

JACKSONVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT

2026-2027

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FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT, PLEASE VISIT THE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY STANDARDS WEBSITE AT JSU.EDU/COMMUNITY-STANDARDS.

PURPOSE

The Office of Community Standards supports the Jacksonville State University mission by maintaining a student-centered and educational approach to its disciplinary procedures. The Code of Student Conduct publicly sets expectations for all students (including undergraduate, graduate, and non-degree-seeking individuals) to uphold and demonstrate respect within the university community.

The process outlined herein is designed to support students who may have engaged in misconduct through an educational and restorative approach. The Office of Community Standards upholds the institution's general mission and goals while recognizing and respecting the rights, privileges, and responsibilities of all students at Jacksonville State University.

The Office of Community Standards strives to ensure that the conduct process is procedurally sound, consistent, fair, transparent, and accessible to the community, providing a just result that holds students accountable for their behavior. The resolution procedures and sanctions are designed to address the behavior, repair any harm caused, prevent recurrence, and/or provide education and support to the student(s).

The mission of the Office of Community Standards and the Student Conduct System at Jacksonville State University is to transform potential incidents of misconduct into opportunities for education and student development. Our goal is that as students progress through the conduct process, they will emerge as better-educated students, more well-rounded members of the University's community, and become more effective global citizens.

PHILOSOPHY

The philosophy of the Office of Community Standards is educational, aiming to facilitate reconciliation among students. This restorative justice philosophy is best achieved through cooperation between the students who engage in misconduct and the administrator who is holding them accountable. The hopeful benefit of this philosophy is the transformative learning experience for everyone involved.

WHAT IS RESTORATIVE JUSTICE PHILOSOPHY?

The Restorative Justice Philosophy is applied in all disciplinary procedures, but is primarily utilized during the Informal Resolution Process. The Restorative Justice Philosophy focuses on repairing harm and rebuilding relationships, rather than solely on punishment, involving all stakeholders affected by wrongdoing in a collaborative process to address the impact and find solutions. This approach emphasizes accountability through active participation and a focus on meeting the needs of victims, offenders, and the community, aiming to restore balance and foster a more positive campus environment.

STATEMENT OF VALUES

Professional Responsibility: Jacksonville State University must balance the students' developmental and educational needs with its obligation to protect the safety and welfare of the Jax State community. In situations where the student's behavior poses a risk to self or others, Jacksonville State University personnel must take action in accordance with applicable laws, regulations, and policies.

Nondiscrimination: Protect human rights and promote appreciation of diversity and multicultural practice at Jacksonville State University.

Equal & Consistent Treatment: Treat all students impartially and accept them as individuals with rights and responsibilities. Seek to create and maintain a campus climate that fosters learning, personal growth, and development. Follow the procedural guidelines outlined in Jacksonville State University's Code of Student Conduct when enforcing the Code of Student Conduct.

Confidentiality: Confidentiality is maintained for all privileged communications and for educational and professional records considered confidential. Information is shared only in accordance with institutional policies and relevant statutes, where informed consent is given, or when required to prevent personal harm to oneself or others.

Respect: An opportunity for every student and university employee to be treated with respect and dignity, with freedom of speech and an open exchange of ideas.

SCOPE OF AUTHORITY

Jacksonville State University's conduct system has authority in all non-academic disciplinary matters. The university reserves the right to discipline students and Recognized Student Organizations (RSOs) for acts of misconduct that occur on or off University Premises.

The Code of Student Conduct may be applied to behavior conducted online, via email, or other electronic media. Students should also be aware that online postings, such as blogs, web postings, chats, and social networking sites, are in the public sphere and not private. These postings can be subject to allegations of conduct violations if evidence of policy violations is posted online. The University does not regularly seek this information, but may take action if it is brought to the Office of Community Standards' attention.

At its discretion, the university may pursue disciplinary action against a student who is also subject to criminal proceedings. The university reserves this right, even if criminal charges are pending, reduced, or dismissed. The university disciplinary procedures are administrative proceedings, not criminal or civil in nature. Therefore, formal rules of evidence and procedures akin to civil or criminal trials are not applicable.

As Jacksonville State University community members, students are expected to abide by all local, state, federal, and international laws. Referrals received from any university or police authority, regardless of location, are subject to possible proceedings under the code of student conduct for the accused.

Students will be held accountable in accordance with the Code of Student Conduct for behavior(s) that may have occurred before, during, and/or after an academic term. Additionally, all violations of the Code of Student Conduct during the academic year, between academic terms, during periods of non-enrollment, or during periods of suspension or dismissal will be addressed.

The Code of Student Conduct applies to students' guests, and a student may be held accountable for their guests' misconduct. Visitors to and guests of the University may seek resolution of violations of the Code of Student Conduct committed against them by a student.

All policies, processes, and procedures outlined in the Code shall also apply to a student's conduct, even if the student withdraws from school or graduates while a disciplinary matter is pending.

Students who are members of a student group/organization may, through their actions, subject the student group/organization to disciplinary action under the Code of Student Organization Conduct, regardless of whether the student is adjudicated under the Code of Student Conduct. For additional information, please refer to the Jacksonville State University Code of Student Organization Conduct found in the Student Handbook or on the Community Standards website at jsu.edu/community-standards.

REVISIONS TO THE CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT

This Code shall take effect on June 1st each year. It is the general duty of all persons affiliated with Jacksonville State University to advise the Office of Community Standards of modifications that should be considered to improve the fairness and effectiveness of the system. In consultation with University Administration, the Office of Community Standards will be responsible for identifying and considering any proposed revisions to the Code of Student Conduct. The Code of Student Conduct will be reviewed and updated annually by the Office of Community Standards. The updated policy will be published annually.

JACKSONVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY HAS THE AUTHORITY TO MODIFY THE CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT AS NECESSARY.

ACCESSIBILITY

Jacksonville State University provides a digital copy of the Code of Student Conduct as a link on the Office of Community Standards website at jsu.edu/community-standards. The Code of Student Conduct is also published in the Student Handbook. All students are responsible for having read and abiding by the provisions of the Code of Student Conduct.

REPORTING

To make any reports of prohibited conduct, hazing, or concerning behavior, you can use the [Incident Reporting Forms](#) found on the Office of Community Standards [website](#) or contact the Office of Community Standards directly by phone at 256-782-8081, 256-782-8080, by email communitystandards@jsu.edu, or in person at 301-A, Angle Hall.

TITLE IX INCIDENT:

To report any incident or concern regarding sexual discrimination, sexual harassment, quid pro quo harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, stalking, and/or related retaliation, individuals can use the [Report a Title IX Concern or Title IX Incident Form](#) found on the Title IX website, JSU.EDU/titleix, or contact the Title IX Office directly at 256-782-5769 or titleix@jsu.edu.

Please call 9-1-1 or the University Police at (256)782-5050 if you need emergency assistance.

REPORTING LIMITATIONS:

There is no time limit for reporting violations of the Code of Student Conduct; however, the longer someone waits to report an offense, the more difficult it may become for the Office of Community Standards to obtain information and witness statements and to make determinations regarding alleged violations.

ANONYMOUS REPORTING:

Though anonymous complaints are permitted, doing so may limit the University's ability to investigate and respond to a complaint. Those who are aware of misconduct are encouraged to report it as quickly as possible to the Office of Community Standards and/or to the Department of Public Safety/University Police Department.

STATEMENT OF FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

The campus grounds, properties, and facilities of Jacksonville State University are devoted to and maintained for the purpose of providing higher education to Students and for the use and enjoyment of the Campus Community and are not places of unrestricted or unregulated public access. As such, the University reasserts the right to properly govern access to and the use of its property in such a way as to protect Students, faculty, staff, and persons lawfully on or using university facilities, as well as for the protection and preservation of institutional assets.

The University, however, is committed to protecting the free speech rights of Students, faculty, staff, and invited guests. The purpose of the policy is to respect the Campus Community's rights to free speech and expressive activity while preserving public health, safety, and welfare; the normal educational and business uses of the campus; protecting University property; and safeguarding the rights of others to legitimately use and enjoy the campus.

While the University will not regulate the content of lawful speech, assembly or related activity, the University may regulate the time, place, and manner of free speech and expressive activities in order to prevent unreasonable interference with or disruption of its educational and business functions, normal or scheduled uses of University property by the Campus Community, as well as to protect public health, safety, and welfare.

For additional information, please refer to the University's Campus Use and Protection of Free Speech Policy in the [Policies and Procedures Manual](#).

DEFINITIONS

Administrative Hearing: A process in which the facts of an alleged violation of the Code of Student Conduct are presented to an administrative Hearing Officer(s) to determine if a violation(s) occurred and if sanctions are appropriate.

Administrative Hearing Officer: A University Official, generally from the Office of Community Standards, trained to adjudicate violations and the conduct procedures, who oversees the conduct and resolution process.

Advisor: A person who attends a hearing to support a student (excluding witnesses) during the conduct process. Advisors may confer only with the student they advise and may not speak on a student's behalf. An Advisor can be any person of the student's choosing, and the financial responsibility for this Advisor shall rest with the student. Students may only have one advisor during a conduct hearing. Advisors cannot serve as witnesses. If a student needs assistance finding an advisor, the Office of Community Standards will provide this information upon request. An individual charged in the same fact pattern related to the accused individual may not serve as an advisor.

The "potted plant" rule applies to Advisors throughout the investigation and disciplinary process. While a FERPA release may allow university officials to answer general questions about a matter, university officials will not meet with Advisors separately or discuss particulars of the investigation with them. Any inquiries should come directly from the student or the organization. Further, Advisors may not speak on their party's behalf or otherwise interfere with meetings or proceedings. Advisors must be accompanied by their respective parties when viewing any evidence.

If the Hearing Officer determines that an Advisor's conduct undermines the integrity of this policy or interferes with meetings or proceedings, an Advisor may be prohibited from continuing to serve in their role. In cases of unreasonable delays caused by an Advisor, the Hearing Officer may elect to hold meetings or proceedings in their absence. The affected party may be permitted to obtain a substitute Advisor.

When employees are involved in an investigation, the selection and availability of an advisor may be influenced by applicable collective bargaining agreements, contractual requirements, legal obligations, and university policies.

Alleged Individual or Alleged Student: A student who is alleged to have violated the Code of Student Conduct and/or other university policies.

All terms (Accused Individual, Alleged Student, or Respondent) are interchangeable, including any other term used to reference an individual responding to a report of a violation and the subject of an investigation or disciplinary proceeding.

Amnesty: A policy that protects students from formal disciplinary action for certain violations when seeking help for themselves or others, typically during emergencies. (e.g., Medical Amnesty, Good Samaritan Amnesty, etc.)

Appeals Officer: The Associate Vice President for Student Affairs, or their designee, will serve as the Appeals Officer, ensuring that the Appeals Panel is properly trained and equipped with relevant information to adjudicate received appeals.

Appeals Panel: The Appeals Panel will be comprised of three (3) university officials (staff or faculty) who have been trained to adjudicate violations of the Code of Student Conduct.

Appeal Process: A process designed to review and ensure the integrity of the decisions made by the Hearing Officer(s) or Hearing Board.

Additional information on the appeals process, including grounds for appeal, can be reviewed in the "Appeals" section of the Code of Student Conduct.

Business Days: A day when the University is under normal operation and administrative offices are open and operating, excluding weekends, observes public and/or University holidays, and University emergency closers (e.g., weather day). (Typically, Monday through Friday)

Bystander: A person who observes a crime, an impending crime, a conflict, misconduct, or unacceptable behavior.

Bystander Intervention: The safe and positive actions a bystander takes to prevent harm or intervene when a risk is posed to another person. Bystander intervention includes recognizing situations of potential harm, identifying safe and effective intervention options, and taking action to intervene.

Complicit: Involved in or knowing about a crime, conduct, or activity that violates the Code of Student Conduct and/or other University policies without intervening and/or reporting.

Faculty Member: A person hired by the university to conduct classroom or teaching activities or otherwise considered by the university to be a member of its faculty.

Family and Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA): A federal law regarding the privacy of student records and the obligation of the institution, primarily in the areas of release of the records and access to these records. Any educational institution that receives funds under any program administered by the U.S. Secretary of Education is bound by FERPA requirements. Institutions that fail to comply with FERPA may have funds administered by the Secretary of Education withheld.

For additional information, please refer to the Office of the Registrar website "[FERPA Information](#)."

Hazing: Any non-accidental, costly aspect(s) of group induction activities that: (a) do not appear to be group-relevant assessments/preparations, and/or (b) are excessive, dangerous, or degrading in their application or constitute violations of local, state, or federal law or any other University policy, regardless of the consent of the participants. Group induction activities refer to tasks that are formally or informally required to obtain or maintain membership and/or participatory legitimacy for new, prospective, or current members, and/or to attain progressive membership status and/or leadership positions within the organization.

For additional information, please refer to the University's Hazing Policy in the [Policies and Procedures Manual](#).

Hearing Board/Panel Hearing: A process in which the facts of an alleged violation of the Code of Student Conduct are presented to a Hearing Board Panel to determine if a violation(s) occurred and make sanctions recommendations when appropriate.

Hearing Board Members/Panel: A Hearing Panel will comprise three (3) members: three (3) trained university officials (staff or faculty), or two (2) trained university officials and one (1) trained university student, when available. The panel will determine whether a student is responsible for violating the Code of Student Conduct.

Hearing Board Chair: A member of the Hearing Board who is responsible for facilitating and managing the Hearing Panel process.

Hearing Board Officer: A University Official, generally from the Office of Community Standards, who advises the Hearing Board and ensures proper procedures are followed during the Panel Hearing. The Hearing Officer oversees administrative hearings and ensures that proper procedures are followed. The Hearing Officer can participate in the hearing (i.e., asking questions). The Hearing Officer has final authority to determine responsibility and/or to assign sanctions.

Hold: A temporary or permanent status applied to a student's educational records that prevents them from registering for classes, making registration changes, accessing enrollment, and other services.

Impacted Individual: a person who was directly impacted by the alleged prohibited conduct. The impacted individual is not always the same person as the complainant.

In absentia: a Latin phrase meaning "in absence" or "while absent". In absentia is used to close a case without the physical presence of the alleged student or student group/organization representative.

Any case closed "In Absentia" will retain the right to appeal the determinations and/or the assigned sanctions regardless of the case resolution process.

Informal Resolution: A process, other than a formal disciplinary proceeding, by which the Office of Community Standards or designee and the involved parties may voluntarily and mutually agree upon terms and conditions to address a violation of the Code of Student Conduct.

Interim Measures: Interim measures include support, accommodations, protective measures, and/or restrictive directives intended to protect the safety and well-being of the parties and/or the university community.

Additional information can be reviewed in the Interim Measures Section of the Code of Student Conduct.

Investigator: A University Official(s) who has been identified and trained to gather information in cases of alleged violations of the Code of Student Conduct.

No Contact Order: No Contact Orders are designed to prevent students involved in a campus conduct process from communicating with each other, thereby minimizing the likelihood of further altercations. A No Contact Order is a written directive prohibiting contact between individuals (directly, indirectly, or through a third party). It is intended to protect the safety and well-being of the parties involved.

Notice: A formal letter provided to a student or the student organization representative during the conduct process by the University (Office of Community Standards) that provides information about allegations, conduct procedures information, meeting/hearing information, interim measures, and/or decision and sanctions assigned when applicable.

Pre-Hearing Conference (or Meeting): A meeting with the Hearing Officer or designee in which a student can learn more about the conduct process and ask questions related to the actual hearing. Pre-Hearing meetings are to discuss procedures only. The meeting is not for reviewing the facts, evidence, or the substantive nature of a conduct referral.

Preponderance of Information/Evidence: A standard of proof that indicates that the information provided shows that “more likely than not” a violation did or did not occur. This is the standard of proof for all alleged violations of the Code of Student Conduct. The preponderance standard is lower than the standard of “beyond a reasonable doubt,” which is used in criminal court cases. If the evidence presented meets this preponderance standard, then the accused should be found responsible.

Prima Facie Evidence: Prima facie is Latin for “at first sight” or “on the face of it.” Prima facie evidence is evidence that appears to be enough to support a claim at first glance. “Prima facie evidence of use” means there is enough initial evidence to suggest something was used, even if it's not conclusive.

Prohibited Conduct: Any alleged conduct or acts of misconduct, as defined in these policies, that may give rise to an investigation and a judicial or disciplinary proceeding.

Recognized Student Organization (RSO): A Registered Student Organization (RSO) is any number of students who have complied with the formal requirements for Jacksonville State University student organization recognition and registration.

For more information on RSOs, visit the [Dean of Students Office website](#).

Reporting Individual/Complainant: A person who makes a referral to the Office of Community alleging that a violation of the Code of Student Conduct has occurred. The university may make a report when there is evidence that this policy has been violated. The complaint does not have to be made by an Impacted Individual.

The terms are interchangeable, including any other term used to reference an individual who reports an alleged violation of the Code of Student Conduct.

Retaliation: Adverse action(s) against a person for participation in any portion of the referral or student conduct process, which includes, but is not limited to, serving as a witness in conduct hearings. This includes making a referral for a student out of concern for their well-being. Retaliation includes harassment, intimidation, coercion, or otherwise discriminating against an individual, including but not limited to violence, threats of violence, property destruction, adverse educational or employment consequences, and bullying.

Rights and Responsibilities: The policies outlined in the Student Handbook are available for reference at any time. Students are responsible for being aware of and adhering to university policies to avoid violating them. Additionally, students have a responsibility to Jacksonville State University to report any known violations of the Code of Student Conduct and/or the Code of Student Organization Conduct, thereby maintaining proper order and respect in the university community. With an allegation of violating the Code of Student Conduct and/or the Code of Student

Organization Conduct, all students have rights as listed herein and are afforded to any alleged student or any Student Group/organization upon first notification of an allegation.

Sanction: A measure imposed for violating the Code of Student Conduct. Generally, sanctions are educational in nature and intended to modify the student's behavior and foster an awareness of personal responsibility and community standards. Sanctions may also be given to protect the university community and preserve a safe educational environment for all members.

