

Student Handbook: Standards of Conduct & Policies

James Madison University is a community of diverse individuals who have come together for the purpose of education. As with any community, the university must establish guidelines for behavior, which will produce the type of environment necessary to best achieve its mission.

- JMU reserves the right to develop and implement new rules, guidelines and student standards of conduct not presently included in this document.
- It is the responsibility of OSARP to make a reasonable attempt to inform the student body of any substantive change in or addition to the current policies and regulations.
- Each student is expected to comply with university policies as they pertain to student conduct. A student who violates state laws, county laws or city ordinances may be subject to prosecution and the OSARP [Accountability Process](#), [Sexual Misconduct Accountability Process](#), or Title IX Sexual Harassment Adjudication Process.
- JMU reserves the right to hold students accountable for certain types of off-campus behavior. Disciplinary action will result if a student's behavior compromises the educational atmosphere or mission of the institution, as determined by OSARP.

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Policies

Alcohol

Camping or Shelter Construction

Campus Election Rules

Damage, Attempted Damage, or Vandalism of Property

Dangerous Practices

Disruptive Conduct

Drugs

Failure to Comply with a Disciplinary Outcome

Falsification of Information

Fire Safety

Gambling

Harassment

There are several policies at JMU that deal with harassment based on protected classes. Sexual harassment is defined and addressed by [JMU Policy 1340](#) and [Sexual Misconduct](#) or [Policy 1346](#) and [Title IX Sexual Harassment](#). Harassment on the basis of other protected classes is defined and addressed by [Policy 1324](#).

Harassment that is not on the basis of a protected class is addressed by this policy, and is defined as unwelcome or offensive physical, verbal, or non-verbal conduct that creates a hostile environment.

A hostile environment may be created by unwelcome or offensive oral, written, graphic or

physical conduct that is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive and objectively offensive in a manner that it interferes with, limits or denies the person the ability to participate in or benefit from the institution's educational programs, services, opportunities, or activities or the individual's employment access, benefits or opportunities. Mere subjective offensiveness is not enough to create a hostile environment. In determining whether conduct is severe, persistent, or pervasive, and objectively offensive, and thus creates a hostile environment, the following factors will be considered: (a) the degree to which the conduct affected one or more individuals' education or employment; (b) the nature, scope, frequency, duration, and location of the incident(s); (c) the identity, number, and relationships of persons involved; (d) the perspective of a "reasonable person" in the same situation as the person subjected to the conduct, and (e) the nature of higher education.

Conduct is considered "unwelcome conduct" if the individual subjected to the conduct did not request, consent to, or invite it and reasonably considers the conduct to be undesirable or harmful.

This policy does not prohibit exercising rights protected under the First Amendment.

Hazing

Interference or Retaliation in a University Process

Littering

Misuse of Technology

Noncompliance

Obscene Conduct

Physical Force or Attempted Physical Force

Prohibited Conduct

Responsibility for Guest(s)

Sexual Misconduct

- Smoking, vaping, tobacco, and/or nicotine
- Soliciting, Petitioning, Selling, Surveying, and Publicizing
- Theft, Attempted Theft, or Possession of Stolen Items
- Title IX Sexual Harassment
- Trespassing
- Unauthorized Use, Possession, or Transfer of Item(s)
- Weapons

Office of Student Accountability and Restorative Practices

Student Success Center

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