



GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY

Division of Student Affairs
Office of Student Conduct

THE CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT

2024 - 2025

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PREAMBLE

Ethos Statement

Choosing to come to Georgetown University means joining a distinctive community. As a Catholic and Jesuit University, Georgetown places special emphasis on the dignity and worth of every person and the love of truth. Membership in this community carries high expectations regarding how each person will act within and beyond Healy Gates. In particular, students are expected to honor the following commitments in all their actions:

- A commitment to the highest standards of honesty and personal integrity inside and outside the classroom.
- A commitment to treat others in a respectful manner, regardless of differences.
- A commitment to open discourse and the free exchange of ideas.
- A commitment to exercise mutual care and responsibility in all relationships.
- A commitment to an active concern for the safety, security, and well-being of each individual and a respect for individual, communal, and university property.

The *Ethos Statement* expresses the fundamental expectations for the character of students at Georgetown University; it also informs how issues within the community are managed when there are concerns regarding a student's alleged behavior.

I. APPLICATION AND SCOPE

The Code of Student Conduct (the "Code") covers how the University will respond to allegations of students engaging in non-academic misconduct as explained by this Code. This process is referred to as the community standards process. All aspects of *The Code* and its community standards process are carried out in a fair and impartial manner.

A. Students

The Code applies to any student's conduct from the time of initial registration through the awarding of a degree or withdrawal, including conduct that may occur between or outside of formal academic terms or while a student is on leave, regardless of the location or manner in which such conduct may occur. The Georgetown University Law Center and Georgetown University School of Medicine have separate procedures for addressing behavioral issues for students enrolled in those schools. For purposes of *The Code's* jurisdiction, the Director of Student Conduct will make any final determination as to whether or not an individual is a student.

B. On- or Off-Campus Misconduct

The University will use this process to resolve reports of students' prohibited conduct, as defined below, that are alleged to have taken place: (a) on property that is owned, leased, or controlled by the University; (b) at a University-sponsored event or activity, including in the online or virtual learning environments; or, (c) while conducting business on behalf of the University. In addition, the University may apply *The Code* to students whose misconduct has a negative impact on the University, its community members, and/or University operations, regardless of where such conduct is alleged to have occurred. At the discretion of the Director of Student Conduct, such cases may be referred to a Community Educator to be managed through the community standards process. Lease agreement disputes are not matters managed under *The Code*.

C. External Civil or Criminal Matters

The community standards process takes place separate and apart from any civil or criminal proceedings resulting from the same or related conduct, and may be carried out prior to, simultaneously with, or following such proceedings, at the discretion of the Director of Student Conduct. Determinations or actions imposed under the community standards process arising out of the same facts or circumstances as any civil or criminal proceedings will not be altered because a civil complaint or criminal charges related to the same incident were dismissed, reduced, or resolved in any or no party's favor.

D. Academic Integrity

Matters involving issues of academic integrity are under the jurisdiction of the University's Honor Council. Please refer to the following website: <https://honorcouncil.georgetown.edu> or email the Honor Council at honor@georgetown.edu.

E. Student Organizations

Matters involving student organizations are subject to [Student Organization Standards](#). Nothing in this Code shall preclude holding individual student members of an organization accountable under this Code for their individual acts committed in the context of, or in association with, an organization's alleged violation of *the Student Organization Standards*.

II. DEFINITIONS

The following terms define the various roles identified in this Code and other terms. Some terms are explained throughout *The Code*. The Director of Student Conduct is responsible for defining any terms relevant to *The Code* that are not defined below.

Appeals Committee: The "Appeals Committee" is a standing committee composed of three University community members, appointed by the Director of Student Conduct, who are trained to conduct reviews of decisions reached by a Decision Maker.

Community Educator: A "Community Educator" is a person designated by the Director of Student Conduct to hold Educational Conferences and help students understand and comply with *The Code*. A Community Educator may also serve as an Investigator in the same case; however, they cannot serve as a Decision Maker or a member of an Appeals Committee in the same case where they either conducted the Educational Conference(s) or served as an Investigator.

Decision Maker: A "Decision Maker" is a person who will make the determination of responsibility at the conclusion of an Administrative Conference under this Code.

Director of Student Conduct: The "Director of Student Conduct" is the person designated by Georgetown University to be responsible for the overall coordination of *The Code* and its community standards process, including developing policies, procedures, and education and training programs. The Director of Student Conduct may delegate responsibilities as appropriate; therefore, for purposes of this Code, any reference to the Director of Student Conduct should be read as "Director of Student Conduct or designee."

Investigator: An "Investigator" is the person designated by the Director of Student Conduct who will gather information, documents, and evidence and interview witnesses with relevant information regarding the allegations in the report.

Non-Discrimination Policies: The University's "Non-Discrimination Policies" for purposes of the Code include the following: University's [Equal Opportunity and Non-Discrimination in Education](#)

[Policy](#), [Policy Statement on Harassment](#), [Policy on Sexual Misconduct](#), and the following procedures, as applicable:

For Complaints of Discrimination or Harassment against students - Grievance Procedures to Investigate Allegations of Discrimination and Harassment against Students;

For Complaints of Sexual Misconduct against students - Sexual Misconduct Policies and Procedures.

Protected Categories: “Protected Categories” include age, color, disability, family responsibilities, gender identity and expression, genetic information, marital status, national origin and accent, personal appearance, political affiliation, pregnancy, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, source of income, veteran’s status or any other factors prohibited by federal and/or District of Columbia law in the University’s educational programs or activities, as may be updated from time to time in University’s Notice of Non-Discrimination.

Reporter: A “Reporter” is a person who submits a report that a student may have violated *The Code*, reports a concern, and/or is seeking support from the Office of Student Conduct in addressing a concern, including but not limited to seeking Supportive Measures from the University.

Respondent: A “Respondent” is a student alleged to have violated *The Code* or to have engaged in behavior of concern for purposes of this Code.

Student: A “Student” is any person enrolled full or part time in an undergraduate, graduate, or School of Continuing Studies course or program at Georgetown University. See above “Application and Scope” section for more information.

