

<b>Administrative Policy:</b>		Freedom of Expression			<b>Policy Number:</b>	AP 3900
<b>Applicable regulations - Federal/State/Board/College</b>		NWCCU Standard 2.B.2				
<b>Accountable Administrator:</b>		Student Affairs	<b>Position responsible for updates:</b>		Vice President of Student Affairs	
<b>Original Date:</b>	4.5.22	<b>Executive Team approval date:</b>			4.5.22	
<b>Date Posted on Web:</b>	4.14.22	<b>Revised:</b>	2.24 title update	<b>Reviewed:</b>		

## **Purpose**

Freedom of speech, expression, petition, and assembly are all fundamental rights of all persons. Students, faculty, staff, and community members have the right to assemble, speak, and attempt to attract the attention of others, and equal rights to hear the speech of others when they choose to listen and ignore the speech of others when they decide not to listen.

Free Speech activities, however, are subject to the established rights of the College to regulate reasonable time, location, and method so that the activities do not interfere with academic courses or programs, student activities, administrative procedures, or other authorized activities on campus.

The OCCC Campuses, buildings, and instructional locations are non-public forums, except for those areas that are designated public forum available for the exercise of expressive activities by students, employees, and community members.

Reservation and use of Designated Free Speech Areas:

- **Open Public Areas:** Areas or spaces designated as open public areas for expressive activities include exterior walkways, courtyards, and (fields) grassy areas surrounding OCCC facilities. Activities cannot block access to campus buildings, block exit doors, obstruct vehicle or pedestrian traffic, disrupt college operations, or create a threat to public safety. These areas are chosen to provide visibility and allow communication to a large number of students, administrators, faculty, and others walking or traveling on College property but also so as not to disrupt educational and other activities or programs of OCCC on behalf of students.

All Open Public Areas must be reserved by using the link: [Free Speech Request Form](#).

A request may be denied if the area is already reserved, the activity attracts a crowd larger than the area can safely contain, the activity disrupts college operations including classes, or the event presents a threat to public safety. Outside entities may be required to pay rental fees for use of OCCC facilities. Expressive activities are not permitted outside OCCC hours of operation.

**Non-Public Area:** Areas not available for expressive activity include classrooms, computer rooms, laboratories, library, staff work areas, bathrooms, storage areas, food service areas, hallways, faculty/staff offices, and all College electronic communication or information systems (email, Canvas, my.oregoncoast).