

# **Interim Queens College Guidance Regarding Time, Place, and Manner Regulations for Demonstrations on Campus**

## **I. Introduction**

This protocol, drafted by the President’s Cabinet in 2024 with input from Associate Provosts and Deans, is intended to ensure a welcoming, safe, and inclusive environment that supports academic and social activities at Queens College. It safeguards individuals’ rights to express themselves and to be free from harassment and discrimination, while preserving the continuity of the College’s core operations and mission. The Guidance applies to all persons at Queens College, regardless of their affiliation.

Queens College recognizes both the right to peaceful demonstrations and its duty to protect physical safety, and enable necessary activities of the College to be free from unreasonable disruption. The College recognizes that the open and free exchange of ideas among equals is fundamental to any academic community. Individuals and groups exercising their right to free speech must comply with these guidelines regarding time, place, and manner, to ensure that every student’s right to an education is respected as well.

Queens College defines demonstrations as any form of civic expression where individuals, groups, organizations, or any gathering, spontaneous or planned, communicate opinions, demands, support for or opposition to any subject, or the like, through marches, parades, rallies, protests, or similar activities (collectively referred to in this Guidance as “Demonstrations” and includes any counter-demonstration—any form of civic expression where individuals, groups, organizations, or any gathering, present opposing opinions in response to a Demonstration). Demonstrations are distinct from events and tabling activities. Requests to schedule Demonstrations, regardless of the identity of the persons involved, the number of expected attendees, or their affiliation, if any, with the College, and regardless of the time, place, or manner, must be submitted to the Vice President of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management. Organizers of Demonstrations must read this document, complete the Campus Events Request Form, and submit it to the Vice President of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management at least three business days before the planned Demonstration date for consideration.

All aspects of the foregoing expressly incorporate federal and state law, CUNY policy, Queens College policy, and in particular, but without limitation, the Rules and Regulations for the Maintenance of Public Order (“Henderson Rules”). Violation of these policies or rules, including this Guidance, may be grounds for disciplinary action.

## **II. General Provisions**

The following regulations are generally applicable to Demonstrations at Queens College.

- All persons on College property who are eligible for a College issued ID card (including but not limited to faculty, staff, students, and authorized users of the Library) must present an official current College issued ID card when requested to do so by a College

official, including, but not limited to, Public Safety Officers. All other persons must be present a valid state issued ID when requested to do so by a College official, including, but not limited to, Public Safety Officers.

- All persons affiliated with the College in any manner (including but not limited to faculty, staff, students, and authorized users of the Library) who are eligible for a College issued ID card are expected to obtain such a card within a reasonable period of commencing their affiliation with the College, and they must surrender it when they conclude said affiliation. They must have their ID card before submitting a Campus Events Request Form.
- All persons on College property who do not possess an official current College issued ID card and who are ineligible to receive such an ID card will be considered trespassers in the event of a violation of this guidance.
- No blocking or otherwise interfering with the free flow of vehicular, bicycle, or pedestrian traffic. The right of way on streets and sidewalks must be maintained.
- No blocking or otherwise interfering with the ability of others to enter or exit campus buildings.
- No preventing or attempting to force the cancellation of any class, event or activity sponsored by the College or by any persons authorized to use College facilities.
- No actions that obstruct or prevent members and authorized guests of the College community from accessing campus activities or facilities.
- No Demonstrations are allowed inside College buildings.
- No incitement of imminent lawless action, defamation, or fighting words are permitted, regardless of the target.
- No harassment, physical abuse, or threats toward any member of the College community, any persons authorized to be at the College, or third parties who are physically present or proximate to the College.
- Demonstrators may be requested to remove masks or face coverings, other than those required as accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act, upon reasonable notice by Public Safety officers, to confirm persons have the right to be physically present on campus.
- Demonstrations are not permitted between 8 PM and 8 AM.
- Demonstrations shall not exceed three hours in duration.
- No Demonstrations during the Reading Period or Final Exam Period, as specified in the official calendar of the College.
- No volume of noise that prevents members of the College community from performing their normal campus activities. Amplified sound (e.g., bullhorns or similar equipment) is not permitted and may not be used unless approved in advance in writing by Student Affairs.
- No structures, whether characterized as temporary or permanent, may be erected on campus without advance written authorization.
- Open flames or flammable equipment or materials are prohibited unless the person or group generating flames has advance written authorization, and equipment and materials brought onto the premises must be compliant with applicable fire and safety codes, the rules and regulations of the City and State of New York, and the standards and permits established by the New York City Fire Department.

- Individuals and groups may not destroy or damage College property, including but not limited to the use of graffiti, stickers, or any other forms of vandalism.
- Unauthorized markings or attachments to College property are prohibited.
- Guns, knives, sharp objects, batons, torches, and anything else that may be used as weapons are prohibited on campus.
- No unattended placards, banners, or other signs, unless they are affixed securely to a location that has been approved for posting. Approval to post posters and flyers on College property must be obtained from the Vice President of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management.

### Designated Locations

The College permits approved Demonstrations at the following locations, unless another party has previously reserved the space:

Student Union Field 1 Parking Lot, Eastern Quad, Central Quad, Western Quad, Dining Hall Plaza.

The College may authorize Demonstrations at other locations on Campus only upon written approval of the Vice President of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management.

### III. Compliance and Enforcement

It is the responsibility of the Demonstration organizer, any sponsoring organization(s), and all participants to be aware of this Guidance.

Individuals and groups must comply with applicable University and College policies and procedures, including the Rules and Regulations for the Maintenance of Public Order (“[Henderson Rules](#)”). Violation of these policies or rules, including this Queens College Guidance, may be grounds for disciplinary action. Any investigations or disciplinary actions related to or arising from Demonstrations will be conducted in accordance with all CUNY and Queens College Policies and consistent with all protections and rights afforded to any parties, included, but not limited to, those protections and rights set forth in applicable Collective Bargaining Agreements.

Failure to comply with instructions from Public Safety or other Queens College officials, whether prior to or during a Demonstration or at any time, may result in the individual being considered a trespasser. Non-compliance may also lead to conduct charges in accordance with CUNY and Queens College policies.