



Fact Sheet: Committing to a Strong Campus Climate August 2024

At SUNY, student safety on our campuses is paramount and we will do everything we can to ensure that our campuses are both safe and inclusive. Our commitments:

- 1) **We will not tolerate antisemitism, Islamophobia, and other forms of discrimination and harassment.**
- 2) **We will build and embrace more tools to advance productive campus conversations.**
- 3) **We will help students from all backgrounds feel respected and seen.**

To deliver on these commitments:

- SUNY has issued – and will continue to communicate – **clear, morally unambiguous statements** including condemning Hamas’s horrific terrorist attack on October 7th; vowing to protect student safety; rejecting antisemitism, Islamophobia, and other forms of bigotry and hatred; standing with Governor Hochul in rejecting BDS; and reiterating the responsibilities of all students, faculty, and staff to engage one another with respect even when they disagree.
- In advance of the fall 2024 semester, SUNY is providing all campuses with draft **model policies** for content-neutral time, place, and manner restrictions on protests; prohibitions on encampments; rules for placards and postings; and requirements that students, faculty, and staff carry identification.
- In advance of the fall 2024 semester, SUNY is providing **guidance with expectations for how students can submit and campuses will receive Title VI complaints**, demonstrate that complaints are taken seriously and investigated fully, and provide appropriate information to complainants and other interested stakeholders.
- All campus presidents, campus counsels, chief diversity officers, affirmative action officers, chief student affairs officers, and chief academic officers have received **training in Title VI protections against discrimination and harassment** and will continue to receive annual specialized training. **Every SUNY faculty and staff member is required to complete Title VI training** in fall 2024.
- Every campus is expected to incorporate information on **content-neutral time, place, and manner restrictions, how to report incidents of discrimination and harassment, and tools for civil discourse into fall orientations and back-to-campus content** at the beginning of the fall 2024 semester for new students, returning students, students in leadership positions, and student employees in areas like residence life.
- To assist campus leadership teams, SUNY is providing **job aids and checklists for individuals with key preparation and response responsibilities**, and continuing to conduct **tabletop exercises** to ensure campuses are prepared. In addition, SUNY is providing ongoing technical assistance to selected campuses on **plans for content-neutral preparation for protests** – including their planned approach to public safety, disciplinary, operational, and internal/external communications issues.
- All of this work builds on the ongoing efforts of SUNY’s **Civic Education & Engagement and Civil Discourse Fellows**, our commitment to incorporate **civil discourse** into the SUNY General Education Framework, and grants for campuses to **create or expand interfaith prayer, meditation, and reflection spaces**. In addition, SUNY System and a cohort of SUNY campuses will join **Hillel International’s Campus Climate Initiative**.