

Election day – 150 Foot Rule

Massachusetts state law and regulations prohibit electioneering, campaigning, and specific other political activities within one hundred fifty (150) feet of a polling place on Election Day. The statutes and regulations which make up these prohibitions are collectively known as the 150-foot rule. Clothing and other wearable campaign materials are not allowed within the polling place.

(MGL C54 §65) (C.M.R. § 52.03(22)(c), 54.04(22)(c))

Prohibited Activities

Under state statute and regulations, a person may not do anything within 150 feet of a voting location designed to aid or defeat a candidate or question being voted on in that location.

Prohibited activities include:

- Holding certain political signs
- Wearing certain political apparel (t-shirts, hats, buttons, pins, stickers, etc.)
- Handing out campaign literature
- Distributing stickers for write-in campaigns
- Shaking hands or otherwise greeting voters (while being a candidate on the ballot)
- Asking voters to vote in a certain manner
- Hindering or interfering with voters who are voting or on their way to vote
- Soliciting signatures on any type of petition – whether or not it pertains to the current election

The circles below represent 150ft from each of the entrances to the polling place. Campaigning will not be allowed within any of the circled areas.

