

# UNIVERSITY POLICE

2015/2016 Campus Parking Regulations and Safety Guidelines



Highway 8 West | Cleveland MS 38733 | 1.800.GO.TO.DSU | [www.deltastate.edu](http://www.deltastate.edu)

# DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY

# PARKING REGULATIONS

The Board of Trustees, State Institutions of Higher Learning of Mississippi, approved the establishment of the following traffic rules and regulations for the control, direction, parking, and general regulations of traffic of all motor vehicles on the campus of Delta State University. These regulations are an official part of GENERAL UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS. All students and employees (faculty, staff and other employees) by their enrollment or acceptance of employment, are subject to said administration regulations.

The Delta State Police Department is located in Office 202 of the H.L. Nowell Union. The Director and staff encourage students, faculty, staff and visitors to solicit their assistance on all matters concerning traffic regulations and campus security.

## MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION

Students and employees who park their motor vehicles on the campus must register their vehicles with the Delta State Police Department. Parking decals may be purchased by using your OKRA Green Anywhere at the DSU Police Department or 24 hours after registering for your decal it will be charged to your account. The University will not be responsible for providing parking spaces for registered vehicles, nor can the University be held responsible for any damages to vehicles or occupants while vehicles are on campus.

### ONLINE VEHICLE REGISTRATION:

In order to obtain your parking permit (decal), complete the following steps:

- Type parking2.deltastate.edu in the web browser address bar (no www is necessary.)
- Follow the steps given on this website.
- You are not complete until you have clicked 'submit'.
- Come to the Police Department (Union 202A) with your driver's license and Okra Kard to pick up your decal.

*You have completed your vehicle registration!*

### PAYMENT OPTIONS:

The fee for the decal is \$40 in the Fall/Spring and \$20 for either summer session.

This fee can be paid in one of three ways:

1. At the Police Department with OKRA Green Anywhere ONLY. There are two CASH VALUE CENTERS. One in the Union and one in the Library. Or, you may use a credit/debit card to put money on your Okra Kard at deltastate.edu, MyDSU, or OkraKard 24/7 Online Office.
2. At Student Business Services with cash or check.
3. Online with an E-Check, Master, Discover, or American Express card. (Fee of 2.75% is assessed.)

You may come pick up your decal at any point after registering, so don't wait! Get it done immediately. If at any time you have any questions regarding the vehicle registration process, contact our office at 662.846.4155.

## ZONES AND REGULATIONS

Motor vehicles are to be parked on the campus and streets of Delta State University only in the areas designated as parking areas, in such a manner, at such a place, and for such time as may be indicated on appropriate signs or markers. Zoned areas are provided by number and color of decals as follows:

<b>ZONE 1 • Blue • Faculty &amp; Staff</b>
<b>ZONE 2 • Red • Men's Residence Halls</b>
<b>ZONE 3 • Green • Women's Residence Halls</b>
<b>ZONE 4 • Yellow • Commuting Students</b>
<b>ZONE 5 • Purple • Family Housing</b>
<b>ZONE 6 • Orange • Areas Open to All Decals</b>

These zones are already marked and should be used only as indicated above. Zone violators will be ticketed. Only one decal may be visible on vehicles. Parking restrictions are in effect in:

<b>ZONE 1 • from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. (M-F)</b>
<b>ZONE 2 • At all times</b>
<b>ZONE 3 • At all times</b>
<b>ZONE 4 • from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. (M-F)</b>
<b>ZONE 5 • At all times</b>
<b>ZONE 6 • Open to All Decals</b>

It is a violation of parking regulations to:

- Park in the wrong zone.
- Park in any area where curbing is painted yellow.
- Park in a manner so as to block a drive or walkway, or impede the flow of pedestrian traffic.
- Park out of marked lanes.
- Park on the grass.
- Double park.
- Park facing traffic.
- Park any vehicle, boat trailer, 3-wheeler, 4-wheeler, or any other contraption of this nature in any parking space or around apartments over a long period of time. Parking of this nature must have permission of the Delta State Police Chief. Any vehicle, trailer, or other contraption violating this section shall be towed away at owner's expense.
- Park in a space marked Reserved, Visitor, For Handicapped, or Bailey Child Care. These spaces are not to be used for dropping off or picking up passengers during any type of weather.
- Park in the mail drive.
- Back into a parking slot or pull through a parking slot.