More information on sanctions is available in the "Sanctions" section of the Code of Student Conduct.

Special University Program: Any academic, student service-related, student life, athletic, or other university program where a student voluntarily submits to and can be held accountable for violation(s) of additional rules of conduct or program rules.

Staff Member: An individual employed by the university in roles that support the university's mission but are not directly involved in teaching or research. They are typically engaged in administrative, operational, and support functions.

Student: Any individual who has applied to the university and/or is taking courses at Jacksonville State University on a full-time, part-time, or non-degree seeking basis. This definition includes those enrolled at all campuses and remote locations (e.g., online, study abroad). Student status lasts until the conferral of a degree or certificate, or until the individual is permanently separated from the university for academic or non-academic reasons. Also included are those individuals who are not officially enrolled for a particular semester but have a continuing relationship with the university.

Student Group/Organization: An organization at an institution of higher education (such as a club, society, association, varsity or junior varsity athletic team, club sports team, fraternity, sorority, band, or student government) in which two or more of the members are students enrolled at the University, whether or not the organization is established or recognized by the institution.

Support Person: A person who attends a meeting or hearing with a witness. The support person is present solely for support and does not actively participate in the proceedings.

If the Hearing Officer determines that the Support Person's conduct is distracting, disruptive, undermines the integrity of this policy, or interferes with the proceedings, the Support Person may be prohibited from continuing to serve in their role.

Witness: Is generally an individual who possesses relevant information or knowledge about an alleged violation through direct observation of the incident, direct contact with individuals involved before, during, or after, and/or possesses other information that is relevant.

Character witnesses are not allowed or taken into consideration when determining responsibility or sanctions (s).

The Hearing Officer or Hearing Chair of a board hearing will evaluate the relevancy of witness information.

Witness statements can be accepted in lieu of the witness's attendance at the hearing. The statement must be emailed directly to the Hearing Officer from the witness using only their official Jacksonville State University email accounts.

University Official: Any individual who is employed, contracted with, or appointed and performs administrative or professional responsibilities within the scope of their authority by the university.

University Premises: The premises of Jacksonville State University, including all land, buildings, facilities, and other property in the possession of, owned, leased, licensed, managed, or controlled by the university (including adjacent streets and sidewalks, online networks, and domains).

PROHIBITED CONDUCT

Acts of misconduct or prohibited conduct are defined as any behavior that is inconsistent with university policy or as outlined in the Student Handbook/Code of Student Conduct or other university publications and policies. Acts of misconduct are subject to the terms, conditions, and processes described herein. These acts of misconduct apply wherever the student engages in such behavior, on or off university premises. This includes, but is not limited to, actions taking place outside the city, county, state, or country, as well as prohibited conduct occurring online.

Please refer to the Jacksonville State University Code of Student Organization Conduct, Sex-Based Harassment and Misconduct Policy, and Hazing Policy for information on misconduct subject to these policies.

Abuse of Process. Direct or indirect actions that abuse, interfere with, or undermine the fairness, integrity, or proper functioning of the University's investigation/adjudication process.

Abuse of Process-related violations included, but are not limited to:

- Failure to comply with official correspondence from a Hearing Officer or university official;
- Falsifying, distorting, or misrepresenting information or colluding to do the same in the investigation/adjudication process;
- Destroying or concealing information;
- Attempting to discourage an individual's proper participation in the investigation/adjudication process;
- Harassing or intimidating (verbally or physically) any person involved in the conduct processes before, during, and/or following proceedings (including up to, throughout, and after any outcome);
- Unauthorized disclosure of a reporting party's identifying information;
- Failing to comply with a temporary measure or other sanction;
- Distributing or otherwise publicizing materials created or produced during an investigation as a part of these policies or procedures, except as required by law or as expressly permitted by the University, Office of Community Standards, and/or a designee; or
- Influencing or attempting to influence another person to commit abuse of process.

Alcohol. All students and/or their guests must comply with all applicable laws, the Jacksonville State University Alcohol and Other Drugs Policy, the Code of Student Conduct, and/or other University policies while on or off University Premises. All Student Residents, in addition to the above, must also comply with all Housing Operations and Residence Life policies and procedures.

It is unlawful and prohibited to use or possess identification that makes an individual appear older or misrepresents an individual as someone else.

Alcohol-Use-related violations included, but are not limited to:

- Possession and/or use of alcohol in violation of university policy, law, or other violations of the University Alcohol Policy.
- No person under the legal drinking age (21) may transport, possess, consume, provide, or be provided with alcoholic beverages.
- The consumption of alcohol stronger than 15% alcohol by volume ("ABV") is prohibited on campus (except when served by a license and insured third-party vendor).
- Students must not permit, encourage, coerce, glorify, or participate in any activities involving the rapid consumption of alcohol, such as drinking games.
- Possession and/or use of identification that makes an individual appear older or misrepresents an individual as someone else.

Alcohol-Distribution. Distribution, manufacture, or sale of alcohol in violation of university policy, law, or other violations of the University Alcohol Policy.

It is prohibited to serve, provide, or knowingly allow alcohol to individuals under 21.

Alcohol-University Housing. Residents of legal drinking age may consume alcohol responsibly in the privacy of their room/apartment. Residents are subject to all local and state laws concerning the use, possession, sale, and transportation of alcoholic beverages. Possession and/or use of alcohol in violation of university policy

(e.g., Alcohol and Other Drug Policy), any applicable laws, and the Housing Operations and Residence Life (HRL) policies and procedures (e.g., Guide to Residence Living).

Alcohol-University Housing-related violations included, but are not limited to:

- If a resident is of legal age and chooses to drink, consumption must be confined to the privacy or the interior of the individual's room or apartment. No alcohol is to be consumed in any other area of the residence halls, apartment complex, grounds, or parking lots. No open containers of alcohol are permitted outside of the residence hall room or the resident's apartment.
- Public intoxication is also prohibited.
- Residents who are 21 years of age or older are not permitted to store alcohol in their room/dorm if their roommate is under the age of 21. This behavior is considered contributing to a minor and is prohibited.
- Residents aged 21 years or older, living in university housing, shall not possess bulk quantities of alcohol (i.e., amounts of alcohol greater than what a reasonable person should consume over the duration of an event).
- If a resident is not 21 years of age, they may not host anyone, in their room, apartment, or house, regardless of age, who possesses, consumes, sells, or serves alcohol.
- The brewing and/or distilling of alcohol in any residential facility is prohibited.
- Drinking, serving, and/or the sale of alcohol are not permitted in the public areas of the residence halls, apartment buildings, parking lots, or grounds (e.g., lounges, lobby, parking lot, or balcony).
- Kegs, party balls, punch bowls, and other common sources of alcohol are not permitted in any university-owned facility, including individual rooms and apartments.
- The possession and or consumption of alcohol stronger than 15% alcohol by volume ("ABV") is prohibited in any University-owned or operated residence buildings.
- Empty alcoholic beverage containers shall not be considered appropriate décor for residential facilities.
- Drinking games are prohibited on campus, in residential buildings, or at student events.

It should be noted that the presence of empty alcoholic beverage containers is prima facie evidence of use, consumption, and/or transportation.

Please refer to the Jacksonville State University [Alcohol and Other Drug Policy](#) for additional guidance.

Animal Cruelty. Any direct or omission act that causes pain, suffering, or harm to an animal.

Animal cruelty-related violations included, but are not limited to:

- Unethical treatment
- Abandonment
- Failing to provide adequate food, water, and/or shelter
- Torture
- Neglect
- Dog Fighting.

Arson. The willful or malicious burning of property (e.g., a building), typically with criminal or fraudulent intent.

Arson-related violations included, but are not limited to:

- Committing acts of arson, creating a fire hazard, or unauthorized possession or use of flammable materials or hazardous substances.
- Causing a fire, explosion, or unauthorized use of any potential incendiary device or equipment.

Assault. A threat of bodily harm coupled with an apparent ability to cause harm.

Assault-related violations included, but are not limited to:

- Inflicting bodily harm upon any person.
- Taking any action for the purpose of inflicting harm upon any person.
- Threatened use of force upon any person.
- Subjecting another person to unwanted physical contact.
- Slapping, kicking, shoving, or otherwise striking another person.

Attempt. Attempting to engage in conduct that, if completed, would violate any rule or policy applicable to the university. A student may be charged with and found responsible for prohibited conduct that, if completed, would have violated the Code of Student Conduct.

Biased Incident. Any violation of the Code of Student Conduct motivated in whole or in part by a bias, including but not limited to, race, sex (including gender identity), color, religion, ancestry, national origin, age, disability, veteran status, or sexual orientation.

Bicycles/Motorized Scooters. Bicycles or motorized scooters are not permitted to be kept or ridden within residential, academic, or administrative buildings.

Bribery. The offer or acceptance of anything of value in exchange for favorable treatment by a university official, UPD, or other official. Forms of bribery may include gifts, payments of money, property, various goods, privileges, services, and favors.

Bullying/Cyberbullying. Bullying and/or cyberbullying are defined as repeated and/or severe aggressive behaviors that intimidate or intentionally harm or control another person physically or emotionally, and are not protected by freedom of expression.

Bullying/Cyberbullying-related violations included, but are not limited to:

- Unwanted teasing
- Stalking or Cyberstalking
- Physical violence
- Public humiliation
- Social exclusion
- Rumors or the spreading of falsehoods

Camping or Shelter Construction. Constructing shelters/camps and/or sleeping outside on university premises is prohibited.

Complicity. Aiding, helping, or otherwise assisting another in violating any rule applicable to the university. This includes complicity in any prohibited conduct outlined in the Code of Student Conduct, such as failing to remove oneself from incriminating situations and/or report the incident to the proper authorities. One who is complicit may be referred to as an accomplice. A complicit student may be charged with and found responsible for the violation committed by another. Additionally, students are responsible for their guests' actions and behavior.

Computers. Misuse, abuse, unauthorized use of computers and/or technology, and/or use of technology for unauthorized purposes.

Damage to Property. Any action that causes damage or is intended to cause damage to the property of the university, the property of a member of the university community, or other personal or public property.

Dangerous Weapons and Firearms. No employees, students, or visitors will possess, store, display, or carry any dangerous instrument, including a firearm, on campus and/or at university events. Exceptions are outlined in the Jacksonville State University Dangerous Weapons and Firearms Policy.

“**Dangerous Instrument**” is considered a firearm or any device, including paintball guns, that shoots or delivers a bullet, BB, pellet, arrow, dart, flare, electrical charge, fluids, or other projectile, whether loaded or unloaded, including those devices powered by air, gas, explosion, or mechanical means. Realistic facsimiles of such items are also included in this definition.

- Any explosive device, including fireworks
- Any instruments/devices that are designed or may be used as a weapon to injure or threaten another individual, including, but not limited to, non-culinary knives with a blade greater than four (4) inches

Please refer to the Jacksonville State [University Dangerous Weapons and Firearms Policy](#) for additional guidance.

Dishonesty. Knowingly furnishing false information to any person, including university officials.

Dishonesty-related violations included, but are not limited to:

- Manipulation
- Misrepresenting the facts
- Failing to disclose relevant information
- Impersonating a university official or designee
- Engaging in other deceitful behavior.
- Conflicting or inconsistent statements and evidence

Disruptive Behavior. Obstructing or disrupting university activities, including but not limited to teaching, research, administration, disciplinary procedures, or other authorized activities, including public service functions. This can include participation in campus demonstrations that substantially and materially disrupt the normal operations of the university and infringe on the rights of other members of the university community by leading or inciting others to disrupt scheduled and/or normal activities within any campus building or area; or intentional obstruction that unreasonably interferes with the freedom of movement, either pedestrian or vehicular, on campus.

Disorderly Conduct. Conduct that is disruptive, lewd, or indecent, with or without the intent to cause public inconvenience, annoyance, or alarm, or recklessly creating a risk thereof, which breaches the peace of the community.

Disorderly Conduct-related violations included, but are not limited to:

- Engages in fighting or violent, tumultuous, or threatening behavior.
- Makes unreasonable noise.
- In a public place, uses abusive or obscene language or makes an obscene gesture.
- Without lawful authority, disturbs any lawful assembly or meeting of individuals.
- Obstructs vehicular or pedestrian traffic or a transportation facility.
- Congregates with other people in a public place and refuses to comply with a lawful order of law enforcement to disperse.

Drugs.

Drug Distribution. The distribution, manufacture, or sale of drugs, narcotics, chemicals, and/or drug paraphernalia in violation of university policy, law, or other provisions of the University Drug Policy.

Drug Use. Possession or use of drugs, narcotics, chemicals, and/or drug paraphernalia in violation of university policy, law, or other violations of the University Drug Policy.

Drug-related violations included, but are not limited to:

- Possession, sale, consumption, distribution, or being knowingly in the presence of narcotics or other controlled substances is prohibited except as expressly permitted by law.
- Further, any items that can be utilized for or are designed for the use of drugs (i.e., bowls, bong, hookahs, etc.) are not allowed on campus property.

“**Drugs**” are considered to be any mind-altering substances, regardless of legality, including but not limited to opiates, barbiturates, amphetamines, cannabis, hallucinogens, “designer drugs,” and illegal steroids, except for legally authorized doses for medical purposes.

Banned substances include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Controlled substances, as defined by state law, require a prescription but are obtained without a physician’s order, such as methedrine (speed), amphetamines (Ritalin, Adderall, etc.), antidepressants (Prozac, etc.), sedatives and barbiturates, tranquilizers, and pain killers (Valium, Vicodin, etc.).
- Narcotics, such as morphine, heroin, codeine, ketamine, and cocaine, in any form.
- Chemical substances and organic compounds, such as LSD (Acid), cannabis, hashish, THC, Peyote buttons, mescaline, DMT, DOM, STP, psilocybin, or psychedelic mushrooms, etc.
- Designer drugs, including but not limited to synthetic cannabis (K2, Spice, herbal potpourri).

Unauthorized (without a prescription) use or possession of any of the above substances is strictly prohibited and illegal. Use, possession, or sale of these substances may also result in legal action. The university will remain cognizant of its responsibility in civil matters.

It should be noted that the presence of empty containers with drug residue, roaches, buds/stems, paraphernalia, or items designed for the use of drugs in or about residence rooms, halls, and/or university grounds is prima facie evidence of use, consumption, and/or transportation of drugs.

If drugs or drug paraphernalia are found in a common space, the rebuttable presumption will be that all student tenants are responsible for possession and/or use of illegal drugs.

Any student involved with drugs is encouraged to consult Health Services for help. Information given to a university health care provider or Counselor is privileged, and the provider cannot voluntarily disclose it to anyone or be compelled to testify about it in court or elsewhere. Other members of the staff or other students may also help with drug problems; however, students should realize they are not necessarily bound by confidentiality.

The university's actions in all cases of drug violations will be guided by a concern for the emotional and physical welfare of the student involved and for maintaining a suitable educational environment for all members of the university community.

Please refer to the Jacksonville State University [Alcohol and Other Drug Policy](#) for additional guidance.

Dumping/Littering. No one shall intentionally dispose of trash of any kind anywhere except a designated trash receptacle.

Dumping/Littering-related violations included, but are not limited to:

- Dropping and/or leaving objects such as aluminum cans, cardboard boxes, or plastic bottles on the ground indefinitely or for others to dispose of as opposed to disposing of them properly.
- Depositing, dumping, littering, or otherwise disposing of any refuse on university property, except in duty designated refuse depositories.
- Leaving trash outside the residence door or on a balcony.

Failure to Comply. Failure to comply with the direction of any university official, including a University Police Officer, when that official has been identified and is acting expressly within their authority to uphold university rules, regulations, or policy.

Failure to Comply-related violations included, but are not limited to:

- Failure to comply with a verbal or written directive given by a university official, including obligations associated with any disciplinary process or sanction(s).
- Failure to comply with reasonable and lawful requests or directives of university officials or law enforcement officers acting in the performance of their duties.
- Attempting to, or successfully evading, avoiding, or delaying questioning by a university official performing their official duties.
- Failure to show proper student identification or other identification to any university official performing their official duties.
- Interfering with the normal operation of the teaching/learning environment.

Failure to Comply: Interim Protective/Restrictive Measure. Failure to comply with the established interim protective/restrictive measure that a university official authorized.

A person violates an interim protective/restrictive measure if they (1) have notice and (2) intentionally or unintentionally failed to comply with restrictions and or directives articulated in the written notice (e.g., No Contact Order, Interim Suspension) issued by a university official, faculty, or staff member.

A person who violates an interim protective/restrictive measure may be charged with “Failure to Comply: Interim Protective/Restrictive Measure” and may be subject to additional disciplinary actions and/or interim measures (e.g., Interim Suspension) as detailed in the written directive.

Notice: For these purposes, notice is generally given upon delivery of the written directive, either via email or in person.

Failure to Comply: Public Health/Emergency Management Directives. Students are required to comply with public health and emergency management directives issued by the university and/or by local, state, and federal officials.

Failure to Comply: Self-Reporting Policy. Students are required to self-report reportable offenses, including, but not limited to, any felony offense, misdemeanor offense, statutory infraction involving danger to another, moral turpitude, alcohol, or the illegal possession/use/distribution of drugs.

Please review Jacksonville State University's [Student Self-Reporting Policy](#) for additional guidance.

Fire Alarm. The instigation of false fire/explosion, emergency alarms, or bomb threats. Knowingly disregarding a fire alarm, bomb threat, or refusing to evacuate a building or a section of a building where a fire alarm is sounding or an order to evacuate has been issued, as well as entering a building while a fire alarm is sounding. This includes entering or exiting a fire escape, except during a fire drill or in the event of an actual fire.

Fire Safety Equipment. Tampering/misusing or damaging fire extinguishers, alarms, or other safety equipment. Tampering with smoke detectors includes removing the batteries, covering the smoke detectors, removing the smoke detectors, or otherwise disabling the smoke detectors.

Students are not permitted to tamper with a smoke detector, regardless of its sensitivity.

