

Knowing Your Risks at Campus Protests

Adapted from:

NLG KYR for Campus Protests:
<https://bit.ly/NLGKYRProtest>

CAIR MA & NLG MA College
Disciplinary Hearings KYR:
<https://bit.ly/CAIRMAKYR>



These educational materials do not constitute legal advice. Contact a local attorney for additional questions.



BEWARE: Given the recent police raids on many campuses in reaction to non-violent encampments, there is no guarantee these actions will prevent arrest or other forms of disciplinary action. This resource is meant to be informational.

**Preparing for a protest on campus?
Here are some steps to increase
safety and security!**

Assess Risk Levels

Determine what kind of action is being planned: low, medium, high. Based on that, plan for what support the action will need.

Consider likely responses from your school administration, campus and local police, and outside groups.

Discuss and take steps to prepare your digital and personal security!

Review the NLG's KYR for Campus Protest Guide:

<https://bit.ly/NLGKYRProtest>

Best Practices When Engaging in Action

Connect with undergrads, grad students, and local organizers for extra support, especially those who have protested on campus before. Reach out current students as well as any alumni you may know.

Identify supportive faculty and administrators immediately. You may need their influence/assistance!

Take steps to educate yourself about security culture and how to stay as safe as possible (e.g. use laptops or phones not connected to campus wifi)

Be mindful that certain actions have led to expeditious evictions from dorms, so make sure that if you have to leave quickly, you have a prepared bag of your most important belongings

Document all responses from administration before, during, and after any demonstration.

If some organizers are singled out for discipline, organize students, faculty, and outside groups to support them!

Prepare for Possible Arrests: Don't Underestimate your Administration

Connect with legal support before the action, so you have someone lined up to support you if need be.

Research your local jail's booking process so you know how to support your people if anyone is arrested. You can reach out to a local movement legal support network, including the National Lawyers Guild, for support.

Frequently, you will want to collect legal names and dates of birth of anyone risking arrest before the action. Do not keep this information on you while attending the action in case of your arrest!

Make sure to have emergency contacts on hand, medications, a plan for dependents-- both animals and humans, and be mindful of access to your dorm.

Review your school's written policies, procedures, and rules. Learn how disciplinary proceedings take place at your school.

Track and document incidents in writing as they happen. Keep records of what administration or police said at the action!

Prepare for Possible Disciplinary Action

Find an advisor or legal advocate to accompany students to disciplinary hearings.

Prepare a defense! For example, are some protests being singled out for their content?

Disciplinary Proceedings & Hearings: Stick Together

If students are already in the process of being disciplined:

- Gather support on- and off- campus: student groups, faculty, alumni, allied organizations.
- Create and share statements, petitions, and social media updates.
- Ask for everything about the proceedings in writing. Ask for more time to prepare for hearings.

WARNING: Students **DO NOT** have all the constitutional protections that people have in criminal cases. Local police and prosecutors could use anything you say or reveal in the school proceeding against you. Take these proceedings seriously!

Disclaimer!

This information is meant to be a general overview and not legal advice.

For more specific information related to your campus, please review the school's policies on demonstrations. These may be called "event policies," "speech policies," "demonstration policies," or "use of space policies," depending on your school.

Additionally, review any local or state ordinances related to demonstrations that could be applicable to your campus protest.

Further Resources



NLG KYR for Campus Protests:

<https://bit.ly/NLGKYRProtest>

CAIR & NLG MA College Disciplinary Hearings

KYR: <https://bit.ly/CAIRMAKYR>

NLG KYR for Protesters: <https://bit.ly/NLGKYRs>

NLG KYR for Faculty & Staff:

<https://bit.ly/NLGKYRFaculty>

Contact your local NLG Chapter: nlg.org/chapters

NLG stands in solidarity with all students currently setting up encampments on their campuses in support of a free Palestine!

Support our work: nlg.org/donate/

