

Chapter 132F-121 WAC
STUDENT ACTIVITIES, RIGHTS AND DISCIPLINE
(Formerly chapter 132F-120 WAC)

Last Update: 12/24/24

WAC

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WAC 132F-121-005 Statement of values. The Seattle College District is a diverse and dynamic learning community. As such, the college district maintains a strong commitment to our values. We value students: We promote programs, services and activities that address students' needs and interests; student success through accessibility and support services; and student development through activities both inside and outside the classroom. We value diversity: We promote respect for the abilities and interests of each individual; awareness and understanding of all people; and appreciation of the unique cultures of our campuses. We are committed to the concept and practice of equal opportunity for all, and do not tolerate discrimination or retaliation against any member of the college community because of their race; color; national origin; sensory, mental or physical disability; use of a service animal; gender, including pregnancy; marital status, religion; creed; genetic information; sexual orientation; age; gender identity; gender expression; veteran's status; or any other legally protected classification, in accordance with WAC 132F-121-110(1).

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.140 and 28B.50.090(3). WSR 21-10-027, § 132F-121-005, filed 4/26/21, effective 5/27/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.140(13). WSR 16-04-025, § 132F-121-005, filed 1/25/16, effective 2/25/16.]

WAC 132F-121-010 Definitions and general provisions. For purposes of this chapter, except for the Title IX supplemental procedures, the following definitions apply. The definition of "consent," however, will apply to the whole chapter.

(1) The terms "college" and "campus" are used interchangeably, and each refers to any of the district's three colleges, North Seattle College, Seattle Central College, and South Seattle College.

(2) "Day" means calendar day, unless specified otherwise, and deadlines shall be computed in accordance with WAC 10-08-080.

(3) "District" means the sixth state college district, the district administrative offices (Siegal Center), North Seattle College, Seattle Central College, South Seattle College, and/or every other District VI educational facility, each separately and all together.

(4) "District community" includes, but is not limited to, the district itself and all enrolled students, employees, officers, and invitees of the district.

(5) "District property" includes all real property, buildings, and other facilities that are owned, leased, or controlled by the district or by the state for district purposes.

(6) "Vice president for student services" means the person whom a college president has appointed to that position or has otherwise designated to perform the functions ascribed to that position in this chapter.

(7) An action or activity that may be authorized or taken by the district chancellor, a vice chancellor, a campus president, or a campus vice president may also be authorized or taken by any other person whom that officer has specifically designated to perform that function on their behalf, but this officer retains responsibility for the function.

(8) After the adoption of these rules, if a statute or rule to which they refer is renumbered or otherwise amended, these rules shall be interpreted to the fullest extent possible to incorporate such amendment while still giving effect to their original purposes.

(9) Service of any document, notice, or copy under this chapter shall be made (a) by personal delivery, (b) by mailing to the recipient's last known address, which service shall be regarded as complete upon deposit in the U.S. mail properly stamped and addressed, or (c) as otherwise authorized by law or rule.

(10) The term "student" includes all persons taking courses at the district, either full-time or part-time. Persons who withdraw after allegedly violating the student code, who are not officially enrolled for a particular term but who have a continuing relationship with the district, or who have been notified of their acceptance for admission are considered "students" as are persons who are living in district resident halls, although not enrolled at the district.

(11) The term "student group" is a student organization, athletic team, or living group including, but not limited to, student clubs and organizations, members of a class or student cohort, student performance groups, and student living groups within student housing.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.140 and 28B.50.090(3). WSR 23-12-052, § 132F-121-010, filed 6/1/23, effective 7/2/23; WSR 21-10-027, § 132F-121-010, filed 4/26/21, effective 5/27/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.140(13). WSR 16-04-025, § 132F-121-010, filed 1/25/16, effective 2/25/16. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.140(13) and 42.56.040. WSR 15-02-072, § 132F-121-010, filed 1/6/15, effective 2/6/15. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.140(13). WSR 13-11-127, §

132F-121-010, filed 5/21/13, effective 6/21/13. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.100, [28B.50].130, and/or [28B.50].140. WSR 03-16-015, § 132F-121-010, filed 7/28/03, effective 8/28/03.]

WAC 132F-121-020 Student rights, freedoms, and responsibilities.

(1) Statement of student rights. As members of the academic community, students are encouraged to develop the capacity for critical judgment and to engage in an independent search for truth. Freedom to teach and freedom to learn are inseparable facets of academic freedom. The freedom to learn depends upon appropriate opportunities and conditions in the classroom, on the campus, and in the larger community. Students should exercise their freedom with responsibility. The responsibility to secure and to respect general conditions conducive to the freedom to learn is shared by all members of the college community.

The following enumerated rights are guaranteed to each student within the limitations of statutory law and college policy which are deemed necessary to achieve the educational goals of the college:

(a) Academic freedom.

(i) Students are guaranteed the rights of free inquiry, expression, and assembly upon and within college facilities that are generally open and available to the public.

(ii) Students are free to pursue appropriate educational objectives from among the college's curricula, programs, and services, subject to the limitations of RCW 28B.50.090 (3) (b).

(iii) Students shall be protected from academic evaluation which is arbitrary, prejudiced, or capricious, but are responsible for meeting the standards of academic performance established by each of their instructors.

(iv) Students have the right to a learning environment which is free from unlawful discrimination, inappropriate and disrespectful conduct, and any and all harassment, including sexual harassment.

(b) Due process.

(i) The rights of students to be secure in their persons, quarters, papers, and effects against unreasonable searches and seizures is guaranteed.

(ii) No disciplinary sanction may be imposed on any student without notice to the accused of the nature of the charges.

(iii) A student accused of violating this code of student conduct is entitled, upon request, to procedural due process as set forth in this chapter.

(iv) Sexual misconduct investigations. Both the respondent and the claimant in cases involving allegations of sexual misconduct shall be provided the same procedural rights to participate in student discipline matters, including the right to participate in the initial disciplinary decision-making process and to appeal any disciplinary decision.

(2) Classroom freedom of expression. The district recognizes the rights of students to freedom of discussion and free expression of views. However, students' rights of classroom expression do not include expressions or conduct which create a hostile educational environment or violate chapter 49.60 RCW or other applicable law. It is the responsibility of the instructor to insure and encourage the realization not only of the fact but of the spirit of free inquiry. Instructors have the responsibility to maintain order, but this authority shall not be used to inhibit the expression of views contrary to their own. Students have the right to take reasoned exception to the

data or views offered in any course of study and to reserve judgment about matters of opinion, but they cannot do so in a disruptive manner that interferes with the educational process. Students are responsible for learning the content of any course of study for which they are enrolled. It also is the responsibility of the student to comply with the instructor's efforts to assure freedom of expression and to maintain order.

(3) Protection against improper evaluation. Instructors shall give their students fair and consistent evaluations of the students' course performance. Toward this end, instructors are also responsible for establishing appropriate standards of academic performance for each course. Fair and consistent grading is a legitimate classroom experience.

(4) Protection against improper disclosure. Information about student views, beliefs, and political associations which is acquired by instructors in the course of their work as faculty or advisors, under circumstances which clearly indicate that it is intended to be confidential, shall be treated as confidential and shall not be disclosed to others, unless it relates to the apparent or intended commission of a crime or disclosure is required by law. Protection against improper disclosure of student education record information is a serious professional obligation incurred by the teaching profession and district administrators. However, evaluations of student ability and character may be provided to third parties with the student's consent or in accordance with applicable law.

(5) Nonacademic expression and inquiry. Students and student organizations are free to examine and to discuss all questions of interest to them and to express opinions publicly and privately, in accordance with law. They are free to support causes by orderly and lawful means which do not disrupt the operation of the institution and which comply with the district's policies regarding these activities.

(6) The district shall respect students' right to privacy. It will not inquire into the off-campus activities of its students without legal justification.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.140 and 28B.50.090(3). WSR 21-10-027, § 132F-121-020, filed 4/26/21, effective 5/27/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.140(13). WSR 16-04-025, § 132F-121-020, filed 1/25/16, effective 2/25/16. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.100, [28B.50].130, and/or [28B.50].140. WSR 03-16-015, § 132F-121-020, filed 7/28/03, effective 8/28/03.]

WAC 132F-121-030 Student organizations. (1) Student organizations may be established and recognized whether their aims are educational, cultural, recreational, social, athletic, religious, political, or economic. Affiliation with an external organization shall not in and of itself disqualify a campus-based student organization from recognition. Membership in a student organization shall be open to any student who subscribes to the stated aims of the organization. To operate as such, a student organization must be recognized by the approved student government organization. The student organization shall abide by all governing federal and state laws and district and campus rules, policies and procedures.

(2) A college may require, as a condition of access to campus funds and/or facilities, demonstration or proof of the student enrollments of a student organization's members. However, any list of mem-

bers compiled for such purposes shall not be publicly disclosed except in accordance with applicable law. A college may, in its discretion, permit others, such as students' spouses, to participate in a student organization's activities under appropriate conditions.

(3) Each year, before a student organization may be recognized or function as such, or may use services and activities funds, a college employee must be identified to serve as its advisor and their name must be approved by the vice president for student services or designee.

(4) Where funds are allocated to a student organization, financial accountability is required. Student organizations' funds shall be maintained at the college, in college accounts. The organizations shall keep detailed written records of their income and expenditures and shall assure that these can be reconciled with the campus budget and accounting system. Student organizations' financial records must be made available upon request to the student government organization and to any administrative officer designated by the college president.

(5) A college president may withdraw a student organization's recognition and funding for good cause. Such cause shall include, but not be limited to, (a) failure to comply with this rule or other district requirements or (b) hazing.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.140 and 28B.50.090(3). WSR 21-10-027, § 132F-121-030, filed 4/26/21, effective 5/27/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.140(13). WSR 13-11-127, § 132F-121-030, filed 5/21/13, effective 6/21/13. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.100, [28B.50].130, and/or [28B.50].140. WSR 03-16-015, § 132F-121-030, filed 7/28/03, effective 8/28/03.]

WAC 132F-121-035 Hazing prohibited—Sanctions. (1) Hazing by a student or a student group is prohibited pursuant to WAC 132F-121-110(15).

(2) No student may conspire to engage in hazing or participate in hazing of another. State law provides that hazing is a criminal offense, punishable as a misdemeanor.

(3) Washington state law provides that:

(a) Any student group that knowingly permits hazing is strictly liable for harm caused to persons or property resulting from hazing. If the organization, association, or student living group is a corporation whether for profit or nonprofit, the individual directors of the corporation may be held individually liable for damages.

(b) Any person who participates in the hazing of another shall forfeit any entitlement to state-funded grants, scholarships, or awards for a period of time determined by the college.

