

DEMONSTRATION/PROTEST GUIDELINES:

The following are some guidelines and expectations for protest groups as they plan and organize their events at the University of Washington Tacoma. As clearly stated in the Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 478-136-030 (1):

“Freedom of expression is a highly valued and indispensable quality of university life. However, university facilities may not be used in ways which obstruct or disrupt university operations, the freedom of movement, or any other lawful activities. Additionally, use of university facilities may be subject to reasonable time, place and manner restrictions.”

Should groups decide to proceed with an event on campus, the university will not attempt to prevent the group from staging its planned events and activities. However, they must comply with established university policies and conduct all activities in lawful manner.

There are three areas of primary concern to the university during these upcoming events. Those are: (1) the safety of all persons, including the members of the protest group; (2) the uninterrupted educational process for students and faculty during period of instruction; and (3) the protection of university property from damage and destruction.

There are several laws and regulations which specifically address these concerns as they relate to your events and activities. Some of the laws and regulations addressing issues such as the disruption of school activities, the egress and ingress to university facilities, and the safety and security of persons and property are briefly outlined here:

- The university will not tolerate threats to or assaults upon any persons and as a reminder; any assault upon a police officer in this state is a felony. (Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 9A.36.031g)
- The university will not tolerate property destruction or damage.
- The university will not tolerate disruption of classes, laboratories, or work processes. (RCW 28A.635.090)
- Accessibility for students, staff and faculty to all facilities, streets, walkways hallways and buildings must be maintained.
- Peaceful and lawful presence in public areas is allowed during business hours, but there will be no access to laboratories, classrooms or private offices by unauthorized persons. (RCW 9A.52.070)
- Signs, banners and placards are permitted, but those with poles, dowels, or sticks must be left outside of any buildings as they present a safety hazard in confined spaces. (University Policy & RCW 9A.52.070)

- No weapons (guns, knives, clubs or chemicals) are allowed. (University Policy & RCW 9A.52.070)

Violations of any of these laws could subject such individuals to arrest or citation and criminal prosecution. Arrests will be made by Tacoma Police Department or other commissioned law enforcement officers for assaultive behavior, property destruction, and for criminal trespass after failure to comply with warnings.

We sincerely hope to avoid confrontations and to have positive interactions with attendees at the University of Washington Tacoma. We will treat them and their associates with dignity and respect and we expect the same in return.