

Boston Pride for the People

Parade Rules and Regulations

Date: Saturday, June 8, 2024 starting at 11:00am.

*Check in time: Parade participants should plan to be in place by 9:00am.

Parade route: The final parade route will be posted on the Boston Pride for the People website by May 1, 2024. The planned route is very similar to the route the parade has taken in prior years. It begins on Boylston Street in Copley Square, proceeds through the South End via Clarendon and Tremont Street, returns to Boylston Street via Berkeley Street, and continues to Boston Common at Charles Street.

Staging area: The area for parade marching contingents to gather and organize will be along Boylston Street, between Dartmouth Street and Massachusetts Avenue. Some side streets intersecting with Boylston Street will be utilized as well.

OUR MISSION

BP4TPs mission is to amplify the beauty, rich diversity, unique culture, and intersectionality of the LGBTQ+ community through empowerment, education, commemoration and celebration

- **Empower** through creating LGBTQ+ community, and a culture of respectfully reaching across differences to support and love one another.
- **Celebrate** and honor the rich, diverse, creative, and fabulous culture of LGBTQ+ communities, and impart knowledge of LGBTQ+ history and a sense of pride among LGBTQ+ youth.
- **Commemorate** the Stonewall riots and memorialize the queer, trans, Black, Indigenous, and People of color (QTBIPOC) activists at the forefront of the 20th century lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, asexual, plus (LGBTQ+) movement.
- **Educate** on the presence and impacts of oppression and commit to disrupting and dismantling systems that cause harm to LGBTQ+ people, especially LGBTQ+ people who face multiple forms of marginalization.

PURPOSE OF BOSTON PRIDE FOR THE PEOPLE PARADE

The purpose of the Boston Pride for the People Parade is to commemorate the brave LGBTQ+ people who risked their safety to advocate for the lives and humanity of LGBTQ+ people, to celebrate the richness and complexity of LGBTQ+ community, and to continue to advocate for equity and inclusion for LGBTQ+ people, especially those who face intersecting forms of oppression. The BP4TP Parade is a sacred space for LGBTQ+ people, their families, and allies.

The BP4TP Parade is a community-centered, non-commercial space.

WHO SHOULD APPLY FOR REGISTRATION

- LGBTQ+ student groups and other educational community groups
- Community groups and nonprofits who support LGBTQ+ welfare, LGBTQ+ culture, and intersectional social justice advocacy
- LGBTQ+ employee resource groups (ERG's) or affinity groups
- Politicians and their supporters
- Individuals
- LGBTQ+ bars, clubs, and entertainment spaces

Supporting the mission and purpose of BP4TP and the BP4TP Parade and Festival.

In order to participate in the 2024 Boston Pride for the People Parade and Festival, all organizations, affiliates, and individuals must:

- Support the mission and purpose of the Boston Pride for the People organization and Parade.
- Abide by all Parade Rules, Terms and Conditions as outlined below.
- Acknowledge that a failure to honor the mission and purpose of the BP4TP Parade, or a failure to comply with the Rules, Terms and Conditions, could result in penalties, including exclusion from current and future events, as well as financial penalties.

Eligibility. All applicants must meet category eligibility requirements as outlined above. Non-Profit applicants will be required to provide a charity or non-profit registration number. Should there be a dispute, BP4TP reserves the right to deny an application.

Right to refuse applications

In an effort to make the Parade more accessible, we are limiting the size of the Parade and shortening the route. Due to space limitations, on a first come, first serve basis, priority will be given to LGBTQ+ groups and groups that serve LGBTQ+ welfare. BP4TP reserves the right to refuse any Parade application without liability.

The act of receiving an online registration application shall not be deemed to impart or imply any obligation for BP4TP to accept any bid or application. Upon approval of an application, the successful applicant will be notified via email of their acceptance and admission into the 2024 Boston Pride Parade. If payment is not made with your application, it may become void and the next application on the waiting list will be advanced.

Groups determined by BP4TP to be hate groups, including those designated as such, by the Southern Poverty Law Center, will not be permitted to sponsor or participate in any BP4TP events.

RULES, TERMS AND CONDITIONS

All parade participants will comply with the rules and regulations of the parade and staging

area.

Contingent group leaders. All contingents are required to supply at least one group leader for every 25 participants to 1) inform all participants in their group of the Parade rules, terms, and conditions; 2) ensure that parade rules, terms, and conditions are observed, 3) assist in safety measures, especially keeping group participants away from vehicles and floats; and 3) facilitate the forward movement and pacing of the contingent. Contingents without the necessary number of group leaders will not be able to participate.

Orientation meeting. Leaders from each participating group must attend an orientation meeting to discuss parade participation rules, safety, staging information, and information on disassembly.