(c) Student groups that knowingly permit hazing to be conducted by its members or by others subject to its direction or control shall be deprived of any official recognition or approval granted by the college.

(d) Student groups found responsible for violating the code of student conduct, college antihazing policies, or state or federal laws relating to hazing or offenses related to alcohol, drugs, sexual assault, or physical assault will be disclosed in a public report issued by the college setting forth the name of the student group, the date the investigation began, the date the investigation ended, a finding

of responsibility, a description of the incident(s) giving rise to the finding, and the details of the sanction(s) imposed.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.140 and 28B.50.090(3). WSR 23-12-052, § 132F-121-035, filed 6/1/23, effective 7/2/23.]

WAC 132F-121-040 Journalistic freedom and responsibility. (1) A primary purpose of student publications is to promote free and responsible discussion of campus and community issues.

(2) Each campus president shall establish a board of publications composed of representatives of students, faculty, and staff. This board shall serve as the publisher of all student publications and shall have general authority over them.

(3) The board of publications may adopt, subject to modification by the campus president, such journalistic, editorial, and advertising guidelines as it deems appropriate to govern student publications. Unless specifically stated by the board and approved by the campus president otherwise, these guidelines shall be deemed to include all applicable federal and state laws, all district rules, policies and procedures, and relevant codes of journalistic, editorial and advertising ethics and practices as adopted by national trade and professional organizations, including but not limited to the *Statement of Principles* as adopted by the American Society of Newspaper Editors.

(4) Student newspapers shall be free of censorship. However, student newspapers and other student publications shall follow the board's guidelines as described above. Student editors shall be free to develop their own editorial policies within these guidelines.

(5) Staff members of student newspapers shall not be subject to arbitrary discipline or dismissal because of student, faculty, administrative or community disapproval of editorial policy or content.

(6) Good cause for discipline or dismissal of a student publication staff member shall include, but not be limited to, violation of the board's guidelines. Any discipline or dismissal of a student staff member shall be subject to review under the student complaint procedure.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.100, [28B.50].130, and/or [28B.50].140. WSR 03-16-015, § 132F-121-040, filed 7/28/03, effective 8/28/03.]

WAC 132F-121-050 Student use of the district/college name. (1) No individual student, student group, or student organization may act or make any representation in the name of the district or of any campus without specific authorization from the vice president for student services or designee.

(2) No individual student, student group or student organization shall falsely indicate or represent that their own position on any policy or issue is that of the district or of any campus.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.140 and 28B.50.090(3). WSR 21-10-027, § 132F-121-050, filed 4/26/21, effective 5/27/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.140(13). WSR 13-11-127, § 132F-121-050, filed 5/21/13, effective 6/21/13. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.100, [28B.50].130, and/or [28B.50].140. WSR 03-16-015, § 132F-121-050, filed 7/28/03, effective 8/28/03.]

WAC 132F-121-060 Student grievances generally. (1) The purpose of these procedures is to provide guidelines which enable a student to express and resolve misunderstandings, complaints, or grievances in a fair and equitable manner. These procedures are to be used for addressing informal grievances and formal grievances against college employees as far as the collective bargaining agreement under which the employee works allows.

(2) Students have the right to receive clear information and fair application of college policies, standards, rules and requirements and are responsible for complying with them in their relationships with college personnel. The grievance procedure emphasizes an informal resolution which promotes constructive dialogue and understanding. Available to all students and it is intended to protect the rights of both the complainant and the respondent. The formal procedures should be used when informal process does not resolve the issue.

(3) A "grievance" is defined as a good faith allegation based on personal experience or knowledge by a student or students that there has been a violation, misapplication, or misinterpretation of some service or rule as it applies to students in the institution by a staff or faculty member of the institution, resulting in loss or detriment to the complainant. However, an objection to disciplinary action under the student conduct code is only appealable under that code, and cannot constitute a grievance.

(4) The student grievance procedure described is not intended to cover grievances of discrimination or sexual harassment. The college has separate, specific procedures for such grievances.

(5) Each college president shall appoint a grievance officer to handle student grievances. This position shall be filled by an employee whose position is below the level of vice president. The district chancellor shall designate a grievance officer to handle grievances against Siegal Center employees. If the president or chancellor determines, upon request, that the grievance officer has a disqualifying conflict of interest in a particular matter, they may appoint a substitute grievance officer for that matter. Information on the identity and location of the grievance officer(s) and about this procedure shall be readily available within each college.

(6) Each campus will appoint one or more nonstudent employees who will serve as student process advocates. This role will guide the student through the informal and formal process.

(7) No respondent or district employee shall take adverse action or otherwise retaliate against a student because that student initiated a good faith grievance or assisted another student with a grievance.

(8) Federal and state laws, rules and regulations, in addition to policies, regulations and procedures adopted by the state board for community college education or the board of trustees of Seattle Colleges shall not be grievable matters.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.140 and 28B.50.090 (3). WSR 21-13-066, § 132F-121-060, filed 6/12/21, effective 7/13/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.140(13). WSR 13-11-127, § 132F-121-060, filed 5/21/13, effective 6/21/13. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.100, [28B.50].130, and/or [28B.50].140. WSR 03-16-015, § 132F-121-060, filed 7/28/03, effective 8/28/03.]

WAC 132F-121-070 Informal processing of student grievances. (1)

The goal is to informally resolve the grievance with the employee most closely responsible for the policy, procedure, or action. The college employee and student shall make a good faith effort to resolve the issue on a one-to-one basis.

(2) Both parties should openly discuss the concern, attempt to understand the other's perspective, explore alternatives and attempt to arrive at a satisfactory resolution. For assistance in identifying the appropriate person a student should contact the student grievance process advocate, as designated by the VPSS. In such cases, the student may choose to engage with the student grievance process advocate as designed by the institution in support of these efforts.

(3) If the student complainant believes that discussion with an employee respondent will not achieve or has not achieved a satisfactory result, the student may communicate about the matter with the respondent's supervisor.

(4) This informal process must be completed in a timely manner. In general, a student wishing to express a grievance should do so as soon as the grievance arises, but no later than the end of the quarter in which the issue occurred.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.140 and 28B.50.090(3). WSR 21-13-066, § 132F-121-070, filed 6/12/21, effective 7/13/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.140(13). WSR 13-11-127, § 132F-121-070, filed 5/21/13, effective 6/21/13. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.100, [28B.50].130, and/or [28B.50].140. WSR 03-16-015, § 132F-121-070, filed 7/28/03, effective 8/28/03.]

WAC 132F-121-080 Formal processing of grievances. (1)

A grievance is a formal procedure instituted when a grievance is not resolved through the informal grievance process. It involves submitting a written grievance to the student grievance officer often with the help of the student grievance process advocate.

(2) A student wishing to express a grievance should do so no later than the last day of the quarter after the event occurred, with the exception of spring quarter where the last day to file a formal grievance is the last day of fall quarter.

(3) The following procedures shall be used when a student initiates the grievance process. All timelines below can be adjusted as deemed appropriate by the grievance officer.

(a) Student (complainant) submits a written grievance;

(b) Grievance officer reviews and qualifies, or requests the student revise for subsequent qualification;

(c) Grievance officer notifies employee (respondent) and their supervisor with written grievance and documentation, once qualified, within five business days or the maximum days afforded in the employee's contract;

(d) Respondent must provide a written response to student grievance officer, within ten business days;

(e) The respondent's supervisor must provide a written summary of attempts to resolve or facts gathered in the grievance process to the student grievance officer within the same time frame as respondent;

(f) Student grievance officer sends response to complainant within five business days;

(g) The grievance is confirmed by the student as resolved, or if the student feels a satisfactory resolution was not achieved, they may

request a conference with the respondent and their supervisor, facilitated by the student grievance officer within five business days. Students have the right to bring an advocate to the conference meeting with notification to the grievance officer;

(h) Student grievance officer initiates scheduling of one hour conference meeting to facilitate discussion for attempted resolution, within five business days;

(i) Grievance officer will provide to all parties a written summary of the conference, within five business days;

(j) If complainant is not satisfied with the resolution upon receipt of the conference summary, they may request of the grievance officer a final review by the respondent's vice president or appropriate unit administrator in writing within five business days; and

(k) The unit administrator may amend, modify, reverse or accept the recommendation. This decision must be sent to the complainant within ten business days. This decision shall be final.

(4) The grievance officer or appropriate unit administrator may extend the timeline under exceptional circumstances such as extended illness or off contract status.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.140 and 28B.50.090(3). WSR 21-13-066, § 132F-121-080, filed 6/12/21, effective 7/13/21; WSR 21-10-027, § 132F-121-080, filed 4/26/21, effective 5/27/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.140(13). WSR 13-11-127, § 132F-121-080, filed 5/21/13, effective 6/21/13. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.100, [28B.50].130, and/or [28B.50].140. WSR 03-16-015, § 132F-121-080, filed 7/28/03, effective 8/28/03.]

WAC 132F-121-090 Additional provisions for grade grievances.

(1) For student grievances regarding grades received for course work, before a student can file a formal or written grade appeal, they should try to resolve the issue directly with the instructor or their dean.

(2) If direct discussion with the faculty or instructional dean does not resolve the grade dispute to the student's satisfaction, the student may begin the formal grade grievance process.

(3) A student may formally grieve only the final grade received in a course, but that grievance may include any or all of the components of that final grade. For a grade grievance, the respondent(s) shall be, or include, the instructor who issued the grade. Assignment grades before the quarter ends, must be resolved using the informal grievance process by involving the instructor and their dean.

(4) A formal grievance regarding a grade must be filed not later than the last day of the quarter which follows the quarter for which the disputed grade was received, except that a grievance regarding a spring quarter grade may be filed through the last day of the following fall quarter.

(5) In specifying the facts and other grounds on which it is based, the formal grievance shall specify the grade that is being challenged and should attach copies of relevant documents. The response on behalf of the respondent shall include, to the extent feasible, the applicable evaluation criteria, copies of the course syllabus and relevant grading records, and the faculty member's explanation for the grade.

(6) Ordinarily the evaluation of course mastery is exclusively within the province of the instructor of a particular course, and so a grade change may be initiated only by that instructor.

(7) Nothing in these rules shall be construed to limit the separate authority of the vice president of instruction to change a grade when required by a judicial order or a legal settlement agreement entered into by the district, regardless of whether a grievance has been filed.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.140 and 28B.50.090(3). WSR 21-13-066, § 132F-121-090, filed 6/12/21, effective 7/13/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.140(13). WSR 13-11-127, § 132F-121-090, filed 5/21/13, effective 6/21/13. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.100, [28B.50].130, and/or [28B.50].140. WSR 03-16-015, § 132F-121-090, filed 7/28/03, effective 8/28/03.]

