

UNIVERSITY POLICIES



Addresses

All students, whether living on campus or off campus, must ensure their correct local and permanent addresses are on file in the Office of Administrative Services. Changes of address must be reported immediately.

Assembly

Students and organizations shall be free to examine and to discuss questions of interest to them and to express opinions publicly and privately. Students shall be free to support, by orderly means, causes which do not disrupt the operations of the institution as outlined in the Student Handbook. It is understood that in their public expressions or demonstrations, students or student organizations speak only for themselves and do not represent the views of the University.

Recognized student organizations shall be allowed to invite and to hear speakers of their own choosing in a closed meeting of the organization, but must take precautions to insure that invited speakers conduct themselves with decorum and do not advocate positions which are destructive to the mission and vision of the University as stated in the University catalog.

Sponsorship of guest speakers does not imply approval or endorsement, either by the sponsoring group or by the institution. Student organizations shall be responsible for the orderly scheduling of facilities and for conducting the occasion in a manner appropriate to the academic community and good civil order. If contracts with the University are required for speakers or guests, they must be signed by the Dean of Students and/or the Vice President for Finance and Administration.

Comments and Complaint Procedures

The University and its staff strive to improve student services and welcome input regarding our policies and procedures. All student concerns or complaints should be written and directed to the appropriate division or departmental office. If said response does not adequately address a student's concerns, the complainant is encouraged to contact the Office of the Provost (Mabee Administration Building, 479-979-1242) for academic concerns and the Office of the Dean of Students (Seay Student Center, Lower Level, 479-979-1322) for all other concerns.

All written complaints/concerns should be accompanied by relevant documentation. The Dean of Students will review the situation with the appropriate area and will either respond personally to the complaint, or direct the appropriate member of the institution to do so within 15 days of receipt of the written complaint. Please note: Due to Federal regulations the University generally only corresponds with students, not parents or guardians.

Drugs – Other

In accordance with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act, the University has adopted and implemented policies to prevent the unlawful possession, use, and distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students and employees on University premises or as a part of any University activity. It is unlawful to manufacture, distribute, dispense, possess,

or use a controlled substance or drug on University property, and violations are punishable by probation, suspension, dismissal, and/or criminal proceedings.

Drug Abuse Policy

In accordance with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act, students enrolled in University of the Ozarks are subject to disciplinary action for the possession, manufacture, use, sale or distribution (by either sale or gift) of:

- Any quantity of any prescription drug
- Any quantity of controlled substance
- For being under the influence of any prescription drug or controlled substance

With the exception of an over-the counter medication used as intended, or for the prescribed use of medication in accordance with the instructions of a licensed physician.

Controlled substances include but are not limited to:

- Marijuana and other cannabinoids
- “K2” and other synthetic drug analogs (such as “bath salts” and “flakka”)
- Cocaine
- Cocaine derivatives
- Heroin
- Amphetamines
- Barbiturates
- Steroids
- LSD
- GHB
- Adderall
- Rohypnol
- Substances typically known as “designer drugs” such as “ecstasy.”

Possession of paraphernalia associated with the use, possession or manufacture of a prescription drug or controlled substance is also prohibited. Students having prohibited substances in their residence and students in the presence of these substances or paraphernalia may be subject to the same penalties as those in possession.

In addition to sanctions imposed by the University for violating the Alcohol Use Policy and the Drug Abuse Policy, a student may be subject to regulations of civil authorities. Various local, state and federal regulations prohibit the illegal use, possession and distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol. Penalties for violation of such statutes vary depending on the type of drug, the amount of the drug involved, the type of violation, and in the case of alcohol, the age of the person involved.

The University may utilize drug testing as a disciplinary sanction, or as required by an organization of which it is a member or if testing is necessary or required for safety, liability or other reasons.

Alcohol Policy

- Possession, use, or serving of alcohol by persons under 21 years of age is prohibited.
- Possession, use, or serving of alcohol by persons for any of age person is prohibited.

- Furnishing alcohol to persons who are under 21 years of age is prohibited.
- Being intoxicated in public or a public area and/or being disorderly or destructive during or following the consumption of alcohol is prohibited.
- Misrepresenting one's age for the purpose of purchasing or consuming alcohol is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to, the use of false identification.

Tobacco Free Campus Policy

Objective

University of the Ozarks is invested in maintaining a safe and healthy environment for our students, employees, alumni and visitors. Research shows that the use of tobacco products constitutes a significant health hazard.

Policy

University of the Ozarks prohibits the use of all tobacco products on all property that is owned, operated, leased, occupied, or controlled by the University. "Property" for purposes of this policy includes:

1. Buildings, structures, enclosed bridges and walkways, university carts and vehicles, personal vehicles in these areas, and any other indoor areas owned or managed by the university.
2. Parking lots, parking garages or structures, grounds, sidewalks, rooftops, plazas, courtyards, athletic facilities, entrance/exit ways, university-owned or -leased vehicles, and any other outdoor areas owned or managed by the university.

