



## Tailgating Policy

Effective Date: August,  
2016; amended  
September, 2022

Office: Office of Athletics,  
Office of Athletic  
Development

**PURPOSE:** This section should include reason or rationale for the policy.

The Tailgating Policy is designed to help ensure a safe, family friendly game day environment as a part of the UIndy experience.

**SCOPE:** Who is affected by this policy or needs to read it?

University students, faculty staff and visitors

**DEFINITION:**

Tailgating is defined as an on-campus social gathering of people in a designated area, for a specified, limited time period, when and where food and alcoholic beverages may be consumed prior to an intercollegiate game in accordance with the Tailgating Policy.

University students, faculty staff and visitors

**REFERENCE DOCUMENTS/RELATED INFORMATION:** List any other policies or information that should be cross referenced.

## **POLICY STATEMENT:**

State the policy here. The policy statement should include the principles of the policy: what is permitted or prohibited, what is required, or how issues will be handled. If viewers read only this section, they will know that the policy is and how it extends to the university. How-to procedures can be elaborated in a Procedures section.

Tailgating at UIndy is a part of the celebratory atmosphere surrounding home intercollegiate athletics competitions. The tailgating policy is designed to provide a safe environment to ensure that tailgating remains a part of the UIndy experience.

It is the policy of the University that tailgating is permitted at all home football games and the spring football scrimmage/Game in the Key Stadium Lot (Lot 17) and the Lot adjacent to the Athletics Development Office (Lot 23).

Tailgating eligibility for any other home athletic event must be determined 30 days in advance and approved by the Alcohol Review Committee. To request a tailgate for a home athletic event, complete the Tailgate Request Form (to be created) and submit to Matt Donovan at [mdonovan@uindy.edu](mailto:mdonovan@uindy.edu).

If external groups (i.e., high schools renting Key Stadium) would like to host a tailgate as a part of renting University facilities, the high school must also submit a tailgate request.

The Alcohol Review Committee consists of the following: Office of General Counsel, Office of Risk Management, Office of Mission, Office of Student Affairs, Office of University Events, Office of Athletic Development and a representative from the Shaheen College of Arts & Sciences. The Alcohol Review Committee will inform the applicant about the decision and any additional safety provisions the Committee requires. Upon approval, the applicant must acknowledge and sign the policy and parameters and return to the committee.

## **Alcohol Use at Approved Tailgates:**

- The University prohibits the consumption or possession of alcoholic beverages by underage persons; nor does it sanction or permit the violation of federal, state, or local laws, or University policy.
- Participants in approved tailgates must follow all relevant laws and policies, including but not limited to, not serving alcohol to anyone less than 21 years of age, not giving alcoholic beverages to any obviously intoxicated person, and not driving while intoxicated.
- Any participant who consumes alcoholic beverages at approved tailgates must be able to produce a valid driver's license or other photo ID that reflects the person's age upon request.
- Tailgaters shall not carry or consume any alcoholic beverages outside of the designated tailgate lots.

- Alcohol will be permitted in the designated tailgating lots beginning two hours prior to the start of the game and at halftime.
- All beverages, including alcohol, must be in plastic cups/plastic bottles. All alcoholic beverages must remain in coolers or closed containers.
- Persons who supply alcohol to underage drinkers may incur criminal and civil liability.
- No alcohol is allowed inside Key Stadium or any athletic venue unless approved by the Alcohol Review Committee.
- No kegs or common sources of alcohol is permitted -- this includes any drinking apparatus, such as "beer bong."
- No sale of alcohol is allowed unless specifically approved by the Alcohol Review committee.
- Drinking games are prohibited.

### **Parking and Vehicles:**

- A \$10 tailgating fee will be charged per car for all tailgaters entering the approved tailgating lot without a reserved space parking pass. No exceptions will be made. It is the responsibility of the reserved space holder on record to distribute parking passes to guests.
- A \$20 tailgating fee will be charged per recreational vehicle (RVs), buses, trailers, box trucks and any vehicles exceeding a length of twenty-two (22) feet and height of eight (8) feet. However, these kinds of vehicles are not allowed in the UIndy Key Stadium Parking Lot 23. Parking areas for such vehicles are recommended in the South Lots, outside of the Key Stadium tailgate area in the surrounding parking lots. Contact Athletic Development (317) 788-3359 ([mdonovan@uindy.edu](mailto:mdonovan@uindy.edu)) for more information on parking for vehicles over 22 feet in length.
- Vehicles are not permitted to park in travel lanes on roads or parking lots. All travel lanes, sidewalks, and disability access routes must be kept clear to allow for free, unobstructed flow of vehicles and pedestrian traffic.
- Vehicles shall not reserve spaces for other motorists. Vehicles that are illegally parked and/or left unattended following the closure of the tailgate area are subject to removal by UIndy and/or its designees at the expense of the owner.
- Golf carts, mopeds, scooters, ATVs and go-carts are not permitted in all parking lots for safety reasons. UIndy is not responsible for any damage or loss of any vehicle.
- Other than for the football games approved by this policy, the University will not reserve parking spots or clear parking lots for tailgates.

