

# Auburn University

Office of Trademark Management & Licensing  
Policies and Procedures

## **Policies and Guidelines for Recognized Student Organizations**

Use of Auburn University's name or other Auburn trademarks with an organization name implies association with the University. Therefore, only those student organizations that are officially recognized by the SGA are allowed to use AU trademarks in conjunction with their name. (see <http://www.auburn.edu/sga/organizations/> )

Some of Auburn's federally registered trademarks include the words or word phrases AUBURN, AUBURN UNIVERSITY, AUBURN TIGERS, and WAR EAGLE, plus the INTERLOCKING AU logo, TIGER EYES logo and others. To ensure consistency in the use of the University's name and logos, all products, signage, or packaging bearing reference to Auburn University must be produced by manufacturers licensed through the University's licensing agent, the Collegiate Licensing Company (CLC). Only officially licensed manufacturers carry appropriate product liability insurance naming Auburn as an additional insured.

As of July 1, 2008, royalties are no longer charged on campus purchases of AU product that meet the criteria listed below. However, the requirement to use vendors under contract with AU Licensing is still in place and is necessary to effectively manage the University's valuable marks and brand. All artwork must be submitted by the licensed vendor to AU Licensing for approval before production. For Procurement & Payment services to pay your invoice, departments must submit a copy of Licensing's approval along with the invoice. Please be sure to obtain a copy of the design approval from your licensed vendor.

### ***Royalty exempt purchases include:***

- Any AU product purchased by campus departments with University funds and not resold to the general public. The product must bear the department name and/or reference to the campus event for which it is being purchased.
- AU items purchased by SGA recognized student organizations. Only recognized organizations are allowed to use AU's name and other marks. Organization name must be on the product.

### ***Royalty bearing purchases include:***

- Any AU product that will be sold, even for fundraising purposes.
- Any generic AU product that does not bear campus department, campus event or student organization name.
- Any AU product purchased by entities that are not official campus departments such as booster clubs, alumni clubs, summer camps, etc.

Licensing policies cover all AU related merchandise with the exception of printed paper materials covered under the policies of AU's Office of Communications & Marketing (OCM). AU related brochures, pamphlets, stationery, note cards, and banners fall under OCM's printing policies and require only the approval of their office. However, if any of these printed materials will be made available for sale, such as calendars and cookbooks, this merchandise will have to comply with AU's licensing policies and the printer of these pieces will have to be licensed

through the University's licensing agent. The licensing process for these types of campus projects is easy to work through. Call AU's Office of Trademark Management & Licensing for more information.

***Procedures for Obtaining Art & Product Approvals:***

- The University has more than 500 licensed manufacturers nationwide with numerous in-state and locally licensed companies. A list of AU licensees can be found at [www.auburn.edu/trademarks](http://www.auburn.edu/trademarks) .
- If you cannot find a manufacturer that offers the product you desire, call AU's Licensing Office for assistance at 844-5180 or e-mail [autrademarks@auburn.edu](mailto:autrademarks@auburn.edu) .
- Take your desired artwork to a licensed manufacturer or ask the licensee to assist you in designing the look you desire.
- The licensed manufacturer will submit your design to AU's Licensing Office for approval and remit royalties (if applicable) to the University's licensing agent.
- If there are questions concerning your design, contact AU's Licensing Office at 844-5180 or e-mail [autrademarks@auburn.edu](mailto:autrademarks@auburn.edu) .

***Policies Concerning the Approval of AU Related Artwork:***

- To protect Auburn University's trademarks and promote a consistent visual identity, AU logos, symbols and marks may vary in size, but cannot otherwise be altered, tampered with, modified, incorporated into other marks, or overprinted with other words or design elements.
- The Auburn University Seal is allowed only on official University documents and occasionally on upscale quality merchandise.
- Any recognized student organization wishing to purchase product that bears University trademarks for an event they are hosting, must incorporate the organization or department name in the design or on the product.
- Use of a current student-athlete's name on commercial merchandise is a violation of NCAA rules and may result in the student-athlete being declared ineligible. Any use of a student-athlete's name, nickname, or picture must be approved by the AU Athletics Compliance Office. Contact Mr. Mark Richard at 844-9523.
- Use of intellectual property owned by a third party must be approved by that entity in writing and submitted to the Licensing Office along with the desired artwork. For example, if you wish to use artwork, slogans, or trademarks created by someone not associated with your organization, a written release allowing for such use is required before Auburn will grant design approval. This type of approval process often takes weeks, so allow enough time for such approval to be obtained.
- Recognized student organizations may include a sponsor name/logo along with University trademarks on products and certain forms of advertising. However, the student organization's name must be included in the design to communicate that the

relationship is a partnership with a particular group and not an endorsement by the University as a whole. Based on the scope of the program, a rights fee may be assessed to the sponsor to associate its name with Auburn University.

- The University reserves the right to disapprove orange t-shirts/sweatshirts that are used for promotional purposes.