

FRESNO STATE MEDIA INFORMATION GUIDE

Academic Year 2020-21

Campus access: Due to COVID-19 and guidelines from the California Department of Public Health for institutions of higher education, only authorized students, faculty, staff, visitors and contractors are permitted on campus, and visitors are discouraged from coming to campus during the pandemic. Anyone coming to campus is encouraged to go through one of the on-campus checkpoints for a screening and temperature check. *(The daily health-screening questionnaire is easily accessed through the Fresno State app. For iOS devices, download the app in the Apple App Store. For Android devices, download the app in Google Play.)*

Members of the media planning to be on campus are encouraged to notify University Communications and facilitate the visit by emailing fsnews@mail.fresnostate.edu. Often, we can speed access to the areas and people that are of interest to the media.

As a public institution, the university is generally an open and public place that provides reasonable access to media representatives. However, the university may regulate or deny news media access to prevent disruption to teaching or research; to protect the health and safety of students and staff; to protect the privacy of students and others who live on campus; and to comply with state and federal laws on student and personnel data. The current pandemic has created additional challenges, causing further limitations to who can be on campus.

Access may be denied or limited, and pool cameras or reporting may be required, during an emergency or in situations when the university determines that unrestricted media access may become inappropriately disruptive. Its goal will be for students, faculty and other members of the Fresno State community to carry out their activities with a reasonable expectation of privacy and normalcy while remaining free to speak openly with the media if they choose to do so.

The following guidelines pertain to media access to Fresno State-owned or Fresno State-controlled property. Please note that some university and auxiliary offices are located off campus on non-state property. Guidelines apply to any individual or group conducting interviews, making audio or video recordings or photographic images for dissemination to the public via commercial or noncommercial news and information outlets, including the Internet.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

- **OUR NAME:** We are “California State University, Fresno” or “Fresno State.” Please do not use any shorthand names or initials. Never use CSUF, FSU or Fresno State University.
- **OUR LOGO:** You may use our Fresno State logo with the tagline “Discovery. Diversity. Distinction.” for all purposes, as well as our official University Seal. Please **discard** the “sunburst” logo and the “gold medallion” logos – they are no longer approved logos and have not been for several years.

- **EXPERTS:** Contact Public Information Officer Lisa Boyles Bell (lboyles@csufresno.edu) for help finding an expert.
- **OUR STAFF:** University Communications has two media relations staff and a commitment to help the media as much as we can. Because our resources are limited, we ask your cooperation in making requests to us **in writing** as early and specifically as possible, including your deadline. That will help our staff connect you with the person or find the information you need. We also can provide photos and videos that may be helpful.
- **AFTER-HOURS:** University Communications is open weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. during the academic year and 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. during the summer. When the office is closed, email or text University Communications staffers via cell phones only in the case of breaking campus news. Non-emergency calls or texts after hours or on weekends may not be returned until the next day.
- **RESTRICTIONS** on the use of television cameras, still cameras, flashes and other special lighting and audio equipment may be imposed on a case-by-case basis to minimize disruption or protect safety or security. Equipment is subject to inspection for security concerns.
- **MEDIA VEHICLES** must display a university-issued parking pass and be parked legally. Equipment, vehicles and personnel must not damage university property. Equipment, vehicles and personnel must not impede traffic or access to buildings and fire lanes. **See “Media Parking and Driving on Campus” section for more information.**

MEDIA PARKING AND DRIVING ON CAMPUS

Parking rules are routinely enforced on campus because parking spaces are in high demand and traffic is heavy. It is also important that traffic flow, sidewalks, driveways, fire lanes, disability access should not be blocked. Observe all posted speed limits – 25 mph on roads and 10 mph in parking lots.

Media vehicles must be parked legally. The university will not pay for parking tickets on media vehicles, and it is up to the media outlet to follow through on the citation review process with the Traffic Operations office. Call Traffic Operations at 559.278.2950 with questions about tickets.

