

RS.1.6 Texas A&M-RELLIS Multiple-Occupancy Private Space Designation and Use



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Standard Summary

This standard provides guidance on the designation and use of private spaces according to sex, as defined in Texas Government Code, Title 10, Chapter 3002. The standard applies to all members of the Texas A&M-RELLIS (RELLIS) community, including students, faculty, staff, contractors, and visitors, and governs the use of RELLIS private spaces in buildings that are owned, operated, or controlled by RELLIS.

Definitions

Female means an individual who naturally has or will have or had or would have but for a congenital anomaly or an intentional or unintentional disruption, a reproductive system designed to produce, transport, and provide eggs for fertilization.

Male means an individual who naturally has or will have or had or would have but for a congenital anomaly or intentional or unintentional disruption, a reproductive system designed to produce, transport, and utilize sperm for fertilization.

Multiple-occupancy private space means a facility designed or designated for simultaneous use by more than one individual and in which an individual may be in a state of undress in the presence of another individual, regardless of whether the facility provides curtains or partial walls for privacy. This includes multiple-occupancy restrooms, locker rooms, changing rooms, or shower rooms.

Sex means an individual's biological sex, either male or female.

Single-occupancy private space means a facility designed or designated for use by only one individual at a time, in which the individual may be in a state of undress. This includes single-occupancy restrooms or changing rooms.

Standard

1. GENERAL

Multiple-occupancy private spaces, specifically restrooms, locker rooms, changing rooms, or shower rooms, will be designated for use only by individuals of one sex, male or female. RELLIS Administration may change the designation of a multiple- or single-occupancy space with appropriate notice and signage.

2. DESIGNATION REQUIREMENTS

2.1. Private Space Designation

- 2.1.1. Private spaces must be properly designated with RELLIS Administration approved signage posted on or near the entrance of the private space.
- 2.1.2. Single-Occupancy Private Spaces owned, operated, or controlled by RELLIS may be designated as either male, female, or unisex.
- 2.1.3. Multiple-Occupancy Private Spaces owned, operated, or controlled by RELLIS must be designated for use only by individuals of one sex.

3. PROHIBITIONS

- 3.1. The use of a multiple-occupancy private space by an individual whose sex is opposite to the sex designation of the multiple-occupancy private space is prohibited, unless the use meets an exception or an accommodation outlined in Section 4.
- 3.2. Employees and students who aid or facilitate others in their willful violation of this rule may face disciplinary action.
- 3.3. The use of electronic or other devices to make an audio, video, still frame, or photographic record of any person without their prior knowledge, or without their effective consent when the person or persons being recorded have a reasonable expectation of privacy and/or such recording is likely to cause injury or distress is prohibited. Such a recording may constitute a criminal offense under Texas Penal Code § 21.15. *Invasive Visual Recording*.

4. EXCEPTIONS AND ACCOMMODATIONS

- 4.1. Certain individuals may enter private spaces designated for the opposite sex for the purpose of:
 - 4.1.1. Providing custodial services;
 - 4.1.2. Performing maintenance;
 - 4.1.3. Inspecting facilities;
 - 4.1.4. Providing medical or other emergency assistance, which includes medical assistance provided by athletic trainers, team physicians, or other medical personnel designated by the institution to provide such services;
 - 4.1.5. Assisting an individual who needs assistance using the facility;
 - 4.1.6. Performing law enforcement duties;
 - 4.1.7. Rendering assistance to prevent a serious threat to order or safety.
- 4.2. Individuals with a disability

4.2.1. A qualified individual with disabilities may request reasonable accommodation in accordance with University SAPs 08.01.02.M0.02 and 08.01.02.M0.04.

4.3. Young children

4.3.1. A child nine years of age or younger may enter a multi-occupancy private space designated for the opposite sex of the child when accompanied by an individual caring for the child.

5. REPORTING VIOLATIONS

5.1. Potential violations of this policy should be reported to [EthicsPoint](#). Employees who are notified in writing of a potential violation of this policy must notify RELLIS Administration within one business day of receiving the notification.

5.2. Violations of this standard may result in corrective or disciplinary action as prescribed by system policies and regulation, and System administrative procedures.

Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

[Tex. Gov. Code, Title 10, Ch. 3002, *Regulation of Individuals in Certain Spaces and Facilities According to Sex*](#)

[Texas Edu. Code, § 51.209, *Unauthorized Persons; Refusal of Entry, Ejection, Identification*](#)

[Texas Penal Code § 21.15. *Invasive Visual Recording*](#)

[Texas A&M University 34.01.99.M1 *Multiple-Occupancy Private Space Designation and Use*](#)

Contact Office

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System Approval

Approved:



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Date