



Housing & Residence Life Community Standards, Policies, & Procedures

Last Updated: 12/19/2025



Table of Contents

Statement of Purpose	3
Definition of Terms	3
Authority and Jurisdiction	4
Reporting	5
Community Standards Policies	6
General Policies.....	6
Alcohol, Illegal Drugs, and Smoking	6
Candles and Incense.....	7
Civility.....	8
Communications.....	8
Community Developed Policies.....	8
Dangerous Acts.....	8
Decorations.....	9
Gambling.....	9
Guests	9
Noise	11
Pets	12
Posting.....	12
Prohibited Items	12
Solicitation and Business	13
Threats and Harassment.....	13
Vandalism.....	13
Interim Measures	14
Interim Ban from Housing	14
Interim Administrative Room Change	14
No Contact or Communication Order.....	14
Rights and Responsibilities	15
Student Rights	15
Student Responsibilities.....	15
Community Standards Procedures.....	16
Case Investigation & Resolution Process.....	16
Formal Disciplinary Actions	19
Appeal Process	23
Community Standards Review Process	26

Statement of Purpose

Housing & Residence Life has established, in accordance with its mission, vision, and values, the Community Standards, which include the following expectations for Students:

- Accept responsibility when their choices or actions have negatively impacted themselves, others, or the community at large.
- Engage in constant learning, practice self-reflection, and develop resilience to maintain academic, personal, and professional integrity.
- Ensure the health, wellness, and safety of themselves and their communities.
- Foster positive relationships with others.

The goal of the Community Standards is to foster personal learning and growth, while also holding students accountable for unacceptable behavior. In short, these standards exist to help everyone live safely, respectfully, and responsibly in our residential community.

Definition of Terms

- **“Adjudication”** refers to the process of resolving a community standards case, deciding responsibility, and implementing sanctions. An “Adjudicator” is a person granted the authority to make decisions regarding conduct cases, which is synonymous with Case Administrators.
- **“Administrative Case Resolution”** refers to a documents-only resolution process in which a trained Case Administrator determines if a Student is responsible for violating policy.
- **“Case Administrator”** refers to a University staff member granted the responsibility of interpreting the Community Standards, investigating, hearing and resolving cases involving alleged violations of the Standards, and representing Housing & Residence Life throughout the community standards process.
- **“Case Investigation”** refers to the process in which Housing & Residence Life engages students and relevant parties in information-gathering interviews and communication. If the results of a Case Investigation provide substantial findings, the responding Student will receive notice of allegations of the relevant Community Standards policies allegedly violated.
- **“Community Standards”** and **“the Standards”** refer to the policies and standards of behavior set forth in this document.
- **“Community Standards Meeting”** refers to the initial meeting in which a Student meets with a Case Administrator to discuss the case, any alleged violations of the Community Standards, and the case resolution process.

- **“Community Standards Process”** refers to the sequence of events that occurs starting when Housing & Residence Life receives a report of alleged misconduct through the case resolution process.
- **“Informal Case Resolution”** refers to a resolution process in which the Student and a trained staff member come to agreement that the Student is responsible for violating the Community Standards.
- **“Interim Measure”** refers to any action deemed necessary to protect the safety and well-being of members of the University community until a formal investigation or resolution is concluded.
- **“Policy”** refers to any written rule, regulation, or standard of behavior in the Community Standards or otherwise authorized and enforced by The University of Chicago.
- **“Preponderance of the Evidence Standard”** refers to the evidentiary standard used in the community standards case resolution process. Preponderance of the Evidence means that it is more likely than not, or that the evidence is greater than 50%, that the alleged violation occurred. Preponderance of the Evidence is different from the “Beyond a Reasonable Doubt” standard that is commonly used in criminal proceedings.
- **“Resident”** refers to any Student that has signed a University of Chicago Housing Agreement to reside in a Residential Facility.
- **“Residential Facilities”** refers to any property owned, operated, or under the control of The University of Chicago in which Students reside.
- **“Sanction”** refers to any assignment given, action taken, fine or financial charge imposed, and/or status placed on a Student found responsible for a violation of the Community Standards.
- **“Student”** refers to all persons taking or scheduled to take courses at The University of Chicago, both full-time and part-time, pursuing undergraduate, graduate, postgraduate, professional, certificate, or language studies.
- **“University of Chicago Campus”** refers to all land, buildings, facilities, and other property owned, used, or controlled by the University.
- **“University Official”** refers to any person employed by The University of Chicago performing assigned administrative or professional duties. This includes paraprofessional workers including, but not limited to, Resident Assistants and Resident Heads.

Authority and Jurisdiction

Housing & Residence Life (HRL) has the authority and jurisdiction to resolve cases of alleged violations of Community Standards policies. HRL’s jurisdiction through the Community Standards process applies to the following individuals, groups, and circumstances:

- Any person who has signed a Housing Agreement with Housing & Residence Life at the University of Chicago (the University) is held accountable for all the policies listed in the Community Standards.
- Residential students (Residents) are responsible for the actions of their invited guests. If the guest of a Resident is reported to have violated the Community Standards, the Resident may receive notification of alleged violations on behalf of their guest.
 - If the Resident's guest is also a University of Chicago student, they may also be held accountable for all policies listed in the Community Standards.

