



Student Judicial Procedures

As described in the College's [Student Judicial Code](#) policy, the College provides for due process in academic dishonesty and disciplinary matters through the procedures set forth in this document.

A student charged with violating the [Student Judicial Code](#) may not avoid the Student Judicial Procedures by withdrawing from the College. Student judicial proceedings may continue as described in this document without the student's participation, and/or a hold prohibiting further registration and/or release of transcripts may be placed on the student's record at the discretion of the Director of Student Life or designee until the matter has resolution.

Written notice throughout the student judicial process is issued through an individual's preferred email address, or by a hardcopy letter sent regular or certified mail, as appropriate. The email and mailing address on record in the College's student information system is considered official. It is the responsibility of the student to ensure that the correct address is on record in the College's student information system. Generally, written notice to an incorrect address on file is not an acceptable reason to delay or reschedule a mediation, resolution conference, or hearing.

I. Due Process for Alleged Academic Dishonesty

- A. In cases of alleged academic dishonesty, procedural due process necessitates the faculty member should first talk with the student(s) and try to resolve any discrepancies within one week (five workdays) of the incident. If, after this discussion, it is still believed that the violation occurred, the faculty member may assess a penalty commensurate with the value of the exercise, work, or exam on which the violation occurred. The student must be informed in writing or via Delgado email within three (3) workdays of the penalty that has been levied so that documentation will be available if needed later.
- B. In any situation in which the alleged misconduct is such that it would cause the student to receive a failing grade in the course, the faculty member must file a written report with the Division Dean in which the faculty member and the course are housed within one week (five workdays) of the incident or within five (5) workdays of meeting with the student. An [Incident Referral Form](#) should be completed which is submitted to the Office of Student Life for the Judicial Files. The faculty member must also inform the student in writing or via Delgado email that such a report has been filed.
- C. If the Division Dean feels it would be in the best interests of the parties to proceed directly to the hearing level, the case can be referred directly to the College's Student Judicial Committee. If the decision is to move forward at the departmental level, the faculty member, student, and Division Dean or designee will meet in a Resolution Conference to discuss the alleged incident. The student must be notified of the meeting at least three (3) workdays in advance.

The student is permitted to have one personal advisor present, but the advisor may not address the Division Dean or the faculty member. At the Resolution Conference, an agreement should be reached concerning the alleged violation, as well as any sanctions, if appropriate. If no agreement is reached, the case must be referred to the Judicial Affairs Committee. Procedures can be found in Section IIC, *Due Process/Judicial Procedures for All Other Alleged Violations*. The Division Dean will forward all written materials to the Director of Student Life or designee.

If the student fails to appear, the decision may be rendered by the Division Dean using the preponderance of evidence standard.

- D. In the case of the final grade, the faculty member will not submit a final grade until the alleged violation has been resolved, at which time the faculty member can assign the appropriate final grade.
- E. If the involved student is a candidate for graduation, the student will be allowed to participate in the commencement ceremony, but the diploma/degree will not be awarded until the case is resolved, a final grade assigned, and the student's degree status determined.

II. **Due Process/ Judicial Procedures for All Other Alleged Violations**

The College provides for due process in disciplinary matters through the following procedures below. Reasonable accommodations will be made for students with disabilities who are currently registered with the Office of Disability Services.

A. **Reporting of Incidents**

- 1. All reports of student misconduct shall be made on the Office of Student Life's [Incident Referral Form](#) on the College's website within five (5) workdays of the incident. The Director of Student Life or designee will also accept a Police Report forwarded electronically within fifteen (15) workdays of the incident. The Director of Student Life or designee will notify the supervisor of the College employee making the complaint and the Executive Dean/administrator in charge of the campus/site on which the violation has been reported.
- 2. The Director of Student Life or designee shall determine if a violation of the Judicial Code has taken place based on the allegation within five (5) workdays. Preliminary interviews may be necessary to determine if a violation has occurred.

B. **Immediate Action**

The status of the accused student shall not be altered nor have the right to be present on campus and attend classes suspended, except for reasons relating to physical or emotional safety and well-being or when it is deemed necessary for the protection of the safety of other individuals, students, faculty, and/or property.

