



Student Organization Policies and Procedures

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The mission of Student Life is to enhance the personal development, well-being, and intellectual growth of our students. We cultivate discovery, collaboration, civic engagement, and the exchange of ideas through innovative programs and a diverse residential community experience.

We engage students and student organizations through programs, services and individualized opportunities that support the ideals of a liberal arts education.

We create a welcoming, vibrant environment where our students can flourish and develop as global citizens and leaders with a passion and tenacity for lifelong learning.

As such, student organizations, clubs and similarly organized groups are recognized by the University to allow current students to gather together in shared missions and intents. These organizations contribute positively to the campus, adhere to expectations for the entire Furman community, and abide by all University policies governing both individual students and student organizations.

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2. Recognition of Student Organizations

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Key Terms and Relationships

Organization & Governance

1. **Student Organization.** For the purpose of this policy, a student organization is defined as a group of currently enrolled students who unite around a common interest and are registered and maintain active status with the university. Consequently, a student organization includes Recognized Student Organizations, Athletics Department student groups, and similarly united groups. Student membership in student organizations is available for undergraduate students at Furman University. Student organizations may have graduate students and non-student members as part of the organization, but these individuals may not be considered voting members. Only undergraduate students may serve as officers and have a controlling interest in the organization.
2. **Student Organization Recognition.** A group of students wishing to form an organization must work through established University processes for doing so, which includes organization registration, sorority and fraternity expansion, governing council recognition, Athletics, and more. Ultimately, the Vice President for Intercollegiate Athletics or designee determines recognition of varsity athletic teams. The Vice President for Student Life determines recognition of all other student organizations, including but not limited to non-varsity athletic, honorary, or social organizations.

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have a designated representative navigate the accountability process on behalf of the organization. The University will direct communication to the student on file as the elected/appointed leader of the RSO (i.e., president or team captain). However, the RSO may choose any student member to serve as the official representative of the RSO at any time during the process outlined in the Student Handbook. If the individual designated is no longer eligible to serve in that role (e.g. the student withdraws from the University or is no longer a member of the RSO), or if the RSO dissolves prior to the investigation/adjudication process as outlined in this Code, the University may designate a RSO representative of their choosing.

- 5. Student Organization Advisor.** A full-time Furman faculty or staff member that assists in supporting the co-curricular learning environment of student organizations through mentoring and role modeling for student organization leaders and members. The advisor may share insight, give advice, advise on policy, hold leaders accountable, provide insight from a varying perspective, and support the organization members.
- 6. Governing Council.** Governing Councils are Recognized Student Organizations (RSOs) that are designated as an appropriate governing and/or funding body for a collection of recognized student organizations. Governing Councils have a common mission or purpose which unites its member organizations. Governing Councils may have a constitution and by-laws that guide the business of the organization, which includes but is not limited to executive functions, member organization expectations, and budgetary responsibilities.
- 7. Office of Student Involvement.** The Office of Student Involvement (OSI) provides oversight and support to all Recognized Student Organizations. At the discretion of the Vice President for Student Life, OSI manages all processes related to establishing and maintaining student organization recognition. Additionally, OSI advises Student Government Association on matters related to student organization funding. Any inquiries about starting a student organization and questions regarding Organizational Activity should be directed to OSI.

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the number of members engaging in the activity.