Any student found responsible for tampering with fire safety equipment, including smoke detectors, may be subject to a \$300 fine per piece of equipment tampered with, as well as additional sanctions.

When tampered/disabled equipment is found in a common space, the rebuttable presumption will be that all student tenants are responsible for tampering with fire safety equipment.

Fraud. Intentionally deceiving someone to gain something or cause them to lose something. It can involve lying, concealing information, faking documents, or furnishing false information.

Fraud-related violations included, but are not limited to:

- Forging, altering, or misusing university property, including library material, private property on the campus, auto decals, identification cards, grade reports, or other personal identification instruments requested by an official.
- This includes using another student's ID card to get meals at the dining center and/or to access a residence hall.
- Alteration or misuse of university documents, identification, and keys/access cards (Jacksonville State University ID).
- Possession and/or use of identification that makes an individual appear older or misrepresents an individual as someone else.

Gambling. Playing or the act of betting on games or activities of chance for compensation. (e.g., money or something of value). Gambling on university premises or at university-sponsored or supervised functions for money or stakes is prohibited.

Gambling-related violations included, but are not limited to:

- Participating in contests of chance
- Illegal lottery
- Promoting or advancing gambling
- Gambling using university computing, networks, and/or facilities
- Possessing gambling devices or gambling records

Harassment. Action(s) which recklessly and/or intentionally endanger the mental or physical health of any individual, based on perceived or actual identities, that is persistent, severe, pervasive, unwelcome, and/or inappropriate conduct that actually or potentially interferes with an individual's ability to work or learn, including harassment based on a legally protected status.

Jacksonville State University prohibits harassment of students on any basis.

The University reserves the right to take disciplinary action for such conduct, regardless of whether it meets legal standards for discrimination or harassment.

Hazing. In alignment with Jacksonville State University's mission, the University is committed to preparing students to be competent, ethical professionals and engaged, responsible, global citizens. Hazing is antithetical to these values and poses a serious threat to students' well-being. Therefore, the University prohibits hazing in any form and is dedicated to preventing it within our campus community.

Hazing will not be tolerated. Student Groups/Organizations and individual students are prohibited from hazing in any form, both on and off University Premises.

“Hazing” is defined as “any non-accidental, costly aspect(s) of group induction activities that: (a) do not appear to be group-relevant assessments/preparations, and/or (b) are excessive, dangerous, or degrading in their application or constitute violations of local, state, or federal law or any other University policy, regardless of the consent of the participants.

Group induction activities are tasks, formally or informally required, to obtain or maintain membership and/or participatory legitimacy for new, prospective, or current members, and/or to attain progressive membership status and/or leadership positions within the organization (Adapted from Cimino, 2017).

Hazing-Complicity:

Hazing includes the observation of hazing activities by individuals in a position to intervene but who fail to intervene, including organization officers or leaders who are aware of planned hazing activities and who condone and/or fail to prevent that hazing from occurring, regardless of their participation.

Reporting Hazing. Any person with knowledge of any activity or conduct that may constitute hazing can report their concerns to the Dean of Students Office, Office of Community Standards, University Police Department, or by submitting a report online ([Hazing Reporting Form](#)).

Please refer to the [Jacksonville State University Hazing Policy](#) for more information.

Intimidation. Engaging in any action, including through electronic means, that a reasonable person would find to frighten, coerce, induce duress, or control another individual physically, mentally, or emotionally is prohibited.

“Intimidation” is the act of frightening, threatening, or coercing someone into doing something, or deterring them from taking action/doing something. It involves behavior that induces fear or apprehension, regardless of whether actual physical harm occurs

Intimidation-related violations included, but are not limited to:

- Any verbal or written communication (direct, indirect, or through a third party) by any method that constitutes intimidation as defined.
- Engaging in any act(s) that constitute intimidation as defined.

Invasion of privacy. The recording, filming, photographing, viewing, transmitting, or producing the image or voice of another person without that person's knowledge and express consent, while in an environment that is considered private.

The use of undisclosed and/or hidden recording devices is prohibited, as is the storing, transmitting, and/or distributing of any such recordings.

This policy pertains to areas on campus that are considered private or where there is an expectation of privacy, including but not limited to a residence, restroom, shower, office, locker room, or gym.

Pedestrian Safety. Failure to comply with applicable pedestrian safety laws, traffic control devices, University safety directives, or posted campus regulations while walking and/or operating a bicycle, scooter, or any motorized scooter/bicycle.

Students are expected to exercise reasonable care for their own safety and the safety of others and to comply with all applicable local, state, and federal laws, as well as University policies governing pedestrian movement and roadway use on University Premises.

Pedestrian safety-related violations included, but are not limited to:

- Crossing a roadway outside of a designated crosswalk when a crosswalk is available, and the action creates a risk to pedestrian and/or vehicular safety.
- Disregarding pedestrian control signals, traffic signals, or directions from law enforcement or university officials.
- Entering or crossing a roadway without exercising reasonable care for approaching traffic.
- Walking, standing, sitting, or otherwise remaining in a roadway in a manner that obstructs the safe flow of vehicular traffic.
- Engaging in conduct that interferes with the safe movement of pedestrians, bicycles, scooters, or vehicles on university premises or at university-sponsored activities.
- Violating local, state, or federal pedestrian safety laws while on University Premises or in connection with a university activity.

Pets. For health and sanitary reasons, pets are not permitted in the residence halls, apartments, or any other University-owned and/or operated residential facility. Students are not allowed to "pet sit" or keep animals temporarily in University Housing facilities.

Exceptions:

- An approved Service Animal and/or Emotional Support Animal.
 - A resident requesting special accommodations must be registered with Disability Resources. The resident must have documentation submitted to HRL from Disability Resources. The request must be approved by Disability Resources before an approved emotional support or service animal may be brought on campus.
 - Care and supervision of the service or emotional support animal is the sole responsibility of the student who benefits from the animal's use.
 - The student is required to maintain control of the animal at all times.
 - Students must comply with [Disability Resources: Service and Emotional Support Animals Policy](#).
- Fish in a properly maintained aquarium (ten gallons or less).

Physical Harm. Infliction of, or threat of, physical harm to any person or their property, when it is disruptive or detrimental to the community.

Retaliation. Adverse action(s) against a person for participation in any portion of the referral or student conduct process, which includes, but is not limited to, serving as a witness in conduct hearings, reporting an alleged violation, and/or participating in an investigation. This includes making a referral for a student out of concern for their well-being.

Retaliation-related violations included, but are not limited to:

- Harassment
- Intimidation
- Coercion
- Discrimination
- Violence
- Threats of violence
- Property destruction
- Adverse educational or employment consequences
- Bullying.

Jacksonville State University has a zero tolerance for retaliation.

Retaliation may constitute illegal conduct, be considered an additional violation of Jacksonville State University policy, and result in disciplinary action.

Students may be found responsible for violating this policy regardless of the outcome of the referral or student conduct process.

Smoking/Tobacco. The university is tobacco-, smoke-, and vapor-free. Possession or use of tobacco or nicotine products in violation of university policy, law, or other violations of the University's Smoking/Tobacco Policy is prohibited.

Smoking-related violations included, but are not limited to:

- Smoking or using tobacco products, including cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, vapes, and electronic cigarettes, in any area of campus, including university housing.
- Possession and/or use of tobacco or nicotine products in violation of any University policy and/or any applicable law.
- The unauthorized sale of cigarettes and other tobacco/nicotine products is prohibited anywhere on university property.

It should be noted that the presence of ashes in or about residence rooms, halls, and/or university buildings creates a rebuttable presumption that a student has violated the university's Smoking/Tobacco policy.

Any student found responsible for violating this policy, regardless of where the incident occurred, while living in university housing, may be subject to a fine and/or additional sanctions.

If evidence of smoking is found in a common space, the rebuttable presumption will be that all student tenants are responsible for violating the smoking policy.

Please refer to the Jacksonville State University [Tobacco Use Policy](#) for additional guidance.

Soliciting. No student or non-student entity may sell, solicit, survey, or publicize on University Premises without the prior written approval of the University.

Student Contractual Agreement. All students or student organizations planning to conduct programs on or off the University Premises and require a contractual agreement with non-university agencies must obtain permission from the Dean of Students.

Student Posting. Posters, banners, or any other printed material may only be displayed on bulletin boards inside authorized University-operated buildings or on authorized buildings. Trash receptacles are specifically unauthorized display areas.

Theft. Students are prohibited from attempting to take or to steal/take property, services, or merchandise that does not belong to them.

Theft-Property: Theft or attempted theft. Theft is defined as the wrongful taking and carrying away of another's personal goods or property.

Theft-Services: Theft or attempted theft of services occurs when someone obtains valuable services through deception, force, threat, or other means without providing compensation.

Theft-Retail (Off University Premises): Theft, shoplifting, or attempting to steal merchandise from any retail location/store without paying for it.

Theft-Retail (On University Premises). Theft, shoplifting, or attempting to steal merchandise from any retail location/store, including any Jacksonville State University retail location/store (including but not limited to Micro Market(s), Campus Bookstore, and Food Service Locations), without paying for it. If a student provides a guest or another student access to a Micro Market and that guest or student steals or shoplifts merchandise, the student may be held responsible.

Any student found responsible for the violation of Theft-Retail (On Campus Premises) may be subject to:

- Upon first offense, a \$150 fine, store access revoked until the end of the current semester, and additional sanctions.
- Upon a second offense, a \$300 fine, store access revoked for a period of one (1) year, and additional sanctions.
- Upon a third offense, an additional \$300 fine, store access permanently revoked, and a student may be suspended from the university or university housing for a period of at least one (1) year.

Threats. All hostile and/or threatening behavior, and/or aggressive acts towards another person that a reasonable person would interpret as threatening or endangering to the health, safety, or well-being of another are prohibited.

“**Threats**” are expressions of intent to cause physical or mental harm to a person or to cause damage to the property of others or the university. A threat may be direct, indirect, conditional, or veiled. An expression of intent constitutes a threat without regard to whether the party communicating the threat has the present ability to carry it out and without regard to whether the expression is contingent.

“**Aggressive Acts**” are acts that do not rise to the level of a physical attack, but that a reasonable person would interpret as being a threat to personal safety (i.e., physical intimidation, throwing objects, pounding on a desk or door, pointing a finger in a person’s face, etc.). It may also include behaviors that may indicate someone may act out aggressively (i.e., infatuation with violence and statements of threats towards others).

Threat-related violations included, but are not limited to:

- Act(s) that alarm or seriously disrupt another person’s ability to participate in any aspect of university life.
- Engaging in any act(s) that constitute threats or aggressive acts as defined.

Trespassing. Wrongful and/or any unauthorized entry onto University Premises, including the residential halls, or the property of another. Students may not violate an administrative trespass issued by a university official or a criminal trespass order issued by the University Police Department.

Unauthorized Use of Jacksonville State University’s Name. Non-recognized student organizations are prohibited from using the university’s name or attempting to use it without the university’s express written consent.

Unauthorized Entry into Water Feature Areas. To ensure safety and to protect university property from damage, tampering with, or unauthorized entry into any campus area with a water feature, such as a fountain, pond, creek, or pool, for any reason, during any season is prohibited. Individuals or groups entering the water in any way or placing any objects, substances, or chemicals into the water are strictly prohibited. Such actions can jeopardize the safety of the individual and the water feature's components, systems, and the surrounding area.

Any individual found responsible for violating this policy may be subject to a \$500 fine, the cost of repairs, educational sanctions, additional sanctions, and/or a University Police Department criminal trespass order.

Vandalism. The willful or unintentional destruction, damage, or defacement of property. This policy covers university-owned property and property of others.

Violation of University Policy. A student violates, attempts to violate, or assists in violating any Jacksonville State University Policy or Regulation.

Violation of the Law. A student violates, attempts to violate, or assists in violating any local, state, federal, or international law.

SEXUAL MISCONDUCT

Referrals for alleged violations of sexual misconduct will be resolved in accordance with specific policies and procedures outlined in the Jacksonville State University Sex-Based Harassment and Misconduct Policy. If the Sex-Based Harassment and Misconduct Policy does not apply, by definition or alleged conduct, the student conduct procedures outlined in this policy will be followed to address all other alleged sexual misconduct.

The definitions and prohibited behaviors outlined in the Jacksonville State University Sex-Based Harassment and Misconduct Policy will be applied alongside the procedures and prohibited conduct mentioned here when the Sex-Based Harassment and Misconduct Policy is not applicable—either by definition or due to the nature of the alleged conduct. This may occur, for example, if the Title IX Office/Sex-Based Harassment and Misconduct Policy does not cover the incident's location (off University Premises).

The Jacksonville State University Sex-Based Harassment and Misconduct Policy is available on the Title IX website at JSU.EDU/titleix.

Discrimination. Any distinction, preference, advantage, or detriment to a person or group based on race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, marital status, pregnancy status, sexual orientation, age, religion, disability, predisposing genetic characteristics, military status, or domestic violence victim status.

Intimate Partner Violence: A pattern of coercive behaviors that serve to exercise control and power in an intimate relationship, as defined below. The coercive and abusive behaviors can be physical, sexual, economic, psychological, verbal, and/or emotional in nature. This includes any behaviors that intimidate, humiliate, isolate, frighten, terrorize, coerce, threaten, blame, hurt, injure, or wound someone. Intimate partner abuse can occur in relationships of the same or different genders; between current or former intimate partners who have dated, lived together, or been married. Intimate partner violence includes acts of relationship violence, domestic violence, or dating violence.

Intimate Partner Violence-Dating Violence: Any act of violence, including but not limited to physical, sexual, psychological, and verbal violence, sexual or physical abuse, or threat of such abuse, which occurs between individuals who are or have been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature. Dating Violence can occur as a single act or it can consist of a pattern of violent, abusive, or coercive acts that serve to exercise power and control in the context of a romantic or intimate relationship.

In determining the existence of such a relationship, the following will be considered:

- length of the relationship
- type of relationship
- the frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.

Dating violence does not include acts covered under the definition of domestic violence.

Intimate Partner Violence-Domestic Violence: Any violent felony, non-violent felony, or misdemeanor crime or threatened act of violence against the impacted person committed by (1) a current or former spouse or intimate partner; (2) a person with whom the Complainant shares a child; or (3) a person cohabitating with the impacted person as a spouse or intimate partner. Domestic violence also includes behavior that seeks to establish power and control over the impacted person by causing them to fear violence against themselves or another person. Such behavior may take the form of harassment, property damage, intimidation, violence, or a threat of violence to oneself or a third party. It may involve one act or an ongoing pattern of behavior.

“Intimate Relationship (intimate partner)” is determined based on the individual's statement and consideration of the type and length of the relationship, as well as the frequency of interaction between the persons involved. This relationship may be characterized by some or all of the following: emotional connectedness, regular contact, ongoing physical contact and sexual behavior, identity as a couple, and familiarity and knowledge about each other's lives. Two people may be in a romantic or intimate relationship, regardless of whether the relationship is sexual in nature. However, neither a casual acquaintance nor ordinary fraternization between two individuals in a business or social context constitutes a romantic or intimate relationship.

Quid Pro Quo Harassment. Conditioning, explicitly or implicitly, the provision of a benefit, opportunity, privilege, participation, favorable treatment, or avoidance of a detriment on another individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct. Quid Pro Quo Harassment occurs when a person uses an actual or perceived position of authority, influence, leadership, control, or power to obtain sexual conduct from another person.

Examples of Quid Pro Quo Harassment include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Offering, promising, or providing favorable treatment, benefits, privileges, opportunities, or advantages in exchange for unwelcome sexual conduct.
- Threatening, implying, or causing negative consequences, exclusion, loss of status, loss of opportunities, or other adverse treatment because an individual refuses unwelcome sexual conduct.
- Conditioning membership, participation, leadership opportunities, social inclusion, housing opportunities, organizational benefits, team-related benefits, or other University-related activities on an individual's submission to unwelcome sexual conduct.
- Using a position of authority or influence within a student organization, athletic team, residence hall, academic group, mentoring relationship, or other University-affiliated activity to solicit, pressure, or obtain unwelcome sexual conduct.
- Offering or withholding recommendations, endorsements, introductions, privileges, or other benefits within a University program, organization, or activity based on an individual's willingness to engage in unwelcome sexual conduct.

Sexual Assault. Any sexual act (forcible or nonforcible) directed against another person, without the consent of the person, including instances where the impacted person is incapable of giving consent, if that sex act meets the definition of one of the following:

- **Rape:** The penetration, no matter how slight, of the vagina or anus with any body part or object, or oral penetration by a sex organ of another person;
- **Fondling:** The touching of the private body parts of another person for the purpose of sexual gratification;
- **Incest:** Sexual intercourse between persons who are related to each other as:
 - Parent or child;
 - Step-parent or step-child;
 - Sibling;
 - Aunt/uncle or nephew/niece.
- **Statutory Rape:** Sexual intercourse with a person who is under the age of 16

Sexual Exploitation. Any act whereby one person violates the sexual privacy of another or takes unjust or abusive sexual advantage of another who has not provided consent, and that does not constitute Sexual Assault or Sexual Harassment.

Sexual exploitation-related violations included, but are not limited to:

- Recording, photographing, transmitting, viewing, possessing, displaying, publishing, sharing, or distributing intimate or sexual images, videos, audio recordings, or sexual information without the knowledge or consent of all parties involved; voyeurism (i.e., spying on others who are in intimate, private, or sexual situations).
- Creating, generating, altering, manipulating, or distributing intimate or sexual images, videos, or recordings of another person through artificial intelligence (AI), digital editing, deepfake technology, or other technological means without that person's knowledge and consent, including content that falsely depicts a person as nude, partially nude, or engaged in sexual activity.
- Observing another person when that person is nude or engaged in sexual activity without the knowledge and consent of the person observed, or allowing another to observe consensual sexual activity without the knowledge and consent of all parties involved.
- Making, sharing, posting, streaming, storing, or otherwise distributing any image, photograph, video, audio recording, or digitally created depiction of another person when that person is nude, partially

nude, engaged in sexual activity, or depicted in a sexualized manner without the knowledge and consent of the person depicted or recorded.

