Community Standards and Student Conduct System

Academic Year 2025–2026

Effective: August 1, 2025
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This Code of Conduct applies to all students enrolled at UVA Wise. UVA Wise may amend this Code of Conduct at any time as necessary. Students will be notified of amendments by appropriate and expeditious means.

CAMPUS SECURITY-CLERY ACT: UVA Wise is committed to helping the campus community provide for their own safety and security. The Annual Security and Fire Safety Report containing information on campus security and personal safety, including alerts, fire safety, crime prevention tips, and crime statistics is available at www.uvawise.edu/ASR. A copy is available upon request by calling 276-328-0190.

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MISSION OF THE STUDENT CONDUCT SYSTEM

The Student Conduct System at The University of Virginia's College at Wise exists to uphold a safe, respectful, and welcoming campus environment where all students can thrive intellectually, personally, ethically, and socially. Rooted in the College's mission, the conduct process is fundamentally educational, designed to promote student learning, foster accountability, and support holistic development.

The system encourages students to reflect on the impact of their choices and to take responsibility for their actions, recognizing the connection between individual behavior and the broader community's well-being. Guided by principles of fairness and due process, the system promotes personal growth through restorative and developmental approaches, when possible, while also addressing serious misconduct with appropriate and proportional responses to protect the campus community.

Students are expected to uphold the standards outlined in the Code of Conduct and to engage in the community with integrity and respect. Through this framework, the College affirms its commitment to cultivating responsible citizenship and preparing students for ethical leadership beyond their time at UVA Wise.

CONDUCT PROCESS PRINCIPLES AND RECORDS MANAGEMENT

The Student Conduct System at UVA Wise operates as an educational and administrative process distinct from legal or criminal proceedings. While grounded in fairness and student development, the process also ensures that community standards are upheld and that the rights of all students are protected.

Conduct decisions are made using the **preponderance of the evidence** standard, meaning a finding is based on whether it is more likely than not that a policy violation occurred. This standard reflects the educational purpose of the process while balancing the need for fairness, clarity, and consistency in decision-making.

To support transparency, accountability, and compliance with federal mandates such as the **Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act**, student conduct records are maintained according to the following guidelines:

- **All student conduct violations are cumulative** over a student's enrollment at the College and may be considered in determining appropriate outcomes.

- **Records are maintained for seven (7) years** from the date of the most recent conduct case resolution, whether a hearing was held or a sanction imposed.
- **Records involving expulsion** are retained permanently.
- **Records for students who withdraw, transfer, or separate** from the College with unresolved conduct matters or incomplete sanctions are retained for fifteen (15) years to ensure accountability and institutional integrity.

It is important to note that **conduct outcomes are determined independently** of any outcomes in civil, criminal, or administrative legal proceedings. While information from external proceedings may be considered, the College's responsibility is to uphold its own policies and maintain a safe and ethical campus community.

Through this framework, the College affirms its commitment to maintaining a conduct process that is fair, reasonable, educational, and in alignment with its mission to support the personal and ethical development of all students.

SCOPE OF THE CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT

The Code of Student Conduct applies to all students enrolled at The University of Virginia's College at Wise, including individuals who are:

- Registered for one or more credit hours,
- Participating in College-sponsored programs (such as study abroad),
- Representing the College in an official capacity (e.g., athletics, student employment, band, or other activities),
- Or maintaining a continuing relationship with the College, regardless of physical presence on campus.

This Code also extends to all recognized student organizations, athletic teams, and groups in the process of applying for College recognition.

Students are expected to uphold the behavioral expectations outlined in this Code from the time they accept admission through the completion of their academic journey, including breaks between terms, study abroad experiences, and during periods of leave or withdrawal. Students who withdraw, transfer, or otherwise separate from the College with unresolved conduct matters remain subject to the conduct process and may be required to resolve those matters before returning or receiving a degree.

JURISDICTION

The College maintains the authority to address conduct that occurs:

1. **On College premises**, including classrooms, residence halls, dining areas, and other facilities;
2. **At College-sponsored or supervised events**, regardless of location (e.g., athletic competitions, field trips, conferences, internships);
3. **On digital platforms**, such as email, learning management systems, or social media, when the behavior affects members of the College community;
4. **Off campus**, when the behavior presents a substantial risk to the safety or well-being of others, violates College values, or could negatively impact the College's reputation or operations.

In determining whether to address off-campus or online behavior, the College considers the nature of the behavior, its impact, the connection to College activities, and the potential risk to individuals or the College community.

INSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY AND EXPECTATIONS

Students at UVA Wise are members of a learning community grounded in academic freedom, mutual respect, and individual rights. Behavior that disrupts the educational environment, threatens the safety or dignity of others, or interferes with College operations IS NOT CONDONED.

By enrolling at UVA Wise, students accept the responsibility to act with integrity and accountability. This includes conducting themselves in a manner consistent with the educational mission and values of the College, both on and off campus.

The Chancellor has delegated authority to the Chief Conduct Officer and/or their designee to interpret and enforce this Code, resolve allegations of misconduct, and impose appropriate sanctions, up to and including suspension or expulsion.

RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

At The University of Virginia's College at Wise, our conduct process is rooted in education, fairness, and accountability. Students are recognized as individuals with rights, and they are expected to uphold responsibilities that contribute to a safe and respectful learning environment. These rights and responsibilities are framed by the community values we share.

STUDENT RIGHTS

All students involved in the conduct process—whether as a responding party, reporting party, or witness—are entitled to:

- **Fair Treatment**
  To be treated with respect, dignity, and impartiality throughout the conduct process.
- **Notice of Allegations**
  To receive timely written notice of the alleged policy violation(s) and information about the conduct process.
- **Opportunity to Be Heard**
  To share their perspective, respond to allegations, and present relevant information, witnesses, or documentation.
- **Support from an Advisor**
  To be accompanied by an advisor of their choosing, who is a current student, faculty, or staff member at the College.
- **Privacy and Confidentiality**
  To have their information handled with discretion, in accordance with FERPA and College policies.
- **Freedom from Retaliation**
  To report concerns or participate in the conduct process without fear of retaliation.
- **Appeal Rights**
  To request a review of the outcome based on specific criteria, as outlined in the appeals process.
- **Access to Resources**
  To receive support services, referrals, and accommodations when appropriate.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

As members of the UVA Wise community, students are expected to:

- **Uphold the Code of Conduct**
  Know and follow the policies outlined in this document and other applicable College regulations.
- **Act with Integrity**
  Be honest in all communications and interactions related to the conduct process.

- **Participate in Good Faith**
  Attend meetings and hearings when requested, and engage respectfully with College officials and peers.
- **Complete Assigned Sanctions**
  Fulfill any educational or restorative outcomes in a timely and responsible manner.
- **Respect the Rights of Others**
  Avoid actions that infringe on the safety, dignity, or learning of others.
- **Support a Safe and Welcoming Environment**
  Contribute to a respectful campus culture, both in person and online.

COMMUNITY VALUES

The following core values reflect the spirit of the UVA Wise community and serve as the foundation of our Student Conduct System:

- **Respect**
  We honor the dignity and worth of all individuals and foster an environment of mutual care and civility.
- **Responsibility**
  We hold ourselves accountable for our choices and recognize the impact of our actions on the community.
- **Integrity**
  We strive to be honest, ethical, and fair in all our academic, social, and personal interactions.
- **Learning**
  We embrace every opportunity for growth, reflection, and development—both inside and outside the classroom.
- **Citizenship**
  We seek to build a strong and welcoming community where all members feel safe, valued, and empowered to contribute.

PROHIBITED CONDUCT

A. ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO VIOLATIONS

Illegal Use or Possession

- Using or possessing alcoholic beverages or nicotine products in violation of the law, including underage possession or use (under 21 years old).
  Applicable Law: Virginia Code § 4.1-305; § 18.2-371.2

Distribution and Coercion

- Selling, distributing, or manufacturing alcohol, or coercing others to consume it. This includes providing alcohol to minors, individuals who are visibly intoxicated, or those involved in organizational recruitment or initiation activities.
  Applicable Law: Virginia Code § 4.1-306; § 18.2-56 (Hazing)

Misconduct While Intoxicated

- Engaging in unsafe behaviors while under the influence of alcohol, such as property damage, vomiting, loss of balance, or unresponsiveness requiring medical intervention.
  Applicable Law: Virginia Code § 18.2-388 (Public Intoxication); § 18.2-266 (DUI)

Prohibited Locations

- Possessing or consuming alcohol in unauthorized areas, including all first-year residence halls (regardless of age) and any room or area where at least one person is under 21. This includes common spaces such as patios, lounges, stairways, parking lots, and athletic or academic facilities, unless otherwise authorized.

Bulk and Common Containers

- Using bulk-source or common-source containers (e.g., kegs, punch bowls) or high-risk drinking devices (e.g., funnels, beer pong tables) during events is prohibited, both on and off campus.

Alcohol-Related Paraphernalia and Activities

- Using or possessing paraphernalia or engaging in drinking games that encourage rapid consumption of alcohol.

