



## **Conduct FAQs for Students**

### **How are students referred to the Office of the Dean of Students?**

Students are referred by a wide range of people including but not limited to Faculty and Staff, Government Agencies, general community members, other colleges or universities, parents or family, peers, and the University Police Department

### **What kind of incidents are referred to the Office of the Dean of Students?**

Any incidents that could be alleged violations of the Code are typically referred to the Office of the Dean of Students. These incidents could occur on-campus or off-campus.

### **The incident happened off-campus; why does the University want to speak with me?**

The Code applies to all students at Purdue University Fort Wayne, regardless of where the incident occurs. Purdue University Fort Wayne has high expectations for students wherever they are. In addition, state law gives Purdue University Fort Wayne the authority to address behavior directed at other students or that occurs in connection with university activities or student organizations, is criminal in nature, or adversely affects the university community.

### **I have a very busy schedule and cannot attend the preliminary meeting time the University has scheduled. How can the preliminary hearing be rescheduled?**

The Dean of Students Office schedules preliminary meetings based on a student's class schedule and does not request a student to miss class to attend a preliminary meeting. If you have commitments outside of the classroom during your meeting time, you will need to call the office to see if a different appointment time is available. Typically, students cannot reschedule if the commitment is not directly related to education.

### **What happens during the preliminary meeting?**

The staff member will meet with you will explain the conduct process, answer your questions, review the alleged violation, and request you to provide your description of what took place.

### **What is the standard of information (evidence) in the student conduct process?**

All decisions of the University conduct process will be made based on the preponderance of the information presented or a "more likely than not" standard. The conduct process is an administrative process, not a criminal process.

## **What will happen if I refuse to participate or do not show up in this process?**

You are not required to participate. The student conduct process will continue to move forward regardless of whether you choose to participate or not. You are encouraged to participate in the process. You will be provided notices as outlined in the Code of all meetings, scheduled hearings, charges, and outcomes. Failure to participate is not considered evidence of responsibility but also will not provide a basis for an appeal.

## **I am being charged with a crime off-campus for the same offense. Can the conduct process for the University be delayed until after the criminal trial or the criminal complaint is resolved?**

No. The conduct process at Purdue University Fort Wayne University is not designed to determine if a student violated the law. Instead, the University seeks to determine if a student's behavior violated published policies, regulations, and standards. The University will not delay the conduct of students to accommodate the criminal process. Delays may only be granted when it is established to the satisfaction of the Dean of Students, Conduct officer, or designee that a delay is in the University's best interest.

## **I am going to have to go to court for this incident already. Isn't this double jeopardy?**

No. "Double jeopardy" is a concept that applies solely to criminal proceedings that do not affect the conduct process.

## **May I have someone of my choice attend the meeting with me?**

Yes. You can have an individual of your choice attend with you. This person does not have to be a part of the Purdue University Fort Wayne community. Their role is to serve as an advisor for you. An advisor is not permitted to actively participate in the process in any way. During the meeting/hearing, your advisor may consult with you quietly in a whisper or exchange notes. The Office of the Dean of Students will correspond and communicate directly with the student involved and not with third parties. If your advisor does not follow the procedures, they may be asked to leave the hearing and/or meeting.

## **What are sanctions?**

Our conduct process is designed to be educational and restorative in nature. Sanctions are not considered a punishment for a student's actions or behavior. Sanctions are imposed to help students to:

1. make better decisions in the future
2. understand how their choices impacted the community
3. deter them from similar behavior
4. help restore the community or other individuals who may have been impacted.

## **How are sanctions determined?**

Sanctions are determined based on the nature and severity of the violation, the student's previous conduct record, precedent, and impact on the community.

## **What sanctions could be imposed?**

Sanctions can range from an official warning or disciplinary probation to suspension or expulsion from the institution. Sanctions can include, but are not limited to, referrals to community service, or alcohol or other drug education, educational requirements, restitution, trespass, and restriction or loss of privileges.