

## 10. Student Code of Conduct



The following Student Code of Conduct is in force while on College premises and/or at College-sponsored or supervised activities. Officials in Student Affairs shall determine, on a case-by-case basis, whether an incident that occurs off campus jeopardizes the College or members of the college community in pursuit of their institutional and educational goals and thus falls within the scope of the Honor System. (See also section on “Off-Campus Jurisdiction.”)

The Student Code of Conduct of the College of Charleston specifically forbids:

1. Acts of dishonesty, including but not limited to the following:
  - 1.1. Furnishing false information to any college official, faculty member, or office.
  - 1.2. Forgery, alteration, misuse or improper possession of any college or non-college document, record, or instrument of identification.
  - 1.3. Tampering with the election of any college-recognized student organization.
  - 1.4. Impersonation of another person, including a member of the college community.
2. Disruption or obstruction of teaching, studying, research, administration, disciplinary proceedings, living/learning environment or other college activities, including its public service functions on or off campus, or other authorized non-college activities, when the act occurs on college premises.
3. Physical abuse, defined as an act or acts which include physical contact and contact which causes bodily harm or injury or causes physical pain.
4. Verbal abuse, defined as use of derogatory terms, foul or demeaning language, which may be accompanied by a hostile tone or intense volume of delivery.
5. Threat, defined as expression of intention to cause injury, harm or damage.
6. Intimidation, defined as to place another person in reasonable fear of bodily harm and/or emotional distress through the use of threatening words or other conduct, or both, but without displaying a weapon or subjecting the victim to physical attack.
7. Harassment, defined as intent to intimidate, annoy or alarm another person repeatedly. Person subjects such other person to physical contact, or attempts or threatens to do the same; or follows a person in or about a public place or places; or engages in

a course of conduct or repeatedly commits acts which alarm or seriously annoy such other person and which serve no legitimate purpose.

**8.** Bullying, defined as repeated and/or severe aggressive behavior likely to intimidate or intentionally hurt or diminish another person physically or mentally (that is not speech or conduct otherwise protected by the First Amendment).

**9.** Stalking, defined as engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to a) fear for their safety or the safety of others; or b) suffer substantial emotional distress.

**10.** Coercion, defined as the use of explicit or implicit force, threats, unusual pressure or intimidation to make somebody do something against his or her will.

**11.** Conduct which threatens or endangers the health or safety of any person(s).

**12.** Sexual Misconduct (See Student Sexual Misconduct Policy below which covers sexual harassment and forms of sexual violence. This policy contains separate procedures).

**13.** Attempted or actual theft of and/or damage, (including, but not limited to any form of vandalism or arson) to property of the College or property of a member of the College community or other personal or public property, on or off campus; and/or knowingly possessing stolen property or unauthorized possession of College property or property of a member of the College community, on or off campus.

**14.** Hazing, defined as an act which endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student, which subjects a student to harassment, ridicule, intimidation, physical exhaustion, abuse, or mental distress, or which destroys or removes public or private property, for the purpose of initiation, admission into, affiliation with, or as a condition for continued membership in a group or organization. The express or implied consent of the victim will not be a defense. Apathy and/or acquiescence in the presence of hazing are not neutral acts; they are violations of this rule.

**15.** Failure to comply with directions of College officials or law enforcement officers acting in performance of their duties and/or failure to identify oneself to these persons when requested to do so.

**16.** Unauthorized possession, duplication, or use of keys to any College premise, trespassing or unauthorized entry to or use of College premises.

**17.** Violation of published college policies, rules, and/or regulations published in hard copy or available electronically on the College of Charleston website.

**18.** Alleged and/or actual violation of federal, state, or local law.

**19.** Use, possession, manufacturing, intent to distribute, distribution, dispensation, purchase, attempted purchase of marijuana, cocaine, narcotics or other illegal drugs or controlled substances, including prescription medications, except as expressly permitted by law. This includes the possession or sale of drug paraphernalia (such as scales, bongs, water pipes, glass pipes, cocaine spoons). (For more information about violations and our responses to drug-related activity see Drug Policy below.)

**20.** Use, possession, manufacturing or distribution of alcoholic beverages, except as expressly permitted by the law and College regulations, and/or public intoxication. Alcoholic beverages may not, in any circumstance, be used by, possessed by or distributed to any person under twenty-one (21) years of age. (For more information about our responses to alcohol-related activity see Alcohol Policies below and *The Compass*.)

