



VANDERBILT

2012/2013 Student Handbook

Policies & Regulations in
Co-Curricular Matters

www.vanderbilt.edu/student_handbook



Front Cover:

Mark di Suvero
Tumbleweed
painted steel

Photo by F. Clark Williams, jr.
Office of the Dean of Students

Table of Contents

2	The Vanderbilt Community Creed
3	Introduction
5	Students at Vanderbilt: A Statement of Principles (from the Faculty Manual)
9	Chapter 1 University Policies and Regulations
27	Chapter 2 The Honor System
37	Chapter 3 Student Conduct
49	Chapter 4 Residential Life
57	Chapter 5 Student Involvement
69	Chapter 6 Alcohol and Controlled Substances
81	Chapter 7 Sexual Misconduct

The Vanderbilt Community Creed

The Community Creed is a student-initiated statement of the values to which the Vanderbilt community aspires. Individuals who join this community embark on a lifelong journey toward greater intellectual enlightenment and personal growth. By fostering the Creed's principles, we preserve the University's enduring tradition of excellence, united by a common set of values.

SCHOLARSHIP is the pursuit of knowledge in an environment of academic freedom. Members of our community engage in a partnership of learning in which the exploration of ideas is encouraged and protected.

HONESTY is a commitment to refrain from lying, cheating, and stealing. Recognizing that dishonesty undermines community trust, stifles the spirit of scholarship, and threatens a safe environment, we expect ourselves to be truthful in academic endeavors, in relationships with others, and in pursuit of personal development.

CIVILITY is the genuine respect for the rights of others. We value constructive disagreement and are mindful of the potential impact of our words and actions.

ACCOUNTABILITY is taking responsibility for our actions and their consequences. We accept the duty to actively participate in the decisions that affect our academic and personal lives, and we honor our commitments to ourselves and to others.

CARING is the concern for the well-being and dignity of others. We are dedicated to supporting one another within our community. We make a lifelong commitment to channeling service, knowledge, and experience toward the betterment of humanity.

DISCOVERY is the exploration of the wonders of self in relation to a larger world. We embrace the opportunity to take risks, challenge assumptions, and understand disparate experiences at Vanderbilt and beyond.

CELEBRATION is the active appreciation of Vanderbilt University's tradition of excellence. We support the endeavors and recognize the achievements of our community members. In celebrating the expressions of our differences, we delight in the spirit that unites individuals throughout our community.

We pledge to foster the values set forth in the Vanderbilt Community Creed and confront behavior that may weaken the spirit of our community.

Introduction

Vanderbilt's mission includes educating its students in all respects: intellectually, socially, ethically, spiritually, and emotionally. This mission is evident in much that we do and in our strategic vision that builds on Vanderbilt's unique strengths. The University's residential community of students, faculty, and staff is one that educates the whole person. Its commitment to a diverse, civil, collegial, small-class environment demonstrates that at Vanderbilt, faculty, students, and staff work as intellectual partners, and that mentoring and support always accompany academic engagement. We succeed only if our University is engaged in all elements of the development of the human potential in each of us.

What students may expect of Vanderbilt is articulated in the University's mission statement, in the catalogues of the colleges and schools, in Equal Opportunity statement, and in the Statement of Principles found in the Faculty Manual.

What students may expect of each other, and the principles that form the basis of what the University expects of students, are articulated in the Community Creed, Vanderbilt's social honor code. The Student Handbook is designed to acquaint students with the specifics of the standards expected of them as members of University community. The policies and regulations delineated in the handbook apply to all students enrolled at Vanderbilt.

Note:

The University makes the handbook available to students via the World Wide Web (http://www.vanderbilt.edu/student_handbook). It is the student's responsibility to become aware of its contents. Ignorance of a policy or regulation will not be considered an excuse for failure to observe it.

Members of the University enjoy the rights and privileges associated with their status and are bound by the laws of the surrounding community. Student status does not protect a Vanderbilt student from arrest or prosecution for violation of local, state, or federal laws. A student who violates certain regulations can be held accountable by the public courts as well as by the University. A student's standing before the courts in and of itself, however, does not necessarily affect his or her standing within the University at any time.

The information provided, and the regulations and policies articulated in The Student Handbook are not intended to be all-inclusive and do not constitute a contract. The University reserves the right at any time to add to, modify, or revoke any of its regulations and policies, including those in the handbook, without notice.

Students at Vanderbilt: A Statement of Principles (from the Faculty Manual)

The community of Vanderbilt University is united by the goals of inquiry and education. Faculty, administration, and students are partners in an enterprise aimed at the enhancement of knowledge and the growth of the individual. All members of this community have both rights and responsibilities and are expected to observe rules required to maintain the humane order of the University. Each member must respect the rights of others and make responsible contributions to the common life.

The University, in turn, dedicates itself to the support and encouragement of a collegial community. Its dealings with students will be governed, within the limits of its resources, by the principles articulated below. It will take special care that its rules and regulations, through which these principles are implemented, shall adequately reflect and be in accordance with them.

Open Communication

The University is committed to the promotion of collegial relationships among students, faculty, and administration through the creation and maintenance of open channels of communication. The University will publish and disseminate in a timely manner its policies, procedures, and regulations concerning students, including those stating academic requirements and standards of student conduct, as well as any other information that is deemed to be important for the protection of all members of the University community.

Open Inquiry

The University is committed to providing opportunities for the free and open exchange of ideas both inside and outside the classroom. It will safeguard the undisturbed, orderly expression of diverse views and opinions as well as the opportunity for their careful examination.

Governance

The University is committed to the consideration of views expressed by students on matters of student concern, both in support of existing policies and proposals for change. It encourages student involvement in governance at the department, school, college, and University levels. To facilitate that involvement, the University will maintain appropriate processes within which students can communicate their views by formal and informal means, and can, directly or through their representatives, actively contribute to decisions affecting the University community. All involved are expected to participate in these processes in a responsible and thoughtful manner.

Academic Offerings

The University is committed to the provision of resources of high quality for aiding students in the pursuit of their academic and intellectual development, including both varied and complementary curricular offerings, a qualified faculty, and accessible, well-equipped facilities.

Formal Instruction

The University is committed to the pursuit of excellence in the education of its students, whether in the classroom, in the laboratory, or in practical experience. It will strive to create the opportunity for open inquiry, discussion, and challenge of ideas, and to assure students reasonable access to the faculty for continuation of this process outside of class meetings. Instructors will ensure that the objectives of their courses, their expectations for performance, and their methods of evaluation are explained to students. Academic evaluation will be based on fair and relevant standards. Students will be given an opportunity to evaluate the performance of the faculty as teachers and to have those evaluations considered.

Academic Integrity

The University is committed to academic honesty and to the effective and just implementation of a system designed to preserve and protect it.

Counseling

The University is committed to making support and guidance available for its students as they make academic, career, and personal choices and seek to understand themselves and those with whom they live and work.

Fair Procedures

The University is committed to providing students with the opportunity to present complaints about the action of any member of the University community. It will provide fair and appropriate procedures, including the opportunity for appeal, for addressing and resolving complaints. These procedures will be administered in a nonadversarial spirit of openness, fairness, cooperation, and mutual respect among the participants.

Extracurricular Activities

The University is committed to the support and stimulation of the learning experience beyond the boundaries of formal

instruction. It will provide opportunities through special personnel, facilities, programs, and services for students to associate with one another on an informal basis for participation in nonacademic activities, including the opportunity to form and join campus organizations.

Privacy

The University is committed to the protection of its members from unreasonable intrusions into their individual privacy. It will also provide considerate, and where appropriate, confidential management of their academic, health, disciplinary, financial, and personal records.

Health and Safety

The University is committed to the physical and mental well-being of its members. Accordingly, it will strive to provide a secure campus, safe facilities, and responsible regulations designed to protect the health and safety of all.

Nondiscrimination

The University is committed not to discriminate on the basis of unlawful criteria in its policies, practices, programs, and activities.

Civility

A goal of Vanderbilt University is to foster an open and diverse society where the rights of all members of the community are respected. The free expression of views in orderly ways is encouraged, but personal vilification of individuals has no place at Vanderbilt. Discouragement of personal vilification includes education and assistance in understanding the differing cultures represented at Vanderbilt, peer disapproval of inconsiderate behavior, and provisions of the Student Handbook regulating abusive or harassing conduct.

University Policies and Regulations

http://www.vanderbilt.edu/student_handbook/university-policies-and-regulations

Address and Name Change / Alcohol / Athletics, Student / Complaint and Grievance Procedures in Co-Curricular Matters / Computer Privileges and Responsibilities / Conduct / Copyright Infringement / Dining / Billing & Refunds / Email Address / Equal Opportunity / Fees, Co-Curricular / Financial Aid, Student / Financial Responsibility / Identification Card / (University) Logos and Word Marks, Use of by Registered Student Organizations / Mail Services / Missing Student / Nonacademic Undergraduate Class Designation / Parking and Transportation / Police Department, University / Political Activity / Refunds of Tuition and Residence Hall Charges / Religious Holy Days & Practices / Residential Requirement / Same Sex Domestic Partner Policy / Sexual Misconduct / Smoke-Free Campus / Solicitation / Student Health Center and Other Medical Services / Student Records (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act) / Study Abroad / Technology and Literary and Artistic Works / Universal Waiver / University Calendar / Vanderbilt Visions

When communities come together for a purpose, they generally establish guidelines and procedures for furthering that purpose. The policies and regulations, articulated below, have been developed over time to serve the Vanderbilt community as it pursues its academic endeavors of teaching and learning. Some of the policies, such as the residential requirement, have been established to strengthen and complement the educational experience. Others, such as fees and dining plans, have been established to provide financial viability to programs and services that students desire or require. Still others, such as those dealing with addresses, enable effective communication. A number delineate procedures for students to follow when addressing issues.

Taken in their entirety, they may seem a bit overwhelming. However, they have served well both the institution and individual students. Trying to function without them would prove very challenging, if not chaotic.

Address and Name Change

Students are required to inform the registrars of their schools or the University Registrar of any changes in their University or home addresses. Official notifications from the University will be sent to the address listed with the Office of the University Registrar. Student addresses and phone numbers may be updated by logging in to YES (Your Enrollment Services) <https://yes.vanderbilt.edu> and selecting the Address Change link.

Students who wish to change any part of their names as they appear in the Student Records System must petition the University Registrar's Office and provide official

documentation supporting the requested change. Name changes will be considered only if a student is currently enrolled. More information on name changes may be found at <http://registrar.vanderbilt.edu/academic-records/name-update/>.

Alcohol: See Chapter 6

Athletics, Student

Vanderbilt University competes in varsity athletics at the highest level sanctioned by the NCAA (Division I) within the nationally competitive Southeastern Conference (SEC). Vanderbilt supports sixteen intercollegiate sports programs: football, baseball, men's basketball, women's basketball, women's bowling (independent of conference affiliation), men's cross country, women's cross country, men's golf, women's golf, women's lacrosse (in the American Lacrosse Conference), women's soccer, women's swimming and diving, men's tennis, women's tennis, and women's indoor and outdoor track and field.

During the 2010/2011 academic year, over 330 student-athletes competed in varsity athletics at Vanderbilt. Further information regarding Student Athletics can be found at <http://www.vucommadores.com> or by calling 615 32(2-4727).

A wide range of intramural and club-sport opportunities are available through the Office of Campus Recreation www.vanderbilt.edu/CampusRecreation or 615-34(3-6627).

Complaint and Grievance Procedures in Co-Curricular Matters

Situations may arise in which a student believes that he or she has not received fair treatment by a representative of the University or has a complaint about the performance, action, or inaction of a member of the staff or faculty, affecting the student. A student who wishes to have a complaint addressed by the University should first use the Complaint Procedure, below, and then use the Grievance Procedure if the Complaint Procedure proves unsatisfactory. Students are encouraged to seek assistance from the office of the appropriate academic dean in cases involving classes, grades, or faculty members; and the Office of the Dean of Students for other matters; or, in regard to complaints of unlawful or prohibited discrimination, the Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action, and Disabilities Services Department. Decisions of the Appellate Review

Board, and decisions of appellate officers for cases of sexual misconduct, are not subject to the Complaint and Grievance Procedure.

Allegations of Discrimination, Harassment and Related Retaliation

The University generally prohibits discrimination or harassment (including sexual harassment) based on race, sex, religion, color, national or ethnic origin, age, disability, military service, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression. (For a full discussion of what constitutes unlawful or prohibited discrimination, see the section on "Equal Opportunity," below.) In addition, the University does not retaliate against individuals for filing or encouraging another to file a complaint of unlawful or prohibited discrimination, participating in an investigation of unlawful or prohibited discrimination, or opposing unlawful or prohibited discrimination. "Retaliation" includes any adverse action or act of revenge against an individual for filing or encouraging another to file a complaint of unlawful or prohibited discrimination, participating in an investigation of unlawful or prohibited discrimination, or opposing unlawful or prohibited discrimination. If a student believes that he or she has been discriminated against, harassed, or retaliated against, the student should report the matter to the Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action, and Disabilities Services Department (EAD). The EAD will seek to assist the student with the resolution of the complaint as described below in the Complaint Procedure.

Complaint Procedure

A complaint should be directed as soon as possible to the person or persons whose actions or inactions have given rise to the complaint, but not later than six months after the event. Every effort should be made to resolve the problem fairly and promptly (usually within thirty [30] days, at this level.

If the complaint involves allegations of sexual harassment, this step is not appropriate. (See Chapter 7, "Sexual Misconduct." In addition, in a complaint alleging prohibited discrimination, as noted above, the Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action, and Disabilities Services Department (EAD) should be consulted as soon as possible. The EAD will conduct an investigation of the allegations (usually within ninety [90] business days), will issue a finding to the appropriate University official, and will seek to resolve the matter. If the EAD is unable to complete the investigation within this time period, then the EAD will contact the complainant and provide an estimated time frame for completing the investigation.

If the student is not able to resolve the complaint satisfactorily at this level, he or she may appeal the decision within thirty (30) days through the appropriate administrative channels of the academic or administrative unit, or through the Provost or appropriate vice chancellor. Students uncertain about the proper channels or process are encouraged to seek advice from the Office of the Dean of Students. If the student is not satisfied with a resolution proposed by the EAD, then the student may pursue the Grievance Procedure, below.

Grievance Procedure

A student who believes that he or she has not received fair treatment, or who has a complaint about the performance, action, or inaction of a member of the faculty or staff, and believes that he or she has not received appropriate redress through the Complaint Procedure in the preceding section within a reasonable period of time, including for complaints of prohibited discrimination investigated by the Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action, and Disabilities Services Department (EAD), may file a written grievance with the Office of the Chancellor within thirty (30) days. Upon ascertaining that the complaint procedure has been exhausted, the Chancellor's office shall refer the grievance to the Faculty Senate Committee on Student Affairs, usually within thirty (30) days during the academic year. For this purpose, the membership of the committee shall be augmented by three student members appointed by the Chancellor at the beginning of each academic year. The undergraduate Vanderbilt Student Government will nominate students for the one undergraduate position, and student governing bodies of the professional/graduate schools will nominate students for the other two student positions on a rotating basis.

Upon receiving the grievance referral from the Office of the Chancellor, the Student Affairs Committee shall inform, in writing, both parties to the grievance that a preliminary investigation will take place. The preliminary investigation will usually be completed within thirty (30) days. After the preliminary investigation, if the committee decides that the grievance is not frivolous, the committee shall follow procedures necessary to ensure a fair hearing of the matter, including the opportunity for the student to present relevant evidence, to challenge adverse evidence, and to have the complaint heard by an impartial committee. Committee members may recuse themselves if they believe their objectivity is subject to question, and the grievant may request any committee member recuse himself or herself if the grievant believes that a committee member will not view the grievance with sufficient objectivity. If vacancies occur, the chair of the Faculty Senate shall appoint Senate members to fill faculty vacancies and the Chancellor shall appoint students to fill student vacancies.

The student filing the grievance may be assisted during the hearing by a member of the University community (faculty, staff, or student) not trained in the law, and is encouraged to seek such assistance. Although all parties to the grievance are free to consult with, and receive advice from, attorneys concerning the grievance, no party shall be represented by an attorney at the hearing. For hearings or complaints of prohibited discrimination, a representative from the EAD shall be present in an advisory capacity. The committee may call upon any individuals who it believes may be helpful in resolving the grievance.

The grievant and the person or persons against whom the grievance was filed shall be present during the hearing until such time as the committee is ready to begin deliberations. The student may withdraw the grievance, with the consent of the other party, at any time prior to the decision of the committee.

After each case the committee shall write its report. The report should be completed within three weeks and shall

include a statement of the committee's findings, the basis for those findings, and, if necessary, recommendations for any corrective action that should be taken. If any disciplinary action is anticipated, the appropriate University disciplinary procedures shall be followed. The report, including the vote and any dissenting statements, shall be sent to the Chancellor within one week after completion. Except as disclosures are reasonably necessary in the investigation, hearing, and final disposition of a grievance, the grievant, members of the hearing bodies, and others having knowledge of a grievance are expected to preserve the confidentiality of the grievance.

The Chancellor shall communicate his decision to the committee. In any case in which the Chancellor does not follow the decision or the recommendation of the committee, the Chancellor shall report to the committee his or her reasons for so doing. The Office of the Chancellor shall then notify the student and the other affected persons, in writing, of the final decision, usually within thirty (30) days of receipt of the Committee's report, during the academic year.

State Postsecondary Review Entity (SPRE) Grievance Procedure

Students should be aware that, should they have complaints about their academic program or their financial aid, Vanderbilt has a complaint procedure. To the extent possible, students should seek a resolution of such matters through the institution's complaint procedure before involving others. Should the institution not be able to resolve the problem, the student should call the State Postsecondary Review Program office at the Tennessee Higher Education Commission at 615-532-8276.

Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC)

Allegations regarding noncompliance with accreditation standards, policies, and procedures may be made to SACSCOC, 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, GA 30033-4097. (To access the Commission's complaint policy, procedures, and the Complaint Form, please see www.sacscoc.org/pdf/081705/complaintpolicy.pdf)

Computer Privileges and Responsibilities

<http://www.vanderbilt.edu/info/computing-aup/>

I. Introduction

The mission of Vanderbilt University is to be a center of scholarly research, informed and creative teaching, and service to the community and society at large. The university upholds the highest standards and is a leader in the quest for new knowledge through scholarship, dissemination of knowledge through teaching and outreach, and creative experimentation of ideas and concepts. In pursuit of these goals, Vanderbilt values most highly intellectual freedom that supports open inquiry, and equality, compassion, and excellence in all endeavors.

To achieve its mission, the university applies substantial

financial and personnel assets toward operating a reliable, available, and secure network-computing infrastructure. The mass adoption of digital technologies in the everyday lives of members of our community requires that Vanderbilt establish clear policies that guide how community members may use the university's information technology resources. This Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) communicates the respective policies associated with our role in the Vanderbilt community as students, faculty, staff or other authorized users.

The guiding purpose of the AUP is to ensure that the university's information technology resources are used to promote the core mission of Vanderbilt in education, research and scholarship, patient care, and service, either directly or through the various administrative entities and services that enable Vanderbilt's core mission. To that end, the policy has the following goals:

- A. First and foremost, that information technology resources are used for their intended purposes
- B. That the use of information technology resources is consistent with the principles and values that govern use of other university facilities and services; and
- C. That the integrity, reliability, availability and performance of information technology resources are protected

II. Scope

This policy applies to all Vanderbilt University students, faculty and staff and to all others granted use of Vanderbilt's information technology (IT) resources whether individually controlled or shared, stand-alone or networked. It applies to all computer and communication facilities owned, leased, operated, or contracted for by Vanderbilt University. Information technology resources include but are not limited to Vanderbilt's Internet 1, Internet 2, private networks, telephone, fax, voice mail, electronic mail, instant messaging, electronic collaboration, content management, or other applications that attach, utilize, or otherwise interface with Vanderbilt's data and voice network computing infrastructure. Electronic communications include but are not limited to any information—data, text, graphics, audio, video, or other artifact—that can be sent or received via an electronic system or manipulated or transferred via the network computing infrastructure or an attached device or peripheral.

III. Policies

A. PRIVACY, INTEGRITY AND OPERATIONAL SECURITY

The privacy of all users and the integrity and operational security of Vanderbilt's information technology system must be respected by all. Vanderbilt's IT resources must not be used by anyone to gain or attempt to gain unauthorized access to private information, even if that information is not securely protected or is otherwise available. The fact that an individual account and its data may be unprotected does not confer either an ethical or legal right to access it.

1. Investigations of misuse, unauthorized use, or illegal activity, compliance with federal, state or local laws or regulations, as well as routine or emergency maintenance of the IT system, may require observation of electronic information by appropriate and authorized university officials, employees, or their authorized agents. Such activities are not in violation of this principle so long as these activities are conducted by authorized individuals on behalf of Vanderbilt University and are governed by professional IT forensic protocols. Vanderbilt uses automated systems to monitor data transmissions entering and leaving the Vanderbilt networks to detect the presence of viruses, malicious software, or privileged information.
2. Unauthorized access to private information constitutes a violation of this policy, and may result in disciplinary actions under the Faculty Manual, Student Handbook, HR policies, or other applicable policy statements. Violation of this principle may also constitute a violation of state or federal law.

B. USE

Use of Vanderbilt's network computing and electronic communications infrastructure comes with certain responsibilities and obligations.

1. **Unlawful Use**
Tennessee and federal laws provide for civil and criminal penalties for violations of the law of systems use. Examples of unlawful actions include, but are not limited to, defamatory remarks, destruction of Vanderbilt University data or equipment, unauthorized copying of copyrighted material and the transportation of obscene materials across state lines. Any use of Vanderbilt network computing assets by anyone in the organization that violates state, federal, or local laws is prohibited.
2. **Violation of Institutional Policies**
Vanderbilt University's academic departments, clinical operations, and administrative areas maintain policies that govern and inform our day-to-day lives in the conduct of our Vanderbilt experience. Any use of Vanderbilt network computing assets that violates applicable institutional policies is prohibited.
3. **Violation of Student Honor and Conduct Codes**
Vanderbilt University maintains high standards for its students and various codes and policies govern and inform a student's day-to-day life in the conduct of his or her Vanderbilt experience. Students are prohibited from using the Vanderbilt network computing assets for activities that violate the conduct code, the honor code, or other policies and regulations delineated by The Student Handbook.

C. FIDUCIARY RESPONSIBILITIES

1. **Vanderbilt Community Members**
Members of the Vanderbilt community possess a great personal responsibility to themselves and to other community members to utilize technology while maintaining their fiduciary responsibilities. These responsibilities include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Being responsible for the security of one's personal information
 - b. Protecting personal and private information of others
 - c. Taking care to minimize risks of various undesirable events, such as disclosure of sensitive personal information, identify theft, and even threats to personal safety when using Vanderbilt information technology assets.
2. **Information Technology Professionals**
Vanderbilt IT personnel are granted elevated or privileged access to Vanderbilt University's information and information systems. This privileged access places the Vanderbilt IT professional in a higher level of trust. To maintain this level of trust, Vanderbilt IT professionals must develop, maintain, and continually enhance their skills and abilities on behalf of those they serve. IT professionals employed by Vanderbilt University must strive to be trusted and highly skilled custodians through:
 - a. Preserving confidentiality
 - b. Protecting data and information integrity
 - c. Establishing and maintaining availability of information systems
 - d. Educating those around them about IT and social risks related to information systems
 - e. Enhancing and maintaining technical skills
 - f. Demonstrating an understanding of the areas they serve

D. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

At the heart of any academic or research endeavor resides the concept of intellectual property. All copyrighted information (text, images, icons, programs, video, audio, etc.) retrieved from computer or network resources must be used in compliance with applicable copyright and other law. Copied material must be properly attributed. Plagiarism of digital information is subject to the same sanctions as apply to plagiarism in any other media. Acquiring or sharing copyrighted materials without obtaining the appropriate licenses or permissions may be unlawful.

E. PUBLICATION OR DISTRIBUTION OF UNAUTHORIZED RECORDINGS, PHOTOS, IMAGES, TEXT OR VIDEO

With the availability of low cost cameras, smart phones, and consumer electronics, it is possible for someone to acquire voice, video images, still images, multimedia, or text in non-public situations without the knowledge or consent of all parties. Vanderbilt

network computing assets must not be used by anyone in the organization to publish or distribute this type of material without the expressed consent of all involved parties.

F. RIGHT TO COPY AND INSPECT FOR LEGAL AND UNIVERSITY PROCESS

Vanderbilt University is committed to protecting the privacy of faculty, students, staff, patients, and other users of its IT resources, and their electronic communications. However, because Vanderbilt operates subject to compliance with various federal and state laws and regulations and must be able to enforce its own policies, Vanderbilt must occasionally inspect, preserve and produce records to fulfill legal obligations and to carry out internal investigations. Vanderbilt University reserves the right to obtain copy and convey to outside persons any records or electronic transactions completed using Vanderbilt University information systems in the event it is required by law or institutional policy to do so. Vanderbilt University may also in its reasonable discretion, when circumstances require, obtain and review any records relevant to an internal investigation concerning compliance with Vanderbilt University rules or policies applicable to students, faculty, staff, or to all others granted use of Vanderbilt's information technology resources. Users therefore should not expect that records created, stored or communicated with Vanderbilt information technology or in the conduct of Vanderbilt's business will necessarily be private. Vanderbilt University reserves its right to any work product generated in the conduct of its business.

G. LOCALLY SPECIFIC POLICIES

Individual units within the University may create additional policies for information resources under their control. These policies may include additional detail, guidelines and further restrictions but must be consistent with principles stated in this policy document. Individual units adopting more specific policies are responsible for establishing, publicizing and enforcing such policies, as well as any rules governing the authorized and appropriate use of equipment for which those units are responsible.

IV. Disclosures

- A. All members of the Vanderbilt University community are given notice of this policy by virtue of its publication and are subject to it on the same basis. Ignorance of this policy does not relieve any user of his or her responsibilities under the policy. All users are expected to familiarize themselves with the contents of this policy and act in conformance with these principles regarding any use of the University's IT resources.
- B. Due to the rapid nature of change in both information technologies and their applications, the University may amend this policy whenever deemed necessary or appropriate. Users are encouraged to periodically

review this policy in order to understand their rights and responsibilities under it.

Conduct: See Chapter 3

Copyright Infringement

Vanderbilt responds to allegations of copyright infringement in digital and online media in accordance with procedures required by the Digital Millennium Copyright Act. Vanderbilt policy prohibits violations of copyright law by use of University networks, equipment, and facilities. Suspected student offenders are referred to the Office of Student Conduct, which investigates, and where appropriate, applies disciplinary sanctions consistent with University policies and regulations.

The unauthorized copying, performance, or distribution of materials protected by copyright law may subject individuals to civil and criminal penalties. The distribution of material through peer-to-peer file-sharing networks may constitute copyright infringement if undertaken without authorization of the copyright owner.

Civil penalties for copyright infringement include fines of up to \$30,000 per work infringed, or, in the case of willful infringement, \$150,000 per work infringed. Criminal penalties for copyright infringement can be more severe and range, in the case of fines, from \$5,000 to \$250,000 per work infringed, and can include imprisonment of up to five years per offense depending on the facts of the case. Infringers may also be liable for attorney's fees and court costs.

Dining

First-year students living on campus are required to participate in the First-Year Meal Plan. Second-year students living on campus are required to participate in the fourteen-meal-per-week plan. Third-year students living on campus are required to participate in the eight-meal-per-week plan. All plans include Flex Meals and Meal Money, both of which may be replenished once depleted. Other undergraduates may purchase the 19-, 14- or 8-meal-per week plans at the MEALS website, <https://meals.vanderbilt.edu/meals>. Graduate and professional students may purchase Flex Meals on line at <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/commodorecard/students.html>. Detailed information on Vanderbilt Campus Dining and meal plans may be found at <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/dining>.

Billing and Refunds

All billing on the student's account is handled through the Office of Student Accounts. Prorated refunds may be made in some cases of prolonged illness or withdrawal from the University, upon the recommendation of the student's dean.

Additional information may be found at the Vanderbilt Card Office Website (<http://www.vanderbilt.edu/commodorecard/>).

Email Address

Certain federal statutes require that information be delivered to each student. Vanderbilt delivers much of this information via email. Official electronic notifications, including those required by statutes, those required by University policy, and instructions from University officials, will be sent to students' Vanderbilt email addresses: user.name@vanderbilt.edu. Students are required to be familiar with the contents of official University notifications, and to respond to instructions and other official correspondence requiring a response.

The University makes every effort to avoid inundating students with nonessential email (often called "spam"), and maintains separate lists from which students may unsubscribe for announcements of general interest.

Equal Opportunity

In compliance with federal law, including the provisions of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendment of 1972, Sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, the ADA Amendments Act of 2008, Executive Order 11246, the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act, as amended, and the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008ⁱ, Vanderbilt University does not discriminate against individuals on the basis of their race, sex, religion, color, national or ethnic origin, age, disability, military service, or genetic information in its administration of educational policies, programs, or activities; admissions policies; scholarship and loan programs; athletic or other University-administered programs; or employment. In addition, the University does not discriminate against individuals on the basis of their sexual orientationⁱⁱ, gender identityⁱⁱⁱ, or gender expression^{iv}, consistent with the University's nondiscrimination policy.

- i The Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008 (GINA) prohibits discrimination in health coverage and in employment based on genetic information.
- ii Sexual orientation refers to a person's self-identification as heterosexual, homosexual, bisexual, asexual, pansexual, or uncertain.
- iii Gender identity is generally defined as a person's own sense of identification as male, female, both, or neither as distinguished from actual biological sex, i.e. it is one's psychological sense of self.
- iv Gender expression is everything we do that communicates our sense of identification to others.

Vanderbilt Campus Disability Access

Vanderbilt University is committed to equal access for people with disabilities. In compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), Vanderbilt does not exclude otherwise qualified persons with disabilities, solely by reason of the disability, from participating in University programs and activities, nor are persons with disabilities

denied the benefits of these programs or subjected to discrimination.

The Disability Services Program, which is part of Vanderbilt's Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action, and Disability Services Department, provides reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities, which allow for equal access to education. Accommodations are available for Vanderbilt University students who have temporary or permanent disabilities and are based on the documented needs of each individual. To request reasonable accommodations, students are to contact the Disability Services Program to schedule an intake meeting with the appropriate staff person. Intake meetings are provided on an individual basis to help students orient themselves with the EAD's processes and services. It is the individual student's responsibility to request accommodations and provide sufficient and appropriate documentation. Students are encouraged to contact the EAD's Disability Services Program prior to or upon enrollment at Vanderbilt University.

For further information about services for students with disabilities, write or call the EAD Disability Services Program, PMB 401809, 2301 Vanderbilt Place, Nashville, TN 37240-1809; telephone 615-32(2-4705) V/TDD. (See EAD, below)

The Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action, and Disability Services Department (EAD)

The EAD serves as a resource in the following capacities:

- to assist in keeping the administration informed of the University's obligations under state and federal equal opportunity laws;
- to coordinate and monitor the University's Affirmative Action Program in compliance with equal opportunity laws;
- to serve as a source of information for faculty, staff, and students who may have questions or complaints pertaining to equal opportunity in employment practices, University-sponsored programs and activities, and educational opportunities;
- to provide training to the Vanderbilt community on issues of equal opportunity and affirmative action; and
- to coordinate services for persons with disabilities.

Several federal and state laws impose special obligations on the University. Some include:

- The Equal Pay Act of 1963
- Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended
- Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972
- Executive Order 11246, as amended
- The Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, as amended
- The Rehabilitation Act of 1973
- The Vietnam Era Veterans Readjustment Act of 1974
- The Age Discrimination Act of 1975
- Tennessee Fair Human Rights Act
- Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA)
- ADA Amendment Act of 2008 (ADAAA)

Of these laws, Title VI, Title IX, Section 504 of the

Rehabilitation Act, the ADA and the ADAAA protect students from discrimination in educational and recreational programs and activities sponsored by the University. Discrimination is prohibited by Title VI on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin and by Title IX on the basis of sex, which includes sexual harassment. Students with disabilities are protected by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, the ADA and the ADAAA. The EAD is the office responsible for coordinating services for students with disabilities. (See also “Vanderbilt Campus Disability Access,” above.)

Students who believe that they have been subjected to discrimination or harassment may call the EAD staff for additional information (including information on the student grievance procedure). For more information, visit the EAD Web site (<http://www.vanderbilt.edu/ead/>).

Fees, Co-Curricular

All registered students are assessed mandatory activity and recreation fees, which are set by the Vanderbilt Board of Trust and billed through the Office of Student Accounts.

Activity and Recreation fees appear as a combined charge on University statements: Act/Rec Fees.

Student Act/Rec Fees for 2012-2013 are as follows:

	Fall 12	Spring 13	AY 12/13	Summer 13
Undergraduate	\$515	\$515	\$1030	\$73
Graduate	\$202	\$202	\$404	\$73
Professional	\$202	\$202	\$404	\$73

Fees and policies are carefully set each year by committees comprising students, faculty and staff to provide the best possible services to the widest possible range of students.

Student Activities Fee

The Activities Fee supports student co-curricular interests and events and assists the Graduate Student Council. Portions of the fee are allocated to Vanderbilt Student Communications, Inc., and its divisions; programs of the Office of the Dean of Students; Student Athletics; and a variety of registered student organizations.

For the academic year 2012/2013, each undergraduate is assessed \$267 each semester for activities fees. Graduate students and students in professional programs pay an activities fee of \$75 each semester of the academic year.

Students enrolled for a summer term are assessed a fee of \$12 to support summer programs.

Activities fee for undergraduates covers:

- Issues The Vanderbilt Review, and other VSC, Inc., publications (excluding the Vanderbilt Hustler, which receives no activities fees)
- Admission to Office of the Dean of Students

programs, at special student rates, and use of Sarratt facilities

- Admission on a seat-available basis to home football, baseball, and basketball games and to other varsity athletic events

Activities fee for graduate and professional students covers:

- Admission to all programs sponsored by Office of the Dean of Students, at special student rates, and use of Sarratt facilities
- A copy of all issues of The Vanderbilt Review

In addition, graduate students support the Graduate Student Council through the Activities Fee.

Graduate and professional students may have their identification cards validated for admission to home football and basketball games, on a seat-available basis, upon payment of an extra fee to Vanderbilt Student Athletics, equal to the amount paid for this privilege by undergraduates. Spouses and University certified domestic partners of full-time graduate and professional students may have their cards validated in this manner as well. Other activities included in the undergraduate activities fee are available to graduate and professional students on a single-admission or subscription basis only.

Activities Fee Committee.

The Student Activities Fee Committee is a representative student group, appointed by Vanderbilt Student Government (VSG), through an application process. On an annual basis, the AcFee Committee makes recommendations to the Dean of Students for allocation of a portion of the funds collected as student activities fees, to registered student organizations.

Student Recreation Fee

The Student Recreation Fee supports Vanderbilt’s recreational programs administered through the Office of Campus Recreation (OCR). Funds are also allocated for the operation of the Student Recreation Center and the University’s recreational playing fields.

For all students, use of facilities and participation in recreational programs or classes is on a space-available basis and subject to requirements, including operating hours, set by the OCR. Special student charges are assessed for some classes and activities, as well as for use of certain equipment.

Recreation Fee for Undergraduates

Each undergraduate student is assessed \$248 each semester of the academic year and \$61 during the summer. The fee covers:

- use of Student Recreation Center facilities and the recreation fields
- participation in intramural, sport club, and wellness programs
- enrollment and participation in outdoor recreational activities
- participation in recreational classes and workshops.

Recreation Fee for Graduate and Professional Students

Each graduate and professional student is assessed \$127 each semester of the academic year and \$61 during the summer. Payment of the summer fee entitles graduate and professional students to the same privileges provided undergraduates.

The academic year fee covers:

- half use of Student Recreation Center facilities (i.e., graduate and professional students may enter the rec center half the number of days available to undergraduates in a given semester, without incurring additional charges. Full access may be arranged for an additional fee of \$145)
- use of the recreation fields
- participation in intramural, sport club, and wellness programs
- enrollment and participation in outdoor recreational activities
- participation in recreational classes and workshops.

Recreational Activities for Spouses and Partners

Spouses and University-certified domestic partners of undergraduate, graduate, and professional students may use the Student Recreation Center for a fee and participate in recreational classes, workshops, and outdoor programs. In order to use the facility, a spouse or University-certified domestic partner must obtain a Student Family identification card from the Vanderbilt Card Office in Sarratt Student Center. Students should accompany their spouses and eligible partners to the Card Office. Spouses and University-certified domestic partners of medical students should obtain their cards from the Medical Center Card Office, D-2107 Medical Center North. Spouses and partners may inquire at the main desk of the Student Recreation Center concerning registration and payment of fees after a University I.D. card has been obtained.