This policy applies to all University of the Ozarks students, employees, consultants, contractors, visitors and external individuals, companies renting university-owned space, and property owned or managed by University of the Ozarks.

Definitions

1. "Tobacco Products" means all forms of tobacco, including but not limited to cigarettes, cigars, pipes, water pipes (hookah), e-cigarettes (any device intended to simulate smoking), smokeless tobacco.
2. "Members of the University community" include its faculty, staff, students, volunteers, customers and visitors.
3. "Property" includes buildings, structures, grounds, parking lots or structures, enclosed bridges and walkways, sidewalks, university carts and vehicles, as well as personal vehicles in these areas.

Enforcement

Students

Violations of the policy will be addressed in accordance with current University policies and procedures. Accordingly, students may expect a University response under the student code of conduct. The University encourages students to engage in an approach of collective responsibility to hold each student accountable to smoke free policy expectations. Additionally, traditional reporting resources of Public Safety and Student Affairs are available for support and enforcement of the policy.

Visitors

Visitors and vendors on campus may not be knowledgeable of the policy. The campus community shares the responsibility to respectfully edify them that University of the Ozarks is a smoke-free campus. Public Safety is to be

notified in situations involving visitors, including vendors, observed to be using tobacco products, and who fail to comply after being advised of the policy. Further refusal to respect the policy may result in a visitor or vendor being required to leave campus. Additionally, members of the campus community will be held accountable for the behavior and conduct of their guests/visitors while they are on University property. All visitors/guests are expected to adhere to all University policies.

Public Safety retains authority to directly enforce adherence to this policy at all times with any and all campus constituents. However, it remains the University's expectation for compliance to be assured through the shared responsibility of the University of the Ozarks community.

Exceptions

The use of tobacco products may be permitted for controlled research with prior approval of the Provost, the Institutional Review Board, and the Dean of Students.

Tobacco use and/or smoking on campus may be permitted for educational or religious ceremonial purposes with prior approval of the Provost and Dean of Students.

Medical Amnesty/Good Samaritan Policy

The University recognizes that in an alcohol or other drug-related emergency, the potential for disciplinary action by the University may act as a barrier to students seeking medical assistance for themselves, other students or guests; therefore, the University has a Medical Amnesty protocol as part of our comprehensive approach to reducing the harmful consequences caused by the consumption of alcohol or other drugs.

The University's main concern is the well-being, health, and safety of its students. Medical Amnesty represents the University's commitment to increasing the likelihood that community members will call for medical assistance when faced with an alcohol or other drug-related emergency. Medical Amnesty also promotes education for individuals who receive emergency medical attention related to their own use of alcohol or other drugs in order to reduce the likelihood of future occurrences.

An individual who calls for emergency assistance on behalf of a person experiencing an alcohol or other drug-related emergency will not face formal disciplinary action by the University for the possession or use of alcohol or other drugs if she/he agrees to participate in, and complete, the recommended educational expectations outlined by a university hearing officer. The recipient of medical attention will also avoid formal disciplinary action by the University for the possession or use of alcohol or other drugs if she/he agrees to participate in, and complete, the recommended educational expectations outlined by a conduct hearing officer. If an individual is documented or receives emergency medical assistance on more than one occasion due to excessive use of alcohol or other drugs, the situation will be evaluated so as to provide the student with additional resources and/or sanctions as needed or appropriate.

The Medical Amnesty protocol applies to straightforward cases of alcohol or other drug-related emergencies. The Medical Amnesty protocol does not excuse co-occurring student code of conduct infractions or other incidents related or unrelated to the medical emergency.

Signs of Alcohol Poisoning or Overdose

Recognizing the signs of alcohol poisoning or drug overdose is extremely important. It is not necessary that all symptoms are present before you seek help. If you are unsure, it is imperative that you err on the side of caution and get immediate help. Signs of alcohol poisoning or overdose include, but are not limited to:

- vomiting
- confusion/stupor
- seizures
- slow breathing (less than eight breaths a minute)
- irregular breathing
- blue-tinged skin or pale skin
- low body temperature (feels cold or clammy)
- unconscious and unresponsive

Never leave an unconscious person alone or assume they will “sleep it off”. While waiting for help, turn the intoxicated person on his or her side. Do not try to make them vomit. Persons with alcohol poisoning have an impaired gag reflex and may choke on their vomit or accidentally inhale vomit into their lungs. If you have any questions about the Medical Amnesty Policy, please contact the Dean of Students.