**21.** Illegal or unauthorized possession of firearms, Tasers, explosives, other weapons, or dangerous chemicals on College premises or use of any item, even if legally possessed, in a manner that harms, threatens or causes fear to others.

- 22.** Participating in a campus demonstration or off-campus demonstration, riot or activity that disrupts the normal operations of the College and/or infringes on the rights of other members of the College community; leading or inciting others to disrupt scheduled and/or normal activities within any campus building or area.
- 23.** Obstruction of the free flow of pedestrian or vehicular traffic on College premises or at College-sponsored or supervised functions.
- 24.** Conduct that is disorderly, lewd, or indecent; breach of peace; or aiding, abetting, or procuring another person to breach the peace on College premises, surrounding areas, or at functions sponsored by, or participated in, by the College.
- 25.** Facilitating and/or accepting improper behavior: Facilitating and/or accepting improper behavior are defined as aiding and/or choosing not to confront a person violating the Honor Code, Code of Conduct or other regulation, choosing not to leave such a situation, and/or choosing not to tell a College staff member about the violation.
- 26.** Use of any technology to create, display or distribute an audio, video, digital file, picture or film of another individual without that person's knowledge and consent while the person is in a place where he or she would have reasonable expectation of privacy.
- 27.** Theft or other abuse of the campus network, computers, or computer time, including but not limited to:
- 27.1.** Unauthorized entry into a file to use, read, or change the contents or for any other purpose.
  - 27.2.** Unauthorized transfer of a file.
  - 27.3.** Unauthorized use of another individual's identification and/or password.
  - 27.4.** Use of computing facilities and resources to send obscene, threatening or abusive messages.
  - 27.5.** Use of computers or computing facilities and resources to interfere with the work of another student, faculty member, or college official.
  - 27.6.** Use of computing facilities and resources in violation of copyright laws. (Also see College Policy on Peer-to-Peer File Sharing.)
  - 27.7.** Any violation of the College's information technology policies.
- 28.** Abuse of any of the College's campus conduct procedures, including but not limited to:
- 28.1.** Failure to obey the notice of a conduct body or college official to appear for a meeting or hearing as part of a conduct process.
  - 28.2.** Falsification, distortion, or misrepresentation of information before a conduct body or official.
  - 28.3.** Disruption or interference with the orderly conduct of a conduct proceeding.
  - 28.4.** Institution of a conduct proceeding knowingly without cause.
  - 28.5.** Attempting to discourage an individual's proper participation in, or use of conduct procedures.
  - 28.6.** Attempting to influence the impartiality of a member of a conduct body or official prior to, and/or during the course of, the conduct proceeding.

**28.7.** Harassment (verbal or physical) and/or intimidation of a conduct official or member of a conduct body prior to, during, and/or after a conduct proceeding.

**28.8.** Failure to comply with the sanction(s) imposed under the Honor System.

**28.9.** Influencing or attempting to influence another person to commit an abuse of conduct procedures.

**28. 10.** Retaliating against any student or other person for filing a complaint or participating in an investigation in good faith. Acts of retaliation include, but are not limited to, verbal abuse, intimidation, threats, harassment and other adverse action against any such complainant, witness, third party or investigator.

## 11. Future Revisions

The College of Charleston reserves the right to update all policies contained within the *Student Handbook*. Students are responsible for being aware of changes as they are disseminated to the college community.

## 12. Honor Board Composition and Duties



**1.** Eight faculty members, five staff members, and at least twenty students constitute the Honor Board pool.

**1.1.** A subset of the faculty and staff members of the Honor Board pool will undergo training specific to preparation to hear sexual misconduct cases.

**1.2.** Honor Boards assigned to hear alleged violations and/or to design sanctions under the Honor Code and the Code of Conduct shall consist of one faculty member, one staff member, and three students, except in sexual misconduct cases. In sexual misconduct cases an Honor Board shall consist of three faculty or staff members.

**1.3.** Disciplinary Panels assigned to hear alleged violations and/or to design sanctions shall consist of one faculty or staff member and two students.

**1.4.** The student membership of the Honor Board should be representative of the student body of the College. Student membership is voluntary and there are no term limits. The Honor Board leadership, with assistance of the Student Government Association and Student Affairs officials, annually selects new members to replace graduating student members, to replace student members dismissed for insufficient grade point average and to maintain the representative nature of the board. The Office of the Dean of Students recruits and selects the five staff members. The Faculty Senate nominates and selects the eight faculty members and eight Honor Advisors.