



Political Activities Policy

Policy Source: Administration

Type: Policy

Handbook: Student Handbook and Institutional Policies

Purpose and Scope

The purpose of the policy is to outline the regulations concerning political activity on campus. The policy applies to faculty, staff, and students, as well as visitors of KCAI, who are acting as representatives or agents authorized to speak or act on the college's behalf. The policy does not apply to KCAI students, faculty, staff, and visitors who are speaking or acting in their individual capacities or as members of associations other than KCAI.

Policy Details

The Kansas City Art Institute is a tax-exempt entity subject to federal, state, and local laws and regulations regarding activities related to political campaigns. By law, "organizations that are exempt from income tax under section 501(a) of the internal Revenue Code as organizations described in section 501(c)(3) may not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distributing of statements), any political campaign on behalf of (or in opposition to) any candidate for public office." (Rev. Rul. 2007-41, 2007-25 I.R.B. June 18, 2007)

KCAI students, faculty, staff, and visitors are required to:

- Clearly indicate, by words or actions, that their positions are not those of KCAI and are not being taken in an official capacity on the college's behalf, when taking a political position for themselves or groups with which they are associated.
- Refrain from political activities, including but not limited to making specific campaign related statements, such as endorsements of particular candidates, in the classroom and/or workplace settings.
- Prohibit fundraisers for political candidates on college owned and/or managed property.
- Receive prior approval before offering a candidate of public office an opportunity to speak, and/or an opportunity to participate in other activities on campus or use college owned or managed property.
- Receive prior approval to post signs and/or political related materials on and around campus in spaces or areas that are accessible to the campus community and/or the public, including assigned studio spaces, as noted in the Posting and Chalking on Campus Policy and the Student Code of Conduct related to Studio Use (page 6). Students living in the Barbara Marshall Residence Hall or other campus housing may post political materials in their personal rooms as long as they are not in outward/public facing windows and all policies are followed.
- Receive approval from the President or their designee and in consultation with legal counsel when lobbying on behalf of KCAI.

KCAI will permit the following activities related to political activities.

- Engage in non-partisan voter registration efforts, as well as debates where all sides and positions are represented.
- Students, faculty, and staff may participate in campaigns of candidates for public office when outside of normal work hours and/or work duties.

Document Owner:
Next Review Date:

SA/HR/AA
August 15, 2025

Last Modified By:
Last Modified on:

SA/HR/AA
August 15, 2024



Related Policies/Forms/Templates

Student Code of Conduct
Posting and Chalking on Campus
Assembly and Demonstration
Hate Symbols
Freedom of Expression
Art and Design on Campus
Visitors on Campus
Guest Speakers on Campus

Review History

Version	Date	Author	Purpose
1.0	August 15, 2024	Gina Golba, Joe Timson, Ronald Knight-Beck, Nancy Eastman, Jane Preuss	First released version

Document Owner:
Next Review Date:

SA/HR/AA
August 15, 2025

Last Modified By:
Last Modified on:

SA/HR/AA
August 15, 2024