WAC 132F-121-100 Student conduct generally. (1) Pursuant to the authority granted by RCW 28B.50.140 and other applicable law, the district board of trustees hereby establishes the following rules on student conduct and student discipline as the district's student conduct code.

(2) This student conduct code applies to every person who is enrolled as a student in the district.

(3) Expectations of students. Admission to the district presumes that students will conduct themselves as responsible members of the district community. When students enroll in any of the colleges or facilities operated by the district, they assume the obligation to observe standards of conduct which are appropriate to the pursuit of their educational goals.

(4) Student responsibility. Students have the obligations to:

(a) Maintain high standards of academic and personal honesty and integrity;

(b) Respect the rights of others and cooperate with all parts of the district community to insure that such rights are guaranteed, whether or not the views of those exercising such rights are consistent with their own;

(c) Refrain from actions which would interfere with campus functions or endanger the health, safety, welfare or property of others;

(d) Comply with district rules and regulations; and

(e) Comply with duly constituted civil authority, and obey all applicable laws.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.100, [28B.50].130, and/or [28B.50].140. WSR 03-16-015, § 132F-121-100, filed 7/28/03, effective 8/28/03.]

WAC 132F-121-110 Student misconduct. Misconduct for which the campuses may impose sanctions includes, but is not limited to, any of the following:

(1) Discriminatory conduct. Discriminatory conduct which harms or adversely affects any member of the college community because of their race; color; national origin; sensory, mental or physical disability; use of a service animal; gender, including pregnancy; marital status, religion; creed; genetic information; sexual orientation; age; gender

identity; gender expression; veteran's status; or any other legally protected classification.

(2) Sexual misconduct. Sexual misconduct includes sexual harassment, sexual intimidation, sexual violence, domestic violence, and dating violence. Sexual misconduct may also include acts of sex-based harassment and sex discrimination prohibited under Title IX. See WAC 132F-121-280.

(a) Sex-based harassment is a form of sex discrimination consisting of unwelcome, gender-based, verbal, written, electronic and/or physical conduct. Sex-based harassment does not need to be sexual in nature and can include offensive remarks about a person's gender. There are two types of sex-based harassment:

(i) Hostile environment is unwelcome sex-based conduct that, based on the totality of the circumstances, is subjectively and objectively offensive and is so severe or pervasive that it limits or denies a person's ability to participate in or benefit from the recipient's education program or activity (i.e., creates a hostile environment). Whether a hostile environment has been created is a fact-specific inquiry that includes consideration of the following:

(A) The degree to which the conduct affected the complainant's ability to access the recipient's education program or activity;

(B) The type, frequency, and duration of the conduct;

(C) The parties' ages, roles within the recipient's education program or activity, previous interactions, and other factors about each party that may be relevant to evaluating the effects of the conduct;

(D) The location of the conduct and the context in which the conduct occurred; and

(E) Other sex-based harassment in the recipient's education program or activity.

(ii) Quid pro quo harassment is an employee, agent, or other person authorized by the college to provide an aid, benefit, or service under the college's education program or activity explicitly or implicitly conditioning the provision of such an aid, benefit, or service on a person's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct.

(b) Sexual exploitation. Taking nonconsensual or abusive sexual advantage of another for the respondent's own advantage or benefit, or to benefit or take advantage of anyone other than the one being exploited, when the behavior does not otherwise constitute one of the other sexual misconduct offenses described herein. Examples of sexual exploitation may include, but are not limited to:

(i) Invading another person's sexual privacy;

(ii) Prostituting another person;

(iii) Nonconsensual photography and digital or video recording of nudity or sexual activity, or nonconsensual audio recording of sexual activity;

(iv) Unauthorized sharing or distribution of photographs or digital or video recording of nudity or sexual activity, or audio recording of sexual activity, unless otherwise protected by law;

(v) Engaging in voyeurism. A person commits voyeurism if they knowingly view, photograph, record, or film another person, without that person's knowledge and consent, while the person being viewed, photographed, recorded, or filmed is in a place where the person has a reasonable expectation of privacy;

(vi) Knowingly or recklessly exposing another person to a significant risk of sexually transmitted disease or infection; or

(vii) Causing the nonconsensual indecent exposure of another person, as defined by subsection (21) of this section.

(c) Sexual violence. Sexual violence is a type of sexual discrimination and harassment. Nonconsensual sexual intercourse, nonconsensual sexual contact, domestic violence, dating violence, incest, statutory rape, and stalking are all types of sexual violence.

(i) Nonconsensual sexual intercourse (anal, oral, or vaginal), however slight, with any object, by a person upon another person, that is without consent and/or by force. Sexual intercourse includes anal or vaginal penetration by a penis, tongue, finger, or object, or oral copulation by mouth to genital contact or genital to mouth contact.

(ii) Nonconsensual sexual contact (fondling) is any actual or attempted sexual touching, however slight, with any object or body part, by a person upon another person that is without consent and/or by force. Sexual touching includes any bodily contact with the breasts, groin, mouth, or other bodily orifice of another individual, or any other bodily contact in a sexual manner.

(d) Consent: Knowing, voluntary, and clear permission by word or action, to engage in mutually agreed upon sexual activity. Each party has the responsibility to make certain that the other has consented before engaging in the activity. For consent to be valid, there must be at the time of the act of sexual intercourse or sexual contact actual words or conduct indicating freely given agreement to have sexual intercourse or sexual contact. A person cannot consent if they are unable to understand what is happening or is disoriented, helpless, asleep or unconscious for any reason, including due to alcohol or other drugs. An individual who engages in sexual activity when the individual knows, or reasonably should know, that the other person is physically or mentally incapacitated has engaged in nonconsensual conduct. Intoxication is not a defense against allegations that an individual has engaged in nonconsensual sexual conduct.

(e) Domestic violence includes physical violence, bodily injury, assault, the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, sexual assault, coercive control, damage or destruction of personal property, stalking, or any other conduct prohibited under RCW 10.99.020, committed by a person with whom the victim shares a child in common, by a person who is cohabitating with or has cohabitated with the victim as a spouse, by a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family violence laws of the state of Washington, or by any other person against an adult or youth victim who is protected from that person's acts under the domestic or family violence laws of the state of Washington, RCW 26.55.010.

(f) Dating violence means physical violence, bodily injury, assault, the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, sexual assault, or stalking committed by a person:

(i) Who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim; and

(ii) Where the existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on a consideration of the following factors:

(A) The length of the relationship;

(B) The type of relationship; and

(C) The frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.

(g) Stalking is engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to:

(i) Fear for their safety or the safety of others; or

(ii) Suffer substantial emotional distress.

(3) Harassment. Unwelcome and offensive conduct, including verbal, nonverbal, or physical conduct not otherwise protected by law, that is directed at a person because of their membership in a protected class and that is sufficiently serious as to deny or limit, and that does deny or limit, the ability of a student to participate in or benefit from the college's educational program or that creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment for other campus community members. Protected status includes a person's race; color; national origin; sensory, mental or physical disability; use of a service animal; gender, including pregnancy; marital status; age; religion; creed; genetic information; sexual orientation; gender identity; gender expression; veteran's status; or any other legally protected classification, and includes sexual harassment. Harassing conduct may include, but is not limited to, physical conduct, verbal, written, social media and electronic forms of communication not otherwise protected by law.

(4) Academic dishonesty. Any act of course-related dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating or plagiarism.

(a) Cheating includes, but is not limited to, using, or attempting to use, any material, assistance, or source which has not been authorized by the instructor to satisfy any expectation or requirement in an instructional course, or obtaining, without authorization, test questions or answers or other academic material that belong to another.

(b) Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, using another person's ideas, words, or other work in an instructional course without properly crediting that person.

(c) Academic dishonesty also includes, but is not limited to, submitting in an instructional course either information that is known to be false (while concealing that falsity) or work that is substantially the same as that previously submitted in another course (without the current instructor's approval).

(5) Other dishonesty. Any other act of dishonesty related to district operations. Such acts include, but are not limited to:

(a) Forgery, alteration, or misuse of any district document, record, or instrument of identification;

(b) Tampering with an election conducted by or for district students; or

(c) Furnishing false information, or failing to furnish correct information, in response to the request or requirement of a district officer or employee.

(6) Obstruction or disruption of (a) any instruction, research, administration, disciplinary proceeding, or other district activity, whether occurring on or off district property, or (b) any other activity that is authorized to occur on district property, whether or not actually conducted by the district.

(7) Assault, physical abuse, verbal abuse, threat(s), intimidation, harassment, or other conduct which harms, threatens, or is reasonably perceived as threatening the health or safety of another person or another person's property.

(8) Bullying is unwelcome conduct, whether verbal, physical or otherwise, including "cyber" bullying that is objectively offensive and sufficiently severe, or persistent, and/or pervasive, that it has the effect of substantially limiting the ability of an individual to participate in or benefit from the colleges' educational and/or social programs, and/or student housing. Bullying behavior is conduct that is not otherwise protected by law. Bullying may be top-down, perpetuated

by someone with greater positional power towards another with lesser positional power; bottom-up, perpetuated by someone with lesser positional power towards someone with greater positional power; or peer-to-peer. Petty slights, annoyances, offensive utterances, and isolated incidents (unless extremely serious) typically do not qualify as bullying.

(9) Cyber misconduct. Cyberstalking, cyberbullying, or online harassment. Use of electronic communications including, but not limited to, electronic mail, instant messaging, electronic bulletin boards, and social media sites, to harass, abuse, bully or engage in other conduct which harms, threatens, or is reasonably perceived as threatening the health or safety of another person. Prohibited activities include, but are not limited to, unauthorized monitoring of another's email communications directly or through spyware, sending threatening emails, disrupting electronic communications with spam or by sending a computer virus, sending false messages to third parties using another's email identity, nonconsensual recording, including images or videos of a sexual nature, and nonconsensual distribution of such material.

(10) Stalking is 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.

(11) Attempted or actual damage to, or theft or misuse of, real or personal property or money of (a) the district or state, (b) any student or district officer, employee, or organization, or (c) any other person or organization lawfully present on district property, or possession of such property or money after it has been stolen.

(12) Failure to comply with the direction of a district officer or employee who is acting in the legitimate performance of their duties, or failure to properly identify oneself to such a person when requested to do so.

(13) Participation in any activity which unreasonably disrupts the operations of the district or infringes on the rights of another member of the district community, or leads or incites another person to engage in such an activity.