- Threatening, coercing, blackmailing, or attempting to compel another person to provide intimate images, sexual content, or sexual acts, or threatening to distribute such content without consent.
- Exposing one's genitals to another person without the consent of that person.
- Intentional, nonconsensual tampering with or removal of condoms or other methods of birth control and STI prevention prior to or during sexual contact that significantly increases the likelihood of STI contraction and/or pregnancy by the nonconsenting party.
- Exposing another person to a sexually transmitted infection without the knowledge and consent of the person exposed.
- Trafficking persons for sexual purposes.
- Causing another person to become incapacitated with the intent of making that person vulnerable to nonconsensual Sexual Assault or Sexual Exploitation.

“Deepfake” is digitally created, altered, manipulated, or synthetic audio, image, video, or other media generated through artificial intelligence, machine learning, or similar technologies that falsely depict an identifiable person as saying, doing, appearing in, or participating in conduct, events, or activities that did not actually occur.

Sexual Harassment. Unwelcome sexual conduct, including sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, sexual comments, or other verbal, nonverbal, written, electronic, visual, or physical conduct of a sexual nature that is sufficiently severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it unreasonably interferes with, limits, denies, or deprives an individual of the ability to participate in or benefit from a University program, activity, or educational environment.

Sexual Harassment includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Repeated unwelcome sexual comments, jokes, gestures, remarks, or propositions directed toward another person.
- Making unwelcome comments about an individual's body, appearance, sexual activity, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression.
- Sending, posting, displaying, transmitting, or distributing unwelcome sexual messages, images, videos, memes, recordings, or other sexually suggestive content through electronic, digital, social media, or other communication methods.
- Repeatedly requesting dates, romantic involvement, sexual activity, or sexual favors after being informed that such attention is unwelcome.
- Engaging in unwelcome sexual advances, touching, physical contact, or sexually suggestive behavior that does not otherwise constitute Sexual Assault.
- Displaying, sharing, or distributing sexually explicit, degrading, or offensive materials in a manner that interferes with another person's educational environment.
- Directing sexually degrading, humiliating, intimidating, or hostile conduct toward another person based on sex, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression.
- Engaging in a pattern of unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature that creates an intimidating, hostile, abusive, or offensive educational, living, working, or social environment.

Stalking. Engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to:

- Fear for the person's safety or the safety of others; or
- Suffer substantial emotional distress.

“Consent” is defined in the Jacksonville State University Sex-Based Harassment and Misconduct Policy found on the Title IX website, [JSU.EDU/titleix](https://www.jsu.edu/titleix).

STUDENT GENERAL PROCEDURAL ASSURANCES

The following is a list of procedures generally provided to any student participating in the University disciplinary process. Each case presents a unique set of facts and circumstances. Except for the right to receive notice and an opportunity to be heard, none of the procedures listed below is guaranteed. Similarly, additional procedures not listed below may apply or be available to the student. The Hearing Officer determines what procedures are available on a case-by-case basis.

The Office of Community Standards may elect to consolidate multiple reports or complaints based on their underlying nature to increase efficiency.

STUDENT GENERAL PROCEDURAL ASSURANCES-WITNESS(es)

1. A witness can request to be accompanied by one (1) support person of their choice in a disciplinary proceeding. The support person will not actively participate in the proceedings and cannot address the hearing officer(s), hearing board, or others participating in the conduct process.
2. A witness may request information about victim advocacy, counseling, mental health, or medical services available on and off campus.
3. Witnesses have the ability to report retaliation or harassment that may result from participating in the conduct process.
4. A witness may request the status of proceedings throughout the process, subject to applicable federal and state privacy laws.
5. A witness may have the opportunity to introduce documents and present information during the hearing.
6. A witness may request the opportunity to answer questions posed by the alleged student outside of their physical presence.

The Assistant Director of Community Standards or their designee will determine whether such a request will be granted. Other procedures may be provided on a case-by-case basis to protect the safety and well-being of the university community.

7. In the case of sexual misconduct violations or physical assault cases, impacted parties will receive timely notification of any decision made, including appeal results.
8. When reasonable, a witness may be granted a change in living assignment, academic arrangement, or other measures (determined on a case-by-case basis) necessary to prevent unnecessary or unwanted contact.

Please note that none of the procedures listed above are guaranteed to a witness. Additionally, procedures not listed below may be applicable or available to the student. The Hearing Officer determines what procedures are available on a case-by-case basis.

STUDENT GENERAL PROCEDURAL ASSURANCES-ALLEGED STUDENT

1. The alleged student will receive notification of the alleged violation, including the date, time, and place of any meeting or hearing regarding the alleged violation(s).
2. In a disciplinary proceeding, the Alleged student may be accompanied by one (1) advisor of their choice, and at their own expense. Advisors may only consult with the alleged student and are not permitted to speak on their behalf or address the hearing officer(s) or hearing board.
3. The alleged student may request a postponement of a disciplinary proceeding if circumstances warrant it.
A postponement will usually only be granted in cases involving an academic or medical situation. The decision to postpone a disciplinary proceeding rests with the hearing officer or designee from the Office of Community Standards. The hearing officer reserves the right to hear the case in absentia if the alleged student refuses to show up.
4. The alleged student may request access to any information that may be used during any administrative proceeding as permitted under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).
Access to materials will be provided before a hearing upon written request to the Office of Community Standards.
In cases where retaliation is a legitimate safety concern, the information may be redacted or presented in a manner that prevents identification.
5. The alleged student has the opportunity to introduce documents, call witnesses, and present information during their hearing. This opportunity is accompanied by the obligation to provide the name of and rationale for each witness in writing, at least two (2) business days in advance of a meeting or hearing, to the Hearing Officer.
 - a. In cases where retaliation is a legitimate safety concern, the Office of Community Standards may limit the opportunity to call or examine witnesses.
 - b. In cases where retaliation is a legitimate safety concern, evidence may be redacted to protect the identity of witnesses.
 - c. The presentation of information is not unlimited. The Hearing Officer may at any time direct the student to move on from irrelevant or redundant witnesses, documents, facts, or arguments.
 - d. Both parties have the right not to have irrelevant prior sexual history or sexual character admitted as evidence in a campus hearing. In addition, moral character evidence is generally not considered relevant evidence.
6. The alleged student will not typically be compelled to be a witness against themselves. However, if a student decides not to participate in the hearing or does not provide additional information, the Hearing Officer or board will render a decision without that information.
7. The alleged student will receive a finding of “responsible,” “not responsible,” or “no finding” based on the preponderance of the information, and will be notified of such decision in writing. The burden of proof is a “more likely than not” standard.
8. The alleged student may appeal the decision of a disciplinary proceeding in accordance with the University's Appeal procedures, which are outlined in the “Appeals” section of the Code of Student Conduct.

Please note that none of the procedures listed above are guaranteed to a Respondent other than receiving notice and an opportunity to be heard. Additionally, procedures not listed below may be applicable or available to the student. The Hearing Officer determines what procedures are available on a case-by-case basis.

STUDENT GENERAL PROCEDURAL ASSURANCES-COMPLAINANTS AND/OR IMPACTED INDIVIDUALS

1. Complainants may be accompanied in a disciplinary proceeding by one (1) advisor of the student's choosing, at the student's own expense. Advisors may only consult with the complainant and are not permitted to speak on the complainant's behalf or address the hearing officer(s) or hearing board.
2. Complainants can decide whether to notify local law enforcement authorities and/or to file a report with the Office of Community Standards.
3. Complainants may request information about victim advocacy, counseling, mental health, or medical services available on and off campus.
4. Complainants have the ability to report retaliation or harassment that may result from reporting acts of misconduct.
5. Complainants may request the status of proceedings throughout the process, subject to applicable federal and state privacy laws.
6. Complainant may have the opportunity to introduce documents, call witnesses, and present information during the hearing. This opportunity is accompanied by the obligation to provide the name and rationale for each witness in writing, at least two (2) business days in advance of the meeting or hearing, to the Hearing Officer.
 - a. In cases where retaliation is a legitimate safety concern, the Office of Community Standards may limit the opportunity to call or examine witnesses.
 - b. In cases where retaliation is a legitimate safety concern, evidence may be redacted to protect the identity of witnesses.
 - c. The presentation of information is not unlimited. The Hearing Officer may at any time direct the student to move on from irrelevant or redundant witnesses, documents, facts, or arguments.
 - d. Both parties have the right not to have irrelevant prior sexual history or sexual character admitted as evidence in a campus hearing. In addition, moral character evidence is generally not considered relevant evidence.
7. Complainants may request the opportunity to answer questions posed by the respondent outside of the respondent's physical presence. The Assistant Director of Community Standards or their designee will determine whether such a request will be granted. Other procedures may be provided on a case-by-case basis to protect the safety and well-being of the university community.
8. Complainants have the opportunity to submit (orally or in writing) an impact statement to any conduct body, should the respondent be found responsible for one or more of the alleged violations.
9. In the case of sexual misconduct violations or physical assault cases, complaining parties will receive timely notification of any decision made, including appeal results.
10. When reasonable, complainants may be granted a change in living assignment, academic arrangement, or other measures (determined on a case-by-case basis) necessary to prevent unnecessary or unwanted contact.

Please note that none of the procedures listed above are guaranteed to a complainant. Additionally, procedures not listed below may be applicable or available to the student. The Hearing Officer determines what procedures are available on a case-by-case basis.

RESOLUTIONS PROCEDURES

NOTICE TO THE UNIVERSITY/OFFICE OF COMMUNITY STANDARDS

The institution may receive notice of an allegation or potential violation of this or other related policies in several ways, including, but not limited to:

- The filing of an incident report with the Office of Community Standards, including self-reporting.
- Any Responsible University Official is made aware of any potential violation of this or other related policies.
- Any Responsible University Official observes any potential violation of this or other related policies.

RESIDENTIAL STUDENT CONDUCT

The Office of Housing Operations and Residence Life (HRL) Professional Staff and Graduate Staff serve as official designees of the Office of Community Standards and may act as Administrative Hearing Officers for residential student conduct matters. This authority includes adjudicating HRL-related violations of the Code of Student Conduct, violations of Housing Operations and Residence Life policies and procedures (including, but not limited to, the Guide to Residence Living), violations of other applicable University policies, and failures to comply with housing-related directives, expectations, or requirements communicated by Housing Operations and Residence Life staff or other University Officials acting within the scope of their responsibilities.

HRL designees may facilitate and resolve cases through the Prescribed Resolution Process, the Expedited Resolution Process when originating from a residential conduct matter, the Informal Resolution Process, and the Formal Resolution Process through Administrative Hearings, as outlined in this policy. HRL designees are authorized to determine responsibility and assign appropriate educational, restorative, and disciplinary sanctions within the scope of their delegated authority. HRL designees shall follow standardized sanctioning guidelines established by the Office of Community Standards.

In carrying out these responsibilities, HRL designees shall adhere to the procedures and standards established by the Office of Community Standards and the University. The Office of Community Standards is responsible for overseeing all residential conduct proceedings conducted by HRL designees and is responsible for ensuring that designees receive appropriate training, apply University policies consistently and equitably, uphold students' rights throughout the resolution process, and maintain compliance with all applicable University regulations and procedures.

HRL official designees include, but are not limited to:

- Directors / Assistant Directors
- Residence Life Coordinators (RLCs)
- Assistant Residence Life Coordinators (ARLCs)

AMNESTY

Amnesty is granted on a case-by-case basis by the Office of Community Standards and/or a designee, who will consider the specific circumstances and the totality of the situation.

MEDICAL AMNESTY POLICY

- A bystander or a reporting individual acting in good faith that seeks **immediate and appropriate medical assistance** for a person in need related to the use or consumption of alcohol, drugs, or to another medical emergency, may not be subject to the Code of Student Conduct for violations, including but not limited to, violations of alcohol and/or drug use policies occurring at or near the time of the incident in question. Any Student receiving aid also qualifies for amnesty. Amnesty records remain internal and non-disciplinary.

Steps to Medical Amnesty:

- Call 911, so appropriate emergency personnel (police, fire, and ambulance) can respond.
- Remain with the individual needing treatment and cooperate with emergency officials, as long as it is safe to do so.
- Notify and meet with appropriate university officials after the incident and cooperate with any

university investigation that may ensue.

The policy does not protect repeated, flagrant, or serious violations of the Code of Student Conduct or other university policies (including physical or sexual assault, violence, hazing, harassment, theft, or vandalism or instances where multiple individuals need medical attention), nor does it preclude or prevent action by police or other legal authorities.

GOOD SAMARITAN AMNESTY POLICY

A bystander or a reporting individual acting in good faith that discloses any incident of violence, including hazing, domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or sexual assault, to university officials or law enforcement may not be subject to the Code of Student Conduct for violations of alcohol and/or drug use policies occurring at or near the time of the incident in question. Amnesty records remain internal and non-disciplinary.

Steps to Good Samaritan Amnesty:

- Call 911 or report the incident to the appropriate University Official(s) if there is an ongoing safety concern or a person who needs medical attention. The student must ensure that it contacts the appropriate emergency personnel (police, fire, and ambulance) so they can respond.
- Remain on the scene and cooperate with emergency officials, as long as it is safe to do so.
- Notify and meet with appropriate university officials after the incident and cooperate with any university investigation that may ensue.

The policy does not protect repeated, flagrant, or serious violations of the Code of Student Conduct or other university policies (including physical or sexual assault, violence, hazing, harassment, theft, or vandalism or instances where multiple individuals need medical attention), nor does it preclude or prevent action by police or other legal authorities.

PRELIMINARY INQUIRY

Upon receiving notice of an alleged violation of this or other University Policies involving a student, the Office of Community Standards (or designee), in consultation with the appropriate University departments, will conduct a preliminary assessment to determine if there is a reasonable basis for conducting an investigation into the alleged violations of University Policies. This initial assessment will include a review of the information reported.

This may include, but is not limited to:

- Interview(s) with the person(s) who made the report.
- Interview(s) with Student Group/Organization member(s) and/or the Student Group/Organization Representative.
- Review the prior conduct history of the Student Group/Organization and relevant members.
- Gather information that would validate or invalidate elements of the report.
- Review of any materials related to the report.

If a determination is made that the alleged violation(s) warrant a more comprehensive investigation or response, the Office of Community Standards or designee will notify the student in writing, outlining the alleged violations, the available resolution options, and scheduling an investigative meeting (if applicable). This notification will also be sent to other individuals (e.g., the students' advisor) and/or departments, when applicable.

The report is documented and administratively closed if the Office of Community Standards or designee determines that no investigation is necessary. The Office of Community Standards or designee may or may not, at their discretion, notify the student of the information received and that the matter is closed. In a case where a student is notified, the Office of Community Standards or its designee may, at its discretion, maintain the confidentiality of any reporting party.

RESOLUTION OPTIONS

Upon notice of a potential violation, the Office of Community Standards or a designee will assess the allegations to determine available resolution options for addressing the alleged policy violations.

The determination of the resolution model will include consideration of the following:

- The severity of the alleged violations
- The risk of harm to other persons
- The conduct history and the current status of the alleged student
- Any other relevant factors.

The available resolution options are determined on a case-by-case basis by the Office of Community Standards and/or a designee, who will consider the severity of the alleged violation(s), the specific circumstances of the incident, and the totality of the situation.

The Office of Community Standards may elect to consolidate multiple reports or complaints based on their underlying nature to increase efficiency.

The Office of Community Standards and/or a designee retains the right to refer a case to a different resolution process as deemed necessary.

The available Resolution options include Early Resolution, Prescribed Resolution, Expedited Resolution, Informal Resolution, and Formal Resolution.

EARLY RESOLUTION

In certain cases, the Office of Community Standards or its designee may determine that there is insufficient evidence to proceed with an investigation, and/or that the information collected during an investigation, even if true, would not constitute a policy violation. Early resolution is not a determination of responsibility and is not recorded as a prior determination of such.

In these cases, the Office of Community Standards or its designee may meet with the alleged student and other relevant parties to discuss behavioral expectations and/or suggest proactive educational and/or developmental measures to support the student.

When an incident/report is resolved through an Early Resolution, the Office of Community Standards or designee retains the right to reopen the matter and proceed with investigation and/or adjudication if the University receives additional information and/or reports related to the matter.

PRESCRIBED RESOLUTION PROCESS

In certain cases, the Office of Community Standards or its designee, upon reviewing the allegations, report, and evidence, may determine, using a preponderance of the evidence, that there is sufficient evidence to support a policy violation(s) and will refer the case to be resolved using the Prescribed Resolution Process. This process is often used for lower-level violations.

In these cases, the Office of Community Standards or a designee will send a notice letter to the alleged student and any other appropriate parties outlining the charge(s), determination, sanction(s), and rationale.

Upon receipt of this letter, the alleged student may do one of the following:

- **Accept the determinations and Sanction(s)** – in this case, the student will follow the directives outlined in the determination letter that will be sent following completing the Prescribed Resolution Form/notice, and the case will be considered closed once any sanctions are completed.; or
- **Decline to accept the determinations and outcomes** – in this case, the matter will be addressed using an alternative resolution process. (A notice letter will be sent with more information after completing the Prescribed Resolution Form/notice.

The alleged student must notify the Office of Community Standards of their choice from the options above by completing the Prescribed Resolution Form/Notice within five (5) business days of receipt of the notice.

If no response is received, a second notice will be sent. If the alleged student fails to notify the Office of Community Standards of their choice a second time, the case will be closed "In Absentia." The determinations and sanctions as outlined will be recorded as accepted, and notice of such will be sent to the student and other relevant parties. The alleged student will be responsible for adhering to the sanctions outlined in the notice letter.