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- 2. University Discretion.** The University has sole discretion for approving Organizational Activity as well as interpreting policies and procedures that effect organizations, including but not limited to determining appropriate conduct action for an organization and/or individual members.
- 3. Organizational Assumption of Risk.** Student organizations and their membership assume responsibility for their actions. The University is not responsible for any injury, damage, debt or other liability caused by the Organizational Activities. The University's General Polices for Student Organizations, Risk Management Policies for Organizational Social Events, Student Organization Conduct Expectations, and other applicable university policies are only intended to provide guidance to reduce risk and to help Student Organizations contribute positively to the campus.
- 4. Social Event.** A social event is defined as an event or activity that the University determines is not primarily educational, professional development, competition, performance, or service in nature. If alcohol is provided at the event or activity, the University presumption is that the event is primarily social in nature.
- 5. BYOB.** "Bring Your Own Beverage (BYOB)" refers to alcohol brought to an Event by an of-age individual. The alcohol that each of-age individual may bring to and consume at a BYOB event is for the individual's own consumption and not for any other party. Individuals may only bring and consume beer, beer-equivalent (Whiteclaw, Truly, Smirnoff, Ciders, etc.), and wine. The presence of alcoholic beverages above 15% alcohol by volume ("ABV") is prohibited. Liquor and glass containers are not allowed. Beer and beer equivalent may be no more than six individually packaged, 12-ounce containers. Wine may be no more than six individually packaged, 187 ml containers. Regardless of allowed amounts, each student is expected to engage in low-risk drinking.
- 6. Facility Operator.** A *facility operator* is a University employee who has primary decision-making responsibility for a University Space and includes, but is not limited to, staff in Athletics, Spiritual Life, Conference & Event Services, McAlister Auditorium, Trone Student Center, Physical

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Recognition of Student Organizations

Classification, Privileges, and Requirements

1. Recognized student organizations (RSOs) are categorized based on institutional support systems and structures and fall into the following classifications:
 1. Departmental Student Organizations (DSOs)
 1. DSOs provide a function or service that is critical to the Furman student experience and/or university operations. These organizations are closely connected to a non-academic department or program. In most cases, the organization's advisor fulfills their advisory role as a function of their professional duties at the institution. Some, but not all, of these groups are eligible to receive Student Government Association (SGA) funding.
 2. Academic Student Organizations (ASOs)
 1. ASOs are groups that have a clear connection to an academic department, program, honor society, or similar area. While these organizations may be student-led, they are not governed directly by SGA or any formalized support structure. The funding origins for ASOs may vary, but they do not receive SGA funds.
 3. Interest-based Student Organizations (ISOs)
 1. ISOs are traditional student organizations that exist due to specific student interest. These organizations must complete an organization registration process on a yearly basis and will typically remain active as long as membership and leadership interest in the organization exists. ISOs are responsible for selecting and maintaining their own advisor, whose role at Furman University may or may not have a direct connection to the organization's mission or purpose. ISOs may be eligible for SGA funding.
 2. Every ISO is governed by one of the following councils/associations.
 1. Student Government Association

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4. Use of the “Furman University” name-including but not limited to, “FU,” “Furman,” and “Furman University”-in communications, social media handles, swag, or any other expression;

1. Use of the Furman University name in any form in communications or social media must comply with the University’s **Brand and Licensing policy**.

5. Eligibility to participate in the semesterly Student Involvement Fair

6. Access to support services in the Office of Student Involvement

7. University provision of additional leadership and professional development; and

8. Eligibility to apply for SGA funding or from an associated governing council, as appropriate

3. In keeping with **Furman University’s Non-Harassment and Non-Discrimination policy**, no student seeking membership into a student organization shall be subjected to unlawful Discriminatory Harassment or Discrimination because of the individual’s race, color, national origin (including shared ancestry and ethnic characteristics), sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, pregnancy, disability, age, religion, protected veteran status, or any other characteristic or status protected by applicable federal, state, or local law (referred to as “Protected Characteristics”).

Students have the opportunity to join a student organization yet membership is not guaranteed. Limited exceptions exist for organizations that have review processes, including but not limited to, tryouts, and organizations with legal single-gender exceptions.

4. The new student organization application and recognition process is open during the first three weeks of each semester. Students seeking recognition for a new student organization should contact OSI to receive information on the process.

