**SUNY Empire State University**

**Guidelines for Political Activity at University Facilities**

As an academic institution, we recognize and welcome the educational benefits of exposing our university community to political debate and information, including partisan political speech. In handling

requests for permission to use university facilities we must be guided by the principle of viewpoint

neutrality and evenhanded treatment as to terms and conditions of use (i.e. rental charges,

security costs, etc.)

With regards to political speech and speakers, the State University of New York has placed certain

limits on access to its facilities. It has been longstanding State University policy to prohibit use of

State University property for partisan political candidate fundraisers. This policy is consistent with

our legal obligations, the educational mission of the state University, and other strong interests,

such as avoidance of the inevitable impression of endorsing particular candidates.

The following information is utilized by Empire State University staff as a guide in determining use of

campus facilities for political activity:

* [SUNY Board of Trustees Guidelines: Use of Facilities by Non-Commercial Organizations](http://www.suny.edu/sunypp/documents.cfm?doc_id=374)

[(Reference Policy 1, section K)](http://www.suny.edu/sunypp/documents.cfm?doc_id=374)

* [Political Activity at SUNY Campuses](http://system.suny.edu/compliance/topics/political-activity-and-suny-campuses/political-activity-at-suny-campuses/)
* [American Council on Education: Political Campaign Related Activities of and at College’s and Universities](http://www.acenet.edu/news-room/Documents/Memo-Political-Campaigns.pdf)