



## **LGBT at the University of Kansas-FAQ's**

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What is it like for the LGBT and allied communities at the University of Kansas? Below we have included answers to some of the most frequently asked questions regarding the campus climate for the LGBT community at KU.

### **Are sexual orientation and gender identity included in the non-discrimination policy?**

Sexual Orientation is included and gender expression was recently added to KU's non-discrimination policy.

<https://documents.ku.edu/policies/hreo/Nondiscrimination.htm>

In addition, the city of Lawrence also includes sexual orientation in its non-discrimination policy.

<http://lawrenceks.org/mission>

### **Does KU provide gender-neutral/single occupancy restroom facilities in administrative and academic buildings?**

No

### **Are there active LGBT organizations on the KU campus?**

Yes, there are currently two LGBT student organizations on campus. Queers and Allies is a student (mainly undergraduate) organization that has existed on KU's campus for over 30 years.

<http://groups.ku.edu/~qanda/>

KU OUTlaws and Allies is an organization devoted to creating a welcoming environment for LGBT students and faculty and their allies within the University of Kansas School of Law and to provide a forum for the exploration of and education in diverse legal issues.

<http://www.ku.edu/organizations/popup-2007.shtml?org=8164>

### **Is there a campus office for LGBT students?**

The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) Resource Center is a clearinghouse of information regarding issues affecting the LGBT community - as well as our straight friends, family members and allies. The LGBT Resource Center provides information about organizations and support services on campus, locally and nationally, a resource library, information about news and upcoming events, educational and awareness programming, outreach and advocacy and individual peer counseling as scheduling permits.

<http://www.silc.ku.edu/lgbt/index.shtml>

### **Does KU have a full-time professional staff member who is employed to support LGBT students and staff?**

No, KU has a part-time graduate student position in the LGBT Resource Center within the Student Involvement and Leadership Center.

### **Are there LGBT sensitive counseling services available?**

Yes, the Office of Counseling and Psychological Services provides affirming and sensitive individual counseling to members of the LGBT community (request queer-friendly counselor).

<http://www.caps.ku.edu/~caps/counseling/>

**Does KU have an LGBT Faculty/Staff group?**

No

**Are other campus offices accepting and inclusive of LGBT students?**

Many KU staff and faculty have graduated from the KU Safe Zone Program. The Safe Zone program at the University of Kansas is an educational program that will help educate both the campus and greater Lawrence community in order to create a safer, more civil community for all individuals, particularly our gay, lesbian, bisexual, & transgender (LGBT) members.

The contact information for the KU Safe Zone graduates is listed on our webpage for greater accessibility: <http://www.silc.ku.edu/lgbt/safe.shtml>

**Are there activities and programs offered on campus that specifically address LGBT issues?**

Yes. The LGBT Resource Center, The Emily Taylor Women's Resource Center, and Queers & Allies offer regular LGBT programming and events.

<http://www.silc.ku.edu/lgbt/index.shtml>

<http://www.etwrc.ku.edu/>

<http://groups.ku.edu/~qanda/>

**Is there a procedure for reporting LGBT-related hate crimes or bias incidents?**

There is not a specific procedure for reporting LGBT-related bias incidents. However, since sexual orientation is included in KU's non-discrimination policy, the incident would be reported using the KU Discrimination Complaint Resolution Process.

[http://www.hreo.ku.edu/policies\\_procedures/eo\\_aa/discrimination\\_resolution](http://www.hreo.ku.edu/policies_procedures/eo_aa/discrimination_resolution)

**Does KU offer LGBT-specific courses through various departments and programs?**

Yes. At KU there are typically several classes offered every semester throughout many departments and disciplines. KU also recently added a Human Sexuality minor that examines the cultural representations and individual experiences of sexuality and includes topics such as sexual attitudes and behaviors; sexual orientation and identity; transgender, transsexual, and intersexual identities and queer theory.

For an up-to-date schedule of classes, please follow this link:

[http://www.womenandgender.ku.edu/requirements/minor/HSXL\\_minor.shtml](http://www.womenandgender.ku.edu/requirements/minor/HSXL_minor.shtml)

**Does KU offer domestic partner benefits?**

No

**What is the general campus and community climate for LGBT people at KU and in Lawrence?**

In 2006, the University of Kansas was named one of the best 100 campuses in the nation for LGBT students in the book, *The Advocate Guide for LGBT College Students*. Additionally, the city of Lawrence was ranked number 7 in the article, "Perfect 10: College Towns" from the *Out Traveler* magazine (fall 2008 issue).

***Campus Contacts:***

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**LGBT Resource Center**

The Student Involvement & Leadership Center

Kansas Union, Room 400

Phone: (785) 864-2497

E-mail: [lgbt@ku.edu](mailto:lgbt@ku.edu)

**Queers and Allies**

<http://groups.ku.edu/~qanda/>

**OUTLaws and Allies**

<http://www.ku.edu/organizations/popup-2007.shtml?org=8164>