The University expects that all Students abide by laws enforced by the federal government, the State of Illinois, and local municipalities. The University subscribes to the view that, when applicable, it shall deal with matters of student misconduct internally. However, when a Student's misconduct implicates federal, state, or local laws, the appropriate law enforcement officials may be contacted. Upon request, the community standards process may be delayed pending the resolution of a criminal process. Legal proceedings and the community standards process are otherwise separate processes.

Reporting

Housing & Residence Life receives reports when incidents occur in the residential community. Any member of the University community or person with knowledge of an incident of alleged misconduct involving a UChicago residential student can make a report or file a formal complaint with any professional HRL staff member (Resident Head, Community Director, etc.).

Reports of alleged student misconduct can be submitted by completing an online report using the [Incident Reporting Form](#).

The report should include the following information, if available:

- Name(s) of the student alleged to have violated the Community Standards.
- A description of the incident.
- Names and contact information of witnesses (if applicable).
- Names and contact information of the person(s) filing the report.

All reports are private, but not confidential. Housing & Residence Life does not guarantee anonymity of reporting parties and generally may not be able to act upon anonymous reports.

Community Standards Policies

General Policies

Housing & Residence Life seeks to serve the University's educational objectives by offering facilities that provide a setting in which individual education is supported. The community standards, policies, and procedures of Housing & Residence Life (The Standards) aim to discourage behavior that creates excessive noise, endangers, or disturbs other residents, or invites the intrusion of public authorities into the House system. The Standards promote an environment within which residents can work effectively and live amicably.

The Student is responsible for compliance with all federal, state, and local laws and ordinances, and University policies, procedures, and regulations, including those set forth in the Housing and Residence Life Community Standards, Policies, and Procedures.

Violations of The Standards will be addressed by Housing & Residence Life staff and may result in disciplinary action, up to and including removal from housing, referral to other University disciplinary systems and processes and liability for damages.

Alcohol, Illegal Drugs, and Smoking

Alcohol

The State of Illinois prohibits the consumption or possession of alcohol by any person under the age of 21 or the supplying of alcohol to any person under the age of 21.

- The use or storage of alcohol in common or public areas is prohibited, regardless of a person's age.
- Kegs and other binge drinking paraphernalia of any kind are prohibited.
- Drinking games, games of chance, contests or other activities that induce, encourage or result in the rapid consumption of alcohol are prohibited.

Illegal Drugs

Various federal and state laws prohibit the possession, distribution, and use of controlled substances, unless in compliance with licensing requirements or a doctor's prescription. Possession or use of illegal drugs and drug-related paraphernalia is prohibited. Please note that regardless of Illinois law, federal law prohibits the possession, distribution, and use of marijuana in any form on the University's campus. For more detailed information about the University's drug and alcohol policies, federal and state statutes with respect to illicit drug trafficking and possession, and state statutes regarding marijuana use and alcohol use by minors, consult the [University's Annual Security and Fire Safety Report](#).

Smoking

In accordance with regulations promulgated by the City of Chicago, and the State of Illinois, the University of Chicago is a smoke-free environment. Therefore, smoking is prohibited in all buildings owned and operated by the University of Chicago. This includes the use of pipes, vapes, e-cigarettes and their variants. Smoking is also prohibited in exterior residence hall courtyards. Smoking is permitted outside a building but not within fifteen feet of an entrance.

Candles and Incense

Candles and incense are not permitted in the residence halls. The only exception to this policy is when a candle is used for religious purposes and must be used only in the designated community space(s) identified in each residence hall. The Student or staff member must remain until the candles have burned out to ensure the safety of the community and the building. The following designated community spaces are the only spaces in which candles may be used for religious observance purposes:

Residence Hall	Designated Community Space
Burton Judson	Judson Library
Campus North Residential Commons	Recreation Room 233
International House	Home Room
Max Palevsky Residential Commons	Max Palevsky Central Commons
Renee Granville-Grossman Residential Commons	Resident Dean East & West Common Rooms
Snell-Hitchcock	Green Room
Woodlawn Residential Commons	Resident Dean East & West Common Rooms

Civility

- The Student is expected to foster an environment of respect, openness and understanding.
- The Student is expected to respect their fellow students' access to peace, quiet, and overall adequate conditions for study and sleep.
- This expectation of civility is extended to interactions via online platforms, such as social media sites.
- The Student has a responsibility to respect the rights of their fellow students and working to constructively address violations of these rights.
- The Student is responsible for complying with a reasonable request from a University official (such as Resident Assistants or Resident Heads) regarding appropriate behavior.

Communications

The student is responsible for checking their UChicago email account regularly. This is the method by which the University and Housing & Residence Life will contact students. Failure to check university email account does not exempt the Student from compliance with the information communicated.

Community Developed Policies

Upon the formal approval of Housing & Residence Life, residents living within a defined area such as a residence hall, House or floor may create policies ("House Rules") that further the quality of the living experience for all community members within the defined area. Each resident can participate in and provide feedback on the creation of House Rules, which must be followed. House Rules must:

- Be congruent with current University and HRL policies and procedures
- Be agreed upon by all community members

Dangerous Acts

Behavior that threatens the safety of individuals or community members is prohibited.

