

Policy Title: Chalking Policy

Senior Team Member: Dr. Frank Gaytan, Vice President for Student Engagement

Division Responsible for Policy: Student Engagement

Effective Date: July 21, 2020

Contact(s): Elizabeth Fedec, Assistant Vice President and Dean of Students

Minority Impact Statement: No disproportionate impact on minority groups is anticipated from the enforcement or application of this policy.

Who Should Read the Policy: Registered Student Organizations; University Departments; All Students, Faculty, and Staff

Policy review cycle: Reviewed every 3 years or as needed.

POLICY

Reason for Policy

To provide clear guidelines on where, how, and by whom chalking is permitted on campus, while ensuring alignment with community standards and respect for others.

Scope:

This policy applies to all members of the campus community, including students, faculty, staff, and sponsored guests or groups.

Policy Elements

- Chalking is only permitted on flat, horizontal sidewalks open to the elements.
- Only water-soluble (sidewalk) chalk may be used.
- Chalking may only be done by Student Government Association, Registered Student Organizations or groups sponsored by a university office or department.
- Chalking must adhere to the Student Handbook and Community Standards.
- Prohibited content includes hateful or derogatory messages or symbols. Violations may result in removal and conduct proceedings.

- Prohibited areas include any vertical surfaces or non-sidewalk locations (e.g., benches, buildings, trees, trash receptacles, etc.).
- Only the original chalking party or University maintenance staff may remove or alter chalking.
- "Counter-chalking" will be monitored and discouraged; however, opposing viewpoints are protected.

Definitions:

- *Chalking*: Use of water-soluble chalk on outdoor, horizontal sidewalks.
- *Counter-chalking*: Chalking that responds to or alters the message of existing chalking, often with an opposing viewpoint.

Procedures:

1. Groups wishing to chalk should confirm their registered status.
2. Use only water-soluble chalk on approved surfaces.
3. Avoid any content in violation of university conduct policies.
4. University staff may remove non-compliant chalking or perform regular cleanings.

COMPLAINT PROCEDURE: Students, faculty, and staff who suspect violations of the chalking policy should report their concern to university officials. They may do so by filing a report with

- Campus Security at 773-244-5600
- Use the Live Safe App
- Dean of Students Office at 773-244-5664

Forms:

None

Related Laws, Regulations, Statutes, and Policies:

- Student Handbook
- RSO Handbook
- Discrimination and Harassment Policy
- Non Discrimination Statement

Stakeholder review:

- Student Activities: May 29, 2025
- Dean of Students: June 2, 2025
- VP of Student Engagement: July 1, 2025

Document History: Original policy approved July 21, 2020

- **Last Reviewed:** June 2025
- **Next Review:** June 2028, or as necessary