Waiver of Student Fees

The Student Activities and Recreation fees are mandatory fees set by the Vanderbilt Board of Trust. Waivers of these fees for fall or spring semesters may be granted for students meeting at least one of two criteria:

1. a part-time student registered for four or fewer credit hours (including audit credit) or
2. a full- or part-time student residing outside a circle of approximately sixty miles from the Vanderbilt campus, as determined by ZIP codes. (Note that it is the student's responsibility to notify the University Registrar's office of an address change in a timely manner.)

Graduate students carrying thesis or dissertation hours are considered full-time students and are not eligible for a waiver based on part-time status. Students living outside the "sixty-mile radius" from Vanderbilt who desire to obtain a waiver for distance, must petition the Student Fees Waiver Committee in writing to receive consideration for a waiver of these fees. An online waiver form is available at www.vanderbilt.edu/recadmin. The Student Fees Waiver Committee will review each request, and **petitioners must apply each semester**. It is the University's policy that there

are **no waivers** of the summer activity and recreation fees.

All students eligible for a waiver of student fees must petition for a waiver by August 15th for the fall semester and by January 3rd for the spring semester. A late charge of \$10 will be assessed to eligible students who apply after this deadline. No waivers will be granted if forms are received after the last day of classes in a given semester. No waivers will be granted for prior semesters. No waivers will be granted to students who are also part-time or full-time staff having access to other facilities, unless they meet the criteria for a waiver. For questions or clarifications of these fees, please call the Office of Recreation Administration at 615 32(2-3963) or email waiverscommittee@vanderbilt.edu. A waiver request form can be obtained online (see Web address, above), or by writing to Student Fees Waiver Committee, PMB 406206, 2301 Vanderbilt Place, Nashville, Tennessee 37235-6206. Waiver request forms must be completed **each semester**.

In some rare cases, waivers may be granted if exceptional circumstances apply. Exceptional circumstances **do not** include a student's lack of time or inclination to make use of facilities, services, or programs, or a student's financial circumstances. The Student Fees Waiver Committee reviews each request, and **petitioners must apply each semester**.

Students requesting an exceptional circumstance waiver based on a medical condition must have their physicians submit documentation to the Medical Director of Student Health, Vanderbilt University, Zerfoss Building MCN, Nashville, TN, 37232-8710 by mail, fax 615-34(3-0047) or by email to studenthealth@vanderbilt.edu. The Medical director evaluates submitted documentation and makes recommendations to the Student Fees Waiver Committee.

Financial Aid, Student

The Office of Student Financial Aid and Undergraduate Scholarships counsels students and parents concerning need-based financial assistance (institutional, state, and federal) available to Vanderbilt students. Eligibility for need-based assistance is determined through a need-analysis process using the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and the College Board PROFILE. Upon the student's completion of all required financial aid application materials, The Office of Student Financial Aid and Undergraduate Scholarships will provide information regarding a student's eligibility and finalize assistance for the student. Grants, scholarships, and student employment are available for eligible students. Students and/or parents may also be eligible for loans. More information is available at the Office of Student Financial Aid and Undergraduate Scholarships Website (<http://www.vanderbilt.edu/financialaid/>).

Financial Aid, Student

The Office of Student Financial Aid and Undergraduate Scholarships counsels students and parents concerning need-based financial assistance (institutional, state, and federal) available to Vanderbilt students. Eligibility for

need-based assistance is determined through a need-analysis process using the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and the College Board PROFILE. Upon the student's completion of all required financial aid application materials, The Office of Student Financial Aid and Undergraduate Scholarships will provide information regarding a student's eligibility and finalize assistance for the student. Grants, scholarships, and student employment are available for eligible students. Students and/or parents may also be eligible for loans. More information is available at the Office of Student Financial Aid and Undergraduate Scholarships Website (<http://www.vanderbilt.edu/financialaid/>).

Financial Responsibility

Tuition, fees, and all charges associated with the beginning of the semester are due and payable in full by the beginning of classes. The payment deadline for fall 2012 is August 15; for spring 2013, the payment deadline is January 3. A student who misses the payment deadline for either semester will be charged a 1.5% late payment fee and may have his or her registration cancelled. In addition, OASIS (On-line Access Student Information System), Commodore Cash debit spending, and V-Net (long distance telephone) access may be prohibited. Payment options may be found at www.vanderbilt.edu/stuaccts.

All first-year and new transfer students must complete a Student Account Agreement form prior to August 1, 2012. Forms are available in the Office of Student Accounts or online at <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/stuaccts>.

Students and their parents (or legal guardians) will be responsible for payment of all costs, including reasonable attorney fees and collection agency fees, incurred by the University in collecting moneys owed to the University. Students are bound by laws of Tennessee governing bad checks.

Identification Card

The Commodore Card is the official identification card for the University. All students, whether full- or part-time, are required to have a valid identification card for any semester in which they are registered. The card is the property of the University, and if a student withdraws, it must be relinquished to the office of the dean of the school in which the student is enrolled. The Commodore Card is not transferable, and altering cards is prohibited. Damaged cards should be replaced at the Commodore Card Office. If misused, cards may be invalidated for specific activities such as varsity athletic events or Recreation Center access. In addition to using the Commodore Card for identification, students may use their cards to access Commodore Cash debit spending funds, to make use of their VU Meal Plan, and to gain admission to campus buildings such as residences, academic buildings, libraries, athletic events and the Student Recreation Center.

Many on-campus and off-campus locations accept the Commodore Card as a method of payment, including dining locations, the Vanderbilt bookstore, Varsity Markets, vending, laundry, taxi service, certain VUprint stations and copy machines, Sarratt Ticket Office, the campus post office, Athletics concessions, Outdoor Recreation Center and restaurants participating in the Taste of Nashville program. For information on funding your Commodore Cash debit spending account, visit www.vanderbilt.edu/commodorecard

To ensure that Commodore Cash debit spending funds and access privileges can be protected, students must report lost cards as soon as possible either to the Commodore Card Office during business hours or online at <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/commodorecard>. Lost cards may also be reported to the Vanderbilt Police Department at 615-32(2-2745).

The University reserves the option of suspending Commodore Card debit privileges, in whole or in part, of any individual for any reason. In the event that debit privileges are entirely suspended, any funds remaining in a the Commodore Cash debit spending account will be returned to the individual's student account, or otherwise returned if the individual has no student account.

The Commodore Card is nontransferable and restricted to use by the person whose picture is on the card. Cardholders may not lend their cards to anyone or ask anyone to purchase items for them with their cards. Violation of this policy may result in confiscation of the card and in disciplinary action. Commodore Card account information will be released only to the cardholder or to the guarantor of the student account, who has been identified as such by the student on documents filed with the Office of Student Accounts.

Family Identification Card

Upon payment of a \$10 fee, the spouse or University-certified domestic partner of a full-time student (undergraduate, graduate, or professional) may obtain a family identification card from the Commodore Card Office by presenting proof of marriage (or University certification of domestic partner status). The student spouse or partner must accompany the individual applying for the card and each must show current photo identification. When properly validated upon payment of the appropriate fees, a family card will admit the family member to home football, basketball, and baseball games (on a seat-available basis), competitions in other sports, libraries, or the Student Recreation Center (if a membership is purchased).

(University) Logos and Word Marks, Use of by Student Organizations

All logos, seals, names, symbols, and slogans associated with, and used by, Vanderbilt University are trademarks and are the exclusive property of the University. Reproduction and use of these marks must be approved by the Office of Trademark Licensing. Such reproduction

includes all products (e.g., T-shirts, mugs, etc.) that are used for sale or promotional giveaways to other students. Students may call the Trademark Licensing Office at 615-34(3-7292) or visit the Web site at <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/licensing> for more information. Note that use of such marks for letterhead, business cards, etc., is overseen by Creative Services, <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/publicaffairs/cs/graphicstandards/>.

Mail Services

Undergraduate students living on campus are eligible for post office boxes, free of charge.

Nonresident undergraduates and postbaccalaureate students may obtain a box at the Peabody Mail Center, for which they will be charged a box-rental fee. (See "Mail Box Fees," below.)

Undergraduates typically retain their campus post office boxes for the duration of their undergraduate studies at Vanderbilt (up to four years). However, students who leave the University for any reason (other than unexpected medical reasons) may not receive their mail through campus mail boxes and should submit a change of address card to the post office manager or by completing the online form found at www.vanderbilt.edu/mailexpress. Students may be assigned new mailboxes upon their return to the University.

Mailing Instructions and Shipping:

University policy prohibits residential staff from accepting package deliveries due to the lack of storage space and concerns regarding liability. For these reasons, students must make arrangements with their shippers to hold trunks and boxes until the students are able to pick them up at the terminal, or to make arrangements to have the shippers deliver the trunks and boxes to students in their residences after the students have checked into them. Residents must make arrangements to meet shippers who are delivering trunks and boxes.

First-class mail is posted immediately to student boxes, daily, by 10am. Boxes, packages, and mail requiring signatures are inventoried when they arrive at Station B (located in Rand Hall) or the Mail Center at Peabody in the Commons Center. Email package notification is sent to the student's Vanderbilt email address indicating a package ready for pickup. Students may claim parcels or priority mailings at the package window where their respective mailboxes are located (Rand or the Commons Center).

Students must present valid student ID (Commodore Card) in order to pick up their packages. Students may use any shipping carrier, and should insure all packages up to the value of the contents. Students should number the packages when sending more than one. Example: 1 of 4, 2 of 4, etc. First-year students should consult the Mail Services Website at www.vanderbilt.edu/mailexpress for specific move-in instructions.

Packages will be held for ten days, then a second-notice will be emailed. Packages will be held five additional days, and if unclaimed returned to the sender. Refrigerated

items will be held no longer than five business days, and if unclaimed returned to the sender without further notice.

For more information call the Station B Post Office at 615-32(2-2934). Students who need assistance on how to ship items from Vanderbilt should visit Station B or the Peabody Mail Center. Students with disabilities who need assistance with packages may inquire at either location.

Mail Box Fees

Undergraduates who choose to study abroad or who have authorization to reside off campus, will be charged \$20 for a mail box on a per-semester basis (spring and fall). Students who do not want to incur these charges must complete the following procedure:

- Visit the Station B Post Office and request that the mailbox be closed.
- Complete a mail-forwarding card with a valid U.S address of where you would like your mail forwarded.
- The request must be completed by no later than the tenth day of classes of any new semester. Charges will not be removed after this deadline.

Failure to follow this procedure will result in a charge being assessed for the mailbox.

Graduate and professional students who wish to have a mailbox on campus may rent a mailbox at the Peabody location, only. A request must be made in person at the Station B Post Office. The mail box rental of \$20 is on a per-semester basis, and may be paid by cash or check, only.

Internal Mail / Campus Mail

Students, registered student organizations, and departments may use the internal campus mail service without paying postage. Items to be distributed through the campus mail or placed in the campus post office boxes must have 4 straight sides and be no smaller than a post card (3 ½ x 5 ½ inches) and no larger than a 9 by 12 inch envelope. Each item must be properly addressed and must include a return address. Authorization for the limited distribution of unaddressed mail may be granted for the activities or governmental and other organizations that have a broad public purpose, provided the exception is not simply for the purpose of advertising an event or party. Authorization may be obtained for such things as public opinion polls and orientation activities. Groups seeking such authorization should apply five days in advance to the manager of the Station B Post Office. Additional information may be found on the Mail Services Website at www.vanderbilt.edu/mailexpress or by calling 615-32(2-2924).

Candidates for student offices will not be granted authorization to distribute un-addressed mail.

Food stuffs may not be delivered through campus mail unless adequately packaged in an envelope or box.

Mailings of more than 25 pieces must be arranged in PMB box-number order. All campus mailings of 250 pieces or more should be in Station B one week before the expected distribution date to ensure timely delivery.

Greeting cards for holidays must be delivered to Station B well in advance of the holiday to ensure timely delivery.

Cash should never be sent through the United States Postal service or through campus mail. Vanderbilt Mail

Services will not be responsible for cash sent through the mail.

Missing Student Notification Policy

In compliance with the Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008, Vanderbilt University provides each student residing on campus the opportunity to designate a confidential contact to be notified by the University in the event that the University, through its established procedures, determines that a student is missing. Although not required, Vanderbilt makes the missing student notification procedure available to all students.

This confidential contact is in addition to any other emergency contact that the student may identify, although both the “confidential” contact and the “emergency” contacts may be the same person or persons. In the case of non-emancipated students under the age of eighteen, the HEOA requires that a custodial parent or guardian be notified; however, an additional, confidential contact may also be specified. Students may designate both emergency contacts and confidential contacts by logging into YES (Your Enrollment Services) at <https://yes.vanderbilt.edu>, and selecting the appropriate process.

Once the Vanderbilt Police department has determined that a student is missing, the Dean of Students or one of the Dean’s designees will notify the confidential contact within 24 hours. Vanderbilt University will also notify an appropriate external law enforcement agency and others at the University, as appropriate, about the missing student, within the same 24-hour period.

Nonacademic Undergraduate Class Designation

Determination of a student’s class for nonacademic purposes is usually based on the number of years the student has been in residence, regardless of the number of credit hours accumulated. A student in the first year of full-time study is classified as a first-year student for purposes of meal plans, parking privileges, running for campus office, etc., even if the student has achieved sophomore academic standing because of summer enrollment or advanced placement. Transfer students enrolled in an accelerated three-year graduation program are classified in consultation with the appropriate student affairs deans of their respective schools or colleges. Classification for room assignments in campus residences, is determined by the Office of Housing and Residential Education in consultation with Vanderbilt Student Government.

Parking and Transportation

Motor vehicles operated on campus by Vanderbilt University faculty, staff, and students must be registered annually with the Office of Traffic and Parking. Resident

student parking on campus is a privilege and is primarily reserved for juniors and seniors. First-year students may not register or park vehicles on campus; however, a limited number of long-term vehicle-storage spaces are available to sophomores on a first-come, first-served basis. Complete parking regulations may be found at http://www.vanderbilt.edu/traffic_parking/rules-regulations.php.

Bicycles

Sections of the Metropolitan Nashville Traffic and Parking Code dealing with bicycles apply both on and off campus. Vanderbilt policy concerning the use of bicycles on campus is as follows:

- Cyclists should exercise caution on campus roadways, which may require walking the cycle under certain circumstances.
- Cyclists on roadways must ride with traffic as close as practicable to the right-hand curb or roadway edge, except under one or more of the following circumstances:
 - when overtaking and passing a vehicle going in the same direction,
 - when preparing for a left turn, or
 - when avoiding obstacles or hazards.
- Cyclists on roadways may not ride more than two abreast, and cyclists on Vanderbilt sidewalks must ride in single file.
- Cyclists riding on sidewalks must yield to pedestrians, and must provide audible notice before passing pedestrians.
- The bicycle speed limit on campus roads is ten miles per hour.

Registering Bicycles

Registration of bicycles through Operation ID at the Vanderbilt University Police Department helps to deter theft and helps to identify the owners of bicycles that have been recovered. Bicycles may be registered online at <http://police.vanderbilt.edu>. Bicycle owners should notify Vanderbilt Police if their bicycles are stolen or if they sell their registered bicycles.

Bicycle Parking

To prevent theft, U-locks should be used to secure bicycles to racks. Bicycles may not be parked in the public areas of campus buildings. Securing bicycles to the decorative grillwork of campus buildings, to hand rails, or to any structures not designated for securing bicycles is prohibited. In certain areas, fences have been adapted for use as bike racks, where such use does not impede traffic. Bicycles may not be secured to fences adjacent to stairs or sidewalks, or within fifteen feet of a building entrance or exit.

Bicycle Accidents

Persons involved in bicycle accidents that result in personal injury should report the accidents to the Vanderbilt University Police Department.

Golf Carts

Golf carts are prohibited on campus, except when used by those departments (Alumni Events, e.g.) that must

use such carts in the undertaking of their responsibilities during special events. Rare exceptions may be made by the Dean of Students or the dean's designee in consultation with the Director of the Student Health Center and Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action, and Disability Services, for students whose mobility impairment cannot be accommodated by any other device. Golf carts may not be operated on Metro streets and must yield to pedestrians on sidewalks.

Police Department, Vanderbilt University

<http://police.vanderbilt.edu>

As one of Tennessee's larger law enforcement agencies, the Vanderbilt University Police Department provides comprehensive law enforcement and security services to all components of the University including the academic campus, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, and a variety of University-owned facilities throughout Davidson County. Both non-commissioned and commissioned officers staff the department.

Commissioned officers are empowered to make arrests as "Special Police Officers," through the authority of the Chief of Police of the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County. Vanderbilt officers with Special Police Commissions have the same authority as that of a municipal law enforcement officer while on property owned by Vanderbilt, on adjacent public streets and sidewalks, and in nearby neighborhoods.

When a Vanderbilt student is involved in an off-campus offense, Vanderbilt police officers may assist with the investigation in cooperation with local, state, or federal law enforcement. Metro Nashville police routinely work and communicate with Vanderbilt officers on any serious incident occurring on campus or in the neighborhoods and business areas surrounding campus.

Although Vanderbilt University operates no off-campus housing or off-campus student organization facilities, many graduate students and some undergraduate students live in the neighborhoods surrounding the University. Metro Nashville police have primary jurisdiction in all areas off campus, but Vanderbilt police officers are often dispatched to respond to student-related incidents that occur in close proximity to campus. Vanderbilt officers have direct radio communications with the Nashville police, fire department, and ambulance services to facilitate rapid response in any emergency situation. VUPD offers a wide variety services described in detail on its website at police.vanderbilt.edu. Services include the following:

- Emergency Notification (a subscription notification service)
- Security Notices
- Educational Services (personal safety, bystander intervention, etc.)
- Emergency Phones (located across the campus)
- Lost & Found

- Operation ID [Register Your Possessions under the Students pull-down menu]
- Self Defense (RAD) for women
- VandyVans operating on designated routes from dusk to five a.m.
- Victim Services confidential support for crime victims

Political Activity

Vanderbilt encourages students to engage with public issues and in the political process to the fullest extent of their interests. However, because of its tax-exempt status, the University is subject to restrictions concerning certain political activities. In particular, the Internal Revenue Code imposes limitations on tax-exempt organizations relating to attempts to influence legislation and an absolute prohibition on participating or intervening in political campaigns on behalf of candidates for public office.

These limitations affect students and student organizations in several ways. For one, the prohibition on supporting or opposing political candidates means that student organizations must not use the benefits they receive from Vanderbilt, such as funds, space, or use of facilities, on behalf of a political candidate. If Vanderbilt space or facilities are provided to a candidate, the University must approve such use in advance as well as determine, and collect from the candidate, the fair market rate for such use, to be charged equally to any candidates, in advance of the use.

Students and student organizations are prohibited from taking any action that would imply that Vanderbilt is endorsing or opposing particular candidates or political parties or organizations. Although every member of the academic community has a right to participate (or not, as the member sees fit), in the election process, no student may speak or act in Vanderbilt's name in connection with any person's campaign for office.

Registered student organizations permitted to make use of the University's name or marks should take special care to avoid implying University endorsement or opposition of candidates. Using the University's name, facilities, or resources to support or oppose candidates for public office is prohibited.

Students who choose to run for public office while enrolled at Vanderbilt must separate their campaign activities from their association with the University. This could mean finding a location other than their campus residences, if they have any, from which to conduct campaign activities. It also means that they must refrain from using the University's communications systems, computer facilities, or mail system in the service of their campaigns.

In the interest of furthering its educational mission, Vanderbilt may allow candidates for office to speak or hold public events on campus, and if it does, then access is provided without discrimination as to viewpoint or party affiliation among candidates. Students or student groups wishing the University to invite speakers who are candidates should consult the Office of Public Affairs so as to comply with this section.

Students or student organizations who wish to lobby legislative bodies for the purpose of influencing legislation should ensure either that they do not make use of any affiliation with Vanderbilt when doing so, or that they first consult the Office of Public Affairs concerning any Vanderbilt-related lobbying so that the University's legal obligations with respect to reporting lobbying expenses can be met.

Refunds of Tuition and Room Charges

University policy for the refund of tuition and room charges provides a percentage refund based on the dates of withdrawal and check-out from the residence. Students who withdraw officially or who are dismissed from the University for any reason may be entitled to a partial refund in accordance with the established schedule shown below.

Refund Schedule for Withdrawal and Residential Check-out

Fall 2012 Refund Schedule

Fall 2012 Official Withdrawal Date	% of Charges Refunded
Week 1: Aug. 22-Aug. 29	100%
Week 2: Aug. 30-Sept. 5	90%
Week 3: Sept. 6-Sept. 12	85%
Week 4: Sept. 13-Sept. 17/19	80%
Week 5: Sept. 20-Sept. 26	75%
Week 6: Sept. 27-Oct. 3	65%
Fall Break: Oct. 4-5	
Week 7: Oct. 6-Oct. 12	60%
Week 8: Oct. 13-Oct. 19	50%
Week 9: Oct. 20-Oct. 26	45%
Week 10: Oct. 27-Nov. 2	40%
No refund after November 2, 2012	

Spring 2013 Refund Schedule

Spring 2013 Official Withdrawal Date	% of Charges Refunded
Week 1: Jan. 7-Jan. 14	100%
Week 2: Jan. 15-Jan. 21	90%
Week 3: Jan. 22-Jan. 28	85%
Week 4: Jan. 29-Feb. 4	80%
Week 5: Feb. 5-Feb. 11	75%
Week 6: Feb. 12-Feb. 18	65%
Week 7: Feb. 19-Feb. 25	60%
Week 8: Feb. 26-Mar. 1	55%
Spring Break: Mar. 2-Mar. 10	
Week 9: Mar. 11-Mar. 18	50%
Week 10: Mar. 19-Mar. 25	40%
No refund after March 25, 2013	

Religious Holy Days & Practices

Vanderbilt is a private and non-sectarian University that has committed itself to helping its students acquire knowledge and standards of value, develop a sense of responsibility, explore religious concerns and issues, and develop their own sense of purpose. The University itself is diverse in its makeup and perspectives and encourages diversity in its student body.

The University, therefore, provides both directly and indirectly for the religious and moral development of its students. Programs in this area are predicated on the right of students to form and freely express their own beliefs and values. A campus where persons from diverse traditions live and work is an open forum for all perspectives. Respect for all religious faiths is essential; observances and holy days are honored; and dialogue among groups is encouraged.

Code of Behavior for Religious Groups

The element of personal development, as mentioned above has been given expression in the establishment of the Office of Religious Life (<http://www.vanderbilt.edu/religiouslife>), in the recognition of qualified affiliated religious professionals, and in the registration of student religious groups whose goals are in keeping with those of the University. The purposes of the University are harmonious with the purposes of addressing issues of religion, values, ethics, and morality of life; in helping members of the University community to articulate a personal philosophy of life, and in understanding the interactions of faith, intellectual inquiry, and social responsibility as bases for finding and affirming meaning and satisfaction in life.

Specific University goals for moral and religious development include the development of programs to help those in the University community to:

1. understand their own faiths and the faiths of others;
2. examine and affirm a personal faith or life philosophy;
3. express these faiths and philosophies through association with others, through opportunities for worship, study, and service, and by engaging Vanderbilt's religious pluralism through interfaith cooperation and dialogue;
4. examine the relation of their faith or life philosophy to current moral, ethical, and social issues and to various academic disciplines and professional and vocational fields.

These goals shall be met by the University itself in a non-sectarian manner, and the University expects all religious groups on campus to give evidence of tolerance, fairness, and respect for the religious traditions represented at the University, to respect the non-sectarian nature of the University itself, and to uphold the University's commitment to creating a diverse and pluralistic community on campus.

The University expects that all religious groups which are affiliated, recognized, or registered, respectively, will conduct their affairs so that their policies, programs,

and personal actions are in accordance with University catalogues, handbooks, and manuals, such as the Student Handbook, the Student Organizations Manual, and the Faculty Manual (<http://www.vanderbilt.edu/facman>). In particular, the University expects all religious groups to abide strictly by the policy on "Soliciting for Religious Activities," below, and, with the provision that student groups must be led by full-time Vanderbilt students. The University also expects that all such religious groups on campus will conduct their affairs in such a manner that no one will be intimidated or coerced and that participants in any group may freely express their beliefs and values. The University requires all registered student organizations to comply with its nondiscrimination policy for student organizations as outlined in the Student Handbook chapter on "Student Engagement" (http://www.vanderbilt.edu/student_handbook/student-engagement#nondiscrimination).

The University reserves the right to make other regulations as necessary, without notice, to secure maximum freedom, comfort, safety, and convenience for all. Violations of this code of behavior will be addressed through the University's student conduct system, the Office Religious Life, and/or the Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action, and Disability Services Department.

Policy Regarding Observance of Religious Holy Days

It is the policy of Vanderbilt to make every reasonable effort to allow members of the University community to observe their religious holy days without academic penalty. Absence from classes or examinations for religious reasons does not relieve students from responsibility for any part of the course work required during the period of absence. Students who expect to miss classes, examinations, or any other assignments as a consequence of their religious observance should be provided with a reasonable alternative opportunity to complete such academic responsibilities. It is the obligation of students to provide faculty with reasonable notice of the dates of religious holidays on which they will be absent, preferably at the beginning of the semester. Students who are absent on days of examinations or class assignments should be offered an opportunity to make up the work without penalty (if they have previously arranged to be absent), unless it can be demonstrated that a makeup opportunity would constitute an unreasonable burden on a member of the faculty. Should disagreement arise over what constitutes an unreasonable burden or any element of this policy, parties involved should consult the department chair, or, in schools without department chairs, the dean of the school.

A listing of religious holy days and policies may be found at The Office of Religious Life Website (www.vanderbilt.edu/religiouslife).

Residential Requirement

The residential requirement, established by the Board of Trust in 1952, states that "All unmarried undergraduate students, except those who live at home with their families

in Davidson County, must live in residence halls on campus during the academic year, May session, and summer sessions. Authorization to live elsewhere is granted at the discretion of the Director of Housing Assignments in special situations or when space is unavailable on campus." A full discussion of residence life may be found in Chapter 4 "Residential Life."

Same Sex Domestic Partner Policy

Vanderbilt University extends to the University-certified, same-sex domestic partners of students the privileges and services extended to student spouses, within the guidelines set forth below. Once signed by the Dean of Students or the dean's designee, the ID authorization document and photo identification serve to enable the named domestic partner to obtain University identification and to obtain privileges and services extended by the University to student spouses. (Note: The Card Office requires that the student partner be present when a card is issued, just as it requires that the student spouse be present when a student family card is issued to a spouse. Each must provide photo identification.)

University privileges, programs, and services extended to spouses, for which domestic partners are also eligible, may require that additional criteria be met. (For instance, a domestic partner may live in University housing only if the student partner obtains an appropriate contract for an apartment.) Restrictions or fees that apply to spouses also apply to domestic partners. The list below is not meant to be exhaustive.

- Student Activities Fee events
- Health insurance
- Housing
- Identification
- Library
- Psychological and Counseling Center
- Recreation Center

Criteria

1. Domestic partners must certify (and the University may require documentation of the fact) that they are
 - of the same sex
 - not related by blood
 - mentally competent to consent to a contract
 - neither legally married to anyone, nor engaged in a domestic partnership with a different partner
 - currently in a committed relationship of six months or more, residing in the same household, intending to reside together indefinitely.
2. In addition, domestic partners must show evidence that they are
 - Twenty one years of age (Supporting documents might include a driver's license or a birth certificate.)
 - financially interdependent, sharing joint responsibility for the household. (Supporting documents might include bank statements, utility bills, etc., with both the student's and the partner's names on them.)
3. Domestic partners must agree to marry within 180

days after their state of legal residence recognizes the marriage of same-sex couples.

4. Should the certified domestic partner relationship dissolve, the partners must file with the University a Termination Statement within 30 days. A twelve-month waiting period must elapse before a student may certify a new domestic partner.

Sexual Misconduct: See Chapter 7

Smoke-Free Campus

Vanderbilt University is a smoke-free campus. Smoking is prohibited in all buildings on campus, including University residence halls and Greek chapter houses, and on the grounds of the campus with the exception of designated outdoor smoking areas.

Locations of designated smoking areas for students, faculty, staff and campus visitors may be found on an online map at <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/info/smokingpolicy/>.

Locations of additional designated smoking areas for campus residents may be found at on the Housing and Residential Education website. Greek organizations may elect to designate outdoor smoking areas on their house grounds.

Designated smoking areas will be marked with signs and include cigarette urns for disposal.

Vanderbilt University is committed to providing a healthy, comfortable and productive environment and offers several resources for smoking cessation. http://www.vanderbilt.edu/student_health/smokingcessation

Solicitation: See “Student Engagement,” Chapter 5.

Student Health Center and Other Medical Services

The Student Health Center (SHC) is available to meet the health care needs of degree-seeking students. Services include primary health care, including specialty services such as nutrition counseling, and sports medicine. The SHC functions as the primary care provider for students and the Psychological and Counseling Center (PCC) provides mental health services for the campus community. The PCC and the SHC work closely together to provide comprehensive care for the student body. There are no office co-pays for most routine visits, and all registered students are eligible for care, regardless of insurance coverage. Except in emergencies, students should call 615-32(2-2427) for appointments to minimize waiting time and avoid missing classes.

Immunization Requirements

The State of Tennessee requires certain immunizations for all students (undergraduate, graduate, and professional) on University campuses. Therefore, Vanderbilt University will block student registration for those who are not in compliance with the requirements. In order to accommodate students who have difficulty acquiring their records or needed vaccinations, incoming students not in compliance with the state laws will be enrolled for their first semester, but if they fail to comply within two months of enrollment, registration for the second semester will not be permitted.

The requirements include:

1. Meningococcal meningitis vaccine (one injection) for all incoming students living in on-campus housing. Measles, mumps, and rubella (2 injections) for all incoming students.
2. Varicella vaccine (two injections) for all students who have not had documented chickenpox. The requirements for waivers for this vaccine are very strict, and include only certain religious or medical exemption that must be approved by the Medical Director of the Student Health Center.

Waivers for required vaccines are strictly limited, and include only certain religious or medical exemptions that must be approved by the Medical Director of the Student Health Center.

All incoming students must return a Health Questionnaire and Immunization History to the Student Health Center. All students should go to the Student Health Website (as noted below), print the Health Questionnaire and return it, as indicated, to the Student Health Center. The link to this Health Questionnaire and additional information about the immunization requirements can be found at www.vanderbilt.edu/student_health/forms. The completed forms must then be returned to the Student Health Center by July 1, 2012. All vaccines can be administered at either a private provider’s office, or at the Student Health Center.

Charges

There are no office-visit co-pays for routine visits, but for medications or supplies dispensed, students will incur small charges. There are small co-pays associated with some office procedures or specialty visits (such as wart removal and colposcopy). Medication and supplies ordered by Student Health physicians and nurse practitioners can usually be provided to students “at cost,” and almost always at a price below typical pharmacy co-pays or charges. Credit cards, cash, and the Commodore Card, or a charge to the student account may be used to pay for any charges incurred at the Student Health Center. The Student Health Center has no relationship with any insurance company and can not bill insurance for charges incurred at the Center.

Any lab tests not performed at the Student Health Center are sent to the Vanderbilt Medical Center and are typically billed to the student’s health insurance company by the Medical Center. In addition, when a student is referred to a specialist outside of the Student Health Center, charges incurred are billed to the student’s health insurance

company. Any amount remaining after health insurance has paid its share is the student's responsibility. If a student has an Emergency Department visit after-hours because of a serious illness or injury, the Medical Center will bill the student and his/her insurance company.

Confidentiality

Care provided at the Student Health Center is confidential and in compliance with the Health Insurance Portability & Accountability Act (HIPAA) regulations. It is only with explicit written consent from the student that the Health Center may communicate with Deans, parents, professors, or other health care professionals.

HIPAA does have a clause that allows notification of families in the event that the student is in an emergency or life-threatening situation.

Vanderbilt University Medical Center personnel will ask treated students in the Emergency Department about notification of staff in the Office of Housing and Residential Education and the Student Health Center. Except in cases of a life-threatening emergency, notification requires the student's permission and is strongly encouraged. This practice enables the University to provide support and assistance to students and their families.

Medical Excuse Policy

The Student Health Center does not provide "excuses" for everyday illnesses (such as colds or minor other minor illnesses) that may lead to missed classes or delay in completion of assignments. Vanderbilt University expects students to be honest with their instructors regarding their ability to complete work, and expects instructors to work with students on these issues. Student Health can provide students with cards documenting a visit to the Student Health Center, but details of minor illnesses are not routinely provided. The student's right to privacy is one of the important issues that guides this policy. In addition, since there is great variability in each student's response to minor illnesses, the Student Health Center cannot always predict which students will miss assignments or classes in response to such ailments. Honest communication between an instructor and a student can better address these situations.

In cases of more serious illness or injury, especially those that would require prolonged bed rest or hospitalization, the Student Health Center will, with the student's permission, notify the student's academic dean of the student's illness so that instructors may be formally informed of the circumstances.

Student Injury and Sickness Insurance Plan

All degree-seeking students (with the exception of those in the Division of Unclassified students) registered for four or more hours at Vanderbilt are automatically enrolled in--and will be billed for--a University-endorsed health insurance plan offered by Gallagher Koster Insurance Agency, unless they complete the online waiver process. (See below.) Information about the plan is available online at www.gallagherkoster.com/vanderbilt. In addition, an insurance representative has an office at the Student Health Center and can be reached at 615-34(3-4688).

The annual premium is in addition to tuition. Coverage for undergraduate students begins August 12 and extends through August 11 the following calendar year if the student remains in school for 31 days beginning August 11. After 31 days, the coverage remains in effect whether the student is in school or is away from the University, and there is no pro rata refund for this coverage.

The plan provides hospital, surgical, and major medical benefits. A brochure explaining the limits, exclusions, and benefits of the plan is available online at www.gallagherkoster.com/vanderbilt, at registration, in the Office of Student Accounts, or at the Student Health Center. The plan requires that the Student Health Center be the student's primary care provider in Nashville, but will provide coverage for referrals to specialists when a written referral is made by a Student Health Center provider.

Waiver of Insurance Plan

A student who does not wish to subscribe to the insurance plan offered through the University must notify the University of comparable coverage under another policy. Waiver of the student insurance plan does not affect eligibility for services at the Student Health Center. The online waiver process may be found at www.gallagherkoster.com/vanderbilt. The insurance charge will not be waived if the online process is not completed by August 1 for the fall semester, or by January 6 for students who are newly enrolled for the spring semester. The waiver process must be completed each academic year.

Family Coverage

An additional premium is charged for family insurance coverage. An eligible student who wishes to provide coverage for his or her spouse or University-certified domestic partner, and/or children, may secure an application form from the Student Health Center at the time of registration, or, may enroll online at www.gallagherkoster.com/vanderbilt.

International Student Coverage

International students are automatically enrolled in, and billed for, the Gallagher Koster plan, in compliance with federal regulations relations to J-1 visa status, which requires international students and their dependents to maintain adequate insurance coverage. Students who have adequate coverage and wish to waive the Gallagher Koster plan (and charge) may complete an on-line waiver at www.gallagherkoster.com. The deadline is September 7 for the fall semester and January 15 for new, incoming students for the spring semester. The waiver process must be completed each academic year.

For more information, visit the Student Health Center Web site (http://www.vanderbilt.edu/student_health).

Conduct Endangering Health & Safety

Students who engage in a pattern of conduct that endangers their personal health or safety, or the health and safety of others, such as abuse of alcohol or other drugs, denial of sustenance, etc., may be required to participate and make satisfactory progress in a program of medical evaluation and/or treatment, or a program of psychological evaluation

and/or treatment, if they are to remain at the University. That determination is made by a panel consisting of the Dean of Students or the dean's designee, the Director of the Student Health Center, the Director of the University Psychological and Counseling Center, and an academic dean of the school in which the student is enrolled.

Withdrawal from the University

The University reserves the right to require the withdrawal of a student whose continuation in school, in the University's judgment, is detrimental to the health or safety of the student or others. Students who withdraw, voluntarily or involuntarily, for these reasons, or for medical or mental/emotional health reasons, may be considered for readmission following a determination by the University that the condition requiring withdrawal has been corrected sufficiently to allow the student to resume successfully his or her academic career at Vanderbilt.

Student Records (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act)

Vanderbilt University is subject to the provisions of federal law known as the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (also referred to as the Buckley Amendment or FERPA). This act affords matriculated students certain rights with respect to their educational records. These rights include:

1. The right to inspect and review their education records within 45 days of the day the University receives a request for access: Students should submit to the University Registrar written requests that identify the record(s) they wish to inspect. The University Registrar will make arrangements for access and notify the student of the time and place where the records may be inspected. If the University Registrar does not maintain the records, the student will be directed to the University official to whom the request should be addressed.
2. The right to request the amendment of any part of their education records that a student believes is inaccurate or misleading. Students who wish to request an amendment to their educational record should write the University official responsible for the record, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate or misleading. If the University decides not to amend the record as requested by the student, the student will be notified of the decision and advised of his or her right to a hearing.
3. The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records to third parties, except in situations that FERPA allows disclosure without the student's consent. These exceptions include:
 - Disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A "school official" is a person employed by the University in an administrative, supervisory, academic or research,

or support-staff position (including University law enforcement personnel and health staff); contractors, consultants, and other outside service providers with whom the University has contracted; a member of the Board of Trust; or another student serving on an official University committee, such as the Honor Council, Student Conduct Council, or a grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.

