

# Simmons University

## Campus Access and Use Policy

At Simmons, the safety and wellbeing of our students, faculty, and staff are paramount. Our campus<sup>1</sup> serves as a “home away from home” for many of our students, and welcomes hundreds of faculty and staff each day who are dedicated to delivering a Simmons education to both undergraduate and graduate students. Access to and use of campus is primarily limited to students, employees, alumnae/i, and invited guests for the purposes of study, work, teaching, or attending to University business or activities. Simmons is a private institution and the University reserves its right to restrict or prohibit access to our campuses and online spaces and to prohibit individuals who have not been invited onto our campus from being present on University owned or controlled property at its discretion.

All individuals who enter our campus are required to conduct themselves in accordance with the law, with Simmons policies, and in a manner that maintains a safe environment for all. The following conduct will be considered inconsistent with Simmons’ expectations, is prohibited, and will be deemed a violation of, at the least, this policy, Simmons’ Employee Handbook, and the Student Handbook, as applicable:

- Unauthorized obstruction of Simmons property, such as blocking access to campus facilities, indoor or outdoor spaces, or activities, or impeding the travel of persons or cars on campus property.
- Using bullhorns or other loud or amplified sound-making devices that may disrupt academic activities and/or our Fenway neighbors.
- Disrupting or interfering in any manner, including, but not limited to, by volume, number of participants, activity, or written message, the educational or institutional mission, activities or goals of Simmons, the academic, teaching, and learning activities of Simmons community members, or the operations of the University.
- Engaging in threats, physical altercation, and/or causing injury to, or endangering the safety of, any individual.
- Destruction (including littering), theft, or vandalism of Simmons property.
- Bringing or having dangerous or hazardous items or weapons.<sup>2</sup>
- Bringing carrying/storage cases, including but not limited to coolers, large bags, duffle bags, and suitcases, other than for purposes permissible under University policy.
- Constructing or placing in or on campus property any type of temporary or permanent barrier or structure, including, but not limited to, fencing, walls, tents, or enclosures, other than barriers or structures that have been expressly authorized by

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<sup>1</sup> “Campus” is defined for the purposes of this policy as any and all University owned and/or controlled property, University-controlled online spaces, and any indoor/outdoor space the University is utilizing at any given time, including, but not limited to, event spaces off of and away from University-owned property.

<sup>2</sup> Dangerous items and weapons include, but are not limited to, torches, glass products, poles, clubs, bats, aerosol products, mace, firearms, explosives/fireworks, sharp objects, knives, shields, ammunition (live or empty shell casings), dangerous chemicals, or anything else that could be used to harm members of the community or neighborhood.

the University prior to their construction or placement.

- Student-organized event activities on or in any campus outdoor or indoor spaces taking place between 1:00 a.m. and 7:00 a.m., unless previously authorized by the Dean of Students or designee.
- Unauthorized entry into Simmons property.
- Sleeping in or on any indoor or outdoor campus spaces, property, or facilities, other than as allowed via an authorized and executed Simmons University Housing Contract.
- Parking unauthorized vehicles on campus property, and the parking of authorized vehicles on campus property outside of designated, approved locations.
- Disrupting or interfering with Simmons' online operations and/or technology in any manner.
- Any activity that violates any Simmons policy and/or federal, state, or local law or ordinance.

The conduct described above are examples of violations but this list should not be considered exhaustive. If an individual engages in behavior or conduct that is inconsistent with this policy or any other University policy, or that is otherwise inconsistent with the interests of the University (including, but not limited to, the University's academic enterprise, the safety of individuals engaging with Simmons academically or otherwise, the University's commitment to free speech rights, and ensuring that the education for students and/or the operations of the University are not disrupted), the individual will be asked to cease such conduct and may be asked to leave the Simmons campus. Failure to adhere to this request may result in law enforcement being summoned to take appropriate action, including possible removal for trespassing. Criminal conduct and potential criminal conduct will be managed by the University's Office of Public Safety, as well as by other law enforcement agencies, such as the Boston Police, as needed and appropriate.

Approved: November 28, 2017; updated September 2024

**Offices Responsible for This Policy:** Student Engagement, Success, and Diversity; Provost's Office; Human Resources; Department of Public Safety