(14) Weapons. Carrying, holding, wearing, exhibiting, displaying or drawing of any firearm, dagger, sword, knife or other cutting or stabbing instrument, club, explosive device, or any other weapon apparently capable of producing bodily harm is prohibited on the college campus, subject to the following exceptions:

(a) Commissioned law enforcement personnel or legally authorized military personnel while in performance of their duties;

(b) A student with a valid concealed weapons permit may store a firearm in their vehicle parked on campus in accordance with RCW 9.41.050, provided the vehicle is locked and the weapon is concealed from view; or

(c) The president or the president's designee may authorize possession of a weapon on campus upon a showing that the weapon is reasonably related to a legitimate pedagogical purpose. Such permission shall be in writing and shall be subject to such terms or conditions incorporated therein.

(d) This prohibition does not apply to the possession and/or use of disabling chemical sprays when possessed and/or used for self-defense.

(15) Hazing. Hazing includes any act committed as part of a person's recruitment, initiation, pledging, admission into, or affilia-

tion with a student organization, athletic team, or living group, or any pastime or amusement engaged in with respect to such an organization, athletic team, or living group that causes, or is likely to cause, bodily danger or physical harm, or serious psychological or emotional harm, to any student or other person attending a public or private institution of higher education or other postsecondary educational institution in this state, including causing, directing, coercing, or forcing a person to consume any food, liquid, alcohol, drug, or other substance which subjects the person to risk of such harm, regardless of the person's willingness to participate. "Hazing" does not include customary athletic events or other similar contests or competitions. Hazing includes, but is not limited to, any initiation into a student organization or any pastime or amusement engaged in with respect to such an organization that causes, or is likely to cause, bodily danger or physical harm, or serious mental or emotional harm, to any student.

(16) Alcohol. The use, possession, delivery, or sale of any alcoholic beverage, except as permitted by law, applicable college policies, or authorized by chancellor or a college president, or being observably under the influence of alcohol.

(17) Drugs.

(a) Marijuana. The use, possession, delivery, or sale of marijuana or the psychoactive compounds found in marijuana and intended for human consumption, regardless of form. While state law permits the recreational use of marijuana, federal law prohibits such use on college premises or in connection with college activities.

(b) Other drugs. The use, possession, delivery, sale or being under the influence of any legend drug, including anabolic steroids, androgens, or human growth hormones as defined in chapter 69.41 RCW, or any other controlled substance under chapter 69.50 RCW, except as prescribed for a student's use by a licensed practitioner.

(18) Obstruction of the free flow of pedestrian or vehicular movement on district property or at a district activity.

(19) Conduct which is disorderly, lewd, or obscene.

(20) Breach of the peace, or aiding, abetting, or procuring a breach of the peace.

(21) Indecent exposure. The intentional or knowing exposure of a person's genitals or other private body parts when done in a place or manner in which such exposure is likely to cause affront or alarm. Breastfeeding or expressing breast milk is not indecent exposure.

(22) The use of tobacco, electronic cigarettes, and related products is prohibited in any building owned, leased or operated by the college, including 25 feet from entrances, exits, windows that open, and ventilation intakes of such buildings, and where otherwise prohibited. "Related products" include, but are not limited to, cigarettes, pipes, bidi, clove cigarettes, water pipes, hookahs, chewing tobacco, and snuff.

(23) Theft or other misuse of computer time or other electronic information resources of the district. Such misuse includes but is not limited to:

(a) Unauthorized use of such resources or opening of a file, message, or other item;

(b) Unauthorized duplication, transfer, or distribution of a computer program, file, message, or other item;

(c) Unauthorized use or distribution of someone else's password or other identification;

(d) Use of such time or resources to interfere with someone else's work;

(e) Use of such time or resources to send, display, or print an obscene or abusive message, text, or image;

(f) Use of such time or resources to interfere with normal operation of the district's computing system or other electronic information resources;

(g) Use of such time or resources in violation of applicable copyright or other law;

(h) Adding to or otherwise altering the infrastructure of the district's electronic information resources without authorization; or

(i) Failure to comply with the district's electronic use policy.

(24) Unauthorized possession, duplication, or other use of a key, keycard, or other restricted means of access to district property, or unauthorized entry onto or into district property.

(25) Abuse or misuse of any of the procedures relating to student complaints or misconduct including, but not limited to:

(a) Failure to obey a subpoena;

(b) Falsification or misrepresentation of information;

(c) Disruption, or interference with the orderly conduct, of a proceeding;

(d) Interfering with someone else's proper participation in a proceeding;

(e) Destroying or altering potential evidence, or attempting to intimidate or otherwise improperly pressure a witness or potential witness;

(f) Attempting to influence the impartiality of, or harassing or intimidating, a student conduct committee member; or

(g) Failure to comply with any disciplinary sanction(s) imposed under this student conduct code.

(26) Safety violations. The operation of any motor vehicle on district property in an unsafe manner or in a manner which is reasonably perceived as threatening the health or safety of another person. Safety violation includes any nonaccidental conduct that interferes with or otherwise compromises any college policy, equipment, or procedure relating to the safety and security of the campus community, including tampering with fire safety equipment and triggering false alarms or other emergency response systems.

(27) Violation of any other district rule, requirement, or procedure including, but not limited to, any that is posted in electronic form, the district's traffic and parking rules, or the requirements for carpool parking.

(28) Violation of any federal, state, or local law, rule, or regulation, including any hate crime.

(29) Ethical violation. The breach of any generally recognized and published code of ethics or standards of professional practice that governs the conduct of a particular profession for which the student is taking a course or is pursuing as an educational goal or major.

In addition to initiating discipline proceeding for violation of the student conduct code, the college may refer any violations of federal, state or local laws to civil and criminal authorities for disposition. The college shall proceed with student disciplinary proceedings regardless of whether the underlying conduct is subject to civil or criminal prosecution.

(30) Attempting to commit any of the foregoing acts of misconduct or aiding, abetting, inciting, encouraging, or assisting another person to commit any of the foregoing acts of misconduct.

(31) Retaliation. Retaliation means intimidation, threats, coercion, or discrimination against any person by the college, a student, or an employee or other person authorized by the college to provide aid, benefit, or service under the college's education program or activity, for the purpose of interfering with any right or privilege secured by college policies and procedures prohibiting sex discrimination, or because the person has reported information, made a complaint, testified, assisted, or participated or refused to participate in any manner in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing under this part, including in an informal resolution process, in these investigation procedures, and any disciplinary proceeding for sex discrimination. Nothing in this definition precludes the college from requiring an employee to provide aid, benefit, or service under the college's education program or activity to participate as a witness in, or otherwise assist with, an investigation, proceeding, or hearing.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 34.05.010(16) and 28B.50.140(13). WSR 25-02-075, s 132F-121-110, filed 12/24/24, effective 1/24/25. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.140 and 28B.50.090(3). WSR 23-12-052, § 132F-121-110, filed 6/1/23, effective 7/2/23; WSR 21-10-027, § 132F-121-110, filed 4/26/21, effective 5/27/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.140(13). WSR 16-04-025, § 132F-121-110, filed 1/25/16, effective 2/25/16; WSR 13-11-127, § 132F-121-110, filed 5/21/13, effective 6/21/13. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.100, [28B.50].130, and/or [28B.50].140. WSR 03-16-015, § 132F-121-110, filed 7/28/03, effective 8/28/03.]

WAC 132F-121-120 Instructor sanctions for course work dishonesty or classroom misconduct.

(1) An instructor need not give credit for course work that is the product of cheating, plagiarism, or other dishonesty. For any act of dishonesty that occurs during an instructional course, the instructor may adjust the student's grade accordingly for the particular examination, paper, or other work product where that dishonesty occurred. Any such grade adjustment shall not limit or preclude disciplinary sanction(s) for the same act of dishonesty.

(2) An instructor may take appropriate action to maintain order and proper conduct in the classroom and to maintain the effective cooperation of students in fulfilling the objectives of the course. If a student is so disorderly or disruptive that it is difficult or impossible to maintain classroom decorum, that action may include removing that student from that day's class session.

(3) With regard to any act of course-related dishonesty, classroom misconduct, or other academic misconduct, the faculty member involved may notify their dean, with supporting documentation. The dean shall then determine whether to refer the matter to the vice president for student services for possible disciplinary action.

(4) A student who has received a grade adjustment by the instructor on the basis of dishonesty may grieve that adjustment under the student complaint procedure. However, any disciplinary sanction that is imposed instead of or in addition to an instructor's grade adjustment may be imposed and reviewed only under the student disciplinary procedure.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.140 and 28B.50.090(3). WSR 21-10-027, § 132F-121-120, filed 4/26/21, effective 5/27/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.100, [28B.50].130, and/or [28B.50].140. WSR 03-16-015, § 132F-121-120, filed 7/28/03, effective 8/28/03.]

WAC 132F-121-130 Disciplinary jurisdiction. In addition to initiating discipline proceedings for violation of the student conduct code, the college may refer any violations of federal, state, or local laws to civil and criminal authorities for disposition. The college shall proceed with student disciplinary proceedings regardless of whether the underlying conduct is subject to civil or criminal prosecution.

(1) The student conduct code shall apply to conduct by students and student groups that occurs:

(a) On college premises; or

(b) At or in connection with college-sponsored activities; or

(c) To off-campus conduct that in the judgment of the college adversely affects the college community or the pursuit of its objectives.

(2) Jurisdiction extends to, but is not limited to, locations in which students or student groups are engaged in official college activities including, but not limited to, foreign or domestic travel, activities funded by the associated students, athletic events, training internships, cooperative and distance education, online education, practicums, supervised work experiences or any other college-sanctioned social or club activities and college-sanctioned housing.

(3) Students are responsible for their conduct from notification of admission to the college through the actual receipt of a certificate or degree, even though conduct may occur before classes begin or after classes end, as well as during the academic year and during periods between terms of actual enrollment.

(4) These standards shall apply to a student's conduct even if the student withdraws from college while a disciplinary matter is pending.

(5) The student conduct officer has sole discretion, on a case-by-case basis, to determine whether the student conduct code will be applied to conduct by students or student groups that occurs off-campus.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.140 and 28B.50.090(3). WSR 23-12-052, § 132F-121-130, filed 6/1/23, effective 7/2/23. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.100, [28B.50].130, and/or [28B.50].140. WSR 03-16-015, § 132F-121-130, filed 7/28/03, effective 8/28/03.]

WAC 132F-121-140 Initiation of discipline. (1) The vice president for student services or designee at each campus is responsible for investigating possible violations of this student conduct code at that campus and initiating any appropriate disciplinary actions. If that officer is a respondent in a complaint initiated by the subject student, the college president shall, upon request and when feasible, designate another person to fulfill any such disciplinary responsibilities relative to the complainant.