- Disclosure to parents if the student is a dependent for tax purposes.
- Disclosure to appropriate individuals (e.g., parents/guardians, spouses, housing staff, health care personnel, police, etc...) where disclosure is in connection with a health or safety emergency and knowledge of such information is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other individuals.
- Disclosure to a parent or legal guardian of a student, information regarding the student's violation of any federal, state, or local law, or of any rule or policy of the institution, governing the use or possession of alcohol or a controlled substance if the University has determined that the student has committed a disciplinary violation with respect to the use or possession and the student is under the age of 21 at the time of the disclosure to the parent/guardian.

The Buckley Amendment provides the University the ability to designate certain student information as "directory information." Directory information may be made available to any person without the student's consent unless the student gives notice as provided for, below. Vanderbilt has designated the following as directory information: the student's name, addresses, telephone number, e-mail address, student ID photos, date and place of birth, major field of study, school, classification, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weights and heights of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance, degrees and awards received, the most recent previous educational agency or institution attended by the student, and other information that would not generally be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed. Any student who does not wish disclosure of directory information should notify the University Registrar in writing. No element of directory information as defined above is released for students who request nondisclosure except as required by statute. The request to withhold directory information will remain in effect as long as the student continues to be enrolled, or until the student files a written request with the University Registrar to discontinue the withholding. To continue nondisclosure of directory information after a student ceases to be enrolled, a written request for continuance must be filed with the University Registrar during the student's last term of attendance.

If a student believes the University has failed to comply with the Buckley Amendment, he or she may file a complaint using the Student Complaint and Grievance Procedures as outlined in the Student Handbook. If

dissatisfied with the outcome of this procedure, students may file a written complaint with the Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20202-8520.

Questions about the application of the provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act should be directed to the University Registrar or to the Office of General Counsel.

Vanderbilt Directory

Individual listings in the online People Finder Directory consist of the student's full name, school, academic classification, local phone number, e-mail address, local address, box number, and permanent address.

Student listings in the People Finder Directory are available to the Vanderbilt community via logon ID and e-password. Students may choose to make their online People Finder listings available to the general public (i.e., viewable by anyone with access to the Internet), to add additional contact information such as cell phone, pager, and fax numbers, to block individual directory items.

Requests to exclude listings from the online People Finder Directory can be made at any time throughout the year by logging in to People Finder at <https://phonedirectory.vanderbilt.edu> and clicking on the appropriate link.

Students may report address changes via the Web by logging in to YES (Your Enrollment Services) <https://yes.vanderbilt.edu> and clicking on the Address Change link.

Study Abroad

In general, the policies and regulations in the Student Handbook apply to students registered for Vanderbilt study-abroad programs, and some additional regulations may apply. Students on academic or disciplinary probation, or those with a financial hold, may be prohibited from participating in study-abroad programs. Specific regulations for students enrolled in study-abroad programs are available from the program directors, from the Global Education Office, or from the offices of the deans of the undergraduate colleges and schools.

The resident directors or faculty leaders of Vanderbilt study-abroad programs (Vanderbilt "Ins") are responsible for academic matters. In consultation with the Dean of Students, or the Dean's designee, they are also responsible for co-curricular and disciplinary matters, within the limits of the policies established by the University. (See "Conduct in Study-Abroad Programs," in "Chapter 3: Student Conduct," below.)

Students participating in University-approved, direct-credit programs administered by third-party providers (CET, CIEE, DIS, IFSA-Butler, or IES), or direct-enroll/exchange programs at host institutions must abide by the conduct policies and regulations set forth by the institutions, in addition to the those in the Vanderbilt Student Handbook.

Students are required to abide by the laws of the respective countries in which they reside, study, or travel, with respect to the age at which alcoholic beverages may be consumed. Otherwise, the policies with respect to alcoholic

beverages and controlled substances included in the Vanderbilt Student Handbook apply. Students are subject to disciplinary action including expulsion and referral for prosecution for violation of these policies.

Undergraduate students enrolled in a study-abroad program will be charged for only a portion of the Student Activities Fee.

Technology and Literary and Artistic Works

The rights and responsibilities of students and of the University concerning inventions, discoveries, rights in technology, and literary and artistic works, including patents, are defined in the Faculty Manual. For more information, visit Part III, section 4 of the Faculty Manual Web site (<http://www.vanderbilt.edu/facman>).

Universal Waiver

In consideration of Vanderbilt University's providing opportunities to participate in both academic and co-curricular programs and activities, students acknowledge the receipt and sufficiency of this consideration, and, by enrolling in Vanderbilt University, agree to release, relieve, discharge, and hold harmless Vanderbilt University, its officers, trustees, faculty, administrators, employees, representatives, and elected and volunteer leaders designated by Vanderbilt University, from any and all liability or claim of liability, whether for personal injury, property damage, or otherwise, arising out of, or in connection with, their voluntary participation in activities and travel associated with programs sponsored by the University or any of its departments, student groups, and other entities.

University Calendar

The official University calendar is the Academic Calendar, which can be found at <http://registrar.vanderbilt.edu/calendar>. Campus events may be found at <http://calendar.vanderbilt.edu>.

Vanderbilt Visions

Vanderbilt Visions is a one-semester, University core program that meets in The Martha Rivers Ingram Commons. Small groups led by a faculty member and an undergraduate peer mentor address through discussions and activities the social, academic, cognitive, and cultural transitions they are experiencing as first-year students at Vanderbilt University. All first-year students must observe the attendance policy of Vanderbilt Visions. Failure to do so may result in disciplinary measures.

The Honor System

http://www.vanderbilt.edu/student_handbook/the-honor-system

Introduction / Statement of the Honor Code / General Information / Honor Code Violations / The Honor Code Applied to Preparation of Papers / Tests, Examinations, and Other Exercises / The Honor Code Application to Group Work / Tips for Success / Responsibility of the Individual Student / Undergraduate Honor Council / Student Advisers / Faculty Advisers / Procedures of the Undergraduate Honor Council / Hearings / Penalties / After the Hearing / Withdrawal from the University Before Hearing

Introduction

The Vanderbilt Honor System was instituted in 1875 with the first final examinations administered by the University. Dean Madison Sarratt summarized the system as follows, "Let every individual who contemplates entering Vanderbilt University ask himself[herself] first this important question: Am I strong enough to give my word of honor and then live up to it in spite of every temptation that may arise."

The purpose of the Honor Code is to preserve and promote academic integrity. Ideally, a student's personal integrity is presumed to be sufficient assurance that in academic matters one does one's own work without unauthorized help from any other source. The Undergraduate Honor Council ("Honor Council"), is an organization of students which seeks to preserve the integrity of the Honor Code at Vanderbilt University. It aims to secure justice for any student under suspicion of dishonesty, to vindicate his or her name if innocent and, if guilty, to protect the honor and standing of the remaining students.

The Honor System is only one of the elements provided to Vanderbilt Students with which each may develop creative thinking, intellectual maturity, personal accountability, and respect for honesty, integrity, and truth. The goal of the Honor System is to have all students leave Vanderbilt not only as graduates, but also as citizens of integrity.

Statement of the Honor Code

I pledge to pursue all academic endeavors with honor and integrity. I understand the principles of the Honor System, and I promise to uphold these standards by adhering to the Honor Code in order to preserve the integrity of Vanderbilt University and its individual members.

Undergraduate Honor Pledge

The Undergraduate Honor Pledge, a short-form version of the Honor Code, to be signed on all tests, quizzes, and similar work is: "I pledge my honor that I have neither given nor received aid on this examination."

General Information

All students are required to acquaint themselves with the provisions of the Honor System through the information in this Handbook. Undergraduate students may obtain further information from the dean of each school, from the Honor Council at Vanderbilt University, PMB 351598, 2301 Vanderbilt Place, Nashville, TN 37235-1598, telephone 615 32(2-7868), from the Honor Council Web site, from the Honor Council adviser or from the Office of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity. Graduate and professional students may obtain information from the office of the dean of their respective school or college.

Undergraduate students are subject to the jurisdiction of the Undergraduate Honor Council. The policies and procedures of the undergraduate Honor System stated in this Student Handbook apply to all students enrolled in undergraduate courses of all the schools and the Division of Unclassified Studies, whether full-time or part-time, or whether regularly enrolled, transient, or cross-registered from a neighboring institution.

Graduate and professional students are subject to the jurisdiction of the student body that implements the Honor System in the graduate and professional schools: School of Graduate Studies Honor Council, Student Honor Council of the School of Medicine, Honor Council of the Law School, Divinity School Honor Council, Honor Council of the School of Nursing, Owen Graduate School of Management Honor Council, and Peabody Honor Council (for students in professional programs at Peabody College). Graduate and professional students must check with their individual schools or advisers for further regulations beyond procedures cited in this Handbook, which may affect their studies and observances of Honor Codes.

Students are responsible for obtaining from their professors an explanation of the freedom they may exercise in collaboration with other students or in use of outside sources, including:

- the student's own work prepared and submitted for another course;
- assignments that permit students to discuss the assignment or to collaborate, including during group study sessions;

- all limitations placed on take-home examinations, including use of class or outside materials or discussion with classmates;
- use of examinations or other materials from previous sections of the class; and
- use of Internet or other electronic resources, including proper attribution.

In the event that a student does not obtain a clear explanation of the application of the Honor Code from an instructor in any class, the student must assume that the Honor Council will follow the strictest interpretation of the Honor Code with respect to that class.

Cheating, plagiarizing, or otherwise falsifying results of study is prohibited. The System applies not only to examinations, but also to all work handed in (including drafts), such as papers, reports, solutions to problems, tapes, films, and computer programs, unless excepted by the instructor. The system also applies to any act that is fraudulent or intended to mislead the instructor, including falsifying records of attendance for class, for events for which attendance is required or for which class credit is given, or for internships or other work service.

Honor Code Violations

Violations of the Honor Code are cause for disciplinary actions imposed by the appropriate honor council.

Possible violations include but are not limited to the following:

- **Falsifying or cheating** on a report, paper, exercise, problem, test or examination, tape, film, or computer program submitted by a student to meet course requirements. Cheating includes the use of unauthorized aids (such as crib sheets, answer keys, discarded computer programs, the aid of another person on a take-home exam, etc.); copying from another student's work; unauthorized use of books, notes, or other outside materials during "closed book" exams; soliciting, giving, and/or receiving unauthorized aid orally or in writing; or similar action contrary to the principles of academic honesty.
- **Plagiarism** on an assigned paper, theme, report, or other material submitted to meet course requirements. Plagiarism is defined as incorporating into one's own work the work or ideas of another without properly indicating that source. A full discussion of plagiarism and proper citation is provided in the section below.
- **Failure to report** a known or suspected violation of the Code in the manner prescribed.
- **Any action designed to deceive** a member of the faculty, a staff member, or a fellow student regarding principles contained in the Honor Code, such as securing an answer to a problem for one course from a faculty member in another course when such assistance has not been authorized.

- **Any falsification of class** records or other materials submitted to demonstrate compliance with course requirements or to obtain class credit, including falsifying records of class attendance, attendance at required events or events for which credit is given, or attendance or hours spent at internships or other work service.
- **Submission of work prepared for another course** without specific prior authorization of the instructors in both courses.
- **Use of texts, papers, computer programs, or other class work prepared by commercial or noncommercial agents** and submitted as a student's own work.
- **Falsification of results** of study and research.

The Honor Code Applied to Preparation of Papers

- Papers are to express the original thoughts of the student. If a topic for a paper has been discussed fully among students prior to an assignment, then the students should consult the instructor about writing on that particular topic.
- Failure to indicate any outside source of ideas, expressions, phrases, or sentences constitutes plagiarism.
- A student may not submit papers substantially the same in content for credit in more than one course, without specific and prior permission of all instructors concerned.

Students often have trouble distinguishing between privileged information and common knowledge. An idea is often considered common knowledge if it is encountered at least three times in separate sources during one's research into a particular subject. (Reprints of one source do not constitute separate sources.)

Students should understand that sources of common knowledge can be plagiarized. Copying or close paraphrasing of the wording or presentation of a source of common knowledge constitutes plagiarism.

Students should realize that an act of plagiarism may include some degree of premeditation or may be the result of carelessness or ignorance of acceptable forms for citation. Regardless of intent or premeditation, the act is plagiarism and is a violation of the Honor Code. Students, therefore, must be conscious of their responsibilities as scholars under the Honor System, to learn to discern what is included in plagiarism as well as in other breaches of the Honor Code, and must know and practice the specifications for citations in scholarly work. The following examples illustrate the kinds of problems that can arise.

A student turned in a paper with the following paragraph:

"The characters in Othello are both allegorical and

realistic at once. Characters like Iago and Desdemona are recognizable both as persons and at the same time devils, demigods and forces in nature. It is Shakespeare's achievement as an artist that he is capable of creating visions of life as people live it at the same time that he is able to understand life in terms of social and cosmic symbols. In this paper I will discuss the allegorical elements in the play, the skeleton of ideas and actions with which the characters give meaning to the play."

The instructor gave the paper to the Honor Council, citing this paragraph as evidence of plagiarism. The instructor presented the following paragraph from Introduction to "The Tragedy of Othello" by William Shakespeare, edited by Alvin Kernan. Copyright © 1963 by Alvin Kernan.

"Here is the essence of Shakespeare's art, an ability to create immediate, full and total life as men actually live and experience it; and yet at the same time to arrange this reality so that it gives substance to and derives shape from a formal vision of all life that comprehends and reaches back from man and nature through society and history to cosmic powers that operate through all time and space. His plays are both allegorical and realistic at once; his characters both recognizable men and at the same time devils, demigods and forces in nature. I have discussed only the more allegorical elements in Othello, the skeleton of ideas and formal patterns within which the characters must necessarily be understood. But it is equally true that the exact qualities of the abstract moral value and ideas, their full reality, exist only in the characters."

The instructor delineated four examples of plagiarism:

(1) A change in wording:

STUDENT: The characters in Othello are both allegorical and realistic at once. Characters like Iago and Desdemona are recognizable both as persons and at the same time, demigods, devils and forces in nature.

KERNAN: His plays are both allegorical and realistic at once; his characters both recognizable as men and at the same time devils, demigods and forces in nature.

The instructor explained that this is plagiarism because the ideas presented in both cases are the same, with the student adding only a few of his own words to alter Kernan's original phrasing.

(2) Use of a catchy word or phrase:

STUDENT: In this paper I will discuss the allegorical elements in the play, the skeleton of ideas and actions with which the characters give meaning to the play.

KERNAN: I have discussed only the more allegorical elements in the play, the skeleton of ideas and formal patterns within which the characters must necessarily be understood.

The instructor stated that this sentence constitutes plagiarism because the student used the catchy phrase "the skeleton of ideas." Again, the student retains Kernan's phrase and his ideas, changing only some of the wording.

(3) Undocumented paraphrasing:

STUDENT: It is Shakespeare's achievement as an artist that

he is capable of creating visions of life as people live it at the same time that he is able to understand life in terms of social and cosmic symbols.

KERNAN: Here is the essence of Shakespeare's art, an ability to create immediate, full and total life as men actually live and experience it; and yet at the same time to arrange this reality so that it gives substance to and derives shape from a formal vision of all life that comprehends and reaches back from man and nature through society and history to cosmic powers that operate through all time and space.

This, the instructor said, was paraphrasing, and unless acknowledged, it is also an act of plagiarism. Students must clearly indicate each use of paraphrasing with a footnote or a reference technique suitable to the instructor.

(4) Word-for-word copying:

STUDENT: . . . are both allegorical and realistic at once . . . recognizable . . . devils, demigods and forces in nature . . . the allegorical elements in the play, the skeleton of ideas . . .

KERNAN: . . . are both allegorical and realistic at once . . . recognizable . . . devils, demigods and forces in nature . . . the allegorical elements . . . the skeleton of ideas . . .

The instructor noted that had the student put Kernan's words in quotation marks and properly footnoted them, there would have been no offense.

Plagiarism extends to preparation materials as well. For example, should the student forget to note on research cards the source of material and then fail to footnote the source when the paper or report is prepared, the student is still committing a plagiaristic act. **Not knowing how or when to footnote is not considered a sufficient excuse.**

Proper Footnoting

Students are expected to follow the general rules of footnoting for each discipline. One footnote is not sufficient if additional material from the same source is included in a student's work. Footnotes should express the extent of ideas or expressions of others that are used. All direct quotes must be in quotation marks or in block quote format. Simply providing a footnote without using quotation marks or block quote format is a violation.

Material found on Websites or other Internet sources can--and should be--cited. Students should consult a citation manual or the course instructor for the appropriate format.

For further information about footnoting, refer to A Manual for Writers by Kate L. Turabian or the MLA Style Sheet.

A general rule is: when in doubt, always footnote. The following rules outline a proper footnote form:

- Number footnotes consecutively throughout the paper in Arabic numerals.
- First references should include the following information in order given:
 1. author's name (first name or initials listed first)
 2. title of work (in italics or underlined, or in quotation marks if part of a book)
 3. name of editor or translator, if any
 4. place and date of publication

- 5. volume number, if any
- 6. page number(s)
- Subsequent references to works already cited should be abbreviated but clear.
- When it is not necessary to cite author and edition (e.g., in a discussion of an assigned text), page or line references may be incorporated within parentheses in the body of the paper. Proverbs, familiar quotations, line references for short poems or page references for standard works, such as the Bible, need not be acknowledged, unless the material cited appears only in the particular edition used.

Examples of Footnotes

A Book

1Rene Wellek and Austin Warren, *Theory of Literature* (New York: Scribner's, 1949), p. 191.

An Article

1Raymond Gram Swing, "Father Coughlin: The Wonder of Self Discovery," *The Nation*, January 2, 1935, pp. 9-11.
2Swing, p. 12.

Any student uncertain about the application of the plagiarism and citation rules should consult the instructor. A student who plagiarizes out of ignorance is still guilty of an Honor Code violation

Tests, Examinations, and Other Exercises

Students are on their honor not to ask for or give information pertaining to any portion of an examination before or after they have taken it, in such a way as to gain or give an advantage over other students.

The written pledge (see also "Undergraduate Honor Pledge," above.) signifies that the work submitted is the student's own and that it has been completed in accordance with the requirements of the course as specified by the instructor. In addition, each student and faculty member is expected to establish a clear understanding of the requirements in each course.

Any student uncertain about the application of the pledge to a particular course requirement should always consult the instructor. The Undergraduate Honor Pledge, or an abbreviation thereof, should be included in all written work completed by the student and submitted for a grade. Any work handed in for credit, however, will be considered "pledged" unless otherwise stated by the instructor.

The Honor Code Application to Group Work

- **Students are responsible for any work submitted in their name for the fulfillment of a course, program, or assignment.**
- Students should ask their instructors before collaborating on any assignment with a classmate.

- Students should ask their instructors if a tutor or other individual may help you with any assignment.
- All group members are responsible for the data and the content of labs, reports, assignments and projects.
- The guidelines for appropriate collaboration and task division pertaining to group work vary among classes and instructors. It is therefore the student's responsibility to obtain a clear understanding of appropriate collaboration from the instructor.

Tips for Success:

- **Students should read the course syllabus**, and follow all policies, guidelines, or instructions outlined therein.
- Students should make sure that they are aware of any guidelines or restrictions on specific class assignments or examinations. Students should get any instructions from the instructor if they miss a class.
- Students should ask their instructors before collaborating on any assignment with a classmate.
- Students should ask their instructors if a tutor or other individual may help with any assignment
- When unsure whether or not to cite a phrase or fact, students should cite.
- Students should ask their instructors or consult a citation manual to learn how to cite online sources.
- If an instructor tells students not to use outside sources, students should not (nor should they take the instruction as an excuse not to cite sources if they are used).
- Students should ask their instructors before sharing lab reports, results, or other data with classmates or a lab partner.
- Students should ask their instructors before reviewing tests administered for the same course in a previous semester.
- Students should not turn in an assignment from a previous course without the permission of both instructors involved.
- **Students should not assume that whatever they are doing is okay.** If they cannot say with complete certainty that any particular conduct is permissible, they need to consult the course instructor.
- If permitted by the instructor, students should check over group members' work before it is submitted; this includes labs, data, and other reports.
- Students should keep copies of original data used for group projects and assignments.
- **When in doubt, ask the instructor**

Responsibility of the Individual Student

Without the support and cooperation of the entire student

body, the Honor System will not work. Students must insist on the absolute integrity of themselves and their fellow students. It is the obligation of every student who suspects an honor violation to take action in one of the following ways, determining the choice of action by the flagrancy and/or certainty of the violation.

If a student has reason to suspect that a breach of the Honor Code has been committed, he or she must:

1. Issue a personal warning to the suspected student, or
2. Report the incident to the Honor Council at <https://publicdocs.maxient.com/incidentreport.php?VanderbiltUniv> for action by the president or
3. Inform the instructor in the course of the suspicions and identify, if possible, the person(s) suspected.

Undergraduate Honor Council

The Undergraduate Honor Council is an organization of students that seeks to preserve the integrity of the Honor Code at Vanderbilt University. It aims to secure justice for any student under suspicion of dishonesty, to vindicate his or her name if innocent, and, if guilty, to protect the honor and standing of the remaining students by his or her punishment as set forth in the bylaws.

The members of the Honor Council are selected from all classes and all undergraduate schools. Members are chosen by a system that includes a student committee and elections. All Honor Council representatives must maintain at least a C average.

The Honor Council elects its own officers during the last general body meeting of the fall semester. The officers include a president, two vice-presidents, two recording secretaries, a corresponding secretary, and a public affairs officer. The president must have served for at least one full year as a member of the Honor Council.

Summer Honor Council: Each spring the regularly selected Honor Council has the authority to transfer jurisdiction over all infractions of the Honor System during the summer session to the Summer Honor Council, which has the same authority as the regular Honor Council. The Summer Honor Council's procedures are described in Article V of the Honor Council bylaws.

Student Advisers

Student advisers are members of the Undergraduate Honor Council. An adviser is assigned to each accused student to explain the procedures of the Honor Council regarding investigations and hearings and the penalties that may be assigned.

Upon request, a list of members will be given to the accused student, and he or she may select a member of the Honor Council other than the one assigned to serve as adviser during the investigation, hearing, and appeal, if any. The accused may also select an adviser from the University community: faculty, staff, or student. However, persons with formal legal training are not eligible to serve as advisers.

An adviser may answer questions about the Honor Code or help students understand responsibilities under the Honor Code. If a student is not sure what constitutes a violation or does not understand what actions to take after witnessing a violation, an adviser may assist.

Faculty Advisers

The Provost or the Provost's designee appoints faculty advisers to the Honor Council. The chair or the Honor Council Adviser assigns one faculty adviser to attend every hearing. Faculty advisers may ask questions and participate in the discussion. In a large panel hearing, the faculty adviser does not have a vote in the outcome, but the faculty adviser does have a vote in the outcome of a small panel hearing.

Procedures of the Undergraduate Honor Council

Proceedings of the Honor Council—investigations, interviews with potential witnesses, hearings, etc.—may be recorded by the University. Recordings not authorized by the Honor Council officers investigating or hearing a case, or by the Dean of Students or the Dean's designee, are prohibited.

Investigation

- When an alleged violation of the Honor Code is reported to the administrative vice president of the Honor Council, he or she will immediately appoint one or two investigators.
- The investigators shall interview, without undue delay, the accuser, and later, persons other than the accused who might have been a part of, or witness to, the alleged violation. They will collect all available physical evidence. Having assembled their findings, they will prepare a statement of the charge against the accused.
- The statement includes, in addition to the specific charge, an explanation of the possible consequences if the accused student is found guilty of a breach of the Vanderbilt Honor Code. This statement must be prepared in duplicate, one for the accused and one for the Honor Council's files.
- The investigators shall meet with the accused, explain that they are there on Honor Council business, present him or her with the written statement of charges, and give the accused a copy of the Honor System procedures set forth in the Student Handbook. The accused is required to respond to the investigators' inquiries within a reasonable period of time, and the Honor Council may send a notice to the Registrar's office to enter an Incomplete on the accused's transcript, along with the notation "Honor

Council investigation pending,” if the accused is not compliant or if the investigation or hearing will continue past the end of the semester. The accused will be informed at the meeting with the investigator of all the available evidence in the case and of the procedures that will be followed.

- The investigators will ask the accused to sign the Statement of Charges indicating that he or she understands the charge, possible penalties if found guilty, and the procedures to be followed. Signing the Statement of Charges does not imply or acknowledge guilt.
- The investigators will ask the accused to explain his or her own account of the events surrounding the alleged violation. The accused may choose not to make any statement at the time of the first meeting, but rather to defer making any statement until an agreed upon time prior to the hearing.
- The investigators will inform the accused of his or her right to obtain material witnesses. The accused is required to notify the investigators of the witness(es) before the hearing has been scheduled so that the investigators may contact the witness(es) and prepare a statement for inclusion in the investigative report. No witness will be allowed to testify at the hearing unless he or she has previously given a statement to the investigators. The investigators will also inform the accused student of his or her right to obtain one character witness to testify at the hearing. The investigators will not interview the character witness and **it is the responsibility of the accused student to notify the character witness of the time and place of the hearing and to ensure his or her attendance.** In addition, the accused may have one faculty, student, or staff adviser, who may not have had formal legal training, present with him or her during the presentation of testimony, who may speak with the accused, but who may not speak directly with Honor Council members on the hearing panel. An accused may obtain professional legal representation, advice, and counsel. However, an attorney may not participate in or be present during an Honor Council interview or hearing. The Honor Council is a student tribunal untrained in the law. An attorney representing an accused may work directly with the Office of the General Counsel.
- The investigators should explain the procedures of the hearing in full detail to each witness and the accused. They should explain to the accused the importance of honesty in the proceedings and inform him or her that he or she will be called on to enter a plea of guilt or innocence. The investigators will also inform each as to the place and time of the hearing; however, **the accused student is responsible for arranging the attendance of his or her character witness.** The hearing should not be held earlier than seventy-two hours after the investigators initially have met with the accused unless an earlier time is agreed to by the accused.
- The investigators are to arrange any details necessary

for conducting the hearing, such as reserving rooms where the witnesses and the accused may be placed during the hearing.

- The investigators will assemble the evidence and testimony in a concise, logical report. At least twenty-four hours before the hearing, the accused student will be presented with a copy of the investigators’ report so that he or she may comment at the hearing on any corrections or clarifications the accused student feels are necessary or appropriate.
- The investigators will provide the investigative report to the president of the Honor Council, who will determine whether sufficient evidence exists to warrant a hearing by the Council. If the president determines that a hearing is necessary, he or she will also determine whether the charges will be heard by a large panel or a small panel.* **If the student pleads not guilty or if the student has a previous Honor Council conviction, a large panel hearing is required.** Guilty pleas typically will be heard by small panels, unless substantial factual issues exist or the violation is sufficiently serious that a penalty greater than one semester suspension may be appropriate. Cases involving more than one student must be heard by a large panel if one of the students involved pleads not guilty.
- Given the nature of University judicial proceedings (including, but not limited to, Conduct Council hearings and the proceedings of all University honor councils), the testimony of and information derived from experts, such as reports of handwriting experts, are not admissible and will not be considered, except in rare circumstances. In those rare cases, determinations as to the admissibility of testimony of or evidence derived from an expert will be made in the sole discretion of the Director of the Office of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity. Under no circumstances, however, will the use of polygraph examinations be permitted.

***Note:** Although a student who admits guilt during an investigation has the right to request a small panel hearing, since a decision by a small panel must be unanimous, and since the president of the Honor Council (or another member of the Executive Board) is a member of the small panel, the president may determine that a case should be referred to a full panel, rather than being heard by a small panel.

Hearings

If after an investigation, the Honor Council president determines that there is enough evidence that a violation may have been committed, then a hearing will be scheduled.

Attendance of the Hearing by the Accused Student

All students, including the accused student, are required

to cooperate with investigations and at hearings conducted by the Honor Council. In the event an accused student refuses to participate in, or cooperate with, an Honor Council investigation or hearing, the hearing may take place without the participation of the accused student. All reasonable efforts will be made to inform the accused student of the time and place of the hearing and the results of the proceeding. In addition, the accused student may inform the Council that he or she will not attend the hearing and submit a written statement regarding the charges.

Large Panel Hearing

A six-member hearing panel (consisting of a chair and five members appointed by the president) will hear the evidence in the case. A faculty adviser will also be present. (For training purposes, observers may be allowed to be present, but may not speak or take part in the proceedings.) The hearing panel conducts a pre-hearing to determine whether there is sufficient evidence to justify conducting a full hearing. The accused student will be present during the pre-hearing; the accused student and the investigators will then leave the hearing room while the panel votes on whether to proceed.

1. Presentation of investigator's report.
 - a. Investigators are sworn in by the recording secretary.
 - b. Evidence is presented: the interviews with witnesses are reported briefly and impartially; the material evidence is presented and explained without opinion.
 - c. The investigators read the statement of charges issued to the accused and any statement written by the accused.
 - d. The Honor Council may question the investigators. At no time do the investigators express their opinion(s) concerning the guilt or innocence of the accused.
2. Determination whether to proceed to hearing. By simple majority vote, the Honor Council decides whether or not there is sufficient evidence to conduct a hearing.

Hearing

1. Testimony. The accused student is allowed to be present during the presentation of all testimony. The accuser is allowed to be present during the testimony of the accused student and any material witnesses. If the accuser and witnesses are to testify in person (as opposed to through written testimony), they will appear separately and await their appearances alone. When called, each (with the exception of the character witness) is sworn in by the recording secretary.

- a. Accuser. If the accuser testifies in person, the chair will invite a general account of the events in question. Then the Honor Council may direct its questions to the accuser. The investigators may question the accuser, waiting until the Honor Council has concluded its questioning, to clarify points that may

have been obscured. In the case of the accuser's absence, the Honor Council will proceed to the testimony of the witness(es) and/or the accused student.

- b. Material Witnesses. First, the chair invites a general account of the events in question. Then the Honor Council may direct its questions to the witness. The investigators may question material witnesses, waiting until the Honor Council has concluded its questioning, to clarify points that may have been obscured.
- c. Character Witness. One character witness may answer questions concerning the background of the accused. A character witness is not allowed to testify or express an opinion concerning the alleged offense. Discretion will be exercised to avoid questions that a character witness is not allowed to answer. Generally, a character witness will be asked the following three questions:
 - "How long and in what capacity have you known the accused student?"
 - "Can you please tell the panel about a time in which you placed trust in the accused student?"
 - "In general, and without reference to this case, can you please describe the accused student's character?"
- d. Accused Student. The chair presents to the accused the charges and asks if he or she is familiar with the charges, the evidence, and the possible penalties if found guilty. The accused student enters his or her plea of guilt or innocence. The chair asks the accused to state his or her account of the events in question. At this time, discrepancies in testimony, contradictions, and specific charges are brought forth. The chair should detail the facts and charges in light of the testimony that has been introduced in support of the charges. The investigators may question the accused, waiting until the Honor Council has concluded its questioning, to clarify points that may have been obscured.

Small Panel Hearing

During the course of an investigation, an accused student who wishes to plead guilty may request a small panel hearing of his or her case. A case may proceed to a small panel hearing only if no facts surrounding the violation are in dispute and if the president determines that the likely penalty involves no more than one major semester suspension. A guilty plea does not guarantee that the case will proceed to a small panel. If there are two or more students involved in a single case, all must plead guilty and request a small panel hearing in order for one to be conducted. If one of the accused students requests a small panel hearing and others do not, a full hearing must be conducted for all the students involved. In addition, if the student has a previous Honor Council conviction, a large panel hearing is required.

If an accused student informs the investigators that he or she would prefer a small panel hearing, the investigators will inform the Honor Council president of

the accused student's request. The president will review the investigative report and determine whether a small panel hearing would be appropriate. If a small panel would be appropriate, a date, time, and location will be chosen for the hearing.

A small panel will comprise the Honor Council president or another member of the Honor Council Executive Board, one other Honor Council member, and a member of the Board of Faculty Advisers. At the hearing, the three panel members will be present, along with the investigators, the accused student, his or her adviser, and a character witness for the accused if he or she so desires.

The procedures employed during a small panel hearing will be the same as those outlined above for large panel hearings.

Penalties

When the Honor Council is satisfied that all pertinent testimony has been received, the accused student, the student adviser, and the investigators leave the hearing room so that the panel may deliberate. The panel will proceed to discuss and decide the question of guilt or innocence. The proof that a person is guilty of a charge must satisfy a "preponderance-of-the-evidence" (or, more-likely-than-not) standard. A majority of the six members of a full panel must vote "guilty" to find the accused guilty.

1. If the accused is found guilty, the Honor Council determines a fitting penalty based upon
 - (a) the flagrancy of the violation
 - (b) premeditation involved in the offense
 - (c) the truthfulness of the accused throughout the investigation and the hearing

These three factors are ranked on a scale of low, medium low, medium, medium high, or high.

2. Although the presumptive penalty for a first offense is failure in the course, potential penalties include a reprimand, recommended failure on the assignment or exam at issue, suspension for one or more semesters, and expulsion. The penalty for a second offense is suspension for not less than a semester, and may be suspension for multiple semesters or expulsion. The penalty for a third offense is expulsion.
3. A small panel may assign a penalty no greater than failure in the course and suspension for one semester. Each penalty requires a unanimous vote of the small panel.
4. If, at the discretion of the chair, mitigating circumstances exist with regard to the commission of the violation in question, then the chair may introduce those circumstances to be considered in the discussion of penalty. Such circumstances may not relate to the possible ramifications of the panel's decision.
5. Expulsion must be approved by a vote of at least five of the six panel members. (Note that for a third offense, a vote of guilty by five of the six panelists

imposes a penalty of expulsion, automatically.) All other penalties require only a simple majority vote of the six members.

6. Decision. The accused, student adviser, and investigators are brought back into the hearing room for presentation of the Honor Council's decision. After stating the decision, the chair (and others) may talk with the accused. At this time it should also be explained to the accused that he or she has the right of appeal.

After the Hearing

1. At the conclusion of the hearing, the chair will gather all the material evidence, investigative reports, notes, and other records of the investigation and hearing and place them in a file in the Office of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity
2. If the accused student is found guilty or pleads guilty, written notice of the decision is sent to the following parties: (a) the student, (b) the instructor for the course, (c) the dean of the school in which the student enrolled, (d) the registrar of the school in which the student is enrolled, (e) the University registrar and assistant registrar, and (f) other relevant University administrators when suspension or expulsion from the University is involved. A copy of the notice also is placed in the Honor Council files maintained in the Office of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity.
3. A member of the Honor Council Executive Board will then prepare a summary of the proceedings.
4. The accused student may file an appeal from a large or small panel decision with the Appellate Review Board, but must do so within ten days of the hearing date. Requests for extensions of time must be submitted to the Chair of the Appellate Review Board prior to the end of the ten-day period. The appeal petition will be sent to the Chair of the Appellate Review Board who will determine if there are sufficient grounds for an appeal based on the criteria delineated in the appeal procedures. If the Chair affirms that there is sufficient reason for an appeal, the student's petition is sent to the Honor Council president, or the officer who chaired the hearing, who will draft a response to the student's appeal upon receipt of the appeal. This response will be sent to the accused student for review and additional written comment or reply, if any. The appeal, the Honor Council response, the student's reply or additional comments, and copies of all appropriate evidence are then sent to the Appellate Review Board. (For more information on grounds for appeal and the procedures of the Appellate Review Board, see the discussion of "Appeals" in Chapter 3 of the Student Handbook.)
5. The Honor Council Adviser maintains records of Honor Council proceedings and investigations in the Office of Student Conduct and Academic

Integrity. Records of convictions and penalties will not be released outside the University absent a written release from the convicted student or unless otherwise required by law in accordance with the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). However, students should be aware that they may be required to sign such a waiver when applying to graduate or professional schools or in the course of any employment or governmental background check. If a student receives failure in the course as a sanction, the student may retake the course (in accordance with the rules of the student's school or college) and replace the failure in his or her GPA. However, the original failure will continue to appear on the student's transcript (although nothing will appear on the transcript indicating that the failure was attributable to an Honor Council conviction).

Withdrawal from the University Before Hearing

If a student who has been reported for a suspected violation of the Honor Code withdraws from the University before a hearing has been conducted, the fact will be recorded by the

Honor Council. A letter will be sent to the accused stating that he or she is suspected of an Honor Code violation, that an investigation has been or will be conducted, and that a hearing may be held.

The accused may respond in one of three ways: return to the campus for a hearing, waive the right to give testimony personally, thereby acknowledging that the hearing may proceed in his or her absence, or waive the right to appear and send a written, signed statement to be presented on his or her behalf at the hearing. Failure by the accused to respond will be considered a waiver of the right to appear.

