



Student Code of Conduct

Last Revised: August 2023

Review Date: August 2024

Policy Owner: Office of Student Affairs

III. STUDENT CONDUCT PHILOSOPHY

1. Conduct Process is Educational

The student conduct process is regarded as an essential and constructive element of the educational process. Emphasis is placed on students' acceptance of personal responsibility to uphold and safeguard community standards. Sanction(s) are intended to challenge students' moral and ethical decision-making and to help bring behavior into accord with community expectations.

2. Findings of Responsibility

The focus of the inquiry in student conduct proceedings shall be to determine if the respondent is "responsible" or "not responsible" for violation(s) of the Code. The student conduct process is fundamentally different from criminal and civil court procedures.

3. Burden and Standard of Proof

To be found responsible for violating the Code, the evidence must establish that the violation(s) was committed by the respondent based on a preponderance of the evidence (not beyond a reasonable doubt or by clear and convincing evidence). In other words, the evidence, which consists of the full totality of the information presented, must establish that it was more likely than not that the respondent committed the alleged violation(s).

4. Fairness

Student conduct proceedings are conducted with fairness but do not include the same protections afforded by courts. Specifically, Loyola agrees to provide all of those accused of violating this Code with written notice of the provision(s) of the Code they are accused of violating, a right to provide their version of events, and the right to appeal as described within this Code. Deviation from the prescribed procedures below does not necessarily invalidate a decision or proceeding.

5. Parental Notification

Loyola University reserves the right to notify parents/guardians of dependent students regarding any conduct situation(s). Where a student is not a dependent, the University may contact parents/guardians to inform them of situations in which there is a health and/or safety risk, any conduct violation(s) relating to alcohol and drug policy violation(s), and when a student is removed from the University. The University also reserves the right to designate which University officials have

a need to know about individual conduct complaints pursuant to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act ([FERPA](#)).

6. Student Groups and Organizations

Registered and unregistered student group(s) or organization(s) may be charged with violation(s) of the Code. Officers or other leader(s) or spokesperson(s) are responsible for the conduct of their member(s) at an event(s) recognized and sponsored by the group or organization if the leader or spokesperson has implicitly or explicitly endorsed any violation(s) of the Code. A student group or organization and its officer(s) may be held collectively or individually responsible for violation(s) of the Code by those associated with the group or organization. Charge(s) against a student group or organization for violation(s) of the Code are subject to the same procedures as charge(s) against an individual student. Sanction(s) of the group or organization may include suspension of recognition or charter revocation.