



Residence Life Solicitation Policy

I. Purpose

The Department of Residence Life at the University of Wisconsin–River Falls is committed to maintaining a residential environment that supports student safety, privacy, and academic success. This policy establishes guidelines for solicitation within university-owned residence halls in compliance with the First Amendment, Wisconsin Administrative Code, and institutional expressive activity policies.

II. Definition of Solicitation

For purposes of this policy, solicitation refers to any activity in which an individual or organization requests, encourages, or induces another person to:

- Purchase goods or services
- Contribute money, signatures, or other resources

Solicitation includes, but is not limited to, door-to-door canvassing, distributing flyers or petitions, tabling, and in-person or electronic communications intended to secure support, donations, or participation.

III. General Policy

Solicitation within residence halls is restricted in order to protect residents' rights to privacy, security, and a living environment conducive to study and community.

Solicitation is restricted as outlined below and must comply with all applicable university, state, and federal laws.

IV. Special Solicitation Topics

A. Registered Student Organizations (RSOs)

Registered student organizations may engage in solicitation in the basements within the residence halls (Lydecker for Ames and SFS) only with prior approval from the Department of Residence Life.

Examples of approved solicitation include:

- Hosting tabling events in common areas with prior scheduling and approval
- Conducting membership drives or educational outreach with Residence Life sponsorship

B. Political Solicitation

In accordance with Wis. Admin. Code § UWS 18.11(9), political campaigning and literature distribution are permitted in residence halls, subject to reasonable time, place, and manner restrictions to maintain safety and order:

1. Residents of a residence hall, as well as their invited guests, may communicate in their residence halls about political matters (including, for example, via door-to-door campaigning) with as much freedom as residents and their invited guests, respectively, are permitted to communicate generally under applicable Residence Life Guest policies.





2. For information on political solicitation in all other residence hall contexts, please see our Campaigning in the Residence Halls policy.
3. Political fundraising or solicitation of campaign contributions is strictly prohibited under Wis. Stat. § 11.1207.

C. Commercial Solicitation

Commercial solicitation, including the sale of goods, services, or subscriptions, is prohibited unless:

- Specific advance permission is granted by Residence Life and occurs in the basements of the residence halls (Lydecker for Ames and SFS); and
- The activity is sponsored by the university or an RSO under a valid contract (per Wis. Admin. Code § UWS 18.11(8)).

D. Charitable or Fundraising Activities

Charitable solicitations by RSOs or residence hall organizations may occur with Residence Life approval and must:

- Support a recognized charitable cause, and
- Clearly indicate how proceeds will be used, and
- Be maintained by the sponsoring organization.

E. Postings

- For more information on Residence Life's posting policies and procedures please reference our Student Guide.

IX. Questions and Approvals

All questions, requests for approval, or clarification regarding solicitation in residence halls should be directed to the Department of Residence Life

X. References

- Wis. Admin. Code § UWS 18.11(8) & (9)
- Wis. Stat. § 11.1207 (Political Fundraising Restrictions)
- Wis. Stat. §§ 12.03 and 12.035 (Electioneering)
- Wis. Admin. Code Ch. UWS 21 (Use of University Facilities)
- University of Wisconsin System Expressive Activity Policy
- Residence Life Campaigning in Residence Halls Policy

