

TAILGATING

POLICY NUMBER: ADM-TAILGATING

POLICY TYPE: ADMINISTRATIVE

RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL TITLE: PROVOST & EXEC. VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC & STUDENT AFFAIRS

RESPONSIBLE OFFICE: DEAN OF STUDENTS

MOST RECENT REVIEW: 2/2/2024

NEXT REVIEW DATE: PRESIDENTIAL APPROVAL PLUS FOUR (4) YEARS – 2/2/2028

BOARD OF REGENTS REPORTING (CHECK ONE):

PRESIDENTIAL RECOMMENDATION (CONSENT AGENDA/VOTING ITEM)

PRESIDENTIAL REPORT (INFORMATION ONLY)

I. POLICY STATEMENT

Tailgating is a privilege and a longstanding tradition at college athletics events, and Northern Kentucky University (NKU) encourages responsible and safe tailgating in conformity with applicable state and city laws. Tailgating enhances the atmosphere for approved NKU events, creates excitement for Norse Athletics, and facilitates engagement between fans and the University.

For the purposes of this policy, “tailgating” means setting up tents, tables, grills, and/or chairs adjacent to vehicles in parking lots in connection with athletics and other similar events.

Questions concerning this policy should be directed to the Dean of Students.

A. GENERAL TAILGATING RULES

These guidelines are intended to provide a safe and enjoyable experience and environment for those who participate in tailgating for NKU events on campus.

Tailgating is subject to applicable laws and NKU policies including, but not limited to, the following:

- 1) Individuals participating in tailgating are subject to all alcohol laws and regulations. Individuals consuming alcohol in violation of state law may be subject to citation and prosecution.
- 2) Tailgating activities must end, and all associated items (e.g., tents, grills, chairs) must be removed, before the start of each game. When two games in the same sport (e.g., basketball, baseball) are scheduled on the same date, tailgating areas will close, and all associated items must be removed, before the start of the latest scheduled game.
- 3) Charcoal and propane/gas grills are permitted. Hot coals must be disposed of appropriately. Use of fire pits may be allowed with express written permission from the Director of Safety & Emergency Management, Environmental Safety, and Compliance. Personal fire extinguishers must be present at the tailgate when grilling/cooking.
- 4) Glass bottles, glass containers, or bulk containers/common sources are not permitted.
- 5) Tailgaters are required to clean their areas at the conclusion of tailgating events. Tailgating participants may not disrupt University functions or University-sponsored activities including, but not limited to, studying; teaching; research; University administration; vehicular or pedestrian traffic; or fire, police, or emergency services.

- 6) Tents are not permitted except in reservable tailgating spaces.
- 7) All NKU students are subject to NKU's [Community Standards & Student Rights](#), as well as local, state, and federal regulations, and are expected to uphold the standards therein.
- 8) The sale of items by anyone other than University personnel is prohibited unless the University has granted prior written approval.
- 9) Northern Kentucky University, Norse Athletics, and any other associated group(s) are not responsible for any lost, stolen, and/or damaged property and/or belongings of any participating tailgaters. Lost, stolen, and/or damaged property and/or belongings should be reported to the appropriate authorities.
- 10) Illegally parked cars may be towed at the owner's expense.

B. TAILGATING IN RESERVABLE SPACES

Groups and individuals, including Registered Student Organizations, may request to reserve designated tailgating spaces. To do so, the requester must complete the official online tailgating form available on the [Dean of Students](#) website.

Tailgating requests will be reviewed by the following:

- Director, Center for Student Engagement, or their designee
- Dean of Students, or their designee
- Vice President and Director of Athletics, or their designee
- Chief of Police, or their designee
- Director of Parking Services, or their designee
- Director of Business and Auxiliary Services, or their designee

Tailgating requests may be approved or denied by the University in its discretion.

Prices for reservable tailgating spots are as follows:

- 1–25 members or individuals: \$25
- 26–50 members or individuals: \$50
- 51 or more members or individuals: \$100

Pricing may be updated by the University at any time.

Reservable tailgating areas will open four hours prior to game time. When two games in the same sport (e.g., basketball, baseball) are scheduled on the same date, tailgating will open six hours prior to the latest scheduled game.

Pop-up tents less than 200 sq. ft. are permitted. Any other tent must meet the requirements of the [Kentucky Tent Program](#) and receive prior approval by the Director of Safety & Emergency Management, Environmental Safety, and Compliance.

NKU Registered Student Organizations must have their faculty/staff advisor or a full-time NKU faculty or staff member present for the duration of the tailgating experience.

The University may prohibit tailgaters who leave excessive trash, grease, or other debris at their sites from reserving tailgating spaces again for the remainder of the season.

C. ENFORCEMENT

A violation of this policy or other applicable NKU policies may result in immediate removal from campus, cessation of the tailgating activity, being banned from future tailgating, and/or being trespassed from campus. In case of removal, no refunds will be awarded. Violations of the law may result in criminal charges.

Students who violate this policy may be found in violation of the NKU [Community Standards & Student Rights](#). The University may refuse, restrict, or rescind tailgating privileges from any vehicle, person, or organization.

For reservable spaces, the group or individual holding the reservation, including NKU Registered Student Organizations, is responsible for the behavior of all participants in their reserved space, and violations may affect the reservation-holder's ability to make future reservations.

II. ENTITIES AFFECTED

All members of the University community and visitors.

RELATED NKU POLICIES

[Commercial Solicitation and Sales](#)

[Alcohol and Drugs](#)

[Alcoholic Beverages](#)

REVISION HISTORY

REVISION TYPE	MONTH/YEAR APPROVED
Revision	February 2, 2024
Policy	

TAILGATING

PRESIDENTIAL APPROVAL

PRESIDENT

Signature *Cady Short-Thompson*

Date *2/2/24*

Cady Short-Thompson

BOARD OF REGENTS APPROVAL

BOARD OF REGENTS (IF FORWARDED BY PRESIDENT)

- This policy was forwarded to the Board of Regents on the **Presidential Report (information only)**.
Date of Board of Regents meeting at which this policy was reported: ____/____/____.
- This policy was forwarded to the Board of Regents as a **Presidential Recommendation (consent agenda/voting item)**.
 - The Board of Regents approved this policy on ____/____/____.
(Attach a copy of Board of Regents meeting minutes showing approval of policy.)
 - The Board of Regents rejected this policy on ____/____/____.
(Attach a copy of Board of Regents meeting minutes showing rejection of policy.)

SECRETARY TO THE BOARD OF REGENTS

Signature

Date

Tammy Knochelmann