Supportive Measures: “Supportive Measures” are designed to restore or preserve access to the University’s education program or activity, including measures that are designed to protect the safety of students, faculty, staff, or other individuals or the University’s educational environment or to provide support during the University’s community standards process. Supportive measures are individualized and offered, as appropriate, as reasonably available, without unreasonably burdening a student, not for punitive or disciplinary reasons, and without fee or charge to the student.

Support Person: A “Support Person” is a person who may accompany a student to any part of the community standards process for the limited purpose of providing support and guidance. It is important to the community standards process that students actively engage in the process. To that end, a Support Person may not actively participate in the process by speaking or presenting on behalf of a student. A student cannot select a Support Person who is another respondent or is a witness in the same case.

Witness: A “Witness” is a person who has direct knowledge of a specific incident relevant to the community standards process. The investigator may request to interview any individual they determine may have information or knowledge relevant to the allegations. Character witnesses will not be interviewed or permitted to testify at an Administrative Conference as part of the community standards process.

III. PROHIBITED CONDUCT

As members of the Georgetown community, students are responsible for knowing and complying with University policies and procedures. The Director of Student Conduct shall determine what conduct constitutes a potential violation of *The Code*. No student shall be found responsible for a Code violation without appropriate notice and a meaningful opportunity to respond to the allegation(s).

The following list of behaviors is intended to represent the types of acts that constitute violations of *The Code*. It should be noted:

- Attempts to commit any prohibited conduct are considered violations of *The Code*;
- When it is determined that a violation of the Code occurred at an individual's residence, all residents may be held accountable, depending on the facts and circumstances;
- Unless specifically stated within the definition of a violation, intent is not an element in determining responsibility, but it will be considered as a mitigating or aggravating factor in the determination of action items and status sanctions.

Consistent with community standards, the following behaviors are considered violations of *The Code*:

1. Arson

To maliciously burn, or attempt to burn, any public or private property, whether real or personal, not their own.

2. Bullying and Cyberbullying

Any severe, pervasive, or persistent act or conduct, whether physical, cyber/electronic, or verbal, that can reasonably be expected to inflict fear, to intimidate, to incite violence, to force someone to do something against their will or self-interest, and/or substantially interfere with an individual's ability to participate in or benefit from the University's education and/or co-curricular programs. Bullying may include, but is not limited to, any act that may: (1) Place an individual in reasonable fear of physical harm; (2) Cause a substantial and foreseeable detrimental effect on an individual's physical or mental health; and/or (3) Create an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment that interferes with an individual's work or academic pursuit. Bullying does not include allegations of harassment or discrimination on the basis of a person's actual or perceived membership in a Protected Category. (For information regarding Harassment and/or Discrimination on the basis of a Protected Category, please see #13 below.)

3. Dangerous Objects

The possession or use of any potentially dangerous object or weapon, or use of an object or substance as a weapon, including but not limited to: firearms, ammunition, fireworks or other explosives, hunting knives, swords, or sabers. This includes but is not limited to prohibitions under the University's Weapons Policy: police.georgetown.edu/weaponspolicy.

4. Defacement, Damage, or Destruction

Unauthorized alteration, harm, or ruin of another's property or University property. This includes making or contributing to clutter, disorder, or a mess which requires professional cleaning to remove or address.

5. Disorderly Conduct

Actions that disturb others and/or interfere with or could result in harm to others or the University community.

6. Disruption of Official University Functions

Any action, whether on or off-campus, which disrupts or obstructs official functions of the University; including but not limited to: teaching, research, administration, or any University proceeding (for additional information, refer to the University Speech and Expression Policy at <https://studentaffairs.georgetown.edu/policies/student-organizations/speech-expression>).

7. Failure to Comply

Failure to comply with any reasonable directive from a University official or law enforcement officer performing their duties.

8. Failure to Meet Off-Campus Living Expectations

The following items apply to students who live off-campus:

- **Off-Campus Local Address**

Consistent with [registration policies in the Undergraduate Bulletin](#) and [Graduate Bulletin](#), all students living in non-University owned properties are required to provide the University with their current local off-campus address, through [GUExperience](#).

- **Off-Campus Orientation**

Undergraduate students living in non-University owned properties are required to attend an annual orientation for off-campus students coordinated by the Office of Neighborhood Life.

- **Excessive Noise**

Excessive noise inside or outside a building infringes upon the community's right to reasonable peace and quiet is prohibited at all times. For non-University owned properties, if noise can be heard beyond the property line, it is probably excessive, taking into account the time and the nature of the activity generating the sound.

While students are expected to be mindful of their noise levels at all times of the day, students are expected to be especially quiet during "Quiet Hours" for non-University owned properties between 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m., seven days a week.

- **Trash Disposal**

Students who live off-campus in the District of Columbia are expected to comply with city regulations regarding trash and recycling. Violations of this Code may include, but are not limited to:

- Failing to ensure trash, litter, or trash bags are placed in appropriate trash receptacle(s);
- Leaving bulk trash items in front or around the property without a scheduled pickup appointment;
- Leaving trash containers in front or around the property that do not have lids and/or that have lids which are not securely shut;
- Possessing more than two (2) outdoor trash receptacles and one (1) outdoor recycling container per property in neighborhoods where the city picks up trash twice a week;
- Leaving trash receptacle(s) on public display in excess of the allotted time frame for pick-up;
 - Students must notify the Office of Neighborhood Life (202.687.5138; neighborhoodlife@georgetown.edu) within 24 hours to report any trash receptacle(s)/bulk trash left in front of their residence that does not belong to their household;
- Failing to mark your trash receptacle(s) clearly with your address;
- Accumulating trash in rooms, apartment, front and/or backyard that could pose a health risk;

- Disposing of or dumping any trash in a bin that is not yours or owned/operated by the university and/or;
 - Failing to follow District of Columbia regulations concerning trash and property maintenance.
- **Off-Campus Property Maintenance**
Students who live off-campus in the District of Columbia are expected to properly maintain their property's yard, walkway, and surrounding sidewalk and comply with city regulations regarding property maintenance. Violations of this Code may include, but are not limited to:
 - Allowing grass and weeds on or around the property to grow more than 8 inches in height;
 - Failing to clear snow and/or ice from the sidewalks, handicap ramps, and steps around the property within the first eight (8) daylight hours after snow, sleet, or ice stops falling.