Examples include, but are not limited to the following:

- Climbing on scaffolding, construction equipment, or any other structures associated with a building improvement or construction project
- Going onto any window ledge, or staircase railing, of any portion of any residence hall or dining commons
- Going on to, accessing any roof, or roofing structure of any residence hall, dining commons or fire escape (if fire alarm is not actively sounding)

- Obstructing the use of any residence hall door by tampering with locks, blocking doorways (even temporarily) or otherwise preventing free access or egress.
- Playing with fire or incendiary materials in any manner, regardless of whether any damage or injury occurs to person or property
- Physically attacking or threatening physical attack of any person including residents or visitors to the residence halls
- Possessing or using fireworks, tasers, firearms, explosives, or weapons. For additional information regarding weapons, see the University's Policy on Firearms, Other Lethal Weapons, Fireworks and Dangerous Objects and Materials
- Setting off false fire alarms, tampering with fire extinguishers, fire sprinklers, or other life safety equipment
- Tampering with elevators
- Throwing objects from the windows or internal/external stairs of the residence halls, regardless of size, weight, shape of such objects and their potential for harm

Decorations

Residents shall not place or permit to be laced any sign, poster or other materials upon or in the windows of their assigned space.

Gambling

Gambling is not permitted in the residence halls.

Guests

Definition: A guest is anyone without a housing agreement for the assigned space.

Approval and Restrictions: Guests must seek approval from their resident host and adhere to a maximum stay of three consecutive nights. On-campus residents may host a maximum of two guests at a time. Guests may not assume long-term occupancy in a room.

Hosting Steps

- Residents may host a maximum of (2) two guests at any given time.
- A guest's period of stay may not exceed (3) three consecutive nights within a 7-day period. Requests for exemptions to this limitation must be submitted to the Assistant Director of Residence Life or Community Director of the host's residence hall via email a minimum of 72 business hours before the visitation period.
- Hosts living in multiple occupancy housing assignments are expected to communicate with their room and/or suite mate(s) in advance of a guest visiting their room.
- Guests must check in and out at the residence hall front desk.
- Guests must always remain with their host during the visitation period.

- The number of individuals present in each room cannot exceed the maximum permanent occupancy, plus the maximum number of guests per resident. Example: The maximum number of individuals that can be present in a standard double occupancy room is 6: the 2 residents assigned to the room plus a maximum of 2 guests per resident.
- Overnight guests may not sleep in any space other than their host's housing assignment, including other student rooms or community spaces.
- Guests are permitted during academic break periods.

Host Responsibilities

- Hosts must register all guests via the guest registration process in the [myHousing portal](#) before they can be checked in. Front desk staff are unable to register guests for residents
- Hosts must meet their guests at the residence hall and be present throughout the visitation period, including when a guest checks in and out
- Hosts are responsible for advising their guests of residence hall policies and ensuring their compliance. Guests who violate policies may be required to leave the residence hall and their host may face disciplinary action, including suspension of guest privileges, verbal or written (housing probation) warnings or removal from on campus housing

Guest Responsibilities

- Guests are required to carry and present photo identification when requested by UChicago Housing & Residence Life staff. The following types of photo identification are acceptable: *government issued driver's license or identification card, UChicago card, passport or non-college school identification (i.e. middle or high school identification card)*
- Digital government issued driver's license or identification cards are accepted only if displayed through the issuing agency's official mobile application
- Photos or paper copies of identification are not accepted
- Guests are responsible for abiding by residence hall policies and may be required to leave if they do not comply with these policies. Student guests who violate residence hall policies and/or University policies may be referred for disciplinary action.

Minor Guests

- 16- and 17-year-old guests may visit, including overnight, without their parent/guardian present. The host is responsible for ensuring the Minor Visitation Approval Form is completed a minimum of 72 hours before the visitation period
- All other guest policies apply to minor guests, including photo identification requirements

UChicago Housing & Residence Life

- Guests 15 years of age and younger are only permitted when accompanied by their parent/guardian and may not stay overnight

Parent/Guardian Guests

- Parents and guardians may visit but may not stay overnight. Local lodging options may be found online at: <https://housing.uchicago.edu/guests/visit.uchicago.edu>
- All other guest policies apply to parent/guardian guests, including photo identification requirements

Religious Observances

Any host or guest that communicates that they are observing the Sabbath or another religious observance, and for this reason are unable to physically provide identification will be permitted to verify their personal details verbally with front desk staff. All other procedures including registration of guests via the [myHousing portal](#) as well as the process for checking in and out through the front desk are still applicable.

Extension Requests

Residents may request permission to extend a guest's stay beyond three consecutive nights within a seven-day period. Requests must be submitted to the Assistant Director of Residence Life or Community Director of the host's specific residence hall via email 48 business hours before the requested visitation period is to begin.

Noise

It is expected that residents will always maintain conditions that reasonably permit other residents to study and sleep. Residents will not permit noise to emanate from their assigned space in such a way that unreasonably disturbs other residents, including those sharing a room/suite/apartment. Residents may not use musical instruments in their assigned space, rather they must use a designated music practice room for this activity.