Organizational Responsibility

- Student organizations must take all necessary steps to ensure alcohol is not distributed to underage or visibly intoxicated individuals at events they host or endorse.

Smoking and Vaping Restrictions

- Smoking, including e-cigarettes and vaping, is prohibited inside all College buildings and residence halls. Smoking is only allowed outside and must be at least 25 feet from building entrances and windows.

Smokeless Nicotine Products

- Use or possession of smokeless tobacco (e.g., dip, pouches, snuff) is prohibited inside all College buildings, unless FDA-approved and used as directed for smoking cessation.

B. CANNABIS, MARIJUANA, AND CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE VIOLATIONS

Although Virginia law permits recreational cannabis use for those over 21, federal law and UVA Wise policy prohibit all cannabis use, possession, and distribution on campus or at College-related events.

Use and Possession

- Using or possessing marijuana, cannabis-derived substances, or THC products (including edibles, vapes, oils, and plant material), even if legal under Virginia law.
  Applicable Law: Federal Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. § 812); Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act (20 U.S.C. § 1011i)

Controlled Substances

- Using, possessing, or receiving illegal or controlled substances without a valid prescription, including mail delivery of such items.
  Applicable Law: Virginia Code § 18.2-250

Drug Paraphernalia

- Using or possessing drug paraphernalia, including bongs, pipes, vaporizers, or grinders.
  Applicable Law: Virginia Code § 18.2-265.3

Manufacture and Distribution

- Manufacturing, distributing, selling, or intending to distribute controlled substances. Possession of packaging materials, scales, or large quantities may be considered evidence of intent.
  Applicable Law: Virginia Code § 18.2-248

Misconduct Under the Influence

- Operating a vehicle or engaging in disruptive or unsafe behavior while under the influence of marijuana or other drugs.

Prescription and Over-the-Counter Medication Misuse

- Misusing prescription or over-the-counter medications, including:
  - Taking medications not prescribed to you.
  - Distributing your personal prescription medications.
  - Consuming medication for non-medical or recreational purposes.

C. HARM TO OTHERS

UVA Wise is committed to fostering a campus environment where all individuals are treated with dignity and respect. Acts that cause (or have the potential to cause) harm to others are strictly prohibited, whether committed in person, digitally, or through third parties. The behaviors below violate the values of our community and may also be subject to criminal prosecution under Virginia or federal law.

Endangerment and Reckless Behavior

- **Endangerment**
  Any act that threatens or causes harm to the safety or well-being of another person.
  Applicable Law: Virginia Code § 18.2-57 (Assault and Battery)

- **Reckless Behavior**
  Non-accidental actions that could reasonably lead to harm, regardless of intent.

Discrimination, Harassment, and Bullying

- **Discriminatory Harassment**
  Harassing or abusing someone based on protected characteristics such as race, religion, national origin, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, pregnancy, disability, age, or veteran status.

Applicable Law: Title VI & VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; Title IX; Virginia Human Rights Act § 2.2-3900 et seq.

- **General Harassment or Bullying**
  Aggressive, threatening, or demeaning behavior—verbal, physical, or digital—that interferes with a student's participation in College life, even if not based on a protected class.

- **Cyberbullying and Digital Misconduct**
  Harassment via social media, email, or other online platforms, including repeated unwanted contact, posting of harmful content, or threats.

Retaliation

- **Retaliation**
  Act of intimidation, harassment, threat, or discrimination against a person for reporting a violation or participating in the conduct or Title IX process that would dissuade a reasonable person from engaging in the same reporting in the future.
  Applicable Law: Title IX Regulations (34 C.F.R. § 106.71); Clery Act

Threats, Intimidation, and Violence

- **Threatening Behavior**
  Communication or action that causes a reasonable fear of harm.
  Virginia Code § 18.2-60

- **Physical Assault or Abuse**
  Intentional act of physical violence, including but not limited to hitting, shoving, or grabbing.
  Virginia Code § 18.2-57

- **Aiding or Encouraging Harmful Acts**
  Actively facilitating, encouraging, or participating in behavior that harms or endangers another.

Stalking and Unwanted Contact

- **Stalking**
  Repeated unwanted behavior directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for their safety or experience significant emotional distress.
  Applicable Law: Title IX; Virginia Code § 18.2-60.3

Hazing

Hazing is strictly prohibited by UVA Wise policy and Virginia law. Consent is not a defense against hazing.

- **Definition**
  Hazing includes any act—on or off campus—that recklessly or intentionally endangers the health or safety of a student or to inflict bodily injury on a student in connection with or for the purposes of initiation, admission into or affiliation with or as a condition for membership in a club, organization, association, fraternity, sorority, or student body, regardless of whether the student endangered or injured voluntarily participated. Hazing includes acts intended to humiliate, sleep deprivation, forced consumption, physical activity, degradation, or harassment.

- **Aiding or Abetting Hazing**
  Being present for, assisting with, or failing to report hazing-related behavior may also constitute a violation.

Applicable Law: Virginia Code § 18.2-56 (Hazing – Civil and Criminal Liability); College Code of Conduct

Sexual Misconduct (Title IX and College Policy)

The College prohibits all forms of sexual and gender-based misconduct, consistent with Title IX and College policy. These behaviors may result in both student conduct and Title IX investigations.

- **Sexual Harassment**
  Unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal, nonverbal, or physical conduct of a sexual nature that interferes with a person's participation in College programs or creates a hostile environment.
  Title IX Regulations (34 C.F.R. § 106.30)

- **Sexual Assault**
  Sexual act directed against another person without consent, including rape, fondling, incest, or statutory rape.
  Applicable Law: Title IX; Clery Act; Virginia Code § 18.2-61 – § 18.2-67.5

- **Sexual Exploitation**
  Taking sexual advantage of another without consent, including recording or sharing intimate images or engaging in voyeurism.

- **Dating Violence and Domestic Violence**
  Act of violence or abuse by a current or former intimate partner.
  Applicable Law: Clery Act; Title IX; Virginia Code § 18.2-57.2

- **Stalking (Sexual/Gender-Based Context)**
  Conduct as defined above, when related to sex or gender identity.

Reports of sexual misconduct are subject to the **UVA Wise Sexual and Gender-Based Harassment and Interpersonal Violence Policy** and will be addressed in accordance with **Title IX regulations** and the **College's Title IX procedures**.

D. DISRUPTIVE & DISORDERLY CONDUCT

UVA Wise expects all students to maintain behavior that supports an academic, safe, and respectful campus environment. Disruptive and disorderly conduct interferes with the rights of others, the functioning of the College, or the learning process. These behaviors may occur in person, through digital means, or in connection with College-sponsored events.

Failure to Comply with College Officials or Law Enforcement

- **Failure to Comply**
  Not following the reasonable instructions of law enforcement officers, Campus Police, College employees (including student staff such as RAs), or emergency personnel when they are performing their duties.
  Applicable Law: Virginia Code § 18.2-460 (Obstruction of justice); § 23.1-817 (Disruption of school activities)

Disorderly or Disruptive Conduct

- **Disruptive Behavior**
  Behavior that significantly interferes with College operations, including classes, residence life, campus events, or administrative functions.

- **Disorderly Conduct**
  Loud, aggressive, lewd, or otherwise inappropriate conduct that breaches peace or disturbs the academic or social environment.
  Applicable Law: Virginia Code § 18.2-415 (Disorderly conduct); § 18.2-388 (Public intoxication and profanity)

Disruptive Demonstrations

- **Protests and Demonstrations**
  Students have the right to free expression; however, demonstrations must be conducted in accordance with the College's Free Speech Policy. Behavior that disrupts College operations, threatens safety, or infringes upon the rights of others is prohibited.
  See: UVA Wise Free Speech Policy

Noise Violations

- **Excessive Noise**
  Creating noise that interferes with others' ability to study, rest, or enjoy the campus environment—especially during designated quiet hours in residential areas.
  - Quiet Hours:
    - Sunday–Thursday: 10:00 p.m. – 9:00 a.m.
    - Friday–Saturday: 12:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.
  - During final exams, quiet hours are enforced 24 hours a day starting on the last day of classes.

Prohibited Mask-Wearing in Certain Contexts

- **Concealment of Identity**
  Wearing masks, hoods, or devices to conceal identity in public spaces, except for health or religious purposes, is prohibited when done with the intent to intimidate or avoid identification.
  Applicable Law: Virginia Code § 18.2-422 (Wearing masks in public with intent to conceal identity)

E. PROPERTY & FACILITY MISUSE

Respect for College, personal, and public property is a core expectation of membership in the UVA Wise community. Damage, theft, unauthorized access, or misuse of College facilities undermines the safety, trust, and integrity of our learning environment. The following behaviors are prohibited.