Drivers of all DSU-owned vehicles should comply with all traffic and parking regulations. No faculty, staff, or student can advise a person to park illegally. No unauthorized motor vehicle or bicycle may park in a posted handicapped parking place or block or obstruct access to such a parking place.

## PARKING DECALS

A registered decal for a vehicle shall be effective from the date of purchase through August 31 of the following year. Decals must be permanently affixed to the outside of the lower left corner of the rear window or left rear bumper or fender of motorcycles (motorcycle tag attachments are acceptable).

The cost of vehicle registration/decal purchase will be as follows:

- \$40 if purchased in the fall term
- \$40 if purchased in the spring term
- \$20 if purchased in the 1st/2nd sessions of summer terms

**REPLACEMENT DECALS:** Recipients will at all times be responsible for the decal issued to them. If a vehicle is sold or traded within the school year, a current decal may be removed (place pieces on a scrap of paper) and presented to the Delta State Police Department where a new decal may be obtained for \$3; otherwise, there will be a charge of the full registration fee.

**TEMPORARY PERMITS:** You may obtain up to three temporary parking permits per term for each vehicle you have registered. The temporary permits may be issued for a minimum of one day or a maximum of one week. Persons using vehicles other than their registered vehicle(s) must obtain a temporary campus permit which will be issued at no charge. Temporary permits may be picked up at the Delta State Police Department. Such permits should be acquired immediately after arriving on campus. The temporary permit should be affixed to the lower left side of the rear window.

**CHANGING DECALS:** Students changing from a commuter to a campus housing status or from a campus housing status to commuter, etc., may remove a current decal and exchange it for the needed type for \$3. The decal on your vehicle should always reflect your current status as a student: failure to make the proper changes may result in parking tickets and/or charges through student court.

**DEALER TAGS:** Persons wanting to register vehicles displaying dealer tags will not be sold a Delta State decal. A free temporary parking permit may be obtained for a vehicle with a dealer tag when your currently registered vehicle is in the shop and the dealer has supplied you with a dealer vehicle. You must present a statement on dealership letterhead advising that you have been loaned such vehicle while your vehicle is being worked on in order to obtain a temporary permit. Without this letter, we will not issue a temporary permit. Temporaries will not be issued beyond ten days from the date of the letter.

**RENTAL TAG:** Persons wanting to register vehicles displaying rental tags will not be sold a Delta State Decal. A free temporary parking permit may be obtained for a vehicle with a rental tag while your currently registered vehicle is in the shop for repair.

**HANDICAP DECALS:** Students/Employees who need access to handicap parking areas on campus must obtain a green Delta State Handicap Decal (at no extra charge) in addition to their regular decal. To obtain one, simply present a recent statement on letterhead from your physician advising your handicap or a copy of your state issued handicap permit, etc., to the Delta State Police Department. Anyone with a handicap permit may park in any legal parking space on the Delta State campus. *Please Note: This allows us to distinguish between those who really need the handicap areas and those who do not need the handicap parking access but are simply using a relative's car that is marked with a handicap tag, etc.*

**Delta State reserves the right to regulate further the use of motor vehicles on the campus or to forbid the use of motor vehicles by a student or employee who refuses to abide by the parking and traffic regulations. Vehicles which have accumulated three or more unpaid tickets are subject to being immobilized. Immobilized vehicles may be towed after (5) days if fines remain unpaid. An additional fine of \$50 is levied at the time of immobilization. To operate a motor vehicle on the campus is a privilege, not a right, subject to the regulations set forth by the Board of Trustees and administered by the University.**

**Vehicles with student or employee decals which are repeatedly ticketed for the same violation are subject to being immobilized or towed at the owner's expense after a third ticket for the same violation has been issued—regardless of whether the prior tickets are outstanding or have been paid in full. Any violations cited against a permit number will be charged to the person to whom the permit was issued.**

---

## DRIVING REGULATIONS AND VIOLATIONS

1. The owner of a vehicle is responsible for the vehicle at all times.
2. Driving regulations are in effect at all times.
3. The campus speed limit is fifteen (15) miles per hour for all motor vehicles unless otherwise marked. However, safe driving is the principal regulation.
4. All operators of any motor vehicle must have in their possession a valid operator's license and proof of insurance.
5. All operators of any motor vehicle must have a valid, up to date license plate (tag) on vehicle in plain view.
6. Operators of motor vehicles must have children restrained in a proper child safety restraint as per Mississippi Code #63-7-301.