Directory Information

University of the Ozarks publishes, in various forms, directory information such as a student’s identification photograph, name, University email address, whether enrolled part-time or full-time, class, major, dates of attendance, degrees conferred, awards received, educational institutions attended, participation in officially recognized activities or athletic teams and weights and heights of athletic team members. In addition, Academic Honors are also considered “directory information” with regard to determining honor rolls, Dean’s lists, President’s lists, and graduation honors, all of which may be published. Transcripts of students’ academic records or student grade point averages may be released to the faculty advisers of officially recognized campus honor societies upon written request unless the student has filed an objection with the Registrar’s Office. Only faculty members and appropriate administrators have access rights to student records.

Students who do not wish to have such information released must notify the Office of Administrative Services during the first two weeks of the academic year. The Registrar’s Office provides a form for the convenience of students who do not wish to have information released.

University of the Ozarks policy permits the release of information from a student’s educational record without written consent to University faculty, staff, and administration who are responsible for working with such records in registration, counseling, teaching, financial aid, tuition and fee payment, internship and other activity directly related to their official responsibilities on a “need to know” basis.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

As of January 3, 2012, the U.S. Department of Education's Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) regulations expanded the circumstances under which education records and personally identifiable information (PII) contained in such records — including Social Security Number, grades, or other private information — may be accessed without consent. First, the U.S. Comptroller General, the U.S. Attorney General, the U.S. Secretary of Education, or state and local education authorities (“Federal and State Authorities”) may allow access to records and PII without consent to any third party designated by a Federal or State Authority to evaluate a federal- or state-supported

education program. The evaluation may relate to any program that is "principally engaged in the provision of education," such as early childhood education and job training, as well as any program that is administered by an education agency or institution. Second, Federal and State Authorities may allow access to education records and PII without consent to researchers performing certain types of studies, in certain cases even when we object to or do not request such research. Federal and State Authorities must obtain certain use-restriction and data security promises from the entities that they authorize to receive your PII, but the Authorities need not maintain direct control over such entities. In addition, in connection with Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems, State Authorities may collect, compile, permanently retain, and share without your consent PII from your education records, and they may track your participation in education and other programs by linking such PII to other personal information about you that they obtain from other Federal or State data sources, including workforce development, unemployment insurance, child welfare, juvenile justice, military service, and migrant student records systems.

Disability Related Information

University of the Ozarks provides reasonable accommodations to students with disabilities who need such assistance under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Disability categories can include, but are not limited to, Medical, Psychological, Visual, and Physical, Hearing and/or Speech/Language Impairments and Learning Disabilities. The Student Success Center will coordinate accommodations for students related to their academic progress. The Student Success Center will also provide accommodations for students who are presenting any type of temporary condition that affects or will affect their academic progress.

A student with a visible or non-visible disability who requests an academic related "reasonable accommodation" for his or her condition should provide medical- or any other- documentation of their condition to the Student Success Center. It is preferable and recommended that documentation be provided immediately after acceptance to the University.

Notice of an academic related accommodation, but not the medical documentation, may be provided by the Student Success Center to any administrator, dean, and/or professor on a need-to-know basis, but only after consultation with the student.

Specialized services are provided through the Student Success Center. Students must request "reasonable accommodations" in a timely manner in order to allow faculty/staff to plan for those accommodations.

Note: Students with disabilities are responsible for maintaining the same academic levels as other students attending class, maintaining appropriate behavior, and providing timely notification of any special needs.

Services provided may include: special arrangements when needed (change of rooms, referrals to tutors), letters of classroom accommodations are based on the medical documentation on file and the student's experience. Individual counseling or referral for counseling is provided by the University counseling staff. Recommendations for "reasonable accommodations" in the classroom may include priority seating, change of classroom, tape recording of lectures, extra time for tests/quizzes, alternative test formats, etc.

A student with a visible or non-visible disability, or medical diagnosis, who requests a university housing related "reasonable accommodation" for his or her condition should provide medical- or any other- documentation of their condition to the Office of Student Affairs. It is preferable and recommended that documentation be provided immediately after acceptance to the University.

Emotional Support Animal Policy

General Information: It is the desire of the Office of Student Affairs at University of the Ozarks to meet the needs of the entire residential community in an atmosphere characterized by inclusion, open communication, and personal concern.

Overview: The following policy has been established to provide a means for individuals to request the use of an Emotional Support Animal. An Emotional Support Animal (ESA) is an animal that serves as an accommodation for a medical diagnosis. An ESA is not specially trained to perform tasks or assist individuals with disabilities. Approved ESAs at University of the Ozarks will be identified as playing an integral role in an individual student's treatment plan. The ESA must demonstrate a good temperament and reliable, predictable behavior. Animals may not be brought to campus without prior approval.