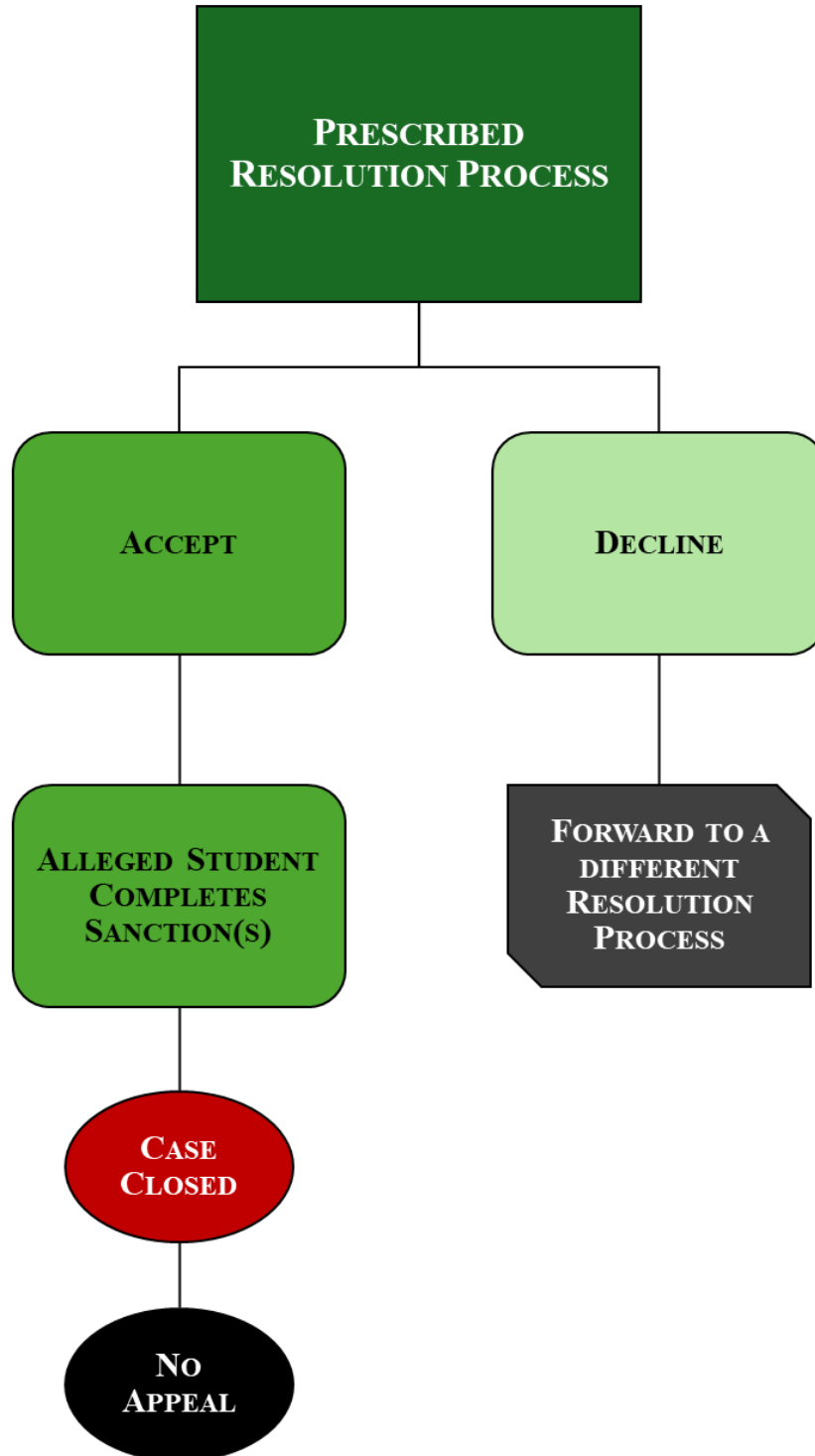
In any case that is resolved in absentia, regardless of the resolution process, the student will retain the right to appeal the determination and/or the assigned sanctions.

The Office of Community Standards or designee will oversee the completion of Sanctions. The alleged student will follow the directives outlined in the notice letter, and the case will be considered closed once the sanctions are completed. If the student fails to successfully complete any assigned sanctions or fails to complete the sanctions by the determined due date, as outlined in the notice letter, the student will have a hold placed on their student account pending the completion of the sanction(s), and may be subject to additional disciplinary actions at the discretion of the Office of Community Standards or designee.

In certain cases that might otherwise constitute a Prescribed Resolution Process, the Office of Community Standards or designee may determine that a different resolution option is warranted.

Determinations of responsibility and the assigned sanctions made through the alleged student's acceptance of a Prescribed Resolution are final and cannot be appealed.

PRESCRIBED RESOLUTION PROCESS FLOW CHART



INVESTIGATIVE MEETING

In cases where the Informal Resolution, and/or the Formal Resolution is an option based on the totality of the circumstances or in cases that require more information regarding the reported prohibited conduct, the Office of Community Standards or designee will schedule an Investigative Meeting with the alleged student, impacted person(s), and/or any witness(es).

The Investigative Meeting provides an opportunity for the alleged student and other appropriate parties (if applicable) to discuss the nature of the allegations, the rights and responsibilities of the student, the resolution options available to the involved parties based on the nature of the allegations, and the specific steps involved in the different resolution options. The Investigative Meeting provides an opportunity for the involved parties to share their perspectives on what happened and to provide evidence that might be helpful in the investigation. The alleged student and/or impacted party may also have the opportunity to select their preferred resolution option during the meeting.

The Resolution options available to the involved parties will be determined by the Office of Community Standards or its designee, as deemed appropriate.

The Office of Community Standards or designee will make the final determination on the resolution option to be used in investigating and adjudicating the alleged violations.

EXPEDITED RESOLUTION PROCESS

In cases where the Informal Resolution and/or the Formal Resolution are available based on the totality of the circumstances or in cases that began with a Prescribed Outcomes Process, but the alleged student declines to accept the determinations and sanctions, the alleged student may choose to accept accountability by accepting responsibility for the alleged violation(s). When an alleged student elects the Expedited Resolution Process, they waive their right to pursue an alternative resolution process and knowingly and voluntarily waive the right to appeal the determination of responsibility.

The alleged student will be found “Responsible” for the alleged violation(s), and the Office of Community Standards or designee will determine and assign outcome(s) based on the type and level of the violation(s), disciplinary history, and the totality of the situation.

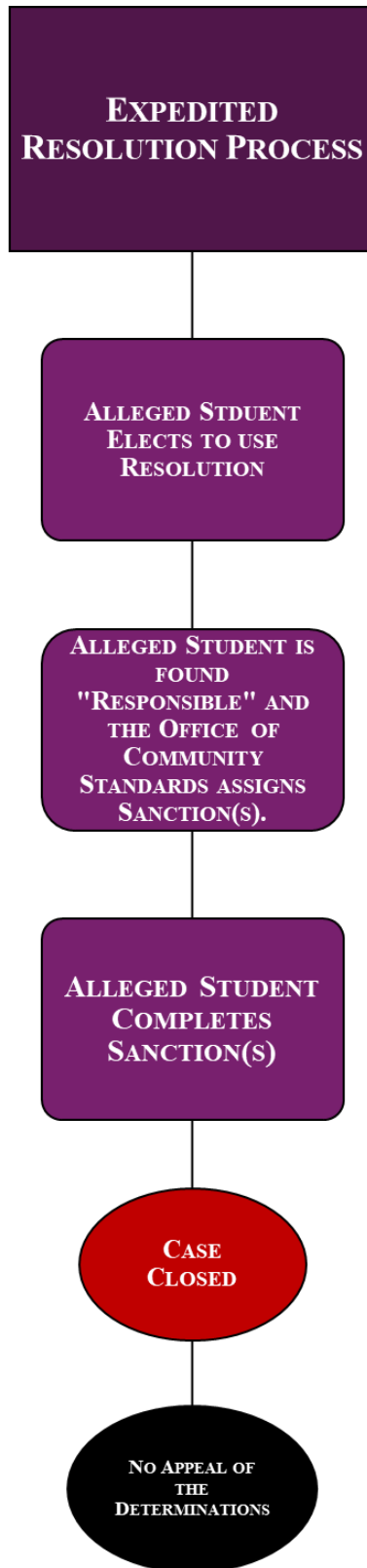
The Office of Community Standards will communicate sanction(s) in writing via a Notice Letter sent to the student’s University email account. The letter will list the assigned sanction(s), including the length of any active status, the details for completing the sanction(s), and the due date.

The alleged student will follow the directives outlined in the notice letter, and the case will be considered closed once the sanctions are completed.

The Office of Community Standards or designee will oversee the completion of Sanctions. The alleged student will follow the directives outlined in the notice letter, and the case will be considered closed once the sanctions are completed. If the student fails to successfully complete any assigned sanctions or fails to complete the sanctions by the determined due date, as outlined in the notice letter, the student will have a hold placed on their student account pending the completion of the sanction(s), and may be subject to additional disciplinary actions at the discretion of the Office of Community Standards or designee.

Determinations of responsibility made through the Expedited Resolution Process are final and cannot be appealed. However, the student retains the right to appeal the assigned outcomes.

EXPEDITED RESOLUTION PROCESS FLOW CHART



INFORMAL RESOLUTION PROCESS

If deemed practical based on the totality of the circumstances, the Office of Community Standards or designee may propose an Informal Resolution.

The Informal Resolution Process is typically used when more than one student is involved, and the Informal Resolution Process Agreement can achieve the goals of addressing the prohibited behavior, repairing any harm caused, preventing reoccurrence of the prohibited behavior, and/or educating and supporting all involved parties.

In some cases, an Informal Resolution can be utilized between the alleged student and the Office of Community Standards when deemed appropriate and practical based on the totality of the circumstances

The process of an Informal Resolution Process:

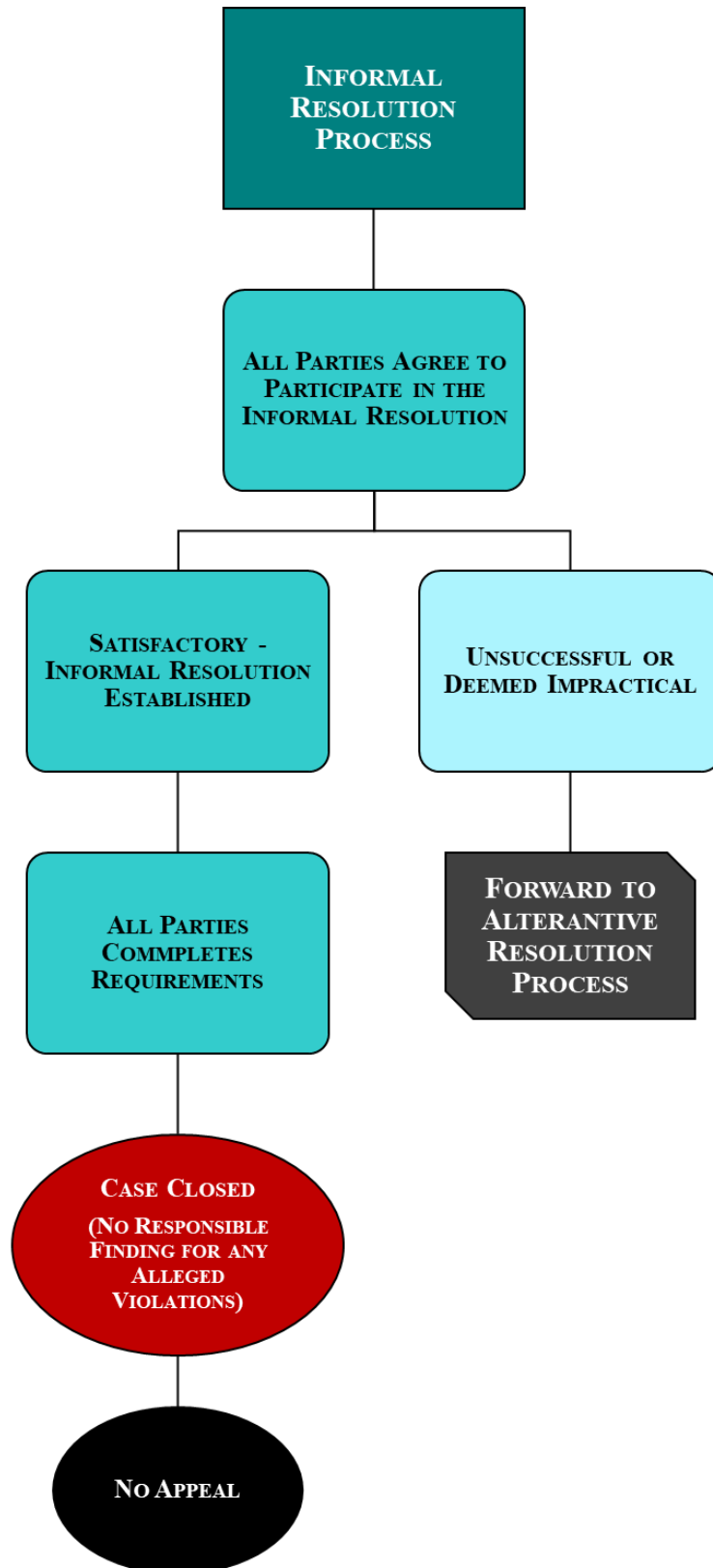
- All parties voluntarily sign the agreement to participate in an Informal Resolution Agreement
- The Requirements of the Informal Resolution Agreement are determined
- All parties voluntarily sign the Informal Resolution Agreement with all listed requirements
- The Informal Resolution Agreement is accepted by the Office of Community Standards and established
- The Informal Resolution Agreement requirements are completed
- The case is closed without a “Responsible” finding/determination of any alleged violations

If deemed practical and safe, the Office of Community Standards or its designee, and any involved individual(s), may voluntarily agree to an informal resolution agreement that constructively resolves the issues. By accepting the terms of the informal resolution agreement, the parties waive their rights to a formal hearing and to appeal. Should any party violate the terms of the informal resolution agreement, an alternative resolution process may be initiated.

If a satisfactory agreement is not reached after discussion with all involved parties, if the university or the involved parties believe that the conduct cannot be effectively addressed through the Informal Resolution Agreement, if the efforts are unsuccessful, any party no longer wants to continue, or at any time deemed impractical by the Office of Community Standards or designee, an alternative resolution process will be initiated.

During the Informal Resolution Agreement Process, no party will be determined responsible for any alleged misconduct. The Informal Resolution Agreement Process will be initiated with an agreement that lists the requirements of all parties and is signed by all the involved individual(s) and the Office of Community Standards or designee. Upon completion of the requirements, the case will be closed.

INFORMAL RESOLUTION PROCESS FLOW CHART



FORMAL RESOLUTION PROCESS

The Office of Community Standards or a designee may determine that a formal resolution process is necessary at any point during the conduct process. The Office of Community Standards or designee will notify the alleged student and other relevant parties that a Formal Resolution Process is being initiated.

The Office of Community Standards, typically the Assistant Director or designee, will serve as the Hearing Officer overseeing the Formal Resolution Process.

The Office of Community Standards retains final authority to determine responsibility and/or assign sanctions.

The Hearing Officer will determine, on a case-by-case basis, whether to proceed with an Administrative Hearing or a Panel Board Hearing.

ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING OFFICER/HEARING OFFICER:

A University Official, generally from the Office of Community Standards, trained to adjudicate violations, who oversees the resolution process of a conduct case.

Hearing Officer duties include, but are not limited to:

- Ensure that the conduct procedures, resolution process, and/or assignment of sanctions are consistent with university policies and procedures.;
- Manage the hearing's logistics to coordinate schedules, paperwork, and reports;
- Speak for the body in all exchanges with counsel, parties, and others (except when the bodies are engaged in general conferences with their advisor present);
- Oversee and control the proceedings to maintain order;
- Instruct persons before the hearing on the appropriate procedures;
- Declare the rulings and orders of the hearing;
- Ensure proper completion and filing of all papers

The Hearing Officer shall have discretion to interpret, vary, and adjust procedural requirements in order to promote a fair and just process and decision.

The Conduct procedures can be effective only to the extent that the cooperation of all participants assures an orderly and fair exchange of information. All parties appearing before the various hearing bodies are expected to show consideration for one another so that the fact-finding and analysis may proceed reasonably and reliably. The Hearing Officer shall have the authority to remove any participant (including advisors and witnesses) from the hearing or to inform any disorderly and disruptive person(s) that if their behavior does not subside, such acts may result in disciplinary action against the offenders.

FORMAL RESOLUTION PROCESS HEARING TYPES

Administrative Hearing—Administrative hearings are coordinated and conducted by the Hearing Officer, who determines whether the alleged student has violated the Code of Student Conduct and assigns appropriate sanctions. The Hearing Officers make their determinations using the Preponderance of Information/Evidence standard of proof as defined herein.

Panel Board Hearing—The Hearing Officer coordinates the Panel Hearing, advises the Hearing Board, and ensures that proper procedures are followed during the Panel Hearing. The Hearing Officer can participate in the hearing (i.e., asking questions). The Hearing Board Panel will comprise three (3) members: three (3) trained university officials (staff or faculty), or two (2) trained university officials and one (1) trained university student, when available. One University Official will serve as the Hearing Chair. The hearing board Panel will determine whether the alleged student is found responsible for violating the Code of Student Conduct by a simple majority vote, and no panel member may abstain from voting. If an alleged student is found “Responsible” for one or more violations, the hearing board members will recommend sanctions for the assigned violation(s). The Hearing Board members make their independent determination using the Preponderance of Information/Evidence standard of proof as defined herein.

INVESTIGATION

The Hearing Officer or designee(s) will complete any needed investigation. The Hearing Officer will typically complete any investigation within thirty (30) business days from the date the Notice of Investigation is sent or the date the case is referred to the Formal Resolution Process, unless exigent circumstances arise.

HEARING NOTICE

Upon completion of the investigation, the Office of Community Standards or its designee will send notice (including the time, date, and location of the hearing) to the alleged student and any other relevant parties at least five (5) days before any Formal Resolution hearing (Panel or Administrative Hearing).

ACCESS TO INFORMATION/EVIDENCE

Administrative Hearing: If the case is resolved through an Administrative Hearing, the Hearing Officer will review all evidence with the alleged student during the hearing in a manner deemed appropriate.

