Content Warning: Some of the following resources contain discussions of homophobia, transphobia, racism, and violence.

Over the past couple of decades, many colleges and universities have vastly improved in terms of campus climate for LGBTQ+ communities, and more than ever, students, faculty, and staff are living openly as LGBTQ+.

In spite of these improvements, transphobia and queerphobia, as well as cisnormative and heteronormative policies, are still frequent fixtures throughout the United States and, as a result, on college campuses. Many individuals are still unable to come out as LGBTQ+, fearing repercussions that include professional discrimination, harassment, and physical violence. Experiences of transphobia and homophobia can have detrimental and lasting impacts on an individual’s physical, emotional, and social well-being, and a negative campus climate has been causally linked to issues with recruitment and retention of LGBTQ+ students, especially queer and trans Students of Color. As is evident in the SafeZone “Campus Safety and Climate” video, UofA is not immune to these issues, and LGBTQ+ students continue to experience marginalization on our campus.

The implementation LGBTQ+-affirming policies coupled with on-going commitment to challenging all instances of heteronormativity and cisnormativity, racism, xenophobia, sexism, ableism, and classism on campus is vital in making any campus a safe, supportive environment for all LGBTQ+ students, faculty, and staff.

Looking for more information or resources about improving campus climate and safety for LGBTQ+ community members?

General

Campus Pride Index: University of Arizona

“Effective LGBTQ Strategies for a Safer, More Welcoming Campus” – Campus Pride

“LGBTQ Students on Campus: Issues and Opportunities for Higher Education Leaders” – American Council on Higher Education

“Consortium of Higher Education Recommendations for Supporting Trans and Queer Students of Color” – LGBTCampus.org


Demographic Data Collection and Forms

“Respectful Collection of Demographic Data” – Sarai Rosenberg

“Good Practices: Demographic Data Collection” – University of Maryland LGBT Equity Center

Event Planning

“How To Plan Trans-Inclusive Events” – Riley J. Dennis

“Queer It Yourself: Pronoun Buttons” – Allison Marie Turner

“Best Housing Practices for Off-Campus College Trips” – Genny Bemyn
Department-Specific

Academics

- “Creating an LGBTQ-Inclusive Classroom” Lib Guide

Admissions and Financial Aid

- “Advising LGBTQ Students Through the College Admissions Process” – Campus Pride
- “Implications of Quantifying Sexual Orientation during the Admissions Process” – Campus Pride
- “How to Obtain a FAFSA Dependency Override for LGBTQ College Students” – Andrew Salman

Athletics and Campus Recreation

- Campus Sports Pride Index
- GO! Athletes
- “Campus Pride Scorecard: How LGBTQ-inclusive are your Intercollegiate Athletics and Recreational Sports” – Campus Pride

Campus Health

For more information, see the LGBTQA+ Inclusivity and Healthcare Resource Guide.

Fraternity and Sorority Life

- “Checklist for a Climate of Acceptance within the College Sorority” – Shane L. Windmeyer and Pamela W. Freeman
- “Checklist for a Climate of Acceptance within the College Fraternity” – Shane L. Windmeyer and Pamela W. Freeman
- “Trans Inclusion Policy: Key Recommendations for Fraternities & Sororities” – Campus Pride
- “Sample Greek Ally Commitment” – Campus Pride
- “LGB Questions to Ask your National Fraternity/Sorority” – Campus Pride
- “How Homophobia Hurts the College Sorority” – Shane L. Windmeyer and Pamela W. Freeman
- “How Homophobia Hurts the College Fraternity” – Shane L. Windmeyer and Pamela W. Freeman

Religious Life

For more information, see the Religion and LGBTQA+ Identity Resource Guide.

Residential Life

- “8 Steps to Improve Campus Housing for LGBTQ Students” – Karen M. Williamson-Garvey and Steve Wisener