

Snow Removal Policy

Division: Finance and Management
Responsible Office: Facilities Operations

Date Established: 10/31/2017
Date Last Revised: 04/24/2026
Date Posted to Library: 11/12/2017

POLICY SUMMARY

This policy defines procedures for systematic and prioritized removal of snow and ice from surface areas at Buffalo State University.

POLICY STATEMENT

Every effort will be made to ensure that all campus roads are accessible for emergency vehicles throughout the snow removal process. Clearing of snow from curb to curb and clearing of parking lots and walkways may be performed later in the process, but initially the focus will be on making roads accessible for emergency vehicles.

Snow abatement crews are placed on duty 24/7, from mid-November through late March of each year. Surface conditions are monitored by University Police and maintenance personnel to effect timely responses to emerging weather. Forecasted weather conditions are addressed by scheduling additional snow abatement personnel during weather events.

Priority order of plowing is as follows:

1. Campus roads as well as designated Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) access points
 2. Parking lots
 - a. Faculty/staff lots
 - b. Student/visitor lots
 - c. Residential/overnight lots
 3. Walkways
 - a. Building entrances – accessible entrances
 - b. Building entrances – all others
 - c. Main pedestrian spine – Bengal Walk, Rockwell Walk to Plaza
 - d. Walks along Rockwell Road, Iroquois Drive and Grant Street
 - e. Ancillary connecting walks
- Building entrances will be cleared and salted by custodial staff, up to 20 feet away from buildings.
 - When roads become icy, salting will begin. When icy surface conditions are anticipated, pre-salting may take place.
 - When the depth of snow on the roadways is approximately three inches, plowing will begin.
 - When the depth of snow in parking lots is three to four inches, parking lot plowing will begin.

Snow Removal Policy

- Faculty/staff, student/visitor and residential/overnight parking lots will be cleared simultaneously as crews and equipment become available. During heavy snowfall it may be necessary for crews to continually return to plow campus roadways and egress lanes from parking lots. Areas lower on the priority list may not be cleared until the snowfall subsides.
- It is not possible to plow parking spaces while parking lots are occupied with cars. When snow falls during a workday, the priority will be to keep parking lot entrances and aisles open. The parking spaces will be cleared, and full parking lot clean-up will occur, overnight after cars have departed the lot.
- Plowing of residential/overnight parking lots is a more challenging task than clearing lots for commuter students, faculty or staff. Parking access in residential lots is typically a 24/7 requirement. Resident students are encouraged to adhere to the posted alternate parking schedule.
- The plan for snow removal may change based on emerging needs, time of day, day of week, residence hall occupancy, ADA compliance, special events, scheduled class needs and general university operations. Higher levels of campus activity decrease surface access and thus impair abatement efforts.
- The City of Buffalo clears Grant Street and Rees Street (south of Rockwell Road), along with Letchworth Street (west of Grant Street).
- Determinations regarding whether [classes will be cancelled](#) or parking restrictions required will be communicated by university administration by 6:00 a.m. on the day in question.

Designated Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Access Points Priority access sites comply with the ADA and are in the closest proximity to designated accessible parking lots. These areas, noted as accessible entrances on the campus map, are maintained on a continual basis and have a high snow removal priority, along with roadways.

RELATED PROCEDURES

[Emergency Closings Policy](#)

[Campus map](#)

[Overnight Parking](#)

CONTACT INFORMATION

Phone: (716) 878-6111

Website: <https://facilities.buffalostate.edu/>

E-mail: facilities@buffalostate.edu

APPROVAL

Buffalo State University President's Cabinet, 10/31/2017

REVISION HISTORY

Date of change: 04/16/2026

Brief description of edit: Reformatted to ADA Accessible Template