Guidelines for Emotional Support Animals (ESA): University of the Ozarks Office of Student Affairs has a strict "No Pet" policy. An exception to the pet policy may be granted for approved Emotional Support Animals provided that their behavior, noise, odor, and waste do not exceed reasonable standards for a well-behaved animal and that these factors do not create unreasonable disruptions for other residents. If any of these factors are excessive as judged by Student Affairs Staff, it is grounds to terminate the student housing agreement or require immediate removal of the ESA.

Process for approval of Emotional Support Animals: The Office of Student Affairs will make an individualized assessment of each request for an Emotional Support Animal. Requests for approval must be submitted at least thirty days prior to the start of the semester in order to allow time for processing and individual attention to the request. The following process must be followed in order to request approval:

- The student is responsible for providing all documentation required from a licensed mental health professional. The documentation must:
 - Identify the student, the specific diagnoses, and the impact of the diagnosis on the student. The student must have a documented diagnosis;
 - Share the relevant history of the mental health professional's work with the student as it relates to the diagnosis;
 - Explain how the Emotional Support Animal is integral to an ongoing, comprehensive treatment plan related to the diagnosis. Specifically, it must identify the role of the animal in the students' treatment plan and state how the animal is necessary in order for the student to participate fully in the residential life of the University.
- The Office of Student Affairs will review all applications individually for needs related to accommodating an animal, including impact to others in the residential space and size of animal related to the space available in the assigned residential space.
- The Office of Student Affairs will notify all roommates or suitemates of the applying student about the request for an ESA. In the event that one or more of the roommates or suitemates have concerns about the presence of the animal, the Office of Student Affairs reserves the right to assign the applying student to a new residential space.
- Once an animal is tentatively approved, the student must schedule a meeting with the appropriate Student Affairs Staff member to discuss expectations and provide written acknowledgement of the guidelines above. This meeting is considered part of the approval process and must occur prior to the animal's presence in the residence halls.
- The Office of Student Affairs requires a follow up evaluation and updated documentation as outlined above from the licensed mental health professional at least thirty days prior to the start of each semester. Responsibility for providing this updated documentation rests solely with the student; failure to provide this documentation by the deadline will result in removal of the animal from campus for the semester.

Conditions for initial approval and retention of Emotional Support Animals: The following guidelines apply to students requesting ESAs and to their animals on campus:

- The student must have an established relationship with the animal.
- The student is financially responsible for the actions of the animal, including bodily injury or property damage. The student's responsibility covers but is not limited to replacement of furniture, carpet, window, wall covering, any expenses incurred for cleaning above and beyond a standard cleaning provided for rooms. The student will be billed for these costs at the time of cleaning/repair and/or move-out. The amount billed to the student must be paid prior to the start of the next academic term or upon receipt of billing after the student's graduation or departure from the University.
- The student is required to maintain control of the animal at all times. The behavior of the animal will be considered the responsibility of the student. If the animal disrupts the residential community, the student will be asked to correct the behavior or remove the animal from the residential community.
- The animal is only permitted in the student's assigned residence hall room, except when transported outside the private residential area en route to another location. Animals must be transported by a leash or secured in a pet carrier when being transported outside of the student's assigned room. Students are expected to follow all relevant animal welfare regulations and to allow the animal appropriate access to outdoor space off campus. An ESA is not allowed to accompany the student into classrooms or other interior or exterior spaces on campus or attend University events, including athletic events.
- Animals must be completely trained and housebroken, if applicable for that animal. If the animal voids or otherwise dirties the floor, carpet or furnishings, the student is responsible for cleaning to the best of their ability and for submitting a maintenance help request to allow prompt attention to the issue.
- The student is responsible for properly containing and disposing of all animal waste in appropriate outside trash dumpsters. Litter boxes should be placed on mats so that feces and urine are not tracked onto carpeted surfaces. All cat litter must be disposed of in trash receptacles outside of the residence halls.
- The student's residence may be inspected regularly. If fleas, ticks, or other pests are detected through inspection, the residence will be treated using approved methods by a University-approved pest control service. Students will be billed for the expense of any pest treatment. If the problem reoccurs, the student's contract may be terminated.
- Approved animals may not be left overnight in university housing to be cared for by others. Animals must be taken with the student or boarded off site if the student leaves campus overnight or for a prolonged period, including travel for University-related events.
- The student is responsible for assuring that the animal does not unduly interfere with the routine activities of the residence hall or cause difficulties for students who reside there. Sensitivity to residents with allergies and to those who fear animals is important to ensure the peace of the residential community.
- The student agrees to continue to abide by all other residential policies. An exception to the policy that otherwise would prohibit having an animal does not constitute an exception to any other policy.
- Should the animal be removed from the premises for any reason, the student is expected to fulfill her/his housing obligations for the remainder of the housing contract.
- The Office of Student Affairs has the authority to relocate a student and the ESA as necessary.
- The student is responsible for ensuring all veterinarian-recommended vaccinations are completed and documented. A current report from a veterinarian and proof of vaccination are required at the time of application each semester. University of the Ozarks reserves the right to request updated verification at any time during the animals' residency.
- The student must notify the Office of Student Affairs in writing if the animal is no longer needed as an emotional support animal or is no longer in residence. If the animal will be replaced, the student must submit a new request for approval.
- Any violation of the above rules may result in immediate removal of the animal from University of the Ozarks campus housing and disciplinary action against the student for violation of University policy.