1. *Incidents where no disciplinary action is needed:*

If the Director of Student Life or designee is of the opinion that a case merits no disciplinary action, a report to that effect will be made, and this written report will be kept on file in the Judicial Files of the Office of Student Life. -The person making the complaint, the accused student, the supervisor of the College employee making the complaint, and the Executive Dean/administrator in charge of the campus/site will be notified of the decision by the Director of Student Life or designee within fifteen (15) workdays of receiving the report. The proceedings shall terminate at that point.

2. *Incidents where a student is needed to be temporarily banned from campus:*

After consultation with the Director of Student Life or designee, the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs has the authority to place a student on temporary suspension, which removes the student's right to be present on College premises for any reason without prior contact with Campus Police. This ban is temporary and in place until a Judicial Affairs Committee meeting can be scheduled. The student shall receive written notice of the ban from the Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs in accordance with the College's [Banning Persons from College Property](#) policy.

C. Investigation

1. The Director of Student Life or designee may use the Police Investigation/Report in place of conducting a separate investigation.
2. When there is no Campus Police Report or where the Director of Student Life determines a need for further investigation, the Director of Student Life designates a Judicial Affairs Officer to conduct an investigation. A prompt, thorough and impartial investigation will be conducted within fifteen (15) workdays from the date the incident was reported. The designated Student Judicial Affairs Officer must notify the complainant and the accused student in writing that the investigation is being conducted. In a case where there is no complainant, or a complainant is not willing to come forward and it is determined that safety of an individual or the campus community is at risk, the College may be deemed the complainant. The notification must inform both parties that they have three (3) workdays to submit a statement via email to the designated Judicial Affairs Officer. The designated Judicial Affairs Officer can seek additional information and clarification of the incident as needed.
3. If the complainant does not respond to the investigation request, within three (3) workdays, the incident will be closed and the Executive Dean/administrator in charge of the campus/site will be notified. If accused does not respond to investigation request, the process will continue.

D. Investigation Outcomes

Upon the conclusion of the investigation, the designated Judicial Affairs Officer in consultation with the Director of Student Life or designee will determine an outcome using the preponderance of evidence standard. They can choose the following course of action:

- a) *Require mediation of the incident*

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1. The designated Judicial Affairs Officer will advise both parties in writing that a mediation is being scheduled to resolve the conflict. The notification should be at least three (3) workdays prior to the mediation or within a reasonable timeframe if best effort is demonstrated in contacting the individuals.
2. If complainant does not appear for the mediation, the incident will be closed and the Executive Dean/administrator in charge of the campus/site will be notified. If accused does not respond to investigation requests, the process will continue and a decision can be rendered.

b) *Render a final decision*

The designated Judicial Affairs Officer will advise the student of the decision either by certified mail or email, as appropriate. Either party may appeal the decision to the Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs. The decision must inform the accused of their right to appeal and the next steps in the appeal process. See Section F, *Appeal Procedures*.

c) *Refer the case to the Judicial Affairs Committee*

1. If the Director of Student Life or designee determines that the alleged misconduct requires disciplinary action greater than probation, the case will be referred to the Judicial Affairs Committee for additional review.
2. The Director of Student Life or designee will advise the Student that their case will be referred to the Judicial Affairs Committee. Both parties will receive a notice that a hearing will be forthcoming. The notification should be at least three (3) workdays prior to the hearing or within a reasonable timeframe if best effort is demonstrated in contacting the individuals. See Section E, *Judicial Affairs Committee Procedures*.

d) *Close the case and find that there was no violation*

1. If the Director of Student Life or designee determines that a case merits no disciplinary action, a report to that effect will be made, and this written report will be kept on file in the Judicial Files of the Office of Student Life.

E. Judicial Affairs Committee Procedures

1. In order to protect the student's guaranteed rights, the following procedures will be set forth:
 - a. The hearing must be scheduled expeditiously by the Director of Student Life or designee; however, reasonable efforts will be made to consider the class schedule of the complainant and the accused student.