(2) Any member of the district community may make a complaint against a student whom she/he believes has violated this student con-

duct code. Such a complaint should ordinarily be filed in writing with the vice president for student services. However, no such complaint is required in order for that vice president to take action on any matter that comes to their attention.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.140 and 28B.50.090(3). WSR 21-10-027, § 132F-121-140, filed 4/26/21, effective 5/27/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.140(13). WSR 13-11-127, § 132F-121-140, filed 5/21/13, effective 6/21/13. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.100, [28B.50].130, and/or [28B.50].140. WSR 03-16-015, § 132F-121-140, filed 7/28/03, effective 8/28/03.]

WAC 132F-121-150 Vice president's review and action. (1) After conducting such initial investigation of possible misconduct as she/he deems appropriate, the vice president for student services or designee shall meet, or make a reasonable effort to meet, with the subject student. At that meeting, or if there is no meeting in a document served on the student, the vice president shall describe the complaint and/or information that has been received and identify the rule violations that appear to have occurred. In order that any informality not mislead the student as to the seriousness of the matter, the vice president shall also inform the student of the sanction(s) that may be imposed for the alleged misconduct. The vice president shall give the student an opportunity to respond to the allegations before a disciplinary decision is made.

(2) After considering the information that has been obtained through investigation and/or from the student, the vice president may take any of the following actions:

(a) Terminate the proceeding, exonerating the student;

(b) Give any appropriate counseling or advice and then terminate the proceeding;

(c) Impose disciplinary sanction(s), subject to any right of appeal as described herein; or

(d) Refer the matter to the student conduct committee for such action as it deems appropriate. Such referral shall be in writing, to the attention of the committee chair, with a copy served on the student.

(3) A "respondent" as referred to hereinafter is a student upon whom a disciplinary sanction has been imposed or whose case has been referred to the student conduct committee.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.140(13). WSR 13-11-127, § 132F-121-150, filed 5/21/13, effective 6/21/13. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.100, [28B.50].130, and/or [28B.50].140. WSR 03-16-015, § 132F-121-150, filed 7/28/03, effective 8/28/03.]

WAC 132F-121-160 Disciplinary actions. (1) Any of the following disciplinary sanctions may be imposed for violation of one or more specified provisions of this student conduct code:

(a) Warning: Oral notice to the student of the violation(s). There shall be no appeal from a warning.

(b) Reprimand: Written notice to the student of the violation(s). A reprimand indicates, and usually states, that other or further misconduct, especially any continuation or repetition of the misconduct

in question, may or will result in more serious disciplinary action. There shall be no appeal from a reprimand.

(c) Probation: Placement of one or more conditions on the student's continued attendance, as specified in the written notice to the student. The time period of the probation will ordinarily be stated in the notice; if not stated at all, or if so stated, the probation shall be for an indefinite period, concluding only with the end of the student's enrollment.

Probation may include formal action placing specific conditions and restrictions upon the student's continued attendance depending upon the seriousness of the violation and which may include a deferred disciplinary sanction. If the student subject to a deferred disciplinary sanction is found in violation of any college rule during the time of disciplinary probation, the deferred disciplinary sanction which may include, but is not limited to, a suspension or a dismissal from the college, shall be in addition to any sanction or conditions arising from the new violation. Probation may be for a limited period of time or may be for the duration of the student's attendance at the college.

(d) Suspension from activities: Disqualification of the student, for a stated or indefinite period of time, from participation in specified (or all) privileges, services, or activities that are provided or sponsored by the district.

(e) Suspension of enrollment: Termination, for a stated or indefinite period of time, of all rights as an enrolled student in the college and/or the district, subject to the student's right to seek reinstatement as provided in WAC 132F-121-240.

(f) Expulsion: Permanent termination of a student's enrollment, and right to enroll, at any college or other educational facility in the district.

(g) Grade change: Lowering of a student's grade in a course below that awarded by the instructor.

(2) The conditions or terms of probation or suspension may include, without limitation:

(a) Restriction of future contact or communication with designated persons;

(b) Restriction of the student's access to district property; and/or

(c) Payment for personal injury, property damage, or other expenses related to the violation;

(d) Requirement of a medical evaluation by a qualified professional to assess the student's ability to function in the academic environment. Upon completion of the medical evaluation, the student may be readmitted so long as the student does not pose a significant risk to the health or safety of others that cannot be eliminated by a modification of policies, practices or procedures, or by the provision of auxiliary aids or services. In determining whether students with disabilities (as defined by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Title II of the ADA, and chapter 49.60 RCW) pose such a direct threat, the vice president of student services or designee will make an individualized assessment based on reasonable judgment that relies on current medical knowledge or on the best available evidence, to ascertain the nature, duration, and severity of the risk and the likelihood, imminence, and nature of future harmful conduct to others in the college community;

(e) Requirement of satisfactory completion of anger management therapy or other specified counseling.

Failure to comply with a condition or term of probation or suspension shall be cause for further disciplinary sanction.

(3) A respondent's record of past misconduct may be considered in determining the appropriate disciplinary action.

(4) A summary suspension under WAC 132F-121-250 may be combined with or added to another suspension or an expulsion.

(5) A suspension or expulsion may include a provision stating whether all or any part of the respondent's tuition and other fees will be refunded.

(6) A disciplinary sanction, except a warning, shall be imposed through written notice served on the respondent. Each notice of disciplinary action shall state:

(a) A reasonable description of the facts on which the action is based;

(b) The provision(s) of this student conduct code found to have been violated;

(c) The sanction(s) imposed; and

(d) The respondent's right to appeal, i.e., to request an adjudicative proceeding, under these rules (except for a reprimand).

A copy of these student conduct rules should be included with the notice.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.140(13). WSR 16-04-025, § 132F-121-160, filed 1/25/16, effective 2/25/16; WSR 13-11-127, § 132F-121-160, filed 5/21/13, effective 6/21/13. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.100, [28B.50].130, and/or [28B.50].140. WSR 03-16-015, § 132F-121-160, filed 7/28/03, effective 8/28/03.]

WAC 132F-121-170 Appeals and referrals generally. (1) Except as otherwise provided herein, a respondent who has received notice of disciplinary sanction(s) imposed by the vice president for student services may appeal such sanction(s) by filing a written notice of appeal with that officer within ten days. The notice of appeal may include any statement that the respondent wishes to make of the grounds for their appeal.

(2) If the vice president has referred the matter to the student conduct committee for action, no appeal is required, but the student may file a written response with the vice president within twenty days of service of that referral.

(3) Except for conduct matters referred for brief adjudicative proceedings, the vice president shall promptly transmit any notice of appeal or response to referral, together with a copy of any notification of discipline, to the chair of the student conduct committee, described below. The vice president should serve a copy of that transmittal on the respondent.

(4) Except through a summary suspension under WAC 132F-121-250, a respondent's enrollment status and rights as an enrolled student shall not be altered, on the basis of a disciplinary sanction imposed by the vice president, until (a) the appeal period has run without a proper appeal being filed or (b) if there is an appeal, either that appeal has been withdrawn or the final order has been entered.

(5) If a respondent files a timely appeal of a probation or suspension that includes restrictions on contacts, communications, or campus access, the vice president will ordinarily modify those restrictions as necessary to facilitate the respondent's preparation for the hearing.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.140 and 28B.50.090(3). WSR 21-10-027, § 132F-121-170, filed 4/26/21, effective 5/27/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.140(13). WSR 16-04-025, § 132F-121-170, filed 1/25/16, effective 2/25/16; WSR 13-11-127, § 132F-121-170, filed 5/21/13, effective 6/21/13. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.100, [28B.50].130, and/or [28B.50].140. WSR 03-16-015, § 132F-121-170, filed 7/28/03, effective 8/28/03.]

WAC 132F-121-180 Student conduct committee. (1) A student conduct committee at each college will hear all disciplinary cases at that college which are referred to it by the vice president for student services or appealed to it by a student. For purposes of WAC 132F-108-020 and any other requirements, the district trustees and chancellor and each college president designate (a) the committee provided for herein to serve as presiding officer to hear the described student disciplinary matters and (b) the committee chair both to handle and decide procedural matters (as provided herein) and to preside at the hearing.

(2) This committee shall be composed of the following three members:

(a) One administrator or exempt employee, appointed by the college president;

(b) One member of the faculty, appointed by the college president; and

(c) One student, appointed by the president of the recognized student government organization.

(3) Each appointment shall be accompanied by the appointment of two alternates. Each member and alternate shall serve for the academic year or until a replacement is appointed, whichever is longer. When a member is not available for a hearing, the committee chair shall designate an alternate to replace them for that hearing. If a member or alternate ceases to serve, a successor shall be promptly appointed. A member or alternate may be reappointed in any role.

(4) The administrator or exempt employee shall be the committee chair.

(5) A committee member is subject to disqualification for bias, prejudice, interest, or as further provided in RCW 34.05.425.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.140 and 28B.50.090(3). WSR 21-10-027, § 132F-121-180, filed 4/26/21, effective 5/27/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.140(13). WSR 13-11-127, § 132F-121-180, filed 5/21/13, effective 6/21/13. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.100, [28B.50].130, and/or [28B.50].140. WSR 03-16-015, § 132F-121-180, filed 7/28/03, effective 8/28/03.]

WAC 132F-121-190 Student conduct committee hearings—In general.

(1) A respondent student has a right to a prompt, fair, and impartial hearing before the student conduct committee on a referral for, or timely appeal of, a disciplinary sanction, except as otherwise provided in these rules.

(2) Chapter 34.05 RCW and chapter 10-08 WAC govern committee proceedings and control in the event of any conflict with these rules.

The district's chapter 132F-108 WAC also governs committee proceedings.

(3) The chair of the committee shall give not less than seven days advance written notice of the hearing to all parties, as further specified in RCW 34.05.434 and WAC 10-08-040 and 10-08-045. The chair may shorten this notice period if both parties agree, and also may continue the hearing to a later time for good cause.

(4) The committee chair may provide to the committee members in advance of the hearing copies of (a) the vice president for student service's notification of imposition of discipline (or referral to the committee) and (b) the notice of appeal (or any response to referral) by the respondent. If doing so, however, the chair should remind the members that these "pleadings" are not evidence of any facts they may allege.

(5) The committee chair is authorized to conduct prehearing conferences and/or to make prehearing decisions, except as overridden by majority vote of the committee, concerning the extent and forms of any discovery, issuance of protective orders, and similar procedural matters.

