

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS (GACR)

NAU COMMUNITY FAQ

WHAT IS GACR?

Our mission is to promote and advance, through continued relationship building in the community and all levels of government, the strategic initiatives and goals of Northern Arizona University (NAU).

We serve as the university's central source of contact with public policy makers, government officials, and community leaders.

GACR is responsible for day-to-day communication with the White House, Congress, the Arizona State Legislature, the Office of the Governor, and local governmental entities. We communicate NAU's priorities to elected officials and their staff and ensure that the president of the university is apprised of all key developments.



Government Affairs and Community
Relations

WHAT IS LOBBYING?

While the definitions differ among federal, state, and local governments, it is safest to use the following: **attempting to influence the passage or defeat of any legislation, policy, or funding by directly communicating with any elected official, some appointed officials, or the staff of elected/appointed officials.** Lobbying may include preparation or background activities such as research for the development of legislation or arguments for/against policies.

MAY I LOBBY ON BEHALF OF THE UNIVERSITY?

No. State law requires NAU (and all public entities) to register employees who lobby on behalf of the university.

GACR registers a designated lobbyist and a few individuals as authorized lobbyists, in compliance with state and federal regulations. These are the only individuals who can lawfully lobby on behalf of the university.

GACR is responsible for meeting all reporting requirements. Civil penalties can be assessed on individuals for noncompliance.

Registration is not required if you are providing technical information or answering questions at the request of a designated or authorized lobbyist.

Phone: **602-298-4056**

Email: GovernmentAffairs@nau.edu

Web: <https://nau.edu/government-affairs-community-relations/>

CAN I ENGAGE AS AN INDIVIDUAL?

Absolutely. You can engage in the public policy arena in your individual capacity provided no public resources are used, you are on your own time and are not acting on behalf of the university.

CAN I CONTRIBUTE TO A POLITICAL CAMPAIGN?

Yes. As a member of the public, campaign contributions are allowed, and campaign reporting generally falls on the candidate to report.

MAY I INVITE ELECTED OFFICIALS TO SPEAK AT OR ATTEND A CAMPUS EVENT?

Yes! NAU has much to be proud of and we welcome elected and appointed officials to campus.

Please contact GACR before extending the invitation, and it is recommended you consult with the university's legal counsel, as all applicable laws, policies, and protocols still apply.

GACR interacts daily with elected and appointed officials and the university is likely to have several of our priorities in front of these individuals at any given time. It is important that we work together to present a unified message, avoid duplicating efforts, and support each other's work to further NAU's mission.

We want to maximize these types of visits and ensure that each visitor leaves our campus as an advocate for the university.

WHEN IN DOUBT?

Call/Email us. We are happy to work through details and provide guidance as individual situations arise.