**It is a violation of driving regulations to:**

- Drive in excess of the speed limits.
- Fail to heed traffic signs.
- Operate a vehicle in a careless or irresponsible manner or while under the influence of intoxicating liquors, narcotic drugs, or any other mind altering agent.
- Drive on the grass.
- Move a vehicle from the scene of an accident until given permission by the investigating officer.

- To drive around any barricade unless otherwise directed by a member of the University Police Department.
- Fail to come to a complete stop and proceed with caution at a stop sign.
- Operate a vehicle in such a manner as to make or cause to make any type loud or offensive noise including continuous horn blowing, car radio and unauthorized use of a public address system.
- Fail to report immediately to the Delta State Police Department any accident or collision on the campus or streets of Delta State University.
- Fail to obey the same traffic regulations while riding, operating, or parking any bicycle or non-motor vehicle.
- Operate a motorcycle or motorbike on any Delta State University property without a standard crash helmet securely fastened upon the head of the driver. Each passenger of the vehicle must wear a helmet.
- Operate a bicycle, motorcycle, or a motorbike when traveling at night without any operational headlight and tail-light. A bicycle may use a reflector instead of tail-light.

## MOTORCYCLES, ROLLERBLADES (SKATES), SKATEBOARDS, ETC.

1. Students and any member of the University community may register their bicycles for the sole purpose of having their number and description on record in case of theft.
2. Registration of bicycles will be done free of charge.
3. Any person who rides, operates, or parks a bicycle or any other non-motor vehicle, including boats and trailer, on the campus shall be subject to all the terms and provisions of these regulations, except for those provisions which by their nature can have no application.
4. No person shall ride a bicycle on any sidewalk, walkway, or any other area of the campus customarily used by pedestrians.
5. No person shall park a bicycle in a walkway, on a sidewalk, in a hallway, or in or near a doorway except where use is made of a parking rack furnished by the University.
6. No person shall ride, operate, or park at night on the campus or streets of Delta State University a bicycle not equipped with headlight and tail-light or reflector.
7. Every regulation herein applicable to anyone riding, operating, or parking a bicycle on the campus shall also apply to anyone riding, operating or parking a motorcycle or motor scooter.
8. No person who operates or drives a motorcycle, or other motor driven cycle having two or more wheels, shall carry any other person in or upon such vehicle on the campus unless such vehicle is equipped with:
  - A dual seat designed for two persons, or a separate passenger seat with a double footrest: or
  - A side car attachment providing a separate seat space for a passenger to be seated entirely within the attachment.
9. No person shall roller blade (skate) on any sidewalk, walkway or any other area of the campus customarily used by pedestrians or inside any building on the campus. Any person wishing to roller blade (skate) on campus is to do so only on streets or parking lots and at their own risk. It is recommended that protective gear and reflective clothing be worn.
10. Operators of motor vehicles or bicycles may not park or stop so as to block or obstruct a handicap entrance on a sidewalk, street or into any building.
11. No person shall skateboard on any sidewalk, walkway or any other area of campus customarily used by pedestrians including patios, stairs, and handicapped ramps, or inside any building on the campus. Any Delta State student wishing to Skateboard on campus is to do so only on streets or parking lots and at their own risk. It is recommended that protective gear and reflective clothing be worn.

### ADMINISTRATION OF TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS

When violation of any rule or regulation set forth herein has been clearly established by waiver, voluntary admission, and /or by an official hearing, the offender shall be subject to a special administrative fee and/or shall be subject to disciplinary action.

After notice of a violation, an appeal may be made within seven (7) working days from the date of the citation at the Student Life Union Office on a form provided by that office. If the offender so desires, he/she may request, and be entitled to, legal counsel. When appearing before the Student Court, the offender may be present and question witnesses. A \$10 appearance bond must be posted when filing an appeal.

The following reasons are NOT acceptable grounds for appealing a traffic ticket:

- Ignorance of regulations
- Inability to find a legal parking space
- No space available
- Inclement weather
- Late for class
- Improperly displayed decal
- Failure to purchase a decal

In lieu of the above procedure, the violation ticket may be taken to the Bolivar County District II Justice Court.

