

Student Conduct Process FAQs

How do students get referred to the Student Conduct Office?

Any member of the campus community may report a student's alleged inappropriate conduct. This report will be passed on to the Student Conduct Office. These reports usually come from the Office of Residence Life, the Public Safety Office, or another student(s). *If the report contains information that indicates potential instances of dating/domestic violence, sexual misconduct, stalking, discrimination, or gender-based harassment, the report will be forwarded to the Title IX Office and handled in accordance with the College's Sexual Misconduct Policy.*

What is an Educational Conference?

An Educational Conference is an informal meeting to discuss the incident(s) in question. This may be held with an Area Coordinator, Student Affairs staff member, administrator, or faculty member. During the Conference, the accused student may explain their side of events. They may choose to take responsibility and receive sanctioning at that time, or they may elect to proceed to a formal Conduct Hearing. Any sanctions accepted at an Educational Conference are final and may not be appealed.

Notices of Educational Conferences are sent via Wesley email accounts. If a student does not attend and fails to contact the Hearing Officer who scheduled the Educational Conference, the case will be heard without the student's input.

What is a Conduct Board Hearing?

A Conduct Board Hearing is a formal Hearing that deals with potential violations of the Student Code of Conduct. Participants include one non-voting hearing officiate, three trained Board members, the Investigator or designee, the complaining party, and the responding party(ies). There may be witnesses or advisors to the parties present as well. If a student does not attend their Conduct Board Hearing, the Board will decide the outcome based only on the information present.

The Investigator, complaining party, and responding party(ies) all are given opportunity to present their case to the Board. The Board has the opportunity to ask questions of all testifying parties. After the Hearing has concluded, all but the Board are dismissed for deliberation over the finding of the charge(s) and, if necessary, the sanction(s).

What is a sanction?

A sanction is a consequence for being found Responsible for violating the Student Code of Conduct. Sanctions can range from a Warning to Expulsion. They are primarily designed to allow the Responsible student(s) to learn from the Conduct process and to grow in their further development. Students may, and often do, receive more than one sanction at a time. These may be a combination of disciplinary measures, financial repercussions, and educational requirements.

Can I appeal the outcome?

Yes; however appeals are limited. An Appeal must be based on procedural error; new evidence; and/or the imposed sanctions being disproportionate to the severity of the violation. The Dean of Students reviews all Appeal requests. If at least one of the grounds is met, an Appeal Panel is scheduled to review the records. This is not a full re-hearing, and typically involves a review of written documentation and recording of the original Hearing.

Once an Appeal has been decided, the outcome is **final**. Further appeals are not permitted.

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What should I wear to a Conduct Board Hearing?

There is no formal dress code for a Conduct Board Hearing. However, you may want to consider the impression that your appearance may make on the Board. (For example, if you were cited for marijuana possession, it would perhaps be unwise to wear a shirt displaying marijuana leaves.)

What happens if I don't complete a sanction?

If you choose not to complete an educational sanction that is assigned to you as part of the Conduct process, you may be subject to a Failure to Comply charge. Depending on the circumstances, this may be accompanied by a monetary fine or may result in further disciplinary action.

What if I can't finish my sanction?

If you are unable to complete your educational sanction for a legitimate reason, you are required to contact the Conduct Officer that issued the sanction and inform them as soon as you are aware. This contact must be done prior to the due date of the sanction. The Officer may grant you an extension. However, this is done on a case-by-case basis and is not guaranteed.

If I violate the Code of Conduct, is notice sent home?

In most cases, your records are protected by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), which means that the school will not disclose this information without your consent.

There are exceptions to this, however. If you are found responsible for an Alcohol or Drug violation and are under the age of 21, notice will be sent home to your parent(s)/guardian(s). Additionally, notice is sent home if a student is suspended (including interim suspension), expelled, or receives loss of housing and is unable to continue living in the Residence Halls. Notice may be sent home preemptively in cases that are likely to result in suspension or expulsion.

If I am found Responsible, is my financial aid affected?

In most cases, no. If you are suspended or expelled, there may be financial ramifications. For specific questions regarding your aid, you are advised to contact the Business Office at (302) 735-2331, or to reach out directly to your loan provider(s).

If the alleged violation happened off-campus, how can I be charged?

Wesley College believes that our students serve as ambassadors for the College even when not on campus. We expect our students to obey the law and comply with the policies of the College regardless of geographic location.

What if I have a question that isn't listed here?

First, you should read through the Student Code of Conduct, as this document contains more detailed information about violations, the process, and sanctions. The most updated version of this can be found on our website at wesley.edu/about/student-conduct-information.

If you are unable to find your answer in the Code of Conduct, you should reach out to your assigned Conduct Officer.