5. Recognized Student Organizations must have a faculty/staff member serve as an advisor. For student organizations addressing an advisor vacancy and have not secured a University faculty/staff member willing to serve as an advisor prior to receiving recognition may be granted probationary status for up to one academic year. During this time, the organization will be allowed to operate as a Recognized Student Organization under the guidance of the Office of Student Involvement. If,

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Governing Council Recognition of Student Organizations

1. In order to be recognized by a Governing Council, a student organization must follow the processes outlined in the constitutions and bylaws of their respective councils, which include:
 1. **Interfraternity Council (IFC)**. All North American Interfraternity Conference Greek-lettered fraternities must be members of IFC.
 2. **Panhellenic Council (PC)**. All National Panhellenic Conference Greek-lettered sororities must be members of PC.
 3. **Religious Council**. All religious or faith-based organizations must be members of the Religious Council.
 4. **Club Sports Council**. All organizations that compete or intend to compete in organized athletic competitions against other schools on or off campus must be members of the Club Sports Council.
 5. **Student Diversity Council**. All organizations committed to educating the Furman community on topics of cultural diversity while advocating for cultural understanding, awareness, and equality must be members of the Student Diversity Council.
 6. **Student Media Board**. All organizations whose purpose is to produce at least one form of mass media for the consumption of Furman's students, staff, or employees must be members of the Student Media Board.
2. All social Greek-lettered organizations must be members of the appropriate Governing Council, as determined by University officials. Organizations allowing both men and women must indicate their preference between IFC or PC. Academic or service Greek-lettered organizations will be appropriately categorized based on the administrative and advisory support structure needed for the organization.
3. A Governing Council's constitution or bylaws cannot conflict with University policy. If this occurs, the University's policy takes precedence and the document in question must be amended to align with University policy.

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Athletic Association

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responsibilities for NCAA competition, all relevant University policies will apply and must be followed. The Vice President for Student Life will make the final determination as to whether relevant student activity falls under the scope of the [Student Handbook](#).

Suspended, Expelled, or Otherwise Unrecognized Organizations

1. Organizations no longer recognized or which never sought recognition by the University - whether suspended, expelled, disaffiliated, or otherwise - lose and are denied any and all privileges of a recognized organization. Denial of privileges includes, but is not limited to, the following:
 1. Using the “Furman University” name-including but not limited to, “FU,” “Furman,” and “Furman University”) in communications, social media handles, promotional materials, or any other expression;
 2. Using university space for organizational functions;
 3. Participation in any recruitment of students; and
 4. Financial, advising, or any other University support.
2. Additionally, action may be taken by the University at its discretion to protect the safety and wellbeing of the campus; such acts may include, but are not limited to:
 1. Trespassing or barring the organization from campus;
 2. Providing communications to families, students, and others regarding the unrecognized status;
 3. Holding individual students associating with or as the organization personally responsible for misconduct stemming from Organizational Activity via the [Student Conduct Code](#) process;
 4. Barring or removing students from university leadership positions with orientation, admissions, etc.; and
 5. Replacing the organization with an equivalent option that is recognized by the University.
3. For organizations whose recognition is suspended, the terms of the suspension will outline the return process. For organizations that voluntarily withdraw from or never seek recognition by the University and have a national governing body, the national group will not be considered for

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Student Organization Operations

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Allocation of University Funds

1. The allocation and spending of all monies collected in the Student Government Fee is the final authority of the University.
2. The recommendations on allocations of funds from the Student Government Fee to student organizations are initiated by the Student Government Association. Student Government Organizations may request allocations by presenting a written request and justification to SGA. Final SGA budget recommendations are then submitted to the Vice President for Student Life or designee for approval.
 1. Recognized Student Organizations whose membership involves restricted access to various students in the Furman community and all varsity sports teams are not eligible to receive funds from the Student Government Fee. Qualifying Departmental Student Organizations may receive funds directly from Student Government to distribute to their recognized organizations.
3. Alcohol may not be purchased through or with student organization or any other University funds, nor may the purchase of alcohol beverages for members or guests be undertaken or coordinated by any member in the name of, or on behalf of, the group.
4. Purchases that do not align with the values of the institution may not be made with institutional funds.

General Risk Management Provisions for All Student Organizations

1. **Events.** For the purposes of this policy, Event has the definition given to it in the [Use of University Space policy](#), without giving consideration to the exclusions to such definition provided therein, and with the exception that the following gatherings do not constitute “Events” for purposes of this

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4. **Peaceful Demonstrations and Protests.** Student organizations interested in hosting a peaceful demonstration or protest must follow guidelines outlined in the [Peaceful Demonstrations and Protest policy](#). Student organizations interested in support for a protest or demonstration should contact the Associate Vice President for Student Life & Dean of Students or designee for assistance.