9. Failure to Meet Residential Living Expectations

Students who live in University-provided housing are expected to comply with all expectations set forth in the [Housing Occupancy Agreement](#), [Residential Living Policies](#), and all other reasonable expectations made explicit by Residential Living staff. This includes, but is not limited to:

- **Excessive Noise**
Excessive sound which infringes upon the community's right to reasonable peace and quiet is prohibited. While students are expected to be mindful of their noise levels at all times during the day, students are expected to be especially quiet during "Quiet Hours" for on-campus residences, which is 10:00 p.m. and 9:00 a.m. on nights preceding undergraduate classes and between the hours of Midnight and 9:00 a.m. on Fridays and Saturdays. During final examination periods, "Quiet Hours" are in effect 24 hours a day.
- **Possession of Prohibited Items**
Possession of items identified as prohibited in University-owned housing as set forth in the [Residential Living Policies](#) and/or all other applicable University Policies.
- **Unauthorized Party**
Failure to comply with Residential Living's Party Hosting policy (<https://residentialliving.georgetown.edu/living/policies/party-host-training/>).
- **Unauthorized Outdoor Informal Gathering**
Failure to comply with Residential Living's Outdoor Informal Gathering policy (<https://residentialliving.georgetown.edu/policies>).
- **Unauthorized Guest(s)**
Failure to comply with Residential Living's Guest/Visitation policy and Minor Guest policy (<https://residentialliving.georgetown.edu/policies>).
- **Trash Disposal**
Students are responsible for the proper disposal and containment of trash in and around their residence.

10. Falsification

Any unauthorized alteration or forgery of any University document or documents submitted to the University for official purposes or providing false or misleading information to an individual acting in their official University or law enforcement capacity.

11. Fire Safety

Actions that are potentially hazardous, including but not limited to the following:

- Failing to leave a building during a fire alarm;
- Intentionally or recklessly misusing of fire safety equipment (e.g. fire extinguishers, fire alarms, exit signs);
- Unnecessarily activating a fire alarm, or other false report, warning or threat of fire, explosion or other emergency in a University building, facility or location; and/or
- Setting fires including, but not limited to: the lighting of candles, incense and/or burning scented oils.

12. Guest Responsibility

A student host is responsible for the behaviors of any individual(s) they allow access to their on-campus space or off-campus residence, regardless of whether the guest is also a Georgetown student. A student is responsible for the behaviors of any non-Georgetown student(s) they allow access to campus.

13. Harassment and/or Discrimination

Harassment and Discrimination on the basis of a protected category will be referred to the Office of Institutional Diversity, Equity, and Affirmative Action (IDEAA) in accordance with the [Non-Discrimination Policies](#) for investigation and resolution, as discussed in more detail in the Reporting Section below.

14. Hazing

An abuse of power by a member of an organization and/or group used against an individual as a condition or expectation for seeking to join, hold membership, or affiliate with the organization and/or group. An abuse of power as it relates to hazing includes, but is not limited to: unproductive, unsafe, excessive, and/or demeaning act(s) that endanger the physical, psychological, or emotional well-being of an individual.

- An abuse of power may be exercised through direct action against another or through indirect action by encouraging and/or influencing another individual to commit an act of hazing.
- A failure to address and/or report an act of hazing committed against another individual may also be considered an abuse of power and a violation of this Code.
- Neither the intent of the initiator(s) nor consent/willingness of the participant(s) will serve as factors in determining responsibility; but may be considered in determining status sanctions and action items.
- This section may be applicable to acts that occur in any group and/or organization, regardless of whether or not they receive access to benefits from Georgetown University.

Georgetown University is committed to stopping hazing. See here for more resources: <https://stophazing.georgetown.edu/>.

15. Misuse of Alcohol

Violations of this Code include:

- **Underage possession or consumption of alcohol:** No person who is under the legal drinking age shall possess or drink any alcoholic beverage. The legal drinking age in the District of Columbia is 21 years of age.
- **Possession or consumption of alcohol in an alcohol-free location:** Examples of such locations include, but are not limited to:
 - University-owned residential buildings officially designated as alcohol-free;
 - University-owned residential space where all assigned occupants are under the legal drinking age;
 - Non-residential University-owned buildings, unless permission to serve alcohol has been explicitly requested and granted.
- **Possession or consumption of an open alcohol container in a public area:** Examples of such locations include, but are not limited to:
 - Any indoor and/or outdoor community areas of the residence halls and apartment complexes;
 - Public areas of the campus, unless an event where alcohol is being served is officially approved by the University for that location; and
 - Any street, alley, park, parking lot, or in any vehicle in or upon any of those areas.
- **Misrepresentation of Age:** Misrepresentation of age in order to obtain alcohol or obtain entry into an establishment that requires proof of legal drinking age.
- **Provision of Alcohol:** Sale, distribution, or provision of alcoholic beverages to and/or by anyone under the legal drinking age.
- **Provision of Alcohol to Intoxicated Person:** Providing alcoholic beverages to any person, regardless of age, who is intoxicated or appears to be intoxicated.
- **Possession of an unauthorized keg:** Kegs are permitted only in university-owned townhouses and apartments (Alumni Square, Henle Village, Nevils, and Village A) where at least one resident is of legal drinking age.
 - Kegs are prohibited in all other University-owned housing.
 - Kegs may not be stored in publicly visible exterior apartment or townhouse spaces (i.e. porches, yards, stoops).
 - Unauthorized kegs will be confiscated by the Georgetown University Police Department and will not be returned regardless of the student's age.

