

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FOR RESPONDENTS



What is a respondent?

A respondent is someone who has been accused of misconduct.

What are my rights during an investigation?

During an investigation, both parties have equal rights, including:

- receiving a written notice of the allegations
- having the opportunity to participate in the investigation, including presenting evidence and identifying witnesses
- receiving timely and equal access to information gathered
- receiving timely notice of meetings and hearings
- receiving written notice of the outcome
- having the opportunity to appeal the outcome

Am I innocent until proven guilty?

The decision to open an investigation does not presume that the alleged conduct occurred and you are presumed not responsible, unless and until there is a finding that it is more likely than not you engaged in misconduct.

Can someone come with me to the Civil Rights & Title IX Office?

Yes! You can always have an advisor of choice with you during any meeting. The advisor can be any person - a friend, family member, or even an attorney.

How can the Civil Rights & Title IX Office help me?

The Civil Rights & Title IX Office is here to answer any questions you have about the process and to assist with any supportive measures you may need (including academic flexibility requests or requesting a housing assignment change).



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Who will know that I've been accused of misconduct?

Your parents/guardians and professors will not be notified or receive communication from the Civil Rights & Title IX Office. The Civil Rights & Title IX Office will only share information about you on a need-to-know basis or with your permission. This could include:

- Working with REHS to facilitate a housing assignment change.
- Working with the Dean of Students Office on academic flexibility.

Why is there a notation on my transcript?

When an investigation begins, the College notates respondents' transcripts with "Administrative Matter Pending." The notation will be removed after the investigation is complete. If a student is suspended or expelled at the conclusion of the investigation, the suspension or expulsion will be permanently recorded on their transcript.

What happens if I am found responsible for the misconduct?

If you are found responsible for one or more policy violation, you will receive a sanction. A trained review panel of three staff and/or faculty will meet to determine an appropriate sanction. Available sanctions include, but are not limited to: educational initiatives, warning, censure, disciplinary probation, restitution, removal from campus housing, suspension, expulsion, revocation of admission and/or degree, withholding degree.

Is this a criminal investigation/is law enforcement involved?

Investigations through the Civil Rights & Title IX Office are administrative investigations and are not criminal investigations. If the other party has also reported the incident to law enforcement, a criminal investigation and a College investigation may occur concurrently.