5. **Fundraising.**

1. Recognized student organizations are allowed to host fundraising events to support Organizational Activity, in adherence to University policy and federal and state law. Fundraising is defined as any Event in which an organization solicits money from its members or from any other person internal and/or external to the campus community.
2. Student organizations must register fundraising events in advance for approval with the Office of Student Involvement (OSI), or relevant administrative office with jurisdiction over the organizational activity of a student group. Student organizations should register these events within no less than a five-business day window prior to the anticipated date of the event. OSI has the authority to deny any fundraising event registration.
3. Students are not allowed to solicit door-to-door.
4. Lotteries, raffles, and games of chance must be in accordance with University policy and South Carolina state law.
5. Student organizations can host Events for a philanthropic cause. 100% of all income generated from a philanthropic event must be given to the charitable organization.
6. RSOs are prohibited from co-sponsoring philanthropic events and/or fundraisers in conjunction with any alcohol distributor, bar, or tavern or hosting philanthropic events at such locations. Alcohol may not be served at a philanthropic event without approval from OSI.
7. Fundraising events must adhere to the guidelines set in the [Student Business policy](#) and may not attempt to circumvent this policy.

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6. Travel.

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1. Student Organization travel is deemed to be official travel of the student organization for the purpose of conducting business of, or acting as representatives for, the student organization, to include but not limited to, attending professional meetings, leadership conferences, off-campus social events, and other related meetings that require the engagement of student members. Sanctioned student organization travel is subject to the same policies and procedures as other university travelers except where noted in policy and procedures.
2. Student Organization travel in conjunction with the hosting of an off-campus event or program must follow all event registration procedures established by the Office of Student Involvement.
3. **Domestic.** Student Organizations must register travel within the continental United States through the Office of Student Involvement at least seven days prior to the proposed trip and provide a complete itinerary of all events that would be considered student organization activity, in order to receive travel authorization. Domestic travel endorsed, arranged, and led by Athletics, Academic Affairs, Academic Departments and Programs, and Student Life is exempt from this policy.
4. **International.** Any student organization traveling outside of the continental United States must contact the Rinker Center for Study Away and International Education at least thirty days prior to travel to receive authorization. Authorization will not be granted for events that the University determines are primarily social in nature as opposed to educational, professional development, competition, performance, service, or similar.
5. **Exceptions:** Exceptions to this policy will be reviewed by the Office of Student Involvement, in consultation with appropriate university officials.

7. Additional Provisions.

1. **Event Approval Authority.** The Office of Student Involvement has final authority on approving events and/or requiring additional considerations based on the type and scope of the event.

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in need of an exception to this provision should contact the Office of Student Involvement.

4. **Advertising.** Advertisements of an event may not contain any reference to alcohol specials or discounts as specials and discounts are not allowed by policy.
5. **Co-Sponsorship with Alcohol Distributor.** No student organization may co-sponsor an event with an alcohol manufacturer or promoter.
6. **Cover Charges & Ticketing Events.** Third- Party Vendors may collect cover charges so long as that money goes directly to the Vendor and not to the organization. Organizations may ticket events so long as ticket revenue are equal to or less than cost of venue rental and/or entertainment contract. Cover charges or tickets may not entitle a guest to any free or reduced-price alcohol. Should a cover charge or ticket price be used to generate funds for a student organization, the Event must be registered as a fundraising event and approved by the Office of Student Involvement.
7. **Failure to Register.** Failure to register an event may result in the cancellation of the event or conduct action.
8. **Guest List.** Organizations are not required to maintain a guest list or limit attendees to invitation-only for an event, though both are recommended as best practices. The University may request a guest list after an event as part of a complaint or other investigation.
9. **High-Risk Activities.** Any events involving high risk behaviors-including but not limited to, bar crawls, common source alcohol, drinking games, and organization sponsored or organized pre-parties- are strictly prohibited.
10. **Noise.** All events must comply with local noise ordinances.
11. **Outside Beverages.** No outside beverages are to be brought into an event, except for those allowed by BYOB. This includes, but is not limited to, water bottles, sodas, cups, etc.
12. **Risk Management Training.** In order to be eligible to host an event, each organization must complete all required University training.
13. **Security.** Events may be required to provide security in accordance with the [Use of University Space Policy](#) and/or [Alcohol Policy](#). Additionally, the OSI may require events to include approved