During the time prior to the hearing, a notation will be placed on the transcript of the accused stating that an Honor Council case is pending. A letter will also be sent to the University registrar and to the registrar of the school in which the accused was enrolled indicating that an Honor Council case is pending. If the accused attempts to re-enroll before the case is heard, the registrar will notify the president of the Honor Council. The case must be resolved before the accused may re-enroll.

If a case cannot be heard before the end of the grading period, the instructor will submit a grade of "I" until the Honor Council can act on the matter. A notation will be placed on the transcript of the accused stating that an Honor Council case is pending.

Student Conduct

http://www.vanderbilt.edu/student_handbook/student-conduct

Violation of University Policy / Threat, Harassment, Stalking, Intimidation: Directives to Desist / Fireworks, Firearms, Other Weapons, and Explosives / Damage to Property / Hazing / Conduct at Athletic Events / Conduct in the Libraries / Conduct in Study-Abroad Programs / Use of University Computers and Data Networks / Use of University Telecommunications / The Student Conduct System / Jurisdiction Over Non-Vanderbilt Students / Conduct Council / Student Conduct Council and Hearing Officer Procedures / Appeals and the Appellate Review Board / Disciplinary Sanctions

Although the University values personal freedom, celebration, and recreation, the policies and regulations that apply to student conduct at Vanderbilt are also informed by principles that value the health, safety, and well-being of students and other members of the University community, as well as their academic and personal success. The University's goal in establishing conduct policies and holding students accountable for complying with them is to help students understand how their choices can affect not only their immediate neighbors, but also the University community as a whole.

When students fail to meet University standards, they ultimately risk separation from the University community. Vanderbilt's system of graduated sanctions is designed to effect students' voluntary compliance with the policies and regulations established to protect themselves, other students, and the community. Vanderbilt hopes that warnings, reprimands, and probationary periods will be sufficient to help students make better choices so that separation from the community never becomes necessary.

Violation of University Policy

Students and student organizations are expected to comply with all University rules of conduct. Standards of conduct are derived from tradition and evolve with contemporary practice. Grounds for discipline cannot always be the subject of precise statement; however, when commonly held standards of conduct are broken, disciplinary action must be taken if the University community is to be sustained.

Students are subject to disciplinary action when, individually or as members of a group, they violate University policy, rules, or regulations, including but not limited to the following:

- Obstruction or disruption of teaching, administration, University procedures and activities, or other authorized activities on University premises;
- Physical abuse of any person, including assault and other unwanted physical contact;
- Sexual misconduct (See Chapter 7, "Sexual

Misconduct," for policies and procedures governing incidents of sexual misconduct, as defined therein.);

- Conduct that may endanger the health or safety of members of the University community;
- Unauthorized entry or use of University facilities or unauthorized possession or use of University property or property of others;
- Damage to University property or property of others, including, but not limited to, vandalism (See below.);
- Disorderly conduct, lewd or lascivious conduct or expression;
- Threats of violence against another person or harassment (See also, University policy on harassment based on bias, set forth below), stalking, or intimidation that unreasonably impairs the security or privacy of another person (See below.);
- Hazing (See below.);
- Forgery, alteration, or misuse of University documents, records, or identification, furnishing false information to the University, impersonating a University official, or possession or use of any false identification or identification belonging to another person;
- The unlawful possession, use, or distribution of alcohol, controlled substances, or unlawful drug paraphernalia (including possession or use of prescription medication belonging to another person and distribution or sharing of prescription medication; see also "Alcohol and Controlled Substances" in Chapter 6 for a more detailed statement of alcohol and drug policies.);
- The operation of a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol or other drugs;
- Intoxication (See also "Alcohol and Controlled Substances" in Chapter 6 for a more detailed statement of alcohol policies.);
- Failure to comply with authorized directives of, or, furnishing false information to, University officials or representatives of student judicial bodies acting in performance of their duties;
- Violations of policies governing conduct at athletic events and in libraries and other University facilities (See below.);
- Violations of University computer or telephone system policies, and unauthorized access to private information. (See below.);
- Possession of fireworks, firearms, other weapons, or explosives (See below.).

Violations of regulations of residences, libraries, resource centers, and other areas of University life may also result in disciplinary action. For further regulations pertaining to conduct within the residence halls and houses, see Chapter 4, "Residential Life".

The officers of organizations or individual hosts are responsible for the conduct of their members and guests, and students are responsible for what occurs in their rooms or residences. These responsibilities include compliance with federal, state, and local law and University policies. Those who fail to meet these responsibilities will be subject to disciplinary action and/or referral for prosecution by government authorities.

The Dean of Students or the Dean's designee may reprimand, institute restrictions on, or withdraw registration from organizations that violate University policy and regulations, and may also impose restrictions or require conditions be met by organizations that are found to be in violation of policy.

Students are expected to observe the standards of the University during activities that occur off campus. In cases of misconduct that occur off campus in which the University determines that it has an interest, a group may be disciplined and/or lose its registration, or, an individual may be disciplined.

An appropriate hearing officer or judicial body will decide whether the University has sufficient interest in an off-campus matter to exercise its jurisdiction, and the decision may be reviewed by the Appellate Review Board. Factors in the decision may be whether Vanderbilt University property or property of members of the University community is involved; whether the parties in a dispute are members of the University community; whether the misconduct occurred at an event sponsored by a Vanderbilt group or by a University department; and whether such misconduct may affect the welfare of the University community.

Students or groups charged with violations of conduct have full right to the guarantees of fairness as described below in "The Student Conduct System."

Threat, Harassment, Stalking, or Intimidation: Directives to Desist

Vanderbilt University expects students to refrain from conduct that threatens or, through intimidation, unreasonably impairs the security or privacy of another member of the University community by any means, including through the use of electronic communications, social media, computers, or data networks. Such conduct is a violation of University policy and may result in disciplinary action.

A student who feels that she or he is the subject of such conduct may request from the Chair of the Conduct Councils or the Chair's designee, an order to the offending student to desist from the conduct in question. When a request is filed, the Chair or the Chair's designee will determine whether the alleged conduct warrants the issuance of an order prohibiting the continuation of the conduct. The student whose conduct is the subject of the request will be notified of the request and any disciplinary charges.

If the Chair determines that the conduct complained of

may constitute harassment, stalking, intimidation, or threat that unreasonably impairs the security or privacy of another member of the University community, the Chair shall issue an order prohibiting the offending student from engaging in that conduct. The Chair may also impose other appropriate restrictions. Any student against whom such an order is issued may appeal the issuance of the order in the same manner that any other action by the Chair may be appealed. Any disciplinary charges brought at the time the order is requested will be resolved in the same manner as any other violation of policy.

Violation of an order by the student who is subject to the order will result in the filing of a disciplinary charge against that student. This charge will be adjudicated according to the usual disciplinary procedures. The hearing will be conducted by the hearing authority that issued the order. If the disciplinary procedures result in a finding that the charged student is responsible for violating the order, a disciplinary sanction will be imposed. This may include suspension or expulsion.

The determination of whether an order should be issued, and any order that may be issued, shall not be considered a disciplinary proceeding or discipline for purposes of the student's record unless separate charges are brought and adjudicated. A subsequent proceeding to adjudicate a charge that the student has violated the terms of an order shall constitute a disciplinary proceeding in the ordinary sense of that term and shall become a part of the student's record to the same extent that any other disciplinary action would become part of the record.

Harassment of any individual based on sex (see Chapter 7, "Sexual Misconduct"), race, color, religion, national or ethnic origin, age, or disability is unacceptable and grounds for disciplinary action, and may constitute a violation of federal law. Equally unacceptable within the University is the harassment of any individual on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression, or harassment because one perceived another to fall within any of the previously mentioned categories. Furthermore, publicly posting lewd photos or video of another person without that person's consent is prohibited.

The policies and procedures governing cases involving sexual misconduct, including sexual harassment, may be found in Chapter 7, "Sexual Misconduct."

The Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action and Disability Services office (EAD) is available for informal consultation. Upon receipt of a written complaint, an investigation will be conducted. After evaluating the specifics of the complaint, the EAD will issue a finding to the appropriate University official and seek to resolve the matter, usually within ninety (90) work days of receipt of the written complaint.

In cases in which a student chooses not to file a formal complaint, the University may still take appropriate action being mindful of the complainant's desire for privacy. The University is committed to protecting those filing complaints from retaliation.

Other campus offices such as the Office of Housing and Residential Education, the Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center, the Office of Student Conduct and Academic

Integrity, Religious Life, and the Psychological and Counseling Center are available to provide counseling and support to students who believe they have been subjected to sexual harassment.

Fireworks, Firearms, Other Weapons, and Explosives

The use or possession of fireworks, firearms, or other weapons, explosives, or any type of ammunition on University premises is prohibited. Student use or possession of these materials is prohibited off campus, as well, when such use or possession is illegal or may endanger the health or safety of members of the University community, or the community at large.

Sports weapons must be kept in the custody of the Vanderbilt Police Department, which is open twenty-four hours a day. It is a felony in the state of Tennessee to carry a weapon on a campus for the purpose of going armed. Air rifles and "BB" guns are considered to be firearms, the use and possession of which are prohibited on campus.

The use or possession of stun guns, flying Tasers, cattle prods, liquid stun guns, or other electrical devices designed to disrupt the human neurological system for the purpose of incapacitation is prohibited.

Damage to Property

Damage, vandalism, littering, or theft of University property or property of a University community member or campus visitor by a student or student groups may result in disciplinary action as well as the responsible student(s) being held financially responsible for the cost of repair or replacement.

For example, a student may leave a window open during cold weather causing burst pipes and the flooding of student rooms and common areas. Or, a student may cause a fire triggering the building's sprinkler system causing both water and smoke damage to student rooms and common areas. In these cases, the students committing the acts may be held responsible not only for disciplinary purposes, but also for the financial losses suffered by other students and the University resulting from these events. Students may be held financially responsible for damages or losses resulting from accidents or negligence. Students who suffer losses under such circumstances must take their claims to their own homeowners or renters insurance carriers. These companies may subrogate the claims to the carrier of the responsible student's insurance.

(Note: Among the most common occurrences is water damage caused by the triggering of interior sprinklers as a result of horseplay, or hanging objects from sprinkler heads.)

Hazing

State law requires each college and university in Tennessee to adopt a policy prohibiting hazing. Hazing is defined in the law as "any intentional or reckless act in Tennessee on or off the property of any [college or university] by one (1) student acting alone or with others which is directed against any other student, that endangers the mental or physical health or safety of that student, or which induces or coerces a student to endanger his or her mental or physical health or safety. Hazing does not include customary athletic events or similar contests or competitions, and is limited to those actions taken and situations created in connection with initiation into or affiliation with any organization."

While including the statutory limitations of hazing above (i.e., student acts directed at students on or off campus), the University expands its definition of hazing to include any act that may produce, or is intended to produce, mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment, or ridicule, or any acts that are humiliating, intimidating, or demeaning, or that endangers the health and safety of another person. Such acts include—but are not limited to—paddling in any form, inducement of excessive fatigue, or physical or psychological shocks; personal servitude; implementing or participation in treasure hunts, scavenger hunts, or road trips that are not pre-approved by the appropriate University office; publicly wearing apparel which is conspicuous and not normally in good taste; engaging in public stunts, morally degrading or humiliating games and activities; drinking games, or, other organized activities, late work sessions, and other obligations which interfere with scholastic purposes of the organization; and any other activity inconsistent with the purposes of the organization's constitution, by-laws, standing rules and policies, or University policy. Students are subject to federal, state and local laws, and policies and regulations of the University.

Conduct at Athletic Events

The University prohibits the throwing of objects from the stands and abusive language or gestures at athletic events. Student spectators who throw objects at athletic events will be ejected from the contest and may be subject to further disciplinary action. Other spectators will be similarly treated by local authorities. The possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages is not permitted at athletic events.

Fan Access Policy

The Southeastern Conference Fan Access Policy states: "In all sports, access to the competition area shall be limited to participating student-athletes, coaches, officials, support personnel and properly-credentialed individuals, at all times. For the safety of participants and spectators alike, at no time before, during or after a contest shall spectators be permitted to enter the competition area." Students violating this policy are subject to disciplinary action by the University. In addition, individuals who improperly enter the competition area may be expelled from the facility, arrested for trespassing, or lose future ticket privileges.

Signs & Banners

Students may paint their faces including the common names for our team (e.g., Dores, Vandy, VU). Students and/or registered student organizations may submit banners to be displayed at the game to the appropriate Student Athletics official, prior to the game. Banners with obscene or derogatory messages will not be displayed. Efforts will be made to display all banners submitted. Students are permitted to bring hand-held signs to athletic events provided that the signs meet the following guidelines:

1. The signs must be no larger than one piece of standard-size poster board (22" x 28");
2. Signs may not display abusive or obscene words or drawings; and
3. Names of commercial products other than the official broadcast networks of the contest may not be mentioned on the sign.

Event staff has the discretionary authority to determine if a sign does not meet the guidelines. Signs that do not meet these guidelines may be confiscated at any time during the event. Students in possession of a sign that does not meet the guidelines may be ejected from the contest if they refuse to comply with the policy stated above.

Conduct in the Libraries

The Jean and Alexander Heard Library seeks to create a welcoming, comfortable, and safe environment for its users. The library is a place for learning and reflection, and the library staff supports these efforts by providing helpful, responsive, and knowledgeable service. Mutual courtesy and respect among users and staff are essential to the University's educational mission, and the role the library serves in fulfilling it. Among the library's most important goals is to create a setting where its users feel free to pursue research and study without compromising their privacy or safety. The various libraries comprising the Jean and Alexander Heard Library provide a variety of spaces for quiet study. Library users are asked to be courteous to others, and to be of the potential impact of their conversations in open areas and their use of electronic devices. All conduct should contribute to the research and scholarship of the Vanderbilt community.

More information may be found at <http://www.library.vanderbilt.edu/access/libraryuse.shtml>.

Conduct in Study-Abroad Programs

Students who participate in Vanderbilt University study-abroad programs are representatives of Vanderbilt, and their respective countries, for the duration of the specific programs in which they are enrolled, and for any period immediately before or after that may extend their respective visits abroad. Participants are expected to conduct themselves appropriately and respectfully, and to abide by the policies and regulations set forth by the University, the Global Education Office (GEO), their respective program

directors, on-site program staff, study-abroad program providers, the host foreign institutions (in the case of exchange and direct-enroll programs) and facilities in which they reside. Students are also expected to abide by the laws and customs of the countries in which they are studying or traveling. Given the nature and function of study-abroad programs, student-participant adherence to policies, procedures, and directives is crucial. The paragraphs, below, set out the student-conduct process for resolving alleged violations of program and University policies, procedures, and guidelines by Vanderbilt study-abroad participants.

Should there be an allegation of a violation of policy, resident directors or faculty leaders of Vanderbilt study-abroad programs may conduct investigations and hold administrative hearings for conduct matters that occur abroad. Resident directors and faculty leaders may consult with GEO and the Dean of Students (or the Dean's designee) throughout the process. At the discretion of the Dean of Students (or designee) and in consultation with the resident director or faculty leader, the Dean of Students (or designee) may assume jurisdiction for, and render a decision on, any cases involving students abroad. Cases involving sexual misconduct during study-abroad programs must be addressed according to the policies and procedures outlined in Chapter 7, "Sexual Misconduct."

The resident director or faculty leader will interview or receive statements from all witnesses, and will present the accused with charges, which are to include the specific regulation or policy allegedly violated. At the hearing, the accused may testify personally and present witnesses on his or her behalf. The accused may examine all evidence that may form the basis for disciplinary action.

The accused may present testimony and make arguments not only with regard to the offense, but also with regard to justification or mitigating circumstances. The accused may also speak to the question of the appropriateness of any particular sanction that he or she may incur. The decisions of the Vanderbilt resident director or faculty leader will be based on evidence presented and statements taken and will be made using a preponderance-of-the-evidence standard.

If the accused is found responsible for a violation of applicable policies or regulations, the decision will specify the violating behavior and the policy or regulation violated, and the sanction to be imposed. The decision will be delivered to the student promptly, and take effect immediately. Due to the logistical challenges presented by conducting investigations at some distance from campus, decisions made by resident directors or faculty leaders in disciplinary cases conducted for students in study-abroad programs are final.

The Office of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity holds concurrent jurisdiction and may take further action upon the student's return to the University. For non-Vanderbilt students, the student's home institution may also be notified of any disciplinary violations and action taken by Vanderbilt resident directors or faculty leaders.

Use of University Computers and Data Networks

Students, faculty, and staff are expected to comply with The Computer Privileges and Responsibilities policy (<http://www.vanderbilt.edu/info/computing-aup/>). Among other things, this policy prohibits violation of copyright laws, including illegal file sharing (also called “downloading”), the transportation of obscene materials across state lines, and unauthorized access to private information, whether obtained through direct “hacking” or by “social engineering” methods. In addition to disciplinary sanctions, computing and data network privileges may be revoked in appropriate circumstances.

Use of the University Telephone System

Students should identify themselves to the persons called on the telephone and may not use the telephone system to harass another by threats, obscenities, or repeated calls in which they fail to identify themselves. Examples of improper use of the telephone include the following: calling repeatedly and breathing or not speaking into the telephone receiver; describing sexual activity without identifying oneself; and anonymously subjecting the listener to obscene names. Harassment by telephone is a violation of state law and will subject the caller to criminal prosecution as well as discipline by the University. Students who experience such calls should report the matter to a residential staff member, and/or, to the University Police Department. Some harassment by telephone may be sexual harassment, as defined in Chapter 7, “Sexual Misconduct,” and the policies and procedures outlined in that chapter should be followed.

Unauthorized use of the University telephone system with the intent to avoid payment of long distance charges is unlawful and may result in disciplinary action. Misuse includes the unauthorized acceptance of long distance collect calls, third party calls charged against the University, and use of a long distance authorization (V-Net) number not issued to the student.

Resident students must provide their own, FCC approved, telephone instruments. Because they interfere with wireless access to data networks, 2.4 GHz cordless phones are prohibited.

The Student Conduct System

Note: General provisions of the University’s Honor System, may be found in Chapter 2, “The Honor System.” Policies and procedures governing cases involving sexual misconduct are outlined in Chapter 7, “Sexual Misconduct.”

The bodies that comprise the judicial system are the Appellate Review Board, the Conduct Council, the Chair of the Conduct Council, and the Chair’s designees, the Undergraduate Honor Council and the honor councils

of the Graduate School and the professional schools. For matters specific to their areas, delegated to them by the Conduct Council Chair, disciplinary authority may also be exercised by the Interfraternity, Panhellenic, and National Pan-Hellenic judicial boards, Vanderbilt Student Communications, Incorporated. The nature of specific areas of disciplinary authority is described in the constitutions or bylaws of each of these bodies.

The Dean of Students appoints the Chair of the Conduct Council and the Chair’s designees, and may assume the role of Chair on any and all cases that fall under the jurisdiction of the Conduct Council, or any of the bodies to which the Conduct Council chair has delegated disciplinary jurisdiction. In consultation with the Office of the General Counsel, the Dean of students may also assume jurisdiction for cases before the Conduct Council or any of the several Honor Councils.

The Dean of Students also appoints students to the Conduct Council, the Appellate Review Board (acting as the Chancellor’s designee), and—under special circumstances—to the Honor Council. Such circumstances include the Honor Council’s inability to convene a hearing panel of elected members (perhaps due to absences during the summer or extended breaks, perhaps due to disqualification of members to sit on a given panel due to excluding criteria as delineated in the constitution and by-laws of the Honor Council). Students appointed by the Dean of Students to the Honor Council serve only for the duration of the circumstances that effected their appointments. The Provost, or the Provost’s designee, appoints faculty members to serve on the Conduct Council, and to serve as advisers to the Honor Council. The Chancellor, or the Chancellor’s designee, appoints faculty members to the Appellate Review Board.

Rights of students or student groups charged with misconduct are addressed through the following judicial procedures, which are designed to provide a fair hearing and a just decision. The basic elements of the process are as follows:

- Written and timely notice of charges against students, including possible consequences
- Opportunity for students to present all relevant evidence at a hearing, to challenge adverse testimony and evidence, to speak on their own behalf, to call witnesses, and to be accompanied by a Vanderbilt student, faculty, or staff adviser of their own choosing who has not had formal legal training (except in cases involving students in the Law School)
- Decisions reached on the basis of the evidence presented, proof to the hearing panel or officer for a finding of responsibility using a “preponderance-of-the-evidence” standard, disciplinary regulations, and the character of the students.
- An unbiased appellate body to which students may appeal.

Jurisdiction Over Non-Vanderbilt Students

All persons taking courses or participating in activities of the University as students, even if not registered primarily at Vanderbilt, fall under the jurisdiction of the student conduct system. This includes those taking part-time courses of study; participants in summer programs such as PAVE, Governor's School, etc.; participants in programs of the English Language Center; transients during the summer or other sessions; and students cross-registered from a neighboring institution. Procedures for hearing charges against these students are the same as for full-time Vanderbilt students. A notification of the findings of hearings will be sent to the appropriate officer of the institution in which the students are primarily registered.

Conduct Council

The Conduct Council has original jurisdiction in all cases of nonacademic misconduct involving undergraduate, graduate and professional students. A faculty member and at least one student from each of the four undergraduate schools, the Graduate School and each of the six professional Schools (Divinity, Law, Medicine, Nursing, Owen, and Peabody) serve as the members of the Conduct Council. From these persons, the Conduct Council Chair or the Chair's designee appoints a faculty member and two students to serve on a hearing panel with the non-voting Chair (or the Chair's designee) for a given case. The Chair or the Chair's designee may hear a case in an administrative hearing, without benefit of a Council panel, at the student's option. The Chair may also assign to an administrative hearing any case where the anticipated sanction is a reprimand or lesser sanction.

In a matter deemed serious, the Chair of the Conduct Council, in consultation with, and upon the concurrence of the dean of the accused student's school, may require that the case be heard by a panel.

The policies and procedures governing cases involving sexual misconduct are outlined in Chapter 7, "Sexual Misconduct."

Procedures for the study abroad programs of the university are stated in the section on "Study Abroad Programs for Undergraduates" in Chapter 1.

Each residence hall or house is an autonomous unit of Vanderbilt Student Government, and officers of the residence enforce the regulations the unit has adopted as well as the University policies and regulations that have been delegated to it by the Conduct Council Chair. Undergraduate students who interfere with efforts of the officers to achieve an atmosphere conducive to study, rest, and appropriate recreation may be referred to the Residential Conduct System, the Conduct Council, or the Chair's designee.

In matters pertaining to general residential regulations not within the scope of residential units and set forth in this handbook in the "Residence Hall Regulations" in Chapter

4, or not delegated to residential staff or officers, a student has the option of having a case determined by the Conduct Council Chair or Chair's designee or the Conduct Council, subject to the conditions delineated above.

Student Conduct Council and Hearing Officer Procedures

The procedures provided herein are followed by each judicial body and apply to individuals and groups. An accused student or officer for a group will be informed in writing of a charge at least three days before the hearing. Either may waive the three-day waiting period and request an earlier hearing. The charge notice will include the specific regulation or policy allegedly violated.

The accused may testify personally and present witnesses on his or her behalf. The accused may examine all evidence that may form the basis for disciplinary action. The accused may present one character witness as well.

Given the nature of University judicial proceedings (including, but not limited to, Conduct Council hearings and the proceedings of all University honor councils), the testimony of, and information derived from experts, such as reports of handwriting experts, are not admissible and will not be considered, except in rare circumstances. In those rare cases, determinations as to the admissibility of testimony of or evidence derived from an expert will be made in the sole discretion of the Chair of the Conduct Council. Under no circumstances, however, will the use of polygraph examinations be permitted.

The accused may choose a Vanderbilt faculty, staff, or student adviser who is not related to the accused, and who has not had formal legal training (except in cases concerning students in the Law School), to accompany him or her during the hearing. The adviser may not address the judicial body, but may consult with the accused student during the hearing. No person who has a substantial interest in the case, or in a related case as an accused student or adviser to an accused student, may serve as an adviser. Persons not convened (e.g., the hearing panel) or summoned (e.g., the accused, the accused's adviser, witnesses, etc.), by the Conduct Council Chair are prohibited from attending a hearing, and from being present at interviews during the course of an investigation.

Persons conducting the hearing and considering statements against the accused (for example, statements in the student's file), must advise the accused of the content of the statements and give the student an opportunity to rebut inferences that might be drawn. The accused may present testimony and make arguments not only with regard to the offense but also with regard to excuse, justification, and mitigating circumstances. The accused may also speak to the question of the appropriateness of any particular sanction.

The decision of the persons hearing the case will be based on evidence presented at the hearing. Evidence acquired through unauthorized searches will not be considered. A search of a student, a student's possessions,

or a student's premises may be authorized by the Dean of Students or the dean's designee if there is reasonable cause to believe that a violation of University policy is occurring or has occurred.

If the accused is found responsible for misconduct, the decision will specify the acts of misconduct for which the accused is responsible and the sanction to be imposed. The decision will be delivered to the student promptly and, at the time of its delivery, the student will be reminded of the opportunity to appeal and of the time limits and procedures involved in an appeal.

Hearings and other meetings with hearing officers may be recorded by the University. Recordings not authorized by the Chair of the Conduct Council are prohibited. The Chair of the Conduct Councils is custodian of the records of the hearings. A written record of conclusions and sanctions assessed must always be filed in cases resulting in disciplinary action. These conclusions become a part of the record and may be examined by the accused student in the case.

Investigations and hearings are not publicized or open to the public. Hearing officers must hold in confidence, the matters related to hearings.

If a member of a judicial body has a conflict of interest, he or she is ineligible to consider a case or to hear an appeal. Individuals with a conflict of interest must declare themselves ineligible. In addition, the judicial body may, by a majority vote, declare any member ineligible for a conflict of interest.

Students may be accountable both to criminal or civil authorities as well as to the University for acts that constitute violations of law and of University policies and regulations. Those accused of violations of these policies and regulations are subject to the University disciplinary proceedings delineated in this Handbook while criminal or civil proceedings regarding the same conduct are pending. Accused students may not challenge University disciplinary proceedings on the grounds that criminal charges or civil actions regarding the same incident are pending, may be initiated, or have been terminated, dismissed, reduced, or not yet adjudicated. When appropriate, the University may refer matters to federal, state, and local authorities for prosecution.

Appeals and the Appellate Review Board

The Appellate Review Board (the "Board") is a university-wide body consisting of faculty and students appointed by the Chancellor (or the Chancellor's designee) to review appeals from decisions of administrative offices and hearing bodies that have the authority to impose sanctions upon students in academic and co-curricular disciplinary matters. The Appellate Review Board comprises two divisions: the Appellate Review Board for Academic Matters (for cases heard by Honor Councils), and the Appellate Review Board for Co-Curricular Matters (for cases heard by the Conduct Council and other offices and bodies that exercise disciplinary authority, with exceptions noted below).

Information on the policies and procedures governing appeals in cases involving sexual misconduct may be found in Chapter 7, "Sexual Misconduct."

Students, faculty members, administrative officers, or groups within the University may request the Appellate Review Board to consider a concern that the disciplinary system of the institution is not operating effectively or justly. Upon receipt of such a request for review, the appropriate Appellate Review Board Chair makes a preliminary investigation to clarify the matter, then brings the request to the attention of the appropriate Appellate Review Board, which may make recommendations for action to the appropriate authority.

The Appellate Review Board also has supervisory authority, in consultation with the University Office of General Counsel, the Dean of Students, the Office of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity, the Office of Housing and Residential Education, and other appropriate University officials, to review and propose updates of the procedures used by the persons and bodies whose determinations are subject to appeal to ensure that students are treated fairly.

Appellate Review Board for Academic Matters

The Appellate Review Board for academic matters reviews appeals from decisions of hearing bodies having the authority to impose sanctions in academic disciplinary matters.

Any Vanderbilt student, having been found guilty of a violation of the applicable honor code (the "Petitioner"), with resultant imposition of penalty by any of the following hearing bodies, may petition the Board for a review of the determination:

1. The Undergraduate Honor Council;
2. The honor council of any graduate or professional school

Appellate Review Board for Co-Curricular Matters

The Appellate Review Board for co-curricular matters reviews appeals from decisions of administrative offices and hearing bodies having the authority to impose sanctions in co-curricular disciplinary matters. (Exceptions are noted, below.) The Board may also review appeals challenging jurisdiction for charges based on incidents occurring off campus.

Any Vanderbilt student or organization, having been found responsible for a violation of University policy (the "Petitioner"), with resultant imposition of penalty by any of the administrative offices and hearing bodies, below, may petition the Board for a review of the determination.

- The Conduct Council, its chair, or the chair's designee;
- Such other bodies and administrative offices not here enumerated but which do, in fact, exercise disciplinary authority, with the exception that appeals of decisions by the Interfraternity Council, The Panhellenic Council, or the National Pan-Hellenic Council, are heard by the Dean of Students or the Dean's designee

Appeals involving cases of sexual misconduct are discussed in Chapter 7, "Sexual Misconduct," below.

Composition of the Board

The Board is composed of members appointed by the Chancellor (or the Chancellor's designee), as follows: a Chair and a Vice-Chair (who acts in the absence, disability, refusal or inability of the Chair to serve) for each division--The Appellate Review Board for Academic Matters, and the Appellate Review Board for Co-Curricular Matters--who are members of the tenured faculty; and thirty-eight general members appointed by the Chancellor (or the Chancellor's designee), who serve on both academic and co-curricular cases and who are faculty members at the rank of Assistant Professor or higher, selected from among the schools as follows: four from the College of Arts and Science, two from the Blair School of Music, two from Peabody College of Education and Human Development, two from the School of Engineering, and one each from the remaining six schools of the University. Two full-time students from each of the ten schools of the University also serve. Both faculty and students are appointed for two-year terms, which should be staggered to the extent practical, to ensure continuity.

Petition for Appeal

A petition for appeal, signed by the petitioning student or appropriate officer of a petitioning organization, must be submitted in writing, to the Appellate Review Board at either 310 Sarratt or at the following address:

Appellate Review Board
PMB 351508
2301 Vanderbilt Place
Nashville, TN 37235-1508

The appeal must be submitted no later than ten (10) calendar days following the date the student or the organization is notified of the determination of the administrative office or hearing body. Requests for extensions must be submitted prior to the expiration of the ten-day period. The petition must include the follow: a statement of the grounds for appeal, supporting explanation, and copies of, or reference to, all evidence the Petitioner asks the Board to consider. Except as explicitly provided below, no documents or other evidence may be included with an appeal unless previously submitted to the original hearing authority.

The grounds for appeal are as follows:

- Procedural irregularities sufficient to affect the determination of the original hearing authority.
- Insufficient evidence to support the determination of the original hearing authority.
- New evidence that was not reasonably available for presentation to the original hearing authority, the introduction of which could reasonably be expected to affect the determination of the original hearing authority.
- Harshness of the penalty imposed by the original hearing authority sufficient to show an abuse of discretion by that authority.

Standards of Review

The standards for review used by the Board in considering the grounds for appeal are provided, below:

"Procedural irregularities sufficient to affect the determination of the original hearing authority." Original hearing authorities are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with their policies and procedures. Deviations from those policies and procedures which render their actions fundamentally unfair constitutes a sufficient basis for an appeal to the Appellate Review Board. Procedural irregularities that are considered by the Board to be harmless and that did not, in the judgment of the Board, adversely affect the hearing, are not a basis for upsetting the determination of the original hearing authority.

"Insufficient evidence to support the decision of the original hearing authority." It is not the role of the Appellate Review Board to substitute its judgment for the judgment of the original hearing authority if there is a reasonable basis for that authority's determination. Deference must be given to the judgment of the original hearing authority, which had the opportunity to hear the witnesses and to assess their credibility and demeanor. The Board may not alter the determination of the original hearing authority unless the determination of the original hearing authority is clearly erroneous and cannot be reasonably supported by the evidence.

"New evidence that was not reasonably available for presentation to the original hearing authority, the introduction of which would reasonably be expected to affect the decision of the original hearing authority." All available evidence, including testimony of witnesses, is expected to be presented to the original hearing authority. Only on that basis can the original hearing authority render fair and reasonable decisions. A student or student organization that seeks to introduce new evidence has the burden of demonstrating that the evidence was not reasonably available at the time of the original hearing, and that the introduction of such new evidence can be reasonably expected to affect the determination of the original hearing authority. If the Appellate Review Board determines that the student or student organization has satisfied this burden, the Board remands the case to the original hearing authority with instructions to reconsider the case in light of the new evidence.

"Harshness of the penalty imposed by the original hearing authority sufficient to show an abuse of discretion by that authority." As in the case of evidence sufficient to support a determination of the original hearing authority, deference should be given by the Board to the penalties imposed by the that authority. At the same time, the Board should recognize that an original hearing authority can make errors in judgment sufficient to show an abuse of discretion. Abuse of discretion does not necessarily imply an intentional wrong or bad faith, but simply the failure to exercise reasonable judgment under the circumstances.

Consideration of Petition and Determination of Appeal

When the Chair of the appropriate Appellate Review Board (Academic or Co-Curricular) receives a petition, the Chair will instruct the original hearing authority to notify all persons who were sent formal notification of the determination of the original hearing authority that a petition for appeal has been filed and that the determination of the original hearing authority should not be implemented pending the result of the appeal. A delay in implementation,

however, does not preclude the University from taking interim actions to ensure the safety and security of the campus community.

Upon receipt of the petition, the Chair proceeds with all deliberate speed to review the petition (including all supporting evidence provided by the Petitioner) to determine whether it, when considered in the light most favorable to the Petitioner, sets forth a basis sufficient to provide the relief sought by the Petitioner. If the Chair determines that the petition does not set forth a basis sufficient to provide the relief, the Chair dismisses the petition (or such parts of the petition that the Chair has determined do not set forth a basis sufficient to provide relief). The Chair's decision is final.

If the Chair determines that the petition (or parts of it) does set forth a basis sufficient to provide the relief, the Chair forwards a copy of the petition to the original hearing authority with instructions to respond to it (or such parts of the petition that the Chair has determined set forth a basis sufficient to provide relief). The original hearing authority provide its response to the Chair within ten (10) calendar days of receiving the Chair's notification that the Board will hear the case. The original hearing authority also forwards to the Chair the entire record of the case, including, for example, test papers or other documentary evidence, summaries of witnesses testimony, and audio or video recordings of the proceedings. Upon receiving the response from the original hearing authority, the Chair sends the response to the Petitioner offering the Petitioner an opportunity to reply. Replies must be submitted within five (5) calendar days. The Chair forwards a copy of this response to the chair of the original hearing authority for informational purposes.

From among the membership of the Board, the Chair selects three (3) faculty members and three (3) student members to serve on a panel (the "appeals panel") to consider the petition. In the case of an appeal by an undergraduate student or undergraduate student organization, at least one student member of the hearing panel will be an undergraduate student. In the case of an appeal by a graduate or professional student or a graduate or professional student organization, at least one student member of the hearing panel will be a graduate or professional student from the school in which the Petitioner is enrolled (in the case of a student), or with which the group is affiliated (in the case of an organization).

The Chair makes available to members of the appeals panel a copy of the petition and all supporting documents submitted by the Petitioner. The panel reviews the petition and, by majority vote, determines whether the petition presents sufficient grounds for an appeal. If the panel determines that the petition does not set forth sufficient grounds for the appeal, the petition is dismissed. If the panel determines that the petition does set forth sufficient grounds for the appeal, the panel proceeds to a full consideration of the appeal. In making this preliminary determination, it is not necessary that the entire panel be convened at a meeting. The vote may be taken at a meeting or by any other means of communication, such as by telephone, mail, or facsimile transmission.

As stated above, if the appeals panel determines that sufficient grounds for appeal are presented in the petition, the appeals panel proceeds to consideration of the appeal.

The panel's consideration of the appeal must be based only on the records created by or provided to the original hearing authority, the petition, any new evidence the Board determines should be considered, and all responses to the petition.

After reviewing the record, the appeals panel, by majority vote, decides whether to affirm, modify, or reverse the determination of the original hearing authority or to remand the case to the original hearing authority with instructions. In cases where there has been a procedural error on the part of the original hearing authority or the appeals panel deems that new evidence should be considered, the panel remands the case to the original hearing authority with instructions.

Only in extraordinary circumstances would the Appellate Review Board ever reconsider an entire case de novo. In the event of a rehearing, standards of procedure are, in substance, those for original hearings, but the Board may provide additional procedural rules, if necessary.

The Chair notifies in writing the petitioner and the original hearing authority (which, in turn, notifies all persons who were sent formal notification of the determination of the original hearing) of the Board's decision and the reasons for the decision.

While a case is pending, policy changes that might affect a case cannot be considered in the appeal.

If the Board has a question about the meaning or application of a University policy or procedure, the Chair may consult with the Dean of Students and Office of General Counsel to determine how best to proceed. At no time may the Chair or the Board substitute its own opinions or values for University policy.

No person, including the Petitioner, may appear before the appeals panel, except at the invitation of the Chair.

