk message until the last date of the publicized event has passed. If the message does not include a date, the University may remove it at any time.

(G) Exception

This policy does not apply to the posting of spirit signs by organizations created and operated by the University to promote school spirit, such as “SICSIC.”

Equity Impact Statement: The policy has been assessed for adverse differential impact on members of one or more protected groups.

Registered Date: October 10, 2022