16. Misuse of Drugs and/or Paraphernalia

University policy strictly forbids the illegal or unauthorized possession, use, transfer, and/or sale of drugs or controlled substances, including medical marijuana. Violations include, but are not limited to:

- **Possession/Presence**
 - Possession of drug paraphernalia
 - Possession of illegal and/or counterfeit drugs and/or controlled substance
 - Being in the presence of the use of illegal and/or counterfeit drugs and/or controlled substance
- **Use**

- o Use of drug paraphernalia
- o Use of illegal and/or counterfeit drugs and/or controlled substance
- **Manufacture, Sale, and/or Distribution**
 - o Intentional manufacture of a counterfeit or controlled substance
 - o Manufacture or possession of a counterfeit or controlled substance with intent to distribute
 - o Transfer, distribution and/or sale of a counterfeit or controlled substance

17. Misuse of Identification

Violations of this policy include, but are not limited to:

- Failure to produce one's official University ID when requested by a University official;
- Possession of a fake driver's license or any other falsified form of identification;
- Unauthorized alteration of an identification card;
- Use of ID by anyone other than the person to whom it is issued. IDs (including a meal plan) are not transferable; and/or
- Manufacture or distribution of a false Driver's License or Georgetown ID.

18. Objects from Building

Throwing and/or intentionally causing to fall from an elevated location, including but not limited to a window, rooftop or balcony, any object that could cause physical harm or damage to property.

19. Physical Violence

Use of physical force against any individual or animal, including any intentional touching or threat of such touching, that results in bodily injury/harm or that places one in reasonable fear of imminent bodily injury/harm.

20. Public/Indecent Exposure

Exposing a part of one's body in a public place or where members of the public could see, including but not limited to exposure that may occur during sexual activity or urination/defecation, AND when such exposure could reasonably be foreseen to cause people to be offended or alarmed.

21. Security

Behavior which impairs, or could reasonably be foreseen to impair, University security equipment, procedures, expectations or other standards. Violations of this Code include, but are not limited to, propping exterior doors, disengaging locking devices, and/or allowing persons without Georgetown identification access to residence halls without serving as that person's host.

22. Sexual Misconduct

Alleged violations of sexual misconduct by students of the University's [Policy on Sexual Misconduct](#) are addressed pursuant to Georgetown's student [Sexual Misconduct Policies and Procedures](#). Sexual misconduct includes allegations of sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking.

23. Smoking

Smoking and vaping is prohibited in all Georgetown University buildings and grounds. This includes, but is not limited to tobacco, e-cigarettes, and vaping devices. Students are expected to abide by the [Georgetown University Smoke and Tobacco-Free Policy](#).

24. Stalking

Engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause reasonable persons to fear for their safety or the safety of others or to suffer substantial emotional distress.

- Fear for an individual's safety includes feeling seriously alarmed, disturbed or frightened.
- Stalking can occur whether or not the offender intended to cause fear or substantial emotional distress.
- Allegations of stalking on the basis of sex or gender are addressed through Georgetown's student [Sexual Misconduct Policies and Procedures](#).

25. Theft and/or Unauthorized Possession

Taking, using, or obtaining the property or services of another, including the University, without proper authorization, and/or possessing or disposing of any stolen property, even with the intent to return it to its owner.

26. Unauthorized Access

Students are not permitted in any area that has specifically been designated off-limits by the University or an authorized University official, or any place where it could be reasonably inferred that access is prohibited or restricted. Examples include, but are not limited to: rooftops (with the exception of the patios on Saint Mary's and LXR and Village A catwalks), entering another student's room without permission, electrical or mechanical rooms; any restricted playing field or locker rooms; or construction sites.

27. Unauthorized Parking

Undergraduate students are prohibited from parking vehicles on campus and/or on residential streets in Georgetown, Burleith, and/or Foxhall.

28. Unauthorized Pets

Students are not permitted to have pets or unauthorized animals in any University-owned buildings. See the [Academic Resource Center](#) for guidelines related to service animals and emotional support animals.

29. Violation of Law

Any action or behavior which violates a federal, state, or local law. The mere existence of a conviction or citation does not automatically constitute a violation of *The Code*; in such an event, the University may, in its discretion, still follow the community standards process as outlined in *The Code*.

30. Violation of University Policies and Regulations

Failure to comply with any applicable University regulation or policy, including, but not limited to, the [Computer Systems Acceptable Use Policy](#), the [Lithium-ion Equipped Micromobility Device Policy](#), the University Residential Requirement Policy for Undergraduates, and the [Housing Occupancy Agreement](#) (See also: <http://studentaffairs.georgetown.edu/policies/>).

31. Abuse of the Community Standards Process

Violations of this Code include, but are not limited to:

- Disrupting or interfering with the orderly conduct of a community standards meeting or proceeding;

- Falsifying, distorting, or misrepresenting information to a Community Educator, Investigator, or Decision Maker;
- Influencing another person to commit an abuse of the community standards process;
- Discouraging or retaliating against an individual's proper participation in, or use of, the community standards process;
- Attempting to intimidate or retaliate against a Community Educator or any other participant prior to, during, and/or after a community standards meeting or proceeding;
- Failing to satisfactorily complete action items included in an Educational Conference Agreement or an administrative determination by the specified deadline, or to adhere to the terms of a Status Sanction; and/or
- Intentionally filing a false report. A finding that a Respondent is not responsible for the alleged prohibited conduct is not, in itself, an indication that the initial report was intentionally false.

IV. THE COMMUNITY STANDARDS PROCESS

The community standards process is designed to be a non-adversarial, educational process. It is distinct from external processes such as the criminal justice system and, therefore, has its own rules concerning prohibited conduct, evidence, witnesses, procedures, and other processes. Timelines and deadlines may be adjusted or extended at the sole discretion of the University by its Community Educators, Decision Makers, or the Director of Student Conduct. University-issued email accounts will be used for communications under the Code. Students involved in the community standards process are advised to check emails regularly throughout the process.

A respondent may be accompanied by a Support Person to any meeting throughout the community standards process. A student should choose a Support Person whose schedule allows attendance at the scheduled dates and times because meetings and conferences are not ordinarily rescheduled due to the unavailability of a Support Person.