Vandalism and Theft

- **Vandalism**
  Intentionally or recklessly damaging, defacing, or destroying College property or the property of another person, organization, or entity.
  Applicable Law: Virginia Code § 18.2-137

- **Theft or Unauthorized Taking of Property**
  Taking or attempting to take property or services without permission, including items belonging to the College, another person, business, or organization.
  Applicable Law: Virginia Code § 18.2-95 through § 18.2-103 (Petit and Grand Larceny)

- **Possession of Stolen Property**
  Possessing property that has been stolen or is reasonably suspected of having been stolen.
  Virginia Code § 18.2-108

- **Embezzlement and Fraud**
  Acquiring property or services through deception, false pretenses, or the abuse of position or access.
  Virginia Code § 18.2-111 (Embezzlement); § 18.2-178 (False pretenses)

Trespassing and Unauthorized Access

- **Unauthorized Entry**
  Entering another student's room or restricted College space without permission, including use of fire escapes, roofs, closed academic buildings, or windows for entry/exit.

- **Facilitating Unauthorized Entry**
  Allowing others to gain unauthorized access to restricted areas, including propping open secure doors.

- **Trespassing**
  Being present in areas of campus where access is prohibited or restricted or remaining in a location after hours of operation or after being asked to leave.
  Applicable Law: Virginia Code § 18.2-119

Fire Safety Violations

- **Tampering with Safety Equipment**
  Tampering with or disabling fire alarms, smoke detectors, sprinkler systems, extinguishers, or other life-safety devices.
  Applicable Law: Virginia Code § 18.2-212

- **Obstructing Emergency Egress**
  Blocking access to or from hallways, stairwells, or exits with furniture, trash, bicycles, or personal items.

- **False Reports or Alarms**
  Making false reports of fire, weapons, or other emergencies to College staff or first responders.
  Applicable Law: Virginia Code § 18.2-212 (False fire alarm); § 18.2-461 (False police report)

- **Unauthorized Open Flames**
  Burning candles, incense, or other items, or starting any fire without College permission. Bonfires, grills, and torches must follow fire code and College policy.

Property Damage (Reckless or Intentional)

- **Reckless Damage**
  Causing damage to College, personal, or public property through carelessness or disregard for safety.

- **Intentional Damage**
  Knowingly causing harm to buildings, equipment, or property.

Misuse or Fabrication of Keys, Access Cards, or Facilities

- **Unauthorized Use of Access Devices**
  Using, duplicating, or distributing keys, swipe cards, or other access tools without authorization.

- **Tampering with Locks or Doors**
  Modifying locks, disabling latches, or using objects to prop doors for unauthorized access.

- **Falsification or Fabrication**
  Forging, altering, or using unauthorized credentials or access permissions.

Inappropriate Sanitation and Property Misuse

- **Public Urination or Defecation**
  Relieving oneself in places not designated for sanitary waste disposal is prohibited.

- **Tampering with Entryways or Facilities**
  Altering, blocking, or misusing entry points to buildings, such as propping doors, damaging locks, or disabling safety equipment.

Unauthorized Tents or Structures

- **Improper Use of Tents or Temporary Structures**
  All tents (regardless of size), whether rental, College-owned, or privately owned, must

comply with the Uniform Statewide Building Code and the Virginia Statewide Fire Prevention Code. Students must coordinate with Campus Police prior to assembly.

F. BEHAVIORAL INTEGRITY & PROCESS MISCONDUCT

Dishonesty and Misrepresentation

- **Providing False Information**
  Knowingly supplying false, misleading, or incomplete information to College officials, law enforcement, or emergency personnel.
  Applicable Law: Virginia Code § 18.2-460 (Obstruction of justice); § 18.2-461 (False reports to law enforcement)

- **Falsified Identification**
  Possessing, creating, or using a fake or altered identification document, or using someone else's ID.
  Virginia Code § 18.2-204.1

- **Misrepresentation of Identity**
  Concealing one’s identity to evade responsibility or gain unauthorized access or privileges.

- **Invasion of Privacy**
  Photographing, filming, recording, or distributing content of others in private settings without their knowledge and consent. This includes misuse of devices such as phones, Ring cameras, or hidden recording devices.
  Applicable Law: Virginia Code § 18.2-386.1

- **Misuse of College Technology**
  Using College accounts, networks, or systems in ways that violate policy, disrupt operations, or breach privacy.
  See: UVA Wise Acceptable Use Policy

Misconduct in the Student Conduct Process

- **Falsification or Misrepresentation During a Case**
  Submitting false documents, altering evidence, or lying during any part of the conduct or Title IX process.

- **Non-Cooperation/Failure to Comply**
  Failing or refusing to respond to official requests for information, meetings, or hearings related to a conduct case.

- **Interference with the Process**
  Attempting to disrupt or manipulate the outcome of a conduct case, including:
  - Coaching or otherwise tampering with witnesses
  - Withholding or tampering with evidence
  - Tampering with testimony
- **Abuse of the Process**
  Filing false or retaliatory complaints or using the conduct system to harass others.
- **Advisor Misconduct**
  Advisors who disrupt the process, advocate beyond their role, or violate conduct meeting guidelines may be removed.

Failure to Complete Sanctions

- **Sanction Non-Compliance**
  Failing to complete assigned sanctions by the designated deadline, including reflection assignments, community service, or educational modules. Students who do not complete sanctions may face additional conduct charges or restrictions (e.g., registration holds, housing impacts).

G. WEAPONS & DANGEROUS MATERIALS VIOLATIONS

UVA Wise is committed to maintaining a safe and secure campus environment. The presence or use of weapons or hazardous materials—whether functional, decorative, or intended as threats—undermines community safety and is strictly prohibited on College premises or at College-sponsored events, regardless of possession permits or licensing.

Weapons Possession or Use

- **Prohibited Weapons**
  Possession or use of any firearm, air gun, BB gun, paintball gun, toy guns, or similar weapon is prohibited on College property or at College events, including inside vehicles. This includes functional and non-functional replicas.
  Applicable Law: Virginia Code § 18.2-308.1 (Weapons on school property)
- **Knives and Bladed Instruments**
  Possession of knives with blades longer than three inches is prohibited. This includes switchblades, daggers, and other edged weapons. Ordinary pocketknives with folding blades of less than three inches and kitchen utensils used appropriately are permitted.
  Applicable Law: Virginia Code § 18.2-308 (Carrying concealed weapons; exceptions)

- **Weapon Use as Threat or Intimidation**
  Using any object—regardless of classification—as a weapon to threaten, intimidate, or harm others is strictly prohibited.

Ceremonial, Decorative, or Replica Weapons

- **Prohibited Displays**
  Displaying or possessing decorative or replica weapons (e.g., swords, collectible knives) is not permitted on campus or at events without prior written approval from College officials.

Dangerous Materials

- **Hazardous Chemicals or Devices**
  Possessing or using fireworks, explosives, or potentially dangerous chemicals (including but not limited to lighter fluid, gasoline, or acids) is prohibited on College property.
  Applicable Law: Virginia Code § 18.2-85 (Firebombs, explosives); § 18.2-87.1 (Fireworks)

- **Improvised or Homemade Devices**
  Creating, possessing, or using any device designed to cause damage, injury, or fear—regardless of functionality or intent—is prohibited.

Exceptions and Reporting

- **Authorized Use**
  Exceptions for academic, ceremonial, ROTC, or theatrical purposes must receive prior written approval from the Chief Conduct Officer and/or Campus Police.

- **Reporting Responsibility**
  Students who become aware of weapons or dangerous materials on campus are expected to report the matter promptly to Campus Police.

H. STUDENT HOUSING POLICY VIOLATIONS

Residential life at UVA Wise is designed to support academic success, personal growth, and respectful community living. Students who reside in College housing agree to follow the policies outlined in the *Guide to Campus Living*, which sets expectations for safety, cleanliness, shared responsibility, and mutual respect.

The following section highlights the most common violations of residential policy. While not exhaustive, these examples represent the types of behaviors most frequently addressed through the student conduct process. Health and safety violations are handled separately from the general conduct process and follow a distinct tiered sanctioning system. Depending on the severity of the violation and surrounding context, these incidents may also be subject to

additional sanctions as outlined in the Student Code of Conduct. Housing policies may evolve in response to safety needs, state regulations, or institutional priorities; therefore, students are responsible for reviewing and adhering to the most current version of the *Guide to Campus Living*, available through the Office of Residence Life.

Sanctions Applicable for Health and Safety Violations

a. First offense - A warning will be issued and kept on file in the Student Affairs office.
b. Second offense - $25 fine will be added to your student account
c. Third offense - $50 fine and conversation with Community Standards Coordinator, or designee.
d. Fourth offense – Referral to student conduct board
e. Fifth offense – Removal from on-campus housing

Health & Safety Violations

- **Room Inspections and Health Compliance**
  Failing to maintain a reasonably clean and safe living space or refusing access for health and safety inspections. This includes the accumulation of trash, food waste, or unsanitary conditions that could attract pests or create health hazards.

- **Prohibited Appliances**
  Using unauthorized items such as hot plates, toaster ovens, power strips without reset buttons, air fryers, or space heaters in restricted areas.
  See: Guide to Campus Living, p. 14 – "Electrical Appliances"

- **Fire Hazards and Tampering with Safety Equipment**
  Blocking sprinklers, disabling smoke detectors, or hanging items from fire safety equipment is prohibited.
  See also Section E of this Code

- **Unapproved Room Alterations**
  Installing personal air conditioners, removing furniture, or painting walls without approval from the Office of Residence Life.