- b. The accused student is to be given written notice of charges against him/her by the Director of Student Life or designee at least three (3) workdays prior to the hearing, or within a reasonable timeframe if best effort is demonstrated in contacting the student. For hearings concerning alleged violations that the Director of Student Life or designee deems may have potentially threatening ramifications to those involved, due diligence may require less notification time.
 - c. The accused student has the right to face the complainant. The student and the complainant must be present in person or by teleconference (as determined by the Director of Student Life, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs or designee) for the hearing to proceed except as noted in Sections E1d and E1e below. Additionally, in cases where the College is the complainant, the committee may proceed without a designated complainant present.
 - d. For cases where the College is not the complainant as noted in Section E1c above, in the event that the complainant fails to be present in person or by teleconference (except in cases of unavoidable emergency) at the hearing, the charges will be dropped and the Director of Student Life or designee shall so notify the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs in writing.
 - e. If the accused student fails to appear after the Director of Student Life or designee has confirmed written notification of the time/place of the hearing (except in cases of unavoidable emergency), the Committee shall continue with the hearing, and make a decision based on evidence presented at the hearing.
 - f. The accused student is to be afforded an adequate and fair hearing on the charges.
 - g. The accused student is to be permitted to testify, if he/she so desires, and to present the testimony of any competent witnesses who have personal knowledge of any matters or materials relevant to the charges.
 - h. Both the complainant and the accused student are permitted to have one personal advisor present, but the personal advisor may not address the Committee.
2. The Director of Student Life or designee shall send a written report of the Committee's decision within five (5) workdays to the accused student and the person filing the complaint with a copy to the supervisor of the College employee making the complaint, the Executive Dean/administrator in charge of the campus/site, and the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, and the Director of Student Life or designee. Either party may appeal the decision to the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs. The decision must inform the accused and the complainant of his/her right to appeal and the next steps in the appeal process.

F. Appeal Procedures

1. Either the accused student or the person filing the original complaint may, within

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three (3) workdays of notification, appeal the Committee's decision to the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs by completing the appeal request form on the College's website.

2. An appeal is only reviewed via the [Disciplinary Appeal Form](#) on the College's website. Appeals are only admissible based on the following:
 - a. Partiality, where the individual believes a decision was made based on unfair bias in favor of another.
 - b. New evidence, where evidence presented in a prior hearing was not available at that time.
 - c. Procedural error, where a process or processes were alleged to not have been followed as outlined within the Student Judicial Procedures.
 - d. Inappropriate sanction, where the individual believes the sanction issued is incongruent with the violation(s) of the code.
3. If the accused student or complainant appeal the Committee's decision, or if the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs modifies or rejects the Committee's decision, the student and complainant will be notified in writing of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs' decision within fifteen (15) workdays days of the student's appeal or the notification of the Committee's decision, as applicable. A copy of this decision will be filed in the Judicial Files of the Office of Student Life.
4. The final appeal for the complainant or the accused student at the college level is to the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs. In accordance with [LCTCS Policy #2.004, Student Conduct and Appeal Procedures](#), after the student has exhausted all due process procedures at the college level, the student may choose to appeal to the LCTCS Board of Supervisors within thirty (30) calendar days of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs' decision.

G. Composition of the Judicial Affairs Committee

The Judicial Affairs Committee is responsible for conducting all disciplinary hearings, providing policy recommendations regarding student discipline.

The [Judicial Affairs Committee pool](#) shall be appointed by the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs at the beginning of each academic year. The Chair shall be the Director of Student Life or designee and will not serve as a voting member of the committee. The committee pool will be comprised of three faculty members, three staff members, and three students.

Each case must be heard by three members; one faculty, one staff and one student. Any committee member may recuse him/herself from a particular hearing if there may be a conflict of interest in the particular case. The Chair cannot be the same designated Judicial Affairs Officer who served in the investigative role of the same case.

The hearing is to be conducted at the campus or site where the alleged violation occurred unless the Judicial Affairs Committee determines another location to be more appropriate.

H. Sanctions

The following sanctions and/or learning outcome requirements may be imposed but are not limited to the list below. Once the terms of the sanction are satisfied the student is in good standing.

