

1. What is the clear bag policy?

To enhance public safety and make accessing various venues more efficient, NAU has adopted a clear bag policy for major events. When the policy is in effect, each attendee may bring into the venue a NAU-branded or similar clear drawstring bag no larger than 16" x 18" when flat, a clear tote bag no larger than 12" x 6" x 12", or a one-gallon resealable plastic freezer bag (Ziploc or similar). One clear bag per person is allowed, along with a small clutch purse for privacy. All items guests wish to bring into the venue, including clear bags, are subject to being searched prior to entry. Please refer to nau.edu/clearbag for a list of clear bag events and for more information about allowed and prohibited bags and items.

2. Why did Northern Arizona University adopt this policy?

NAU adopted a clear bag policy to enhance public safety at its various venues and to speed attendee access when the policy is in effect. This proactive measure will enhance security inside and outside of venues where larger events take place while making the security screening process more efficient for all.

3. How does the clear bag policy improve public safety?

Clear bags are more easily and quickly screened. And because prohibited bags will be turned away, any prohibited bag inside the venue will be highly visible so it can more easily be examined to resolve safety and security concerns. This policy also supports the Department of Homeland Security's "If You See Something, Say Something" campaign.

4. How do clear bags improve guest convenience?

The clear bag policy enables safety personnel to move guests through security checkpoints faster, allowing staff to be more efficient and effective at checking bags when the policy is in effect for major events. Shorter lines mean quicker entry and fewer hassles and frustrations.

5. Do I have to purchase a clear bag from the venue when the policy is in effect?

There are a variety of options, including a clear NAU-branded or similar drawstring bag no larger than 16" x 18" when flat, a clear 12" by 6" by 12" tote bag, or an inexpensive one-gallon Ziploc bag. In addition, guests may carry a small clutch purse for privacy. Clear bags are available for purchase from the NAU bookstore.

6. How many bags may an attendee bring into the venue?

Each guest may carry one (1) clear bag plus a small clutch purse (approximately 4.5" x 6.5"). The small clutch purse allows for privacy for small personal items and is easily searched.

7. May attendees carry cameras, binoculars, smartphones or tablets separately from what they place in a clear bag?

These items may be carried into the venue as long as they are not in a bag or case. For example, while binoculars and cameras are allowed, the binocular case or camera case is not allowed. This is not a restriction on items, only a restriction on the type of container used to carry the items. The point is to make it easy for security personnel to screen your items.

8. Are seat cushions/backs permitted in the venue?

Only approved seat cushions/seat backs may be carried into the venue. Large traditional seat cushions that have pockets, zippers, compartments, or covers are not permitted. Seat cushions and seat backs without pockets, zippers, compartments, or covers that are 18" in width or less are permitted.

9. May I bring a blanket and extra jackets or clothing into the venue?

Guests may bring these items by tossing them over a shoulder or arm. Items that are folded must be opened and inspected prior to gaining entry into the venue.

10. What happens if I show up at the entry with a bag or item that is not permitted?

Guests carrying a prohibited bag or item will not be permitted inside the venue and will need to return their prohibited bags or items to their vehicle and transfer their belongings to an approved clear plastic bag before being allowed to gain entry to the venue.

11. What about medical bags and medically necessary items?

All medically necessary items are allowed in all venues. Medically necessary items may be carried in a non-clear medical bag. All medical bags and items are subject to proper inspection by security personnel.

12. Are all purses prohibited?

Small clutch purses (approximately 4.5" x 6.5") with or without a handle or strap are permitted along with one permissible clear bag per person. This should enable guests to carry the same items they have in the past while expediting entry into the venue for all attendees. NAU encourages fans not to bring any bags at all to major events on campus but has sought to implement a policy that appropriately balances the needs of our guests with safety and security requirements.

13. Do I have to put everything I'm carrying into an allowed clear bag?

NAU limits only the type of bags carried into the venue, not the items that you would normally bring to a particular event. You may carry items such as keys, makeup, feminine products, comb, phone, wallet, credit cards, etc. in your pockets or jacket if you choose not to use a clear bag or clutch purse. You may carry a blanket over your arms and binoculars and/or a camera around your neck or in your hands as long as these items are not in a case. Guests may use a clear bag and/or a clutch purse to carry other permissible items. Attendees continue to have the flexibility to bring a wide variety of approved items into the venue. Every member of your party may carry a permissible bag. The key is to not conceal items inside carrying cases, prohibited bags, or bulky containers.

14. What about diaper bags, baby carriers, and strollers?

When the clear bag policy is in effect, NAU requires that diapers and other baby supplies be carried in an approved clear bag. Each member of a family, including children, are allowed to carry one approved clear bag and a clutch purse into the venue. Strap-on baby carriers with an infant present are permitted, but as with all items, are subject to security screening. Umbrella strollers with an infant present are permitted but large or oversized strollers are not allowed.