Disability Specific – Student Grievance Procedure

This grievance procedure is established for students who wish to file a complaint alleging discrimination on the basis of disability in the provision of services, activities or programs at University of the Ozarks.

The complaint should be in writing and contain information about the alleged discrimination such as names, address, phone number of complainant and location, date and description of the incident/problem. Alternative means of filing a complaint are available on request for students with specific disabilities.

The complaint should be submitted to the Director of the Student Success Center or to the Dean of Students (when deemed appropriate), as soon as possible and no later than 30 calendar days after the alleged violation.

- Within 15 calendar days after the receipt of the complaint, the Director of the Student Success Center and/or Dean of Students, or designee, will meet with the student to discuss the complaint and possible resolutions.
- Within 15 calendar days after the meeting, the Director of the Student Success Center and/or Dean of Students or designee, will respond in writing and where appropriate in an alternative format, such as Braille. The response will explain the position of University of the Ozarks and offer options for resolution where appropriate.
- If the response from the Director of the Student Success Center and/or Dean of Students or designee does not satisfactorily resolve the issue, the student may appeal the decision in writing within 15 days to the Dean of Students for non-academic issues or the Provost for academic issues.
- Within 15 days after receipt of the complaint, the appropriate University administrator reviewing the appeal will meet with the student to discuss the complaint and possible resolutions. Within 15 days after the meeting, the appropriate University administrator will respond in writing and where appropriate in an alternative format, with a final resolution.

The University will retain all written complaints received by University of the Ozarks, written responses and appeals for at least three years.

Disruptive Classroom Behavior Policy

Disruptive behavior is prohibited. Disruptive behavior includes but is not limited to conduct that interferes with or obstructs the teaching or learning process. Civil expression of disagreement with the course instructor, during times when the instructor permits discussion, is not itself disruptive behavior and is not prohibited.

1. Temporary Removal of Student from Class or Other Educational Experience

When any student, acting individually or in concert with others, obstructs or disrupts, or attempts to obstruct or disrupt any teaching, or any other activity authorized to be discharged on behalf of the University or held on the University's premises, the student may be asked to stop the disruptive behavior by an instructor or staff of the University. If the student continues, an instructor/staff member is authorized to tell the student to leave the area or classroom and, if the student will not leave, to call Public Safety. The instructor/staff must immediately call Public Safety (479-979-1424), without prior request to the student, if presented with an unsafe situation, threatening behavior, violence, knowledge of a crime, or in other appropriate circumstances.

2. Withdrawal of Student from Class or Other Educational Experience

When a student disrupts a class or other educational experience, or if the student's behavior or lack of preparation is detrimental to the educational experience of others, or if the student is compromising the learning environment, the instructor may take action to withdraw the student from the class or educational experience as a result of this significant and/or repeated behavior.

To do this, the instructor shall:

- Provide the student written notice of intent to withdraw the student from the class or educational experience, with an explanation of the instructor's reason(s), and provide a copy to the instructor's department chair (or, when there is no department chair, to the dean of the instructor's college or school).
- The notice should schedule a meeting with the student and the department chair (or, when there is no department chair, with the dean of the instructor's college or school) to occur within 3 business days of the notice.
- The instructor may bar the student from the class or educational experience pending the result of the meeting, and the written notice should advise the student if there is such a bar.
- At the meeting, the student may have one advisor. Following the meeting, the instructor shall decide whether to withdraw the student from the class or educational experience.
- If the student is not withdrawn, the student will be provided the opportunity to complete all assignments/exams that may have been missed.
- If a student is withdrawn, his or her grade will be recommended by the instructor.
- The student may appeal this decision within 3 business days in writing to the academic dean or designee.
- During the student's appeal, the student remains withdrawn from and is barred from attending the class. The academic dean or his/or her designee's decision on this appeal is final.

3. Referral to Student Affairs

Instructors, faculty members, academic deans, and/or department chairs are also encouraged to report student conduct issues to the Office of Student Affairs. This reporting ensures that any other student code of conduct related behavior is appropriately addressed with the student.