No member of the Board may participate on an appeals panel if the member has a conflict of interest that might render the member's objectivity questionable. Each member of the Board is responsible for determining whether a conflict of interest exists and may consult the University Compliance Office, if necessary. However, a member may be disqualified upon a motion by a member of the Board and by subsequent affirmative vote by a majority of the appeals panel. If a member of the appeals panel is disqualified, the Chair selects an alternate. If neither student from the Petitioner's school may serve on an appeals panel due to conflicts of interest, the Chair, of necessity, will appoint students from other schools.

Once a final determination has been made, all records of the original hearing authority are returned to that authority.

Additional Petition for Penalty of Expulsion

Students who have been expelled from Vanderbilt University may, upon completion of the appeals process, submit a written petition within ten calendar days to the Provost or the Provost's designee, requesting reconsideration of the penalty of expulsion. The decision of the Provost or the Provost's designee is final.

Disciplinary Sanctions

Vanderbilt's system of graduated sanctions is designed to effect students' and student organizations' voluntary compliance with the policies and regulations established to protect themselves, other students, and the community. Vanderbilt hopes that warnings, reprimands, and probationary periods will be sufficient to help students and their organizations make better choices so that separation from the community never becomes necessary.

In all cases, judicial bodies have authority to establish various sanctions appropriate to violations or infractions. Routine sanctions may be established for certain infractions and may also be appealed to the appropriate body according to prescribed appeal procedures. Disciplinary actions may also be applied in combination. For example, a student may be suspended for one term and reenroll subject to restrictions (as in probation) for the next term. A student's previous disciplinary record may be considered when a disciplinary sanction is imposed. When disciplinary sanctions are indicated for a student organization, the group's disciplinary record may be considered in determining the appropriate sanction.

Given the educational nature of the University's disciplinary process, many factors can be--and are-- considered when determining an appropriate disciplinary sanction. In addition to a student's or a student organization's previous disciplinary record, the circumstances surrounding the violation or infraction--such as the nature of the event, the impact on others, and a student's personal circumstances--may also be considered. Finally, a student's or a student organization's level of cooperation and honesty throughout the disciplinary process may inform the appropriate disciplinary response to a policy violation.

The following, although not exhaustive, is a list of frequently used sanctions:

- **Restriction.** Loss of privileges that are consistent with the offense and the rehabilitation of the student. This may include directives to refrain from entry to certain areas of campus or contact with particular individuals, or the loss of campus parking and driving privileges
- **Restitution.** Repair or replacement of lost or damaged property or compensation for other costs arising from a violation.
- **Fines/fees.** Fees or fines to cover the expense of educational or work service programs may also be imposed.
- **Educational enhancements.** Enhancements typically accompany reprimands, periods of disciplinary probation, and suspensions and are intended to augment the educational nature and value of the disciplinary process. For example, research or reflection essays, online tutorials, mediation, restorative justice, work service, drug testing, and letters of apology, require that a student found responsible for a violation of University policy reflect on the consequences that infractions may have not only on individuals, but on the community as a whole.
- **Counseling, evaluation, and treatment programs.** In

some cases of misconduct, such as those committed under the influence of alcohol or other drugs, participation in an evaluation and/or treatment program by an approved counseling service may be required as a part of a sanction. Such treatment may also be a condition of readmission to the University or a condition for remaining in the University.

- **Reprimand.** An admonition and an official warning, a reprimand is treated as educational counseling, rather than as a disciplinary sanction, for purposes of reporting to agencies outside the University.
- **Disciplinary probation.** Places a student in a probationary status that takes away the privilege of holding office and may also include social restrictions. Probations are entered upon the student's permanent disciplinary record. Probation may, but does not always, restrict a student's activities on campus. Violation of probation may lead to further restrictions or suspension.
- **Suspension.** Dismissal from the University for a specified or indefinite period of time. Suspension, pending a hearing, may be imposed when there is reason to believe the action is necessary to maintain University functions or to protect the safety of individuals. Conditions may be placed upon a student's return to campus.
- **Expulsion.** Permanent dismissal from the University.

Aggravated Offenses—Bias-Related Offenses

Penalties for violations of student regulations may be increased by one level of severity when it is determined that the violation was motivated fully or in part by discrimination toward the victim because the victim falls within one or more of the following categories or is perceived to fall within one or more of the following categories; race, sex, religion, color, national or ethnic origin, age, disability, military status, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression.. Thus, the penalty of reprimand may become disciplinary probation; probation may become suspension; and suspension may become expulsion.

Notification

If a student admits to being, or is found to be, in violation of University policy, the results of the hearing, including any sanction, may be made known to appropriate persons, including, but not limited to, the complainant, the appropriate academic dean, the faculty adviser, appropriate staff members, and the responsible student's parents or guardian.

Upon completion of cases involving a disciplinary sanction, the appropriate University official will take action to implement the decision of the judicial body, and the dean of the school in which the student is enrolled will be notified if the finding will affect the student's academic status. However, action is normally not taken until the judicial process, including appeal, if any, is completed.

In reporting a disciplinary sanction effective for an indefinite period, the judicial body will ask the appropriate hearing officer to recommend when the sanction should be terminated.

Withdrawal Before a Hearing

If a student who has been reported for a suspected violation of the student code withdraws from the University before a hearing has been conducted, a notice will be sent to the accused stating that he or she is suspected of violating the student code, that an investigation has been or will be conducted, and that a hearing may be held.

The accused may respond in one of three ways: return to the campus for a hearing, waive the right to give testimony personally, thereby acknowledging that the hearing may proceed in his or her absence, or waive the right to appear and send a written, signed statement to be presented on his or her behalf at the hearing. Failure by the accused to respond will be considered a waiver of the right to appear.

During the time prior to the hearing, a notation will be placed on the transcript of the accused stating that a Conduct Council case is pending. A letter will also be sent to the University registrar and to the registrar of the school in which the accused was enrolled indicating that a disciplinary case is pending. If the accused attempts to re-enroll before the case is heard, the registrar will notify the Dean of Students (or designee). The case must be resolved before the accused may re-enroll.

Withdrawal and Readmission

Students may leave the University involuntarily for academic failure, failure to meet financial obligations to the University, or circumstances outside the University's jurisdiction. Withdrawal from the University under these circumstances does not constitute disciplinary sanction; therefore, re-enrollment after such withdrawal is handled through normal administrative processes. Students who voluntarily--or involuntarily--withdraw from the University for medical or mental/emotional health reasons must be cleared by the Director of the Student Health Center before being permitted to re-enroll.

Disciplinary Records

Upon graduation or withdrawal from the University, student records in the Office of Housing and Residential Education and the Office of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity are maintained for a period of seven years, after which time they are destroyed. Records of students who are suspended or expelled from the University may be maintained indefinitely.

Residential Life

http://www.vanderbilt.edu/student_handbook/residential-life

Student Housing / Residential Regulations / General Residence Life Policies

The Office of Housing and Residential Education (<http://www.vanderbilt.edu/ResEd>) provides a comprehensive development program for students living in University residential units. In partnership with faculty and staff from across the University, residential education professionals work to build a living-learning community where values of scholarship and leadership are nurtured in a culture of collegiality. Residential education staff effect interactions among students and faculty and support students' scholarly pursuits. Values of civility, accountability, discovery, and celebration are at work in Vanderbilt's residential community.

The Office of Housing and Residential Education employs a compassionate group of upperclass, graduate, and professional students as resident advisers (RAs) and head residents (HRs). Professional, in-residence staff supervise the student staff. The collective residence-life staff, in cooperation with Vanderbilt Student Government (VSG) and other campus partners, organizes and coordinates social, educational, and recreational programs throughout the residences.

Student Housing

The residential experience is regarded as an integral part of a Vanderbilt undergraduate education. The mission of the Office of Housing and Residential Education is to provide the residential experience to as many undergraduate students as can be physically accommodated.

The residential requirement, established by the Board of Trust in 1952, states that "All unmarried undergraduate students, except those who live at home with their families in Davidson County, must live in residence halls on campus during the academic year, May session, and summer sessions. Authorization to live elsewhere is granted at the discretion of the Director of Housing Assignments in special situations, or when space is unavailable on campus."

Undergraduate students with children, married undergraduate students, and undergraduate students who are 21 years of age or older with University-certified same-sex domestic partners may call or write the Director of Housing Assignments for assistance with housing arrangements.

In general, first-year students are housed separately from upperclass students. When there is insufficient space in the regular first-year-student housing system or in special situations, first-year students may be housed with upperclass students. All undergraduates make

housing arrangements through the Office of Housing and Residential Education in Branscomb Quadrangle.

First-Year Student Assignments

Procedures for first-year student housing assignments will usually be posted at <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/ResEd> by no later than February 1, of the year in which they will enter the University as first-year students.

Admission to the University does not guarantee assignment to a particular type of room or building. Further, the University population is fluid, and demand for housing may change considerably in a relatively short period of time. In circumstances in which the number of first-year students enrolled exceeds the number of spaces for first-year students in regular rooms, it may be necessary to house students in triple rooms, in single rooms, in upperclass areas, in apartments, or in alternative accommodations (such as study rooms on residential floors) for a few weeks, for a semester, or for the entire first year.

Sophomore and Upperclass Student Assignments

Returning unmarried upperclass students receive their housing assignments through a random selection process in the spring. A \$200 deposit is required prior to the random selection. Eligibility for participation in the random selection is determined by the Director of Housing Assignments with advice from the Vanderbilt Student Government.

Students who participate in any Vanderbilt study abroad programs, or who graduate, withdraw, or take a leave of absence, may request cancellation of their housing contracts by writing to the Office of Housing and Residential Education, sixty days prior to the beginning of the semester.

Requests to Live in Off-campus Housing

Vanderbilt is a residential University. All unmarried undergraduate students are required to live in on-campus residential housing unless the University grants a student authorization to live off-campus. The residential requirement is binding for the student's entire undergraduate education. Therefore, off-campus authorization is a privilege, not a right.

Only students who have been authorized to reside off campus by the Director of Housing Assignments or his designee may do so. Students should not make deposits or sign leases until they receive written authorization from the housing assignments director to reside off campus. The Office of Housing and Residential Education maintains an off-campus referral service (<https://apphost1a.its.vanderbilt.edu/housing/Main/>). Most of the rental property listed is close to the campus, but cost, furnishings, and conditions of the accommodations vary greatly.

Authorization to live off-campus is granted at the discretion of the Director of Housing Assignments and may be revoked at any time for good cause, as determined at the discretion of the Director of Housing Assignments. Reasons for the revocation of off-campus authorization include, but are not limited to, violations of University policies or regulations; failure to abide by the tenets of the "good neighbor guideline;" (<http://www.vanderbilt.edu/ResEd/main/PolicyGNG.php>) or behavior that adversely affects the University's relationship with the neighborhood community.

When Vanderbilt receives notice of a landlord in a community whose practices are violating local law and/or endangering the safety and well-being of student tenants or neighbors, then Vanderbilt reserves the option of denying students the privilege of living off-campus at properties owned by such landlords.

If a student is living in an off-campus residence alone or with one or more other students or non-students, and the residence is found by the University to be in violation of the "good neighbor guidelines" (<http://www.vanderbilt.edu/ResEd/main/PolicyGNG.php>) or is adversely affecting the University's relationship with the neighboring community, all residents may be considered in violation of the good neighbor guidelines even though a specific individual responsible for the conduct cannot be identified. A student whose authorization to live off-campus is revoked will be required to return to campus immediately and live in on-campus housing assigned at the discretion of the Director of Housing Assignments.

Students directed to return to on-campus housing will be charged, on a pro-rata basis, the standard University housing fee, effective the day assignment to on-campus housing is made. Authorization to live off-campus will be granted only on the condition that the student agrees that the University will not be liable or responsible for any contractual arrangements or agreement into which a student has entered, such as a lease agreement for off-campus housing, if authorization is revoked and the student is required to return to, and live in, assigned on-campus housing.

Requests to Live in a Fraternity or Sorority House

Students who want to live in fraternity or sorority chapter houses must file the necessary forms each semester, May session, or summer session with the Office of Housing and Residential Education. Requests for residency in the chapter houses for the spring semester must be filed thirty days before the beginning of spring semester. During the academic year, requests to move from a campus residence to Greek housing cannot be granted unless accompanied by a request from a Greek house resident to move to the University residential system. A maximum of six officers, preferably of junior or senior class standing, may live in each chapter house. Approval to live in a Greek chapter house must be obtained from both the Office of Housing and Residential Education and the Office of Greek Life. Approval to live in a Greek chapter house is not equivalent to authorization to live off-campus.

Residence Regulations

Rental

Rooms designated for students are rented (and students are liable for the room rent) for the entire academic year, exclusive of Thanksgiving break, semester break, spring break, and Commencement Week. Students who graduate or withdraw in the first semester are not liable for the spring semester rent if written notice is given sixty days before the opening of the spring semester. Students who graduate or withdraw from the University during the semester must vacate their rooms within twenty-four hours.

Students who withdraw for medical reasons may receive a pro rata refund. Students who withdraw or who are suspended or expelled during the semester may be entitled to partial refunds of rent. Rooms may not be sublet or used for any purpose other than as a residence for those to whom they are assigned. Residential rooms and services (telephone, data network, etc.) may not be used for business purposes. Student rooms may not be used for publicized events, including meetings of organizations, Bible studies, social events, etc.

Occupancy

Campus residences are generally open for occupancy on the day before registration begins for each semester, and close at 9am on the day following the last day of classes before holidays and at 9am on the day following the last day of examinations at the end of the semester. Campus residences generally reopen after holidays at 9am on the Sunday prior to the first day of classes. Following semester break, they open at noon on the Friday prior to the first day of spring semester classes.

Breaks

Campus residences are officially closed during Thanksgiving break, semester break, spring break, and the week prior to commencement. Students are not contractually entitled to occupy their rooms during these periods. However, at the discretion of the Senior Director for Housing Operations or the Senior Director's designee, students may occupy their rooms during these periods if they register to do so with the Office of Housing and Residential Education. Prior to these breaks, students will receive notice of which buildings and floors may be occupied and instructions for registering to stay. Failure to register may result in exclusion from the residences and/or disciplinary action. Residential houses on the Ingram Commons are not open during the week prior to commencement and first-year students may not register to stay after the conclusion of final examinations.

Expiration and Termination

A room contract will be terminated upon a student's graduation, completion of his or her program, or withdrawal or dismissal from the University. Under these circumstances, the student must vacate the apartment or room within twenty-four hours. Resident contracts may be terminated only when, at the discretion of Director of Housing Assignments, unanticipated and major changes

occur in a student's situation that would justify such termination. Contracts may not be broken to enable students to obtain lodgings elsewhere.

Check-In/Check-Out

Residents must check-in with residential staff when they arrive on campus. Residents will be issued a key and/or combination and a room condition report. The resident must review, sign and return the room condition report to document any problems with the room when it is initially occupied. A resident may be held responsible for any damage to his or her living space that is found when he or she moves out unless the damage was noted on his or her room condition report at check-in, is the result of normal wear and tear, or is the result of a properly-reported maintenance problem that arose during the year (please see Damage to Property under "General Residence Life Policies," below).

As residents vacate their rooms, they must return their keys and schedule a check-out meeting with the residential staff to review and sign their room condition reports. Residents will be held responsible for all room charges until their check-out dates have been recorded. If the room condition report is not reviewed and signed, then the resident may be held responsible for all damages above and beyond those noted on the original room condition report.

Room Changes

Students may not move from their assigned spaces to other spaces without the prior approval of the Office of Housing and Residential Education. Room change requests are granted at the discretion of the Director of Housing Assignments. Students who make unauthorized room changes are subject to disciplinary action.

Students who make unauthorized room changes will (1) not be permitted to reserve their current assignments for the following academic year; (2) lose a point for random selections for the following academic year; (3) lose a class in seniority for the off-campus authorization process for the following academic year; (4) be denied authorization to reside in a Greek House for the following academic year; or any combination of the above.

Gender

Gender designations of buildings, floors, lodges, suites, or apartments are made on an annual basis. Single students who share bedrooms must be of the same gender.

Room Entry

The University recognizes and respects the desire for privacy. Designated staff members are authorized by the University to enter any University premises. Authorization for entry includes, but is not limited to, custodial services, maintenance and repair services, and inspections. Staff conduct inspections for a variety of reasons that include—but are not limited to—fire and safety issues, health and welfare issues, maintenance or damage issues, and closing for breaks and end of an academic session. Although inspections are generally announced, circumstances may dictate that an inspection be unannounced.

Searches

A search of a student, a student's possessions, or a student's premises may be authorized by the Dean of Students or the dean's designee, if there is reasonable cause to believe that a violation of University policy is occurring or has occurred.

Confiscation

During searches and inspections of residential units (rooms, suites, apartments, etc.), University personnel may confiscate items prohibited by University policy.

General Residence Life Policies

The following policies and regulations are specific to residential living, and the University expects students to abide by these policies. Further, students are expected to govern themselves according to the Student Conduct Code, as well as state, federal and local laws. The University reserves the right to make other regulations as necessary, without notice, to ensure comfort and safety.

Care, Cleaning, and Repair of Rooms

Students are expected to keep their rooms clean. Students may be required to clean their living accommodations, including appliances, if the area coordinator or associate director for the area determines that the room, apartment, or specific appliance presents a health or safety hazard. Inspections for damage and/or cleanliness will be conducted by University staff. Students are expected to clean rooms and appliances, sweep floors or vacuum, and remove all trash and personal items prior to vacating a room or apartment. The housekeeping staff will clean the bathrooms and general public areas of apartments and suites once every two weeks.

Students are prohibited from painting their rooms and University furniture, including headboards. Adhesives (e.g., glow stars) are also prohibited. Pictures and bulletin boards may be hung only from the picture rail. (Hooks for picture rails may be purchased in the University bookstore.) Use of tape, staples, adhesive holders, screws, brackets, tacks, and nails is prohibited on the walls, woodwork, floors, ceilings or furnishings. Non-staining putty may be used. The use of over-the-door hangers is prohibited due to the damage that these devices cause. Only tension rods may be used for curtains or other window treatments.

Concrete blocks, cinder blocks, bricks, are prohibited from University residences because of the potential damage to walls, floors, and carpets caused by their use. Plastic crates are acceptable substitutes as long as their use does no damage. The height that one may elevate a standard bed is limited to 13" from the bottom of the bedspring to the floor. Wooden "bed-risers" are permitted as long as they conform to the specifications established by the Director of Housing Facilities, and may be purchased at the University bookstore and from other authorized local vendors. Weightlifting equipment is not permitted in campus residences. Water beds, hot tubs, lofts, and bunk beds (other than those provided by the University), are prohibited. The unauthorized construction of walls and partitions in University housing is prohibited.

Satellite dishes or antennae may not be affixed to, or mounted on, any interior or exterior area of a campus residence in any manner or fashion.

Residences are heated and cooled by central systems. As a consequence, residents should keep their windows closed. Heating or cooling problems should be reported to the area maintenance supervisor (AMS).

Residents are expected to maintain and leave the residence at checkout in the same condition of repair as it was when they checked in, normal wear and tear, excepted.

Students will be charged for any damage to rooms and public areas of campus residences, which results from misconduct or misuse. Charges for damages for which responsibility cannot be determined will be prorated among the residents of a residence hall or living unit. In order to control the quality of the craftsmanship in campus living areas, students may not make repairs to avoid damage charges. Residents should report needed repairs to the area maintenance supervisor (<https://apphost2.its.vanderbilt.edu/housing/Facilities/Main/Request.cfm>), the Office of Housing and Residential Education, or the building's residential staff members. The University will make all needed repairs and do all redecorating, including painting, at its discretion. Authorized University personnel may enter at any reasonable time, or in emergencies, to inspect and repair property and equipment or to investigate allegations of policy violations.

The common areas of suites, apartments, and lodges are intended as joint living space for the residents. Students are not permitted to use these rooms as bedrooms. Furnishings in these rooms may not be moved to individual bedrooms.

Communicable Diseases

Residents must report immediately to the Student Health Center any case, or suspected case, of a communicable disease.

Damage, Collective Damage, and Liability

The University is not responsible for personal property and is not liable for damages to student property caused by vandalism, mischief, or other students' negligence. The University is not liable for damages caused by electrical or mechanical failures or difficulties, or broken water pipes, unless, after being notified, the University fails to take reasonable means to correct the failure or difficulty. Students are strongly encouraged to arrange for insurance coverage for all valuables and belongings they bring to campus. Students should check the provisions of parent/guardian homeowners/renters insurance and/or consider obtaining personal coverage. See Loss of Property/Insurance Coverage below.

Damage to Property

Damage, vandalism, littering, or theft of University property or property of a member of the University community, or of a campus visitor, by a student or student groups, may result in disciplinary action as well as the responsible student(s) being held financially responsible for the cost of repair or replacement.

For example, a student may leave a window open during cold weather causing burst pipes and the flooding

of student rooms and common areas. Or, a student may cause a fire triggering the building's sprinkler system causing both water and smoke damage to student rooms and common areas. In these cases, the perpetrators may be held responsible not only for disciplinary purposes, but also for the financial losses suffered by other students and the University resulting from these events.

Students may be held financially responsible for damages or losses resulting from accidents or negligence. Students who suffer losses under such circumstances must take their claims to their own homeowners or renters insurance carriers. These companies may subrogate the claims to the carrier of the responsible student's insurance. (Note: Among the most common occurrences is water damage caused by the triggering of interior sprinklers as a result of horseplay, or hanging objects from sprinkler heads.)

Collective Damage

Damage and vandalism are costly and undermine the quality of life in the residential community. The University expects members of the residential community to aid in the prevention of vandalism. Residents are jointly and severally responsible for damage to their living units and furnishings, and are collectively responsible for damage to common areas.

Residents of a building, or part thereof, may be assessed charges for repair of damage to common areas.

Interruption of Services

Interruption or curtailment of services maintained in a residential building, if caused by strikes, mechanical difficulties, or other causes, does not entitle residents to any claim against the University or to any reduction in rent. Noise from service vehicles, construction activity, or other normal and necessary activities does not entitle residents to any claim against the University or to any reduction in rent.

Electric Appliances

Small items such as radios, sound systems, electric blankets, clocks, lamps, and coffee makers with enclosed heating elements are permitted in rooms, but no appliances with exposed heating elements, or grills (for either outdoor or indoor use, including "George Foreman" grills and like devices), are allowed. Appliances that draw a large amount of current from each circuit, such as hot plates, air conditioners, electric heaters, and instant water-heating elements, are prohibited. In addition, washers, dryers, and dishwashers are not allowed. Microwave ovens less than six years old, having a maximum power of no more than 800 watts and an interior capacity of no more than one cubic foot are permitted. Refrigerators less than six years old that have no more than a four-cubic-foot capacity may be used. The residential staff of a building may require that any appliance be placed in storage if the manner in which the appliance is used causes interruption of service or endangers the health, safety, or well-being of members of the residential community.

All appliances used in campus residences must be in good condition, with special attention given to seals, electrical cords, and plugs. Only power strips with circuit

breakers may be used as extension cords. In consideration of fire safety, halogen lamps or light sources are prohibited in campus residences. The Senior Director for Housing Operations reserves the option of revoking authorization for the use of any appliance in individual buildings or throughout the residential campus.

Consumer electronic devices used for wireless communication (routers, AirPorts, etc.), are prohibited.

Furnishings

No University furniture, plants, or other furnishings, including those in lounges or reception areas, may be exchanged with anyone, stacked, or moved from one room to another. Headboards and footboards may not be removed from beds and University furnishings may not be removed from rooms. Anyone who moves furniture or mattresses without authorization will be responsible for the costs incurred in moving these items back to their proper positions (or the cost of repair or replacement, if an item is damaged or lost) and will be subject to disciplinary sanction. Doors and window screens may not be removed.

Student-owned furniture brought into campus residences and Greek houses must meet the hospitality / contract-grade furniture fire-safety specifications of either the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standard 260, or the California Technical Bulletin 117, section E. (Furniture that complies with either standard will be appropriately tagged by the manufacturer.) Student-owned furniture must be removed before the student checks out of his/her room at the conclusion of the period of occupancy. Failure to comply may result in the assessment of charges for removal as well as disciplinary sanctions.

Visitation and Overnight Guests

Visitation

Visitors are allowed in residences throughout the 24-hour day. However, residents must remain sensitive to the safety and security concerns of the residential community as well as the privacy needs of roommates/suitemates/lodgemates/apartmentmates. Prior to a visitor's arrival, resident hosts should discuss with the persons with whom they share space, the fact that visitors are expected. Residents are responsible for the conduct of their visitors and violations of University policy may be referred to the Office of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity. Visitors should be escorted at all times when in the residence halls. Lending ID cards or room keys to visitors and sharing access codes are prohibited.

Overnight Guests

A student who wishes to host an overnight guest must complete a guest registration form located on the Anchor Link page of the appropriate residence hall or house. The request should be made at least 24 hours prior to the arrival of the guest. The relevant Area Coordinator will review the request and send a message regarding the status of the registration. Host students should seek the permission of roommates and others with whom they share space (suitemates, e.g.,) before completing the registration form.

Guests' stays are limited to three consecutive nights. Guests must be escorted at all times in the residences. Lending student ID cards or room keys and sharing access codes are prohibited. Residents are responsible for the conduct of their guests and violations of University policy may be referred to the Office of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity.

Guests During Breaks

A Vanderbilt student who lives in a residence that closes during breaks may be invited to stay as a guest in the room of a student who remains on campus. The host must be present during the break. The host must obtain the authorization of all the roommates, suitemates, lodge mates, or apartment mates, in order to offer a place to stay during a break, to a student who is not a resident of the unit. The guest must register online or at the appropriate desk in compliance with posted or published procedures.

ID Card Access Readers

Most campus residences have ID card access readers at one or several entrances. Access schedules vary by building and by entrance. For reasons of safety and security, students may not enable building access to persons they do not know to be residents of that building.

Lost ID cards should be reported immediately to the Vanderbilt University Card Office, 184 Sarratt Center, 615-32(2-2273)—C-CARD on campus phones, on the Web at <https://services.jsatech.com/login.php?cid=16>, or to any facility that accepts the Vanderbilt Card, such as Campus Dining outlets or Varsity Markets. Lost cards may also be reported to the University Police Department at 615 32(2-2745).

Keys and Access Codes

Keys and access codes to residential rooms and other necessary keys, if any, are issued to residents upon check-in to their rooms. Residents may not duplicate keys or share access codes. No deposit is required, but if a key is lost or not returned when a room is vacated, the lock will be changed and the resident charged for the replacement. If it is determined that access codes have been shared, the code will be changed and the resident(s) charged for the change.

Linens and Laundry

The University does not supply towels, washcloths, linens, blankets, or pillows. Coin- or Commodore Card-operated washers and dryers are provided for campus residents in each of the seven residential areas.

Loss of Property/Insurance Coverage

Every student is responsible for his or her own property and should consider obtaining personal coverage or having coverage under his or her parent's homeowner's policy for items brought to campus. Coverage should include both losses of University property and losses of property owned by others, that a student may cause.

Music Practice Rooms

Certain rooms in campus residences have been designated for use as music practice rooms. Due to their proximity to residential space, their use requires policies that preserve the quiet of the halls for the residents. Policies and specified times for the use of these spaces will be posted in each space. Except for University-supplied pianos, no amplified or percussion instruments are permitted. Use of these rooms for music practice may be terminated by the Office of Housing and Residential Education.

Party Registration

Gatherings in residential spaces with alcohol present must be registered, regardless of their size. Gatherings with alcohol are permitted only in Carmichael Towers East suites, Carmichael Towers West, Mayfield Place, Chaffin Place, Morgan House, and Lewis House. All gatherings must abide by all other University and residential policies (noise, alcohol, visitation, etc.). The registration form is located on each residence hall's individual Anchor Link page. Registrations should be submitted no later than 24 hours prior to the proposed event. The form, once submitted, is sent to the Area Coordinator for approval.

Pets

Students may not have pets and other animals in University residences. Students are also prohibited from keeping or providing for animals on University property, and visiting animals must be kept outdoors and leashed. Students who violate this policy are subject to disciplinary action and will bear any associated costs in rooms where animals are found in violation of this policy. Fish may be kept in aquariums, but flesh-eating and dangerous fish (e.g. piranha) are prohibited.

Policy Violations

Students who are found to be in violation of University policy may be required to change room assignments or vacate University housing as directed by the Office of Housing and Residential Education. (See also "Residential Conduct System," below.)

Quiet Hours

Quiet hours are in effect from 7pm until 7am., Sunday through Thursday, and midnight until 10am, Friday and Saturday. During these hours, residents must cease all activities that might disturb study or sleep. Radios, televisions, etc., should be turned to low volume and other noisy activity curtailed. During reading and examination periods, quiet hours are in effect 24 hours a day. In addition, the residents may vote to alter quiet hours, in accordance with the provisions for residential autonomy. Non-quiet hours are not "noisy" hours. "Courtesy" hours are in effect 24 hours a day.

The use of electric guitars, other amplified instruments, drums, and other instruments producing loud volume, is prohibited in campus residences.

Because of their propensity to be heard and felt through solid materials, subwoofers in stereo speakers or other audio equipment are also prohibited.

Safety and Fire Prevention

Residents must abide by the fire safety practices and regulations listed below:

- Combustible materials may not be stored on the premises.
- Cardboard boxes may not be used for storage of items in storage areas.
- The Metropolitan Nashville-Davidson County Fire Code prohibits the use and storage of grills within ten (10) feet of any combustible materials on any balcony or patio of a multifamily dwelling. Use or storage of grills is prohibited on any balcony or patio, or in any residential facility.
- Motorcycles, mopeds, and other internal combustion machines may not be kept in University housing.
- Bicycles may not be stored in hallways, stairwells, or other common areas because they may block emergency egress. Bicycles may be stored in student rooms.
- Candles, other open flames, oil lamps, and incense, are prohibited in the residence halls.
- Walkways, stairs, and corridors must be kept clear at all times for emergency egress. Student property may not be stored in these areas.
- Heat producing appliances (coffee makers, heating pads, slow-cookers, etc.) must be attended when turned on.
- Flammable materials may not be used to cover or obstruct light sources, heating /cooling sources, or fire-safety fixtures,
- The University's smoke-free campus policy limits smoking to designated outdoor areas. Extinguishing or disposing of smoking materials by any means other than the urns provided is prohibited.
- Access to windows and doors must be kept clear for emergency egress.
- Fire doors may be used by residents or guests only for emergency exit or exit during drills.
- Failure to evacuate a building when a fire alarm sounds is prohibited.
- Additionally, the following are prohibited and will likely result in disciplinary sanctions, including possible suspension from the University or a prorated damage charge among the residents of a particular area if the responsible person(s) cannot be identified (see Collective Damage above):
- Tampering with door alarms, fire extinguishers, sprinkler heads, water flow or other control valves and other fire-safety equipment,
- Tampering with smoke detectors, emergency phones, building access systems, elevator systems, surveillance cameras or other safety and security equipment,
- Tube lights and string lights, except that string lights may be used under the following conditions: Such lights may be used only in individual rooms and not in common areas. The lights must be UL approved and in good condition. No more than three strands of such lights may be strung together, and must be plugged directly into an outlet or into a surge

- protector that is plugged directly into an outlet.
- Items suspended from the ceilings, sprinkler heads, overhead piping, or on or near water pipes,
- Use or possession of fireworks,
- Disabling fire alarm systems,
- Arson/igniting fires,
- Tampering with or damaging fire-exit lights, signs, horns, strobes or other notification devices,
- Tampering with or obstructing emergency-exit doors,

Safety and Security

Residents must abide by the safety and security practices and regulations listed below:

- Nothing may be thrown from windows. Objects may not be placed on window ledges or on roofs.
- Tampering with card access readers is prohibited.
- Removing window or door screens is prohibited.
- Propping open exterior doors or any doors controlled by card access readers is prohibited.

It is essential that residents cooperate with the University in every way to safeguard the residential community and the belongings of residents. Students should keep room doors locked, keep money and other valuables out of sight, and report thefts and suspicious persons immediately to their head residents, resident advisers or the Vanderbilt Police Department.

Periodically, officers from the Vanderbilt Police Department may enter campus residences, Greek houses, and other campus facilities to assess their safety, security, and compliance with University policies.

Security Checks

At certain hours, students may be required to show Vanderbilt identification to gain entrance to campus residences. (See also "ID Card Access Readers," above.)

Smoke-Free Campus

Vanderbilt University is a smoke-free campus. Smoking is prohibited in all buildings on campus, including University residence halls and Greek chapter houses, and on the grounds of the campus with the exception of designated outdoor smoking areas. Locations of additional designated smoking areas for campus residents may be found at on the Housing and Residential Education website. Greek organizations may elect to designate outdoor smoking areas on their house grounds.

Designated smoking areas will be marked with signs and include cigarette urns for disposal.

Vanderbilt University is committed to providing a healthy, comfortable and productive environment and offers several resources for smoking cessation. http://www.vanderbilt.edu/student_health/smokingcessation.

Solicitation in Residential Units

In general, solicitation in campus residences is prohibited. Room-to-room solicitation for any reason is not allowed. Those students or student organizations who wish to organize clothing, food, blood, book, or other drives in the residence halls must request authorization from the Senior Director of Residential Education. For more information on guidelines for registered student organizations, please

refer to the Student Organization Manual at <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/studentorganizations/students-organizations-manual>.

Student-Election Campaigning in Residential Units

Residence hall campaigning is permitted for Vanderbilt Student Government, Honor Council, and Outstanding Senior elections, only (i.e., those with campus-wide or specific residential-unit interest). Room-to-room solicitation or campaigning is specifically prohibited. As a practical matter, campus-wide elections generate more posters than can be accommodated on residential bulletin boards. Students running for office may post two flyers per bulletin board in residences, but may not cover or remove flyers already in place. Posters larger than 11" x 17" in size are prohibited. The internal and external use of residential windows, doors, walls, and bathroom stalls is prohibited. Candidates are responsible for removing flyers within 48 hours of the conclusion of an election.

In the lobbies of certain residences, it is appropriate to hang banners of campus-wide interest. In these lobbies, candidates running for campus-wide offices may hang banners limited to three (3) feet in width and five (5) feet in length. Candidates wishing to hang banners in residential lobbies must contact the appropriate Area Coordinator for authorization and guidance. Candidates may reach appropriate Area Coordinator by calling the Office of Housing and Residential Education at 615-32(2-2591).

Storage

During the school year, there are limited storage facilities in most residence halls for large luggage items. (Students are expected to keep weekend bags in their rooms.) Storage is available on a "first-come, first-served" basis. Each stored item must be labeled with the student's name, room number, home address, and date stored, using the storage stickers provided on site. Charges may be assessed for special handling. The University does not accept responsibility for any loss or damage for items students place in storage.

Items may be stored in trunks, metal trashcans or plastic storage containers with lids. Fire regulations require that no cardboard boxes be used for storage of items. Each student may store a maximum of two storage items, but furniture may not be stored in University storage areas.

Summer Storage

Student summer storage facilities are designated for each of the upperclass residential areas. Students may store two items—one of which may be a refrigerator—in the respective residential areas in which they will reside when they return the following fall. Any personal property remaining in living spaces, or in individual floor or corridor closets or storage rooms at the termination of the housing contract, or in the storage rooms past the removal deadlines, will be considered abandoned and may be disposed of without notice at the discretion of the Senior Director of Residential Education. All stored items must be logged in. Students should retain receipts for their records. The University does not accept responsibility for loss of, or damage to, stored items.

Substance Free Residences

Residential areas for first-year students are designated as substance free by the Office of Housing and Residential Education. The use of tobacco products and the possession or use of alcohol or illicit drugs in these substance-free areas (in either private rooms or common areas) by residents or their guests, are prohibited.

Telephones

In most cases, each resident is provided with a private telephone line. The University does not provide telephone handsets. Students may use handsets that are FCC registered. Use of non-FCC registered phones, or other non-compatible devices using telephone lines, is prohibited. Because they interfere with wireless data networks, 2.4GHz cordless phones are also prohibited. Both 900 MHz and 5.8GHz cordless phones are compatible with the wireless data network, and may be used in campus residences.

Wireless Data Network

The Office of Housing and Residence Education has implemented a wireless data network throughout campus residences. Wireless consumer electronic devices—sometimes called routers, access points (AP's) or AirPorts—interfere with the University wireless data network, and, in worst-case circumstances, could even take down the data network. Manufacturers of such devices include Apple, Belkin, D-Link, Linksys, etc. These devices are prohibited.

Student Engagement

http://www.vanderbilt.edu/student_handbook/student-engagement

Advisers to Student Organizations / Communications, Student / Freedom of Expression / Funding / Governance, Student / Organization Offices, Student / Publicity Promotions and Advertising / Event Registration, Space Reservation, and Event Planning / Sale, Solicitation, and Fundraising / Sound Amplification and Noise

Contributing to the University's mission of teaching and learning, student-engagement opportunities help build a community in which students may develop not only as scholars, but also as well-rounded individuals. Engagement in co-curricular endeavors provides a balance of challenge and support designed to enhance students' intellectual and personal development. Participation aids students in becoming ethical, responsible, and self-disciplined leaders; challenged to develop an appreciation for civility and diversity; prepared for community leadership and citizenship; and supported in an environment that embraces discourse and the exchange of ideas.