**\*\*TICKETS NOT PAID WITHIN SEVEN DAYS WILL DOUBLE IN THE AMOUNT CHARGED.\*\***

After proper notification, any person who fails to surrender his/her registration permit (decal) or who operates or parks a motor vehicle on the Delta State Campus after the date which such privileges have been suspended shall have his/her vehicle towed off campus. This person shall be responsible for all costs incurred in towing and storing the vehicle. The University and its officials shall not be liable for any damage to the vehicle resulting from towing or storage thereof.

Any vehicle that is illegally parked, abandoned, found on the campus with no license plate, no inspection sticker, or parked so as to constitute a hazard to vehicular or pedestrian traffic, shall be removed under the same stipulation as stated in Section VI., E. Mississippi Code, 1972. NOTE: Any vehicle that is broken down and has been parked on campus for over one month will be removed from campus at the owner's expense unless otherwise approved by the department director.

### GENERAL TRAFFIC REGULATIONS

Delta State University is located within the corporate limits of the City of Cleveland. Delta State Police officers are full-time police officers certified by the State of Mississippi through the Mississippi Law Enforcement Officers Training Academy. Each officer meets the professional criteria as established by the state's Minimum Standards Board.

Any student or employee who so desires may take a violation ticket to the Bolivar County District II Justice Court. Appeals handled through the Justice Court will be charged through Mississippi Code No. 37-105-1.

Provisions effective July 1, 1972, require that all vehicles operated on the University streets will be properly insured with a minimum of 10-20-5 by a reputable insurance company and that proof of insurance be kept in vehicle as per MS Code # 63-15-4-2a.

In addition to the aforesaid rules and regulations, all ordinances of the City of Cleveland and/or the laws of the State of Mississippi are in effect on all Delta State University property.

The Rules and Regulations herein promulgated have been (and future changes and additions will be) published in three consecutive issues of the University newspaper.

# CAMPUS SAFETY

## AUTHORITY

It is the objective of the Delta State University Police Department to provide and maintain a safe and secure environment for the students, staff, faculty, residents and visitors of Delta State University. The University Police Department employs 9 sworn Law Enforcement Officers, 3 Communications Officers, 1 Senior Secretary, and includes the following sections: Patrol, Investigations, and Special Services.

University Police officers are armed and have arrest powers and authority on all property owned or governed by the university. All police officers are employed full-time and meet the professional criteria as established by the Board on Law Enforcement Officers Standards and Training, and are certified by a law enforcement training academy. Officers also regularly attend other advanced and in-service training programs.

University Police officers are on duty 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, including holidays. Police officer functions include, but are not restricted to the following:

- Vehicle, foot, and bike patrols of campus to ensure the safety of persons and property.
- Responding to reports of crime in progress on University property.
- Investigating offenses that have been committed and preparing required reports.
- Assisting other local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies.
- Providing motorist assistance, unlocking vehicles on campus, providing vehicle boosts on campus and providing escorts.
- Responding to calls from emergency phones and other similar emergencies.
- Enforcing state laws and university regulations.
- Educating the DSU community on methods to keep themselves as well as their property safe.

**Our goal is to protect life and property, to understand and serve the needs of the campus community, and to improve the quality of life by building capacities to maintain order, resolve problems, and apprehend criminals in a manner consistent with the law and reflective of shared University values.**

## AWARENESS

### DRUGS AND ALCOHOL

In compliance with the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Amendments of 1989, Delta State University has implemented a policy to express its commitment to the elimination of alcohol and drug abuse. Please refer to the "Alcohol and Drug Abuse Policy" section of the student handbook and employee handbook. The student handbook is available through the University Police Department or Office of Student Affairs. The employee handbook is available through the Office of Human Resources.

### SEXUAL ASSAULT

The Delta State University Police Department provides programs throughout the year to promote awareness of sexual assault, date/ acquaintance rape, and other sex offenses. Prompt reporting of sex offenses is strongly recommended. University Police Officers are available 24 hours a day to assist victims in obtaining medical attention and reporting offenses.

### WEAPONS ON CAMPUS

Section 97-37-17-2 of the Mississippi Code makes it a felony for any person to possess or carry, whether openly or concealed, any firearm on University property.