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ers for free or at cost, not
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2. **Deferred Recruitment.** Greek-letter organizations may only recruit and extend new (non-transfer), first-year students invitations to join the organization in the spring semester. Academic credits earned while in high school or the summer prior to enrollment at the University for the fall semester do not exempt students from this policy. Interested students must have completed twelve (12) credit hours at Furman University and have a Furman cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 in order to participate in recruitment or membership intake processes.
3. **New Member Education Period.** A student organization that requires new members to complete an educational or other probationary period prior to initiation must first provide the OSI with an educational plan for the new member education period.
 1. New member education activities may not begin until the organization's new member education plan is approved by the OSI. Failure to submit the plan in advance by a specified deadline may result in the student organization's inability to begin new member education in a timely manner as well as a shortened window to conduct new member education.
4. **Dry Initiation.** All student organization activities within 24 hours before, during, and 24 hours following selection (i.e. Bid Day) and initiation must also be alcohol-free.
5. **Overnight Retreats.** New members may only participate in off-campus overnight retreats with prior approval from the OSI. Organizations should expect to provide location of retreat, planned activities, approval by headquarter staff and/or advisors, and list of attendees at a minimum. Organizations that are currently on disciplinary probation with either the University or their national organization may not host off-campus overnight retreats, including initiations, with new members. Similarly, organizations found responsible for a Hazing violation within the past calendar year may not host off-campus overnight retreats, including initiations.
6. **New Members and Alcohol.** No alcohol shall be present at any new member program, activity, or ritual of the student organization regardless of age. This includes, but is not limited to, activities associated with "Bid Day/Night;" "big/little" events or activities; "family" events or activities that include new members; and initiation.

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University is not responsible for enforcing or ensuring compliance with any external policies governing the organization.

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3. **On-Campus Social Events/Activities with Alcohol.**

1. All events must comply with the University Alcohol Policy.
2. All event spaces should be reserved fourteen-days in advance in accordance with the [Use of University Space Policy](#), with additional notice to University Police.
3. All events are limited to beer and wine only unless approved in advance by the Facility Operator and University Police.
4. Security must be provided by the Furman University Police or their designees at the expense of the event planner.
5. All events with alcohol that students would reasonably be expected to attend must identify attendees as of-age or underage and use Furman's Food Service Provider or a Third-Party Vendor. Limited exceptions allowing for BYOB must be approved by the Vice President.
6. Alcohol sales are limited to cash/credit purchase; open bars or other provision of drinks at no-cost or reduced-cost to the attendee are not allowed unless approved fourteen-days in advance by the Vice President.
7. Cost of alcohol may not be included in any admission, meal, or entertainment charge.
8. Non-academic public spaces on campus may be used for events with alcohol, which includes, but is not limited to, the Amphitheatre, Cherrydale Alumni Center, Hartness Pavilion, Trustee and Faculty Dining Rooms, Furman University Golf Course, Garden Room of the Chapel, Herring Center for Continuing Education, Paladin Tower at the Football Stadium, Timmons Arena, The David E. Shi Center for Sustainability, North Village Pavilion, Trone Student Center, Younts Conference Center, and outdoor spaces.
9. Academic spaces and classrooms may not be used for events with alcohol except when the event organizer in an academic department, academic affairs administrator, or a professor using alcohol as required for classroom instruction.

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organization for the

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Vendors. For a list of recognized venues, please contact the OSI. To request use of a vendor

not on the recognized list, a student organization must contact OSI a minimum of 30 days prior to the event.