(6) Upon request made at least five days before the hearing by either the respondent or the vice president, the two of them shall exchange, no later than the third day prior to the hearing, lists of potential witnesses and copies of potential exhibits that they reasonably expect to present in their respective cases, except impeachment or rebuttal evidence. Failure to participate in good faith in such a requested exchange may be cause for exclusion from the hearing of any witness or exhibit not disclosed, absent a showing of good cause for such failure.

(7) The respondent and the vice president may agree before the hearing to designate specific exhibits as admissible without objection and, if they do so, whether the committee chair may provide copies of these admissible exhibits to the committee members before the hearing.

(8) The vice president shall provide reasonable assistance to the respondent, upon request, in obtaining relevant and admissible evidence that is within the college's control.

(9) Communications between committee members and other persons regarding any issue in the proceeding, other than procedural communications that are necessary to maintain an orderly process, are generally prohibited without notice and opportunity for all parties to participate, and any improper "ex parte" communication shall be placed on the record, as further provided in RCW 34.05.455.

(10) Each party may be accompanied at the hearing by a nonattorney assistant of their choice. A respondent may elect to be represented by an attorney, but will be deemed to have waived that right unless, at least four days before the hearing, written notice of the attorney's identity and participation is served on both the chair and the vice president. If the respondent is represented by an attorney, the vice president may also be represented by an attorney. If both the respondent and vice president have counsel, the committee will ordinarily be advised by a separate assistant attorney general.

(11) Minor disciplinary actions imposing probation or suspension of ten instructional days or less and any conditions or terms placed on the student may be conducted by a brief adjudicative proceeding in accordance with RCW 34.05.482 through 34.05.494.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.140 and 28B.50.090(3). WSR 21-10-027, § 132F-121-190, filed 4/26/21, effective 5/27/21. Statutory Authority:

RCW 28B.50.140(13). WSR 13-11-127, § 132F-121-190, filed 5/21/13, effective 6/21/13. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.100, [28B.50].130, and/or [28B.50].140. WSR 03-16-015, § 132F-121-190, filed 7/28/03, effective 8/28/03.]

WAC 132F-121-200 Student conduct committee hearings—Presentations of evidence. (1) Upon the failure of any party to attend or participate in a hearing, the committee may either (a) proceed with the hearing and issuance of its order or (b) serve an order of default in accordance with RCW 34.05.440.

(2) The hearing will ordinarily be open to the public, as further provided in RCW 34.05.449. However, if the respondent requests that some or all of it be closed, pursuant to WAC 132F-108-070 and 132F-108-080 or otherwise, the chair shall determine any extent to which the hearing will be closed. If any person disrupts the proceedings, the chair may exclude that person from the hearing room.

(3) The chair shall cause the hearing to be recorded by a method that he/she selects, in accordance with RCW 34.05.449. That recording, or a copy, shall be made available to the respondent upon request. The chair shall assure maintenance of the proceeding record that is required by RCW 34.05.476, which shall also be available upon request for inspection and copying by the respondent. Other recording shall also be permitted, in accordance with WAC 10-08-190.

(4) The chair shall preside at the hearing and decide procedural questions that arise during the hearing, except as overridden by majority vote of the committee.

(5) The vice president for student services (unless represented by an attorney) shall present the case for disciplinary action. The facts justifying any such action must be established by a preponderance of the evidence.

(6) All testimony shall be given under oath or affirmation. Evidence shall be admitted or excluded in accordance with RCW 34.05.452.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.100, [28B.50].130, and/or [28B.50].140. WSR 03-16-015, § 132F-121-200, filed 7/28/03, effective 8/28/03.]

WAC 132F-121-210 Student conduct committee initial order. (1) At the conclusion of the hearing, the committee shall permit the vice president for student services and the respondent to make closing arguments in whatever form it wishes to receive them. The committee also may permit each party to propose findings, conclusions, and/or an order for its consideration.

(2) Within thirty days following the later of the conclusion of the hearing or the committee's receipt of closing arguments, the committee shall issue an initial order in accordance with RCW 34.05.461 and WAC 10-08-210. This order shall include findings of fact on all material issues of fact and conclusions of law on all material issues of law - Including which, if any, specific provisions of the student conduct code were violated. Any findings based substantially on the credibility of evidence or the demeanor of witnesses shall be so identified.

(3) The committee's order shall also include a determination on appropriate discipline, if any. If the matter was a referral from the

vice president, the committee shall determine any disciplinary sanction. If the matter was an appeal by the respondent, the committee may affirm, reverse, or modify the discipline imposed by the vice president and/or impose any other disciplinary sanction authorized herein.

(4) The committee chair shall cause copies of its order to be served on the respondent, the vice president, the college president, and any legal counsel who have appeared. The committee chair shall also promptly transmit the record of the committee's proceedings to the college president.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.100, [28B.50].130, and/or [28B.50].140. WSR 03-16-015, § 132F-121-210, filed 7/28/03, effective 8/28/03.]

WAC 132F-121-220 President's review and final college order.

(1) The college president shall review the record and enter the final college order, in accordance with RCW 34.05.461(2) and 34.05.464.

(2) If either the respondent or the vice president for student services wishes to file written argument with the president, she/he must file that argument and serve a copy on the other within fifteen days after service of the committee's order. Within seven days after service of any such argument, the other party may file and serve a written response. The president shall have discretion to modify these deadlines and/or to allow oral arguments. However no new evidence, not already part of the record, may be introduced in any argument, except as expressly authorized by the president upon a showing of compelling legal justification and after any appropriate fact-finding.

(3) The president shall personally consider the whole record or such portions of it as may be cited by the parties. A party's failure to present any argument shall mean that the party is citing "none" of the record.

(4) If the committee's order includes a provision for expulsion, the president must consult with and obtain the agreement of the district chancellor. If the committee's order includes a provision for suspension from any other college(s) of the district, the president must consult with and obtain the agreement of the president(s) of such college(s).

(5) Within ninety days following the later of the conclusion of the hearing or the committee's receipt of closing arguments, the president shall either remand the matter for further proceedings, with instructions to the committee, or enter a final order in the matter. The president shall have all of decision-making power that he/she would have had if presiding over the hearing, including the power to affirm, reverse, or modify any disciplinary sanction.

(6) The president's final order shall include, or incorporate by reference to the committee's initial order, all matters required by RCW 34.05.461, in accordance with RCW 34.05.464. It shall also include notice to the respondent of their right to seek judicial review under RCW 34.05.510 et seq.

(7) Copies of the final order shall be served on the respondent, the vice president, any legal counsel who have appeared, and the committee chair.

(8) The decision of the president shall be the final district action in the matter.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.140 and 28B.50.090(3). WSR 21-10-027, § 132F-121-220, filed 4/26/21, effective 5/27/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.100, [28B.50].130, and/or [28B.50].140. WSR 03-16-015, § 132F-121-220, filed 7/28/03, effective 8/28/03.]

WAC 132F-121-230 Reestablishment of academic standing after successful appeal. When a student has missed classes and/or course work due to a disciplinary suspension or expulsion, but that disciplinary sanction was appealed and not upheld, the student shall be given a reasonable opportunity to reestablish their academic standing and the alternative of a withdrawal and refund of tuition and fees. Depending on the circumstances, reestablishing academic standing may include opportunities to take examinations and otherwise complete course offerings that were missed due to the disciplinary sanction or to retake the class(es).

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.140 and 28B.50.090(3). WSR 21-10-027, § 132F-121-230, filed 4/26/21, effective 5/27/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.100, [28B.50].130, and/or [28B.50].140. WSR 03-16-015, § 132F-121-230, filed 7/28/03, effective 8/28/03.]

WAC 132F-121-240 Reinstatement after suspension or expulsion.
(1) Any student who has been suspended as a disciplinary sanction shall be reinstated, upon the student's written request, after (a) expiration of the stated time period of the suspension and (b) satisfaction of all conditions of the suspension, if any.
(2) Before a suspension has ended, or if a student has been expelled, the student may petition for reinstatement as an enrolled student. Any such petition shall be submitted in writing to the vice president for student services, showing facts and circumstances constituting good cause for such reinstatement. No such reinstatement shall be granted unless it is approved by both that vice president and the college president.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.100, [28B.50].130, and/or [28B.50].140. WSR 03-16-015, § 132F-121-240, filed 7/28/03, effective 8/28/03.]

WAC 132F-121-250 Summary suspensions. (1) A summary suspension is a temporary exclusion from specified college premises or denial of access to all activities or privileges for which the student might otherwise be eligible, during which an investigation and/or formal disciplinary procedures are pending.

Suspension may be imposed, if the vice president for student services or their designee(s) has cause to believe that any student:

(a) Has violated any provision of the code of conduct; and
(b) Presents an immediate danger to the health, safety or welfare of members of the college community; or

(c) If the student poses an ongoing threat of disruption of, or interference with, the operations of the college, that student may be summarily suspended.

(2) Notice. Any student who has been summarily suspended shall be served with written notice or verbal notice of the summary suspension.

If such notice is made in writing, it shall be provided by certified mail and first class mail delivered to the student's last known address.

(3) The oral or written notice to the student shall include the reasons for summary suspension, duration of the summary suspension, and any possible additional disciplinary or corrective action that may be taken. The notification shall indicate that the student must appear before the vice president of student services or designee for a summary suspension hearing at a time specified in the notice. If oral notice is given, written notice shall follow within two calendar days. In addition, the vice president for student services or designee shall set a date for summary suspension hearing as soon as practicable.

(4) The student shall be given the opportunity to present written and/or oral evidence. The issue before the vice president for student services or designee shall be whether probable cause exists to support and to continue the summary suspension.

(5) The vice president for student services or designee shall issue a written order within two days of the informal hearing, including a brief statement of findings of fact, conclusions of law, and policy reasons for the decision to justify the determination of an immediate danger and the vice president's decision to take the specific action.

(6) If a student who has been summarily suspended fails to appear for a summary suspension hearing, the vice president for student services may order the suspension to remain in place pending the final disposition of the disciplinary process as provided in this section.

(7) The student may request a de novo review of the informal hearing decision before the student conduct committee. The review will be scheduled promptly. Either party may request the review to be consolidated with any other disciplinary proceeding arising from the same matter.

(8) Nothing herein shall prevent faculty members from taking summary action as may be reasonably necessary to maintain order in the classroom and/or prevent substantial disruption to the educational process. Such summary action in the form of removal from the classroom may not exceed one day per episode. Any such summary action may be appealed to the vice president for student services for a brief adjudicative proceeding.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.140 and 28B.50.090(3). WSR 21-10-027, § 132F-121-250, filed 4/26/21, effective 5/27/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.140(13). WSR 13-11-127, § 132F-121-250, filed 5/21/13, effective 6/21/13. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.100, [28B.50].130, and/or [28B.50].140. WSR 03-16-015, § 132F-121-250, filed 7/28/03, effective 8/28/03.]

