

Facilities Use Policy – Political Events

Introduction

This policy standardizes guidelines regarding the use of Madison College facilities for political events. It addresses the use of rooms, common spaces (e.g. hallways, cafeterias, student lounges, libraries and study areas) and college premises. Wisconsin Statutes and Madison College's facility use guidelines prescribe the use of college facilities for political events.

Under specific conditions, student clubs and organizations, political parties or candidates for public office may reserve college rooms or information tables for political activities.

Room Reservations

- 1) The activities associated with the political event must not disrupt the student learning environment, nor may they interfere with advancing Madison College's mission of providing open access to quality higher education that fosters lifelong learning and success within our communities, or our obligation to deliver instruction and services to our students.
- 2) Student clubs and organizations may use college facilities for events that are primarily for Madison College students, faculty and staff. Clubs and organizations that are registered with the Student Life office may invite candidates for public office to speak to invited students, faculty and staff in rooms at the college with no limit on the number of such appearances by the candidate.

Publicity for such events shall state that "Madison College (MATC or Madison Area Technical College) students, faculty and staff are invited to attend." An appearance by a political candidate or party representative does not imply an endorsement by the college.

- 3) Political parties and candidates for public office may reserve College rooms for public meetings as follows:
 - a. Representatives of political parties and candidates for public office may hold public meetings on campus if rooms are available. They are subject to compulsory procedures stipulated by the College in other policy and procedure documents.
 - b. Representatives of political parties and committees for candidates for public office must secure and pay for rooms and informational tables as required of other external organizations, unless they are sponsored by a student club or organization that is registered with Madison College's Student Life office.

Information Table Reservations

- 1) Cross-reference table reservation guidelines set forth by the Campus Events department.

Use of Premises (from the Information Table Guidelines, Point 8)

- 1) Petitions by organizations not affiliated with Madison College, such as political parties or committees for candidates for public office, may not be circulated on college premises. Any person can use the public sidewalk for distribution of materials or the collection of signatures, but no person may block the path of people coming to or leaving from college facilities.

- a. Public sidewalks outline the perimeter of all Madison College/WTCS-owned property. Adjacent sidewalks, parking lots and driveways leading to and from buildings and other open areas within the boundaries of these public sidewalks are spaces in which the college has authority over the schedule and method by which political activities and events are conducted.

Effective - April 2016