4. In order to be a recognized vendor, OSI must have a copy of the venue or vendor's proof of insurance and alcohol license. The University makes no representations regarding the quality of the vendor, and student organizations use the vendor at their own risk.
5. Off-campus events with alcohol are recommended to be beer and wine only.
6. Alcohol sales are limited to cash/credit purchase; open bars or other provision of drinks at no-cost or reduced-cost to the attendee are not allowed unless approved fourteen-days in advance by the Vice President.
7. Cost of alcohol may not be included in any admission, meal, or entertainment charge.

5. **Applicability of other University Policies**

1. All on- or off-campus events planned, funded, and/or executed by a student organization or where a reasonable person would conclude a student organization is primarily responsible for its planning, funding, or execution must follow the student organization policies.
2. The [Student Conduct Code](#) applies to students at all on- or off-campus events.

Student Organization Conduct Procedures

Authority of the University

Student organization conduct is the purview of the Vice President for Student Life, who has final authority on all matters related to the affiliation and function of student organizations at and with Furman University. This includes but is not limited to the recognition of organizations and revocation of an organization's status with the University. As a matter of operation, the Vice President for Student Life may identify University personnel, as noted in University policy, to support vibrant student engage-

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with university authority may be addressed with the written approval of the AVP/Dean of Students or designated. Groups affiliated with national organizations that have established guidance and procedures over disciplinary matters, may follow the directive of those national organizations with regard to member conduct but must do so with written approval from the university.

To address alleged member conduct that does not violate university policy (e.g. meeting attendance, enrollment status, upholding organization mission, etc.), organizations should work with their faculty or staff advisor to develop a process for addressing such behavior that is fair and equitable. Student organizations with concerns about the behavior of a member should submit a report through one of the various reporting options offered by the University.

Organizational Conduct Action - Hazing

All student organizations are expected to comply with [Furman's Hazing Policy](#). This policy outlines how hazing complaints can be received and the process in which complaints are investigated and adjudicated.

Notice to the University

1. The University may receive notice of an allegation or potential violation of this or other related policies in a number of ways, including, but not limited to:
 1. The filing of an incident report with the appropriate University department or official, including self-reporting and anonymous reporting;
 2. Any Responsible Employee is made aware of any potential violation of this or other related policies; or
 3. Any Responsible Employee observes any potential violation of this or other related policies.
2. The University may choose to protect the anonymity of a reporting party when the safety and well-being of the reporting party is an important factor.

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Interim Action

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1. During an investigation and resolution of alleged organizational misconduct, the University may initiate interim action, which may include the suspension of any or all organizational activity. Notice of interim action will be given to the organization as well as other parties pertinent to the interim action including but not limited to, national organizations, advisors, other organizations on campus, and the campus community.
2. A student organization may request an appeal of interim action through a “show cause” meeting. The sole purpose of this meeting is to address concerns surrounding the interim action taken against the organization. The Vice President will determine whether a meeting is warranted based on the circumstances of the allegations. If a meeting is granted, the Vice President will meet with the appropriate student organization representative within seven (7) business days of receipt of the “show cause” meeting request. The student organization representative may request to have a support person present with them during the “show cause” meeting.
3. The outcome of a “show cause” meeting can uphold, modify, or release the interim action issued against a student organization. The outcome of this meeting does not supplant any pending or ongoing investigation or student conduct action to which a student organization must address.
4. “Show cause” decisions on interim action are deemed final until a student conduct proceeding has resolved the alleged misconduct violation(s).