WAC 132F-121-260 Maintenance of student discipline records. Records of all completed disciplinary cases shall be maintained and disposed of by the vice president for student services in accordance with applicable records retention requirements and student education record confidentiality requirements.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.100, [28B.50].130, and/or [28B.50].140. WSR 03-16-015, § 132F-121-260, filed 7/28/03, effective 8/28/03.]

WAC 132F-121-270 Sex discrimination—Supplemental student conduct code and procedures—Order of precedence. This supplemental student conduct code and procedure applies to allegations of sex discrimination arising on or after August 1, 2024, subject to Title IX jurisdiction pursuant to regulations promulgated by the United States Department of Education. See 34 C.F.R. Part 106. To the extent these supplemental hearing procedures conflict with the college's standard student conduct code and procedure, WAC 132F-121-110 through 132F-121-260, these supplemental student conduct code and procedure shall take precedence.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 34.05.010(16) and 28B.50.140(13). WSR 25-02-075, s 132F-121-270, filed 12/24/24, effective 1/24/25. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.140 and 28B.50.090(3). WSR 21-10-027, § 132F-121-270, filed 4/26/21, effective 5/27/21.]

WAC 132F-121-280 Sex discrimination—Prohibited conduct and definitions. Pursuant to RCW 28B.50.140(13) and Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1681, the Seattle Colleges may impose disciplinary sanctions against a student or student group who commits, attempts to commit, or aids, abets, incites, encourages, or assists another person to commit, an act(s) of "sex discrimination."

For purposes of this supplemental procedure, the following definitions apply.

(1) "Complainant" means the following individuals who are alleged to have been subjected to conduct that would constitute sex discrimination:

(a) A student or employee; or

(b) A person other than a student or employee who was participating or attempting to participate in the college's education program or activity at the time of the alleged discrimination.

(2) "Pregnancy or related conditions" means:

(a) Pregnancy, childbirth, termination of pregnancy, or lactation;

(b) Medical conditions related to pregnancy, childbirth, termination of pregnancy, or lactation; or

(c) Recovery from pregnancy, childbirth, termination of pregnancy, lactation, or related medical conditions.

(3) "Program" or "programs and activities" means all operations of the college.

(4) "Relevant" means related to the allegations of sex discrimination under investigation. Questions are relevant when they seek evidence that may aid in showing whether the alleged sex discrimination occurred, and evidence is relevant when it may aid a decision maker in determining whether the alleged sex discrimination occurred.

(5) "Remedies" means measures provided to a complainant or other person whose equal access to the college's educational programs and activities has been limited or denied by sex discrimination. These measures are intended to restore or preserve that person's access to educational programs and activities after a determination that sex discrimination has occurred.

(6) "Respondent" is a student who is alleged to have violated the student conduct code.

(7) "Sex discrimination." The term "sex discrimination" includes sex-based harassment, and may occur when a respondent causes more than de minimis (insignificant) harm to an individual by treating them different from a similarly situated individual on the basis of: Sex stereotypes, sex characteristics, pregnancy or related conditions, sexual orientation, and gender identity. Conduct that prevents an individual from participating in an education program or activity consistent with the person's gender identity subjects a person to more than de minimis harm on the basis of sex.

(a) Sex-based harassment. "Sex-based harassment" is a form of sex discrimination and means sexual harassment or other harassment on the basis of sex, including the following conduct:

(i) Quid pro quo harassment. A student, employee, agent, or other person authorized by the college to provide an aid, benefit, or service under the college's education program or activity explicitly or impliedly conditioning the provision of such an aid, benefit, or service on a person's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct.

(ii) Hostile environment. Unwelcome sex-based conduct that, based on the totality of the circumstances, is subjectively and objectively offensive and is so severe or pervasive that it limits or denies a person's ability to participate in or benefit from the recipient's education program or activity (i.e., creates a hostile environment). Whether a hostile environment has been created is a fact-specific inquiry that includes consideration of the following:

(A) The degree to which the conduct affected the complainant's ability to access the college's education program or activity;

(B) The type, frequency, and duration of the conduct;

(C) The parties' ages, roles within the college's education program or activity, previous interactions, and other factors about each party that may be relevant to evaluating the effects of the conduct;

(D) The location of the conduct and the context in which the conduct occurred; and

(E) Other sex-based harassment in the college's education program or activity.

(iii) Sexual violence. "Sexual violence" includes nonconsensual sexual intercourse, nonconsensual sexual contact, domestic violence, incest, statutory rape, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.

(A) Nonconsensual sexual intercourse is any sexual intercourse (anal, oral, or vaginal), however slight, with any object, by a person upon another person, that is without consent and/or by force. Sexual intercourse includes anal or vaginal penetration by a penis, tongue, finger, or object, or oral copulation by mouth to genital contact or genital to mouth contact.

(B) Nonconsensual sexual contact (fondling) is any actual or attempted sexual touching, however slight, with any body part or object, by a person upon another person that is without consent and/or by force. Sexual touching includes any bodily contact with the breasts, groin, mouth, or other bodily orifice of another individual, or any other bodily contact in a sexual manner.

(C) Incest is sexual intercourse or sexual contact with a person known to be related to them, either legitimately or illegitimately, as an ancestor, descendant, brother, or sister of either wholly or half related. Descendant includes stepchildren and adopted children under the age of 18.

(D) Statutory rape (rape of a child) is nonforcible sexual intercourse with a person who is under the statutory age of consent.

(E) Domestic violence is physical violence, bodily injury, assault, the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, sexual assault, coercive control, damage or destruction of personal property, stalking or any other conduct prohibited under RCW 10.99.020, committed by a person with whom the victim shares a child in common, by a person who is cohabitating with or has cohabitated with the victim as a spouse, by a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family violence laws of the state of Washington, or by any other person against an adult or youth victim who is protected from that person's acts under the domestic or family violence laws of the state of Washington.

(F) Dating violence is physical violence, bodily injury, assault, the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, sexual assault, or stalking committed by a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim; and where the existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on a consideration of the following factors:

(I) The length of the relationship;

(II) The type of relationship; and

(III) The frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.

(G) Stalking means engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for the person's safety or the safety of others or to suffer substantial emotional distress.

(b) "Consent." For purposes of this code, "consent" means knowing, voluntary and clear permission by word or action, to engage in mutually agreed upon sexual activity.

(i) Each party has the responsibility to make certain that the other has consented before engaging in the activity.

(ii) For consent to be valid, there must be at the time of the act of sexual intercourse or sexual contact actual words or conduct indicating freely given agreement to have sexual intercourse or sexual contact.

(iii) A person cannot consent if they are unable to understand what is happening or are disoriented, helpless, asleep or unconscious for any reason, including due to alcohol or other drugs. An individual who engages in sexual activity when the individual knows, or should know, that the other person is physically or mentally incapacitated has engaged in nonconsensual conduct.

(iv) Intoxication is not a defense against allegations that an individual has engaged in nonconsensual sexual conduct.

(c) "Title IX retaliation" means intimidation, threats, coercion, or discrimination against any person by a student, for the purpose of interfering with any right or privilege secured by Title IX, or because the person has reported information, made a complaint, testified, assisted, or participated or refused to participate in any manner in a sex discrimination investigation, proceeding, or hearing under this part, including during an informal resolution process, during a Title IX investigation, or during any disciplinary proceeding involving allegations of sex discrimination.

(8) "Student employee" means an individual who is both a student and an employee of the college. When a complainant or respondent is a student employee, the college must make a fact-specific inquiry to determine whether the individual's primary relationship with the college is to receive an education and whether any alleged student conduct

code violation including, but not limited to, sex-based harassment, occurred while the individual was performing employment-related work.

(9) "Student group" is a student organization, athletic team, or living group including, but not limited to, student clubs and organizations, members of a class or student cohort, student performance groups, and student living groups.

(10) "Supportive measures" means reasonably available, individualized and appropriate, nonpunitive and nondisciplinary measures offered by the college to the complainant or respondent without unreasonably burdening either party, and without fee or charge for purposes of:

(a) Restoring or preserving a party's access to the college's educational program or activity, including measures that are designed to protect the safety of the parties or the college's educational environment; or providing support during the college's investigation and disciplinary procedures, or during any informal resolution process; or

(b) Supportive measures may include, but are not limited to: Counseling; extensions of deadlines and other course-related adjustments; campus escort services; increased security and monitoring of certain areas of campus; restriction on contact applied to one or more parties; a leave of absence; change in class, work, housing, or extra-curricular or any other activity, regardless of whether there is or is not a comparable alternative; and training and education programs related to sex-based harassment.

(11) "Title IX coordinator" is the administrator responsible for processing complaints of sex discrimination, including sex-based harassment, overseeing investigations and informal resolution processes, and coordinating supportive measures, in accordance with college policy.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 34.05.010(16) and 28B.50.140(13). WSR 25-02-075, s 132F-121-280, filed 12/24/24, effective 1/24/25. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.140 and 28B.50.090(3). WSR 23-12-052, § 132F-121-280, filed 6/1/23, effective 7/2/23; WSR 21-10-027, § 132F-121-280, filed 4/26/21, effective 5/27/21.]

WAC 132F-121-290 Sex discrimination—Jurisdiction. This supplemental procedure applies only if the alleged misconduct meets the definition of "sex discrimination" as that term is defined in WAC 132F-121-280 and occurs:

- (1) On college premises;
- (2) At or in connection with college programs or activities; or
- (3) Off college premises, if in the judgment of the college, the conduct has an adverse impact on the college community, the pursuit of its objectives, or the ability of a student or staff to participate in the college's programs and activities.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 34.05.010(16) and 28B.50.140(13). WSR 25-02-075, s 132F-121-290, filed 12/24/24, effective 1/24/25. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.140 and 28B.50.090(3). WSR 21-10-027, § 132F-121-290, filed 4/26/21, effective 5/27/21.]

WAC 132F-121-300 Sex discrimination—Dismissal and initiation of discipline. (1) Any member of the college community may file a com-

plaint against a student or student group for conduct which may constitute sex discrimination.

(2) The college's Title IX coordinator or designee shall review, process, and, if applicable, investigate complaints or other reports of sex discrimination, including sex-based harassment. The disciplinary process for allegations of sex discrimination, including sex-based harassment, against a student shall be addressed through the student conduct code.

(3) Both the respondent and the complainant in cases involving allegations of sex discrimination shall be provided the same procedural rights to participate in student discipline matters, including the right to participate in the disciplinary process and to appeal any disciplinary decision.