### USE OF CELL PHONE WHILE OPERATING A MOTOR VEHICLE

**As a driver, your first responsibility is the safe operation of the vehicle you are driving. If you must use a cell phone while operating a motor vehicle, please keep in mind the following precautions:**

1. Never dial the phone while driving. If possible, dial while the car is not in motion, such as at a traffic light or stop sign.
2. Keep calls brief.
3. Make sure the phone is easy to reach and see.
4. Learn about the features on your phone, such as voice mail and speed dial.
5. If a passenger is in the vehicle, let the passenger answer the phone and relay the information to you or take a message for you to return the call at a later time.

---

## PREVENTION

The Delta State University Police Department has an active crime prevention program which is dedicated to reducing criminal opportunities and encourages the members of the campus community to take responsibility for their own safety and security, and the safety and security of others. Crime prevention programs are available for all students, staff, and faculty. Some of the topics include, but are not limited to personal safety and property security, alcohol and DUI awareness, drug abuse awareness, fire safety, sexual assault/date rape prevention. The Crime Prevention Program also coordinates Operation I.D., which is a program to assist students in identifying and recording property in case of theft. A bicycle registration form is available to students who bring bicycles on campus.

The University is equipped with seven (7) emergency telephones which have been strategically placed on campus. Each phone is identified with a reflective sign stating "Emergency Phone". In case of emergency, one can contact the police by depressing the button, which will automatically dial the University Police Department. If possible, the caller should state their name, location, and the nature of the emergency.

### THE EMERGENCY PHONES ARE LOCATED AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

- Broom Hall
- Cain-Tatum Residence Hall
- Cleveland Residence Hall
- Court of Governors
- Foundation Hall
- Walter-Caylor Hall
- Zeigel Hall

Safety on a college campus is a genuine concern. Delta State offers many different services and crime prevention programs in an effort to continuously improve safety in the university community. Ultimately, each person is responsible for his/her own safety, but practice of preventive methods can help to reduce the probability of one becoming a victim of crime. During the year, the police department will offer workshops and presentations on crime prevention. You should take the opportunity to attend these programs. If you have any questions or comments concerning campus safety, please call us at 662.846.4155 or send an email to [police@deltastate.edu](mailto:police@deltastate.edu).

# STUDENT HANDBOOK GUIDELINES AND REGULATIONS

The stated aims and purposes of Delta State University indicate that a student attending this institution should not only achieve intellectual enrichment, but also spiritual, moral, physical, and social enrichment as well. Students are expected to be honest and truthful, to abide by the student regulations, to respect and obey existing laws, to respect private and public property, to observe generally accepted standards of conducts, and to respect the rights of the individuals. Violations of these principles may subject students to disciplinary action determined by the established University judicial system.

When a student registers at Delta State University he/she understands that there are certain rules and regulations he must follow to insure the proper and orderly functioning of the institution. These regulations are listed in order that each student may familiarize himself with them. It is the responsibility of the student to know these rules. These regulations are written in the spirit of cooperative guidelines for the good of the entire Delta State University community. Students are also responsible for reading notices posted on official bulletin boards and for information presented in official residence hall meetings. Those who are willing to live within these boundaries usually find student life at Delta State pleasant and beneficial.

It is impossible to predict all human behavior or to write down all rules and regulations for proper conduct; therefore, no student regulations can be totally comprehensive. Students at Delta State are to conduct themselves and their affairs in keeping with generally accepted principles of our society and the university community.

**STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED AT REGISTRATION TO GIVE THEIR CORRECT LOCAL ADDRESS. IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE STUDENT TO NOTIFY THE DIRECTOR OF ADMISSIONS AND REGISTRAR OF ANY CHANGE OF ADDRESS WITHIN ONE WEEK OF SUCH CHANGE.**

The statements listed below, although not inclusive, enumerate certain violations of the student regulations and may subject violators to appropriate disciplinary action, including suspension and expulsion:

1. The use and/or possession of illegal drugs or narcotics. Violation of this regulation will result in automatic suspension from the residence hall, as well as other disciplinary actions.
2. The possession, consumption, and/or sale of alcoholic beverages or public drunkenness on campus, in university living units, or at university sponsored functions on the campus of Delta State University is prohibited. Violators will be subject to having any or all contraband confiscated. Violation of this regulation will result in one or more of the following for a first offense: probation up to six months, assigned work up to ten hours or the equivalent in counseling, and a fine of no less than \$25.00 and no more than \$50.00. If necessary, violation may be subject to prosecution to the fullest extent of the law.
3. Unauthorized entry by members of opposite sex into residence hall.
4. Participation in a riot, raid, or unauthorized demonstration or refusing to leave the scene of a riot, raid, or other unauthorized demonstration when ordered to do so by an authorized official.
5. Refusing to show University identification card when requested by proper authority. Students are responsible for having their I.D. cards in their possession at any time they are outside their place of residence.
6. Failure to meet financial responsibility to the University.
7. Use and/or possession of firearms, ammunition, explosives, fireworks, or other lethal weapons on campus.
8. Gambling in any form.
9. Plagiarism, cheating, or knowingly furnishing false/and/or misleading information to the University or other similar forms of dishonesty in University related affairs.
10. Forgery, alteration, destruction or misuse of University documents, records, identification, or telephone access codes.
11. Obstruction or disruption of teaching, research, administrative activity, disciplinary procedures, or other authorized activities on University premises.
12. Physical or verbal abuse of any person or conduct which threatens or endangers the health or safety of any such person.
13. Theft, arson, or damage, to property of the University and/or leased from an outside agency, or a member of the University community or campus visitor.
14. Unauthorized use of University facilities, including entry or exit doors.
15. Unauthorized or illegal use of the University computer system.
16. Disorderly, lewd, indecent, or obscene conduct, or language. This includes, but is not limited to, music lyrics when such music is played loud enough to be heard by other residence hall students or by pedestrians if played by a car or portable sound system.
17. Refusal to respond to a request to report to a University administrative office and/or failure to comply with directions of duly authorized University officials acting in the performance of their duties.
18. Inciting others to violate written University policies and regulations.
19. Unauthorized sales and solicitations on the Delta State campus.
20. Use of a residence hall room or phone for soliciting or conducting business.
21. Conduct which is in violation of local, state, and federal laws.
22. It is a violation of university regulations and state law for any student to damage or misuse any fire detection equipment or initiate a false fire alarm. Violators will be suspended from University Residence Halls, face other disciplinary actions and, and may be subjected to criminal charges.
23. Students are responsible for the actions of their guests on campus. All visitors on our campus will abide by Delta State University rules and regulations.
24. Any student using an I.D. card other than his/her own or loaning his/ her I.D. card to another for the purpose of gaining admittance into the cafeteria or any other University functions will have his/her I.D. card confiscated and will be assessed a \$10.00 fine as well as possibly face other disciplinary actions. Students are responsible for the use/misuse of their identification cards.
25. Students are to abide by the Residence Hall Code and all Housing policies including notices posted in the residence halls by Housing administration or staff.
26. Any student who commits an offense, whether on or off campus, may be subject to disciplinary proceedings pursuant to this DSU student handbook.

27. Harassment of another individual is strictly prohibited. Harassment includes, but is not limited to, impeding another persistently, or to wrong or bother another persistently. It also includes bothering another for the purpose of obtaining a sexual favor.
28. Any student charged with or convicted of a violation of law, or University regulation, injurious to the health and welfare of the University community shall be subject to immediate administrative suspension, with or without prejudice, depending upon the nature and circumstances of the case by the President of the University or his delegate.
29. The convictions of a student for a criminal offense of any kind which may interfere with the orderly educational operation of the University or of a kind, which if the student were allowed to

- remain enrolled, may endanger the health, safety, or property of the members of the academic community shall be sufficient grounds for administrative disciplinary action against such student.
30. Words, behavior, and/or actions which inflict mental or emotional distress on others and/or disrupt the educational environment at Delta State University are strictly prohibited.
31. Stalking of another individual is a criminal offense and will not be tolerated. Stalking is defined as willfully, maliciously, and repeatedly following or harassing another person, or making a credible threat, with the intent to place that person in reasonable fear of death or serious bodily injury.
32. Students are responsible for displaying respect toward diverse populations.