Quiet Hours

During designated quiet hours, residents are expected to limit noise in rooms, community and public areas to levels that will not prevent other residents from sleeping

- Monday-Friday: 11 PM – 8 AM
- Saturday-Sunday: 1 AM – 8 AM
- Final Exam Weeks: 24 Hours

Exceptions to quiet hours may be made for UChicago Housing & Residence Life sponsored events.

Pets

Pets are prohibited, apart from fish in a 10 gallon or less aquarium, approved assistance animals and service animals. Additional information about assistance and service animals on campus can be found online at: <https://voices.uchicago.edu/disabilities-nov4/animal-policy>

Posting

The only postings permitted in residence halls are those on behalf of registered student organizations (RSO), campus departments and UChicago Housing & Residence Life announcements, activities and events. All postings must include the organization or department and be approved by UChicago Housing & Residence Life before they are posted.

- Postings must be brought to the UChicago Housing & Residence Life office (Campus North Residential Commons, Suite 110) between Monday-Thursday for review.
- Organizations and departments should provide only 48 postings (one for each House).
- Postings may not advertise or refer to alcohol availability.
- Postings that violate laws, defame specific individuals, organizations or departments, constitute a threat or harassment, invade the privacy or confidentiality of others or are otherwise incompatible with the functioning of the University are prohibited.
- Approved postings will be distributed to individual Houses by UChicago Housing & Residence Life each Friday. Unapproved postings, postings for past events and activities or postings found in non-approved areas, including stairwells, elevators, doors or exterior portions of residence halls will be removed and discarded by UChicago Housing & Residence Life.

Prohibited Items

The following items are not permitted in residence halls due to existing laws or University policies. Items from this list that are shipped to campus will be returned to sender.

- Candles, candle warmers, incense, fireworks and fire pits
- Weapons, including but not limited to guns (including air, pellet, BB, water or paintball), swords, tasers and athletic weapons
- Drones
- Lithium powered vehicles, including but not limited to scooters, e-bikes and hoverboards *Exception:* Mobility devices for individuals who have a medical condition or disability requiring use of such device
- Halogen lights and lamps
- Appliances with exposed heating elements, including but not limited to hot plates, electric skillets, toasters and toaster ovens, air fryers, panini presses, instant cooking

appliances, electric, gas, propane or charcoal cooking appliances and stand-alone microwaves

- Air conditioners and space heaters
- Lofting kits
- Upholstered furniture, including desk chairs
- Wireless printers and routers
- Virtual assistants
- Items requiring wall mounting, including but not limited to tacks, nails, putty, or adhesive/foam tape

Note: The above list is not all inclusive and additional items can be added at any time. If you have a question about whether an item is permitted, contact the Housing & Residence Life office before bringing, ordering, or shipping it to campus. Housing & Residence Life can be reached by calling 773.702.7366, emailing housing@uchicago.edu or reach out through the [myHousing portal](#) live chat feature. Non-permissible items shipped to campus will be returned to the sender.

Solicitation and Business

Door-to-door solicitation is prohibited, including but not limited to distribution of information, electioneering and campaigning, fundraising or product/service sales. Activities in support of hall, House or Resident Dean sponsored events, such as trip sign-ups or fundraisers are permitted if conducted by residents or UChicago Housing & Residence Life staff members. Residents may not use their assigned space or other common or public areas for the purposes of operating a business or for any personal financial gain activities, including those conducted online.

Threats and Harassment

The University is committed to fostering an environment free discrimination, unlawful harassment, sexual misconduct, sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. For more detailed information on policies, reporting options, support and prevention education programs, consult the University's [Policy on Harassment, Discrimination and Sexual Misconduct](#).

Vandalism

Residents are expected to take active involvement in reducing and reporting damages within their assigned space and common or public areas of the residence hall. Damages have the potential to cause injury or inconvenience to residents and repairs required reduce the overall amount of funding available for other improvement projects. Acts of vandalism include but are not limited to damage or destruction of furnishings, walls, ceilings, flooring or doors, graffiti,

disposal of trash or other unwanted items in undesignated areas, damage to bulletin boards or other activities that involve the deliberate destruction or damage to public or private property.

Interim Measures

In instances where there is a reasonable belief that a serious violation of the Community Standards has occurred, or that the safety and well-being of members of the University community or property is compromised, Housing & Residence Life can impose a range of Interim Measures. Housing & Residence Life, in conjunction with the College, as well as any relevant University departments, will perform a safety assessment based on the specific facts and circumstances known at the time to determine if interim measures are appropriate. Students must comply with the requirements of the interim measure, failure to do so will result in additional disciplinary action being taken.

Interim Ban from Housing

In instances where there is a reasonable belief that a serious violation has occurred, the Executive Director of Housing & Residence Life (EDHRL) and Dean of Students in the University or designee may require the immediate removal of the individual or individuals involved from University housing.

Interim Administrative Room Change

The EDHRL and Dean of Students in the University or designee shall have the authority to administratively move an individual or individuals to a new University housing assignment at the University's reasonable discretion based on the circumstances of the situation.

No Contact or Communication Order

Housing & Residence Life may issue No Contact or Communication Orders to the students involved, whether disciplinary action is taken or not. No Contact or Communication Orders may also be issued as an interim measure while alleged violations of the Code of Conduct are investigated and adjudicated. A No Contact or Communication Order is used to restrict encounters and communications between individuals and is typically issued for all parties involved. HRL has the final determination on the issuance and length of a No Contact or Communication Order.