Procedures for Operational Violations

1. Organizations are expected to comply with all provisions for operation contained in this policy. Failure to do so may result in an organization being charged with a Student Organization Policies violation.
2. When an alleged violation(s) by a student organization is strictly related to a failure to adhere to student organization operations and not the Student Conduct Code, the matter will be resolved by

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appointed by the respective governing council;

1. For violations by Greek-letter organizations, the IFC and Panhellenic judicial/standards vice presidents will serve in rotation; and
2. If the IFC or Panhellenic judicial/standards vice president is a member of the accused organization or has a conflict of interest, the Chair will designate an alternate from the respective governing council to serve;
3. Violations by Athletic Recognized Organizations will include two student-athletes appointed by the Vice President for Intercollegiate Athletics or designee.
5. The accused organization may designate one member to attend the hearing and speak on the organization's behalf. Alternatively, the organization may submit a written statement for consideration.
6. The accused organization may bring a Support Person from the University's current faculty, staff, or student body to attend the hearing. Regardless of affiliation with the University, parents, guardians, and attorneys may not serve as a Support Person. The Support Person role is intended to comfort the accused organization's representative throughout the hearing. The Support Person may communicate with their organization's representative privately but may not address the hearing panel, question Witnesses, or have any other speaking role.
7. The Chair may choose to call witnesses with information about the facts of the alleged violation.
8. By a majority vote, the Review Panel will make determinations of responsibility using the Preponderance of the Evidence as its standard of proof and, if responsible, assign sanctions.
9. The Chair will give notice of the outcome to the organization within five business days unless there is a reasonable need for delay. Notice may be given verbally or in writing. Additionally, the Chair may choose to notify the national office, advisor, or others pertinent to the resolution process.
10. Notice of the recommended outcome will also be provided to the Vice President for Student Life for final approval.
11. There is no appeal.

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2. It is the University's discretion whether to forward a matter onto formal conduct proceedings.
3. If the Assistant Dean of Student Conduct determines at any point that a formal investigation is necessary, the case may be assigned to Student Life Investigators. The Assistant Dean of Student Conduct will notify the Student Organization Representative for the RSO, the RSO advisor, and any appropriate officials affiliated with the RSO's inter/national governing body of the start of any investigation.
4. During the course of the investigation, the RSO may request to enter information into the record and may recommend specific witnesses to the investigator. Ultimately, determinations of relevance of information or witnesses will be determined by the investigator.
5. In completing the investigation, the investigator(s) may:
 1. Make contact (if possible) with the individual(s) who submitted the initial information.
 2. Interview any individuals with relevant information.
 3. Request relevant information from RSO members (i.e. screenshots of text messages or pictures/videos) and note whether or not RSO members were compliant in sharing requested information.
 4. Provide relevant information at any point during the investigation to the Assistant Dean of Student Conduct related to interim measures.
 5. Require RSO members, or a select group of RSO members (i.e. all new members of the RSO) to participate in an interview and may restrict communication between RSO members during the interview (for example, sequestering RSO members in a room and prohibiting interview participants from using their cell phone or other devices during the interview/sequestration).
6. Students participating in a formal investigation process are expected to participate in an active, cooperative and truthful manner. Failing to participate in any fashion, including failure to provide requested information or testimony, may constitute a violation(s) of the Code of

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is a written draft of the
Assistant Dean of Student
I make the final

determination of the relevance of any information gathered during the investigation.

9. Upon completion of the final report, the Assistant Dean of Student Conduct will determine the appropriate adjudication process.

10. If it is determined that no investigation is necessary, the report is documented and administratively closed. The Assistant Dean of Student Conduct may, at their discretion, notify the RSO of the information received and that the matter is closed.

2. Resolution Pathways.

1. When an alleged violation(s) by a student organization includes a Student Conduct Code violation, the matter will be resolved by a Conduct Official (hereinto "Chair") as defined in the Student Conduct Procedures policy.
2. The Chair will notify the organization of the alleged violation(s) at least three (3) business days prior to a hearing unless there is a reasonable need to waive this requirement. Additionally, the Chair may choose to notify the national office, advisor, or others pertinent to the resolution process.
3. The Chair will review all pertinent information regarding alleged organization misconduct and determine whether the resolution of a student organization case can be addressed under any of the available resolution processes described in the Student Conduct Procedures section of the Student Handbook. All forms of resolution (informal and formal) will be documented for record-keeping purposes.
4. In the case of a formal student conduct proceeding, the incident will be heard by a Review Panel consisting of the Chair and two students, selected as follows:
 1. Violations by Recognized Student Organizations will include two students appointed by the Student Government Association, in consultation with the Chair;
 2. Violations by Governing Council Recognized Student Organizations will include two students appointed by the respective governing council, in consultation with the Chair;

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pected to address any
Representative was
Alternatively, RSO

Representative may submit a written statement and any relevant material for consideration in lieu of active participation in a student conduct proceeding. This information must be provided to the Chair no less than one (1) business day prior to the proceeding.