Facility Usage

Students and recognized student organizations must utilize the Conference Services Office in order to reserve on-campus facilities. Final approval of the event will come from the Director of Conference Services. Organizations are urged to plan their events and submit their requests as far in advance as possible, a minimum of 72 hours is required.

When planning your event, please keep the following in mind:

1. Recognized student organizations may reserve any available multipurpose University facility.
2. Use of residence hall lobbies is coordinated by the Office of Student Affairs. Events sponsored by residents and residence hall organizations are given priority.

Rawhouser Fitness Center & Boreham Aerobics Room Usage

Students assume any and all risk, take full responsibility and waive any claims of personal injury, death or damage to personal property associated with my use of the Rawhouser Fitness Center and Boreham Aerobics Room or participation

in any activities and events provided by or made available by the University. Use of such facilities or participation in such activities are inherently risky and may result in my injury or death or damage to my personal property or both.

It is recommended that students have a spotter when using free weights, and lift weights only when other participants are observing and aware of the surroundings. If students feel dizzy or light-headed, students must stop their current activity immediately.

Students who choose to utilize the Rawhouser Fitness Center and Boreham Aerobics Room acknowledge that these activities are each potentially hazardous. By participating in these activities, students will be exposed to above-normal risks of injury and that although the University has taken precautions to provide safety equipment for each activity, it is impossible for the University to guarantee absolute safety. Students also assume responsibility for safety while participating in any recreational activity and voluntarily assume full responsibility for the risk of bodily injury, death, medical expenses, loss of income, or property damage while participating in the activities, whether it is due to the active or passive negligence or otherwise of the University. Students acknowledge that they have a personal responsibility to follow established rules of safety, obey all laws, fully utilize the safety equipment provided for these activities, and to follow the instructions and commands of University employees or officials during participation in any of the activities. Within the University Student Handbook, students have been fully advised of the potential hazards that may be incurred while participating in the related activities, and while it is impossible to foresee all dangers, some of the hazards that might occur include cuts, sprains, bruises, fractures, intentional injury, disfigurement (permanent or otherwise), blindness, paralysis, suffocation, broken bones, and other serious or even life threatening injuries.

Intramural Sports Participation

Students participating in Intramural Sports Competitions agree to, and acknowledge the following:

1. That participating in intramural sports offered by University of the Ozarks is a play at your own risk activity. Participation could lead to physical injury, and as a participant, students are expected to have an awareness of the risks and hazards involved.
2. Students are responsible for consulting a physician prior to my participation in intramurals. By choosing to participate in intramural sports events, a student is communicating that they are physically fit and I have no medical condition which would prevent their full participation in intramural sports.
3. By participating in intramural sports, a student agrees to assume full responsibility for any risks, injuries or damages, known or unknown, which might be incurred as a result of participating in the different intramural sports offered by University of the Ozarks.
4. By participating in these sports, a student voluntarily and expressly waives any claim they may have against intramural program or University of the Ozarks' staff for injury or damages that may be sustained as a result of participating in these sports.
5. By participating in intramural sports, a student's heirs or legal representatives forever release, waive, discharge, and covenant not to sue University of the Ozarks for any injury or death caused by their negligence or other acts related to participation in the intramural program.
6. Students agree to follow all rules and demonstrate good sportsmanship.

Pets/Animals on University Premises

Pets/animals are welcome on our campus grounds as long as they are leashed or tethered. Any disruption to normal activities caused by these visiting pets/animals will incur in a notice of immediate removal from the premises. Please refer to the University Emotional Support/Service Animal Policy for additional animal information.

Harassment or Discrimination

University of the Ozarks strives to establish and maintain a work and academic environment in which the dignity and worth of all members of the University community are respected; an environment which is characterized by equal employment, opportunity, academic freedom (freedom of inquiry and expression) and the absence of harassment and intimidation. Recognizing the value of using all available human resources, University of the Ozarks affords equal opportunity for students and in employment without regard to race, color, age, veteran status, gender, national origin, religion, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or presence of a disability. This non-discrimination policy applies to all aspects of educational and employment decisions, including recruitment, admission, hiring as well as retention, compensation, transfer and opportunities for advancement.

If a student feels they have been harassed or discriminated against, he/she should report the situation immediately. Student-to-student harassment should be reported to the Dean of Students. Harassment or discrimination by a University employee or faculty member should be reported to Human Resources. The Office of Student Affairs can serve as an advocate for a student reporting a complaint of harassment or discrimination against a student or employee.

Hazing

Hazing is defined as any action or situation which recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student for the purpose of initiation or admission into, or affiliation with, any organization operating under sanction of the University; any brutality of a physical nature, such as whipping, beating or branding; forced calisthenics; exposure to the elements; forced consumption of any food, liquor, drug or other substance, or other forced physical activity which could adversely affect the physical health or safety of the individual. And also including any activity which would subject the individual to extreme mental stress, such as sleep deprivation, forced exclusion from social contact, forced conduct which could result in extreme embarrassment, or other forced activity which could adversely affect the mental health or dignity of the individual. Any activity; either on or off campus, such as these will be presumed to be a forced activity, the willingness of an individual to participate in such an activity notwithstanding.