Please follow these guidelines when parking on campus:

- University-issued media parking placards must be displayed at all times on campus and should only be used for news purposes. Placards may not be displayed for personal use or used by friends or family of media.
- Media displaying university-issued media placards may park in green (student) or yellow (faculty/staff) lots throughout campus.
- Media parking also is permitted in Lot P17 next to the Thomas Administration Building. It provides an easy walk to the Kennel Bookstore, University Student Union, Satellite Student Union, area outside of the USU, and many classroom buildings. In this lot, you may park in open stalls, including

rideshare (the only location on campus where you are allowed to park in rideshare stalls) or Bookstore vendor spots. Do not park in disabled parking spaces.

- Two clearly marked media parking spots are also available in Lot P31, south of University Center. If you are not in a marked media vehicle, contact Angel Langridge at 559.278.2795 (angel@csufresno.edu) for permission to park in one of these stalls, and she will notify Traffic Operations so you will not be ticketed.

- In addition, we provide the following:

- o For brief stops (30 minutes or less), vehicles displaying University-issued media permits may park in metered or timed stalls and loading areas in back of University Center (Lot P31), Joyal Administration Building (Lot P4) and Satellite Student Union.

- o For all transportation requests call Traffic Operations at 559.278.2950. After 5 p.m., call the Fresno State Police dispatcher at 559.278.8400.

- Media vehicles are strictly prohibited from driving or parking on sidewalks and grass, unless prior approval is received. Parking is prohibited in disabled parking spaces, parking places marked for ride-share permit holders (except in Lot P17) and red zones.

The Campus Master Plan calls for a pedestrian-friendly core campus. To achieve this goal a plan exists to reduce the number of vehicles driving through the core of campus.

The No Drive Zone (includes the Peace Garden, area outside of the USU, Memorial Garden, Maple Mall and Rose Garden) has been identified as the most frequently used route for pedestrians. The only vehicles authorized in the No Drive Zone are emergency vehicles and those transporting people with disabilities.

The Restricted Drive Zone (from Campus Drive and San Ramon Avenues, the west side of Peters, Conley Art and Joyal, along Keats Avenue and to the west side of the Library) has been identified as high traffic for pedestrians, and there should be limited use during 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Mondays - Fridays. Media vehicles driving in the Restricted Drive Zone must get permission from University Communications or University Police.

To see a map that details these areas please go to www.fresnostate.edu/map. If you receive permission to enter the Restricted Drive Zone, you must take routes both into and out of the zone that cause minimal intrusion. Enter and exit from the nearest entry/exit point.

Please use extreme caution when driving on campus. Students often listen to music on headphones, use cell phones or text as they walk and may not hear your vehicle or pay attention to you calling out to them.

We recommend drivers check the campus map before arriving to locate the parking lot closest to your story. A map is online at www.fresnostate.edu/map.

For questions about the policy, please contact Traffic Operations at 559.278.2950.

PUBLIC RECORDS ACT

We endeavor to provide information about the university and its people to the media and the public as quickly as possible upon request. Some questions may require research and/or consultation with university counsel and will be handled as California Public Records Act requests. These requests are processed by the Office of the Vice President for Administration, which receives requests from the public as well as the media. They are handled in the order received, and responses may take several days. To view information about records requests and the California State University Records Access Manual, see <http://www.fresnostate.edu/adminserv/division/about/ca-public-rec-act-req.html>.

NON-RESTRICTED AND RESTRICTED AREAS

The media is generally permitted to film or otherwise have access to spaces on campus that are open to the public, subject to reasonable time, place and manner restrictions.

FULL OR LIMITED ACCESS IS AVAILABLE FOR:

- All campus outdoor sidewalks, green spaces, parking lots and ramps are open to the media for reporting and photography. Vehicle access is limited. See "Media Parking and Driving on Campus" section.
- Campus events, such as lectures, forums and performances that are open to the public. Restrictions may be placed on how much may be filmed, cameras, lights, flashes and other equipment to minimize disruption. Advance notice or credentials may be required.
- Corridors and common areas within university laboratory and classroom buildings.
- Common areas within the University Student Union are open to the media; individual offices in the Union are not.
- If a reporter or photojournalist wishes to enter a private office, he or she must get permission from the person who works in that office.