## TOBACCO-FREE POLICY

**EFFECTIVE ON SEPTEMBER 7, 2010, DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY PROHIBITS THE USE OF ALL TOBACCO PRODUCTS ON ITS CAMPUS. THIS POLICY APPLIES TO ALL STUDENTS, FACULTY, STAFF AND VISITORS ON DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY PROPERTY OR IN ITS FACILITIES.**

**Delta State University is committed to maintaining a healthy and safe environment for its students, faculty, staff, and visitors.**

- Tobacco use is the No. 1 cause of all cancers and emphysema, and it is a leading preventable cause of heart disease and stroke. Tobacco use among pregnant women contributes to low birth weight and premature delivery. Besides lung cancer, tobacco use also causes increased risk for cancer of the mouth, nasal cavities, larynx, pharynx, esophagus, stomach, liver, pancreas, kidney, bladder, uterine, cervix, and myeloid leukemia.
- Patients who smoke have twice the risk of postoperative infection.
- Smoking causes more than \$167 billion in annual health-related costs, including adult mortality-related productivity costs, adult medical expenditures and medical expenditures for newborns.
- Delta State University prohibits the use of all tobacco products on its campus. This policy applies to all students, faculty, staff and visitors on Delta State University property or in its facilities.

### Definitions

- Smoking: inhaling, exhaling, burning, or carrying any lighted or heated cigar, cigarette, pipe, or any device used to transmit or convey tobacco smoke or related inhalant.
- Tobacco products: cigarettes, e-cigarettes, chewing tobacco, pipes, cigars, snuff, or any device designed to transmit or convey tobacco smoke or related inhalant.

**Use of all tobacco products is prohibited in all owned, operated, leased, occupied, and controlled entities of Delta State University.**

- When any person enters the grounds of the University, the use of any smoking material or tobacco product shall cease. The offending tobacco product shall be disposed of in an appropriate receptacle.
- Improper disposal of cigarette or cigar butts, or collateral litter of tobacco-product use, shall also be considered a violation of this policy.
- University grounds include buildings, grounds, parking areas, and walkways.
- Prohibited areas also include athletic fields, tennis courts, golf course, and any other recreational or public areas.

### Notification

- Appropriate notification of this policy shall be made through pamphlets, posters, and other signage throughout the University facilities, grounds and vehicles. All signage must be clearly and prominently displayed.
- The Tobacco-Free Policy shall appear on the website with all supporting information.
- All faculty, staff and student orientation programs, as well as all Freshmen Seminar sections, shall include a workshop on this tobacco free policy using the appropriate University training presentation.

### Support for Tobacco Users

- The University shall provide pro-active support and alternatives for tobacco users in the form of cessation programs either on campus or through allied health programs.
- The Student Health Center shall institute an information program and make available to faculty, students and staff the appropriate means to end smoking.
- Information on programs supported through state or other insurance programs shall be made available to those who seek such services and shall be posted on the University website.

### Enforcement Authority

- All the members of the Delta State University community share responsibility for complying with this policy.
- Specific enforcement of this policy is primarily the authority of the Delta State University Police who are authorized to cite violators of this policy.
- Auxiliary enforcement of this policy is delegated to all University Chairs, Building Managers, Directors, Deans, and Supervisors.
- Auxiliary enforcement includes making individuals aware of this University Policy. It also includes reporting violators to campus police.
- Auxiliary enforcement is an affirmative obligation to ensure that this policy is followed in all University academic and administrative units.
- Violations of this policy should be addressed in a tactful, non-confrontational and compassionate manner. Violations should be reported to any University Chair, Director, Dean, Building Manager, Supervisor, or to the Campus Police and forwarded to the Vice President for Student Affairs.

### Penalties

#### Students:

- Violators will be penalized according to the Student Code of Conduct.
- One or more of the following:
  - a. Probation up to (3) three months
  - b. Assigned work – (10) hours or equivalent in counseling
  - c. Fine – no less than \$25

#### Faculty & Staff:

- Violators of this policy should be advised in a tactful, non-confrontational and compassionate manner.
- Continued infraction by faculty and staff may result in corrective action under the Human Resources Policies and Procedures or other University regulations.

#### Visitors:

- Visitors who violate this policy should be advised in a tactful, non-confrontational and compassionate manner.
- Further violations should be reported to campus police.
- Visitors refusing to comply with this policy may be asked to leave campus.

# ALCOHOL & DRUG ABUSE POLICY

## POLICY STATEMENT

The university's alcohol policies prohibit the purchase, sale and consumption of alcoholic beverages on university property. All members of the university community are obligated to obey these laws, policies and ordinances. Exceptions noted under university sponsored events.