The alleged student may request access to any information that may be used during any administrative proceeding as permitted under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). Access to materials will be provided before a hearing upon written request to the Office of Community Standards. In cases where retaliation is a legitimate safety concern, the information may be redacted or presented in a manner that prevents identification.

The Hearing Officer will make the final determination of the relevance of any information gathered during the investigation. They can exclude any information found during the investigation or provided if deemed irrelevant and/or redundant.

In cases where retaliation is a legitimate safety concern, the information may be redacted or presented in a manner that prevents identification.

Panel Hearing: If the case is resolved through a Panel Hearing, the Hearing Officer will prepare a written investigation report. The Hearing Officer will provide the alleged student with the investigative report at least two (2) days before the Panel Hearing.

The Hearing Officer will make the final determination of the relevance of any information gathered during the investigation. They can exclude any information found during the investigation or provided if deemed irrelevant and/or redundant.

In cases where retaliation is a legitimate safety concern, the information may be redacted or presented in a manner that prevents identification.

HEARING TYPE CHANGE REQUEST

The alleged student may request an Administrative Hearing or Panel Hearing in writing to the Office of Community Standards. If a hearing is scheduled and the alleged student requests the alternative hearing type, they must submit a written request to the Office of Community Standards at least three (3) business days before the scheduled hearing.

DETERMINATION OF RESPONSIBILITY

Notice will be sent to the alleged student and any relevant parties, via a Notice Letter outlining the determination, rationale, and any assigned sanctions if applicable, within ten (10) business days of the hearing.

A determination is independently made for each alleged prohibited conduct violation; the possible findings are "Responsible," "Not Responsible," or "No Finding" based on the preponderance of the information.

The Assistant Director of Community Standards, or designee, retains the sanctioning authority for Administrative and Panel Hearings. At their discretion, the Assistant Director of Community Standards may modify the assigned sanctions to promote fairness and better meet the student's needs. The Assistant Director of Community Standards may adjust or extend any due dates associated with the assigned sanctions. They are not required to accept the Hearing Board's recommendation.

PRIVACY

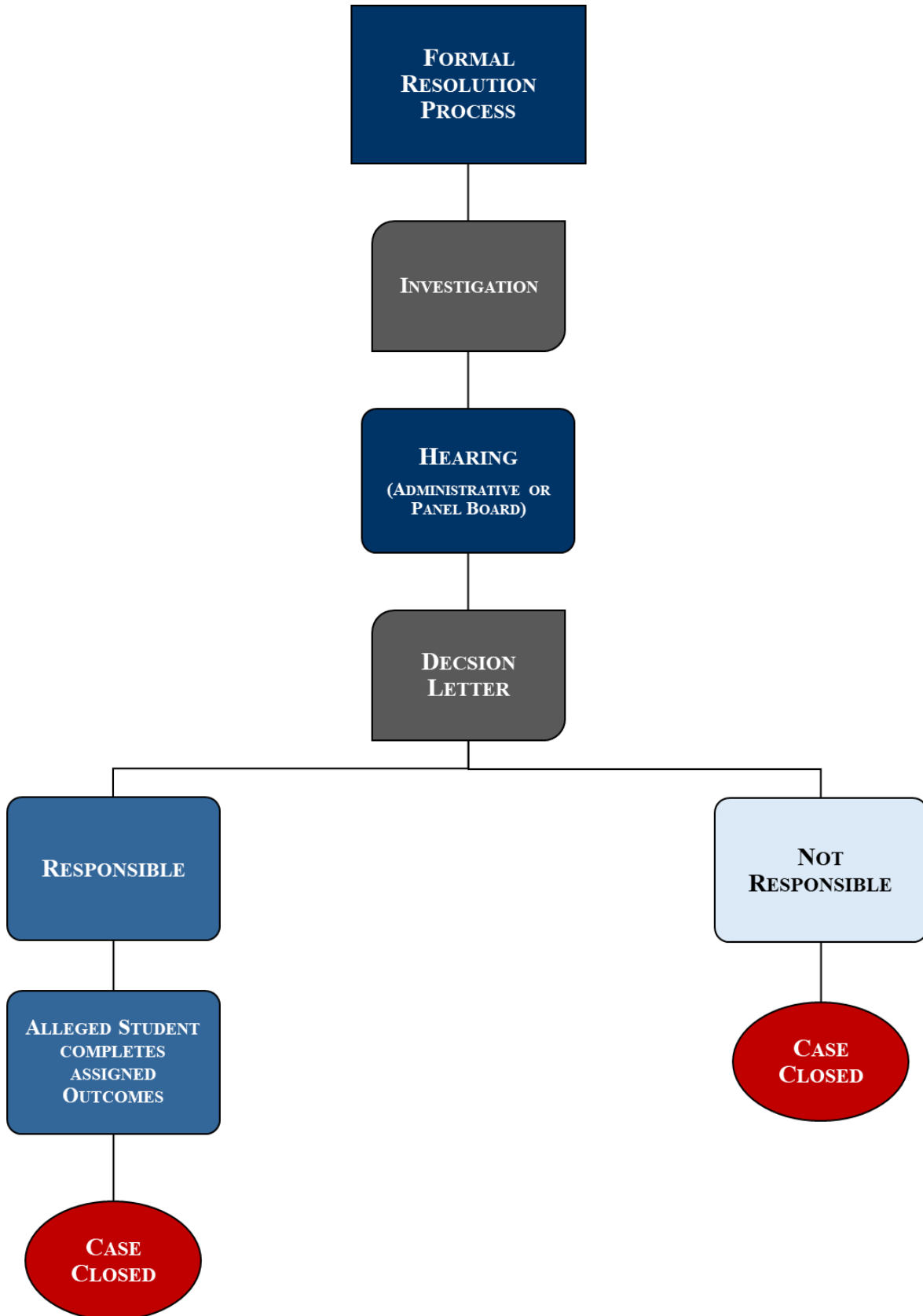
Private information is not confidential and can be shared when applicable and/or necessary. The information shared is limited, and measures are taken to protect sensitive information. Information related to a report of prohibited conduct will only be shared with those university officials or individuals who “need to know” in order to assist in the active review, investigation, or resolution of the report, including the issuance of interim measures. While not bound by confidentiality, these individuals are expected to be discreet and to respect and safeguard the privacy of all individuals involved in the process. Any information shared will be in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). Jacksonville State University will limit the disclosure as much as possible and will maintain privacy to the greatest extent possible.

University Officials participating in the conduct process will not share information discussed or the documents presented outside the process to protect the privacy of all individuals involved.

Individuals involved are expected to exercise discretion to minimize information sharing and respect the privacy of all parties. Providing materials (e.g., Investigative Report, Incident Report, evidence, etc.) to any other party not expressly participating in this process may be considered retaliatory and is not permitted.

In cases resolved by a Hearing Board, confidence is placed in the character and judgment of the board members, and they should hear, examine, and consider all information relevant to the specific issues before the body. Members should feel free to require the counsel of the board advisor, the university, the complainant, or the respondent to explain the information presented. Members are expected to commit themselves diligently and in good faith to the business of the board and to disqualify themselves, if necessary.

FORMAL RESOLUTION PROCESS FLOW CHART



INTERIM MEASURES

Regardless of the Resolution method, university-issued interim measures may be necessary. Depending on the nature of the alleged misconduct, interim actions may be taken as deemed necessary for the reasonable operation of Jacksonville State University. The Office of Community Standards, or its designee, and other designated university officials may impose interim measures.

In cases where it is determined that certain continued operations or the presence or the alleged student constitutes a reasonable threat of harm to themselves, individuals, or the campus community, damage to University Premises, or disruption to the educational mission of the University, the Office of Community Standards or designee may issue interim measures.

Interim Measures: Interim measures include support, accommodations, protective measures, and/or restrictive directives intended to protect the safety and well-being of the parties and/or the university community.

Upon issuance of an interim measure, the Office of Community Standards or designee will notify the student and other appropriate parties in writing.

Under its Student Code of Conduct process, Jacksonville State University will respond quickly to emergencies to protect the safety of the campus community.

The issuing university official retains the right to review and modify any interim measures as they see fit and in response to changing circumstances.

SUPPORTIVE INTERIM MEASURES/ACCOMMODATIONS

Impacted Individuals and/or the reporting student have the right to request supportive measures and interim accommodations from the Office of Community Standards (e.g., a No-Contact Order, Emergency Housing, etc.).

Any interim measure/accommodation will be issued at the discretion of the Officer of Community Standards or its designee.

TYPES OF INTERIM MEASURES:

Below are some of the Interim Measures the Office of Community Standards or designees may implement. ***This list is not exhaustive.***

Interim Accommodations- To obtain reasonable and available interim measures and accommodations that effect a change in academic, housing, employment, transportation, or other applicable arrangements to ensure safety, prevent retaliation, and avoid an ongoing hostile environment. Parties may request a prompt review of the need for, and the terms of, any interim measures and accommodations that directly affect them.

Interim Loss of Privileges- In certain circumstances, the Office of Community Standards or designee has the authority to restrict a student or recognized student organization from participating in certain university activities or events (on or off campus) or access to specific buildings or grounds of Jacksonville State University to protect the safety and well-being of the university community or specific individuals involved in the alleged incident.

Interim Suspension- In certain circumstances, the Assistant Director of Community Standards or designee has the authority to suspend a student or recognized student organization from the university on an interim basis, pending a disciplinary hearing. A student or organization will be suspended on an interim basis to ensure the safety and well-being of community members and/or Jacksonville State University property, to ensure the student's own physical or emotional safety and well-being, or to protect the community if the student poses a threat to the normal operation of the university.

Interim Suspensions may include the withdrawal of any or all university privileges and services, including class attendance, examination participation, athletics participation, and utilization of university premises and facilities.

Depending on the circumstances and at the sole discretion of the Office of Community Standards or its designee, students placed on interim suspension may still be allowed to attend classes (e.g., online). The Office will attempt to work with students on interim suspension so that their academic careers and on-campus living arrangements remain uninterrupted as much as reasonably practicable. However, in most cases, when a student is placed on interim

suspension, the incident is very serious and poses a significant risk to the student and/or the university community. Such widespread risks usually far outweigh the temporary protective measure of an interim suspension, which prohibits students from being physically present on university property.

Interim Housing Suspension- In certain circumstances, the Office of Community Standards or its designee (e.g., the Director of Housing and Residence Life) has the authority to suspend a student from all residential communities on an interim basis, pending a hearing. A student may be interim suspended from all residential communities to ensure the safety and well-being of members and/or Jacksonville State University property, to ensure the student's own physical or emotional safety and well-being, or to protect the community.

Interim No Contact Order- No Contact Orders are designed to prevent students involved in a campus conduct process from communicating with each other, helping minimize further altercations. A No Contact Order is a written directive prohibiting contact between individuals (directly, indirectly, or through a third party). It is intended to protect the safety and well-being of the parties involved.

INTERIM MEASURE PROCEDURES

DETERMINATION OF INTERIM MEASURES

Once a report has been filed, immediate action may be necessary to protect the individual(s) involved or the university community. Where the allegation of prohibited conduct has not been adjudicated on the merits, an Interim Measure may be imposed. In determining whether an Interim Measure is appropriate, the Office of Community Standards and/or other university officials may conduct a continuing threat and danger assessment.

In determining whether an individual poses a continuing threat to the community, the following factors may be considered:

- Whether the accused has a history of violent behavior or is a repeat offender.
- Whether the accused has failed to comply with prior interim measures, such as a No Contact Order, or with court orders, such as an Order of Protection.
- Whether the incident represents an escalation of their conduct
- The increased risk that the accused will commit additional acts and/or acts of violence.
- Whether the accused used a weapon or force.
- Whether the Reporting Individual is a minor.
- Whether the report or investigation reveals a pattern of perpetration at a given location or by a particular individual or group.

NOTICE

The Office of Community Standards or its designee will promptly inform the recipient of the interim measure. The Notice will outline the interim measure and its scope. Notice is generally a written directive sent via email or delivered in person. Interim Measures become effective upon delivery of the notice.

VIOLATING A PROTECTIVE MEASURE

A person violates an interim protective/restrictive measure if they (1) have notice, as addressed above, and (2) intentionally or unintentionally failed to comply with restrictions articulated in the written directive (e.g., "No Contact Order," "Interim Suspension.") issued by a university official.

A person who violates an interim protective/restrictive measure may be charged with "failure to comply" and may be subject to additional/modified interim measures and/or disciplinary actions.

REVIEWING INTERIM MEASURES

The student who was issued an Interim Measure may submit a written petition to the Office of Community Standards within five (5) business days of receiving the notice of the interim measure for an administrative review of the decision to impose the interim measure.

The petitioning student must include an explanation of the reason for their request and any supporting information, and/or documentation. Requests without a basis or sufficient information, or review requests that are considered

frivolous in nature, will not be reviewed. General complaints will not automatically be construed as a petition to review an interim measure.

This Review of an Interim Measure procedure only addresses interim measures issued in the context of a disciplinary proceeding, as defined by the Code of Student Conduct.

Upon receipt of a petition with supporting documentation, the Office of Community Standards or its designee will review the petition and make a determination based on the totality of the circumstances.

Additional university officials may be consulted before a decision is rendered on the petition. The review is not a hearing on the merits of the underlying allegations but merely a review to determine what, if any, interim measures are appropriate.

The review may result in the continuance, removal, and/or modification of the interim measures, including modifications that may be more restrictive than the initial measures.

The University will notify the petitioning student in writing of the review outcome within ten (10) business days of receiving the written petition. This notification will include the University's decision and the rationale for that decision.

The issuing university official retains the right to review and modify any interim measures as they see fit and in response to changing circumstances.

SANCTIONS

The Office of Community Standards may take any action it deems necessary for the reasonable operation of Jacksonville State University. The following sanctions may be imposed upon any student found responsible for a violation(s) of the Code of Student Conduct. The Office of Community Standards or its designee may impose additional sanctions not listed below, as it deems fit.

A student may receive sanctions as a result of the disciplinary process. Sanctions are designed to address the behavior, repair any harm caused, prevent recurrence, and, when possible, are educational and/or supportive.

Sanction: An outcome imposed for the violation of the Code of Student Conduct. Generally, sanctions are educational in nature and intended to modify the student's behavior and build awareness of personal responsibility and community standards. Sanctions may also be given to protect the University community and preserve a safe educational environment for all members.

TYPE OF SANCTIONS:

Sanctions may include, but are not limited to:

1. **Warning-** an official written warning. Any additional or repeated instances of prohibited conduct may result in additional disciplinary action.
2. **Disciplinary/Housing Probation-** Probation serves to notify a student that they must avoid any further violations for a specified period of time to avoid additional disciplinary action. Disciplinary Probation may include restrictions on privileges and/or additional requirements. A student on probation is not in good standing with the University. If a student on probation is found responsible for any subsequent violations, the sanctions may escalate.
3. **Deferred University/Housing Suspension-** A University or Housing Suspension as defined below that has been deferred pending the successful completion of a determined period of time without any further violations and/or the completion of assigned sanctions.

The decision to place a suspension into deferred status is at the discretion of the Office of Community Standards or its designee. It will be considered only if the student's presence on campus is not deemed a threat.

If a student on deferred suspension status is found responsible for any subsequent violations and/or does not successfully complete the assigned sanctions as outlined in the notice letter, the suspension will take effect immediately, without appeal.

4. **Housing Suspension-** Action that excludes the student from residing in any University-owned or operated housing facility. An administrative trespass for the buildings, grounds, and parking lots of all residential living facilities of Jacksonville State University is included with a Housing Suspension.
5. **University Suspension-** Action that excludes the student from registration, class attendance, residence in university-owned or managed housing, and use of university facilities for a specified period of time. The suspension typically includes a trespass from all university property during the designated suspension timeframe. Should a suspended student be found on university property, further disciplinary action may be warranted.

A suspension may be deferred pending the successful completion of a determined period of time without any further violations and/or the completion of assigned sanctions. This decision is at the discretion of the Office of Community Standards or its designee and will be considered only if the student's presence on campus is not deemed a threat. Should the student be readmitted, further incidents of misconduct will result in additional suspension periods or dismissal from the university. Additionally, failure to comply with the terms and conditions of a suspension may result in an extension of the suspension period or further disciplinary action.

A suspension will take place once the appeal timeframe or process is complete. In the event of a suspension, students are encouraged to consult with Student Accounts and the University Registrar regarding possible tuition and fee refunds. The Office of Community Standards has no authority in financial matters.

A notation may be placed on a student's transcript indicating a disciplinary suspension. After the suspension term and any other sanctions have ended, the suspension transcript notation will be removed. Upon completion of the suspension period and fulfillment of all disciplinary requirements, the student must comply with all academic admission standards in effect to register.

6. **Dismissal-** The permanent loss of the privilege of registration, class attendance, and residence in university-owned or managed housing. This action also permanently withdraws the privilege to use university facilities or property. A student who has been dismissed is not eligible for readmission. Any dismissed student will not be entitled to any refund of tuition or fees. A notation will be placed on a student's transcript indicating disciplinary dismissal. Dismissal typically includes a trespass from all university property. Should a student who is dismissed from the university be found on university property, further disciplinary action may be warranted.
7. **Educational Sanction-** An order requiring the student to complete a program/task(s) designed to assist the student in learning more about how their behavior impacted themselves and/or the community. Some examples include, but are not limited to, educational seminars, treatment programs for alcohol or drug use/abuse, or other programs/tasks.

