



Inflatable Rides/Devices Guidelines and Requirements

Inflatable rides/devices such as bounce houses are a source of entertainment that are occasionally requested by University and student organizations to be used as a part of various events. The host department/organization (Host) is responsible for being in compliance with the following guidelines in order to help ensure the safety of our students, employees, and guests using these type of devices while on UH campus or at a UH sponsored event.

Host Requirements

If a UH department or student organization is renting an inflatable:

- Ensure that all inflatable rentals are only through a reputable vendor.
 - The Texas Department of Insurance (TDI) will have information on who is a reputable vendor.
 - TDI information: <https://www.tdi.texas.gov/commercial/indexamusement.html>
 - Host is to ensure that any vendors supplying inflatables are in compliance with applicable rules and regulations.
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- Discuss with rental vendors if there are any specific safety rules that apply to the rented inflatable.

Applicable for use of all inflatables, both owned and rented:

- Ensure that the inflatable is placed in a safe, flat location free of debris, branches, and power lines.
- Make sure that only trained operators are managing the equipment.
- Be sure to read and comply with all manufacturer instructions and safety information.
- Have disposable sanitary wipes, hand sanitizer, and a first aid kit available.
- Ensure that all equipment is securely fastened to the ground.
- Inspect the inflatable for any damage or wear, such as rips, tears, or loose seams.
 - If you notice any damage, then do not use the inflatable.
- Keep everyone out of the blower area at all times.
- Do not attempt to move the inflatable by yourself.
- Check all electrical cords used at least once during the event to ensure it does not become unplugged.
- During the event, continuously monitor the inflatable for any signs of deflation or damage.
 - Cease use of inflatable immediately if any issues are seen.
- If participants are engaging in risky behavior while using the inflatables, then they must be removed immediately.
 - Risky behavior includes, but is not limited to: Flips, somersaults, or roughhousing.
- Ensure to ban prohibited items such as shoes, anything sharp, food, gum, or drinks.
- Keep an eye out for deflation
 - Ensure air pressure of inflatable is kept at acceptable levels to avoid any deflation.
- Responsible for monitoring the weather
 - The use of inflatables is strictly prohibited in any rain or wind event.
 - It is the Host's responsibility to ensure that if there is any rain or winds higher than 15mph, that the inflatables are not used by anyone.

- Review any instructions and warning labels and ensure compliance with all safety measures.
 - Host should ensure any employees or volunteers working the event are aware of and follow the safety protocols
 - Ensure weight limits and load capacity limits are being strictly adhered to.
- Always ensure that spectators are remaining outside of the inflatable, at least five feet away.

Inflatable Rental Company Requirements

Inflatable vendors doing business with the University, or with student organizations hosting events on University owned property, must:

- Comply with TDI regulations.
- Carry insurance per the requirements/limits below.
- Have current Amusement Ride Compliance stickers.
- If any stakes longer than 16 inches in length are being used, vendor must contact Texas811 at least 2 business days prior to the event.
- Is responsible for set up and operation of the inflatable and assume liability for setup and use.
- Provide detailed training to all UH staff/volunteers involved with the inflatable.
- Ensure that the inflatable is firmly secured to the ground.
- Ensure that the inflatable is placed in a safe location, free of debris or power lines.
- Ensure that the blower and power supply are stored safely away from foot traffic.

It is the responsibility of the Host to ensure that the inflatable company submits a certificate of insurance that complies with the following limits and endorsements:

Insurance Coverage	Minimum Limits Required
Commercial General Liability	
<i>Each Occurrence</i>	\$1,000,000
<i>Personal/Advertising Injury</i>	\$1,000,000
<i>General Aggregate</i>	\$2,000,000
<i>Damage to Rented Premises</i>	\$50,000
<i>Medical Expense</i>	\$5,000
Commercial Automobile	
Automobile Liability Combined Single Limit	\$1,000,000
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must cover all vehicles used for transport.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• If a personal insurance policy is being used, must include a “business use” endorsement
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Certificate of Insurance

University of Houston must be included as an Additional Insured on the vendor’s General Liability and Auto Liability. The policy must include a Waiver of Subrogation endorsement in favor of the University.

Additional Requirements

Each participant must sign a [waiver form](#) from the University of Houston’s Office of General Counsel. A parent or legal guardian will sign for minors.

A sign must be posted at the entrance of the inflatable which states “Bounce at own risk.” For events allowing minors to utilize the inflatable, the sign should read “Bounce at Own Risk. Children are required to have a parent supervise while playing.”

Have enough employees/volunteers to monitor the participants on and around the inflatables.

If there is severe weather such as high winds, rain, lightning, hail, or thunderstorms then the use of inflatables is strictly prohibited.

Incidents/Accidents

Report all incidents/accidents to Risk Management by completing and returning the [Student/Visitor Incident Report Form](#).

For any incident involving bodily fluids, the inflatable must be shut down and sanitized in accordance with the manufacturer’s instructions.

All injuries should be treated immediately.