A. Reporting

Any person may report an allegation of prohibited conduct as defined by *The Code*. Reports should be made to the Office of Student Conduct by emailing studentconduct@georgetown.edu. A staff member will respond regarding next steps, which may include an initial discussion with the reporter or the person impacted by the alleged prohibited conduct to gather more information regarding the allegations.

The Director of Student Conduct will determine if a report alleges a potential violation of *The Code* and if there is sufficient information to move forward. Unless otherwise stated, the decision to address or not address the matter through the community standards process is at the sole discretion of the Director of Student Conduct and is not subject to appeal. As appropriate, the Director of Student Conduct may refer a report to another University office to address the alleged conduct. The Director for Student Conduct, a Community Educator, or a student may also suggest attempting to resolve the matter via an alternative method of resolution, such as mediation or a restorative justice process, at any time before the conclusion of the community standards process. Generally, the Director of Student Conduct will assign a Community Educator to the case to initiate the community standards process.

If a report alleges facts that could violate the University's Non-Discrimination Policies, the Director of Student Conduct will consult with the Office of Institutional Diversity, Equity, and Affirmative Action ("IDEAA") to determine whether the allegations should be investigated concurrently, consecutively, or jointly under the Code and the Non-Discrimination Policies that may have been violated and will include the process for resolving all allegations in the notice to the respondent. The Office of Student

Conduct may coordinate the collection of evidence with IDEAA to the extent possible to avoid duplication of effort by the University. A student cannot appeal the determination of which process is used to investigate and resolve a report.

B. Supportive Measures

The Director for Student Conduct may determine that Supportive Measures and/or additional remedies are necessary and appropriate to protect and support any student, faculty, staff, or other individual and/or the University community. To ensure equal access to the University's educational programs and activities, Supportive Measures and/or additional remedies may be implemented before, during, and/or after the community standards process.

Since Supportive Measures are meant to protect and support individuals involved in the community standards process, such measures are not considered sanctions and may be implemented regardless of a finding of responsibility. The Director for Student Conduct may determine the most appropriate Supportive Measures and/or remedies to implement for each specific incident. The Director for Student Conduct may also refer individuals to other offices at the University to discuss Supportive Measures and/or remedies outside the purview of the Office of Student Conduct or may implement Supportive Measures at the direction of another office with the authority to issue Supportive Measures.

Supportive Measures and/or remedies may include, but are not limited to:

- No Contact Orders (as defined below);
- Temporary housing and dining changes;
- Employment accommodations;
- Temporary course changes;
- Medical and counseling services;
- Academic support services and accommodations; and,
- Additional training and education.

A "No Contact Order" is a directive requiring that a student have no contact with, and not approach, an individual, including physical and non-physical contact, whether direct or indirect (including but not limited to telephone calls, text messages, mail, email, faxes, written notes, or through other electronic means (e.g., social media), or through third parties who may know or may not know about the restriction).

C. Interim Administrative Action

The Director of Student Conduct may impose any interim administrative action when, in the Director's professional judgment, an individual poses a threat or risk of danger or disruption to any individual, group of people, property, or the University community, or when the student has been arrested for and/or charged with a serious violation of federal, state, and/or local law, pending the outcome of the community standards process and any criminal charges, if applicable. Interim administrative actions can include the following: (a) an interim suspension, (b) an interim removal from housing, classes, commencement, study abroad, and/or other University activities, and/or (c) other reasonable interim measures to ensure the safety of the Georgetown community and the normal function of the learning environment and University operations. A student will be notified in writing of interim administrative action.

While subject to an interim administrative action, a student may submit a written request for review of the administrative action to the Vice President for Student Affairs or their designee ("VPSA"). The written request should include the reasons the student believes the interim administrative action should be lifted or modified and any relevant documentation demonstrating that the student does not

pose a risk of danger or disruption. The VPSA will typically review the request within 5 business days and may uphold, modify, or lift the interim administrative action. The VPSA's decision may not be appealed.

Interim administrative action is not a sanction. Instead, it is taken to protect the safety and well-being of individuals and property while the community standards process is ongoing. Interim administrative action is preliminary in nature; it is in effect only until there is a final resolution of the matter.

D. Educational Conferences

Upon initiation of the community standards process, the Community Educator will schedule an Educational Conference with the student respondent. The Community Educator will provide the student with written notification of the Educational Conference's date, time, and location, and a brief description of the concern that has been raised with sufficient details for the student to understand what they are being invited to discuss.

The Educational Conference is an opportunity for the Community Educator and the student to discuss the incident, learn about the community standards process, and review possible options for resolving the case. At the Community Educator's discretion, multiple student respondents involved in a single incident may be invited to participate together in an Educational Conference.

The Community Educator and student can resolve the case in the Educational Conference through an "Educational Conference Agreement." This is a signed written agreement between the Community Educator and the student which acknowledges the behavior, identifies violations of *The Code* (if any), and includes an action plan to be completed by the student to promote personal reflection and growth, repair any harm caused, and assist the student in contributing positively to the Georgetown community. The Educational Conference Agreement must be signed by the Respondent, and once signed, the Community Educator will submit it to the Office of Student Conduct to maintain the record of the resolution and to close the case.

There may be situations in which a resolution is not appropriate or possible in the initial Educational Conference, such as when a situation may be better resolved through an alternative resolution process like mediation or restorative justice, when a student cannot or does not take responsibility for the alleged behaviors, or when more information is needed about the situation. In all cases, the Community Educator will determine the appropriate next steps. Among other steps, they may invite the student to meet again, may refer the case to an alternative resolution process, or may initiate an investigation. If an alternative resolution is reached, it must be documented and submitted to the Community Educator. The Community Educator will review the alternative resolution to make sure the terms of the resolution are clear and if so, will submit it to the Office of Student Conduct to maintain the record of the resolution and to close the case.

The Community Educator and student can agree to an Educational Conference Agreement at any point during an investigation or prior to an Administrative Conference. Without an Educational Conference Agreement or alternative resolution, the case will be resolved through an Administrative Conference.

When it is agreed to resolve alleged *Student Code* violations through an Educational Conference Agreement or alternative resolution, there shall be no right to appeal.