Contingent definition and size. Each contingent may represent only one organization and may display only one organizational banner. Affiliated/partner organizations must register separately. Groups desiring to march with other groups must state that in the “Special Requests” field of the application. No parade entry may be reassigned to a third party without the express written approval of BP4TP.

All groups are limited to 75 marchers. Size of groups will be reviewed by BP4TP Parade Monitors. This rule is in place to facilitate Parade participation by marchers and spectators with disabilities and generally make the parade more accessible for everyone. We respectfully ask all groups to adhere to this guideline. Violating this rule may affect future participation in the BP4TP parade.

Staging area. All entries will be inspected in the parade staging area. All contingents must meet requirements as specified in the Parade rules, terms, and conditions. Contingents that do not meet requirements will not be permitted to participate in the Parade. Participants and contingents are responsible for cleaning up their part of the Staging Area. Please do not leave food packaging, drink cups, or any other trash in your staging area. Contingents that violate this rule will be charged a clean up fee.

Banners, signs, and messaging. Each contingent must be preceded by a banner displaying the organization’s name.

Contingents and floats cannot display logos or trademarks from third party businesses or organizations

Employee Resource groups (ERG’S) and affinity groups are valuable mechanisms for LGBTQ+ employee advocacy and support. The Pride Parade is a sacred space for LGBTQ people, their families and allies. Participation in the Parade should center on the ERG’s mission, not providing marketing for the company. ERG’s must be led by a banner that clearly indicates that the group is an LGBTQ+ employee group. The company logo can appear on the banner, but should be smaller than the ERG’s name. ERG’s are encouraged to include messaging that supports their mission and educates the public on LGBTQ+ employee rights.

Messaging in all forms -verbal, written, imagery, performative, or otherwise – must be consistent with the mission of BP4TP and the purpose of the BP4TP parade. Messaging that disparages any group, constitutes hate speech, promotes, condones, or incites hatred or violence is not permitted. Groups engaging in such messaging will result in immediate dismissal and removal from the Parade.

Parade favors and promotional items. participants may not throw objects of any kind (confetti, candy, promotional items, beads, etc) during the parade. Items are not to be thrown from floats or other vehicles. Items can be directly handed to spectators.

Parade pacing. All contingents are required to maintain a continuous forward motion during the parade. Do not stop unless directed by BP4TP Parade monitors. All performances or maneuvers must be “on the move.” NO GAPS between parade units.

Respectful behavior. Participants shall always conduct themselves in a respectful and courteous manner in the staging area and on the Parade route.

Drugs, alcohol, illegal behavior. It is illegal to possess or consume alcohol or drugs while participating in the BP4P Parade on Boston City streets. Please discourage fellow participants from consuming alcohol or drugs prior to or during the parade

Illegal behaviors and/or violations of the law will not be permitted in the BP4TP Parade staging area, along the route, and in the disassembly area. You will be responsible for any fines, fees, arrests, injury, or imprisonment that may occur if you break these or any other laws. Violations of the law will be the immediate cause for dismissal from the BP4TP parade.

Animals. All animals must be on a leash and attended to at all times. Participants are responsible for animal waste cleanup. Failure to clean animal waste will result in a fine. Remember to bring sufficient water and food for animals. Foot pads for dogs are encouraged.

Solicitation. Parade participants (excluding BP4TP) are not permitted to solicit money along the parade route.

Prohibited items, devices, and materials. Contingents and participants may not use any apparatus, device, equipment, or material that may in any manner, due to either negligence, recklessness or intent, be dangerous or cause injury to any persons, pets, or property along the Parade route. BP4TP has the sole right to determine whether such apparatus, device, equipment, or material is consistent with this provision and whether it may require immediate removal.

Pyrotechnics, cylinders or any type of compressed gasses or fuels (e.g. liquid propane, helium, nitrous oxide, acetylene), propane generators, gasoline generators, open flames, confetti, paper

streamers, fog machines, strobe lights, and water guns, water balloons or spraying of water from contingents are expressly prohibited. Parade participants may not possess weapons of any kind in the staging area or parade.

Safety. Parade participants must make provisions for safeguarding their goods, materials, equipment, and vehicles at all times. BP4TP shall not be liable for any participant's failure to safeguard their property, and the Participant agrees to indemnify and hold harmless BP4TP for any failure to make such provisions.

Amplified sound. Contingents and participants may not operate amplification equipment or voice or audio reproducing equipment that would cause disturbance to other participants, spectators of the Parade, residents and businesses in the Staging Area, and/or reach more than allowable levels according to government regulations. While in the Staging Area, Participants are permitted to conduct brief sound checks on audio equipment, but cannot play music continuously through their audio system. This will be strictly enforced and offenders will be issued a citation after the first warning. BP4TP has the sole right to determine whether a Participant is operating in a manner consistent with this provision and has the right to order the immediate cessation of such activity.

