GWU Student Conduct Process Outline

Student Rights and Responsibilities (SRR) and those who resolve conduct cases evaluate each case individually. This chart provides a summary of the ways in which cases are typically processed under the Code of Student Conduct. For full details, refer to the Code of Student Conduct.

Last updated 8/2019

Warning for low-level cases.

Referral to other campus resources.

Conflict management options.

No conduct follow-up

Incident report or complaint received. A preliminary investigation may occur to clarify and inform the review of the report.

Conduct charges filed. Additional investigation may continue to occur.

STUDENT CONDUCT CONFERENCE

• Occurs if outcome is not likely to include removal from housing, suspension, or expulsion.
• Consists of an informal meeting between the respondent and a university administrator or University Hearing Board member.

STUDENT CONDUCT AGREEMENT

• An option for respondents who accept an in violation finding for all charges and agree to specific sanctions.
• Includes waiving the right to appeal and concludes the process.

UNIVERSITY HEARING BOARD

• Occurs if the outcome could reasonably include removal from housing, suspension, or expulsion.
• Consist of 3-5 full-time students, a faculty member or administrator (absence of faculty member/administrator does not prevent a hearing).

BOARD LEVEL CONFERENCE

• Resolves the case in a conference format.
• Maintains the full range of available sanctions.

OUTCOMES

IN VIOLATION (some or all charges)

• The respondent will receive an outcome in person if possible with follow-up in writing, including the finding, the rationale for finding, sanctions, and sanction rationale.

NOT IN VIOLATION (all charges)

• Respondent will receive an outcome in writing, including finding, rationale for finding.

Basic rights of respondents in university student conduct proceedings

• Notice of charges and date of conduct proceeding, reasonable access to case file at least three days before proceeding; question and respond to information to be used to make decision in a case; right to witnesses; right not to be sanctioned unless the hearing body finds a preponderance of the evidence that the respondent is in violation; right to appeal decisions.
• An advisor may be present (not legal representation).

For cases involving a complainant, the process will vary to incorporate the options relevant to that party.

APPEALS

• Submitted in writing within 5 business days after receipt of outcome letter.
• Grounds for appeal: material deviation from procedures, new and relevant information that was unavailable, sanction was inappropriate or disproportionate to the prohibited conduct.
• If the Assoc. Dean of Students finds that grounds are presented, the appeal will be forwarded to the Chair of the Appeals Board. The final decision is made by a Panel selected by Chair of Appeals Board.