- **Pets**
  Keeping unauthorized animals in the residence halls. Only fish in tanks under 10 gallons are permitted. Emotional support animals require approval through the Disability Services office.
  Guide to Campus Living, p. 11

Guest & Visitation Policy Violations

- **Unauthorized Guests**
  Hosting overnight guests for more than two consecutive nights or failing to register guests according to policy.
- **Inappropriate Guest Behavior**
  Residents are responsible for the behavior of their guests. Any misconduct by a guest may result in consequences for the host.
- **Cohabitation**
  Having another person reside in a room without proper authorization, even if temporarily, is not permitted.
- **Visitation Hour Violations**
  Allowing visitors during restricted hours or in violation of hall-specific guidelines.
  See: Guide to Campus Living, p. 10

Facility Misuse or Damage

- **Improper Use of Facilities**
  Using residence hall lounges, bathrooms, or laundry rooms inappropriately, including misuse of shared appliances, defacing community spaces, or leaving belongings in common areas.
- **Property Damage or Vandalism**
  Damaging furniture, walls, ceilings, or fixtures within residence halls, whether intentional or accidental.
- **Tampering with Doors, Locks, or Windows**
  Altering or damaging locking mechanisms or propping doors in violation of safety protocols.

Key and Access Policy Violations

- **Lost or Loaned Keys**
  Failing to report lost keys promptly or loaning keys or access cards to others.
- **Unauthorized Entry**
  Entering another student's room or restricted areas without permission.
  See also Section E

I. HAZING, GROUP MISCONDUCT, AND ORGANIZATIONAL RESPONSIBILITY

Student organizations, athletic teams, and informal groups contribute greatly to the vibrancy of campus life. However, group affiliation does not exempt individuals or organizations from accountability. The College prohibits hazing, encourages ethical leadership, and expects all student groups to operate in alignment with institutional values and applicable laws.

Hazing

- **Definition**
  Hazing includes any action or situation—whether on or off campus—that recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student, or that creates risk of injury, discomfort, embarrassment, harassment, or ridicule, for the purpose of initiation, admission, affiliation, or continued membership in a group.
- **Examples of Hazing**
  - Forced or coerced consumption of food, alcohol, or drugs
  - Physical abuse (e.g., paddling, sleep deprivation, strenuous physical activity)
  - Forced exclusion from social contact or acts of humiliation
  - Any activity that compels individuals to violate College policy or law
- **Consent Not a Defense**
  A student's willingness or agreement to participate in a hazing activity does not exempt the behavior from being considered hazing.
  Applicable Law: Virginia Code § 18.2-56
- **Required Reporting**
  All students, faculty, and staff are expected to report suspected hazing to the Office for Advocacy & Opportunity or Campus Police.
  See: Stop Campus Hazing Act (2023); Virginia Code § 23.1-822

Group Misconduct

- **Group Responsibility**
  Student organizations, athletic teams, and informal groups may be held collectively responsible for misconduct when:
  - The behavior occurred during a group event, meeting, or activity
  - Members of the group assisted in or were aware of the misconduct

    - The group's leaders condoned or failed to prevent the behavior

- **Failure to Uphold Policies**
  Groups are expected to comply with College policies, including conduct, Title IX, alcohol, travel, risk management, and registration requirements set by the Office of Student Engagement or other governing bodies.

Event Misconduct

- **Hosting Dangerous or Disruptive Events**
  Student groups and/or individuals may not sponsor or participate in events that involve:
    - Unregulated alcohol distribution
    - Violation of guest policies or fire code
    - Lack of proper space reservation or risk management
    - Encouragement of disorderly or unsafe behavior
- **Failure to Obtain Approval**
  All student events must be scheduled through the appropriate College process. Events without proper registration or that circumvent College procedures may be canceled and sanctioned.
- **Violations of Travel or Event Guidelines**
  Student groups must comply with risk management and supervision requirements for off-campus travel, overnight events, and high-risk activities.

Improper Posting & Advertising

- **Posting Without Approval**
  Flyers, posters, digital screens, chalking, or advertisements must follow guidelines established by Student Engagement and Residence Life. Posting in unauthorized areas or without approval is prohibited.
- **Offensive or Inappropriate Materials**
  Advertising that includes discriminatory, explicit, or otherwise inappropriate content is prohibited—whether physical, digital, or on social media.

- **Tampering with Other Groups' Materials**
  Removing, defacing, or altering materials posted by other student groups or campus offices is not permitted.

J. ACADEMIC HONOR SYSTEM ACKNOWLEDGMENT

UVA Wise maintains a proud tradition of academic integrity through a separate student-administered Honor System, which operates independently of the Student Conduct System and is overseen by the *Office of Academic Affairs*. Adopted in 1956, the Honor System is one of the College's most time-honored values, emphasizing honesty, responsibility, and ethical scholarship in all academic endeavors.

The Honor Court, elected by the student body and trained annually, is responsible for adjudicating violations of academic integrity, including lying, cheating, stealing, plagiarism, forgery, tampering with records, and unauthorized academic aid. Cases are investigated and resolved according to the procedures outlined in the *Honor System Constitution*.

Common Honor System Violations Include:

- **Lying** – Providing false information with the intent to deceive in academic contexts (e.g., falsifying data, forging signatures).
- **Cheating** – Using unauthorized resources, copying others' work, or giving/receiving aid without instructor consent.
- **Stealing** – Plagiarizing, taking academic materials without permission, or tampering with records or computer files.

Key Features of the Honor System:

- **Honor Pledge** – All students are expected to affirm the Honor Pledge when submitting academic work.
- **Student-Led Process** – Investigated and adjudicated by a student-elected Honor Court with an Advocate and Counselor system.
- **Presumption of Non-Responsibility** – Students are presumed not responsible unless found so through the process.
- **Standard of Evidence** – Responsibility must be proven **beyond a reasonable doubt**.
- **Separate Jurisdiction** – Honor System cases are handled independently from the student conduct process and are not subject to conduct hearing procedures or sanctions.

Responsibilities of Students:

- Uphold the Honor Pledge in all academic submissions
- Report suspected violations to the Honor Advocate in a timely manner
- Cooperate with investigations and hearings as required by the Honor System Constitution

Access & Updates:

This summary does not replace or override the formal *Honor System Constitution*, which governs the full scope of academic integrity procedures and sanctions. For the most current version and details regarding rights, procedures, and classifications of offenses, students should consult the full *Honor System Constitution*, available through the *Office of Academic Affairs* or the College website.

K. MISUSE OF COLLEGE RESOURCES

UVA Wise provides access to facilities, technology, services, and funds to support students' education and development. Misusing these resources—whether physical, digital, financial, or organizational—undermines the integrity and mission of the College and may result in both conduct and institutional consequences.

This section highlights common forms of resource misuse but is not exhaustive. Students are expected to respect and use all College resources responsibly and in accordance with relevant policies.

Misuse of Physical Resources

- **Unauthorized Use of College Spaces**
  Using classrooms, labs, offices, or other College facilities without permission or outside approved hours. This includes hosting events without proper reservations or supervision.
- **Improper Use of Shared Equipment**
  Damaging or monopolizing shared resources (e.g., library materials, recreational equipment, or lab technology) in a way that limits others' access.
- **Unauthorized Storage or Relocation**
  Relocating College furniture or property without permission or using campus spaces for personal storage.

Technology Misuse

- **Violation of Acceptable Use Policies**
  Accessing, transmitting, or storing materials in violation of the College's Acceptable Use Policy (AUP), including unauthorized access to networks, attempting to breach security, or sharing passwords.

- **Use of Technology to Harass or Harm**
  Using email, social media, or College systems to send abusive messages, threats, or harassing content.

- **Copyright Infringement**
  Downloading or distributing music, software, or media illegally using campus internet or equipment.

- **Tampering with Systems or Equipment**
  Modifying, disabling, or attempting to hack into College-owned hardware or software, including surveillance systems, ID card systems, or Wi-Fi routers.

Misuse of Financial or Institutional Resources

- **Unauthorized Use of College Funds or Accounts**
  Spending student organization funds without approval, falsifying reimbursements, or misrepresenting purchases.
  Applicable Law: Virginia Code § 18.2-111 (Embezzlement)

- **Misuse of Campus Employment or Roles**
  Abusing a paid or volunteer student position to gain access to confidential information, avoid policies, or benefit personally or organizationally.

- **Improper Fundraising or Solicitation**
  Hosting fundraisers, sales, or donation drives without prior approval or in ways that misrepresent the purpose or beneficiary.

Transportation & Access Resource Misuse

- **Unauthorized Use of College Vehicles**
  Driving or operating campus vehicles without proper approval, license, or training.

- **Tampering with Campus Safety Devices**
  Interfering with ID readers, locks, or emergency call boxes.

- **Intentional or Repeated Parking Violations**
  This includes deliberately violating parking policies, using falsified permits, or intentionally blocking access areas. Campus Police reserves the right to refer cases involving excessive or willful violations to the conduct process.