While a No Contact or Communication Order in and of itself does not constitute discipline, and will not appear on a student's disciplinary record, refusal to adhere to the order after written or verbal notification of its terms is prohibited and may result in disciplinary action, including suspension or expulsion.

Rights and Responsibilities

Housing & Residence Life has developed a fundamentally fair process to resolve cases of alleged violations of the Community Standards. Students are afforded certain rights and responsibilities in this process.

Student Rights

All Students have the right:

1. To be presumed not responsible until information or statements meet the preponderance of the evidence standard.
2. To receive written notice of the alleged Community Standards violations and have those allegations explained clearly and fully in a conversation with Housing & Residence Life staff.
3. To have the opportunity to review all relevant, redacted materials concerning the alleged violations.
4. To contest oral or written statements, including the complaint or report.
5. To have a person of their choice from within the University community to support them throughout the entire conduct process. Parents, lawyers and other third parties are not permitted to be support persons.
6. To present information and witnesses pursuant to the process outlined in this document.
7. To not respond to questions asked by a Case Administrator.
8. To be advised of the appropriate Appeal process.

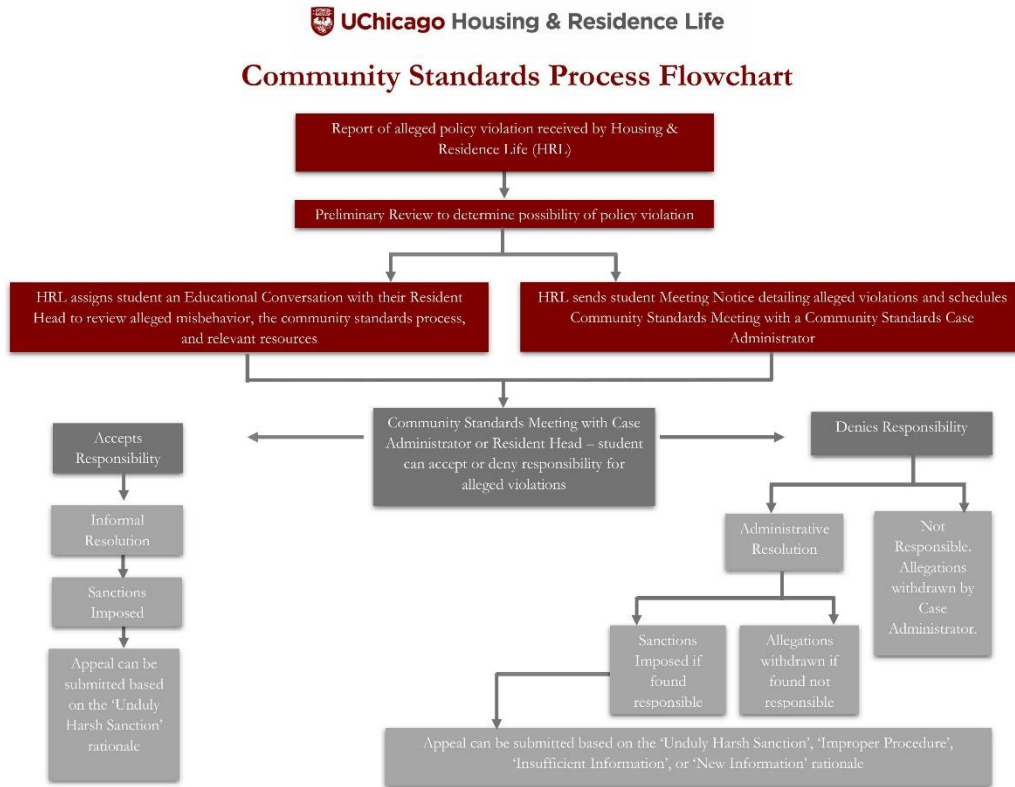
Student Responsibilities

Students are responsible for:

1. Reading and understanding the Community Standards and the Case Resolution Process.
2. Fully cooperating in all parts of the Community Standards Process.
3. Providing truthful and complete information to any University official to the best of their ability.
4. Completing all imposed sanctions as an outcome of a community standards case resolution.
5. Checking their University email account for official correspondences from Housing & Residence Life.

Community Standards Procedures

Case Investigation & Resolution Process



Once Housing & Residence Life receives a report or formal complaint of alleged violations of the Community Standards, the formal Community Standards Process will begin. This process may happen virtually or in-person as appropriate. This section of The Standards will detail the case investigation and resolution processes, and relevant policies and procedures.

Preliminary Review of Complaints

Housing & Residence Life reviews all complaints of misconduct to determine if the information provided may reasonably violate any Community Standards policies. It is HRL's sole judgement to proceed with formal notifications of allegations. HRL will take the steps deemed appropriate to gather relevant information pertaining to a particular report or complaint. If HRL concludes that there is enough information to meet the preponderance of the evidence standard, the Community Standards Process will be initiated.

Case Investigations

When deemed appropriate, HRL will conduct an initial inquiry to gather information about reports of student concerns or alleged misconduct. Investigations can involve individuals, groups of Students, or Registered Student Organizations, as well as relevant third parties. The goal of an Investigation is to determine if there are substantial allegations of violations of the Community Standards and to check in on general student wellness as it may pertain to a report received by HRL.

