

Liberty University

Policy for Fireworks Display Outside and Inside Use of Pyrotechnics Before a Proximate Audience



PURPOSE & SCOPE

Liberty University is committed to providing a safe environment for everyone who works or visits our campus. The objective of this policy is designed to protect life, health, and property at Liberty University from fires caused by the use of fireworks and pyrotechnics. This policy provides procedures by which fireworks may be safely displayed and/or discharged outdoors and indoors (Proximate Audience) upon Liberty University campus and Liberty owned or leased facilities or properties.

POLICY

No fireworks display will be allowed on university properties unless authorized by the Environmental Health & Safety Department under the Office of Security & Public Safety and all provisions for safe fireworks display or pyrotechnic special effects as outlined in this policy are met. Random use of any fireworks or pyrotechnic special effects on Liberty University properties is prohibited.

Organizations, groups, and individuals sponsoring outdoor public display of fireworks or indoor proximate audience pyrotechnics on any Liberty University owned or leased property or in any building owned or leased by Liberty University shall comply with the rules, regulations and procedures as outlined in this policy, as well as all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations. Other types of fireworks not complying with this policy are expressly prohibited on the Liberty University campus or external Liberty University owned or leased properties. Storage or possession of any fireworks and pyrotechnics by any non-licensed individuals is not permitted at the University.

OVERSIGHT

Liberty University Department of Environmental Health & Safety and/or The Lynchburg Fire Marshal's Office has the authority to suspend or terminate fireworks or other pyrotechnic displays at any time upon their own discretion when a fire/safety issue is observed. Fireworks and pyrotechnics cannot be discharged when wind speeds are in excess of 20 miles per hour.

PROCEDURES

Fireworks and pyrotechnics can only be displayed or discharged at the University by individuals licensed to do so and only then after the site and activity has been approved by the Environmental Health & Safety Department (EHS) and the City of Lynchburg Fire Marshal's Office (LFMO). The City of Lynchburg Fire Department Application for Fireworks Display Permit found at <https://www.lynchburgva.gov/permits> and supporting documents must be completed **45 DAYS PRIOR TO THE EVENT** for review and approval by the EHS department. Once approved by EHS an approval letter along with the application and supporting documents will be submitted to the Fire Marshal's office for approval. There is a fee imposed by the LFMO for these permits and the requesting LU department or fireworks contractor will be responsible for paying this fee.

Note: The LFMO will not approve the application without the prior approval of LU EHS.

Additionally, licensed individual(s) and/or firms conducting the fireworks and pyrotechnics must have a bond or insurance that has been reviewed and approved by the University's Office of Risk Management.

In addition, LU EHS and/or the LFMO approval may stipulate certain conditions or precautions that must be followed to launch the fireworks. If conditions are not followed or it takes time to get proper safety controls in place, the fireworks/pyrotechnics **will not** be launched until said conditions have been met and launch is authorized by the Director of Environmental Health & Safety or designee. Approval for a specific date and time is not transferable to any other date, time, or activity. Coordination with EHS is also required to assure notification of all emergency service agencies.

COMPLIANCE WITH POLICY:

Failure to comply with the requirements of this policy may result in disciplinary action up to and including termination or expulsion in accordance with relevant University policies and may result in prosecution in accordance with state and federal law. This includes complying with the applicable adopted version of the Virginia Statewide Fire Prevention Code along with the associated legal proceedings to restrain, correct, or abate such alleged violation.

Questions about this policy should be directed to [Environmental Health & Safety](#) at lusafety@liberty.edu or 434-582-3389.