Students receive advising in their student-organization roles in areas such as organizational behavior, financial management, ethical decision-making, accountability, and recruitment/retention. Finally, through opportunities to become engaged in the community, students celebrate their own, and each other's contributions to University life and the larger community.

Advisers to Student Organizations

Registered student organizations are required to have faculty or staff advisers. Assistance may be obtained from the Student Organizations and Governance concerning financial responsibilities, interpretation of policies and procedures, and methods for obtaining a faculty or administrative adviser.

Advisers are available to counsel and advise officers and members of the organization regarding their responsibilities and to help oversee the activities and finances of the organization. The adviser is expected to be aware of the financial status of the organization to help ensure that the organization remains solvent. Advisers do not have the authority to prohibit the expression of editorial opinion by a campus publication. Please see the Student Organization Manual for a more detailed listing of guidelines and requirements (<http://www.vanderbilt.edu/studentorganizations/students-organizations-manual>).

Communications, Student

Newsletters

Any student organization, supported directly or indirectly by the University, financially or otherwise, wishing to print and distribute a newsletter, must be registered by Student Organizations and Governance. Newsletters should inform members of the organization or interested persons about news and activities relevant to that student group, but may not be a journal of opinion.

Vanderbilt Student Publications

Publications for general distribution to the University community or to persons outside the membership of a student organization and publications funded directly by the student activities fee are under the exclusive authority of VSC.

Vanderbilt Student Communications, Incorporated (VSC), is a nonprofit corporation, affiliated with the University, which publishes and supervises the Vanderbilt Hustler, the campus newspaper; InsideVandy.com, online student community site; the Commodore yearbook; The Vanderbilt Review, an annual literary/arts magazine; The Torch, a libertarian and conservative publication; The Slant, a humor publication; Orbis, a liberal and minority viewpoint publication; The Vanderbilt Political Review, an academic journal; WRVU, an online and HD FM radio station; and Vanderbilt Television, VTV Channel 6.

Other Publications

Distribution of publications not produced by Vanderbilt organizations must conform to University policies regulating the use of University facilities.

Freedom of Expression

- Meetings open only to members. A campus organization may invite any person to address its members, but organizations must follow normal procedures for reservation of space with the Office of Reservations and Events in Sarratt Student Center, and demonstrate its ability to pay for associated costs.
- Meetings open to the Vanderbilt community. An organization may invite any person, approved by the majority of its members, who represents a point of view pertinent to the occasion to speak to an assemblage of the Vanderbilt community, provided that the sponsorship of the event is consistent with the purposes of the organization.
- Registered student organizations may also order films to show on campus. The motion picture titles

shown on the Vanderbilt campus are cleared by the distributors for public performance exhibition. This means that Vanderbilt has the legal right to show titles before groups of students, faculty, and their friends on campus. The “home use” versions of these same titles, obtained from video stores, etc., are not cleared by the distributors for public performance use by the University, because proper licensing fees to the copyright owners have not been paid for such use. Films, videos, or DVDs may not be shown to dorm audiences, clubs, fraternities, sororities, or other organizations, without first obtaining a public performance license. The Office of Reservations and Events, 100 Sarratt Student Center, 615-32(2-2448), can provide additional information.

- Procedures for assemblies described above include registering in advance with the Office of Reservations and Events, Sarratt Student Center, so as to ensure the adequacy of arrangements, minimize schedule conflicts, reserve space, and demonstrate ability to pay for costs incurred.
- Meetings open to the public. For open meetings sponsored by campus organizations, procedures for reserving space through the Office of Reservations and Events must be followed.
- Disruptive activity. Vanderbilt students engaging in disruptive action or disorderly conduct, particularly that which obstructs or disrupts teaching, administration, or other authorized activities on University premises, are subject to University disciplinary action, including suspension or expulsion. Vanderbilt students and others may also be subject to criminal prosecution.
- Limitations on meetings. The University may restrict the times and places of organization meetings on University premises. A campus organization denied permission to sponsor an assembly may appeal the decision to the Dean of Students or the dean’s designee.
- Sponsorship. A registered student organization that sponsors an activity will be responsible for registration, arrangements, publicity, costs incurred, and the conduct of the participants. The Dean of Students, or the dean’s designee, must approve access to University facilities for requests from registered student organizations that wish to use the facilities for a speaker of their choosing. Off-campus groups may cooperate with a registered student organization in a campus event, but the campus organization remains fully responsible for the conduct of the off-campus group, and the Dean of Students or the Dean’s designee must pre-approve the arrangement. Off-campus groups or individuals wishing to use University facilities independently must conform to University policies and must request access through the Office of Reservations and Events.
- Physical distribution of printed statements or electronic media. Persons who distribute printed materials or materials on electronic media are

responsible for the contents. Students may distribute leaflets, informational sheets, compact discs, or similar materials on Rand Terrace or outside the building in which a meeting has been scheduled by another organization, if the distributors position themselves twenty feet from the entrance and so as to avoid restricting access. For outdoor events, distributors may position themselves twenty feet from the reserved lawn or area, again in a manner so as to avoid restricting access. There may be no charge or requested donations for these materials and the name and contact information of the distributing individual or organization must be provided on each piece.

Information about the sale of printed statements, etc., and the display of posters can be found in the sections “Sale and Solicitation” and “Publicity, Promotion, and Advertising,” below. Campus organizations sponsoring events involving controversial persons or views are responsible for providing for the safety and well-being of their guests. Arrangements must be made with the Office of Reservations and Events.

Funding (See also “Sales, Solicitation, and Fundraising,” below.)

Students enrolled in Vanderbilt University pay a Student Activities Fee. On an annual basis, the Activities Fee Committee of Vanderbilt Student Government (VSG) recommends to the Dean of Students allocations of these fees for registered student organizations that sponsor programs, projects, and services that benefit the students who have paid the fees. Applications for a regular allocation are available in January, and are due to the AcFee Committee at the end of February, for funding in the subsequent academic year. In general, programs must demonstrate a wide campus appeal, be available to all students (including graduate and professional students), be free of charge or provided at a reduced rate for students, and must enhance the overall educational, social, or cultural climate available to all students.

Due to the nature of the activities fee’s purpose, only registered student organizations and their respective programs are eligible for activities fee allocations. Further, funds allocated through the AcFee Committee’s recommendation process are subject to some restrictions on their use. More information on student organization eligibility and programming restrictions for activities fee allocations, may be found in the Student Organizations Manual, available online at <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/studentorganizations/students-organizations-manual>.

See also “Fees, Co-Curricular” in Chapter 1, “Policies and Regulations.”

Governance, Student

Graduate & Professional Student

The Graduate School and all of the professional schools and/or programs have representative student organizations that serve as channels for student opinion.

Graduate Student Council of the Graduate School. Membership comprises one elected representative from each department, but any graduate student may participate.

Graduate/Professional Student Association of Peabody College. Membership comprises representatives elected by students in each department. This body coordinates academic, social, and other activities significant to the student community and is also available to the administration and faculty for consultation regarding concerns of the students in Peabody College.

Vanderbilt Bar Association. Membership comprises students of the Law School who are directed by a Board of Governors elected by the classes.

Student Council of the Divinity School. Membership comprises editors of the two student publications and representatives from the various levels of academic training.

Council of Class Officers (School of Medicine). Membership comprises elected officers from each class.

Graduate Nursing Council. Membership comprises representatives of each of the five clinical majors in the M.S.N. program.

Owen School Student Association (OSSA). The Executive Council membership comprises five second-year representatives and four first-year representatives, but all registered candidates for Owen School degrees may participate in OSSA activities. OSSA provides leadership and coordination for professional and social activities.

Undergraduate

The University recognizes a representative student organization that serves as a channel for student opinion for each school. Recognition has been extended by the University, in consultation with the Office of the Dean of Students, to the following governing bodies:

Arts and Science Council. Membership includes the presidents of all registered academic majors' associations, one first-year student, and one sophomore representative. Students of the College of Arts and Science elect the president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer.

Blair Council. Membership is represented by elected members from the classes and by an elected Executive Committee.

Engineering Council. Membership includes elected representatives from each of the classes, the president, and one elected representative from each registered professional society.

Student Association of Peabody College. The association is directed by an Executive Committee, whose members are elected at large by students of Peabody College. Each class also has a representative on the Executive Committee.

Panhellenic, National Pan-Hellenic, and Interfraternity Councils. The Panhellenic Council, the National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC), and the Interfraternity Council (IFC), which govern the activities of the Greek social

organizations, are composed of representatives from registered national sororities and fraternities on campus.

Vanderbilt Student Government. Vanderbilt Student Government (VSG) represents student interests, concerns, and aspirations, to the faculty and administration. In addition, the organization sponsors and coordinates activities and programming promoting student involvement and interaction with faculty. Student interests are addressed through the Committee, Senate, and Cabinet structures within the organization. The Committees are as follows: Student Services, Campus Life, Academic Affairs, Student Health and Wellness, Community Building and Diversity, and Housing Facilities and Operations. The Senate comprises elected students representing the four undergraduate schools and residence halls.

In accordance with University policies, the purpose of the Vanderbilt Student Government is as follows:

- to provide a means whereby undergraduates may effectively express their views and interests to other components of the University and to the outside community in matters which affect their social, cultural, physical, and academic welfare;
- to stimulate effective student organizations and to coordinate their activities for the benefit of the Vanderbilt community; and, to provide for the development and coordination of activities and services beneficial to Vanderbilt students and the University community;
- to serve as a liaison between students and the University; and,
- to maintain effective student representation and participation in the decision-making process of the University.

Eligibility

To be eligible for participation in any contest or activity other than a social one, or to act as a representative of Vanderbilt in any public exercise, a student must be a full-time student of the University (as determined by the academic policies of the school in which he or she is registered). A student on disciplinary probation may not hold a leadership position, including (but not limited to) Admissions Tour Guide, VUceptor, Resident Adviser, head or business manager of a Vanderbilt Student Communications division, or head or business manager of a registered student organization. Registered student organizations and University departments may have additional eligibility requirements.

A student must be full time and not on academic or disciplinary probation to be eligible to hold office in a student organization or to be a division head or business manager of a Vanderbilt Student Communications division. For undergraduates, full-time registration is defined as being registered for, and carrying, at least twelve hours per semester during the regular academic year, or nine hours in the summer. Also, an undergraduate student must maintain a cumulative C average. For clarification, see "Nonacademic Undergraduate Class Designation" in Chapter 1, "Policies and Regulations," above.

Student organizations or their governing bodies may set eligibility standards that exceed these minimum standards,

as long as such eligibility standards comply with the University's nondiscrimination policy.

Requests for exception or waiver of eligibility regulations should be made through the Office of the Dean of Students with the recommendation of the appropriate governing body.

If a student's participation in co-curricular endeavors threatens academic performance, the University may counsel the student about the scope of these activities. In addition, restrictions may be placed on a student's participation in University co-curricular activities for duration of a disciplinary sanction.

Registration

The University regulates the campus activities of organizations and groups whose activities relate to the University's educational and service purposes.

Student Organizations and Governance registers undergraduate and graduate student organizations within the Vanderbilt community. Sport clubs must have approval from the Director of Campus Recreation or the director's designee. Religious groups must have approval from the University Chaplain and Director of Religious Life. Political groups must be approved by the Dean of Students or the dean's designee. Volunteer and/or service organizations must be approved by the Director of Active Citizenship and Service. Greek-letter social organizations require the approval of the Director of Greek Life.

Student organizations must reapply for registration annually. Typically, the deadline for registration is in March for the subsequent academic year. Registration expires July 1 for organizations that fail to re-register, or that are unsuccessful in completing the registration process. All organizations must have a current membership roster and constitution and/or bylaws on file with Student Organizations and Governance.

The registration application will include a statement of purpose, criteria for membership, rules of procedure, and names and contact information for officers and advisers. An organization must affirm that it does not discriminate unlawfully or in violation of University policy. (See "Equal Opportunity" section in Chapter 1 "Policies and Regulations.") Registered student organizations must be open to all students as members and must permit all members in good standing to seek leadership posts. Single-sex organizations are permissible to the extent allowed under Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, 20 U.S.C. § 1681. Inquiries or complaints should be directed to Anita J. Jenious, J.D., Director; the Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action, and Disability Services Department; Baker Building; PMB 401809, 2301 Vanderbilt Place; Nashville, TN 37240-1809. Telephone 615-32(2-4705) (V/TDD); FAX 615-34(3-4969.)

Organizations must affirm that they will conduct their activities in accordance with all University policies and federal, state, and local laws.

To be eligible for registration, an organization must:

- be organized and run by officers who are full-time Vanderbilt students,
- have at least one full-time, permanent, Vanderbilt faculty or staff member as its adviser,

- maintain all funds on deposit in an account of good standing through the Office of Financial Affairs and follow appropriate accounting procedures (Special conditions apply to fraternities, sororities, and Vanderbilt Student Communications.),
- be funded by its members or the University,
- limit its voting membership to Vanderbilt students, faculty, or staff members (A limited number of other persons may be elected to honorary or associate membership without voting privileges.),
- have purposes that do not overlap significantly with those of any other registered organization.

Through established policies and procedures, registered student organizations may seek

- to use the name "Vanderbilt University," or titles indicating institutional affiliation, such as "Black and Gold," "VU," or "Commodore," in the name of the organization,
- financial support from the University (Activities Fee allocation, and other sources when available),
- to use University facilities for regular business (as in the case of campus publications),
- to use University electronic resources (e.g., listservs, group@vanderbilt.edu electronic mail boxes, University hosted Website, Anchor Link), and to subscribe to the student leader listservs maintained by Student Organizations and Governance,
- to use University meeting rooms and facilities at no charge or at a reduced rate,
- to use common space allocated for registered student organizations, and to apply for storage space allocated for registered student organizations,
- to solicit funds from, or make sales to, members of the University community on campus,
- to use a campus address and campus mail services,
- to advertise and promote the organization and its purposes on campus, and to advertise in Dean of Students supported publications and other media,
- to publish events in the University Events Calendar and to use campus bulletin boards and kiosks to promote the organizations activities.
- to use the University accounting system including certain business tools,

Registered student organizations may use the University's name for purposes generally consistent with the organizations' purposes and their usual activities or to identify themselves as campus groups (such as the Vanderbilt International Student Association). **However, no organization is authorized to make either contractual commitments or binding statements on behalf of the University.**

An organization may not use slogans or make statements that purport to speak for the University. For example, statements or slogans such as "Vanderbilt Backs Libertarians" may not be used by organizations unless they have been authorized to speak for the University. Published statements must carry the name of the responsible individual or organization. Unauthorized use or imitation of the official Vanderbilt stationery, logos, or marks, is prohibited.

Fraternities and Sororities

Fraternities and sororities must register annually with Student Organizations and Governance. The Greek advisers assist with both registration and coordination of their activities. The Greek advisers serve as liaisons between these student groups and the University and between the University and the fraternity and sorority national organizations. For information about policies relating to these groups, visit www.vanderbilt.edu/greek_life. Fraternities and sororities must be members of the Interfraternity, Panhellenic, or National Pan-Hellenic Councils, which have governing responsibilities and disciplinary authority over their member groups. Disciplinary actions may be taken against fraternities and sororities by the Interfraternity Council (IFC), Panhellenic Council, and National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) judicial boards for violations of fraternity, sorority, or University policies. Violations of University policies may also fall under the jurisdiction of the Office of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity.

Membership

The IFC and Panhellenic Council administer the recruitment programs for their member groups. NPHC organizations each administer its own recruitment program.

The IFC, Panhellenic Council, and NPHC set a minimum academic requirement to join a Greek organization; however, most chapters have higher academic standards. To be eligible for fraternity or sorority membership, students must have carried and passed twelve semester hours. In addition, those seeking membership in Panhellenic or IFC organizations must have achieved a cumulative GPA of 2.5. Those seeking membership in NPHC organizations must meet minimum GPA requirement established by their individual chapters ranging from 2.3-3.0. Advanced Placement credits are not applicable and summer school credits apply only for sophomores and upperclass students.

Establishing Additional Fraternities and Sororities

Proposals for the establishment of additional fraternities and sororities may be made to, or initiated by, members of the Interfraternity, National Pan-Hellenic, or Panhellenic Councils. If approved by the appropriate council, the proposal will be forwarded to the Greek Advisers for consideration. Upon the recommendations of the councils, the Greek Advisers, and the Dean of Students or the dean's designee, the University may invite a national organization to colonize a new fraternity or sorority.

Organization Offices and Mailboxes, Student

Registered student organizations share a large space in Rand Hall suitable for conducting business and interacting with other registered student organizations. Although accessible to any student, the space is designed for use by registered student organizations. Student organizations are prohibited from establishing offices, social spaces, or living quarters, off-campus.

Registered student organizations desiring University mailboxes may apply to the director of Student Organizations and Governance.

Publicity Promotions and Advertising

Distribution of Notices in Campus Mail Boxes (See "Mail Services," In Chapter 1, "Policies and Regulations," above.), Display of Posters, Banners, and Printed Announcements

Notices that provide information regarding student activities or academic matters, or make announcements pertinent to the business of the University may be posted on campus. Commercial advertising matter and posters unrelated to the University are prohibited since advertising opportunity is provided in campus publications. Individuals who advertise services to students (e.g., typing or sale of books) may post small notices on bulletin boards.

Notices must carry the name of the responsible campus organization or department.

Notices, posters, flyers, banners, etc., may not use logos or trademarks of alcoholic beverages, or mention or refer to alcoholic beverages or their availability at an event. "B.Y.O.B.," as shorthand for "Bring Your Own Beverage," may be used on postings, etc., for events that have been registered B.Y.O.B. during the event registration process.

Nails, tacks, tape, or staples may not be used to attach posters to trees or buildings, but posters and banners may be tied to tree trunks with string.

Stakes bearing signs may not be driven into the ground. From time to time, University departments may install directional signs similar in design to those signs placed in yards for political campaigns. Student organizations desiring to use such signs must obtain authorization from the Director of Student Organizations and Governance, or the director's designee. Note that the use of such signs is reserved for directions, only, that they may not be used for general advertising or promotion, and that they must be removed immediately at the conclusion of the event for which they are installed.

Posters and fliers may be posted by registered student organizations on the bulletin boards at The Commons Center, Rand Hall, Sarratt Student Center, and The Student Life Center with the authorization of building management, obtained at the reception desks of these facilities. The Kiosk at Stevenson Center may be used for poster display. Bulletin boards in classroom buildings, however, are reserved for announcements concerning academic programs. Notices may be attached to kiosks or bulletin boards with thumbtacks, but they may not be stapled or taped anywhere. Notices may not be posted on automobiles.

Registered student organizations may place posters that measure no more than 24" x 36" on the posting boards attached to the exterior walls of Rand. Each organization is limited to two posters or flyers, regardless of size, on each board, and must be authorized by building management at the Sarratt reception desk, as noted, above.

Permission to display banners in any residence must be obtained from the appropriate Area Coordinator for

Housing and Residential Education. Permission to hang posters in the interior of Rand Hall must be obtained from the Director of Vanderbilt Campus Dining.

The University may remove posters, banners, or other advertising that remain three days after the date of an event, and may charge the person or organization responsible for them. Organizations will be held financially responsible for enforcing these policies with candidates for their respective offices. If an organization continually violates these policies, it may lose the privilege of posting notices or have its registration withdrawn. (See the Student Organization Manual for more specific information.)

Hand-Painted Signs and Banners

Hand-painted signs and banners should be made with acrylic latex house paint, which can be cleaned up with water. This paint will not dissolve in water or run, once dry. If a poster or banner stains the surface to which it is attached, the responsible student or organization will be charged for the stain removal. Space for making hand-painted signs and banners is available on the third floor of Rand Hall.

Banners may not be hung from trees, or between trees, or from or between other objects such as lampposts. With the endorsement and cooperation of student government, a series of poles with rigging especially designed for the hanging of banners has been installed on the east side of Rand Hall, to consolidate the display of banners.

Permission to paint designated windows in the dining or housing areas must be obtained from the Director of Vanderbilt Campus Dining or the Director of Housing Facilities, respectively.

Chalk, "Tagging," etc.

The use of chalk on any surface other than a chalkboard is prohibited, and the use of chalkboards in classrooms is limited to instructional or meeting purposes.

Using markers, paint, or any other medium on any surface other than banners, posters, or flyers, is prohibited, as is using self-adhesive labels or stickers on surfaces other than banners, posters, or flyers. Individuals and organizations may be charged for repair or cleaning of damaged surfaces.

Event Registration, Space Reservation, and Event Planning

Registration Requirement

University organizations are required to register all co-curricular programs and special events (meetings, concerts, lectures, etc.) with the Office of Reservations and Events, Suite 100 Sarratt Student Center 615-32(2-2448).

Registered student organizations, administrative offices, or academic departments may reserve space on campus.

The University has established a priority system for events and a means to oversee the policy. These events in order of priority are:

1. University Events (e.g., orientation programs,

Commencement). No other events may be scheduled during these times.

2. Primary Events (e.g., Alumni Reunion, move-in weekend, Family Weekend). Other events may be scheduled only with the approval of the coordinator of the primary event or the Dean of Students or the dean's designee.
3. Campus Events (all other co-curricular programs and activities).

Scheduling conflicts will be resolved by the Office of Reservations and Events, Suite 100 Sarratt Student Center, 615-32(2-2448). Appeals of scheduling decisions regarding University, Primary, and Campus events may be made to the Dean of Students at deanofstudents@vanderbilt.edu.

Reserving Space

Registered student organizations are eligible to reserve and use space in campus buildings and other facilities. Reservations must be made in advance.

For nonacademic uses of most Vanderbilt facilities, reservations are made with the Office of Reservations and Events, Suite 100 Sarratt Student Center, 615-32(2-2448), whose personnel can make referrals to the appropriate offices for the rare exceptions.

A basic charge is made for most facilities. Some facilities are available for use by student organizations without charge; if, however, the facilities require more than ordinary housekeeping services after use, the organization will be charged for the additional service.

The Office of Reservations and Events recommends that organizations plan and make reservations for space on campus up to one year in advance. The types of space available are described in detail at the Reservations and Events Web site, www.vanderbilt.edu/reservations. To determine availability and cost of space, those seeking to reserve space may call the Reservations and Events office at 615-32(2-2448).

Each registered student organization may request up to two standing (recurring) room reservations per year, provided appropriate space is available. For example, an organization may book a room for every Wednesday from 8pm to 10pm for an entire academic year, provided that a room is available. (Accommodation may be made by using two or more rooms across the duration of the reservation, if no single space is available for every occurrence.) Standing reservations may be made through the on-line reservation system, over the telephone 615-32(2-2448), or in person at the Reservations and Events office, 100 Sarratt Student Center.

For single-event reservations, Reservations and Events suggests a minimum of five days notice to reserve space.

Once space is reserved, Reservations and Events personnel may determine that a group be required to undertake the Special Event Registration process. (See "Special Event Registration," below.)

Event Planning

- The Reservations and Events office supports the coordination of space and resources on campus by guiding the Vanderbilt Community through the event planning process. Reservations and Events asks that students discuss their events when making

reservations and be prepared to present their needs for resources at the Special Event Registration Committee meeting, should an appearance before the committee be required. (See below.)

- Meetings and events scheduled on weeknights must end at 11pm so as not to interfere with students' sleep or study. When planning their events, organizations and departments should be cognizant of--and sensitive to--religious observances of a particularly solemn nature. A calendar of religious observances and holy days may be found on the Religious Life website.
- Postbaccalaureate groups may serve alcoholic beverages to members who are of legal drinking age, if nonalcoholic beverages and food are also provided. All other applicable policies must be observed. (See Chapter 6, "Alcohol and Controlled Substances.")
- Undergraduate groups may not serve alcoholic beverages except with the authorization of the Dean of Students or the dean's designee. Undergraduate students who are of legal drinking age may possess and consume alcohol at events registered and approved for consumption of alcohol. (See Chapter 6, "Alcohol and Controlled Substances.")
- Authorization must be obtained through the "Special Events Registration" process (see below), to hold a social event or other meeting to which persons other than Vanderbilt students, faculty, and staff will be invited.
- The Special-Event Registration process is designed to support all outdoor events, large scale events (events open to the entire student population, or to the Vanderbilt or Nashville communities) and events with alcohol.
- For fraternity or sorority functions, additional forms must be completed and submitted to the Office of Greek Life.
- Events which require amplification (for musical instruments, stereos, vocal performances, or public address) may not take place at times during which, or in locations at which, they will interfere with scheduled classes or other previously scheduled events, and must be approved by the Dean of Students or the Dean's designee.

Special Event Registration

The Special Event Registration process is designed to support outdoor events, large-scale events, and events with alcohol. The Special Event Registration Committee is charged with approving such events on campus. The committee consists of representative(s) from Reservations and Events, Traffic and Parking, Vanderbilt University Police Department, Plant Operations, Health and Wellness, and a designee of the Dean of Students. The committee meets Wednesday, 2:30pm-3:30pm in Sarratt 114.

Reservations and Events can assist students with special event planning and ask that students discuss their events with the Registration and Events staff when making reservations, and that students be prepared to present their need for resources at the Special Event Registration Committee meeting. (See below.)

The following types of events must be registered through the Special Event Registration Process:

- Outdoor events requiring services from Traffic and Parking, VUPD, Plant Operations, or Production Services (sound systems, etc.).
- All events with undergraduate students—on or off campus—at which alcohol will be present (excluding parties at sorority / fraternity houses, because such parties are registered through a parallel process in the Office of Greek Life).
- Events open to the general public.
- Events with outdoor amplification.

Guidelines:

1. Registered student organizations, administrative offices, or academic departments may reserve space on campus.
2. Outdoor events with tents require registration three and a half weeks in advance because acquiring a tent permit from the Metropolitan Nashville Davidson County government takes three weeks. Events requiring other services should be registered at least two and a half weeks in advance to ensure the availability of the required services.
3. Reservations for outdoor events not requiring any services must be made at least five days in advance. In such circumstances, the Reservations and Events office may determine that a group need not go through the Special Event Registration process.
4. If an event is to be cancelled, or does not take place, reservations must be cancelled at least one business day in advance to avoid charges. Student organizations and University departments will be held responsible for all expenses incurred as a result of any commitments made to facilitate the event.
5. Outdoor events that have amplification may not take place at times or locations that interfere with scheduled class times or other previously scheduled events.
6. Security may be required at the following events:
 - Activities open to the general public.
 - Band parties and concerts.
 - Events at which cash transactions will occur.

Tasks to complete before attending the Special Event Registration Committee meeting:

NOTE: Event registration will not be approved until the steps below are completed, and the required information submitted.

1. Students must first consult the University Events Calendar (<http://calendar.vanderbilt.edu>) and Reservations and Events staff to see what other events are already scheduled for that date. Students may not add an event to the University Calendar until it has been approved through the Special Event Registration process.
2. Students may then schedule a date with Registration and Events staff to attend a Special Event Registration Committee meeting. Students must be on the agenda to be admitted the meeting.
3. Students must create the link in Anchor Link before

attending the designated meeting:

- a. The organization must obtain the approval of the group's faculty or staff advisor in Anchor Link prior to the meeting.
- b. The organization must provide the center number of the sponsoring organization.

More information may be obtained from Reservations and Events at 100 Sarratt Student Center, or 615-32(2-2448). Office hours are 8am to 4:30pm, Monday through Friday.

Student Travel

Vanderbilt registers and assumes responsibility only for those official overnight or out-of-town trips sponsored and directed by an administrative division of the University (e.g., the Spirit of Gold Marching Band). The University assumes no responsibility for events sponsored by groups such as sororities and fraternities. However, such organizations must—in advance of the trip—inform their advisers (the Greek advisers in the case of fraternities and sororities), and report information regarding out-of-town events to the Office of Reservations and Events.

Any student who wishes to travel on behalf of, or as a representative of, Vanderbilt University or any registered student organization must receive written authorization in advance from the appropriate dean. (See also the section entitled "Universal Waiver," in Chapter 1, "Policies and Regulations," above.)

Requests for Exceptions

The responsibility for compliance with the foregoing regulations for social events lies with the sponsoring organization. Requests for exceptions should be made at the time of registration through the Dean of Students or the dean's designee.

Sale, Solicitation, and Fundraising

These regulations apply to the sale or distribution of goods and services and the solicitation for, promotion of, and advertising of any item, program, charity, or service.

The following guidelines generally apply:

- Sale and/or promotion are limited to activities permitted under municipal, state, and federal laws. Individuals and groups must conform to local licensing laws and University trademark and licensing policies. [<http://www.vanderbilt.edu/licensing/>] Authorized sales and/or promotions must not disrupt the normal operation of the University. Vendors, promoters, and advertisers may neither claim, indicate, or imply University support, and must avoid the appearance of University endorsement.
- Tax-exempt property of the University may not be used as the place of business of on- or off-campus groups, business or individuals unaffiliated with the University. Facilities of the campus, including Rand Hall, Rand Terrace, Sarratt Student Center, The Student Life Center, The Commons Center, Vanderbilt Stadium, the Student Recreation Center,

and Memorial Gymnasium, may not be used for the sale or promotion of activities that are not related to the University except by arrangement with the appropriate University office.

- Sale of newspapers and newsletters must be authorized by the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Administration or the Vice Chancellor's designee. Papers may be sold in vending machines on Rand Terrace and in specified, pre-approved residences.
- Concession arrangements for athletic events and all events at Memorial Gymnasium are made with Student Athletics.
- Arrangements for sale or solicitation at Rand Hall or Rand Terrace, by registered organizations or by University departments, are made with the Office of Reservations and Events. (See the paragraph, below, on sale and solicitation by student organizations.)
- Businesses may not use a University post office box as a business address, nor may anyone use University space, voice network, or data network for business purposes not authorized by the University.
- Businesses may distribute materials to campus mailboxes via postage-paid, US mail, only.
- Campus student agents for businesses must register with the Dean of Students, or the Dean's designee, and may solicit business through advertising in student publications under the purview of Vanderbilt Student Communications, Inc, information about which may be obtained at <http://www.vandymedia.org/advertising/>.
- Door-to-door solicitation or promotion in residences is strictly prohibited. Very rare exceptions to the policy require written authorization of the Dean of Students or the Dean's designee, for student door-to-door solicitation, promotion, or distribution of literature. Solicitation for insurance and the like may take place in residence halls only with the invitation of a resident student. Campus newspapers and other similar publications may be distributed in the lobbies of residence halls where containers to prevent littering are provided by the registered student organization.
- Sale or solicitation by a registered student organization is permitted to the members of the group and/or to the campus community.
- No approval is required for the operation of dining rooms by fraternities and sororities.
- The sale of tickets for admission to concerts, performances, and the like requires no authorization. However, these activities may not be promoted off campus except when the activity also serves the similar interests of other academic institutions and, therefore, is promoted on other campuses as in the case of films, concerts, and lectures. The Dean of Students or the Dean's designee must authorize any advertising or publicity to the general public.
- Registered student organizations may engage in the occasional sale of items for fund raising when the funds are for the use of the organization in its regular activities (including philanthropic efforts) and are

deposited into the organization's University account. Organizations undertaking such sales must comply with University policies regarding the ordering of merchandise, sales tax collection and payment, and licensing. (See also the section on Event Management in Chapter 6, Alcohol.)

- The location of the sale(s) must be approved by the Office of Reservations and Events.
- The Dean of Students or the Dean's designee may regulate times and places of delivery of items to residences, including foodstuffs such as cakes and pizzas, or gifts such as flowers.
- The Dean of Students or the Dean's designee must authorize the solicitation for donations by Vanderbilt student organizations, of off-campus agencies, groups, businesses, etc.
- Student organizations are prohibited from hosting fundraising events in "limited service restaurants" (bars) as defined by Tennessee statutes.

Co-Sponsorships or Department Allocations

Some registered student organizations and their programs can be subsidized by grants or allocations from academic or administrative departments. If the program or organization derives from an academic discipline (e.g., the Chemistry Majors Association) or complements the academic experience, the corresponding academic department is the best place to solicit funding. Many administrative departments may also be willing to supplement programs or services. To solicit their financial support, it is best to schedule an appointment with a member of that department to discuss partnerships which benefit both the organization and the department. For more information on co-sponsorships, consult the Student Organization Manual, available online at <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/studentorganizations/students-organizations-manual>.

Dues, Ticket Sales, and On-campus Fundraisers

Registered student organizations are entitled to charge dues to their membership. Dues must be deposited in an organization's University account upon receipt. Registered groups may also charge admission to events, provided that the primary purpose of sales is to raise money for the benefit of the organization, or for the benefit of a charitable group, and not for the benefit of individual members of the organization. In accordance with Tennessee state law, students may not sell tickets for a raffle or lottery. Drawings for door prizes awarded to ticket-holding participants at an event are permitted.

No approval is required for the sale of tickets for admission, or for the sale of items for fund raising when the funds raised are solely for the organization or its charity and are deposited into the organization's University account. Students must make arrangements with the Coordinator of Reservations and Events to reserve a table or room to sell tickets or items. Students must also secure the approval of the Director of Residence Life in order to sell or deliver items door-to-door in campus residences.

Some registered student organizations might choose to undertake auctions or silent auctions as an element of a

fundraising event. In so doing, the sponsoring organization must ensure compliance with applicable statutes and University policy. Tobacco, alcohol, or promotional items for these products may not be used for auctions or any other fundraising activity. The Dean of Students or the Dean's designee may prohibit other items at the Dean or designee's discretion. Such items might include animals, gift cards or other items from adult entertainment establishments, etc.

Sales and promotional activities must be conducted by members of the registered student organization. No organization may sponsor the sale of goods or services to students on behalf of a non-Vanderbilt commercial enterprise, except where the sales activity provides a value-added service during a traditional Vanderbilt event, such as Orientation, Homecoming, or Rites of Spring. Exceptions to this policy must be approved by the Dean of Students or the Dean's designee.

For information regarding other on-campus sources of funding, consult the Student Organization Manual, available online at <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/studentorganizations/students-organizations-manual>.

Off-Campus Fundraising

If an organization has exhausted sources of funding on campus, it may be possible to solicit funds from sources off campus. Funds can be obtained in several ways: through solicitation of parents and alumni, solicitation of area merchants and large corporations, and invitations for co-sponsorship or gifts in kind from businesses.

Guidelines for Soliciting Parents and Alumni

The Vanderbilt Fund office holds limited historical records of registered student organization membership, and may be able to provide a registered student organization with mailing data of the organization's alumni. To obtain the mailing data (usually provided as a set of labels), a group may submit a request to Student Organizations and Governance to determine if there is a list of its organization's alumni. If such a list exists, the registered student organization may obtain written approval from its adviser, and provide the approval letter and a copy of its solicitation letter to the office Student Organizations and Governance for review. If approved, the mailing data will be provided. The Vanderbilt Fund office requires a month's notice to process requests, so student organizations should submit requests to Student Organizations and Governance at least six weeks in advance.

Registered student organizations may obtain authorization to solicit funds from the parents of its membership by submitting a proposal to Student Organizations and Governance. The proposal must include a statement of the purpose of the appeal, a sample of the solicitation mailing, and the proposed date of the appeal. Student Organizations and Governance will forward the proposal to the Vanderbilt Fund office for review.

Guidelines for Solicitation of Area Merchants and Corporate Sponsors

Area merchants and corporations can contribute to registered student organization endeavors in two ways: by

a simple donation of money, items, or merchandise, or by a donation of money, items or merchandise in return for some recognition, an arrangement sometimes known as co-sponsorship.

1. An organization that plans to solicit an area merchant or corporation for a simple donation or gift with a value of less than \$1000 must apply to Student Organizations and Governance in writing for authorization. If authorization is granted, the organization is limited to soliciting those merchants whose names appear on a list provided by the Vanderbilt Fund office, and must instruct donors to send contributions to the Office of Gift Records.
2. An organization that plans to solicit an area merchant or corporation for a simple donation or gift with a value greater than \$1000 must request authorization from Student Organizations and Governance. If authorization is granted by the Vanderbilt Fund office, the organization must instruct donors to send contributions to the Office of Gift Records.
3. Before an organization invites an area merchant or corporation to “co-sponsor” an event by contributing any amount, it must secure authorization from Student Organizations and Governance. Generally, student groups may acknowledge the assistance or contribution of co-sponsoring merchants or corporations in programs, banners, displays, or event memorabilia (party favors, T-shirts, caps, etc.), and the event Website. Sponsorship is the passive listing of the name or logo of a sponsor tastefully displayed on a T-shirt, banner, or event Website, or listed among sponsors in a program. (It is not intended to solicit business. It simply acknowledges the support of the team, the event, etc. The Office of the Dean of Students does not endorse advertisements for off-campus businesses, such advertisements being those that are designed to bring more business to the off-campus concern.) Student groups may not permit co-sponsoring merchants or corporations to conduct sales or sales promotion, or distribute free samples in conjunction with any student organization program or event, unless the sales promotion activity provides a value-added service during a traditional Vanderbilt event, such as orientation, Homecoming, or Rites of Spring. Exceptions to this policy must be approved in advance by the Dean of Students or the dean’s designee. Co-sponsorships by alcoholic beverage or tobacco brands or distributors are prohibited.