6. The accused organization may bring a Support Person from the University's current faculty, staff, or student body to attend the hearing. Regardless of affiliation with the University, parents, guardians, and attorneys may not serve as a Support Person. The Support Person role is intended to comfort the accused organization's representative throughout the hearing. The Support Person may communicate with their organization's representative privately but may not address the hearing panel, question Witnesses, or have any other speaking role.
7. The accused organization has the opportunity to provide information on their own behalf during a Review Panel Hearing to address the alleged violation(s) of the Student Conduct Code. This may include documentation and witnesses that will be a part of the hearing process. The Chair will resolve any questions concerning procedure or the admission of information (including but not limited to, its relevancy and reliability).
8. The Chair may choose to call witnesses with information about the facts of the alleged violation. The accused organization will be given the opportunity to question all witnesses that appear during a Review Panel Hearing. The method of questioning will be determined by the Chair. The Review Panel may use any information and/or evidence to make a determination of responsibility.
9. By a majority vote, the Review Panel will make determinations of responsibility using the Preponderance of the Evidence as its standard of proof and, if responsible, assign action items.
10. Student organizations who fail to have a representative appear for a Review Panel Hearing will have the determination of responsibility and Action Item(s) made in their absence, based on all information available at that time. If the Chair determines a decision cannot be made without the accused student organization, the Review Panel Hearing may be postponed.

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ce. The appeal form must

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Students or designee (“DOS”), one student representative, and one faculty or staff

representative.

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3. The appeal will not be a re-hearing of the original case and must be based on the one or more of the following criteria:
 1. *Substantial* new evidence can be provided related to the specific case which was n ot available at the time of the original hearing;
 2. A *substantial* violation of the hearing procedure occurred; or
 3. The sanction(s) levied is *excessive*.
 4. Appeals that do not reasonably meet one of the aforementioned appeal criteria, as determined by the DOS, will not be given further consideration.
 5. If an appeal does meet the criteria, the Appeal Board will choose to uphold the decision or alter the decision as its discretion.
 6. All decisions of the Appeal Board will be provided to the Vice President for final review.
4. **Special Considerations in the Resolution Process.**
1. Student Organization Review Panels may not be convened during school closings, semester breaks, summer months and exam periods; consequently, all necessary determinations will be made as follows:
 1. If the organization denies responsibility for alleged violations, a panel of two or more faculty, staff, or students appointed by the Vice President will make all necessary determinations; or
 2. If the organization accepts responsibility for the charges, the Dean of Students Office may assign sanctions.

Student Conduct Code Violations for Organizations

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marital status, sex, age, or
harassment, and sexual
or use of strippers, exotic

dancers or similar, whether professional or amateur, at a student organization event is prohibited.

See the [Sexual Misconduct Policy](#).

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- 4. Drug-Free Campus.** The possession, sale or use of any illegal drugs, controlled substances, or prescription drugs without a valid medical prescription during Organizational Activity is strictly prohibited.
- 5. Organizational Activities at Unrecognized Venues.** Any Organizational Activity occurring at unapproved venues may result in suspension of activities and/or loss of recognition. If the University determines that Organizational Activity occurred, it is not a defense that such activity took place at an individual's personal, off-campus residence.
- 6. Hazing.** Refer to [Furman's Hazing Policy](#).
- 7. Violation of Federal, State or Local Law.** Alleged violations of any federal, state or local law may be adjudicated as a University violation and can subject the organization or the individuals affiliated with the organization or event to University student conduct sanctions, as well as appropriate criminal or civil action.
- 8. Violation of Student Organization Policies.** An organization that violates an operational provision of this policy may be referred for conduct action.





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