

**Columbia College**  
**Expectations for On-Campus Free Speech Activities**

YCCD Board Policy 3900 allows Columbia College to establish institutional regulations and procedures, and in accordance with Board policy, Columbia College has established such regulations and procedures to provide students and community members with the opportunity to exercise their right of expression, while fostering an atmosphere and conditions in which Columbia College's educational mission can be carried out without disruption. Columbia College shall identify appropriate locations on campus to be used as limited public forums as prescribed by YCCD Board Policy.

Limited public forums on Columbia College's campus are "areas generally available to students and the community," defined as grassy areas, walkways, or other similar common areas. This definition governs the phrase "areas generally available to students and the community" as it is used throughout this guideline.

**GUIDELINES:**

1. No event, speech, demonstration, activity or other exercise of "Free Speech" on campus shall interfere with or disrupt the educational process or other scheduled activities of the campus or its facilities. "Persons using the area(s) generally available to students and the community and/or distributing material in the areas generally available to students and the community shall not physically impede the progress of passersby, nor shall they force passersby to take material."\*
2. Columbia College recognizes the right of free speech expression, but encourages speakers to be respectful of all people. The following types of expression, as defined by law, are considered unprotected speech, and will not be tolerated: threats, incitement of imminent lawless action, racial and sexual harassment, fighting words, obscenity and defamation.
3. Cooperation with Columbia College staff is expected when visiting the campus and/or using campus tables, equipment and facilities. "Persons using an area(s) generally available to students and the community shall not use any means of amplification that creates a noise or diversion that disturbs the orderly conduct of the campus or classes taking place at that time."\*
4. "No persons using the area(s) generally available to students and the community shall solicit donations of money, through direct requests for funds, sales of tickets or otherwise, except where he or she is using the area(s) generally available to students and the community on behalf of and collecting funds for an organization that is registered with the Secretary of State as a nonprofit corporation or is an approved Associated Students Organization or club."\*
5. Speakers will comply with college, city, state and federal regulations governing free expression.
6. "All persons using the area(s) generally available to students and the community of the colleges shall be allowed to distribute petitions, circulars, leaflets, newspapers, and other printed matter. Such distribution shall take place only within the area(s) generally available to students and the community. Those persons distributing printed material must make reasonable efforts to retrieve, remove or properly discard material that is discarded or dropped other than in an appropriate receptacle prior to their departure from the area(s) generally available to students and the community that day."\*

7. Use of free speech areas is permitted every day from 8:00 am to 9:00 pm. Speakers who will be using the free speech areas outside normal working hours (Monday-Friday from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm) are encouraged to notify the Vice President of Student Services Office to coordinate their event.

8. Posting: Students shall be provided with bulletin boards for use in posting student materials at campus locations convenient for student use. All materials displayed on a bulletin board shall be dated by a designee of the Vice President of Student Services Office.

**CANCELLATION NOTIFICATION:**

**Vice President of Student Services Office  
11600 Columbia College, Sonoma, CA 95370**

**Phone 209.588.5132    ccstudentservices@yosemite.edu**

Groups and speakers are encouraged to give advance notice of their use of campus areas for free expression. If cancellation is necessary, immediate notice shall be given to the Vice President of Student Services Office.