
Chapter: Public Safety, Health, & Emergency Management

Modification No. 002

Subject: **Prohibition of Weapons on Campus**

- I. In order to achieve the mission, vision and values of Montgomery College, the Board of Trustees considers it is essential to ensure a safe and secure environment for the College community. The Board believes the presence of firearms, explosives and other weapons on College property poses a serious threat to the safety of students and employees. Accordingly, the use, possession, or storage of any firearm, firearm replica, other weapon, or weapon replicas is prohibited on College property and at College sponsored events, except for law enforcement personnel acting in the course of their official duties and others specifically authorized by the President.
- II. The College President is authorized to establish procedures to implement this policy.

Board Approval: February 25, 2013; May 13, 2019

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I. Definitions

- A. Firearm – Any weapon or instrument from which a shot, projectile or other object may be discharged by force, whether operable or inoperable, loaded or unloaded. This also includes the frame or receiver of any such weapon and any firearm muffler or silencer.
- B. Replica – Any device or object made of metal, wood, rubber, plastic or any other material made to look like or resemble a real firearm or other weapon.
- C. Weapon – The term weapon includes any potentially dangerous object or substance including, but not limited to, any firearm, BB gun, pellet gun, air rifle, paint gun, stun gun, flare gun, dart gun, any ammunition, any sword (including decorative), dagger or knife (except for a pen knife with a blade of three inches or less while carried in the closed position), any razor or razor blades (except when used for personal shaving) or ice pick, any blackjack, metallic knuckles, nunchaku or other martial arts weapons, any slingshot, and any illegal or potentially dangerous chemicals, any bomb, grenade, mine, dynamite, firecrackers, or other explosive device, or any other instrument which by its nature, in consideration of existing conditions, may be reasonably construed as a weapon. Exceptions regarding legitimate educational or instructional use, theatrical productions, and necessary business operations are outlined in Section III below.

II. Scope

- A. Montgomery College prohibits the use, possession, or storage of any firearm or other weapon on College property and at College sponsored events, except as specifically authorized by the President pursuant to this procedure.
- B. This procedure applies to all persons on College-owned, leased or rented property, and to all persons attending any College sponsored event or activity at any other location, subject to the exceptions below. The College will not store any firearm, other weapon, or replica for students, employees or other individuals.

III. Exceptions

This procedure does not apply:

- A. to law enforcement officers who are members of a law enforcement agency that has jurisdiction on property where a Montgomery College facility is located;
- B. to individuals specifically authorized by the president;

- C. to armored car services or others hired by the College who are authorized by their employer and legally permitted to possess weapons while acting in the course of their official duties;
 - D. where there is a legitimate educational or instructional purpose and approval has been granted by the Senior Vice President for Academic Services in consultation with the Campus Vice President and Provost and the Director of Public Safety and Emergency Management;
 - E. to lab chemicals and instruments used in the normal course of instruction;
 - F. where there exists a legitimate operational need for knives, box cutters, razors, and other bladed instruments;
 - G. where used in preparation for and performance of College sanctioned theatrical productions, parades or other public ceremonial purposes and approval has been granted by the appropriate Senior Vice President in consultation with the Campus Vice President and Provost and the Director of Public Safety and Emergency Management; and
 - H. where the President has expressly waived the prohibition on weapons in consultation with the Vice President of Facilities and Public Safety.
- IV. Enforcement
- A. Students or employees who violate these procedures may be disciplined pursuant to applicable College policies. Violations by employees shall be reported to the Director of Employee and Labor Relations in support of disciplinary proceedings commenced pursuant to applicable contracts and/or policies. Violations by students shall be reported to the appropriate Dean of Student Affairs in support of disciplinary proceedings commenced pursuant to the Student Code of Conduct. The Deputy Director of Public Safety for the affected location is responsible for making the reports addressed in this section.
 - B. Non-students and/or non-employees who violate this policy may be removed from the facility and restricted or barred from College facilities pursuant to applicable trespass procedures.
 - C. Violations that may constitute unlawful activity will also be reported to local law enforcement by the Deputy Director of Public Safety for the affected location.

Administrative Approval: June 10, 2013; May 14, 2019