Immunizations and Medical Information

The University assumes no responsibility for student illnesses or accidents occurring either on campus or off campus. Therefore, the University strongly encourages students to obtain and maintain health, major medical, and accident insurance coverage through either a personal or family policy. Please note that in certain instances, HMO coverage may not be sufficient or accepted by local health and medical providers. For students who do not qualify for coverage under a private policy, University of the Ozarks offers coverage through a school-sponsored plan.

The University does not require full-time traditional undergraduate students to have hospital/medical insurance coverage through a school-sponsored plan. International students are required to participate in a school-sponsored insurance plan. Insurance coverage will be billed on a yearly basis through graduation.

University of the Ozarks requires that all new accepted Traditional Undergraduate students provide to the University the appropriate Medical and Immunization documentation as part of the application process. The immunization documentation must be completed and signed by a licensed physician or an appropriate health care provider. Students are encouraged

to keep a copy of these records. Documentation is required to certify that a student's immunizations include poliomyelitis, pertussis, red (rubeola) measles, rubella mumps, Haemophilus influenzae type b, hepatitis B, hepatitis A, pneumococcal disease, varicella (chicken pox), tuberculosis, tetanus, and diphtheria. Students living on campus are required to show documentation of a meningitis vaccination or sign a waiver declining the vaccination. If these forms are not submitted, a registration hold will be placed to prevent registration for the student's second term at University of the Ozarks.

Information Technology (IT)

The University provides network & Internet access to students in six (6) free use labs on campus. In addition, all traditional residence halls have wired and wireless network connections with Internet access for students who bring computers and other internet capable devices with them.

For any network or shared resource to continue to function, all users must show a level of mutual respect. For this reason, the University has IT policies in place to govern its computing environment. In general, policies are set to maximize the resources available to all users. Use of University systems is a privilege, not a right. It is each user's responsibility to know and understand the current IT Policies. Failure to comply with these policies may result in suspension of certain services, the suspension of your University account(s) and possible disciplinary action.

IT Policies can be found by visiting <https://dnn.ozarks.edu/cs/Policies> or contacting Information Technology at 479-979-1231.

Sales and Solicitations

University policy prohibits individuals or organizations from soliciting contributions from the general public for University-related purposes without prior written approval from the Office of Student Affairs. University mailing lists, e.g., Board of Trustees, University Council, faculty, alumni, students or parents, may not be used to promote the sale of tickets, advertisements or merchandise of any kind without prior written approval from the Dean of Students.

Student Enterprise/Student-Run Businesses

Student entrepreneurial initiatives must not jeopardize the University's tax-exempt status and must be approved the Dean of Students and the Vice President of Finance and Administration.

- University of the Ozarks receives tax exemptions as an educational institution, which can be jeopardized when individuals in the campus community operate a business enterprise on College premises. Campus-based activity, which can result in the distribution of profits to individuals, is inconsistent with the College's tax-exempt status.
- Entrepreneurs shall not use their student status to compete unfairly with local merchants or campus services.
- Students are not to harass others, including their fellow students, in their commercial endeavors.
- Advertising within the residential community is not permitted unless approved through the University's posting policy process.

Search and Seizure Policy

Students are reminded that the University of the Ozarks campus is the private property of the University. When the Office of Students Affairs professional staff reasonably suspects that suspect items are contained among a student's possessions, the student shall be required to make such possessions (including but not limited to backpacks, locked containers, motor vehicles, electronic communication via text/email, etc.) accessible. If a student refuses to give access to their possessions or communication, the suspect items may be confiscated for investigation, and used in any

disciplinary proceedings. Furthermore, any student who refuses to give such access to their possessions may also be subject to additional university conduct violations.

For information regarding searches of student rooms in the residence halls and apartments, see the *“Residential Life” section of this handbook.*

Student Clubs and Organizations

University of the Ozarks supports a variety of student organizations intended to engage students outside the classroom.