E. Investigations

When an allegation of prohibited conduct is not resolved through an Educational Conference Agreement, alternative resolution, or referred to another office by the Director of Student Conduct, the Community Educator will provide written notice to the Respondent of the allegations of prohibited

conduct with sufficient detail and state that an investigation has been initiated. If referred for investigation, the Director of Student Conduct will assign an Investigator, which can be the Community Educator or another Investigator.

The Investigator may gather relevant information including documents, photographs, communications, and other electronic records, and may also gather such relevant information from any relevant individuals. The Investigator may also gather publicly available information from online sources that comes to the Investigator's attention. In all cases, the Respondent has the right to submit a written statement to the Investigator which may include photographs, written documentation/records, or other relevant materials and identify possible relevant Witnesses who have first-hand factual or circumstantial knowledge related to the allegations in the written notice. In order to ensure a prompt, thorough, and equitable investigation, the Respondent, Reporter, and Witnesses are expected to adhere to the Investigator's requested deadlines for any interviews and/or submission of materials.

The Investigator will compile an investigative report. The investigative report will include only information and evidence that the Investigator has determined is relevant to the investigation. Character assessments, prejudicial testimony, and duplicative information are not ordinarily considered relevant.

The Investigator will not make any findings or recommendations, or propose an action plan in the investigative report. The Investigator will provide the investigative report to the Director of Student Conduct, who will ensure that it complies with these policies and procedures; the investigative report will be finalized; and the Director of Student Conduct will send the investigative report to the Community Educator. Upon completion of the investigation, the Community Educator will give the Respondent access to review the completed investigative report, including any relevant documents or evidence gathered. Parties are not permitted to share the Report with any individual(s) other than their Support Person and/or parent/guardian(s), provided the parent/guardian(s) is not serving as a Witness.

The Community Educator will hold an Educational Conference with the Respondent to review the investigative report. The Respondent may agree at this point in the process (or at any point prior to an Administrative Conference) to resolve the case through an Educational Conference Agreement.

The Director of Student Conduct may determine not to move the case forward to an Administrative Conference if the Director of Student Conduct determines there is no evidence in the Report or after an Investigation to support the allegations or that a violation of the Code has occurred. In such circumstances, the case will be deemed closed and no further action will be taken within the community standards process.

If the case is not dismissed or resolved through an Educational Conference Agreement, or the Respondent fails to participate in the community standards process, the case will be referred for an Administrative Conference.

F. Administrative Conferences

If needed, the Director of Student Conduct will assign a Decision Maker to arrange an Administrative Conference, make a determination regarding responsibility, and if the Respondent is found responsible, assign an action plan, including status sanctions and/or action items. The Decision Maker cannot be the same person who served as the Community Educator and/or Investigator.

1. The Administrative Conference

The Decision Maker will send a written notice to the Respondent, at least 5 calendar days prior to the Administrative Conference, which will include:

- the date, time, and location of the Administrative Conference, which may include electronic means;
- the charges of prohibited conduct under *The Code*;
- the names and roles of individuals expected to be in attendance.

Respondents will be given at least three calendar days to submit an optional written response to the investigative report, prior to the Administrative Conference. A written response is limited to 5 pages. The Decision Maker will review the investigative report and any written responses submitted prior to the Administrative Conference. Upon reviewing the investigative report and any written responses, the Decision Maker may ask the Investigator to collect additional information or interview additional witnesses, may ask the Community Educator to hold a final Educational Conference with the Respondent, or may proceed with the Administrative Conference.

The Administrative Conference is an opportunity for the Decision Maker to review with the Respondent the alleged Code violations, consider the information gathered by the Investigator, and seek any clarification and additional information that may be needed for the Decision Maker's resolution of the case.

The Administrative Conference is primarily intended to be a meeting between the Decision Maker and the Respondent (who may have a Support Person present). At their discretion, the Decision Maker may invite the Reporter and/or Witnesses, including individuals directly impacted by the alleged prohibited conduct, to attend any part of the Administrative Conference if the information they are expected to provide is relevant to any material issue, and is not deemed unnecessarily redundant of other information already in the investigative report or presented at the Administrative Conference. Respondents are not permitted to ask questions directly to a Reporter or Witness. Prior to the Administrative Conference, the Decision Maker will notify the Respondent, in writing, of any Witnesses who will be invited to attend or participate. The Decision Maker will allow the Respondent to suggest, in writing, questions for the Decision Maker to consider asking the Witnesses. All Witnesses are considered the University's Witnesses and a Respondent has no right to "call" individuals to provide information at the Administrative Conference.

If the Respondent does not participate in the Administrative Conference, the Decision Maker will proceed with the community standards process and hold the Administrative Conference without the Respondent's participation. In such a case, outcomes of the Administrative Conference will be based on the information provided in the investigative report and by any participants in the Administrative Conference.

All participants must act respectfully during the Administrative Conference and conduct themselves according to the direction of the Decision Maker.

Respondents have the right to be accompanied by their Support Person to the Administrative Conference and all related meetings. The Decision Maker has authority to respond to disruptive behaviors, including adjourning the Administrative Conference or removing any person, including a Support Person or Respondent.

Administrative Conferences are not video or audio recorded. Participants, Support People, and Witnesses are strictly prohibited from recording, transcribing, or saving any part of the community standards process, including the Administrative Conference. When a recording is created, it shall be the sole property of Georgetown University.

Administrative Conference procedures may be modified at the discretion of the Decision Maker. The Decision Maker will consider participants' reasonable requests for modifications. See section below regarding Disability Accommodations.

2. Standard of Proof

For all cases, the Decision Maker will determine, based on a preponderance of the evidence standard, whether it was "more likely than not" that the Respondent engaged in prohibited conduct, which violated *The Code*.

3. Written Outcome

Within a reasonable period of time after the Administrative Conference concludes, the Decision Maker will prepare a written outcome, which will be reviewed for compliance with these policies and procedures and provided to the Respondent, ordinarily via email. If the outcome will not be provided within 15 business days, the Decision Maker will notify the Respondent that additional time is necessary and will provide an estimate for when the outcome will be sent.

