



Florida State University Open Platform and Amplified Sound Policies

Open Platform Policy

The right of all students to seek knowledge, debate ideas, form opinions and freely express their views is recognized. This right must be exercised in a manner which will not interfere with the same rights and freedoms of others in their enjoyment of the benefits of the programs offered by this University, or their lawful use of University facilities, including ingress and egress. Such rights may be exercised subject to applicable laws, rules, regulations, policies and procedures.

The right or freedom of peaceful assembly is recognized and shall be protected. Only those student gatherings that do not disrupt the orderly functioning of the University and related activities shall qualify as peaceful and therefore be protected. Meetings are included in the terms assemblies and gatherings.

The green area on the east side of Moore Auditorium, the central portion of Landis Green and the football stadium outside gate D in the grassy area are designated "open platforms". Any student or other individual who desires to be heard publicly on any issue of concern may use these areas subject to the provisions of this regulation at any time when previous scheduling does not preclude such use but only from 8a.m. to 10p.m. local time. Amplification equipment is not allowed except as otherwise specifically provided. The exact location boundaries and any temporary changes necessary because of current construction or other unavoidable circumstances or conditions may be found at www.openplatform.fsu.edu. Typically, the open platform areas are intended for individual expression made often on an unplanned basis. Planned use of campus areas and facilities by groups and individuals is still generally governed by FSU Regulation 6C2R-2.007, Use of Campus Facilities.

Organized or prearranged outdoor student assemblies shall be registered at least twenty-four hours in advance in the Space Reservation Office located in the University Union. Exceptions to the twenty-four hour notice requirement may be granted by the Space Reservation Office.

Registered or non-registered student organizations or other students may hold meetings inside University buildings, provided prior approval is granted by the Space Reservations Office.

The right to peacefully picket is recognized.

Public address systems and other electrical amplification equipment may be utilized by registered student organizations in the University Union Courtyard subject to the schedules approved by the Space Reservations Office, and shall in no event be used in other outdoor areas of campus. All such use of public address systems shall maintain a reasonable sound level which meets the communication needs of the event without excessive noise penetration to adjacent areas.

Students' right to write and distribute literature and to express thoughts and beliefs is recognized. Individual students, non-registered and registered student organizations may circulate literature, provided it is identified by authorship and sponsorship.

Students may sell literature on campus provided a University Solicitor's Permit is obtained from the Office of Business Services.

Registered student organizations and the Student Government Association may invite persons from outside the University to speak to their memberships and the public. If University facilities are to be used for holding the meeting, prior scheduling and space reservations approval shall be obtained from the Space Reservations Office.

The Student Government Association and registered student organizations may sponsor speeches by or for political candidates for federal, state or local office. Speeches by political candidates shall be presented only at Ruby Diamond Auditorium, the Outdoor Amphitheatre of the Music Building, the Roscoe R. Oglesby Union Complex or the Doak Campbell Stadium.

Amplification of Sound

Approval to use amplification in the staging areas is granted by the Associate Director of Activities or the Union Director. Amplification of sound is allowed between 12:00 Noon and 1:00 P.M. Monday through Friday. Amplification is also permitted Friday 5:00 - 11:30 P.M., Tuesday and Thursday from 6:00 P.M. – 9:00 P.M., Saturday 12:00 P.M. - 11:30 P.M., and Sunday 3:00 - 7:00 P.M. On Fridays there cannot be a sound check prior to 4:30 P.M. Amplification should be structured so as to minimize the noise level outside the Oglesby Union Complex. A Special Events Permit (SEP) is required for amplification in all events. In addition, an Amplification of Sound Request Form must be filled out and signed by the sponsoring organization's representative. Requests for exceptions are made on the Sound Request Form.