

Students' Bill of Rights

These rights are guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution and Federal Equal Access Act:

1. The Right to Meet with Other Religious Students

The Equal Access Act allows students the freedom to meet on campus for the purpose of discussing religious issues.

2. The Right to Identify Your Religious Beliefs through Signs and Symbols

Students are free to express their religious beliefs through signs and symbols on clothing and other personal articles.

3. The Right to Talk About Your Religious Beliefs on Campus

Freedom of speech is a fundamental right mandated by the U.S. Constitution and does not exclude the public school campus.

4. The Right to Distribute Religious Literature on Campus

Distributing literature on campus may not be restricted simply because it is religious.

5. The Right to Pray on Campus

Students may pray alone or with others so long as it does not disrupt school activities, or is not forced on others.

6. The Right to Carry or Study Your Bible on Campus

The Supreme Court has said that only state-directed Bible reading is unconstitutional.

7. The Right to Do Research Papers, Speeches, and Projects with Religious Themes

The First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution does not forbid all mention of religion in public schools.

8. The Right to be Exempt

Students may be exempt from activities and class content that contradict their religious beliefs.

9. The Right to Celebrate or Study Religious Holidays on Campus

Music, art, literature, and drama that have religious themes are permitted as part of the curriculum for school activities if presented in an objective manner as a traditional part of the cultural and religious heritage of the particular holiday.

10. The Right to Meet with School Officials

The first amendment to the U.S. Constitution forbids Congress to make any law that would restrict the right of people to petition the Government (school officials, in this case).

*** Information taken from the Students Legal Rights and the Public School, by the American Center for Law and Justice, 1995.*