The written outcome letter to the Respondent will include:

- a description of the factual allegations;
- the findings with regard to the alleged prohibited conduct and/or Code violations;
- the rationale as to the findings;
- if found responsible, any action plan imposed on the Respondent; and
- a copy of or link to the procedures and grounds for appeal.

The outcome of the community standards process is not disclosed to others except to the extent required or permitted by law including, but not limited to, the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act ("FERPA"). In such cases, an individual will only receive information regarding the action plan to the extent that a specific action item(s) has a direct impact on them.

G. Action Plans

An action plan is intended to provide educational opportunities and accountability while also reducing the likelihood of future prohibited conduct. An action plan may include administrative, educational, and restorative components. Some conduct, however, is so egregious in nature or so damaging to the educational environment that it requires temporary or permanent removal from the Georgetown community, including Suspension or Dismissal.

An action plan typically consists of 1 or more status sanctions and/or 1 or more action items and is developed either through an Educational Conference Agreement, alternative resolution, or assigned by a Decision Maker through an Administrative Conference. In developing an action plan, the Community Educator or Decision Maker will consider the seriousness and impact of the prohibited conduct, previous outcomes for similar events, a Respondent's history of disciplinary violations, and any other aggravating and mitigating factors.

1. Status Sanctions

A student found to have violated *The Code* may be assigned status sanction(s) in addition to action items.

- Warning: A notice warning a student that another violation may result in more severe sanctions and/or enhanced action items.

- Conduct Probation: Conduct Probation is a designated period, for a defined period, or until a specific condition or set of conditions are met, in which the student is given the opportunity to modify unacceptable behavior, complete specific assignments, and/or demonstrate a positive contribution to the Georgetown community. Any further misconduct during this time period may result in more severe status sanctions and/or enhanced action items.
- Housing Probation: Housing Probation is a designated period, during which further violations of *The Code* may result in the student losing the privilege of living in any University housing.
- Property Party Restriction: Loss of the privilege for any social gatherings to be hosted in a student's residence. Party restriction applies to the entire residence and all members residing at the property must abide by the party restriction sanction. Off-Campus Property Party Restriction is not held in abeyance during appeals.
- Loss of Campus Housing: Removal from University housing for a defined period or until a specific condition or set of conditions are met.
- Suspension: Suspension is a temporary separation from the University. A student who has been suspended is prohibited from participating in any University-sponsored activity, event, or program during their suspension. The student may not be in or on any University-owned, -controlled, or -leased property during their suspension. A notation of "Disciplinary Suspension" shall be placed on the student's official transcript until graduation. However, the student may petition the Director of Student Conduct for earlier removal of the notation upon completion of the suspension. If a student is suspended prior to completion of the semester, the student will be withdrawn from all courses in which they were enrolled for the semester and will forfeit tuition and fees, in accordance with the University's published refund policies.

Suspension may be term or conditional.

- Term suspension is a separation from the University for a designated period of time, not to exceed two years, after which the suspended student may return to the University.
- Conditional suspension is separation from the University for an indefinite period of time, subject to the Respondent meeting certain conditions specified in the written outcome letter. Upon completion of the conditions, the Respondent must notify the Director of Student Conduct and provide any information requested by the Director of Student Conduct to substantiate the completion of the conditions. The Director of Student Conduct shall determine whether the conditions have been satisfied and when the Respondent may be readmitted to the University.
- Dismissal: Dismissal is permanent separation from the University. A student who has been dismissed is prohibited from participating in any University-sponsored activity, event, or program. The individual may not be in or on any University-owned, -controlled, or -leased property. A permanent notation of "Dismissal" shall be placed on the student's transcript. If a student is dismissed prior to completion of the semester, the student will be withdrawn from all courses in which they were enrolled for the semester and will forfeit tuition and fees, in accordance with the University's published refund policies.

2. Action Items

Action items are designed to address the harm caused by the Respondent and/or actively engage the Respondent to contribute positively to the University. Action items may be implemented individually or in combination with a status sanction and/or other action items.

- **Educational Initiatives:** Projects; participation in health or safety programs (the student may be required to pay a fee); service to the University or the larger community; seminars; apology letters; and other assignments as appropriate.
- **Loss of Privileges:** The withdrawal of specified privileges for a defined period, or until a specific condition or set of conditions are met.
- **Mentor Program:** A student is assigned to a student or employee mentor who meets with the student regularly. The mentors will assist students in designing a customized plan based on the student's needs, interests, and academic plans.
- **Restitution:** Restoration of property that was stolen, misused, damaged, or destroyed to the University or the property owner and/or compensation, including but not limited to costs of repair, replacement, recovery, cleaning, or otherwise restoring property to its original condition.
- **Restorative Programs (Educational Conference Agreements only):** Engagement in restorative practices such as restorative circles, conferences, etc.

H. Appeals

The written determination is final, unless a Respondent files an appeal within 5 business days of the date the written outcome letter was sent to the Respondent. Appeal processes may differ for cases addressed under applicable Non-Discrimination Policies.

If the Respondent was issued interim action, the interim action will remain in place during the appeal. If a Respondent submits an appeal within the deadline, any status sanctions (except Party Probation) will not go into effect until the appeal has been resolved. Deadlines for action items may be modified as appropriate by the Appeals Committee.

A Respondent may file a written appeal [online](#). Dissatisfaction with the written determination is not a valid basis for appeal. The appeal must be based on 1 or more of the following grounds:

- **Procedural Error:** A specified procedural deviation from the community standards process that would result in a different finding regarding responsibility for prohibited conduct;
- **New Information:** The discovery of new evidence that was not reasonably available at the time the outcome was determined, which, if known, would have resulted in a different finding regarding responsibility for prohibited conduct; or,
- **Disproportionate Sanction:** The sanction(s) imposed on the Respondent was substantially disproportionate based on the facts of the case.