Education Sanctions may include, but are not limited to:

- **Web-Based Course-** A web-based course that is educational. Course topics may include, but are not limited to, Healthy Relationships, Communication Skills, Alcohol and Drug Misuse Prevention, Fire Safety, Wellness, Personal Development, and Hazing Prevention.
 - **Research Project-** A paper/project on a related topic meant to educate and inform the student(s).
 - **Reflection Paper-** A reflection paper with the purpose to give the student an opportunity to reflect on their experience, consider the decisions they made and what they have learned, and consider how they want to move forward. This is not meant to be punitive, but rather a chance for personal insight and growth.
 - **Brief Alcohol Screening and Intervention for College Students (BASICS)-** is an evidence-based, harm-reduction program designed to help college students (typically ages 18–24) evaluate their drinking habits in a non-judgmental, confidential setting. It aims to motivate students to reduce alcohol use to decrease the negative consequences of drinking, reveal discrepancies between the students' risky drinking behavior and their goals and values, and promote safer decision-making through individual motivational interviews and personalized feedback.
 - **Individualized College Health for Alcohol and Marijuana Project (iCHAMP)-** is an evidence-based, harm-reduction program designed to help college students (typically ages 18–24) evaluate their substance use habits in a non-judgmental, confidential setting. It aims to motivate students to reduce marijuana/cannabis use to decrease the negative consequences of use, reveal discrepancies between the student's behavior and their goals and values, and promote safer decision-making through individual motivational interviews and personalized feedback.
 - **New Pathways-** A program facilitated by Counseling Services, which is psycho-educational and involves individualized assessment and completion of Canvas Course Modules. The aim is to reduce the use of Alcohol and/or Drug use.
8. **Fine (Disciplinary/Housing)-** A monetary penalty imposed on a student
 9. **Loss of Privileges-** The withdrawal of a privilege (e.g., Guest/Visitation privileges, Access to a building or service, etc.)
 10. **No Contact Order-** No Contact Orders are designed so that students involved in a campus conduct process do not communicate with each other to help minimize further altercations.

Sanctions Chart

The following are the typical sanctions used based on the type of prohibited conduct and the number of times it has been violated.

| Alcohol Charge | 1st Violation | 2nd Violation | 3rd Violation |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|---|---|
| Fine | \$150 | \$300 | \$300 |
| Education | Web-Based Course | BASICS (Program Fee) | New Pathways (Program Fee) |
| Additional Sanction | Warning/ Housing Probation | Housing Probation/ Deferred Housing Suspension | Deferred Housing Suspension/ Housing Suspension |

| Drug Charge | 1st Violation | 2nd Violation | 3rd Violation |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|---|---|
| Fine | \$150 | \$300 | \$300 |
| Education | Web-Based Course | iCHAMP (Program Fee) | New Pathways (Program Fee) |
| Additional Sanction | Warning/ Housing Probation | Housing Probation/ Deferred Housing Suspension | Deferred Housing Suspension/ Housing Suspension |

| Fire Safety Equipment | 1st Violation | 2nd Violation |
|------------------------------|--|---|
| Fine | \$300 fine per tampered equipment | \$300 fine per tampered equipment |
| Education | Web-Based Course | |
| Additional Sanction | Warning/ Housing Probation/ Deferred Housing Suspension | Housing Probation/ Deferred Housing Suspension/ Housing Suspension |

| Smoking/Tobacco | 1st Violation | 2nd Violation | 3rd Violation |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|---|---|
| Fine | \$150 | \$300 | \$300 |
| Additional Sanction | Warning/ Housing Probation | Housing Probation/ Deferred Housing Suspension | Deferred Housing Suspension/ Housing Suspension |

| Retail Theft-On Campus | 1st Violation | 2nd Violation | 3rd Violation |
|-------------------------------|---|---|---|
| Fine | \$150 | \$300 | \$300 |
| Additional Sanction | Web-Based Course | Revoke Store Access (One Year) | Revoke Store Access (Permanently) |
| Additional Sanction | Revoke Store Access (Remainder of Semester) | Housing Probation/ Deferred Housing Suspension | Deferred Housing Suspension/ Housing Suspension |

Sanctions may be imposed on any student found responsible for violating the Code of Student Conduct.

Any student found responsible for violating any of the listed prohibited conduct, regardless of where the incident occurred, while living in university housing, can be subject to the listed sanctions.

The Office of Community Standards may implement other sanctions not listed.

The listed sanctions may be modified based on the severity of the incident and other relevant factors.

A Student found responsible for multiple charges may be subject to separate fines for each charge arising from the same documented incident.

APPEALS

The following appeal procedures are outlined and considered after a decision regarding responsibility has been made. The purpose of an appeal is to ensure that the original findings of fact, the reasoned integration of them, and the imposition of the Outcomes are consistent with University policies and procedures.

REQUESTS FOR APPEAL

The appeal will be submitted in writing to the Office of Community Standards using the [APPEAL SUBMISSION FORM](#) found on the Office of Community Standards website at JSU.EDU/COMMUNITY-STANDARDS/.

The appeal must be submitted within five (5) business days (or, for the New Evidence grounds for appeal, 30 days) from the delivery of the Outcomes Letter.

All appeals must be based on the grounds outlined in this policy. Discontentment with a particular finding and/or the assigned sanction(s) is not a valid reason for appeal.

An appeal will not be considered unless it is submitted on the Appeal Submission Form and received within the allotted time.

It is the sole responsibility of the appealing student to provide information to support the grounds for an appeal. The appeal must include a full statement of asserted information to support one or more bases of the appeal as outlined under “Grounds for Appeal” below. If there is insufficient information to support one or more of the bases for the appeal, the appeal must be denied.

Documentation to submit with the request, by the type of grounds for the appeal, may include, but is not limited to:

1. **New Evidence:** A statement explaining why the determination should be appealed. A summary of the new evidence, how it was previously unknown or unavailable, and its potential impact should be included, and if applicable, provide that new evidence.
2. **Procedural Error:** A statement explaining why the determination should be appealed. A summary of the procedural error(s), the potential impact on the hearing and/or the determination, and any available evidence of the procedural error(s).
 - Any challenge for bias should include: a) what the bias was, b) how the bias manifested itself, c) how the bias significantly impacted the outcome, and d) any available supporting evidence of bias.
3. **Appeal of the Outcome(s):** A statement explaining why the outcome(s) are either too lenient or too severe and do not adequately fit the nature of the violation and/or the totality of the circumstances, and/or a summary of why the Student Group/Organization could not reasonably complete them within the allotted timeframe. Any available supporting evidence should also be included.

The appeals process allows for only one appeal per Student Group/Organization. The Student Group/Organization can not submit multiple appeals.

If another party is involved in the matter (e.g., Impacted Individual), the involved party will receive a copy of the submitted appeal and will have five (5) business days to submit a response to the Appeals Officer.

If the appeal involves any member of the conduct process (e.g., a challenge of bias by an investigator or hearing officer), the Appeals Officer may share all or part of the appeal with the party in question to allow them to respond. They will be required to respond within five (5) business days.

APPEALS OFFICER & APPEALS PANEL

No person involved as an original hearing officer(s) and/or hearing board can serve as the Appeals Officer or on the Appeals Panel.

The Associate Vice President for Student Affairs, or designee, will serve as the Appeals Officer. The Appeals Officer will ensure that appropriately trained university officials are appointed to the Appeals Panel. The Appeals Panel will consist of three (3) University Officials.

APPEAL PROCEDURES

Decisions will be made by a simple majority vote, and no member of the three (3) appeals panel members may abstain from voting.

The Appeals Panel will first review and determine if the requests adequately meet the grounds for appeal. It is the sole responsibility of the appealing party or Student Group/Organization to provide information to support the grounds for an appeal. The appeal must include a full statement of asserted information to support one or more grounds of the appeal.

If there is insufficient information to support one or more of the listed grounds for the appeal, the appeal must be denied.

Appeals that have sufficient information to support one or more of the listed grounds for the appeal will be reviewed by the Appeal Panel.

Appeals are not intended to be full re-hearings of the original allegation(s). In most cases, appeals are confined to a strictly limited review of the matters being appealed.

The Appeals Panel may review any relevant material, including but not limited to:

- The Determination and/or Outcome(s) documentation
- Investigative Report
- All pertinent evidence
- Any audio/video recording(s)
- Witness statements
- Incident reports
- Prior violations and/or Outcomes against the Student Group/Organization
- Any other relevant documentation/materials

Upon the completion of the review, the Appeals Panel may:

1. Affirm the original finding(s) and of the assigned Outcome(s)
2. Affirm the original finding(s) but grant an appeal of the Outcome(s) – Determine the Outcome(s) are inconsistent and/or inappropriate. The Outcome(s) may be modified as outlined below.
 - The Appeals Panel and/or Appeals Officer may modify the Outcome(s) or
 - The Appeal Panel and/or Appeals Officer will make recommendations and request the Office of Community Standards and/or Hearing Officer(s) to modify the Outcome(s) and submit a more consistent and appropriate outcome(s).
3. Grant the appeal and remand the case to the Office of Community Standards and/or Hearing Officer(s) to correct procedural errors or factual deficits and/or to conduct a new hearing. The appeals panel will provide instructions to further investigate, clarify findings, conduct a new hearing, and/or remedy procedural errors.
 - **Factual Deficits:** refers to missing, weak, or inaccurate evidence necessary to make a determination of responsibility.
 - **Procedural Error:** refers to a failure to follow established policies and procedures, or requirements, often affecting the fairness, validity, or outcome of a process.
4. Grant the appeal, and the Appeals Panel and/or Appeals Officer will do one of the following:
 - Make a recommendation to reverse the original finding and dismiss all findings of responsibility.
 - Reverse the original finding and remand the case to the Office of Community Standards and/or Hearing Officer(s) to conduct a new hearing.

Dismissal will only occur when there is insufficient information to support a finding of responsibility.

GROUNDS FOR APPEAL

New Evidence: New evidence is information that was unknown or unavailable during the original hearing or investigation that could substantially impact the original finding or the assigned sanction(s)/outcome(s).

If a witness was not requested, refused to testify, or participate in the investigation, and now the appealing party or person wishes to have their testimony submitted as new evidence, that testimony will not be considered “new evidence” under this ground. The Office of Community Standards and/or the Appeals Officer may determine whether to send the matter back for further investigation based on this appeal request.

Procedural Error: A procedural error or omission occurred that significantly impacted the outcome of the hearing (e.g., substantiated bias, material deviation from established procedures, etc.).

A mere allegation of bias may not be sufficient to meet this ground for appeal.

Appeal of the Outcome(s): The Outcome(s) imposed are inconsistent with the violation(s). The Outcome(s) are either too lenient or too severe and do not adequately fit the nature of the violation and/or the totality of the circumstances, and/or the Outcome(s) are of such nature that the Student Group/Organization could not reasonably complete them within the allotted timeframe.

Discontentment with a particular finding and/or the assigned outcome(s) is not a valid reason for appeal.

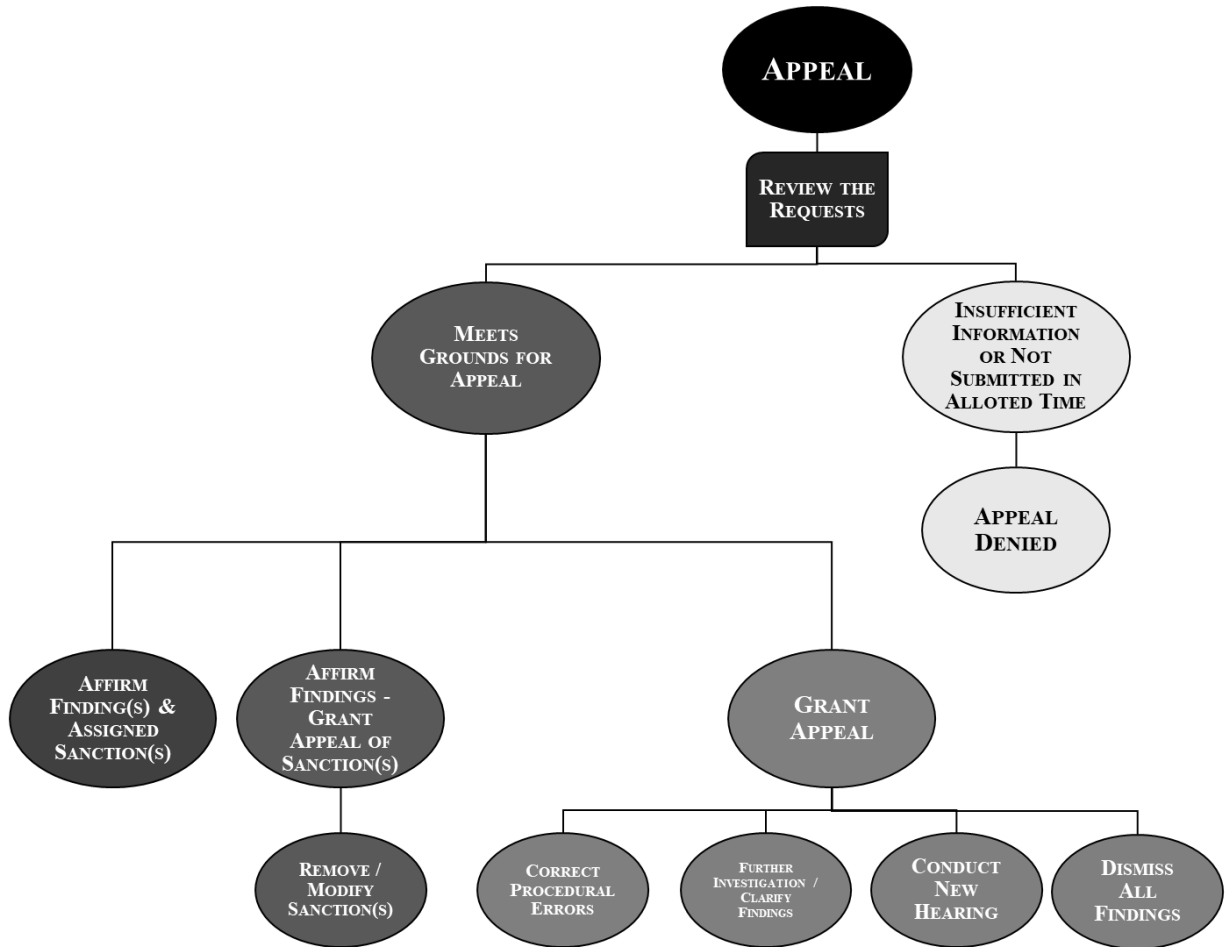
APPEAL CONCLUSIONS

The Appeals Officer will notify the Student Group/Organization in writing by electronic mail of the determination. Generally, the Appeals Panel will adjudicate the appeal within fifteen (15) business days of receiving the complete appeal or, if applicable, from receiving any response(s) to the appeal. If the Appeals Officer requires additional time, they will notify the student.

The appeals process only allows for one appeal per student or student organization. A student cannot submit more than one appeal. The appeals process only affords one level of appeal. Once an appeal is decided, further appeals are not permitted.

The Appeals Panel’s decision is final.

APPEAL PROCESS FLOW CHART



APPEAL RIGHTS BY RESOLUTION PROCESS CHART

| Resolution Process | Determinations | Assigned Sanction(s) | Notes |
|---|----------------|----------------------|--|
| Early Resolution | Not Applicable | Not Applicable | |
| PRESCRIBED RESOLUTION (ACCEPTED) | No | No | |
| Expedited Resolution | No | Yes | |
| Informal Resolution | Not Applicable | Not Applicable | |
| Formal Resolution | Yes | Yes | |
| In Absentia | Yes | Yes | Any case that is resolved in absentia, regardless of the resolution process, will retain the right to appeal the determination and/or the assigned outcomes. |

No = The student does not have the right to appeal

Yes = The Student does have the right to appeal

RELATED JACKSONVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY POLICIES & RESOURCES

Related University policies can be located in the Student Handbook (jsu.edu/studentaffairs/handbook), the University's [Policies and Procedures Manual](#), the Office of Community Standards website (jsu.edu/community-standards/), the Title IX website (jsu.edu/titleix/), and/or the Jacksonville State University website (JSU.EDU).

RESOURCES

Jacksonville State University and the Office of Community Standards are dedicated to fostering a safe, inclusive, and supportive environment. We are committed to supporting our students in every aspect of their academic and personal journeys. A wide range of on and off-university premises resources and support services are available to students. The well-being and success of students are our top priorities, and we are here to support you on your journey at Jax State.

For more information on available resources, please visit the [Resources Page on the Office of Community Standards website](#) or contact the Office of Community Standards (jsu.edu/community-standards/) via email, phone, or in person.

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY STANDARDS

301-A Angle Hall

256.782.8080

communitystandards@jsu.edu

<https://www.jsu.edu/community-standards/index.html>

TITLE IX

319 Angle Hall

256.782.5769

titleix@jsu.edu

<https://www.jsu.edu/titleix/index.html>

DEAN OF STUDENTS OFFICE

402 Theron Montgomery Building

256.782.5491

<https://www.jsu.edu/studentlife/index.html>

COUNSELING SERVICES

147 Trustee Circle

256.782.5475

<https://www.jsu.edu/counseling/index.html>

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY/UNIVERSITY POLICE

Salls Hall

601 Forney Ave

256.782.5050

<https://www.jsu.edu/police/>

RMC/JSU HEALTH CENTER

1701 Pelham Rd S

256.782.5310

<https://www.jsu.edu/studenthealth/index.html>

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Hotlines and Online Resources for Crisis Intervention, Support, and Referrals

1. Sexual Violence & Relationship Violence

Legal Momentum: <https://www.legalmomentum.org/our-resources>

Pandora's Project: <https://pandys.org/about-sexual-assault/>

LGBTQ Domestic Violence Project: <http://www.glbtqdv.org/>

RAINN: <https://www.rainn.org/get-help>

Safe Horizons: <http://www.safehorizon.org/>

Please note that these hotlines are for crisis intervention, resources, and referrals. They are not reporting mechanisms. Disclosure during a call to a hotline does not provide the university with any information.

