



Students mobilizing against genocide: We have your back!

**Our networks are mobilizing legal support
for targeted students—we have your
backs! Read on for tips to assess risks
and assert your rights.**

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

We are witnessing a national student movement for a Free Palestine

Students are engaging in protests, including Gaza solidarity encampments, at campuses across the U.S. to demand an end to their universities' complicity in Israel's crimes.

Universities continue to ignore student demands and have embraced all-out anti-Palestinian repression, despite **200+ days and 35k Palestinian deaths into Israel's genocidal campaign on Gaza and throughout Palestine** and a sustained student movement opposing this violence.

Student activists lead the way!

Students have always played a critical role in advancing social change on campuses and beyond.



Palestine activists are drawing inspiration from the 1968 student encampments protesting the Vietnam War, which helped pressure institutions to stand against injustice.

Credit: @SJPColumbia

We stand firmly against this repressive, violent reaction to peaceful student protest!

Just like in 1968, universities are responding to peaceful student anti-war activism by condemning it, calling in law enforcement and even the National Guard, and **having students arrested, suspended and evicted rather than responding to demands to end university complicity in genocide and oppression.**



Emory University, Atlanta, GA
Credit: @mainline_atl



University of Texas, Austin, TX
Credit: @apnews

Universities' legal obligations to protecting students

Universities have a legal obligation to ensure Palestinian, Arab, and Muslim students and allies who speak out for Palestinian rights are free from discrimination and harassment.

They are also obliged to protect students' speech rights, and may not enforce their policies in a discriminatory manner. Instead, universities are criminalizing their students for using their voices.

Responding to risks of encampments & actions: Tips for students

- Connect with an NLG chapter in your city for legal support: nlg.org/chapters
- Know your rights: bit.ly/NLGKYRProtest
- Familiarize yourself with your school's policies to understand your rights on campus.
- Document police/administrative aggression or discrimination.
- For support with student conduct or related charges, or support challenging discriminatory treatment, fill out Palestine Legal's intake form: palestinelegal.org/intake
- For non-U.S. citizen students, contact CUNY CLEAR for support: cunyclear@law.cuny.edu
- Consider discrimination reports with your university and/or the Department of Education detailing discrimination or harassment on campus, and/or contact trusted lawyers to assess other legal avenues.
- Plan for safety and security, including preparing for possible arrest, having a communications plan to publicize your action, calling on allies for solidarity, having de-escalation plans, etc.

Assessing risks at the school: Campus rules differ!

University policies on when/where/how you can protest may differ from other public spaces, and policies can be more restrictive if the university is private.

- On-campus disciplinary proceedings are separate from any criminal process, and there are often fewer due process and other protections available.

Law enforcement might disperse and arrest even if you have legal protections.

Even if you might later beat criminal charges or get accountability in court, law enforcement might still harass and hurt you.

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Assessing encampment risks: Avoid unexpected surprises!

Generally, consider the following:

- There are 3 levels of rules to consider: school policies, city ordinances, and state laws. Be aware of noise and time ordinances, as well as school rules against unapproved structures or overnight events.
- Does the encampment interfere with flow of traffic or pedestrians, or with other university operations? The more interference, the more likely the school will view the encampment as a violation.
- Has the administration imposed restrictions or given warnings already? Continuing to camp might result in quicker action, so be aware of the risks.
- If you or others get arrested, what support systems or legal resources are available? Where would people get booked and processed? When would court be? Familiarize yourself with your local context and organize together!

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Show solidarity with students

Students are facing unprecedented repression and need principled support. We all have a part to play:

- Lawyers and legal workers can sign up to local NLG chapters to provide Legal Observer or jail support, or with Palestine Legal if you can provide other legal support to students.
- Connect with student groups organizing actions to determine how best to support them.
- Join trusted organizations that are providing support.
- Write and call campus administrators to stop repression of students advocating against genocide and to protect student speech on campus.
- Write and speak up in solidarity with the student movement against genocide, and against university and state repression!



Want to contact us? Visit:

nlg.org/chapters

palestinelegal.org/intake

**We got each other's backs in the struggle
for a Free Palestine!**

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