

TEMPLE UNIVERSITY

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Title:	Excessive Sound
Policy Number:	04.34.12
Issuing Authority:	Office of the President
Responsible Officer:	Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer
Date Created:	October 11, 2007
Date Last Amended/Reviewed:	November 2022
Date Scheduled for Review:	January 2024
Reviewing Office:	Office of the Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer

Policy

I. General

It is the policy of Temple University to make certain of its outdoor facilities available for university sponsored events and for events sponsored by registered student organizations and approved external groups. In connection with the use of these outdoor facilities, Temple imposes limitations upon the use of amplified sound in accordance with local noise ordinances and in consideration of the needs of the university and the neighboring community.

II. Amplified Sound Provisions

Amplified sound at the Bell Tower, Liacouras Walk, and O'Connor Plaza is permitted between the hours of 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m., provided that the event otherwise has been approved in accordance with university policies and procedures. The standard for outdoor amplified sound during designated and approved occasions is 90 db at 6 feet. Exceptions to these provisions are subject to prior written approval by the Chief Operating Officer, but under no circumstances should sound exceed 110 db at 6 feet. Such exceptions shall be guided solely by the determination of disruption to university activities and without regard to the content of the speech.

III. Special Considerations

Spring and Fall Events: Notwithstanding the provisions of Section II, amplified sound for one spring and one fall event is permitted from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs should produce a memo to the university community notifying faculty and staff of the dates of these events and encouraging instructors not to schedule exams on those dates.

Welcome Week. Notwithstanding the provisions of Section II, amplified sound may occur at reasonable times during Welcome Week.

Other: Notwithstanding the provisions of Section II, special requests for amplified sound at other times and/or campus locations are subject to review and prior written approval by the Chief Operating Officer or their designee.

IV. Procedure

All requests for the use of amplified sound on any of the Temple campuses must be made through the appropriate space reservation process in the Student Center Operations Office, located in Room 219 or via the Student Center Operations Website at <https://studentcenter.temple.edu>.

This Policy supersedes any previous policies regarding excessive sound. Specifically, if any discrepancies exist between the information in the Student Center Operations Guide and this Policy, the information in this Policy shall take precedence.

Notes

1. History:

Last Amended:

Adopted by the President on October 11, 2007.

Updated and renamed “Excessive Sound” from “Amplified Sound” in December 2017.

Revised and amended in October 2022 to increase the maximum time frame for review of a policy to seven years.

November 2022: Updated to reflect current Bylaws and job titles.

2. Cross References

University Scheduling and Space Management Policy 04.34.11
http://policies.temple.edu/getdoc.asp?policy_no=04.34.11

Use of University Facilities by External Groups: 04.34.01
http://policies.temple.edu/getdoc.asp?policy_no=04.34.01

CHAPTER 10-400. NOISE AND EXCESSIVE VIBRATION
<https://www.nonoise.org/regulation/ordinance/Philadelphia,%20Pennsylvania.pdf>