If the information gathered through initial inquiry provides sufficient information, if true, to be a policy violation, the responding Student will receive notification of allegations (Meeting Notice) for violating the relevant Community Standards policy.

The Community Standards Process begins with the Investigation Report serving as the primary complaint. If the investigation does not yield substantial findings, appropriate follow-up with the Student(s) involved may be required.

As with all parts of the Community Standards process, Case Investigations are not part of a criminal or civil process. Information gathered will only be released as required by a lawful subpoena.

Meeting Notice

The Community Standards Process begins with a formal notification of alleged violations, Meeting Notice, which will be sent to the Student via their assigned University email address. The Notice will include, when available (1) the list of alleged violations of The Standards, (2) the date, time, and location of the Student's Community Standards Meeting, and (3) the name and contact information of the Case Administrator who will be hearing the case. It is expected that Students confirm the receipt of this notification and attend the scheduled Community Standards Meeting. At the discretion of HRL, an administrative process may be used to resolve a case.

Students are responsible for checking their assigned University email account regularly. The University is not responsible for communications not received due to an improper personal email address listed in the University Information System or the notification being filtered as Spam/Junk.

Community Standards Meeting

The Community Standards Meeting is the initial meeting between the Case Administrator and the Student. As detailed in the Meeting Notice, Students have the right to bring a support person from within the University community to the Community Standards Meeting and any

additional resolution meetings, as support. The support person may only speak directly to the Student and not to the Case Administrator on behalf of the Student.

If a Student fails to comply with attending a Community Standards Meeting as specified, the case can be resolved by the Case Administrator or appropriate case resolution process in their absence.

The purpose of the Community Standards Meeting is to explain the Community Standards Process, including the alleged violations of the Community Standards, methods of resolution, range of appropriate sanctions, and opportunities to appeal. Students will have the opportunity to speak about the incident from their perspective, review the report or complaint information, present witness information or statements, and respond to the alleged violations. Students have the choice to accept responsibility or deny responsibility for any or all violations.

The resolution of the case depends on the Student's acknowledgement of responsibility decision. In addition, allegations can be withdrawn if the Case Administrator determines that there is not enough information provided to meet the preponderance of the evidence standard that the allegation of misconduct occurred.

Audio or visual recording of the Community Standards Meeting is prohibited. Anyone who violates this directive will be subject to disciplinary action.

Requesting to delay the Case Resolution Process

If a Student is facing or reasonably expects to face concurrent criminal charges for the same incident, they can request to delay the Case Resolution Process by providing documentation of the concurrent charges prior to or during the Community Standards Meeting. Students wanting to delay the process should make their Case Administrator aware of the concurrent charges either at the start of or prior to the Community Standards Meeting. Housing & Residence Life reviews every request on an individual basis and has the authority to determine the length of the delay, if it is granted.

Informal Case Resolution Process

If the Student accepts responsibility for the alleged violations, the case can be resolved through an Informal Case Resolution process with the Case Administrator. This can occur at the same time as the Community Standards Meeting or at a predetermined subsequent meeting.

When a Student accepts responsibility for the alleged violations, the Case Administrator will be responsible for deciding and communicating the sanctions to the Student.

An Outcome Letter will be sent to the Student via their University email within seven (7) calendar days of the Community Standards Meeting, barring extraordinary circumstances. The Outcome Letter will detail the sanctions, relevant deadlines, and methods for appeal.

For Informal Case Resolution decisions, Students can only appeal based on the Unduly Harsh Sanction criteria.

Audio or visual recording of the Informal Case Resolution meeting is prohibited. Anyone who violates this directive will be subject to disciplinary action.

Administrative Case Resolution Process

When a Student chooses to deny responsibility for any or all alleged violations during the Community Standards Meeting, the case can be resolved through an Administrative Case Resolution Process at the sole discretion of a separate Case Administrator.

If there is adequate information to move forward with the case through the Adjudication Process, the original Case Administrator may send the case to another Case Administrator for an Administrative Process. The Administrative Process follows a document-only format, and the Student will not be present for the Administrative Process. All cases that could result in Suspension or Expulsion will be referred to the Office of College & Community Standards for formal adjudication.

The new Case Administrator will decide responsibility for alleged violations based on the preponderance of the evidence standard. The Student will receive an Administrative Process Outcome Letter detailing their responsibility findings (responsible or not responsible), the assigned sanctions and deadlines (if applicable), and appeal process information.

For Administrative Process decisions, Students can appeal based on the Unduly Harsh Sanction, New Information, Insufficient Information, or Improper Procedure appeal criteria.

Formal Disciplinary Actions

The following section includes the range of interventions available to HRL staff when responding to community standards violations.

The goal of HRL is to provide an educational and restorative space for students to learn from their mistakes and develop a sense of accountability to themselves and their community. HRL staff will refer cases to formal disciplinary action only when necessary, and the response will be determined by the nature of the violation.

Sanctions

Students found to have violated the Community Standards will be subject to a range of disciplinary sanctions as imposed by Housing & Residence Life. This section details (1) sanctions for students, and (2) guidelines for sanctioning utilized by Community Standards Case Administrators for policy violations.

