

HRL Political Solicitation Policy

Political solicitation may take place in residential facilities under specific guidelines. Any individual or group *not* following these guidelines is in violation of residence life regulations. Non-resident offenders should be asked to remedy their actions and leave the premises. If the parties involved refuse to leave, UMPD will be called for assistance. A resident found in violation of solicitation guidelines will be subject to discipline.

Political solicitation is usually conducted during the months of September through November in advance of a general election date, but it may happen at other times based on the timing of primary or special elections. Because residents may register to vote in the precincts where their residential buildings are located, candidates for elected office seeking to represent the precincts often seek to campaign in the residence halls. The University of Minnesota and Housing & Residential Life encourage all student residents to become politically informed and involved in the electoral process.

Minnesota law (Minn. Stat. § 211B.20) allows residential communities to establish political solicitation guidelines for candidates or workers accompanied by candidates. Specified in the **state law** are the following:

1. Reasonable and proper identification is required of, and an identification badge must be worn at all times by the candidate or campaign volunteer while in residence halls or apartments.
2. Visits by candidates and campaign volunteers accompanying the candidate for the sole purpose of campaigning may be limited to a reasonable number of person(s), reasonable hours, and prior appointments.
3. The University may deny admittance and campaign volunteers accompanying the candidate for good cause.

In light of the current pandemic, the highly contagious nature of COVID-19, and the University's Maroon and Gold Sunrise Plan, which at the present step does not permit guests from outside to be present in residence halls, the University has established the following **guidelines** for the period in advance of Election Day 2020.

In Advance of Election Day Campaign Process for On-Campus Housing Facilities

1. Candidates or campaign workers may drop campaign literature off at the Information Desk. The literature will be placed on a designated table in the lobby or common area of the residence hall or apartment building. Candidates or campaign workers are not otherwise permitted to enter residence halls or apartment buildings.
2. At no time may candidates or campaign workers affix banners, posters, or flyers to the residential facility promoting their candidate or initiative.
3. Campaigners Candidates and campaign workers must wear face coverings at all times when on campus, and they must maintain physical distance according to current University public health safety standards.