As is the case with student organization and departmental co-sponsors, groups are strongly advised to develop a written co-sponsorship agreement with external co-sponsors. Written agreements should list time and date of program, the agreed-upon responsibilities of all co-sponsoring parties, and the required signatures of all co-sponsoring parties. Sample agreements can be obtained from Student Organizations and Governance once co-sponsorship plans are approved. The sponsoring organization must instruct co-sponsoring agencies to send contributions to Gift Records.

Grants and Foundations

Many private and corporate foundations and federal agencies have funds or grants available for organizations seeking funding for educational or service programs. Grant writing requires a great deal of research, but can yield positive results. The Office of Sponsored Research 615-32(2-2631) is a good resource for additional information.

Soliciting for Charity

Registered student organizations, including fraternities and sororities, may solicit the student body for charitable purposes. The following guidelines apply:

- Solicitation must be registered and approved by Student Organizations and Governance.
- Up to fifteen percent of the gross funds collected may be used to recover costs incurred in the solicitation; the rest must be turned over to the recognized charitable organization.
- Donations to reimburse expenses incurred by the student organization over the fifteen percent may be solicited independently if the purpose of this solicitation is clearly stated.
- Financial reports of expenses, income, donations, sales, and disbursements must be made available to Student Organizations and Governance, and the appropriate student governing body.
- The collection of entry fees for events such as fun runs and walks is allowable, but entry fees, and cash awards for, events that involve an element of chance such as a raffle, a card tournament, a “rubber duck drop,” or a casino night, are prohibited by both University policy and government statutes.
- Organizations may solicit using Vanderbilt in their names if they comply with these policies.

Students should be aware that although policy does not prohibit them from sending charitable solicitations to faculty and staff, persons on the University payroll may run afoul of University policy should they forward those solicitations to their colleagues.

Violations of these policies will subject the organization and the officers of the organization to disciplinary action by the Office of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity and the student governing bodies with jurisdiction. The organization may also lose its registration. Organizations failing to distribute at least 85 percent to the charity may be required to make up the difference from other organization funds.

Requests for exceptions to these guidelines should be made in writing to the Office of the Dean of Students at least two weeks before the solicitation.

Student Organizations and Governance has responsibility for enforcing these policies and prescribing the conduct of those who participate in charitable solicitation. It is the responsibility of the individual student or organization doing the solicitation to comply with these policies and the prescribed conduct. Student organizations soliciting for charitable purposes will be required to comply with state and local laws regulating charitable solicitations.

Vanderbilt University Charitable Giving Policy

As a not-for-profit educational institution, Vanderbilt University seeks and receives the support of the community through its delivery of health care, its athletic programs, its participation in the commercial real estate market, and its status as a corporate citizen, as well as in other ways.

Nashville has a strong tradition of charitable fundraising and a tradition of generous participation in charitable dinners by the corporate community. Although Vanderbilt University raises funds in the Nashville community for its own academic and research programs, it actively participates in this tradition both through in-kind contributions to community services, particularly in those areas that are related to Vanderbilt's mission, such as education, and on occasion, through financial contributions to fundraising events.

Charitable donations in lieu of sending flowers in memory of the bereaved may be made by the University if the donation does not exceed fifty dollars (\$50.00).

All contributions will be made in the name of Vanderbilt University and Medical Center.

Soliciting for Religious Activities

The University Chaplain and Director of Religious Life coordinates religious activities. Student religious groups, after being registered by Student Organizations and Governance, will be assisted by the Office of the Religious Life in fulfilling their aims insofar as these are consistent with other University policies.

Campus religious groups must be registered, and registered religious groups must have faculty advisers. Representatives of off-campus organizations may be invited onto the campus for specific purposes, but these representatives may not interfere with the self-determination of campus groups. Representatives of religious organizations may visit rooms in campus residences only with the prior invitation of the resident students of those rooms.

Off-campus representatives of religious organizations may meet with groups on campus and assist them in fulfilling their aims (when these are consistent with procedures established in this section of the Student Handbook), only after securing the written authorization of the Director of Religious Affairs. This authorization may include a letter of introduction to the University provided by the Director of Religious Affairs and will specify procedures to be followed. The Director of Religious Affairs will assist in providing meeting places.

Solicitation for religious purposes by on- or off-campus groups or individuals is governed by the same regulations stated in the sections "Publicity, Promotion and Advertising" and "Student Organization Fundraising." Specifically, persons are strongly discouraged from approaching individuals whom they do not know in order to recruit them for religious reasons. Note that employees may not engage in religious solicitation in their job settings. Visits to residences by individuals from off campus are to be at the invitation of a particular student, for a particular time, in that student's room, only, and with the permission of that student's roommates, if any. For example, persons who are invited to visit in a resident's room may not recruit

on the hall among other students. This policy also prohibits the use of any common spaces in dormitories or campus buildings for recruitment, training, prayer groups, or any other activities unless the group is a registered student organization.

Vanderbilt does not infringe on any individual's religious freedom. Indeed, the University encourages the free flow of religious ideas as well as lively debate among persons from various religious persuasions. However, Vanderbilt will endeavor to protect students and others in the University community from unauthorized solicitation.

For further information concerning religious solicitation, students may consult the Office of Religious Affairs (<http://www.vanderbilt.edu/religiouslife>).

Soliciting for Employment

Students may note that employment representatives (including current students who may be employed with an organization) who wish to recruit students for any type of job must register with the Vanderbilt Center for Student Professional Development, 220 Student Life Center, 615-32(2-2750). Arrangements must be cleared in advance and specific procedures must be followed.

Organizations recruiting anywhere on campus must obtain permission from the Center. Recruiting includes the posting of bulletin board notices for jobs, hosting employment-related meetings, or distributing materials on campus. All approved notices must clearly state the organization, product or service involved, and a job description. Notices may not be posted on automobiles, distributed in campus residences, or posted on any other unauthorized space on campus.

Employers who wish to post positions electronically for internships or full-time permanent employment should forward notices to the Center by email at recruiting@vanderbilt.edu. To post part-time jobs or student employment jobs electronically, employers should call Student Employment in the Financial Aid Office at 615-32(2-3591) or visit <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/studentemployment/>. Failure to comply with these guidelines may result in the prohibition of future recruiting activities by the offending organization.

Sound Amplification and Noise

Functions or special events which require electronic sound amplification (for musical instruments, stereos, vocal performances, or public address) must be registered with the Special Events Registration Committee and approved by the Dean of Students or the dean's designee. Electronic amplification may not be used in the vicinity of classroom buildings, the library, the hospital, or apartments for family housing. Use of outside amplification at any event or function held in close proximity to campus residences must involve consultation with the Office of Housing and Residential Education.

Sound amplifiers may not be positioned without authorization in such a way as to provide outside amplification (e.g., inside buildings or on porches).

Due to the capacity of certain automotive speaker systems to disturb the quiet of the campus, use of these systems at sufficient volume to be heard outside of the vehicle is prohibited.

Authorization for late evening concerts or events to be held outside and where campus-wide attendance is expected may be granted for Friday and Saturday nights, with the hours set at the discretion of the Dean of Students or the dean's designee. Individual groups having parties primarily for the benefit of the group may be granted authorization for afternoon or twilight concerts or events, as appropriate. Outdoor amplification equipment may be used with activities such as late afternoon or early evening pep rallies, speak-out programs on Rand Terrace, twilight concerts, and carnivals, etc., so long as they do not interfere with scheduled academic or administrative activities.

Moderate sound amplification for informal listening on decks and patios of Greek chapter houses and campus residences is permitted from 4pm to 8pm on Fridays, and noon to 8pm on Saturdays. The Dean of Students or the dean's designee may issue additional guidelines for activities routinely permitted without specific authorization,

such as weekend music playing on Greek row. These guidelines may be revised upon the recommendation of the Interfraternity, National Pan-Hellenic, or Panhellenic Councils, or other student representative groups, or upon the initiation of the Dean of Students or the dean's designee.

Sound amplification-whether specifically authorized or informal, inside or outside-may be monitored by University officials, student representative groups, or IFC or Panhellenic representatives. Monitoring may include on-site inspections and the use of a decibel meter.

Local laws prohibit the use of amplification outdoors between the hours of 11pm and 7am if a facility is within fifty feet of a residence except when exempted for a special event or gathering and if a permit is issued by the Metropolitan Nashville Government. At all times, consideration should be given to the neighboring communities as stated in the "Good Neighbor Guidelines."

Amplification which violates University policy or local ordinances may be discontinued at the discretion of the Dean of Students or the dean's designee, or a representative of the Dean of Students (including officers with the University Police Department, or directors in the Office of Housing and Residential Education).

Alcohol and Controlled Substances

http://www.vanderbilt.edu/student_handbook/alcohol-and-controlled-substances

Alcoholic Beverage and Controlled Substances Policies for All Students and Organizations / Immunity for Seeking Emergency Treatment / Harm Reduction – BASICS / Event Policies for Graduate and Professional Students and Organizations / Event Policies for Undergraduate Students and Organizations / Sanctions / Resources / Health Risks / Warning Signs of Possible Substance Abuse / Drug Effects Table / Federal Trafficking Penalty Charts

Vanderbilt University is deeply concerned about the health and welfare of its students. University policies and regulations in general—and alcohol and controlled substances policies in particular—reflect that concern. The purpose of University policies, and the purpose of articulating them in great detail, is to enable students to make informed—and, it is hoped, intelligent—choices, as well as to enable them to understand the consequences of making poor choices. In compliance with the federal Drug-Free Schools and Campuses regulations, Vanderbilt has adopted a policy that includes the expectation that students will comply with federal, state, and local laws, including those relating to alcoholic beverages, narcotics, and other drugs.

The University prohibits the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of alcohol and controlled substances by students, faculty, and staff, on its property, or as part of any University-sponsored activity. The prohibition extends to off-campus activities that are officially sponsored by Vanderbilt, its schools, departments, or organizations. In addition, the prohibition extends to off-campus professional or organizational activities, including attendance at conferences, when participation is sponsored by the University, or when the participating student, faculty member, or staff member is representing the University. Finally, the prohibition extends to “private” events off campus where the University may have an interest (e.g., if a student were to provide alcohol to underage students at an off-campus location).

In addition, the improper use of prescription drugs is a serious problem on college campuses. For this reason, it is a violation of University policy for a student to be in possession of another person’s prescription medication or for a student to provide another person with medications that have been prescribed for that student.

To underscore the seriousness with which it takes the issue of health and welfare of its constituent populations, the University will impose disciplinary sanctions on students, faculty, and staff—up to and including expulsion or termination of employment, and possible referral for prosecution—for violation of the alcohol and controlled substances policy. Conditions of continued employment or enrollment may include the completion of an appropriate rehabilitation program.

In addition to the standards of conduct prohibited by law

and University policy, students, faculty, and staff are subject to the additional requirements, disciplinary standards, and procedures promulgated by their respective schools, departments, and organizations. Additional standards of conduct, disciplinary standards, and procedures may be found elsewhere in The Student Handbook, in the Faculty Manual, and in the Medical Center Alcohol and Drug Use Policy (Policy No. 30-im08), and any applicable union contract. Students, faculty, and staff may refer to these documents for details.

Alcoholic Beverage and Controlled Substances Policies

For Students

The following regulations apply to the possession and/or use of alcoholic beverages or controlled substances by individual students and their guests:

- The legal drinking age in the state of Tennessee is 21 years old.
- Subject to statutory exceptions available under Tennessee law, alcoholic beverages may not be provided (served, distributed, furnished) to persons under the legal drinking age (21 years old) in the state of Tennessee.
- The use of any false identification or identification belonging to another person to purchase or procure alcohol is prohibited.
- Possession of open containers of beer or other alcoholic beverages, regardless of the type of container, in the lobbies of residences or about the campus, is prohibited, except where expressly permitted by this chapter.
- Because of the danger that drunk drivers pose to themselves and to others, the operation of a vehicle while under the influence of alcohol or other drugs is prohibited.
- Due to the danger that intoxicated persons pose to themselves and to others, as well as to the disruption that intoxication can bring to the living/learning community, intoxication is prohibited.
- Effecting excessive and/or harmful consumption of alcohol through games, peer pressure, subterfuge, or other activities is prohibited.
- The use of common containers of alcoholic beverages such as kegs, pony kegs, or punch bowls by **undergraduates**, on or off campus, is prohibited.
- The use of pure grain alcohol is prohibited.
- The use of devices, such as funnels and beer bongs, designed for the rapid consumption of alcohol is prohibited.
- Drinking games are prohibited.

- The only places on campus where students (who must be of legal drinking age) may routinely possess and consume alcoholic beverages are as follows:
 1. the rooms and apartments of students in upperclass residences (with the exception of substance-free floors and buildings),
 2. fraternity houses, and
 3. The Overcup Oak (beverages sold on the premises, only).
- Students may not consume alcoholic beverages elsewhere, except in common areas designated by student vote in upperclass residences in accordance with residential autonomy procedures and in other locations or at special events designated by the Dean of Students or the Dean's designee.
- Individuals hosting an event are responsible for ensuring compliance with University policies and state and local law. If non-compliant, individuals are subject to disciplinary action by the University, and to prosecution by the state of Tennessee, and/or the Metropolitan Government of Nashville/Davidson County.
- All events hosted by individuals at which alcoholic beverages will be consumed must be appropriately registered according to the regulations set forth in this chapter (see also "Event Registration, Space Reservation, and Event Planning" in Chapter 5, "Student Engagement").
- Unlawful possession, use, or distribution of controlled substances or drug paraphernalia is prohibited. The term distribution includes "sharing" of any drug and does not require the exchange of money.
- Possession or use of prescription medication prescribed to another person and distribution of a medication prescribed for one person to any other person are also prohibited. The term distribution includes "sharing" of any prescription drug and does not require the exchange of money.

For Organizations

All of the regulations outlined above apply to organizations. In addition, the following regulations also apply to the possession and/or use of alcoholic beverages or controlled substances by groups, by University departments, or by an organization's members and invited guests:

- Alcohol may not be used as an award or trophy for any event or program of the University or by any University organization, group, or individual.
- Notices, posters, flyers, banners, etc., may not use logos or trademarks of alcoholic beverages, or mention or refer to alcoholic beverages or their availability at an event.
- "B.Y.O.B.," as shorthand for "Bring Your Own Beverage," may be used on postings, etc., for events that have been registered B.Y.O.B. during the event registration process. (See requirements of the registration process, below.)
- The beverage at B.Y.O.B. events hosted by student

organizations is limited to "beer," only, as defined by the Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 57, Chapter 5 (i.e., those alcoholic beverages that can be found in convenience and grocery stores); students and guests are prohibited from bringing liquor, wine, and other alcoholic beverages to such events. The limitation on the quantity of the authorized beverage (beer) is six (6), twelve-ounce (12oz) cans or plastic bottles per person. Glass bottles are prohibited except at those registered events where attendees are required to check their alcoholic beverages with a third party bartender responsible for distributions throughout the event. On such occasions, the beverage must be transferred to a non-breakable paper or plastic cup for consumption.

- The use of common containers of alcoholic beverages such as kegs, pony kegs, or punch bowls at any student organization sponsored event, on or off campus, to which undergraduates have been invited, or at which they are present, is prohibited.
- The use of pure grain alcohol at any student organization sponsored event, on or off campus, is prohibited.
- The use of devices--such as funnels and beer bongs--designed for the rapid consumption of alcohol at any student organization sponsored event, on or off campus, is prohibited.
- Drinking games at any student organization sponsored event, on or off campus, are prohibited.
- Officers of an organization hosting an event are responsible for ensuring compliance with University policies and state and local law. If non-compliant, organizations and associated individuals are subject to disciplinary action by the University, and to prosecution by the state of Tennessee, and/or the Metropolitan Government of Nashville/Davidson County.
- All events at which alcoholic beverages will be consumed must be appropriately registered according to the regulations set forth in this chapter (see also "Event Registration, Space Reservation, and Event Planning" in Chapter 5, "Student Engagement").

Immunity for Seeking Emergency Treatment

It is in the best interest of students' welfare that persons who overdose or become intoxicated be brought to the attention of medical personnel. For that reason, it is University policy that no student seeking medical attention for intoxication or overdose shall be formally disciplined for the simple illegal use or underage possession of alcohol or other drugs and the resulting overdose or intoxication, provided that the sole reason the student's intoxication or overdose was discovered by University officials was through the seeking of medical care (by the affected student or by others), and provided that the affected student

consents to the release of his or her medical records to Dean of Students personnel who the Dean has charged with managing post-event response.

Immunity from disciplinary action for alcohol violations extends to individuals seeking help for the intoxicated student. Affected students immune from disciplinary action will be required to complete a course of evaluation, counseling and, where indicated, treatment. Failure to complete the prescribed course and/or treatment can result in disciplinary action.

Seeking emergency treatment for one who has overdosed or become intoxicated does not relieve a group or organization of responsibility for a violation of policy, such as providing alcohol to an underage person resulting in the intoxication for which emergency treatment is sought. However, the fact that an organization sought help for an intoxicated student will be considered favorably in determining any sanction for policy violations.

Harm Reduction – BASICS

Brief Alcohol Screening and Intervention for College Students (BASICS) is an evaluation program for alcohol and other drug use/abuse. Following a “harm-reduction” approach, the program seeks to motivate students to reduce their substance use. Ideas for reducing risk are discussed and reviewed, with the ultimate goal of decreasing the negative consequences associated with drinking alcohol and using illicit drugs. After completion of the program, students are expected to be able to adjust their use on their own. BASICS is administered by trained personnel proficient in motivational interviewing. If at the screening a student exhibits evidence of serious state of use or abuse, then that student will be referred to the Psychological and Counseling Center for additional alcohol and other drug use assessment by a clinician. Additional information on BASICS, can be found at www.vanderbilt.edu/healthydoers, or by calling Student Health and Wellness at 615-32(2-0480).

Students interested in helping a friend, or campus professionals interested in learning more about conversing with students about alcohol and other drugs, should call the Psychological and Counseling Center at 615-32(2-3414).

Event Policies for Graduate and Professional Students and Organizations

Graduate and professional students and organizations must register their events with the office of the relevant school’s dean. In certain cases, as when an event is to take place on a campus lawn, once the dean’s office approval has been secured, the event must also be registered with the Office of Registration and Events, and, if alcoholic beverages are to be present, authorized by the Special Events Registration Committee. The stipulations of event management below

may be superseded by additional requirements of facilities management when an event occurs at a location other than the relevant school.

If an undergraduate student organization cosponsors an event with a graduate or professional student organization, or if undergraduates are invited or present at an event, the policies governing undergraduate events must be followed. In addition, graduate or professional student organizations and their officers are subject to disciplinary action if there are violations of the underage drinking law or University policies and regulations at their events.

Event Management

- Events, including those for which off-campus facilities are arranged, must be registered with the relevant dean’s office, as above.
- If alcohol is among the beverages available, the organizers of the event must meet the following requirements:
 1. On an annual basis, complete “Host Responsibility Training,” provided by the Office of Wellness Programs & Alcohol Education, prior to the first event of the year, www.vanderbilt.edu/alcohol, 615-34(3-4740).
 2. Provide alternative beverages and food during the entire period that alcoholic beverages are available. Students organizing the event are responsible for providing both nonalcoholic beverages and food.
 3. Ensure that students serving alcoholic beverages have successfully completed “Host Responsibility Training” as delineated above. (The practice of “self-serve” is prohibited.)
 4. Comply with the appropriate dean’s office standards that effect the engaging of security officers or third-party bartenders (e.g., an event with a band or DJ, or guests invited from outside the Vanderbilt community, might require security, but it is unlikely that a wine and cheese reception for a visiting scholar would).

Event Policies for Undergraduate Students and Organizations

For special events, a space may be designated as a place where the possession and consumption of alcoholic beverages by those of legal drinking age is permitted. However, such occasions must be registered, approved, and advertised five days in advance as an event at which alcohol may be consumed. Sponsoring organizations may arrange for the provision in two ways.

1. They may register the event as “B.Y.O.B” (“bring your own beverage”).
2. With the authorization of the Dean of Students or the Dean’s designee, they may arrange for licensed vendors to sell distilled spirits and wine. (Beer is generally excluded because statutes prohibit the sale of beer within certain distances of buildings whose purpose is considered educational in nature.)

Event Management

1. Events (on campus or off) at which alcohol will be available must be registered and arrangements approved by the Special Events Registration Committee at least four weeks in advance of the event. [Note that the Office of the Dean of Students will not approve fund raising events at off-campus locations whose primary business is the sale of alcohol (bars), or at any location where money is raised at the door, or through any other arrangement with an establishment involving financial transactions that circumvent the University's accounting system.]
2. On an annual basis, organizers of events at which alcohol will be available must attend Host Responsibility Training, provided by the Office of Wellness Programs & Alcohol Education, prior to its first event of the year www.vanderbilt.edu/alcohol, 615-34(3-4740).
3. Fraternity and sorority events must be registered with the Office of Greek Life, and must comply with the alcohol policies of the pertinent Greek governing body as well as the University.
4. Events of religious organizations or affiliated ministries, which employ exceptions to state law regarding the age requirement for consumption of alcohol, must be registered with the Office of Religious Life.
5. Security must be provided at all events at which alcohol will be consumed. Security arrangements for an event must be reviewed and approved by the Special Events Registration Committee in advance of the event.
6. Undergraduate organizations, groups, individuals, students, faculty, and staff may not serve alcoholic beverages to undergraduate students, except by special authorization from the Dean of Students or the Dean's designee.
7. The sale of alcoholic beverages is prohibited with the exception of occasions for which the Special Events Registration Committee has approved the engagement of a licensed vendor. This prohibition includes the sale of tickets that can be traded for alcoholic beverages, or the sale of t-shirts required for entry into an event where alcohol is distributed, or any scheme masking the distribution of alcohol. (See "Events that Include the Sales of Alcohol," below.)
8. Any time alcoholic beverages are served or permitted, alternative beverages and food must also be provided during the entire period that alcoholic beverages are available. Students organizing the event are responsible for providing nonalcoholic beverages and food.
9. Individuals who wish to invite guests to a gathering in their apartments, suites, or lodges must have authorization from the Area Coordinator for the residential area, or the AC's designee. The authorization forms for these events may be found on the respective Anchor Link pages of the residences in which such gatherings are permitted: Carmichael Towers East suites, Carmichael Towers West, Chaffin

Place, Lewis House, Morgan House, and Mayfield Apartments. For the event to be authorized, a majority of the hosts must be of legal age to drink alcoholic beverages. (See "Party Registration" in Chapter 4, "Residential Life," above.)

10. In keeping with the University's policy prohibiting student organizations from making contractual commitments (whether formal, understood, or implied), student organizations may not hold events at off-campus locations without the express approval of the appropriate advisor and the completion of appropriate contractual documents approved by the Dean of Students or the Dean's designee. A number of registered student organizations with oversight from their national organizations have secured exceptions from the Dean of Students to this approval process.

B.Y.O.B. Events

1. Undergraduate students who have reached the legal drinking age in the state of Tennessee (21 years old) may possess and consume alcoholic beverages at events registered and approved for consumption on a "bring-your-own" basis. B.Y.O.B. practices contemplate that an individual student of drinking age may share alcoholic beverages with a date or a companion who is also of legal drinking age. However, any subterfuge or device to evade the spirit of the University policy prohibiting the use of common containers by undergraduates or the provision of alcoholic beverages at undergraduate functions, will subject both students and organizations to disciplinary action.
2. Policies of the student centers prohibit B.Y.O.B. events. (See below for alternative arrangements.)
3. The beverage at B.Y.O.B. events hosted by registered student organizations is limited to "beer," only, as defined by the Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 57, Chapter 5 (i.e., those alcoholic beverages that can be found in convenience and grocery stores); students and guests are prohibited from bringing liquor, wine, and other alcoholic beverages to such events. The limitation of authorized beverage (beer) is six (6), twelve-ounce (12oz) cans or plastic bottles per person. Glass bottles are prohibited except at those registered events where attendees are required to check their alcoholic beverages with a third-party bartender responsible for distribution throughout the event. On such occasions, the beverage must be transferred to a non-breakable paper or plastic cup for consumption.

Events that Include Sales of Alcohol

1. Arrangements must be made for a third-party vendor to sell alcohol.
2. Staff of the student centers will assist student organizers of events in obtaining third-party vendors.
3. The arrangements with the vendor must be reviewed by the Special Events Registration Committee and approved by the Dean of Students or the Dean's designee. Only the Dean of Students or the Dean's

designee may sign a contract with a vendor for the sale of alcohol.

4. Student organizations or other event sponsors are prohibited from obtaining alcohol for resale by the vendor.
5. Student organizations or other event sponsors are prohibited from receiving proceeds from the sale of alcohol.

Sanctions

The purpose of any sanction for a violation of University policy is to effect reflection on the part of the student or student organization, and voluntary compliance with the policy.

Vanderbilt University will impose disciplinary sanctions on students or student organizations, ranging from a warning or reprimand to disciplinary probation, suspension, or expulsion and referral for state or federal prosecution, for violation of its alcohol and controlled substances policy. As is the case with violations of other University policies, sanctions imposed will be appropriate to the severity and circumstances of the violation. The student or organization's previous record, attitude, and the seriousness of the offense will be taken into account in the determination of sanction.

University Sanctions for Students

The minimum sanction for simple purchase, possession, or consumption of alcohol in violation of University policy is a reprimand for the first offense. The completion of an appropriate assessment will also be required.

The presumptive sanction for first-offense intoxication is disciplinary probation. Standard indicators of drinking to the level of intoxication may include lack of balance, loss of coordination, confusion, slurred speech, bloodshot eyes, odor of intoxicant, etc.

The minimum sanction for driving under the influence of alcohol or other drugs is disciplinary probation and loss of campus driving and parking privileges.

Unlawful provision, distribution, or sale of alcohol or other drugs by a student in violation of University policy will result in serious disciplinary action, which may include suspension or expulsion for the first offense, and may also result in criminal prosecution. The presumptive sanction for a student who illegally distributes alcohol to an underage student will be disciplinary probation for the first offense. Persons who unlawfully furnish alcoholic beverages to students who are not of legal drinking age may also be held responsible for personal injuries or property damages resulting from misconduct committed by underage, intoxicated students.

Distribution of illegal drugs (including unlawful distribution of prescription medication) may result in suspension for a first offense; this includes incidents in which no money is exchanged. In addition, the possession of controlled substances or alcohol in such quantities as to create a presumption of possession with the intent to distribute on or off campus is a serious violation that may result in immediate suspension or expulsion. Evidence that a student has distributed drugs is grounds for immediate

suspension from the University and/or expulsion from University housing pending a hearing on the charges.

The presumptive sanction for a third violation of alcohol or controlled substances policies is suspension.

Violations involving behavior that injures persons, that damages property, or that injures or damages the community at-large, will increase the presumptive strength of the sanction given.

In addition, disciplinary sanctions will be imposed for misconduct that results from the use of alcoholic beverages or other drugs. Students will also be held responsible for any damages that result from their misconduct. These sanctions will be imposed consistent with disciplinary standards and procedures found in Chapter 3, "Student Conduct."

University Sanctions for Organizations

The minimum sanction for a violation of event registration or management policies by a student organization is a reprimand for the first offense.

The presumptive sanction for student organizations that provide alcohol to those not of legal drinking age, whether through direct purchase or other group activities, is probation, during which time the organization will not be permitted to host or participate in any events where alcohol is present.

Student organizations that unlawfully furnish alcoholic beverages to students who are not of legal drinking age, and the officers of such organizations, may also be held responsible for personal injuries or property damages resulting from misconduct committed by underage, intoxicated students.

In addition, disciplinary sanctions will be imposed for misconduct that results from the provision or use of alcoholic beverages or other drugs. Student organizations will also be held responsible for any damages that result from their misconduct. These sanctions will be imposed consistent with disciplinary standards and procedures found in Chapter 3, "Student Conduct."

University Sanction Enhancements for Students and Organizations

Because violations of alcohol and drug policies can be a threat to a student's health, welfare, and even life, enhancements may be added to any official sanction as additional means of helping students and organizations understand the potential consequences of policy violations.

Such enhancements may include the following:

1. evaluation through BASICS or by an alcohol and drug counselor at the Psychological and Counseling Center, and treatment or enrollment in a counseling program when indicated by the results of the evaluation,
2. required attendance at alcohol or drug education seminars,
3. implementation of an alcohol or drug educational program for peers,
4. service work (such details might include picking up litter from campus lawns, cleaning lobbies, restrooms, and stairwells, of campus residences, etc.),
5. completion of educational programs or on-line courses,

6. drug testing,
7. research or reflection essays,
8. restitution, or
9. letters of apology.

State of Tennessee Sanctions

[This document contains a summary of state and federal sanctions for the unlawful use of controlled substances and alcohol. Portions of the summary were provided by the federal government, and while the summary is a good faith effort to provide information, Vanderbilt does not guarantee its accuracy.] Under state law, it is unlawful for any person under the age of twenty-one (21) to buy, possess, transport (unless in the course of their employment and over the age of 18), or consume alcoholic beverages, including wine or beer. It is also unlawful for any adult to buy alcoholic beverages for or furnish them for any purpose to anyone under twenty-one years of age. These offenses are classified Class A Misdemeanors punishable by imprisonment for not more than eleven months and twenty-nine days, or a fine of not more than \$2,500, or both. (T.C.A. §§ 1-3-113, 39-15-404, 57-5-301.) The offense of public intoxication is a Class C Misdemeanor punishable by 11 hours of community service, possible revocation of driver's license, imprisonment of not more than thirty days or a fine of not more than \$50, or both. (T.C.A. § 39-17-310.) Under Tennessee law, the offense of possession or casual exchange of a controlled substance (such as marijuana) is punishable as a Class A Misdemeanor (eleven months twenty-nine days and/or a fine of \$2,500). For the third and subsequent offense of possession of 1/2 oz. or less of marijuana, punishment is one to six years of imprisonment and a \$3,000 fine. If there is an exchange from a person over twenty-one years of age to a person under twenty-one, and the older person is at least two years older than the younger, and the older person knows that the younger is under twenty-one years of age, then the offense is classified as a felony. Possession of more than 1/2 oz. of marijuana under circumstances where intent to resell may be implicit is punishable by one to six years of imprisonment and a \$5,000 fine for the first offense. (T.C.A. §§ 39-17-417, 39-17-418; 21 U.S.C. § 801, et seq.)

State penalties for possession of substantial quantities of a controlled substance or for manufacturing or distribution range up to a maximum of fifteen to sixty years of imprisonment and a \$500,000 fine. (Title 39, T.C.A., Chapter 17.) For example, possession of more than twenty-six grams of cocaine is punishable by eight to thirty years of imprisonment and a \$200,000 fine for the first offense.

The state may, under certain circumstances, impound a vehicle used to transport or conceal controlled substances.

United States Penalties and Sanctions for Illegal Possession of a Controlled Substance

21 U.S.C. 844(a)

First conviction: Up to one year imprisonment and fine of at least \$1,000.

After one prior drug conviction: At least fifteen days in prison, not to exceed two years, and fine of at least \$2,500.

After two or more prior drug convictions: At least ninety days in prison, not to exceed three years, and fine of at least \$5,000.

21 U.S.C. §§ 853(a)(2) and 881(a)(7)

Forfeiture of personal and real property used to possess or to facilitate possession of a controlled substance if that offense is punishable by more than one year imprisonment.

21 U.S.C. § 881(a)(4)

Forfeiture of vehicles, boats, aircraft, or any other conveyance used to transport or conceal a controlled substance. [An automobile may be impounded in cases involving any controlled substance in any amount.]

21 U.S.C. § 844a

Any individual who knowingly possesses a controlled substance in a personal use amount shall be liable to the United States for a civil penalty in an amount not to exceed \$10,000 for each such violation.

21 U.S.C. § 862

Denial of federal benefits, such as student loans, grants, contracts, and professional and commercial licenses, up to one year for first offense, up to five years for second and subsequent offenses.

18 U.S.C. 922(g)

Ineligibility to receive or purchase a firearm or ammunition.

Miscellaneous

Revocation of certain federal licenses and benefits, e.g., pilot licenses, public housing tenancy, are vested within the authorities of individual federal agencies. Violations of federal trafficking laws that involve either (1) distribution or possession of controlled substances at or near a school or University campus, or (2) distribution of controlled substances to persons under twenty-one (21) years of age, incur doubled penalties under federal law. (See chart: Federal Trafficking Penalties.)

Resources

As an educational institution, Vanderbilt University is primarily concerned with helping the individual student achieve academic goals and develop as a person. When health problems do arise, the University may assist and guide a student whose mental or physical health is threatened. Because of the health hazards associated with binge drinking and other forms of alcohol abuse, students who choose to drink alcohol should imbibe only in moderation. Should students or their friends have a problem with alcohol or other drugs, there are several places on campus where they can receive assistance:

1. The Resident Adviser (RA), Head Resident, or Residence Life professional is available to listen to students with such problems and make a referral if necessary.
2. The Office of Student Health & Wellness and the Office of Wellness Programs & Alcohol Education can provide information, resources, and referrals.
3. The Psychological and Counseling Center and the Student Health Center both have professionals who can assist.
4. Students may wish to talk to someone in the Office of Religious Life.
5. The Vanderbilt Institute for Treatment of Addiction (VITA) offers specialized treatment programs.

These campus and community resources are available and ready to assist. Calls will be handled in a confidential manner.

- Your Resident Adviser and Head Resident
- Your Associate Director and Area Coordinator
- Your Dean
- Your own physician/psychiatrist/psychologist
- Office of Student Health & Wellness 615-32(2-0480)
- Office of Wellness Programs & Alcohol Education 615-34(3-4740)
- Student Health Center 615-32(2-2427)
- Psychological and Counseling Center 615-32(2-2571)
- Office of Religious Life 615-32(2-2457)
- Office of Housing and Residential Education 615-32(2-2591)
- International Student and Scholar Services 615-32(2-2753)
- Emergency Room (VUH) 615-32(2-3391)
- VITA (Vanderbilt Institute for Treatment of Addiction) 615-93(6-3555)
- AA (call Friendship House, 202-23rd Avenue North, telephone 615-327-3909, for meeting times)

Health Risks

The following is a summary of known health risks associated with the use of illicit drugs and the abuse of alcohol. Part of the summary was provided by the federal government, and Vanderbilt does not guarantee that it is an error-free or exhaustive accounting.

Effects of Alcohol Abuse

Acute: Alcohol consumption causes a number of marked changes in behavior. Even low doses significantly impair the judgment and coordination required to drive a car safely, increasing the likelihood that the driver will be involved in an accident. Accidents are the leading cause of death among individuals aged fifteen to twenty-four years. Most are related to drinking and driving. Poor decisions and aggressive acts such as sexual assault are almost always associated with alcohol use. Low to moderate doses of alcohol also increase the incidence of a variety of aggressive acts, including spouse and child abuse. Moderate to high doses of alcohol cause marked impairments in higher mental functions, severely altering a person's ability to learn and remember information. Very high doses cause respiratory depression and death. If combined with other depressants of the central nervous system, much lower doses of alcohol will produce the effects just described.

Chronic: Repeated use of alcohol can lead to dependence. Sudden cessation of alcohol intake is likely to produce withdrawal symptoms, including severe anxiety, tremors, hallucinations, and convulsions. Alcohol withdrawal can be life-threatening. Long-term consumption of large quantities of alcohol, particularly when combined with poor nutrition, can also lead to permanent damage to vital organs such as the brain and the liver. Some studies suggest that brain cells are actually permanently lost (killed) by high levels of alcohol.

Women who drink alcohol during pregnancy may

give birth to infants with fetal alcohol syndrome. These infants have irreversible physical abnormalities and mental retardation. In addition, research indicates that children of alcoholic parents are at greater risk than other youngsters of becoming alcoholics.

Effects of Other Drugs

Illegal (Non-prescribed) Drugs:

Marijuana: Marijuana and related compounds are usually used for their "relaxation" effects or to produce an altered sense of reality, a "high." Marijuana is usually smoked, and like tobacco, it is very toxic to the lungs. Disorders of memory (loss) and of mood often occur in chronic users.

Herbal Incense, Chaos, and Spice (Synthetic Cannabis/Marijuana-like): These products can be dangerous and produce a psychotic-like reaction with hallucinations.

Cocaine (stimulant): Cocaine, crack, and related forms are usually used for stimulation and to produce a sense of euphoria. All forms of cocaine are highly addictive, producing a habit that is extremely difficult to stop. In some individuals, cocaine may produce fatal cardiac rhythm disturbances.

Amphetamines (stimulants): Amphetamines, and their new derivatives "crystal," "ice," and Ecstasy, are used for stimulation. These compounds are very addictive and may produce psychotic and violent behaviors.