Verbal Warning

- The Student is required to meet with a Case Administrator to discuss why a particular behavior is a violation and what can be done to restore the harm caused.

Written Warning

- This is a formal written warning that a student's behavior is unacceptable and must change.

Probation

- Probation is a specific period during which HRL provides the Student with the opportunity to prove that they will contribute in a positive manner to the residential community. Should a Student violate Community Standards policies while on Probation, more severe sanctions will be imposed.

Educational Task

- A Student is required to complete a task that benefits the individual, campus, or community. Examples include, but are not limited to, writing reflection or research papers, attending programs or lectures, completing online education modules, or other educational sanctions deemed appropriate by HRL or designee.

Notification of Parent or Legal Guardian

- Notification may be sent to parents or guardians of a Student who is under 18 years of age, depending on the circumstances surrounding the incident. Parents or guardians may also be notified of severe policy violations for Students under 21 years of age, regardless of financial dependency or resulting sanction.

Restitution

- Monetary reimbursement for repair or replacement of property or service rendered to the University.

Revocation of Guest Privileges

- The residence hall guest privileges of the Student are revoked for a designated period.

Administrative Relocation of Housing

- A Student is involuntarily reassigned from one campus housing location to another campus housing location.

Deferred Loss of Housing

- Deferred Loss of Housing serves as a final warning that any further violation(s) of Community Standards policy obligates HRL to consider Loss of Housing privileges as a

primary response. This includes Residence Halls, or spaces master-leased by the University for students.

Loss of Housing

- Loss of Housing is an involuntary removal from University housing for a designated period. Removal from University housing means that the Student must properly check out of their room in accordance with existing University procedures within the time constraints established by HRL. As indicated in the housing agreement, the resident Student will be liable for the full room charge specified, and any damages that may have occurred in the room, if a replacement assignment cannot be made by HRL. This includes Residence Halls, or spaces master-leased by the University for students.

Ban from University Housing

- A student is prohibited from entering all or specific residential buildings, including master-leased properties, for a designated period.

Referral to Area or University-wide Discipline

- HRL can recommend to the area Dean of Students in a particular academic area or to the Associate Dean of Students in the University for Disciplinary Affairs that a student from that academic area be brought before the College, division, or school disciplinary committee in that area or the University-wide Disciplinary Committee, respectively. The student will be required to appear before the appropriate disciplinary committee, which has the authority to suspend or expel a student from the University.

Sanction Guidelines

Housing & Residence Life considers the sanctions listed below to be guidelines for violations of the Standards. Each incident is reviewed on an individual basis and the specifics of the incident will determine the severity of the sanctions that may be imposed. Final decisions regarding sanctioning lies with the EDHRL and Dean of Students in the University or designee. This section is not comprehensive of all policy violations or potential sanctions.

Alcohol

Typical sanctions include the following:

- First Violation: Verbal Warning; Educational Task
- Second Violation: Written Warning; Referral to the College with a recommendation to assign BASICS course
- Third and Subsequent Violation(s): sanctions range from Probation to Loss of Housing (at least one term); Referral to the Office of College Community Standards for adjudication

Candles and Incense

- First Violation: sanctions range from Verbal Warning to Probation (at least one term); additionally, Deferred Loss of Housing or Loss of Housing (at least one term) sanctions may be applicable; an Educational Task may also be applied; Restitution for damages
- Second and Subsequent Violation(s): sanctions range from Written Warning to Probation (at least 2 terms); additionally, Deferred Loss of Housing or Loss of Housing (at least 2 terms) sanctions may be applicable; an Educational Task may also be applied; Restitution for damages

Cannabis

- First Violation: Verbal Warning; Educational Task
- Second Violation: Written Warning; Educational Task
- Third and Subsequent Violation(s): sanctions range from Probation (at least one term) to Loss of Housing (at least one term); Referral to the Office of College Community Standards for adjudication

Civility

- First Violation: sanctions range from Verbal Warning to Probation (at least one term); an Educational Task may also be applied
- Second and Subsequent Violation(s): sanctions range from Written Warning to Loss of Housing; an Educational Task may also be applied

Dangerous Acts

- First Violation: sanctions range from Written Warning to Loss of Housing (at least one term); Referral to the Office of College Community Standards for adjudication
- Second and Subsequent Violation(s): Referral to Area or University-wide Discipline

Guests

- First Violation: Verbal Warning; Educational Task
- Second Violation: range from Written Warning to Revocation of Guest Privileges (at least one week); Educational Task
- Third and Subsequent Violation(s): Written Warning to Probation (at least one term); Revocation of Guest Privileges (at least one week); Educational Task

Illegal Drugs

- First Violation: sanctions range from Written Warning to Loss of Housing (at least one term); Referral to the Office of College Community Standards for adjudication
- Second and Subsequent Violation(s): Referral to Area or University-wide Discipline for adjudication

Prohibited Items

- First Violation: Written Warning; Removal of Item(s) from University Property
- Second Violation: sanctions range from Written Warning to Loss of Housing (at least one term); Removal of Item(s) from University Property
- Third and Subsequent Violation(s): sanctions range from Administrative Relocation of Housing to Loss of Housing; Referral to the Office of College Community Standards for adjudication

