



Eastern Kentucky University

Policy and Regulation Library

University Policy: 1.6.4POL

Responsible Office(s): University Counsel

Effective: November 12, 2025

Next Review Date: June 30, 2028

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Antisemitism

Statement

Eastern Kentucky University (“EKU” or the “University”) adheres to the transcendent principles of religious freedom and equal protection as embodied in the Constitution of the United States (“U.S.”) and the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, including, but not limited to, a commitment to the principles of tolerance, religion freedom, and equal protection. Adherence to these principles is vital to the access to and progress of the University.

In the 2025 Regular Session, the Kentucky General Assembly passed Senate Joint Resolution 55 (“SJR 55”), which directed Kentucky’s public postsecondary institutions to combat antisemitism. This Policy shall implement the requirements of SJR 55 at the University.

Entities Affected

University Community Members, including students, faculty, and staff, as well as anyone doing business for or with the University.

Procedures

I. Antisemitism

The Commonwealth of Kentucky, through the adoption of SJR 55, as well as Senate Resolution 67 in the 2021 Regular Session, has adopted and directed public postsecondary institutions to use as guidance the definition of “Antisemitism” as propounded by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance. “Antisemitism,” according to the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance, is defined as “a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred towards Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations

of anti-Semitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities."

II. Discrimination and Harassment & the First Amendment

University Policy [1.4.1, Discrimination and Harassment](#), protects all students and employees from all forms of discrimination and harassment, including, but not limited to, those based upon religion, ethnicity, and/or national origin, and as otherwise set forth in the Policy. Antisemitic acts, as with acts targeting other protected classes, can be a form of discrimination and harassment if the antisemitic behavior is so severe, pervasive or persistent that it rises to the level of actionable harassment or limits access to education, employment, benefits, or other opportunities and/or treat an individual differently on the basis of an individual's actual or perceived membership in a protected class it rises to the level of discrimination, as further set forth in the University Discrimination and Harassment Policy, and under state and federal law.

In all cases, the University will abide by the First Amendment of the United States Constitution, and applicable University policies protecting freedom of expression, including University Policies [1.5.7, Institutional Viewpoint Neutrality](#), and [9.3.3, Time, Place, and Manner of Demonstrations, Meetings, and Other Assemblies](#). When, however, the antisemitic behavior is constitutionally protected speech and does not violate the Policy on Discrimination and Harassment, the University recognizes it is still harmful to an individual or part of our community. We encourage the individuals involved or the community to engage in respectful dialogue to help others learn about the impact of their words. The University will always value, honor, and protect both the right to be free from protected-class discrimination and harassment, and the right to express constitutionally protected beliefs and ideas.

III. Notification

At the start of each semester, the University shall send an official notification to students which sets forth:

- (a) the rights that are protected at the University under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and how a student may file a complaint if the student believes those rights have been violated;
- (b) that KRS 344.450 provides any person injured by certain acts of discrimination with a civil cause of action to enjoin further violations and to recover the actual damages sustained and the costs of the lawsuit; and
- (c) the University's policies regarding student-on-student harassment, as further set forth in the Policy 1.4.1, Policy on Discrimination and Harassment; Administrative Regulation 5.1.3, Student Code of Conduct

and Disciplinary Procedures; and Policy 1.5.7, Institutional Viewpoint Neutrality.

The University's Notice of Consumer Protection or similar-styled publication required under federal law, may suffice as the notification required under this Policy, provided it includes the requirements noted above.

IV. Dissemination of Community Resources

Any Jewish group that seeks to serve Jewish students at EKU may be identified as a community resource for students to the extent that the University recognizes any other religious or non-religious organization as a community resource. Student groups may be recognized through Administrative Regulation [5.1.2, Student Organizations](#), and via the Office of Student Life and First-Year Experience. Community groups may seek such recognition and inquire as to opportunities to serve students via the Office of Conferencing & Events or through the Richmond Chamber of Commerce.

V. Defunding & Disbanding

The University will disband and defund any student organization that has been found via the process set forth in Administrative Regulation [5.1.3, Student Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures](#), to be providing material support or resources to designated terrorist organizations, as further found by state or federal law enforcement.

VI. Data Collection & Reporting

The University will collect the following data, beginning January 1, 2026:

- (a) The number of reports alleging antisemitism submitted to the institution, the number of investigations opened by the institution as a result of those reports, and the outcomes of those investigations;
- (b) The number of reports alleging violations of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 194 that are connected to antisemitism of which the institution has been notified and the results of those investigations that are in the possession of the institution; and
- (c) The number of actions that have been brought against the institution under [KRS 344.450](#) and the outcomes of such actions.

Violations of the Policy

The University will act on any Complaint or notice of violation of this policy that is received by the Office of University Counsel and Compliance, Office of Equal Opportunity & Title IX, the Title IX Coordinator, or any Mandatory Reporter. It is the University's decision whether or not to initiate an investigation into any report of a possible violation of this policy.

Statutory or Regulatory References

2025 Regular Legislative Session Senate Joint Resolution 55

Policy Adoption Review and Approval

Policy Issued

Date

November 12, 2025

Entity

Board of Regents

Action

Adopted