- **Ecstasy and "Molly"** (possibly a purer form of ecstasy) or **MDMA** is a drug of the phenethylamine and amphetamine class. Both drugs are used to induce euphoria, diminish anxiety and possibly increase a sense of intimacy.
- **Bath salts (Purple Wave, Vanilla Sky, or Bliss):** These synthetic powder products contain various amphetamine-like chemicals. Many side effects have been reported varying from agitation, high blood pressure, increased pulse, chest pain, to hallucinations and suicide.

LSD and PCP (hallucinogens): These chemicals are used to produce "altered states" to escape reality. In changing perceptions, these drugs can result in very poor decision making which can lead to accident or death. They can cause psychosis in some individuals.

Heroin (narcotics): These are among some of the most addictive substances known. They produce a high or euphoria. Withdrawal can produce convulsions or even coma. Overdose is common and can result in death. Needle-drug users are in a high-risk group for infection with human immunodeficiency virus, thought to be the cause of AIDS.

Prescription Drugs:

Many medications and prescribed drugs have the potential for abuse. Those listed below are some of the most abused, addictive and dangerous.

- **Adderall, Concerta, Ritalin, Vyvanse**, etc. are stimulants and controlled by the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA). These drugs are often prescribed for students who have been diagnosed with Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD) or ADHD. They are, however, used by some individuals who have do not have

ADD to increase alertness or recreationally for a “high.” They have not, however, been shown to improve academic performance in students without ADD.

- **Codeine, Hydrocodone (Lortab and Vicodin), and Oxycodone (Percocet and OxyContin)** are medications that are prescribed for severe pain. All these drugs can be addictive and may be abused for feeling anxious, sedation, falling asleep or to get a “buzz” or “high.” Addiction to pain medications is common and withdrawal can be very difficult to manage.
- **Xanax, Valium, and other benzodiazepine** drugs are prescribed for acute anxiety and panic attacks. All benzodiazepine compounds can lead to addiction and dependence. Symptoms associated with withdrawal from these drugs can be severe and include seizures. **Barbiturates** are also sedative medications that can be addictive. The barbiturates are no longer commonly prescribed, but are potentially addictive. As with all sedatives, withdrawal symptoms can be dangerous and severe.

How can you help prevent prescription drug abuse?

- Ask your doctor or pharmacist about your medication, especially if you are unsure about its effects.
- Keep your doctor informed about all medications you are taking, including over-the-counter medications.
- Read the information your pharmacist provides before starting to take medications.
- Take your medication(s) as prescribed.
- Keep all prescription medications secured at all times and properly dispose of any unused medications.

If you have concerns or questions regarding the use and/or abuse of these prescription medications or others, ask for professional advice.

Warning Signs of Possible Substance Abuse

- Withdrawal from social situations
- Increased boredom or drowsiness
- Change in personal appearance (increasingly unkempt or sloppy)
- Change in friends
- Easily discouraged; defeatist attitude
- Low frustration tolerance (outbursts)
- Violent behavior and vandalism
- Terse replies to questions or conversation
- Sad or forlorn expression
- Lying
- Poor classroom attendance
- Dropping grades or poor work
- Apathy or loss of interest

When such signs appear in friends,
DO

- Express your concern and caring
- Be ready to listen
- Communicate your desire to help
- Make concrete suggestions as to where the student can find help or how he or she might cope with a given problem
- Try to get the student to seek professional help
- Ask for assistance from campus resources
- Be persistent

DON'T

- Take the situation lightly or as a joke
- Be offended if the student tries to “put you off”
- Take “I don’t have a problem” as an answer
- Try to handle the student alone—ask for assistance
- Lecture about right and wrong
- Promote guilt feelings about grades or anything else
- Gossip: speak of it only to those who can help

COMMONLY ABUSED DRUGS

Visit NIDA at www.drugabuse.gov



Substances: Category and Name	Examples of Commercial and Street Names	DEA Schedule* / How Administered**	Intoxication Effects / Potential Health Consequences
Camabinoids			
hashish	boom, chronic, gangster, hash, hash oil, hemp	I/swallowed, smoked	<i>euphoria, slowed thinking and reaction time, confusion, impaired balance and coordination/cough, frequent respiratory infections; impaired memory and learning, increased heart rate, anxiety, panic attacks; tolerance, addiction</i>
marjuana	blunt, dope, ganja, grass, herb, joints, Mary Jane, pot, reefer, sinsemilla, skunk, weed	I/swallowed, smoked	
Depressants			
barbiturates	<i>Amytal, Nembutal, Seconal, Phenobarbital</i> : barbs, rebs, reds, red birds, phennies, tooties, yellows, yellow jackets	II, III, V/injected, swallowed	<i>reduced anxiety; feeling of well-being; lowered inhibitions; slowed pulse and breathing; lowered blood pressure; poor concentration/fatigue; confusion; impaired coordination, memory, judgment; addiction; respiratory depression and arrest; death</i>
benzodiazepines (other than flunitrazepam)	<i>Ativan, Halcion, Librium, Valium, Xanax</i> : candy, downers, sleeping pills, tranks	IV/swallowed, injected	
flunitrazepam***	<i>Rohypnol</i> : forget-me pill, Mexican Valium, R2, Roche, roofies, roofinol, rope, rophies	IV/swallowed, snorted	
GHB***	<i>gamma-hydroxybutyrate</i> : G, Georgia home boy, grievous bodily harm, liquid ecstasy	I/swallowed	
methaqualone	<i>Quaalude, Sopor, Parest</i> : ludes, mandrex, quad, quay	I/injected, swallowed	<i>Also, for barbiturates—sedation, drowsiness/depression, unusual excitement, fever, irritability, poor judgment, slurred speech, dizziness, life-threatening withdrawal</i> <i>for benzodiazepines—sedation, drowsiness/dizziness</i> <i>for flunitrazepam—visual and gastrointestinal disturbances, urinary retention, memory loss for the time under the drug's effects</i> <i>for GHB—drowsiness, nausea/vomiting, headache, loss of consciousness, loss of reflexes, seizures, coma, death</i> <i>for methaqualone—euphoria/depression, poor reflexes, slurred speech, coma</i>
Dissociative Anesthetics			
ketamine	<i>Ketalar</i> SV: cat Valiums, K, Special K, vitamin K	III/injected, snorted, smoked	<i>increased heart rate and blood pressure, impaired motor function/memory loss; numbness; nausea/vomiting</i>
PCP and analogs	<i>phencyclidine</i> : angel dust, boat, hog, love boat, peace pill	I, II/injected, swallowed, smoked	<i>Also, for ketamine—at high doses, delirium, depression, respiratory depression and arrest</i> <i>for PCP and analogs—possible decrease in blood pressure and heart rate, panic, aggression, violence/loss of appetite, depression</i>
Hallucinogens			
LSD	<i>lysergic acid diethylamide</i> : acid, blotter, boomers, cubes, microdot, yellow sunshines	I/swallowed, absorbed through mouth tissues	<i>altered states of perception and feeling; nausea; persisting perception disorder (flashbacks)</i>
mescaline	buttons, cactus, mesc, peyote	I/swallowed, smoked	<i>Also, for LSD and mescaline—increased body temperature, heart rate, blood pressure; loss of appetite, sleeplessness, numbness, weakness, tremors</i>
psilocybin	magic mushroom, purple passion, shrooms	I/swallowed	<i>for LSD—persistent mental disorders</i> <i>for psilocybin—nervousness, paranoia</i>
Opioids and Morphine Derivatives			
codeine	<i>Empirin with Codeine, Fiorinal with Codeine, Robitussin A-C, Tylenol with Codeine</i> : Captain Cody, schoolboy, (with glutethimide) doors & fours, loafs, pancakes and syrup	II, III, IV, V/injected, swallowed	<i>pain relief, euphoria, drowsiness/nausea, constipation, confusion, sedation, respiratory depression and arrest, tolerance, addiction, unconsciousness, coma, death</i>
fentanyl and fentanyl analogs	<i>Actiq, Duragesic, Sublimaze</i> : Apache, China girl, China white, dance fever, friend, goodfella, jackpot, murder 8, TNT, Tango and Cash	I, II/injected, smoked, snorted	<i>Also, for codeine—less analgesia, sedation, and respiratory depression than morphine</i>
heroin	<i>diacetylmorphine</i> : brown sugar, dope, H, horse, junk, skag, skunk, smack, white horse	I/injected, smoked, snorted	<i>for heroin—staggering gait</i>
morphine	<i>Roxanol, Duramorph</i> : M, Miss Emma, monkey, white stuff	II, III/injected, swallowed, smoked	
opium	<i>laudanum, paregoric</i> : big O, black stuff, block, gum, hop	II, III, V/swallowed, smoked	
oxycodone HCL	<i>OxyContin</i> : Oxy, O.C., Killer	II/swallowed, snorted, injected	
hydrocodone bitartrate, acetaminophen	<i>Vicodin</i> : vike, Watson-387	II/swallowed	
Stimulants			
amphetamines	<i>Biphetamine, Dexedrine</i> : bennies, black beauties, crosses, hearts, LA turnaround, speed, truck drivers, uppers	II/injected, swallowed, smoked, snorted	<i>increased heart rate, blood pressure, metabolism; feelings of exhilaration, energy, increased mental alertness/rapid or irregular heart beat; reduced appetite, weight loss, heart failure, nervousness, insomnia</i>
cocaine	<i>Cocaine hydrochloride</i> : blow, bump, C, candy, Charlie, coke, crack, flake, rock, snow, toot	II/injected, smoked, snorted	<i>Also, for amphetamine—rapid breathing/tremor, loss of coordination; irritability, anxiousness, restlessness, delirium, panic, paranoia, impulsive behavior, aggressiveness, tolerance, addiction, psychosis</i> <i>for cocaine—increased temperature/chest pain, respiratory failure, nausea, abdominal pain, strokes, seizures, headaches, malnutrition, panic attacks</i>

*Schedule I and II drugs have a high potential for abuse. They require greater storage security and have a quota on manufacturing. Schedule I drugs are available for research only and have no approved medical use. Schedule II drugs are available only by prescription (unrefillable) and require a form for ordering. Schedule III and IV drugs are available by prescription, may have five refills in 6 months, and may be ordered orally. Some Schedule V drugs are available over the counter.

**Taking drugs by injection can increase the risk of infection through needle contamination with staphylococci, HIV, hepatitis, and other organisms.

***Associated with sexual assaults.

Federal Trafficking Penalties

DRUG/SCHEDULE	QUANTITY	PENALTIES	QUANTITY	PENALTIES
Cocaine (Schedule II)	500 - 4999 gms mixture	First Offense: Not less than 5 yrs, and not more than 40 yrs. If death or serious injury, not less than 20 or more than life. Fine of not more than \$2 million if an individual, \$5 million if not an individual Second Offense: Not less than 10 yrs, and not more than life. If death or serious injury, life imprisonment. Fine of not more than \$4 million if an individual, \$10 million if not an individual	5 kgs or more mixture	First Offense: Not less than 10 yrs, and not more than life. If death or serious injury, not less than 20 or more than life. Fine of not more than \$4 million if an individual, \$10 million if not an individual. Second Offense: Not less than 20 yrs, and not more than life. If death or serious injury, life imprisonment. Fine of not more than \$8 million if an individual, \$20 million if not an individual. 2 or More Prior Offenses: Life imprisonment
Cocaine Base (Schedule II)	5-49 gms mixture		50 gms or more mixture	
Fentanyl (Schedule II)	40 - 399 gms mixture		400 gms or more mixture	
Fentanyl Analogue (Schedule I)	10 - 99 gms mixture		100 gms or more mixture	
Heroin (Schedule I)	100 - 999 gms mixture		1 kg or more mixture	
LSD (Schedule I)	1 - 9 gms mixture		10 gms or more mixture	
Methamphetamine (Schedule II)	5 - 49 gms pure or 50 - 499 gms mixture		50 gms or more pure or 500 gms or more mixture	
PCP (Schedule II)	10 - 99 gms pure or 100 - 999 gms mixture	100 gm or more pure or 1 kg or more mixture		
PENALTIES				
Other Schedule I & II drugs (and any drug product containing Gamma Hydroxybutyric Acid)	Any amount	First Offense: Not more that 20 yrs. If death or serious injury, not less than 20 yrs, or more than Life. Fine \$1 million if an individual, \$5 million if not an individual. Second Offense: Not more than 30 yrs. If death or serious injury, not less than life. Fine \$2 million if an individual, \$10 million if not an individual		
Flunitrazepam (Schedule IV)	1 gm or more			
Other Schedule III drugs	Any amount	First Offense: Not more than 5 years. Fine not more than \$250,000 if an individual, \$1 million if not an individual. Second Offense: Not more 10 yrs. Fine not more than \$500,000 if an individual, \$2 million if not an individual		
Flunitrazepam (Schedule IV)	30 to 999 mgs			
All other Schedule IV drugs	Any amount	First Offense: Not more than 3 years. Fine not more than \$250,000 if an individual, \$1 million if not an individual. Second Offense: Not more than 6 yrs. Fine not more than \$500,000 if an individual, \$2 million if not an individual.		
Flunitrazepam (Schedule IV)	Less than 30 mgs			

All Schedule V drugs	Any amount	<p>First Offense: Not more than 1 yr. Fine not more than \$100,000 if an individual, \$250,000 if not an individual.</p> <p>Second Offense: Not more than 2 yrs. Fine not more than \$200,000 if an individual, \$500,000 if not an individual.</p>
----------------------	------------	---

Federal Trafficking Penalties - Marijuana

DRUG	QUANTITY	1 st OFFENSE	2 nd OFFENSE
Marijuana	1,000 kg or more mixture; or 1,000 or more plants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not less than 10 years, not more than life • If death or serious injury, not less than 20 years, not more than life • Fine not more than \$4 million if an individual, \$10 million if other than an individual 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not less than 20 years, not more than life • If death or serious injury, mandatory life • Fine not more than \$8 million if an individual, \$20 million if other than an individual
Marijuana	100 kg to 999 kg mixture; or 100 to 999 plants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not less than 5 years, not more than 40 years • If death or serious injury, not less than 20 years, not more than life • Fine not more than \$2 million if an individual, \$5 million if other than an individual 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not less than 10 years, not more than life • If death or serious injury, mandatory life • Fine not more than \$4 million if an individual, \$10 million if other than an individual
Marijuana	<p>more than 10 kgs hashish; 50 to 99 kg mixture</p> <p>more than 1 kg of hashish oil; 50 to 99 plants</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not more than 20 years • If death or serious injury, not less than 20 years, not more than life • Fine \$1 million if an individual, \$5 million if other than an individual 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not more than 30 years • If death or serious injury, mandatory life • Fine \$2 million if an individual, \$10 million if other than individual
Marijuana	1 to 49 plants; less than 50 kg mixture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not more than 5 years • Fine not more than \$250,000, \$1 million other than individual 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not more than 10 years • Fine \$500,000 if an individual, \$2 million if other than individual
Hashish	10 kg or less		
Hashish Oil	1 kg or less		

Sexual Misconduct

http://www.vanderbilt.edu/student_handbook/sexual-misconduct

Sexual misconduct offenses / Complaints / How to File a Complaint / Privacy/Confidentiality / Charges, Investigations, and Determinations / Appeals / Your Rights and Responsibilities as a Respondent

Vanderbilt University desires to establish and maintain a safe and healthy environment for all members of the University community, guests, and visitors. The University, by providing resources for prevention, education, support, reporting, investigation, and a fair disciplinary process, seeks to eliminate all forms of sexual misconduct. Sexual misconduct is a form of sex discrimination prohibited by Title IX. Title IX is the federal law that prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex (http://www.vanderbilt.edu/ead/ea_laws.html#a3). Sexual misconduct of any kind represents socially irresponsible behavior. Sexual misconduct, as described and defined in this policy, will not be tolerated and will subject a perpetrator to penalties up to and including expulsion.

Sexual misconduct offenses include the following

- Non-Consensual Sexual Intercourse
- Non-Consensual Sexual Contact
- Sexual Harassment
- Actions that fall within the broader range of “sexual misconduct” as described in “Other forms of sexual misconduct” below

Definitions of sexual misconduct offenses:

- **Non-Consensual Sexual Intercourse** is any vaginal and/or anal penetration – however slight – by a penis, object, tongue, or finger, and/or oral copulation (mouth to genital contact), by any person upon another without effective consent.
- **Non-Consensual Sexual Contact** is any contact of a sexual nature – however slight – with the breasts, buttocks, groin, genitals, mouth, or body part of another, by any person upon another without effective consent. Sexual touching also includes an individual causing someone else to touch him or her with, or on, any of these body parts.
- **Sexual Harassment** is
 - o unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature, that is
 - o sufficiently severe, pervasive, or persistent (as determined using a reasonable person standard) such that
 - o it interferes with, limits, or deprives a student of the ability to participate in or to receive benefits,

services, or opportunities from the University’s educational programs or activities, and can be based on

- power differentials,
- the creation of a hostile environment,
- or retaliation.
- **Other forms of sexual misconduct** include, but are not limited to, the following:
 1. Invasion of privacy of a sexual nature
 2. Procuring, offering, or promoting prostitution
 3. Intentional transmission of HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) or another STD (sexually transmitted disease)
 4. Attempts to commit sexual misconduct
 5. Aiding in the commission of sexual misconduct as an accomplice

Clarifications:

Force includes physical force (such as pushing, hitting, pinning down), threats (direct or indirect expressions of harm to self or others), intimidation (implied or indirect threats), and/or other forms of coercion.

To coerce is to attempt to cause another person to act or think in a certain way by use of pressure, threats, or intimidation; to compel is to coerce.

Blacking out is an amnesia-like state that may be brought on by drugs, heavy drinking, or intoxication; blacking out is not necessarily incompatible with the ability to engage in simple or even complex behavior. Afterwards the person has no recollection of all or part of the events that occurred during the blackout. There is a distinction between passing out (falling asleep or becoming unconscious) due to drug or alcohol use and blacking out in that a person in a blackout remains conscious and operative.

Incapacitation includes the inability to make a rational, reasonable decision. Incapacitation can result from the taking of GHB, Rohypnol, Burundang, Ketamine, or other sedatives or “date-rape” drugs, or excessive use of alcohol or other drugs. Evidence of incapacity may include, but is not limited to, one or more of the following:

- slurred speech
- bloodshot eyes
- the smell of alcohol on the breath
- shaky equilibrium
- vomiting
- outrageous or unusual behavior
- unconsciousness
- elevated blood alcohol level
- blacking out

It is the burden of the person wishing to engage in sexual activity with another to specifically determine the capacity of that potential sexual partner to provide “Effective Consent,” as explained below.

Intoxication refers to a state of stupefaction, exhilaration or euphoria resulting from the ingestion of alcohol or other chemical substances.

Blacking out, incapacitation and intoxication do not provide a valid explanation or excuse for violation of the Sexual Misconduct policy.

Effective Consent is consent that is informed, freely and actively given, and consists of mutually understandable words or actions indicating a willingness to engage in mutually agreed-upon sexual activity.

- Because of the need for clear communication, the person who wishes to engage in sexual activity with another bears the burden of specifically asking permission if effective consent is in question or ambiguous.
- Mutually understandable effective consent must be obtained and maintained by both parties throughout the sexual interaction.
- Effective consent to sexual activity may be revoked at any time, at which point sexual activity must cease immediately.
- A person who is the object of sexual aggression is not required to physically or otherwise resist a sexual aggressor in order to convey or demonstrate a lack of effective consent. The Sexual Misconduct policy is predicated upon the requirement to obtain effective consent (communicating “yes” by word or action) rather than denial (saying “no”).
- Previous sexual relationships of the accused or the accuser with others are irrelevant, but previous and/or a current sexual relationship between the accused and the accuser may or may not be relevant depending on the facts and circumstances, as to whether effective consent was sought or obtained.
- Effective consent expires. Effective consent lasts for a reasonable time, depending on the circumstances. For example, effective consent on one occasion, whether on the same day or another day, may not carry over to another time.
- Effective consent cannot be implied by attire, inferred from the buying of dinner, the spending of money on a date, or being invited to a person’s residence.
- One who is incapacitated as a result of alcohol or other drug consumption (voluntary and/or involuntary), or who is unconscious, unaware, asleep, or otherwise physically helpless, is incapable of giving effective consent. Because effective consent must be informed, **an individual may not engage in sexual activity with another whom the individual knows, or should reasonably know, is incapacitated.**
- Incapacitated persons are considered incapable of giving effective consent because they lack the ability to appreciate the fact that the situation is sexual, and/or cannot rationally and reasonably appreciate the nature and extent (who, what, when, where, why and how) of that situation.
- Because effective consent may never be provided by an incapacitated person, one must assume effective consent has been withdrawn should an individual become incapacitated at any point during a sexual act or encounter.

- Agreement or acquiescence obtained through the use of fraud or force (actual or implied), whether that force be physical force, threats, intimidation, or other forms of coercion, is not effective consent.
- A person’s age may be a factor in determining the ability to give effective consent. Each determination will be made on a case-by-case basis.
- Agreement or acquiescence is not effective consent when given by the following:
 1. individuals with a cognitive disability or other conditions that significantly limit their ability to fully understand the nature or extent of the action for which effective consent was requested;
 2. incapacitated persons. (See “Incapacitation” above.)

Depending on the facts and circumstances, proof of intent may or may not be required to find a violation of the Sexual Misconduct policy. For example, engaging in intercourse without obtaining effective consent constitutes a violation of the policy regardless of intent. On the other hand, intent may be an appropriate consideration in some sexual misconduct complaints (such as when one person brushes up against another person in a sexual manner in a crowded room), and in other actions that fall within the broader range of sexual misconduct.

Complaints

The Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action and Disability Services Department (EAD) investigates all complaints pertaining to alleged sexual harassment/sexual misconduct. Retaliation against a person who files a complaint, participates in an investigation, encourages one to file, or opposes discrimination is prohibited.

Students who believe they have been the subject of a violation of University policy pertaining to matters of sexual harassment, discrimination, or retaliation should contact the EAD. Complaints may be filed at any time; however, it may be to the complainant’s advantage to contact the EAD as soon as possible after the act in question occurred. If the EAD is not the proper place to handle the complaint, it will direct the complainant to the appropriate department.

Students also have the right to contact the Vanderbilt University Police Department or the Metro Nashville Police Department and to file a complaint with them. The filing of a police report or the pendency of civil or criminal proceedings does not preclude the EAD or any other department of Vanderbilt University from proceeding with its investigation and determination.

Vanderbilt University Police Department
2800 Vanderbilt Place
Nashville, TN 37212
615-32(2-2745)
Emergency – 911 or 615-42(1-1911)
<http://police.vanderbilt.edu/>

Metro Nashville Police Department Headquarters
200 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, TN 37201
615-862-7400
Emergency – 911
<http://www.police.nashville.gov>

How to File a Complaint

To file a complaint pertaining to the Sexual Misconduct policy, please contact the University's Title IX Coordinator, Anita Jenious, the Director of the EAD, at 615-32(2-4705), visit the office, or write.

Campus Address:
Baker Building, Suite 808

Located at:
110 21st Avenue South
Nashville, TN 37203

Mailing Address:
PMB 401809
2301 Vanderbilt Place
Nashville, TN 37240-1809

If a complainant calls or visits the EAD, a staff person will assist with the preparation of a brief summary of the incident. A complainant should provide as many details about the incident as possible and answer all questions as fully as possible. Names, dates, places, and details of what happened should be as accurate as possible. Supporting documents, such as emails, photos, or text messages can help to support allegations. If witnesses were present, it is important to identify them, state what they may know, and inform the EAD how they can be contacted. If a complainant writes to the EAD, the following information should be included: what happened and when; names of all parties involved, including witnesses (if any); supporting documentation (if any); and contact information. Students are encouraged to complain about sexual misconduct or sexual harassment even if some or all of the information outlined above is unavailable or cannot be provided.

An EAD staff person will assess the nature of the complaint and either submit the complaint to the Director or refer the complainant to the appropriate department. If the complaint falls within the EAD's purview, an investigator will contact the complainant to set up a time for further discussion. If appropriate, the investigator will assist the complainant in completing a complaint form, and once signed, an investigation will follow.

Other campus offices such as the Office of Housing and Residential Education at 615-32(2-2591), the Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center at 615-32(2-4843), Project Safe at 615-32(2-7233), the Office of Religious Life at 615-32(2-2457), Student Health at 615-32(2-2427), and the Psychological and Counseling Center at 615-32(2-2571) are available to provide counseling and support to students who believe they have been subjected to sexual harassment,

which includes the forms of sexual misconduct delineated above.

Privacy/Confidentiality

Reports, cases, investigative information, findings, and sanctions are kept private to the extent possible and are only disclosed to those who have a need or a right to know. In certain situations (e.g., where disciplinary action is taken against a respondent), particular disclosures may be required by applicable laws and regulations.

Students should be aware that employees of Vanderbilt may have an obligation to report an incident to their supervisor, or the police, or the EAD, or other offices. If students wish the details of an incident be kept confidential, they may speak with a mental health professional at the Psychological and Counseling Center, a health practitioner at Student Health, or members of the clergy and chaplains acting in those capacities when an incident is reported to them. Students should also be aware that Tennessee law requires child abuse, including sexual abuse, to be reported to the authorities, even if the information is given or received on a confidential basis.

Directives to Desist

Given the nature of sexual misconduct cases, students may request use of a "Directive to Desist." These directives often require that the complainant and a respondent have no contact with each other during the course of the investigation and/or thereafter. The University may also employ such directives at its own discretion as deemed necessary. Additional information about such directives may be found in Chapter 3 of the Student Handbook under the section, "Threat, Harassment, Stalking, Intimidation: Directives to Desist" (http://www.vanderbilt.edu/student_handbook/student-conduct#threat).

Charges, Investigations, and Determinations:

Upon receipt of a complaint, the EAD will open a formal case file and assign an investigator who will direct the investigation and confer with the Office of Student Conduct & Academic Integrity as to interim accommodations for the complainant and any other interim actions that are appropriate. Note that mediation will not be used to resolve cases of sexual misconduct.

Before beginning the investigative process, the EAD investigator will provide a copy of the complaint and any additional statements or information provided by the complainant to the Director of Student Conduct (or designee), who will determine the charge(s) to be brought, if any, and present the charge(s) to the respondent. After the presentation of the charge(s), the respondent will have the opportunity to agree or disagree with the charge(s). The Director of Student Conduct will then refer the respondent to the EAD for the investigative process.

The process will then follow EAD's standard investigative protocol. The EAD investigator will seek a response from the respondent. The investigator will interview relevant persons who may have pertinent knowledge. Supporting documentation may be collected and analyzed. The EAD staff may ask the complainant to clarify some aspects of the complaint. If the complainant learns or remembers any additional information, the complainant should notify the EAD investigator immediately. Note that the past sexual relationship between the parties may or may not be deemed relevant to the investigation by the EAD. For example, past sexual encounters between the parties may provide insight on communication patterns for purposes of determining effective consent.

At the conclusion of the investigation, the EAD will determine, based on the preponderance of the evidence, whether the alleged acts occurred and violate the Sexual Misconduct policy. Where there is insufficient evidence to support a violation of the Sexual Misconduct policy, the EAD will provide its determination in writing to the complainant and the respondent, notifying them that the matter will be closed with no action taken. Where there is sufficient evidence to support a violation of the Sexual Misconduct policy, the EAD will provide its determination in writing to the complainant and the respondent. The determination and a full investigative report will also be forwarded to the Director of Student Conduct for sanctioning where the respondent is found responsible for the alleged violation(s).

Sanctioning

The Director of Student Conduct (or designee) will determine the sanctions if and when the EAD determines the Sexual Misconduct policy has been violated by the respondent. The following procedures will apply:

- The Director of Student Conduct will review the EAD's investigative report and render an appropriate sanction.
- If, upon reviewing the materials, the Director of Student Conduct requires clarification or additional information from the EAD before rendering a decision as to sanction, the Director may request such clarification or additional information from the EAD.

The guidelines provided in the "Disciplinary Sanctions" section of Chapter 3 of the Student Handbook will apply. The following policies will also apply:

The recommended guidelines for sanctions are set forth below. The Director of Student Conduct may deviate from the range of recommended sanctions when it is appropriate based on all the facts and circumstances to do so.

- The presumptive sanction for any student found responsible for **Non-Consensual Sexual Intercourse** is suspension or expulsion, depending on the severity of the incident and other relevant considerations, and taking into account any previous conduct infractions.
- Any student found responsible for **Non-Consensual**

Sexual Contact or other forms of sexual misconduct, including sexual harassment, may face a sanction ranging from a reprimand to expulsion, depending on the severity of the incident, and taking into account any previous conduct infractions.

- Psychological counseling will be required for any student found responsible for a violation of the Sexual Misconduct policy who receives a sanction other than expulsion. In addition to this condition, in cases of suspension, the Director of Student Conduct may set other conditions for readmission to Vanderbilt.

Appeals

The complainant and the respondent have the right to appeal the determination of the EAD and the sanction (if any) rendered by the Director of Student Conduct.

Such appeals will be decided by an Appellate Officer for Sexual Misconduct. Officers will be faculty or academic administrators appointed by the Chancellor (or the Chancellor's designee) for two or three year terms, who will receive training on issues involved in sexual misconduct. Assignment to cases will be on a rotating basis.

A petition for appeal, signed by the petitioning student, must be submitted in writing, to the Appellate Officer for Sexual Misconduct at either 310 Sarratt or at the following address:

Appellate Officer for Sexual Misconduct
PMB 351508
2301 Vanderbilt Place
Nashville, TN 37235-1508

The appeal must be submitted no later than ten (10) calendar days following the date the student is notified of the determination of the EAD (when the student is found not to have violated the policy), or following the date the student is notified of the sanction. Requests for extensions must be submitted prior to the expiration of the ten-day period. The petition must include the following: a statement of the grounds for appeal, supporting explanation, and copies of, or reference to, all evidence the Petitioner wishes the Officer to consider. Except as explicitly provided below, no documents or other evidence may be included with an appeal unless previously submitted to the EAD.

Grounds for Appeal

The grounds for appeal are as follows:

- Procedural irregularities sufficient to affect the determination of the EAD and/or the decision of the Director of Student Conduct.
 - o The EAD and the Director of Student Conduct are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with their policies and procedures. Deviations from those policies and procedures that render their actions fundamentally unfair constitute a sufficient basis for an appeal to the Appellate Officer for Sexual Misconduct. Procedural irregularities that are considered by the Officer to be harmless and did not, in the judgment of the

- Officer, adversely affect the process, are not a basis for upsetting the determination of the EAD and/or the decision of the Director of Student Conduct.
- Insufficient evidence to support the determination of the EAD.
 - It is not the role of the Appellate Officer for Sexual Misconduct to substitute his/her judgment for the judgment of the EAD if there is a reasonable basis for the EAD's determination. Deference must be given to the findings of the EAD, which had the opportunity to hear the witnesses and to assess their credibility and demeanor. The Officer may not alter the determination of the EAD unless the determination of the EAD is clearly erroneous and cannot be reasonably supported by the evidence.
- New evidence that was not reasonably available for presentation to the EAD, the introduction of which could reasonably be expected to affect the determination of the EAD.
 - All available evidence, including testimony of witnesses, is expected to be presented to the EAD. Only on that basis can the EAD render fair and reasonable decisions. A student who seeks to introduce new evidence has the burden of demonstrating that the evidence was not reasonably available at the time of the original process, and that the introduction of such new evidence can be reasonably expected to affect the determination of the EAD. If the Appellate Officer for Sexual Misconduct determines that the student has satisfied this burden, the Officer remands the case to the EAD with instructions to reconsider the case in light of the new evidence.
- Harshness of the penalty imposed by the Director of Student Conduct sufficient to show an abuse of discretion.
 - Deference should be given by the Appellate Officer for Sexual Misconduct to the penalties imposed by the Director of Student Conduct. At the same time, the Officer should recognize that the Director of Student Conduct can make errors in judgment sufficient to show an abuse of discretion. Abuse of discretion does not necessarily imply an intentional wrong or bad faith, but simply the failure to exercise reasonable judgment under the circumstances.

Consideration of Petition and Determination of Appeal

- When the Appellate Officer for Sexual Misconduct receives a petition, the Officer instructs the Director of Student Conduct to notify all persons who were sent formal notification of the determination of the EAD and the sanction (if any) that a petition for appeal has been filed and that the sanction (if any) should not be implemented pending the result of the appeal. This does not preclude the University from taking interim actions to ensure the safety and security of the complainant, respondent, or campus community.
- Upon receipt of the petition, the Officer proceeds

- with all deliberate speed to review the petition.
- The Officer reviews the petition and determines whether, when considered in the light most favorable to the Petitioner, it presents sufficient grounds for an appeal. If the Officer determines that the petition does not set forth sufficient grounds for the appeal, the petition is dismissed. The Officer's decision is final.
- If the Officer determines that sufficient grounds for appeal are presented in the petition, the Officer forwards a copy of the petition to the EAD and/or the Director of Student Conduct as well as the non-petitioning student with instructions to respond to it (or such parts of the petition that the Officer has determined set forth a basis sufficient to provide relief). The EAD and/or the Director of Student Conduct as well as the non-petitioning student must provide their responses to the Officer within ten (10) calendar days of receiving the Officer's notification that the appeal will be considered further. The EAD and/or the Director of Student Conduct also forward to the Officer the entire record of the case. Upon receiving the responses from the EAD and/or the Director of Student Conduct as well as the non-petitioning student, the Officer sends the responses to the Petitioner offering the Petitioner an opportunity to reply. Replies must be submitted within five (5) calendar days. The Officer forwards a copy of the responses to the EAD and/or the Director of Student Conduct for informational purposes.
- The Officer then proceeds to consideration of the appeal. The Officer's consideration of the appeal must be based only on the original records created by or provided to the EAD and/or the Director of Student Conduct and the petition, any new evidence the Officer determines should be considered, and all responses submitted by the involved parties.
- After reviewing the record, the Officer decides whether to affirm, modify, or reverse the determination of the EAD and/or the decision of the Director of Student Conduct or to remand the case to the EAD and/or the Director of Student Conduct with instructions.
 - In cases where there has been a procedural error on the part of the EAD and/or the Director of Student Conduct, the Officer remands the case to the EAD and/or the Director of Student Conduct with instructions.
 - In cases where the Officer deems that new evidence should be considered, the Officer remands the case to the EAD with instructions.
- The Officer notifies the complainant, the respondent, the EAD, and the Director of Student Conduct (who, in turn, notifies all persons who were sent formal notification of the original determination of the EAD and decision of the Director of Student Conduct (if any)) of the Officer's decision and the reasons for the decision.
- While a case is pending, policy changes that might affect the case cannot be considered in the appeal.

- If the Officer has a question about the meaning or application of a University policy or procedure, the Officer may consult with the Dean of Students and Office of General Counsel to determine how best to proceed. At no time may the Officer substitute his/her opinions or values for University policy.
- An Officer may not address an appeal if the Officer has a conflict of interest that might render the Officer's objectivity questionable. Each Officer is responsible for determining whether or not a conflict of interest exists and may consult with the University Compliance Office, if necessary. If a conflict does exist, the case is assigned to the next panelist in the rotation.
- Once a final determination has been made, all records of the EAD and/or the Director of Student Conduct are returned to that authority.

Additional Petition for Penalty of Expulsion

Students who have been expelled from Vanderbilt University may, upon completion of the appeals process, submit a written petition within ten (10) calendar days to the Provost or the Provost's designee, requesting reconsideration of the penalty of expulsion. The decision of the Provost or the Provost's designee is final.

Your Rights and Responsibilities as a Respondent

As the person responding to the complaint, you will be informed of the allegations and given an opportunity to ask questions, provide information, and offer names of witnesses or other people with relevant information. The EAD attempts at all times to protect you from unfounded allegations. As such, it expects full and truthful cooperation from you and that you will respect the confidential nature of the process.

If it considers it appropriate to further its investigation, the EAD may request access to premises, records and documents relevant to the complaint. Your cooperation can help foster a fair decision on the complaint.

Consistent with Vanderbilt's policies, you must not retaliate against a person who files a complaint, participates in an investigation, encourages one to file, or opposes discrimination. In addition, you must not interfere with an investigation.

Timeline

The investigative process will typically be completed within 60 calendar days. Given the many variables and factors that may arise in such cases, additional time may be needed in some cases. Any deviation from the 60-day time frame will be communicated in writing or by email to both the complainant and the respondent, along with a new timeline.

Limited Disciplinary Immunity for Complainants and Witnesses

Individuals with information about sexual misconduct complaints may hesitate to come forward out of fear that their own violations of University policy would be revealed in reporting sexual misconduct. Students should not be discouraged from reporting incidents of sexual misconduct and assisting victims in times of crisis. Vanderbilt University does not condone infractions of policy, but considers reporting incidents of sexual misconduct to be of paramount importance. Therefore, the University may extend limited immunity for alcohol or substance abuse violations to potential witnesses in order to facilitate reporting and resolution of sexual misconduct complaints.