## DEFINITIONS

- **Student:** Includes all persons enrolled at the university whether full-time or part-time.
- **Employee:** Includes all faculty and staff employed whether full-time or part-time.
- **University Community:** defined as all faculty, staff, students, administration, alumni, guests, visitors, and community members.
- **Minor:** defined as persons under the legal drinking age, as defined by the State of Mississippi.

## POLICIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

### Statement of Purpose

At Delta State University, diversity of opinion and freedom of choice involves the exercise of personal responsibility that includes the obligation to make sound judgments regarding the use of alcohol. The abuse of alcohol by members of the Delta State University community is incompatible with the goals of the institution. In order to further the university's commitment to provide a healthy and productive educational environment, DSU has established a policy on alcohol use. This policy is an important and necessary part of the overall commitment of a comprehensive alcohol education program and DSU. In addition to these guidelines, the most important factor in the reduction of alcohol-related problems is the human capacity to act responsibly. Therefore, the university has an expectation that individuals and groups know and understand the risk and liability associated with the consumption of alcoholic beverages.

### Standards of Conduct

This policy applies to all members of the university community and will apply to all activities conducted on the university owned property and at university sponsored events. It is the responsibility of all members of the university community to familiarize themselves and their guests with relevant federal, state, and local laws as well as the standards, procedures, and guidelines for the possession, use, and distribution of alcohol as outlined in this policy.

### University Sponsored Events

The sale, distribution, or consumption of alcoholic beverages is prohibited at all on-campus university sponsored events unless prior written permission is received from the President of Delta State University. Possible exceptions: Capps Building, Wright Art Gallery, Bologna Performing Arts Center, Statesmen Park, Alumni House, Kent Wyatt Building (1st floor only).

### University Equipment

The use, possession, or consumption of alcoholic beverages is strictly prohibited in all university vehicles on or off-campus.

### Health Risks

State University recognizes that alcohol abuse is harmful. Medical research reveals that such behavior is a causative factor in heart, liver, and gastrointestinal diseases as well as in various cancers and brain damage. The abuse of alcohol and other drugs is not only destructive to the physical health, but it also erodes the self-discipline and motivation necessary for learning. Pervasive alcohol abuse creates an environment that is destructive to learning and working.

## Counseling Programs

The university makes available to all its students and employees the services of the Counseling Center (O.W. Reily Health Center, 846-4690).

In addition to offering direct services to students and employees experiencing problems with alcohol or substance abuse, the Counseling Center provides referral services to several centers for alcohol and drug treatment and rehabilitation in the area. In addition, substance abuse programs are offered in the residence hall by the Counseling Center, the Student Task Force Against Alcohol and Drug Abuse, the Delta Community Mental Health Center, DSU Police Department, and the City Police Department.

## WEAPONS ON CAMPUS

The Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning hereby prohibits the possession of pistols, firearms or other weapons in any form by any person other than duly authorized law enforcement officials on its institution premises or at any of its institutions or student functions off campus, regardless of whether such person possesses a valid permit to carry such pistols, firearms or weapons. Also, section 97-37-17 of the Mississippi Code makes it a felony for any student to possess or carry, whether openly or concealed, any firearm on University property.

## SOCIAL MEDIA

Social media responsibility is an important practice for today's students. If used in a positive way, social media channels can be a valuable resource to connect with peers throughout college and as a tool to increase chances of employment after graduation. Negative social media engagement may evoke controversy or bring harm to yours or others' reputation. Always remember to THINK before you share.

### T=IS IT TRUE?

Sharing false information or spreading gossip in a social media circle spells trouble. Incorrect information can complicate a situation or potentially cause harm to you or another person.

### H=IS IT HELPFUL?

Helpful media is positive and poses no threat to individuals or organizations. Sharing constructive and useful information may protect another or brighten their day.

### I=IS IT INSPIRING?

Consider how your message will motivate or appeal to others. Highlight the good things, like volunteering, community activity and warm, fuzzy feelings.

### N=IS IT NECESSARY?

The time is now. Every detail of life does not have to be posted online. It doesn't mean it wasn't fun or didn't happen if it's not shared.

### K=IS IT KIND?

Remember the "Golden Rule." Social media is not a place for name-calling and abuse. Use your manners and treat people with respect.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ON STUDENT GUIDELINES AND REGULATIONS VISIT:**  
[HTTP://WWW.DELTASTATE.EDU/STUDENT-AFFAIRS](http://www.deltastate.edu/student-affairs)