

Gambling Statement

Policy Statement

Gambling, with only a few highly regulated exceptions, is illegal in Missouri (RSMo § 527). Illegal gambling of any form is not allowed at Washington University in St. Louis.

Purpose

The Campus Life Gambling Statement was created to ensure all student group programming is abiding by Missouri law and aligns with the undergraduate code of conduct.

Audience

All undergraduate student groups and organizations at Washington University in St. Louis.

Policy Implementation

Groups wishing to reserve University space for fundraising events involving games, including poker tournaments, “casino nights,” and other games commonly played in a casino must abide by the following guidelines.

Games may not include all three of the following elements.

- Consideration – The exchange of something of value for the opportunity to participate in the game. Consideration includes donations that are “requested” but not “required”.
- Chance – The winner is chosen by “luck” with little or no skill or ability. In Missouri, poker is considered a game of luck.
- Prize – Any benefit, cash or property awarded to a winner.

Game rules must be clearly described to participants before play begins.

Alcohol may not be served or consumed during the event.

Events may only be open to University students, faculty or staff.

Examples of acceptable gaming events:

- Ex. #1: Poker Night with admission fee (i.e. consideration), but no prizes. Admission fee and “winnings” must go to recognized 501c (3) charitable organization. Participants and non-charitable hosting organizations may not profit or win prizes.
- Ex. #2: Casino Night without admission fee/exchange of money (i.e. Consideration). Prizes may be awarded to winners.

Compliance

For non-compliance with the guidelines above the student group will be subject to sanctions of limited future event and space approval or other sanctions at the discretion of Campus Life and the Division of Student Affairs.