1. *Behavioral Warning*- A Behavioral Warning is a written warning for the student to discontinue further occurrences of the type of behavior causing the initial complaint.
2. *Disciplinary reprimand*- A written reprimand issued to a student for a violation of the Student Judicial Code with specific sanctions identified for the student. Disciplinary sanctions which may be imposed include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Probation: Probation means that the student is still enrolled and is put on formal notice that they are subject to specific behavioral guidelines (ex. loss of privilege or access to a particular facility on campus, restriction from a limited admission program), the violation of which may lead to more severe forms of discipline such as suspension or expulsion.
 - b. Educational project or community service assignment: A project or assignment on campus or in the community, which will provide the student with an opportunity to observe and learn specific valued human behaviors related to his/her own conduct. For example, participation in a leadership seminar, alcohol/drug seminar and/or personal development class. Evidence of satisfactory completion will be required.
 - c. Restitution: The student is ordered to repair damages or reimburse the affected individual or entity for damage to (or misappropriation of) property. This may take the form of monetary payment or payment of time and services.
3. *Suspension* - Suspension is separation from the College for a specified period of time. In either case, the student who wishes to return must apply for readmission, and if the student is accepted, he/she may return with either full or curtailed privileges, as delineated by the Judicial Affairs Committee.
4. *Expulsion* - Expulsion is the removal of a student from the College based on a violation of the College's Student Judicial Code, whereby for a set period of time the student loses the right to re-enroll, participate in college activities, and to be present on College premises for any reason without prior contact with Campus Police. Expulsion may include the revocation of any or all academic credits earned at the College.

The following procedures apply in regard to judicial expulsion.

- a. A judicial expulsion can only be imposed through the student judicial process.

- b. After the judicial expulsion has been imposed for seven (7) years or after the duration of the expulsion period if less than seven (7) years, the expulsion may be removed contingent upon a satisfactory review of the student's status relative to the violation after the set time period.
- c. The judicial expulsion removal review process requires a review of the student's status relative to the violation for which the expulsion was imposed. Upon the student's request for the judicial expulsion to be removed, an ad hoc committee appointed by the Director of Student Life or designee reviews the issues related to the violation to determine if the student has made progress to satisfactorily address the issues causing the expulsion.
- d. The committee makes a recommendation to the Director of Student Life or designee, who in turn makes a recommendation regarding the student's status to the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs.
- e. The final determination regarding removal of the student's judicial expulsion is made by the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs.
- f. If the determination is made to remove the student's judicial expulsion, the Director of Student Life or designee requests the Office of the Registrar in writing to lift the judicial expulsion hold off of the student's record.
- g. Depending on the nature of the violation related to the student's judicial expulsion, the student may or may not have some behavioral restrictions and/or learning outcome requirements set forth in order for the student to re-enroll or participate in college activities. Such restrictions and/or requirements are determined by the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs for a set period of time, as applicable.

I. **Records**

1. An electronic record maintained in the College's secure electronic database will be created once an Incident Referral Form is submitted to the Office of Student Life. If the accused was not found to have violated the Code of Conduct, a record of the complaint will be maintained but will not be made available for disclosure. Files are maintained in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).
2. Disciplinary sanctions and outcomes are not reported on a student's official academic transcript; however, if another institution requests a disciplinary record on a student, that record will be reported to the requesting institution. Additionally, all institutions within the Louisiana Community and Technical College System have access to the specific sanction with regard to Disciplinary Suspension, Expulsion, or specific requests by the Office of Student Life made regarding the student.
3. A record of the proceedings that led to a student's sanction will be kept in the College's secure electronic database for seven (7) years from the date in which the record was initiated, with the exception of Expulsion in which case the information is kept permanently.

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Attachments:

[Incident Referral Form](#)

[Disciplinary Appeal Form](#)

Reference:

Delgado Policy and Procedures Memorandum [Student Judicial Code](#)

Delgado Policy and Procedures Memorandum [Student Grievance Procedures](#)

[Delgado Classroom Disruption Procedures](#)

[LCTCS Policy #2.004, Student Conduct and Appeal Procedures](#)

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