L. OTHER PROHIBITED CONDUCT

In addition to the specific categories outlined in this Code, students are expected to follow all local, state, and federal laws, as well as all College policies, whether or not those expectations are explicitly detailed in prior sections. UVA Wise reserves the right to address behaviors that undermine the safety, integrity, or values of the institution, even if those behaviors do not fall within a named category above.

Violation of Law

- **Criminal or Civil Offenses**
  Engaging in behavior that violates any federal, state, or local law may be subject to both criminal prosecution and student conduct action. The College may proceed with a disciplinary case before, during, or after legal proceedings.
- **Examples Include (but are not limited to):**
  - Driving under the influence (DUI)
  - Public intoxication or drug possession/distribution
  - Assault or stalking
  - Identity theft or fraud
  - Harassment or hate crimes
  - Destruction of public property

Note: The outcome of legal, civil, or criminal proceedings does not dictate or limit the outcome of UVA Wise's student conduct process.

Violation of Other College Policies

- **Failure to Comply with Institutional Policies**
  Engaging in behaviors that violate other College procedures, rules, or policies, including but not limited to:
  - Office of Residence Life policies
  - Student organization registration or event policies
  - Campus Posting, Tabling, and Free Speech regulations
  - Title IX and sexual misconduct procedures

- Emergency protocols or COVID-related guidelines
- FERPA, HIPAA, or data privacy protections

Attempted or Complicit Misconduct

- **Attempting or Aiding Violations**
  Attempting to commit or assisting others in committing prohibited conduct—even if the violation is not completed—may still result in conduct action.
- **Complicity or Failure to Intervene**
  Knowingly witnessing a serious policy violation and failing to intervene, report, or remove oneself from the situation may be treated as a violation of this Code.

CONDUCT PROCEDURES

The College's student conduct procedures are designed to promote accountability, fairness, and educational growth. These procedures apply to all reports of potential violations of the Code of Student Conduct, excluding academic integrity cases, which are governed by the Honor System.

A. Reporting and Intake

Any member of the College community may submit a report of alleged student misconduct. Reports may be submitted online, in person, or by contacting the Office for Advocacy & Opportunity

- Anonymous Reports are accepted but may limit the College's ability to respond.
- Initial Review includes a preliminary assessment of jurisdiction, safety concerns, and appropriate resolution pathways.
- Interim Measures may be implemented as needed to protect individuals or the campus community (e.g., no-contact orders, temporary removals).

B. Investigations

When appropriate, the College may conduct a formal investigation to determine whether a violation occurred.

- **Notice of Investigation**: The respondent will receive written notice of the alleged violation(s) and the opportunity to respond.
- **Investigator Role**: An impartial investigator gathers statements, documents, and evidence from involved parties.
- **Standard of Evidence**: The College uses a *preponderance of the evidence* standard—whether it is more likely than not that a violation occurred.
- **Timeframe**: Investigations are typically completed within 30 business days, though extensions may be granted for good cause.

C. Administrative Settlements

Some cases may be resolved through an informal or administrative settlement process.

- **Voluntary Resolution**: If the student accepts responsibility, a resolution may be reached without a hearing.
- **Educational Dialogue**: Sanctions are determined based on the student's conduct history, harm caused, and learning goals.

- **Written Agreement**: Terms are documented and must be completed by the deadlines set forth in the agreement.

D. Hearing Types and Format

If a case is not settled administratively, it may proceed to a formal hearing.

- **Administrative Hearing**: A one-on-one meeting between a student and a College official designated by the Chief Conduct Officer to review and resolve alleged misconduct. It is typically used for first-time, lower-level, or less complex cases. During the hearing, the student has the opportunity to hear the allegations, present their perspective, ask questions, and discuss potential outcomes. If the student is found responsible, appropriate educational sanctions may be assigned. This process is designed to be timely, fair, and less formal than a conduct board hearing.
- **Student Conduct Board Hearing**: A formal conduct process used for more serious or complex cases. A panel composed of trained students serves as the decision-making body. During the hearing, the panel reviews evidence, hears statements from involved parties and witnesses, and asks questions to better understand the case. The student has the opportunity to present their perspective, respond to allegations, and be accompanied by an advisor. After deliberation, the board determines responsibility and, if applicable, recommends sanctions. The process is designed to be thorough, fair, and grounded in the values of integrity, accountability, and student development.
- **Hearing Rights**:
    - The right to be informed of allegations and procedures
    - The right to review relevant information
    - The right to be heard and present evidence
    - The right to have a support person or advisor present (not an advocate)

E. Student Conduct Board Process

The Student Conduct Board (SCB) is a trained body of students, faculty, and staff who hear select cases involving potential suspension, complex facts, or repeated violations.

- **Pre-Hearing Procedures**: Parties receive notice, may submit statements, and identify witnesses.
- **Hearing Format**:
    - Opening statement

    - Presentation of information and witnesses
    - Questions from the Board
    - Closing statements
- **Deliberation and Outcome**: The SCB uses a majority vote to determine responsibility and recommend sanctions.

F. Sanctioning Guidelines

Sanctions are intended to promote reflection, accountability, and community repair.

- **Factors Considered**:
    - Nature and severity of the violation
    - Student's conduct history
    - Harm to others or the community
    - Opportunity for growth or restorative action

Sanctioning may follow a progressive discipline model, but some serious violations may result in immediate suspension or dismissal regardless of history.

G. Appeals

Students have the right to appeal the outcome of a hearing or administrative resolution under specific conditions.

- **Grounds for Appeal**:
    - Procedural error that materially affected the outcome
    - New evidence not reasonably available at the time of the hearing
    - Sanction is substantially disproportionate to the violation
- **Submission Deadline**: Appeals must be submitted in writing within five (5) business days of the outcome notice.
- **Appellate Review**: A designated administrator or panel will review the appeal and issue a final determination.
- **Appearance Requirement:** If a student fails to appear at the scheduled hearing without prior approval or documented extenuating circumstances, they forfeit their right to appeal the outcome.

- **Health & Safety Appeals**
    - Health and Safety violations do not reset each academic year and carry over from year to year. Students who wish to appeal a Health and Safety violation should refer to the *Guide to Campus Living* for instructions on the appeals process. Appeals will be reviewed and determined by the Director of Residence Life or their designee within the Division of Student Affairs. Students will be notified of the appeal decision in writing via email.

H. Multi-System Violations

If a student's conduct potentially violates more than one policy system (e.g., the Student Code, Honor System, Title IX Policy, or criminal law), cases may be addressed concurrently or sequentially.

- **Coordination with Other Offices**: The Office of Advocacy & Opportunity will collaborate with Academic Affairs, Title IX, or Campus Police as needed.
- **Separate Outcomes**: The resolution of one process does not dictate the outcome of another.

I. Sanction Non-Compliance

Failure to complete assigned sanctions may result in additional conduct charges and escalating consequences.

- **Follow-Up**: Students will receive a reminder and opportunity to complete overdue sanctions.
- **Consequences May Include**:
    - Holds on registration, diploma, or transcripts
    - Additional sanctions or status changes (e.g., suspension, not in good standing)
    - Ineligibility to participate in College programs or leadership roles

SANCTIONS & OUTCOMES

Sanctions are designed to uphold community standards while encouraging learning, growth, and accountability. Outcomes are tailored to reflect the nature of the violation, the student's conduct history, and opportunities for educational or restorative engagement. Health and safety housing violations follow their own tiered sanctioning system administered by Residence Life; however, depending on severity and context, these violations may also result in additional sanctions under the broader student conduct system. *For more information on the tiered sanctioning system for health and safety violations, see Section H of this document.*

Sanctions may be assigned individually or in combination. They apply to individual students, student groups, and student organizations.

A. Categories of Sanctions

Sanctions may include (but are not limited to) the following categories:

1. Educational Sanctions

- Reflective writing or personal impact essays
- Policy review or ethical decision-making assignments
- Workshops on conflict resolution, substance misuse, etc.
- Required readings or multimedia response activities

2. Restorative Sanctions

- Community restitution or service
- Participation in a restorative justice circle or conference
- Apology letters or harm-repair actions
- Mediation or facilitated dialogue (when appropriate and voluntary)

3. Administrative Sanctions

- Verbal or written warning
- Loss of privileges (e.g., housing, parking, event participation)
- Housing relocation, probation, or removal
- Disciplinary probation for a defined period

4. Restrictive Sanctions

- No-contact directives
- Restricted access to buildings, services, or individuals
- Ban from student leadership or organization participation
- Temporary loss of enrollment privileges

5. Suspension and Dismissal

- **Suspension**
  Temporary separation from the College for a defined period (typically one or more semesters). Students on suspension may not enroll, access campus facilities, or participate in College activities.
- **Deferred Suspension**
  A suspension that is delayed allowing the student to complete the current term under strict conditions. The student may remain enrolled and engaged in academic activities until the suspension takes effect (e.g., at the end of the semester). Any further violations during the deferment period may result in immediate suspension or escalation to dismissal.
- **Dismissal (Expulsion)**
  Permanent removal from the College without eligibility for readmission.

