



## EXPECTATIONS OF CONDUCT DURING MEETINGS OF THE UNC BOARD OF GOVERNORS

The UNC Board of Governors encourages members of the University community and the general public to attend official meetings of the Board and its committees. To help protect public access to official meetings and promote the open transaction of public business—in keeping with both the letter and spirit of the North Carolina Open Meetings Act—the Board of Governors expects all members of the Board, the University community, and the public to conduct themselves in a manner that is respectful of fellow attendees, the Board, and University staff.

The University makes every effort to accommodate public attendance. Open seating is generally available for members of the public and the University community, who may use any unoccupied seat that is not reserved for Board members, staff, special meeting attendees, or members of the news media. Official meetings may also be viewed via video, where available, especially when facility space constraints are a concern.

Meetings of the Board of Governors and its committees are public meetings, rather than public hearings. Anyone is welcome to observe the open sessions of official meetings, but participation is limited to members of the Board and designated staff.

Individuals and groups may direct comments and input to the President and University staff in writing by accessing the [BOG Public Comment Link](#). All such correspondence will be carefully reviewed. Those with comments or concerns pertaining to a UNC System constituent institution are also encouraged to direct their comments to the chancellor, staff, and/or board of trustees of that institution.

Attendees at official meetings, committee meetings, or public comment sessions of the Board of Governors cannot lawfully engage in conduct that distracts, disrupts, impedes the transaction of Board business, or interferes with the rights of others to observe and listen to the proceedings. Freedom of speech is a cherished right, respected by the Board and codified in law. Intentional disruption of public business, however, is not protected.

An individual who violates these standards, as determined by the presiding officer or other designated official, will be directed to cease the disruptive conduct. Failure to promptly end the disruptive conduct or voluntarily depart the meeting upon request may result in removal from the meeting room and the possibility of arrest and prosecution. In the event that a meeting is

so interrupted, the presiding officer may temporarily suspend or recess the meeting until regular order can be restored.

Furthermore, as part of continuing efforts to protect public safety, security officers will prohibit public visitors from bringing the following items into meeting rooms:

- Backpacks, duffels, suitcases. Visitors carrying these items will be directed by security officers to return items to their vehicles or visit another day. Employees and credentialed media are not affected by this policy but are subject to search.
- Any sign or object larger than 18 inches by 18 inches. Materials to be utilized by presenters for a scheduled agenda item may exceed these size restrictions.
- No bullhorns or other amplification devices.
- No sticks, posts, poles, pipes or other such items, even if attached to signs or other objects.
- No item(s) that may create a building maintenance problem or a fire or safety hazard.