### **Security:**

- University Police will patrol the tailgating areas to check for violations of the policy and ensure that fans and spectators are abiding by the regulations the University has set for tailgating.

- If anyone becomes disruptive, or is intoxicated they may be required by University Police to leave the game and the campus.
- The tailgate experience must wrap an hour after the completion of the contest.
- UIndy reserves the right to remove any tailgating participant from University premises at any time and for any reason, including violations of this or other University policies.
- The University reserves the right to require outside security/police for tailgating requests.
- The University may also request any vehicles or equipment to be moved or relocated so as to provide an accessible pathway through the event area, and also to address any safety concerns that may arise.
- Consumption of alcohol outside designated areas and/or time periods constitutes a violation of the Tailgating Policy. Violators are subject to prosecution under the University of Indianapolis Code of Student Conduct, and/or the laws of the City of Indianapolis, the laws of the State of Indiana, and any other applicable laws.
- The University accepts no liability for any and all issues including but not limited to, violations of law, damage or destruction of property, including personal injury and/or death.
- All patrons are subject to search. All items brought into the athletic venue are subject to search. Refusal of any guest cooperation will result in non-admittance into the venue.
- It is the responsibility of each tailgate party to secure all personal items prior to entering the stadium. Security is not provided once the game has commenced. It is strongly recommended that you lock up your valuables when entering the stadium. The University is not responsible for any items left unattended at any time at your tailgate.

#### **Sound and Entertainment:**

- Amplified music and speakers are not allowed at tailgate parties. All portable music must be turned off no later than the start of the game. Tailgaters are encouraged to contact University Police Dispatch at (317) 788-3333 when music from another tailgate party becomes a nuisance.
- Live musical bands are not allowed at tailgating sites (unless approved by the University).
- UIndy reserves the right to terminate any music that is deemed inappropriate.
- Due to limited space bouncers or any inflatable structures are not permitted in any tailgating lots without approval by UIndy Athletics.

#### **Tents:**

- Due to limited space, tents larger than 10' x 10' are not permitted unless approved by UIndy Athletics. Permits are required for any tent that is larger than 10x10. Failure to register an oversized tent or inflatable structure may result in immediate dismissal from the grounds by UIndy officials. If your group has questions about tent use, contact Athletic Development at (317) 788-3359 ([mdonovan@uindy.edu](mailto:mdonovan@uindy.edu)).

- Staking or placing holes into the parking lots are not permitted.
- No tents or other items may be placed in travel lanes, sidewalks, or disability access routes.

### **Food/Grilling:**

- Tailgaters may bring their own picnic items and food to their tailgate areas. Grilling is permitted but all grills must be elevated. The area within ten (10) feet of any grill shall be kept clear of all debris. Grills shall be located a minimum of twenty-five (25) feet away from combustible structures and ten (10) feet away from non-combustible structures.
- All fires must be contained within grills, no open fires or fire pits permitted. All coals must be removed from campus--no dumping of any coals is permitted at any time on University premises.
- No food may be sold without proper University approval.
- Grilling may be prohibited in a time of drought or extremely dry conditions. Should this be an issue, proper announcements will be made by the University.
- Owner assumes all responsibility associated with their grill. Owner must have a fire extinguisher at his/her tailgate location.
- All trash must be disposed of in the proper receptacles. UIndy and/or its designees may terminate the use of any grill at any time.
- All grills used at tailgates on UIndy's campus must have metal covers/lids.
- Fires in all grills must be thoroughly extinguished prior to leaving the grill unattended.
- Tank valves must be shut off prior to disconnecting propane cylinders from barbecue grills. Propane cylinders shall be removed from all grills prior to storage.