2. Relationships

Love is Respect: www.loveisrespect.org

Break the Cycle: www.breakthecycle.org

One Love Foundation: <https://www.joinonelove.org/>

Iwannaknow: www.iwannaknow.org

Day One: www.dayoneny.org

Futures Without Violence: www.futureswithoutviolence.org

3. Men

1 in 6: www.1in6.org

Male Survivor: www.malesurvivor.org

Men Can Stop Rape: www.mencanstoprape.org/

National Domestic Violence Hotline: 800.799.SAFE (7233)

The Movember Foundation: <https://us.movember.com/>

4. LGBTQ

LGBTQ National Help Center: 888.843.4564, <https://lgbthotline.org/>

The Trevor Project: www.thetrevorproject.org

FORGE: <http://forge-forward.org/>

The Fenway Institute: <http://fenwayhealth.org/>

Trans Lifeline: 877.565.8860, <https://www.translifeline.org/>

5. Mental Health

If you are having thoughts of suicide, please reach out to the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline by dialing 988 for help. Please view the additional crisis prevention resources below:

Active Minds: <https://www.activeminds.org>

Boys Town Crisis and Suicide Hotline: 800.448.3000

Half of Us: www.halfofus.com

S.A.F.E. Alternatives: 800.DONT.CUT (366.8288)

Self-Injury Outreach and Support: www.sioutreach.org

Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA): 800.662.4357, www.samhsa.gov

National Eating Disorder Association (NEDA): 800.931.2237, www.nationaleatingdisorders.org

[Crisis Text Line](#) (Confidential Reporting)

Text HOME to 741741 for free, 24/7 crisis support in the US National Suicide and Crisis Lifeline (988)

People can call or text 988 or chat at 988lifeline.org for themselves or if they are worried about a loved one who may need crisis support. 988 serves as a universal entry point so that no matter where you live in the United States, you can reach a caring, trained counselor who can help. 988 offers 24/7 access to trained crisis counselors who can help people experiencing mental health-related distress. That could be:

Thoughts of suicide

Mental health or substance use crises

Emotional distress

And other reasons to connect (46 seconds)

Alcohol and/or Substance Use

The use and/or abuse of illegal drugs, tobacco, and alcohol carries possible health risks to the individual user as well as the campus community and the community at large. Substance use risk reduction strategies are an important way to keep our campus healthy and safe. Please do not hesitate to seek help if you are a victim of a crime, even if you have violated the University's Alcohol and/or Drug Policies. You will be treated with dignity and care throughout the reporting process, regardless of the circumstances of the assault.

ALCOHOL AND RISK REDUCTION*

WHAT TO KNOW

- Do the math:
 - o one drink = 12 oz. of regular beer
 - o one drink = 4 to 5 oz. of wine
 - o one drink = 1.5 oz. of hard alcohol
- Binge- or problem-drinking is defined as consuming five or more drinks on one occasion.
- Any amount of alcohol can impair judgment—more so under certain conditions.
- Our body metabolizes approximately one alcoholic drink per hour—there is no way of speeding it up.
- Drinking while engaging in sexual behavior can increase risk for sexual assault, transmitting STIs, and unplanned pregnancies.
- Alcohol is a drug—it is an addictive substance that changes our brain chemistry and can cause chemical dependency.

HOW TO BE SAFE

- When you go to a party, go with a group of friends. Arrive together, watch out for each other, and leave together. Make sure at least one member of the group remains sober and will look out for others.
- If you choose to drink, know your limits and stick to them. Have one drink with alcohol and the next one without alcohol.
- If someone has passed out, do not leave them alone. Turn them on their side and call 911; do not assume they will “just sleep it off”.
- Trust your instincts about uncomfortable situations. Be aware of your surroundings at all times.
- Don't allow yourself to be isolated with someone you do not know or trust.
- State your limits clearly. Do not be afraid to say “No” and/or walk away if you feel pressured, coerced, or even just uncomfortable.

- Educate yourself about Date Rape Drugs. Do not leave your beverage unattended or accept a drink from an open container. Do not drink anything with an unusual taste or appearance. If someone acts extremely drunk after only one or two drinks, they may have been drugged. Call 911 or take them to the hospital.

PLAN AHEAD

- Eat before you drink anything
- Ask a friend to keep an eye on you
- Set a limit on how many drinks you're going to have
- Never leave your drink unattended
- Prepare to say no if others offer you drinks

Credited: Sindecuse Health Center, Western Michigan University. www.mwich.edu

ALCOHOL AND/OR SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND ABUSIVE RELATIONSHIPS*

If you are in an abusive relationship, drugs and alcohol can make an unhealthy situation worse. Abusive partners may get a person drunk or high to increase their vulnerability. Emotions may be stronger or change quickly, and a bad situation may escalate more quickly. It may be harder to take action to escape a bad situation (because you/your ride is unable to drive, it's difficult to remember your safety plan, etc.).

Further, abusive partners frequently do not accept responsibility for their actions and blame drugs or alcohol for their unhealthy behavior. Drugs and alcohol do affect a person's judgment and behavior, but they are not a reason for violent behavior. Watch out for these common excuses:

- "I didn't mean what I said. I was drunk."
- "I would never hit you sober."
- "Drinking turns me into a different person. That's not who I really am." It's important to remember that when a person is intoxicated or under the influence of drugs, their actions still reflect their personality. If someone is violent when they are drunk or high, it's probably just a matter of time until they are abusive when they're sober.

Credited: Love is Respect. www.loveisrespect.org.

ADDICTION*

Addiction is another very serious health risk associated with the use of alcohol or other substances. Addiction is a primary, progressive, chronic, and potentially fatal disease. Some people think addiction is about a lack of willpower — that someone with a drug or alcohol problem doesn't want to get better and could easily quit if they really tried. That couldn't be further from the truth. Addiction is far more complex and less forgiving than many people realize.

Signs and symptoms of addiction may include:

- Drinking or using substances for the relief of withdrawal symptoms
- Increased tolerance or reverse tolerance (drug sensitization)
- Feeling guilt, shame, or remorse (as a result of behavior while under the influence of alcohol or other drugs)
- Anxiety, depression, or other mental health diagnosis
- Concern from family and/or friends about drinking or drug use
- Decline in work performance or loss of interest in hobbies and daily activities
- Inability to remember what happened when drinking (blackouts)
- Financial difficulties, including making sacrifices for the purchase of drugs
- Having problems with the law through increasingly risky behaviors and impaired judgment
- Denial or not being aware that a problem exists
- Much time dedicated to the use of a substance (obsession)
- Use that continues despite known health problems that have developed from use

Credited: Start Your Recovery. <https://startyourrecovery.org/26>.

RESOURCES & HOTLINES

Below are some on- and off-campus resources.

- Title IX Coordinator (Gloria Floyd)
301 Angle Hall
256.782.5769
- Counseling Services (Confidential Reporting)
147 Trustee Circle
256.782.5475
- RMC/JSU Health Center (Confidential Reporting)
1701 Pelham Road South, Jacksonville, AL 36265
256.782.5310
- Department of Public Safety
Salls Hall
Forney Avenue, NW
256.782.5050
- The Gordie Center <https://gordie.studenthealth.virginia.edu>
- Start Your Recovery www.StartYourRecovery.org
- Personalized Feedback Inventory for Alcohol, [I'm a Student \(360proof.org\)](http://ImaStudent(360proof.org))
- College Drinking- Changing the Culture, <https://www.collegedrinkingprevention.gov/>
- National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, <https://www.niaaa.nih.gov/alcohol-health>
- National Helpline for Substance Abuse Referral Services 1.866.684.6303
- National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Info 1.800.SAY.NO.TO (729.6686)
- Referral Services 1.877.726.4727
- Poison Control Info 1.800.336.6997

HARASSMENT

Tips:

- **Speak up at the time.** You want the harasser to know you find their behavior offensive or unwelcome. State clearly that you don't like what was said or done, and you want that behavior to stop.
- **Tell someone about it.** Even if you are not sure, you will report the incident and tell someone what happened. Discuss it openly with others. Find out if others have been harassed by the same person.
- **Keep records.** Keep a diary or log of what is happening to you. Include dates, places, direct quotes, and names of other people who were present. Save any letters, cards, or notes sent to you. Let someone read your records. Keep everything in a safe place.
- **Get a witness.** Ask someone to watch you when the harasser is around. Most advances are made when the harasser thinks no one is watching.
- **Seek advice or counseling.** Students often feel powerless, angry, guilty, or fearful when they are subjected to harassment. There are often concerns about personal safety, loss of privacy, and the threat of possible retaliation if the situation is reported.

Harassment undermines the self-confidence, well-being, and peace of mind of the individual who is offended, and it damages the spirit of trust and collegiality that is central to our university community. No matter when or where the harassment occurred, support and referral resources are available at the university.

Additional Resources

- Title IX Coordinator (Gloria Floyd)
301 Angle Hall
256.782.5769
- Counseling Services (Confidential Reporting)
147 Trustee Circle
256.782.5475

- Department of Public Safety
Salls Hall
Forney Avenue, NW
256.782.5050
- “Fighting Harassment at School and Work.” AC Online, <https://www.affordablecollegesonline.org/college-resource-center/workplace-campus-harassment/>

SEXUAL ASSAULT REDUCTION

Sexual violence risk reduction is an important part of the university’s efforts to eliminate sex and gender-based misconduct. Often, however, attempts to educate students by discussing risk-reduction tips can be perceived as taking on a victim-blaming tone. With no intention to set such a tone, and with affirmative recognition that those who commit acts of sexual violence are and should be held responsible for their actions, these tips are offered in an effort to help students reduce their risk of experiencing non-consensual sexual contact or activity.

1. Make your limits known as early as possible.
2. If you find yourself in a position where another is exceeding your permissible limits by being sexually aggressive, tell the aggressor “NO” clearly and firmly.
3. Try to remove yourself from the physical presence of any sexual aggressor.
4. Call for help or find someone nearby and ask for help.
5. Take affirmative control of your alcohol intake or drug use. Drugs and alcohol lower your normal inhibitions and may make you vulnerable to someone who views you as drunk or high and gives that person an opportunity to take advantage of the situation.
6. Friends take care of friends! Take care of your friends and ask that they take care of you. A friend will challenge you if you are about to make a mistake, just as you should challenge them in a reverse situation. You should respect each other when they do.

If you are the initiator of sexual behavior, you owe respect to your potential partner. These suggestions may help reduce the risk of you being accused of sexual misconduct.

1. Clearly communicate your intentions to your prospective sexual partner and give them a chance to relate their intentions and expectations to you.
2. Understand and respect all personal boundaries.
3. Do not make assumptions about consent, about one’s sexual availability, about whether they are attracted to you, about how far you can go, or about whether they are physically or mentally capable of giving consent. If there are questions, if you are uncertain, or if there is ambiguity, you do not have consent.
4. Mixed messages from your partner are a clear indication that you should stop, defuse any sexual tension, and communicate better. You may be misreading them. They may not have figured out how far they want to go with you yet. You must respect the timeline or boundaries for sexual behaviors with which they are comfortable.
5. Do not take advantage of someone’s drunkenness or drugged state, even if they did it to themselves. Intoxication, even if voluntary, can negate the effectiveness of consent and cause a sexual encounter to be without consent and potentially illegal.
6. Realize that your potential partner could be intimidated by you or fearful. You may have a power advantage simply because of your gender or size. Consent obtained through coercion is not deemed effective and may cause any contact to be considered non-consensual and potentially illegal. Do not abuse that power.
7. Understand that consent has limits, and consent to some forms of sexual behavior does not automatically imply consent to any other forms of sexual behavior.
8. Prior sexual relations with someone should not be assumed to indicate that the individual has or will consent to current or future sexual activity.
9. Silence and passivity cannot be interpreted as an indication of consent. Read your potential partner carefully, paying attention to verbal and non-verbal communication and body language.

The most important thing a victim of sexual assault or domestic violence can do is tell someone, whether that be the police, a friend, a rape crisis center, a counselor, a family member, or a staff member. Do not isolate yourself, don’t feel guilty, don’t blame yourself, and don’t just ignore it. Sexual assault, whether by a stranger or by someone you know, is a violation of your body and your trust. The organizations and departments listed below can provide or arrange for immediate support and response, including assistance with personal safety concerns.

- **Title IX Coordinator (Gloria Floyd)**
301 Angle Hall
256.782.5769
- **Counseling Services (Confidential Reporting)**
147 Trustee Circle
256.782.5475
- **RMC/JSU Health Center (Confidential Reporting)**
JSU South Complex
1701 Pelham Road South, Jacksonville, AL 36265
256.782.5310
- **Department of Public Safety/University Police Department**
Salls Hall
Forney Avenue, NW
256.782.5050
- **Jacksonville Police Department**
911 Public Safety Drive SW
Jacksonville, AL 36265
256.435.1075 or 911
- **Calhoun County Sheriff's Office**
400 West 8th Street
Anniston, AL 36201
256.236.6600 or 911
- **Rape Response (Emergency/Trauma) (Confidential Reporting)**
Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner facility offers exams 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
Birmingham, AL
205.323.7273
- **Northeast Alabama Regional Medical Center (Emergency/Trauma) (Confidential Reporting)**
400 East 10th Street (south on Highway 21/Quintard Avenue; one block east on 10th Street)
Anniston, AL 36207
256.235.5121
- **2nd Chance, Inc. (Confidential Reporting)**
Shelter and Support
Crisis Line: 256.236.7233 Office: 256.236.7381
- **Alabama Coalition Against Domestic Violence (Confidential Reporting)**
Hotline: 1.800.650.6522
- **One Love Foundation (Confidential Reporting)**
https://www.joinonelove.org/learn/help_a_friend/
Text LOVEIS to 22522 to text with a peer advocate regarding unhealthy relationships
- **Crisis Text Line (Confidential Reporting)**
Text HOME to 741741 for free, 24/7 crisis support in the US
- **National Sexual Violence Crisis Hotline (Confidential Reporting)**
1.800. 656.HOPE (4673)

STALKING

Stalkers can be unpredictable and dangerous. Whether through in-person or through the use of technology, stalkers use a variety of strategies to invade the lives of their victims. Most stalkers use multiple tactics and can escalate their behavior(s) at any time. You have no control over the stalker's behavior and are not responsible for what they do. However, it can be helpful to consider steps you might take to keep yourself and loved ones safe. This process is called safety planning.

Though victims can make safety plans on their own, it is often helpful to work with a trained professional such as an advocate, victim assistance provider, or even a law enforcement officer. You can find these people in local domestic violence and rape crisis programs, victim assistance programs within state and county prosecutors' offices, and in police departments. For help locating someone trained in safety planning in your area, contact Victim Connect

(855.4.VICTIM/855.484.2846). The guidance below is intended for general informational purposes only and is not designed to replace a personalized safety plan created with the assistance of a professional. The suggestions below are also not exhaustive. You are the expert on your own life, and you know best what options might be possible or feasible.

Safety Planning: Basic Considerations

- Trust your instincts. Many victims of stalking feel pressured by friends or families to simply ignore the stalker's behavior or "just tell them off." Stalkers are dangerous, and your fear is justified.
- Your safety plan should evolve, change, and adapt as the stalking situation changes.
- As much as possible, don't only plan around what has already happened – also think about what might happen next (for example, "if X happens, I will do Y")
- Consider or try to anticipate how the stalker may react to any changes you may make, so you can further plan for your safety. Stalkers often escalate their behavior when the victim reacts (for example, if you block them on social media, they might start showing up at your home).
- Victims must balance their need to live normal lives with their safety concerns. Only you can decide what tradeoffs are realistic and appropriate for you.

General Safety Strategies – Consider:

- Working with a local domestic violence shelter or victim services program to develop a safety plan.
- Notifying the police, especially if you feel you are in any immediate danger. You can explain to the police why some actions that might seem harmless (like the stalker driving by your house or leaving you a gift) are causing you fear.
- Ceasing any further communication with the stalker. Many stalkers perceive any contact, even negative contact, as reinforcement (more information on this below).
- Keeping a log of every stalking incident

Credited. SPARC. <https://www.stalkingawareness.org/>

Additional Resources.

- Community Standards (Paige Rochus)
301-A Angle Hall
256.782.5769
- Counseling Services (Confidential Reporting)
147 Trustee Circle
256.782.5475
- Department of Public Safety
Salls Hall
Forney Avenue, NW
256.782.5050
- Stalking and Harassment Assessment and Risk Profile (SHARP).
- Stalking Prevention Awareness & Resource Center (SPARC) <https://www.stalkingawareness.org/>
- Victim Connect. Victim.connect.org (855.4.VICTIM/855.484.2846).

RISK ASSESSMENT AND RISK REDUCTION

While you can never completely protect yourself from crime, there are some things you can do to help reduce your risk of harm.

- Be aware of your surroundings. Knowing where you are and who is around you may help you find a way out of a bad situation.
- Try to avoid isolated areas. It is more difficult to get help if no one is around.

- Trust your instincts. If a situation or location feels unsafe or uncomfortable, it probably isn't the best place to be.
- Make sure your cell phone is with you and charged, and that you have taxi money.
- Do not allow yourself to be isolated with someone you do not trust or someone you don't know.
- Lock doors, including car doors, and when in the vicinity of your car, have your key ready in your hand.
- Before entering an Uber, Lyft, or taxi, make sure the child safety lock is off.
- When you go out, have a plan, including transportation home. Go with others, arrive together, check in with each other, and leave together.
- Drink Responsibly. Try not to leave any beverages unattended or accept drinks from someone you do not know or trust. If you are drinking alcohol, know your limits and how much you can consume without losing control or awareness of what's going on around you.
- Have a buddy system. Do not be afraid to let a friend know if something makes you uncomfortable or if you are worried about your or your friend's safety.
- Previous consent does not imply current consent - No means no.
- Do not prop outside or suite doors open. Always lock your room door.
- Report lost I.D. cards immediately to your Residence Advisor (RA) and Department of Public Safety.
- Do not open the door if you do not know the person. Report any suspicious persons or activities to the RA or University Police immediately.
- Think twice about what you put on Facebook. When you use social media to share where you are or where you are going, friends can find you, but others may be able to track you as well. Use common sense and ask yourself—would you give this information to a stranger? If not, then don't share it online.
- Your safety takes priority over someone else's hurt feelings.
- Get yourself to a safe place. Call 911 or local Police. University Police 256.782.5050
- Download the Cocky Watch app on your cellular device.