

TEXAS A&M INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

Rule

07.03.01.L1 Political Campaign Events and Partisan Political Activities in TAMIU Facilities

First Approved: February 19, 2013 Revised: August 17, 2018

January 19, 2021

Next Scheduled Review: January 19, 2026

Rule Statement and Reason for Rule

The purpose of this Rule is to provide direction and guidance for political campaign events and partisan political activities in Texas A&M International University (TAMIU) facilities. TAMIU will protect the freedoms of speech, expression, petition, and peaceful assembly, while maintaining its right to regulate reasonable time, place, and manner restrictions concerning acts of expression and/or dissent.

Procedures and Responsibilities

RESPONSIBILITIES AND PROCESS

1. 1 Institutional Neutrality

TAMIU cannot endorse, support, or promote any political candidate (either incumbents or new office seekers, members of their staffs, or their campaign representatives), or any partisan political activity. TAMIU employees may not represent their personal political viewpoints as official TAMIU endorsement, support, or promotion of political candidates or partisan political activities. Nothing in this Rule should be construed as limiting the right or ability of any member of the TAMIU community to express personal opinions or to exercise the right to engage in political activities outside their official capacity or affiliation with TAMIU, within the limits established by <u>System Policy 07.03</u>, <u>Conflicts of Interest</u>, <u>Dual Office Holding and Political Activities</u>.

1.2 Use of University Funds, Services, or Facilities

In accordance with <u>System Policy 07.03</u>, <u>Conflicts of Interest</u>, <u>Dual Office Holding and Political Activities</u>, no TAMIU employee shall expend or authorize the expenditure of any University funds to finance or otherwise support the candidacy of a person for an office in the legislative, executive, or judicial branch of state government or of the government of the United States. The use of TAMIU facilities by political candidates requires rental fees as well as charges for services utilized by the candidate in accordance with fee schedules and procedures applicable to all non-TAMIU entities using TAMIU facilities and services.

1.3 Use of Insignia, Logos, Marks, or Symbols

The use of any brands, insignia, logos, marks, or symbols associated with TAMIU is prohibited in any partisan political activity, including campaigns by political candidates unless sponsored by a recognized organization as noted below. This prohibition does not apply to incidental inclusion of University brands or marks commonly displayed in/on the campus' buildings or furnishings.

1.4 Partisan Political Activity Sponsored by a Recognized Faculty/Staff/Student Organization

Organizations of faculty, staff, or students that have been recognized and approved by TAMIU may sponsor partisan political activities or events in TAMIU facilities, in accordance with all applicable TAMIU guidelines, handbooks, and rules. In sponsoring a partisan political activity on campus, the recognized TAMIU organization(s) is responsible for communicating and collaborating with appropriate TAMIU officials about the event and cannot delegate any responsibility for the event to a non-recognized organization(s), unless mutually agreed upon by the Associate VP for Student Success, VP for Student Success, VP for Institutional Advancement, President, and the sponsoring recognized TAMIU organization. Applicable charges for event venue costs (including but not limited to security, technology, and venue rental) will be incurred and are the responsibility of the sponsoring recognized TAMIU organization. Facility and service rental funds may be used by TAMIU to cover incidental and actual expenses for venue services. However, University funds may not be expended as stipulated in Section 1.2 of this Rule. Organizations should also refer to Section 1.6 of this Rule.

1.5 Partisan Political Activity Conducted by a Recognized Faculty/Staff/Student Organization

Organizations of faculty, staff, or students that have been recognized and approved by TAMIU may conduct partisan political activities or events in TAMIU facilities, in accordance with all applicable TAMIU guidelines, handbooks, and rules. The recognized TAMIU organization may use TAMIU brands, insignia, logos, marks, or symbols assigned for general use or group-specific logos/marks indicating affiliation, in accordance with TAMIU guidelines, handbooks, and rules. For the assignment of TAMIU brands, insignia, logos, marks, or symbols, the sponsoring recognized TAMIU organization should contact the TAMIU Office of Public Relations, Marketing and Information Services. Organizations should also refer to Section 1.6 of this Rule.

1.6 Disclaimer Statement

TAMIU requires that the following statement be made prior to the presentation of any speaker:

"The views expressed during this event are not necessarily endorsed or supported by Texas A&M International University, The Board of Regents, The Texas A&M University System, or the sponsoring organization."

Further, a sign with the following language must be displayed at and near the event:

"By policy, Texas A&M International University (TAMIU) is required to remain neutral in political activities. The use of TAMIU facilities by candidates and political organizations does not necessarily imply or indicate support for any candidate or political party."

Related Statutes, Policies, Regulations, or SAP's

System Policy 07.03, Conflicts of Interest, Dual Office Holding and Political Activities

<u>System Regulation 07.03.01, Political Campaign Events in Facilities Under the Control of The Texas A&M</u> <u>University System</u>

Texas Government Code, Chapter 556

TAMIU Student Handbook

TAMIU Faculty Handbook

TAMIU SAP 41.01.01.L0.01, Use of Facilities for Non-Academic Purposes

TAMIU Event Services Policy and Procedures Manual

Contact Office

Office of Public Relations, Marketing and Information Services, 956-326-2180, prmis@tamiu.edu