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## Carthage College

### Political Campaign, Candidates, & Events Policy

As a private, not-for-profit institution of higher education, Carthage College is not affiliated with any political party or group. Carthage College may not endorse, recommend or otherwise indicate political support for any candidate for an elected office, or for any current holder of such an office. College officials, administrators, faculty, and staff are not authorized in their professional capacity as a Carthage employee to make public or media statements to the media in support of, or in opposition to, a political campaign or candidate for public office.<sup>1</sup>

The College supports and protects the freedoms of speech, expression, petition, peaceable assembly and association. The following are guidelines pertaining to any/all political events requested to take place on the College's campus.

Use of campus facilities:

- Facilities may not be used for fundraising events for candidates or parties.
- Facilities may be used for political meetings, provided the meetings do not interfere with regularly scheduled College functions, provided that events are free and open to the student body, and provided that sponsors pay in advance the regular fee for the use of the facilities. See Carthage College Facility Use Policy for more details.
- Political office holders and candidates are not allowed to campaign, be introduced or recognized on campus unless they are participating in the campus event that they are attending.
- Student organizations that are officially chartered and currently registered with the Student Involvement Office may invite candidates for political office or current officeholders to speak at meetings of their organization.
- No College derived funding may be used to conduct political activities or to make political contributions.
- Off-campus political campaign materials may not be placed in or on the grounds or on automobile windshields or utility poles.
- Campus mail and email systems are not to be used to distribute political campaign materials.
- Use of College symbols and insignia is not permitted for any political events.
- Promotional material for the political event may not state or imply that Carthage College endorses a political candidate or organization.

[Learn more about political campaign limitations on independent college campuses.](#)

<sup>1</sup> Carthage College encourages its students, faculty and staff to exercise fully the rights of citizenship, including participation in the political life of their communities, the state and the nation, and to educate and involve themselves in world affairs.

*Institutional Policy Effective July 1, 2019*