### **Clean Up:**

- All groups are responsible for making sure their designated tailgating areas are cleaned before departing the tailgating lot.
- All trash should be placed in proper receptacles.
- All coals must be removed from University premises and shall not be dumped or disposed of on University property.

### **Prohibited Items:**

- Deep fat fryers or smokers
- Ignition of any type of fireworks is not permitted so as to not endanger persons, buildings, structures, property, brush, automotive vehicles and/or equipment, etc.
- Glass containers
- Advertising vehicles or signs (without the consent of UIndy Athletics.)
- Apparel, souvenirs, food or beverage for sale
- Weapons

- Pets (with the exception of service animals).

### **Conduct:**

- Failure to follow the Policy may result in ejection/trespass from the stadium, revocation of ticket privileges, and/or arrest.
- Although Season Ticket Holders may provide their tickets to others, the account holder of record is responsible for the actions of those using his/her tickets.
- At its discretion, the University and/or its representatives and designees may terminate tailgate parties, or take other appropriate actions toward individuals, groups, or organizations whose conduct is in violation of or conflict with the outlined UIndy Tailgating policies and regulations, and/or local/state/federal ordinances or laws.
- Failure to comply with directions from UIndy officials (i.e. administration, faculty and staff or Key Stadium staff) may result in initiation of UIndy Student Conduct Code proceedings; result in UIndy Student Conduct Code sanctions, and UIndy Police Department or IMPD involvement. (See attached Key Stadium Code of Conduct).
- Students and/or student organizations must adhere to all conduct responsibilities set forth in the UIndy Student Conduct Code upon entering or occupying University-owned, leased or controlled premises. Any student and/or student organization found in violation of the UIndy Tailgating Policies will be cited and/or referred to the UIndy Office of Student Affairs. Individual students and/or student organizations are subject to sanctions as outlined in the UIndy Student Conduct of Code.
- Guests must adhere to all UIndy rules, and the hosting student/student organization is responsible for all of their guests' actions. It is the responsibility of the hosting student/student organization to inform their guest(s) of these rules. The host will be held financially responsible for the actions of and/or damages caused by a guest, and is subject to referral to the UIndy Office of Student Affairs for violations resulting from guest behavior.
- In the University's sole and absolute discretion, guests may be prohibited from entering University property and/or ejected at any time (Section Two, Article III, Student Conduct Code).
- All patrons are subject to search. All items brought into the Stadium are subject to search. Refusal of any guest cooperation will result in non-admittance into the stadium. UIndy is not responsible for items left behind at the gate or items lost, stolen or damaged.
- The University of Indianapolis is committed to enhancing and promoting integrity, civility, ethical conduct and good sportsmanship amongst fans, students and players attending the game(s)/event(s).
- The University of Indianapolis is committed to the ideals of good sportsmanship and fair play. We ask that all persons show respect for the opposing team, game officials and each other. Persons throwing objects or participating in other acts in conflict with good sportsmanship and fair play are subject to ejection from University premises. The cooperation of all participants and guests is expected and greatly appreciated.

**Solicitation:**

- Solicitations of any kind within UIndy facilities or on UIndy premises are prohibited unless specifically approved in writing by UIndy Athletics. No banners, raffles or products (food, drink, apparel, etc.) from tailgate areas or parking lots may be shown, promoted, advertised or sold unless authorized by UIndy Athletics in advance of the event. Approval is only recognized if you have a letter approving the activity signed by the Athletic Development.
- Political signage that implies endorsement of any political candidate or any political issue may not be displayed nor may political materials be distributed without prior approval by Athletic Development.
- Corporate tailgates may identify their company on their tailgate location only with written approval by UIndy Athletics. For more information please contact Athletic Development at (317) 788-3359 ([mdonovan@uindy.edu](mailto:mdonovan@uindy.edu)).

**Risk Management:**

Groups/Individuals tailgating must follow these risk management policies:

- Do not transport individuals in the back of trucks.
- Have food available to avoid the effects of drinking alcoholic beverages on an empty stomach.
- Provide plenty of non-alcoholic beverages.
- Educate all group members and guests about tailgate policies.
- Call 911 in case of emergency

**Reservation of Rights:**

The University of Indianapolis expressly reserves the right to amend this policy at any time with or without advance notice.

The University reserves the right to remove from its premises any individual engaging in conduct that is illegal and/or conduct that violates this or other University of Indianapolis policies.

The University reserves the right to clear all tailgating lots at any time for any reason, and may make immediate changes to its athletic event policies concerning the issuance of passes out of any venue at any time and for any reason.