B. Conditions for Return from Suspension

Students who are suspended must meet all outlined conditions before they may request reenrollment. Conditions may include:

- Completion of all assigned sanctions and educational activities
- Written reflection or readiness statement
- Reentry meeting with Conduct Official and/or designee
- Clearance of all conduct and financial holds

Reenrollment is not automatic. The College may require additional documentation or deny reentry based on failure to meet expectations.

C. Non-Compliance with Sanctions

Failure to complete assigned sanctions by the specified deadline may result in:

- Additional conduct charges for sanction non-compliance
- New or escalating sanctions (e.g., probation, suspension)
- Holds on registration, housing selection, diploma, or transcripts
- Referral to appropriate departments for follow-up (e.g., Residence Life, Registrar)
- Being designated "**not in good conduct standing**", which may impact eligibility for certain campus privileges, leadership roles, or programs

Students are responsible for tracking deadlines and communicating proactively if issues arise. Extensions may be granted for extenuating circumstances when requested in advance.

RECORDS & CONFIDENTIALITY

The Office for Advocacy & Opportunity maintains student conduct records to document outcomes, support institutional compliance, and ensure continuity in decision-making. These records are treated with care and confidentiality, in accordance with federal law and institutional policy.

A. Record Retention

- **General Violations**
  Records of student conduct cases are retained for **seven (7) years** from the date of the most recent incident, hearing, or sanction completion.
- **Suspension Cases**
  Records involving suspension are retained for a **minimum of fifteen (15) years**, or longer if required by legal or compliance obligations.
- **Dismissal Cases**
  Records involving **dismissal (expulsion)** are retained **indefinitely** and may result in permanent transcript notations.
- **Unresolved Cases**
  If a student withdraws, transfers, or is no longer enrolled before a case is resolved, the record will be retained for **fifteen (15) years** from the date of departure, or until the case is resolved.
- **Clery Compliance**
  Retention timelines support compliance with the *Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act*.

B. Confidentiality and FERPA

Conduct records are protected under the **Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)**.

- **Access to Records**
  Students have the right to review their own conduct file upon request. Access by others (including parents, attorneys, or faculty) requires written student consent or a lawful exception under FERPA.
- **Sharing with College Officials**
  Information from conduct records may be shared internally with "College officials" who have a legitimate educational interest (e.g., academic advisors, housing staff, CARE Team).
- **Disclosure in Emergencies**
  In cases involving risk to safety, the College may disclose limited information to protect the student or others, in accordance with FERPA's health and safety exception.

C. Transcript Notations

As required by *Virginia Code § 23.1-900,* the College includes disciplinary notations on student transcripts for certain serious violations:

- **Suspension**: Transcripts will include the notation:
  "Student is currently suspended for a violation of the Student Code of Conduct."
- **Dismissal**: Transcripts will include the notation:
  "Student was permanently dismissed for a violation of the Student Code of Conduct."
- **Pending Investigation**: If a student withdraws while under investigation for a reportable offense, the transcript will read:
  "Student withdrew while under investigation for a violation of the Student Code of Conduct."
- **Removal of Notation**:
  - Notations for suspension may be removed upon petition if the student has completed the term of suspension and fulfilled all conditions of suspension, and it is determined that the student is in good standing.
  - Students may request expungement of the notation for good cause shown after a period of three years

- Requests for removal must be submitted in writing to the Office for Advocacy & Opportunity and will be reviewed by the designated conduct officer or committee.
- Notations for dismissal are **permanent** and not eligible for removal.

D. Record Expungement

- **Eligibility**
  Students may request expungement of low-level conduct records (e.g., warnings, minor first-time violations) upon graduation or withdrawal, provided all sanctions are complete and no further violations have occurred.
- **Process**
  Requests must be submitted in writing to the Chief Conduct Officer and will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Expunged records are removed from the student's active file but may be retained in internal archives for legal or compliance purposes.

Appendix A- Glossary of Terms

Term	Definition
ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act (1990): A federal law prohibiting discrimination based on disability
ADE	Alcohol and Drug Education Program: A required educational program for students found responsible for drug or alcohol violations
Advisor	A UVA Wise student, faculty, or staff member selected by a student to support them during conduct processes. Advisors may not speak or act on the student's behalf
Appeal	A formal request to review a conduct decision based on specific criteria such as procedural error, new evidence, or disproportionate sanction
Appellate Officer	A College official authorized to review appeals of student conduct decisions. They must not have been involved in the original case
Chief Conduct Officer	The College official responsible for overseeing the Student Conduct System. At UVA Wise, this role is held by the Coordinator of Community Standards

Clery Act	Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act: A federal law requiring institutions to publish annual campus crime statistics and safety policies
Complainant	An individual who submits a formal allegation or report of misconduct, particularly in cases involving Title IX or interpersonal harm
Conduct Hold	A restriction placed on a student's record or account (e.g., registration, transcript access) due to unresolved conduct matters or sanction non-compliance
Deferred Suspension	A suspension that is delayed allowing the student to complete the current term under strict conditions. The student may remain enrolled and engaged in academic activities until the suspension takes effect (e.g., at the end of the semester). Any further violations during the deferment period may result in immediate suspension or escalation to dismissal
Dismissal	Permanent separation from the College, also referred to as expulsion, without eligibility for return
FERPA	Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act: A federal law that protects the privacy of student education records

GPA	Grade Point Average: A standard metric of academic performance; Student Conduct Board members must maintain a minimum 2.5 GPA
Good Faith	Honest and sincere intention or effort to participate cooperatively in the conduct process
Hearing Officer	A trained College official who conducts administrative conduct hearings and issues outcomes
Honor Court	A student-led panel responsible for resolving academic integrity violations under the College's Honor System
ID	Identification: Refers to the official UVA Wise ID card used for access, purchases, and identification
Impacted Party	An individual directly affected by a conduct violation; may also be the person who submitted the report
Interim Measures	Temporary actions taken by the College to ensure safety or preserve campus order during an ongoing investigation
Mediation	A voluntary, facilitated conversation between parties to resolve conflict or repair harm

No-Contact Directive	An official order prohibiting direct or indirect contact between specific individuals for safety or procedural reasons
Not in Good Conduct Standing	A status assigned to students who have been found responsible for significant policy violations. Subject to restrictions, including but not limited to: • Ineligibility to hold an office in any student organization recognized by the College or to serve in any elected or appointed position at the College. • Potential additional restrictions or conditions, depending on the nature and severity of the misconduct.
Preponderance of Evidence	The standard of proof used in conduct proceedings, meaning it is more likely than not that a violation occurred
RA	Resident Assistant: A trained student leader who supports residential students and enforces campus community standards, including housing policies
Reporting Party	The individual who reports an alleged conduct violation
Responding Party/Respondent	A student or student organization alleged to have violated the Code of Conduct
Restorative Justice	A framework for addressing misconduct by

	focusing on harm repair, community healing, and accountability rather than punishment alone
Restorative Practices	Educational approaches focused on repairing harm, rebuilding trust, and reintegrating community members
SCB	Student Conduct Board: A panel of trained students who hear conduct cases and recommend outcomes
Sanction	A consequence or required action resulting from a conduct finding, ranging from educational tasks to suspension
Sanction Non-Compliance	Failure to complete required conduct sanctions, which may result in additional disciplinary action or administrative holds
Student	Any individual enrolled in credit-bearing courses, participating in College-sponsored activities, or maintaining an ongoing relationship with the institution
Student Conduct System	The formal administrative process used by the College to investigate and resolve conduct violations
Student Organization	Any officially recognized club, team, or group, including those in the process of recognition
THC	Tetrahydrocannabinol: The primary psychoactive substance in cannabis.

	Possession and use are prohibited on campus
Title IX	A federal law that prohibits sex- and gender-based discrimination in federally funded educational programs
Transcript Notation	A disciplinary message on a student's academic transcript indicating a suspension, dismissal, or withdrawal pending investigation
UVA Wise	The University of Virginia's College at Wise, the institution governed by this Code of Conduct
University Official	Any person employed by UVA Wise who is acting within the scope of their job duties, including faculty, staff, administrators, and authorized student employees (e.g., RAs)
Written Notice	Official College communication, typically by student email, regarding charges, hearings, or outcomes

Appendix B- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

A. General Overview

1. **What is the purpose of the Student Code of Conduct?**
   The Code sets expectations for responsible behavior and outlines the procedures used when those expectations are not met. It promotes personal accountability, community safety, and educational growth.

2. **Who does the Code of Conduct apply to?**
   All UVA Wise students, including undergraduate, graduate, residential, commuter, and online students, are subject to the Code from the time of offer acceptance through graduation, including breaks, orientation, and study abroad programs.

3. **What's the difference between the Student Code of Conduct and the Honor System?**
   The Student Code of Conduct covers behavioral and community standards (e.g., alcohol, housing, disruptive behavior), while the Honor System, managed by Academic Affairs, addresses academic integrity (e.g., cheating, plagiarism, lying). They operate as separate systems with distinct processes and consequences.

