



McMURRY
UNIVERSITY

STUDENT HANDBOOK 2024-2025

Your guide to academic policies
and student resources

Non-Academic Matters

Written complaints about administrative or other student services should be directed initially to the appropriate office but may be submitted to the Student Affairs office if satisfactory resolution is not achieved. Appropriate documentation would include copies of any relevant contracts, notices, or other official or informal correspondence with the office or other University personnel.

SMOKING AND TOBACCO USE POLICY

All buildings on the campus of McMurry University are tobacco free. Tobacco is defined as all tobacco-derived products, including and not limited to, cigarettes (e.g., clove, bidis, kreteks), electronic cigarettes, vapes, cigars and cigarillos, hookah smoked products, pipes, and oral tobacco (e.g., spit and spitless, smokeless, chew, snuff) and nasal tobacco (e.g., snus). It also includes any product intended to mimic tobacco products, contain tobacco flavoring, or deliver nicotine other than for the purpose of cessation.

Smoking, dipping, or chewing any form of tobacco as defined above is not allowed in any building on campus. Smoking is not allowed within twenty (20) feet of an entrance of any building on campus. (*Complies with the City of Abilene Ordinance, Chapter 10, Article III, Division 2, SMOKING of the Code of the City of Abilene.*) Designated areas have been established for students to smoke outside of the buildings. In accordance with university and NCAA rules and regulations, the use of tobacco at any athletic event is prohibited.

EXPRESSIVE ACTIVITY POLICY

Definition

Expressive activity is defined as any speech or expressive conduct protected by the First Amendment to the United States Constitution or by section 8, article 1 of the Texas Constitution and includes assemblies, protests, speeches, distribution of written materials, the carrying of signs, and the circulation of petitions. Expressive activity DOES NOT include activity that occurs in class/laboratory settings overseen by McMurry faculty members. Expressive activity is NOT prohibited in forums that are, by tradition or designation, to be utilized for mission related communication, which forums include, but are not limited, by example to residence halls, faculty and staff offices, academic buildings, administrative buildings, the Campus Center, the Jay Rollins Library and computer labs.

External Groups

External individuals/groups are defined as those individuals who do not currently work or study at the University or by groups that are not officially recognized by the University.

Internal Groups

Internally sponsored expressive activity is defined as activity supported by individuals who currently work or study at the University either on a full-time or part-time basis, and/or by groups which are officially recognized by the University.

Scope

This policy extends to the McMurry University main campus and the off campus instructional site (OCIS) known as the Patty Hanks Shelton School of Nursing (PHSSN) (hereinafter referred to as “campus” or “campus community”). It is intended to include all employees and students of McMurry University as well as entities subject to the authority of the governing structures of the University. This policy shall not be construed as extending to entities operating within a contractual or part-time arrangement with the University nor shall it include any OCIS operating as a public or private entity.