

WAC 516-24-130 Freedom of expression and prohibited conduct.

The value of active participation in political and social issues is recognized by Western Washington University as enhancing the education of the individual and contributing to the betterment of American society. The rights of free speech, petition and assembly are fundamental to the democratic process guaranteed under the Constitution of the United States and will be promoted and respected at all times.

The university also recognizes that it has an obligation to maintain on campus an atmosphere that allows the institution to perform the fundamental task of providing an opportunity for all members of the community to pursue knowledge through accepted academic processes.

The university further recognizes that it is committed to a safe campus, ensuring the safety of its community members and preventing loss or damage to its facilities or property.

To achieve these objectives it is essential that freedom of expression and assembly be orderly and conducted in a time, place, and manner that allows the orderly function of the university. Any person or group of persons shall not, by their conduct:

(1) Violate the prohibition of firearms, weapons, armor or armaments as set forth in WAC 516-52-020.

(2) Obstruct or interfere with classroom activities and/or other educational or employment pursuits.

(3) Obstruct or interfere with recognized university activities including, but not limited to, ceremonies, meetings, office functions or residence hall activities.

(4) Obstruct or interfere with pedestrian or vehicular traffic.

(5) Obstruct or interfere with the preservation and protection of university property and personal property of individuals.

(6) Threaten, by statement or implication, the health or safety of others.

(7) Contact or communicate in a threatening nature that harasses, would cause a reasonable person to fear for their safety, or which is so persistent, pervasive, or severe as to deny a person's ability to substantially participate in the university community.

Any person persisting in such conduct after being requested to cease by university authorities, shall be subject, as appropriate, to disciplinary proceedings, trespass, or arrest and prosecution.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.35.120(12). WSR 18-09-050, § 516-24-130, filed 4/13/18, effective 5/14/18; WSR 01-09-052, § 516-24-130, filed 4/13/01, effective 5/14/01. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.35.120(12), 34.05.220 (1)(b), 34.05.250, 28B.15.600, 42.17.310, 42.30.070 - 42.30.075, chapters 69.41 and 43.21C RCW. WSR 90-10-042, § 516-24-130, filed 4/27/90, effective 5/1/90; Order 72-10, § 516-24-130, filed 11/17/72.]