B. Reporting & Initial Steps

4. **How do I report a potential conduct violation?**
   You can submit a report online or contact the Office for Advocacy & Opportunity directly. Anonymous reports are accepted but may limit the College's ability to investigate.

5. **What happens after I submit a report?**
   A conduct officer will review the report and determine whether the College has jurisdiction. If appropriate, an investigation may follow, or the case may be resolved through an informal or administrative process.

6. **How does the College handle anonymous tips or rumors?**
   Anonymous reports are reviewed seriously, but action may be limited if information is vague or cannot be verified. The College does not initiate formal conduct processes based solely on unsubstantiated rumors.

7. **What if I feel unsafe because of someone else's behavior?**
   If you feel threatened or unsafe, report the situation immediately to Campus Police or the Office for Advocacy & Opportunity. Support measures (e.g., no-contact directives, housing changes) may be implemented even if conduct charges are not pursued.

8. **What happens if I witness a violation but don't report it?**
   Knowingly allowing or failing to intervene in serious misconduct can be considered

complicity. Students are encouraged to report concerns and may be held accountable if they aid or abet a violation.

C. Rights & Support

9. **What are my rights during the conduct process?**
   You have the right to:

- Be notified of the alleged violation(s)
- Review relevant evidence
- Be heard and present your perspective
- Have a support person or advisor
- Request a reasonable postponement for good cause
- Appeal the outcome under defined circumstances

10. **Where can I get help during the process?**
    You can meet with a Community Standards staff member to understand your rights. You may also bring a support person or advisor of your choice (they don't speak for you, but can provide support before and after a hearing).

11. **What if I need accommodations during the conduct process?**
    Students with disabilities may request accommodations (e.g., communication assistance, extended time, alternative formats) through the Disability Coordinator in Student Support Services. Requests should be made as early as possible.

12. **What if I think the process is biased or unfair?**
    You can raise concerns about bias or conflict of interest with the Chief Conduct Officer, who will assess and may reassign hearing officers or board members if needed to ensure fairness.

13. **What if I want to file a complaint about the conduct process itself?**
    Students may submit concerns or complaints about the process to the Office for Advocacy & Opportunity or the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs.

D. Hearings & Procedures

14. **Is the conduct process the same as a legal trial?**
    No. The conduct process is educational and administrative. It uses a "preponderance of

the evidence" standard (more likely than not) and does not require a criminal conviction for action to be taken.

15. **What if I'm also facing legal charges?**
    The College process is separate. Conduct decisions may be made regardless of legal outcomes. The College will not delay resolution unless necessary and coordinates with law enforcement and Title IX as needed.

16. **What is an administrative hearing?**
    An administrative hearing is a one-on-one meeting with a College official to review alleged misconduct. It's less formal than a conduct board hearing and may be used for first-time or lower-level violations.

17. **What is a Student Conduct Board hearing?**
    For more serious, complex, or repeat violations, a panel of trained students hears the case. The board reviews evidence, asks questions, and decides on responsibility and sanctions.

18. **Can I resolve a conduct case informally without a hearing?**
    Yes, depending on the nature of the violation and your willingness to accept responsibility, some cases may be resolved through informal resolution or administrative agreements that avoid a formal hearing.

19. **Can I bring a lawyer or legal advisor to a hearing?**
    No. Legal advisors may consult with you privately but may not attend or speak on your behalf during conduct meetings or hearings.

20. **Can I request a delay in my hearing due to exams, travel, or emergencies?**
    You may request to reschedule a conduct meeting or hearing for valid reasons. Requests should be made as early as possible and are granted at the discretion of the conduct officer.

21. **What if I forget about a meeting or hearing and miss it?**
    Failure to appear for a scheduled conduct meeting or hearing may result in the case proceeding without your input. If you do not attend and do not provide prior notice or a valid reason, you forfeit your right to appeal the outcome. If you have a valid reason for missing, contact the Office for Advocacy & Opportunity as soon as possible.

22. **Can I appeal a decision?**
    Yes. You may appeal based on procedural errors, new evidence, or if you believe the sanction is too severe. Appeals must be submitted within five (5) business days of the

decision. However, if you fail to appear at your scheduled hearing without prior approval or valid justification, you forfeit your right to appeal.

E. Sanctions & Educational Outcomes

23. **What is a conduct sanction?**
    A sanction is an outcome assigned when a violation is found. Sanctions may include educational assignments, warnings, community service, probation, suspension, or dismissal. They are meant to be educational, not just punitive.

24. **What's the difference between a warning, probation, and suspension?**

- Warning: A formal notice that your behavior violated policy but doesn't carry restrictions.
- Probation: A period of observation where further violations may lead to more serious consequences.
- Suspension: A temporary separation from the College for a defined period of time.

25. **What is deferred suspension?**
    Deferred suspension allows you to complete your current semester while knowing that a suspension will take effect afterward. It comes with strict expectations—any further misconduct may result in immediate removal.

26. **What if I don't complete my sanctions?**
    Failing to complete sanctions can result in additional charges, holds on your account, or suspension. Contact the Office for Advocacy & Opportunity if you're having trouble meeting a deadline.

27. **What are examples of educational or restorative sanctions?**
    Examples include reflection essays, alcohol or drug education, community restitution projects, apology letters, educational workshops, or restorative dialogues.

28. **What is a restorative sanction or conference?**
    Restorative practices focus on repairing harm and rebuilding trust. You may be offered a chance to meet with those affected (with consent), complete a reflection, or participate in a restorative circle.

29. **What if I can't afford to pay a fine?**
    Students who are unable to pay fines due to financial hardship may request to complete community service in lieu of payment. The amount of service will be calculated at the current minimum wage in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

30. **How do I find community service opportunities?**
    The Office for Advocacy & Opportunity maintains a list of approved community service opportunities both on and off campus. You are also welcome to suggest your own service project, subject to approval. Be sure to consult with the office before beginning any service to ensure it meets the requirements.

F. Records & Impact

31. **How long does a conduct record stay on file?**

- General violations: 7 years
- Suspension: 15 years
- Dismissal: Permanent
  Records may be retained longer for unresolved or serious cases.

32. **Do conduct records show up on my academic transcript?**
    Only in certain cases. Suspension and dismissal may be noted on your transcript in accordance with institutional and state policy. Most other violations do not appear.

33. **Can I request a copy of my conduct record?**
    Yes. You can submit a written request to the Office for Advocacy & Opportunity to obtain a copy of your record. Some redactions may be applied in accordance with FERPA.

34. **What happens to my conduct record if I transfer or withdraw from the College?**
    If you transfer or withdraw, your conduct record is still maintained and may be shared with other institutions upon request. Unresolved cases or incomplete sanctions may result in a hold on your account or be reported to the receiving institution.

35. **Can conduct sanctions impact my financial aid or scholarships?**
    Some forms of aid—especially merit- or conduct-based scholarships—may be affected by violations. Check with Financial Aid or the scholarship provider if you have questions about your specific situation.

36. **Will this affect my ability to study abroad, join clubs, or apply to grad school?**
    It depends on the nature of the violation. Some conduct outcomes (e.g., probation or suspension) may affect eligibility for travel, leadership, or academic programs. Many graduate school or job applications ask about conduct records, but you can often provide context if asked.

G. Conduct Responsibility & Special Circumstances

37. **Can I be held accountable for off-campus behavior?**
    Yes. The Code applies to off-campus conduct when it affects the College community, violates the law, or creates a safety concern. Examples include assault, harassment, or dangerous behavior.

38. **Can I be disciplined for something that happened before I enrolled?**
    Generally, the Code of Conduct applies from the time of offer acceptance. However, the College reserves the right to review pre-enrollment behavior if it becomes relevant to campus safety, integrity, or institutional values.

39. **What if I was under the influence during the violation—does that excuse my behavior?**
    No. Being under the influence of alcohol or drugs does not excuse misconduct and may be considered an aggravating factor in sanctioning.

40. **What is an amnesty policy and when does it apply?**
    UVA Wise may offer amnesty from certain conduct charges (e.g., underage drinking) when students seek medical help for themselves or others during an emergency. It encourages students to act in the interest of health and safety.

41. **What if I was involved in a group violation but didn't do anything wrong?**
    If you were present during a violation but did not participate or intervene, you may still be held accountable depending on the circumstances. However, individual responsibility is always evaluated.

42. **What happens if I'm on conduct probation and violate the Code again?**
    Any subsequent violations while on probation may result in more serious sanctions, including suspension or dismissal, depending on the nature and severity of the new incident.

43. **What happens if someone makes a false report?**
    Making an intentionally false report is a violation of the Code and may result in disciplinary action. However, good-faith reports—even if unsubstantiated—are not punished.

44. **Can I be sanctioned for things I post online?**
    Yes. Posts on social media or other digital platforms that threaten, harass, incite harm, or violate policy may be subject to conduct review, especially if they impact the campus environment or others' safety.

H. Student Growth & Involvement

45. **What if I've changed since the incident and want to show growth?**
    You can demonstrate your growth through compliance with sanctions, participation in

educational programs, writing a reflection, or requesting a restorative conversation. The College values accountability and personal development.