PERMISSION TO ENTER IS REQUIRED FOR:

- Faculty, staff or student offices or laboratories. Permission to enter must be obtained from the person or persons who work in that office or laboratory.
- Classrooms - Media should request permission from University Communications in advance. If a class is in session, permission for media access must be obtained from the person teaching the class.

Media are allowed in the following locations with express permission from an administrative authority and only with an officially designated university escort:

- Residential areas (see section “Media Access to Residence Halls”).
- Any secured area or laboratory.
- The University farm.
- Student Health Center.
- Intercollegiate athletics venues, including Bulldog Stadium, Pete Beiden Field, Bulldog Diamond, Warmerdam Track, Wathen Tennis Center, North Gym, South Gym, Equestrian Center, Aquatics Center and practice fields, unless media representatives are covering competition as part of their work and have university-issued media credentials.
- Recreational sports facilities, including the Student Recreation Center.
- The Save Mart Center.
- Inside libraries, museums or other areas where quiet study is enforced or where collections may be endangered by media activity or equipment.
- Inside any venue charging admission, unless the individual is a paid ticket holder. In these cases, members of the media must abide by the policies applicable to all ticket holders.
- Inside private functions that are not open to the public.
- Inside any university facility that is not open to the public, including utility operations, waste facilities, maintenance and repair facilities and public safety facilities.
- Any area designated as restricted and/or, marked as a construction area, crime scene or hazardous or unsafe location.

MEDIA ACCESS TO RESIDENCE HALLS

Permission is required at all times for media access to Fresno State housing, including campus residence halls. Even with permission of a resident, media must be escorted by Student Housing or University Communications staff once authorization is granted by the university. Unescorted media will be asked to leave.

Escorted media may film in, or report from, the common areas (lounges, dining areas, corridors) of residence halls.

Media must have permission from the occupant(s) of individual living quarters to enter, report from or film that space.

Media may film or solicit interviews on the public sidewalks or common areas outside of residence halls and apartments. In some special situations, media access to these areas may be limited to protect privacy, health or safety.

To obtain permission to enter a residence hall, call University Communications at 559.278.2795 during business hours Monday-Friday. For other information about residence halls, contact Student Housing at 559.278.2345.

NOTE: Campus Pointe student housing is not administered by the university. For access, contact Palmilla at 559.291.4000 and Palazzo at 559.291.6400.

RELEASE OF STUDENT INFORMATION

Federal law, state law and California State University policy govern access to student records. Under these laws and policies, some information is considered public and some is considered private. However, it is possible for students to suppress some or all public information by requesting nondisclosure.

All media requests for information must be directed to University Communications at 559.278.2795.

In most cases, the following student information is **public** unless the student has flagged his/her records as confidential:

- Name
- Major field of study
- Enrollment status (full time or part time; undergraduate or graduate)
- Academic awards and honors
- Most recent educational institution attended
- Participation in officially recognized University sports and student activities

In most cases, the following student information is **private**, unless the student has signed a release, such as for athletics promotion purposes:

- ID and Social Security number
- Birth date
- Gender
- Grades
- Courses taken
- Schedule
- Test scores
- Advising records
- Educational services received
- Disciplinary actions
- Photographs
- International status

COMMERCIAL FILMING ON CAMPUS

Fresno State's large, park-like campus makes it an ideal setting for filming for commercial purposes. Special advance permission is required. This policy can be found at fresnostate.edu/mapp/iii/d/d-08.pdf, section 14.0. For more information, contact Angel Langridge (angel@csufresno.edu) in University Communications at 559.278.2795.

*University Communications
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