Threats and Harassment

- First Violation: sanctions range from Written Warning to Loss of Housing; Referral to Office of College Community Standards for adjudication
- Second and Subsequent Violation(s): Referral to Area or University-wide Discipline for adjudication

Vandalism

- First Violation: sanctions range from Verbal Warning to Probation (at least one term); additionally, Deferred Loss of Housing or Loss of Housing (at least one term) sanctions may be applicable; an Educational Task may also be applied; Restitution for damages
- Second and Subsequent Violations: sanctions range from Written Warning to Probation (at least 2 terms); additionally, Deferred Loss of Housing or Loss of Housing (at least 2 terms) sanctions may be applicable; an Educational Task may also be applied; Restitution for damages

Appeal Process

All Students have the right to appeal their case resolution decision or sanction to the Executive Director of Housing & Residence Life or designee. Appeals must meet certain criteria, include an appropriate rationale, and be submitted by the outlined deadline in an Outcome Letter to be considered.

All appeals must be submitted electronically to Housing & Residence Life, via the submission process outlined in all outcome letters. Appeals must be submitted within seven (7) calendar days from the date of the outcome letter. If Housing & Residence Life does not receive the appeal submission within seven (7) calendar days, the Student waives the right to appeal, and all sanction(s) will be final.

When an appeal is requested, a “stay of sanctions” may be granted when appropriate. A stay of sanctions is defined as the period between the date of the outcome letter and the date of the appeal outcome letter where the imposition of the sanctions is postponed. The postponement will last until the appeal decision is finalized and communicated with the Student.

Requests for a stay of sanctions should be submitted to Housing & Residence Life at **housing@uchicago.edu**. Decisions regarding stay of sanctions requests will be determined by the Executive Director of Housing & Residence Life or designee. Housing & Residence Life reserves the right to deny a request for a stay of sanctions.

Appeals follow a documents-only format, and students are not present for the appeal. Appeals are heard by the members of the Housing & Residence Life Leadership Team. The Leadership Team will make a recommendation to the Executive Director of Housing & Residence Life or designee regarding the outcome of the appeal. The outcome of the appeal will be emailed to the Student within fourteen (14) calendar days after the appeal submission. The appeal decision will be final.

Rationale for Appeal

The following are the established rationales for a Student to appeal their case resolution decision or sanction.

Unduly Harsh Sanction

The sanction given is unduly harsh if it is inconsistent with sanctioning practices for the same or similar violations.

New Information

Information that was not available at the time of the Hearing is now available and could reasonably be expected to have altered the outcome of the case.

Improper Procedure

The Hearing did not follow the proper protocol outlined in the Community Standards Protocols.

Insufficient Information

Whether a reasonable person could find that the facts in the case were sufficient to establish that it is “more likely than not” that a violation of the Community Standards occurred, and that the Student was responsible for the violation.

Appeal Criteria

All appeals for Students must be written by the Student and not by a third party. Any appeals that are written by a third party will be rejected and will not be reviewed. If an appeal is rejected, the Student will not be given an extension on the appeal deadline.

Informal Resolution

In Informal Resolution cases, the Student accepts responsibility for violating the Community Standards and the Case Administrator determines sanctions to be implemented. Students have the right to appeal the sanctions decision based solely on the **Unduly Harsh Sanction** rationale.

Administrative Resolution

In these types of cases, a Student can appeal based on the four rationales previously mentioned (**Unduly Harsh Sanction, New Information, Improper Procedure, or Insufficient Information**).

Appellate Board

This section outlines the structure of the Appellate Board, the process for hearing appeals, and the criteria for approving or denying appeals.

Appellate Board Composition:

- **Membership:** The Appellate Board is convened by the Associate Director of Residential Care & Community (ADRCC) or their designee. It is composed of at least three trained University officials who were not involved in the original case.
- **Chairperson:** The ADRCC (or designee) serves as Chair, ensuring the process follows Housing & Residence Life (HRL) standards.
- **Training:** All members of the Appellate Board receive annual training on the HRL Community Standards, appeal criteria, and equitable resolution processes.

Appellate Board Process:

- Preparation
 - a. The Board receives the case file, appeal form, and all supporting documentation.
 - b. The student is notified of next steps in writing.
- Review/Hearing
 - a. The Appellate Board reviews all case materials.
 - b. At the Board's discretion, the student and/or Case Administrator may be asked to provide clarifications in writing.
 - c. The process is documents-focused and not a re-hearing of the case.
- Decision-Making
 - a. The Board may:
 - i. Uphold the original decision;
 - ii. Modify sanctions;
 - iii. Overturn the finding.
 - b. Decisions are made by majority vote.

Student Notification

- The ADRCC (or designee) communicates the final appeal decision to the student in writing within **five (5) business days** of the Board's decision.
- All appeal decisions are final.

Community Standards Review Process

Housing & Residence Life will review the Community Standards on an on-going basis in consultation with the appropriate stakeholders and decision-makers. Updates to the Standards will be released at the start of every autumn term. Students are expected to review the Community Standards when they are updated and on an on-going basis to understand any revisions of the policies or the Community Standards Process. Housing & Residence Life reserves the right to make necessary changes to the Standards at any time for legal compliance purposes. Such updates will be communicated to the University community via official UChicago email.