

From: [Compliance Office](#)
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Subject: Election Season Reminder—Guidelines for Political Campaign Activities
Date: Monday, September 9, 2024 1:36:00 PM
Attachments: [Election Activities at Montgomery College - September 2024.pdf](#)
[image001.png](#)



OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE
RISK AND ETHICS
MONTGOMERY COLLEGE

Memorandum

To: Montgomery College Colleagues
From: Susan V. Watson, Chief Compliance, Risk, and Ethics Officer
Subject: **Election Season Reminder—Guidelines for Political Campaign Activities**
Date: September 9, 2024

We are just shy of eight weeks before election day, Tuesday, November 5, 2024. All eligible voters in the Montgomery College community are encouraged to register and exercise their right to vote in the upcoming elections. This memo serves to remind us all of our rights and responsibilities during election season.

Each employee and student enjoys freedom of speech and has a right to expression with regard to candidates and issues. We are fortunate to live in a country where these rights are cherished and protected. However, as a tax-exempt, public institution of higher education, the College itself is prohibited from directly or indirectly participating in any political campaign on behalf of or against any political party or candidate for public office. Therefore, individual members of the College community also have a responsibility not to imply that the College supports or opposes any party or candidate.

In addition, public resources – including employee time, computers, printed material, webpages, and rooms, among other resources – cannot be used by an individual to advance a candidate or issue with the College’s explicit or implied support. In-person and virtual College-sponsored events generally should be structured so that all candidates or representatives on all sides have an opportunity to be heard. Please note that our student organizations are not bound by the same obligations and can organize information events according to their interests.

Employees are encouraged to review the College’s [Political Activity Policy \(31004\)](#). In addition, the American Council on Education published an issue brief which was updated in the past few months: [Student Voting and College Political Campaign-Related Activities in 2024](#), which offers illustrative examples of permissive and prohibited political campaign activities on campus.

Please contact MCVotes@montgomerycollege.edu with questions about voter education and engagement. Questions regarding political campaign activities may be directed to the Office of General Counsel at Tim.Dietz@montgomerycollege.edu (240-567-5270) or the Office of Government Relations at Susan.Madden@montgomerycollege.edu (240-567-5274).

Your attention to these matters is appreciated. Thank you for your civic engagement and your help in maintaining our institutional role as a steward of public resources that

provides a fair environment for discussion, discourse, and debate.