Parade disassembly. At the end of the parade all contingents are to travel to the end of the disembarking zone (Charles St). Participants are to follow directions to either of the Festival Areas in the Boston Common or City Hall Plaza. Participants are NOT TO WALK AGAINST PARADE ROUTE PROCESSION or through Parade Crowd/Spectators to reach their destination.

Removal of participants. BP4TP reserves the right to remove any contingent and/or person(s) from the staging area or parade that, in Pride's opinion, is offensive, a hindrance to the progress of the parade, places other participants in danger or violates any rules, terms, or conditions of this application.

Floats and Vehicles

Vehicle and float condition. All vehicles must be clean and in working condition. We encourage vehicles be decorated, but please don't block driver's view

Floats are to arrive ready-made with only the last touches being applied within the staging area.

Vehicle breakdown. Towing charges for any contingent vehicle that becomes disabled and / or delays the Parade will be at the contingent's expense.

Driver license. The driver of each vehicle must possess a valid Driver's license in the class appropriate to the vehicle, proof of which must be submitted when checking in for the parade. Any driver who is unable to produce a valid license or insurance will not be permitted to join the Parade.

Insurance and registration. Each contingent vehicle that participates in the parade must possess appropriate automobile and liability insurance; proof of insurance must be on display for inspection on the day of the Parade. All vehicles must have proof of current vehicle registration and will be asked to provide it onsite. Vehicles without these documents present onsite will not be permitted to join the Parade.

No drugs or alcohol. All floats and vehicles must be free of drugs and alcohol. Any driver who is found to be intoxicated, under the influence of illegal drugs or in possession of controlled substances or alcohol will be removed from the Parade.

Float dimensions. Respect the maximum authorized vehicle sizes. Per City of Boston regulations, no vehicle in the Parade is allowed to exceed the following size limits: 9 feet in width, 12 feet in height, and 30 feet in length. In addition, only one flatbed is allowed per registered vehicle: combinations of trailers, or flatbeds and trailers will not be allowed.

All floats must be inspected by a Boston Police Officer, as well as the building inspector. Floats that do not meet regulations set by the city, state or BP4TP Rules, Terms, and Conditions will not be permitted in the Parade.

Float safety. Participants may not jump on and off the float. Participants are not permitted to ride on the front bumpers of vehicles.

All floats and trucks must have handrails or a stabilizing line to prevent participants from falling off the float

All floats must have on board a dry chemical extinguisher and a basic first aid kit.

Generators: Floats carrying generators must obtain a generator permit, comply with city ordinance, and must be inspected by a City electrical inspector. Failure to pass this inspection will mean the equipment cannot be used.

Protective gear. The participant agrees that all drivers of motorcycles, or any other vehicle that requires protective gear, must wear the appropriate required gear, including helmets, while operating their vehicles.

Sirens. Sirens are not permitted

Other Terms and Conditions

Right to refuse applications. In alignment with our mission, priority will be given to community groups, nonprofits and/or businesses that are led by or center the LGBTQ+, disabled, and/or POC communities. The act of submitting an application or receiving an email acknowledgement of submitting an application is not a guarantee of space in the BP4TP Parade. Failure to submit all required documentation and/or payment upon approval may cause your application to be

rejected. BP4TP retains the right to refuse any Parade application without liability.

Payment. All applications must be submitted with payment made in full within 24 hours of applying. Any applications submitted without payment will be rejected. If your application is submitted with payment in full but is not accepted, a full refund will be sent via the original payment method within ten business days of the decision, plus any applicable bank processing time.

Hold harmless/indemnity. All contingents are responsible for any and all acts and / or omissions on their part, or on the part of their agents, marchers, volunteers and / or employees that may result in injury or damage to themselves, their agents, marchers, volunteers and / or employees or to third parties. Contingents specifically agrees to indemnify and to hold BP4TP and the City of Boston and its agents, volunteers, and employees free and harmless and to defend it from any and all claims arising out of such acts or omissions.

Rain or Shine/Right to cancel event. Please note the Parade and Festival are “rain-or-shine” events. BP4TP does not assume any liability for bad or inclement weather or other factors outside of its control. No participant fees are refundable in the event of cancellation. As it deems necessary, at its own discretion, BP4TP retains the right to cancel or modify Pride events at any time, in part or in full, without liability. **Refunds cannot and will not be made for any reason whatsoever.**

Violation of rules, terms, and conditions. Contingents or participants who breach any of the rules, terms, and conditions may be banned from participating in present or future BP4TP events.

Liability Release. BP4TP is not liable for any damage caused by BP4TP, its employees, subcontractors, or agents to parade participants. Participants are liable for any damage they cause to BP4TP, its employees, or agents, or to the City of Boston, its employees, or agents . No limitation of liability or indemnity provision applies to this Contract. Damage includes any injury to persons (including injury resulting in death) or loss of or damage to property (including real property) caused because of or during the performance of the Contract.