Appeals are limited to addressing the identified ground(s) for appeal, not initiating a review of factual issues or sufficiency of evidence. If the appeal does not state one of the permitted grounds of appeal, the Director of Student Conduct may dismiss the appeal. The appeal may not be longer than 5 pages and should consist of a concise written statement stating the ground(s) for appeal, citing the evidence presented during the Administrative Conference that supports the appeal, explaining the reasons for the appeal, and the desired outcome. If new information is asserted, the Respondent must attach a copy of the new information to the appeal. New information does not count toward the Respondent's 5-page limit.

Only the arguments presented in the written appeal and the information and evidence presented at the Administrative Conference (including the investigative report) will be considered. If a ground for appeal is new information, then the identified new information that is attached to the appeal may be considered. No hearing will be conducted and the Respondent does not have the right to provide additional statements, testimony, evidence, or to suggest additional witnesses on appeal.

Appeals will be reviewed by an Appeals Committee, members of which are appointed and trained by the Director of Student Conduct. When the full Appeals Committee is not available (e.g. during Summer break), the Director of Student Conduct may designate a single Appeals Committee member to review the Appeal. The Appeals Committee members will not have served as a Community Educator, Investigator, or Decision Maker in the previous steps of the process for the case. The Appeals Committee will review the written appeal and relevant materials from the Administrative Conference. The Appeals Committee may uphold, modify, or reverse the original determination, or return the matter to the Office of Student Conduct for action consistent with the Appeals Committee's determination.

The Respondent will be notified in writing of the outcome of the appeal and rationale. The appeal decision is final, unless the case is, as a result of the appeal, returned for additional proceedings.

V. ADDITIONAL POLICY-RELATED INFORMATION

A. Disability Accommodations

Georgetown University is committed to ensuring an inclusive and equitable environment for individuals with disabilities. If any party including Respondent or Witness has a medical condition or disability and believes they may require a reasonable accommodation in order to participate in any part of the community standards process, the party must notify the Office of Student Conduct and submit a written request to the Director of the Academic Resource Center as early as possible to ensure the University has sufficient time to review and process the accommodation request. The request will be reviewed in accordance with the University's disability accommodations procedures.

B. Medical Amnesty and Good Samaritan Statement

When a student or other individual seeks aid for an individual experiencing an alcohol or other drug-related emergency by contacting emergency services, such as the Georgetown Emergency Response Medical Service (GERMS) or the Georgetown University Police Department (GUPD), the patient and the individual(s) reporting the emergency will not be subject to disciplinary action for the following violations in *The Code*:

- Misuse of Alcohol; or
- Misuse of Drugs: Possession/Presence & Use.

The Office of Student Conduct will likely address other alleged violations of *The Code* through the community standards process.

If a Georgetown University Police Officer, Residential Living staff member, or other University official responds to an alcohol or other drug-related emergency, they will first seek medical care before documenting any other information related to the incident. Throughout the entire incident, the individual's prompt treatment and transport to an appropriate medical facility will remain the priority. However, all information related to the incident will be documented by the responding University official(s) in a report and forwarded to the Office of Student Conduct. The Office of Student Conduct will review the report and determine the appropriate application of amnesty.

A follow-up evaluation for the involved parties may be conducted to determine appropriate measures to support their wellness and prevent future occurrences. These wellness measures may be mandatory and failure to comply may be addressed as a violation of *The Code*. For more information, see [Medical Amnesty and Good Samaritan Policy](#).

C. Consolidation of Cases

When more than one Respondent is involved in an incident or series of immediately related incidents, the matter may be handled as a single case. A consolidated Investigation, Educational Conference, or Administrative Conference may be held to determine facts and responsibility in the incident.

D. Procedural Alterations

The Office of Student Conduct is committed to providing a prompt, thorough, and equitable investigation and resolution of conduct related reports. As such, the Director for Student Conduct may make reasonable alterations to any of these procedures in the spirit of providing a prompt, thorough, and equitable process for all parties involved in the community standards process.

E. Withdrawal with Community Standards Process Pending

Under typical circumstances, a Respondent is not allowed to withdraw while the community standards process is pending. In circumstances where a Respondent is facing charges for which, if found responsible, they could be suspended or dismissed, a hold will be placed on the Respondent's transcript until the matter is resolved. Where for good cause, a Respondent is allowed to withdraw, the University may maintain a continuing interest in a final resolution, the matter is not automatically rendered moot, and the University may reinstate the community standards process, if the Respondent seeks to return to the University.

F. Off-Campus Citations

Off-campus incidents involving alleged Trash Disposal, Property Maintenance, Off-Campus Orientation, and/or Parking violations may be resolved via an Off-Campus Citation issued by the Office of Student Conduct. An Off-Campus Citation may be issued to one student or all residents that are recorded as living at the property and will include the necessary details and information to address the citation. Citations can include fines and service to the University or the larger community.

Off-Campus Citations may not be included in a student's Disciplinary Record and instead, may be included only in the Office of Student Conduct's Internal Records. However, the Office of Student Conduct may resolve an alleged Trash Disposal, Property Maintenance, and/or Parking violation via Educational Conference, which could be included in a student's Disciplinary Record, under the following circumstances:

- If a student has received two (2) or more citations in one (1) academic semester; and/or
- If a violation would result in a sanction of Housing Probation or higher.

G. Recordkeeping

Student conduct files are maintained separately from any other academic or official file at the University. The University maintains, and limits disclosure of, student education records in compliance with FERPA.

Student conduct files are maintained for seven (7) years from the date of the written outcome letter. The student conduct file of a student who is suspended, withdraws with pending disciplinary charges, or is dismissed from the University shall be retained indefinitely.

See <https://studentconduct.georgetown.edu/student-records/> for more information regarding student conduct records.

H. Revision and Interpretation

The policy is maintained by the Office of Student Conduct and was most recently approved by the Vice President for Student Affairs on August 1, 2024. Georgetown University reserves the right to

review and update the policy in accordance with changing legal requirements and the specific needs of the University. Any questions of interpretation regarding the Code shall be referred to the Director of Student Conduct. The Director of Student Conduct's determination is final.

All reports received by the University after the approval date will be administered in accordance with the procedures described under this Code.