

Frequently Asked Questions

Policy on the Privacy of Student Social Media Accounts

1. What is the purpose of the policy?

The policy has been adopted to ensure that Goucher is in compliance with Maryland legislation that addresses privacy in a student's use of social media. Many departments use social media to connect with students, including in academic, athletic, career-based and other college activities. The purpose of this policy is to protect student privacy interests while permitting the use of social media for these purposes.

2. What kinds of social media activity does this policy apply to?

The policy applies to any social media that enables users to participate in social networking by exchanging content with other users, such as but not limited to LinkedIn, Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat, YouTube, Flickr, Instagram, Tumblr, and Vine.

3. What kinds of actions does the policy prohibit?

The policy prohibits faculty and staff from requiring a student or prospective student to grant the college

5. Can a Facebook page be created for athletic teams, classes, clubs or admitted students?

Yes, provided that the employee establishes the account and restricts it to others in the team, class or club, and follows the guidance above by allowing the student to create a generic Facebook account to log in to that account.

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Questions about this policy should be directed to the [Office of the Vice President and Dean of Students](#).