1. All clubs and organizations on campus must register with the Office of Student Engagement in order to be recognized. Failure to be recognized will result in loss of the ability to receive institutional funding and to make space reservations.
2. Students shall be free to organize and join clubs/organizations to promote their common interests and the mission of the University; however, all organizations must be registered with the University.
3. Each new club/organization wishing to organize and function on campus should contact the Office of Student Engagement to complete the registration process. Final approval for club/organization recognition is granted on behalf of the University by the Office of Student Affairs.
4. The membership, policies and actions of student clubs/organizations will be determined by vote of only those persons who are currently enrolled students, except where such determination is in conflict with University policy or regulations. Student clubs/organizations shall be subject to the same responsibilities and standards of conduct applied to students specifically as listed in the Student Handbook.
5. If violations of the Student Code of Conduct and/or University policies occur as part of a recognized student club/organization's activities, disciplinary actions may be pursued as proscribed the Disciplinary Procedures section of the Student Handbook. The president and/or other representatives will be asked to represent the student club/organization in a hearing. The hearing will be conducted by a member or members of the Student Affairs staff. If found responsible for violations, disciplinary actions will be levied as determined by the staff member(s) conducting the hearing. Appeals may be made in writing to the Dean of Students within three business days following notification of sanctions.
6. Each club/organization must have an on-campus advisor selected from University faculty or staff.
7. Membership shall not be denied on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, age, sexual orientation or disability.

Student Leader Eligibility

Primary student leaders (President and Treasurer):

- Must be enrolled full-time as deemed by University or academic department guidelines
- Must maintain a minimum of a 2.5 GPA cumulative
- Must be in good standing with the University

Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) “Drone” Policy

Any use of an Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) “Drone” from or over University of the Ozarks’ campus or inside a campus building is strictly prohibited except for education/research use and commercial purposes. UAS is also regulated by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and by federal, state, and local laws.

Anyone who seeks permission from the university to operate a UAS on University of the Ozarks property or at any university-sponsored event must receive approval from all appropriate agencies (if necessary) in advance of requesting such approval from the Department of Public Safety. The use of drones for hobby or recreational use on University of the Ozarks property is NOT permitted.

Weapons Policy

Possession, use, or storage of any weapon is prohibited on University property and at University sponsored events.

For purposes of this policy, the term “weapon” includes but is not limited to any:

1. Firearm, meaning any weapon which will, is designed to, or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive, compressed gas, or mechanical action such as a spring. This includes but is not limited to a weapon such as a handgun, shotgun, rifle, starter gun, pellet/BB gun, dart gun and machine gun, including any ammunition;
2. Destructive device or explosive, such as a bomb, grenade, mine, rocket, missile, pipe bomb, blasting cap, black powder, firecracker, or any similar device containing an explosive, incendiary, or poison gas and includes any frangible container filled with an explosive, incendiary, explosive gas, or expanding gas, which is designed or so constructed as to explode by such filler and is capable of causing bodily harm or property damage;
3. Electric weapon or device, meaning any device which, through the application or use of electrical current, is designed, redesigned, used, or intended to be used for offensive or defensive purposes, the destruction of life, or the infliction of injury, such as a stun gun or dart-firing stun gun; or
4. Any other weapon, equipment, material, or device that, in the manner it is used or could ordinarily be used, is readily capable of causing serious bodily injury. Examples of items described in clause (d) include but are not limited to any dirk, sword, knife (excluding small personal pocket knives with folding blades that are less than three (3) inches in length or cutlery used for cooking purposes), metallic knuckles, slingshot, martial arts weapon, club, chain, archery bow, crossbow, or tear gas/chemical dispensing device (other than a small chemical dispenser containing less than two ounces of chemical, allowed under Arkansas Statute, and sold commercially for personal protection).

Violation of this policy will result in disciplinary actions up to and/or including; suspension, dismissal, and referral to local law enforcement authorities. All weapons as described above will be immediately confiscated by University officials and will not be returned.

This policy does not apply to any local, state, or federal law enforcement officer. Properly stored firearms that are the property of current Ozarks Shooting Sports Team members are permitted on campus. *Please refer to the Office of Public Safety policies regarding additional shooting team firearm storage procedures.*

University Name, Logo and Contracts

The legal title “University of the Ozarks” is retained by the Board of Trustees for use by officially recognized University organizations and activities and may not be used without specific permission. Contracts cannot be signed or agreements made in the name of the University without authorization from the Office of Student Affairs or the Vice President of Finance and Administration. All uses of the University of the Ozarks logo and symbol must be approved by the Marketing department.

University Policy Statement

University of the Ozarks reserves the right to modify, alter, or change any program, regulation, or policy in this Student Handbook at any time.

University Accreditation

University of the Ozarks is fully accredited by:

- Higher Learning Commission, 230 South LaSalle Street, Suite 7-500, Chicago, Illinois 60604-1411, 1.800.621.7440

Its teacher-education curriculum is accredited by:

- National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE), www.ncate.org and is pending accreditation by the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP), <http://www.caepnet.org>
- Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation, 1140 19th St NW #400, Washington, DC 20036, 1.202.223.0077
- Arkansas State Department of Education.

Title IX Information: Sexual Misconduct Policies and Resources are outlined in the Title IX & Sexual Misconduct policies document and in the Employee Handbook.