46. **Can I participate in conduct as a board member or volunteer?**
    Yes! Students can apply to serve on the Student Conduct Board through an application and interview process. The selection process is conducted during the spring semester, with selected members appointed to serve during the following academic year. Members must be in good standing, maintain a minimum 2.5 GPA, and be approved by the Chief Conduct Officer. It's a valuable opportunity for leadership, service, and learning about college governance.

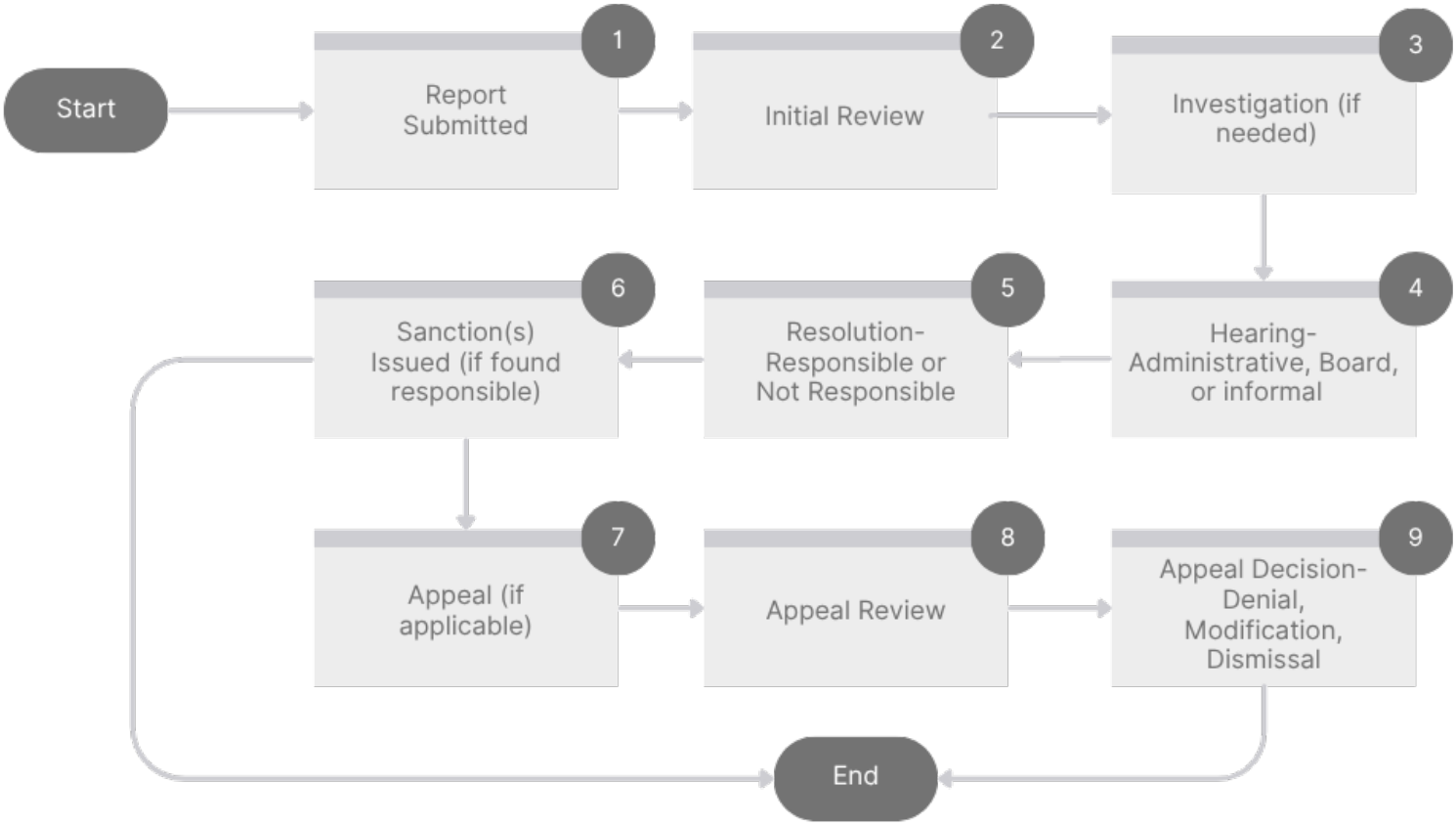
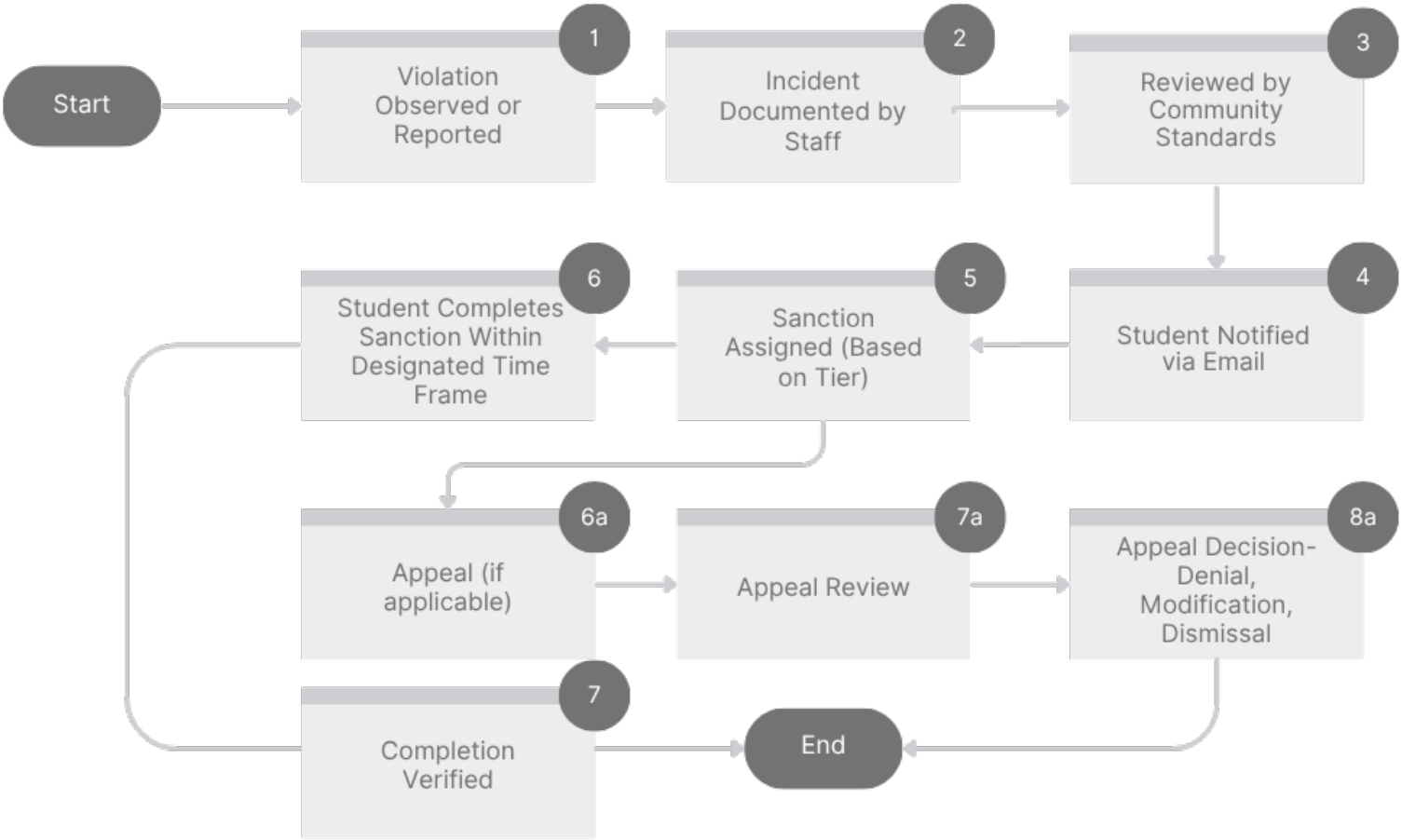
47. **How will I be notified about a conduct case?**
    Official communications will be sent to your College-issued email. You're responsible for checking this account regularly. Failure to read your email is not an excuse for missing deadlines or meetings.

48. **Are there conduct policies specific to residence halls?**
    Yes. Residence Life policies are considered part of the Student Code of Conduct and include expectations related to noise, guests, fire safety, and cleanliness. Violations may result in both housing and conduct consequences.

49. **What if I want to take accountability early in the process?**
    Students may choose to accept responsibility early by notifying the conduct officer and may be eligible for an administrative resolution or agreement. Taking accountability early is not only respected, but it may also reduce the time and formality required to resolve the case.

50. **How can I learn more about the conduct process?**
    You can learn more by attending educational sessions, joining outreach events, or requesting an informational meeting with the Office for Advocacy & Opportunity. These opportunities help you understand the conduct process, student rights, and available resources. They are also a great way to prepare for leadership roles and support your peers!

Appendix C- Student Conduct Case Process (Simplified Flow Chart)



Appendix D- Health & Safety Violation Process (Simplified Flow Chart)