(4) When a summary suspension is imposed pursuant to WAC 132F-121-250, the complainant shall be notified that a summary suspension has been imposed on the same day that the summary suspension notice is served on the respondent. The college will also provide the complainant with timely notice of any subsequent changes to the summary suspension order.

(5) The student conduct officer shall review the investigation report provided by the Title IX coordinator, and determine whether, by a preponderance of the evidence, there was a violation of the student conduct code; and if so, what disciplinary sanction(s) and/or remedies will be recommended. The student conduct officer shall, within five business days of receiving the investigation report, serve respondent, complainant, and the Title IX coordinator with a written recommendation, setting forth the facts and conclusions supporting their recommendation. The time for serving a written recommendation may be extended by the student conduct officer for good cause.

(a) The complainant and respondent may either accept the student conduct officer's recommended finding and disciplinary sanction(s) or request a hearing before a student conduct committee.

(b) The complainant and respondent shall have 21 calendar days from the date of the written recommendation to request a hearing before a student conduct committee.

(c) The request for a hearing may be verbal or written, but must be clearly communicated to the student conduct officer.

(d) The student conduct officer shall promptly notify the other party of the request.

(e) The student conduct officer may recommend dismissal of the complaint if:

(i) The college is unable to identify respondent after taking reasonable steps to do so;

(ii) Respondent is not participating in the college's educational programs or activities;

(iii) The complainant has voluntarily withdrawn any or all of the allegations in the complaint, and the Title IX coordinator has declined to initiate their own complaint. In cases involving allegations of sex-based harassment, the complainant must withdraw their complaint in writing;

(iv) The college determines that, even if proven, the conduct alleged by the complainant would not constitute sex discrimination; or

(v) The conduct alleged by the complainant falls outside the college's disciplinary jurisdiction.

(f) If no request for a full hearing is provided to the student conduct officer, the student conduct officer's written recommendation

shall be final and implemented immediately following the expiration of 21 calendar days from the service of the written recommendation.

(g) Upon receipt of the student conduct officer's written recommendation, the Title IX coordinator or their designee shall review all supportive measures and, within five business days, provide written direction to the complainant and respondent as to any supportive measures that will be implemented, continued, modified, or terminated. If either party is dissatisfied with the supportive measures, the party may seek review in accordance with the college's Title IX investigation procedure.

(h) If the respondent is found responsible for engaging in sex discrimination, the Title IX coordinator shall also take prompt steps to coordinate and implement any necessary remedies to ensure that sex discrimination does not recur and that complainant has equal access to the college's programs and activities.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 34.05.010(16) and 28B.50.140(13). WSR 25-02-075, s 132F-121-300, filed 12/24/24, effective 1/24/25. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.140 and 28B.50.090(3). WSR 21-10-027, § 132F-121-300, filed 4/26/21, effective 5/27/21.]

WAC 132F-121-310 Sex discrimination—Prehearing procedure. (1)

For cases involving allegations of sex discrimination, including sex-based harassment, members of the student conduct committee must receive training on serving impartially, avoiding prejudgment of facts at issue, conflicts of interest, and bias. The chair must also receive training on the student conduct process for sex discrimination cases, as well as the meaning and application of the term, "relevant," in relations to questions and evidence, and the types of evidence that are impermissible, regardless of relevance in accordance with 34 C.F.R. §§ 106.45 and 106.46.

(2) In sex discrimination cases, the college may, in its sole and exclusive discretion, contract with an administrative law judge or other qualified person to act as the presiding officer, authorized to exercise any or all duties of the student conduct committee and/or committee chair.

(3) In cases involving allegations of sex discrimination, the complainant has a right to participate equally in any part of the disciplinary process, including appeals. Respondent and complainant both have the following rights:

(a) Notice. The college must provide a notice that includes all information required in WAC 132F-121-180 as well as a statement that the parties are entitled to an equal opportunity to access relevant and permissible evidence, or a description of the evidence upon request.

(b) Advisors. The complainant and respondent are both entitled to have an advisor present, who may be an attorney retained at the party's expense.

(c) Extensions of time. The chair may, upon written request of any party and a showing of good cause, extend the time for disclosure of witness and exhibit lists, accessing and reviewing evidence, or the hearing date, in accordance with the procedures set forth in subsection (4)(b) of this section.

(d) Evidence. In advance of the hearing, the student conduct officer shall provide reasonable assistance to the respondent and com-

plainant in accessing and reviewing the investigative report and relevant and not otherwise impermissible evidence that is within the college's control.

(e) Confidentiality. The college shall take reasonable steps to prevent the unauthorized disclosure of information obtained by a party solely through the disciplinary process, which may include, but are not limited to, directives by the student conduct officer or chair pertaining to the dissemination, disclosure, or access to evidence outside the context of the disciplinary hearing.

(4) In cases involving allegations of sex-based harassment, the following additional procedures apply:

(a) Notice. In addition to all information required to be provided in a prehearing notice pursuant to WAC 132F-121-180, the prehearing notice must also inform the parties that:

(i) The respondent is presumed not responsible for the alleged sex-based harassment;

(ii) The parties will have an opportunity to present relevant and not otherwise impermissible evidence to a trained, impartial decision maker;

(iii) They may have an advisor of their choice, who may be an attorney, to assist them during the hearing;

(iv) They are entitled to an equal opportunity to access relevant and not otherwise impermissible evidence in advance of the hearing; and

(v) The student conduct code prohibits knowingly making false statements or knowingly submitting false information during a student conduct proceeding.

(b) Extensions of time. The chair may, upon written request of any party and a showing of good cause, extend the time for disclosure of witness and exhibit lists, accessing and reviewing evidence, or the hearing date. The party requesting an extension must do so no later than 48 hours before any date specified in the notice of hearing or by the chair in any prehearing conference. The written request must be served simultaneously by email to all parties and the chair. Any party may respond and object to the request for an extension of time no later than 24 hours after service of the request for an extension. The chair will serve a written decision upon all parties, to include the reasons for granting or denying any request. The chair's decision shall be final. In exceptional circumstances, for good cause shown, the chair may, in their sole discretion, grant extensions of time that are made less than 48 hours before any deadline.

(c) Advisors. The college shall provide an advisor to the respondent and any complainant, if the respondent or complainant have not otherwise identified an advisor to assist during the hearing.

(d) Evidence. In advance of the hearing, the student conduct officer shall provide reasonable assistance to the respondent and complainant in accessing and reviewing the investigative report and relevant and not otherwise impermissible evidence that is within the college's control.

(e) Confidentiality. The college shall take reasonable steps to prevent the unauthorized disclosure of information obtained by a party solely through the disciplinary process, which may include, but are not limited to, directives by the student conduct officer or chair issuing directives pertaining to the dissemination, disclosure, or access to evidence outside the context of the disciplinary hearing.

(f) Separate locations. The chair may, or upon the request of any party, must conduct the hearing with the parties physically present in

separate locations, with technology enabling the committee and parties to simultaneously see and hear the party or the witness while that person is speaking.

(g) Withdrawal of complaint. If a complainant wants to voluntarily withdraw a complaint, they must provide notice to the college in writing before a case can be dismissed.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 34.05.010(16) and 28B.50.140(13). WSR 25-02-075, s 132F-121-310, filed 12/24/24, effective 1/24/25. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.140 and 28B.50.090(3). WSR 21-10-027, § 132F-121-310, filed 4/26/21, effective 5/27/21.]

WAC 132F-121-320 Rights of parties. (1) The Seattle Colleges' student conduct procedures, WAC 132F-121-110, and this supplemental procedure shall apply equally to all parties.

(2) The Seattle Colleges bears the burden of offering and presenting sufficient testimony and evidence to establish that the respondent is responsible for a Title IX violation by a preponderance of the evidence.

(3) The respondent will be presumed not responsible until such time as the disciplinary process has been finally resolved.

(4) During the hearing, each party shall be represented by an advisor. The parties are entitled to an advisor of their own choosing and the advisor may be an attorney. If a party does not choose an advisor, then the Title IX coordinator will appoint an advisor of the Seattle Colleges' choosing on the party's behalf at no expense to the party.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.140 and 28B.50.090(3). WSR 21-10-027, § 132F-121-320, filed 4/26/21, effective 5/27/21.]

WAC 132F-121-330 Sex discrimination—Presentation of evidence. In cases involving allegations of sex-based harassment, the complainant and respondent may not directly question one another or other witnesses. In such circumstances, the chair will determine whether questions will be submitted to the chair, who will then ask questions of the parties and witnesses, or allow questions to be asked directly of any party or witnesses by a party's attorney or advisor. The committee chair may revise this process if, in the chair's determination, the questioning by any party, attorney, or advisor, becomes contentious or harassing.

(1) Prior to any question being posed to a party or witness, the chair must determine whether the question is relevant and not otherwise impermissible; and must explain any decision to exclude a question that is deemed not relevant, or is otherwise impermissible. The chair will retain for the record copies of any written questions provided by any party.

(2) The chair must not permit questions that are unclear or harassing; but shall give the party an opportunity to clarify or revise such a question.

(3) The chair shall exclude and the committee shall not consider legally privileged information unless the individual holding the privilege has waived the privilege. Privileged information includes, but is not limited to, information protected by the following:

(a) Spousal/domestic partner privilege;
(b) Attorney-client communications and attorney work product privilege;
(c) Clergy privileges;
(d) Medical or mental health providers and counselor privileges;
(e) Sexual assault and domestic violence advocate privileges; and
(f) Other legal privileges set forth in RCW 5.60.060 or federal law.

(4) The chair shall exclude and the committee shall not consider questions or evidence that relate to the complainant's sexual interests or prior sexual conduct, unless such question or evidence is offered to prove someone other than the respondent committed the alleged conduct, or is evidence of specific instances of prior sexual conduct with the respondent that is offered to prove consent to the alleged sex-based harassment. The fact of prior consensual sexual conduct between the complainant and respondent does not by itself demonstrate or imply the complainant's consent to the alleged sex-based harassment or preclude determination that sex-based harassment occurred.

(5) The committee may choose to place less or no weight upon statements by a party or witness who refuses to respond to questions deemed relevant and not impermissible. The committee must not draw an inference about whether sex-based harassment occurred based solely on a party's or witness's refusal to respond to such questions.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 34.05.010(16) and 28B.50.140(13). WSR 25-02-075, s 132F-121-330, filed 12/24/24, effective 1/24/25. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.140 and 28B.50.090(3). WSR 23-12-052, § 132F-121-330, filed 6/1/23, effective 7/2/23; WSR 21-10-027, § 132F-121-330, filed 4/26/21, effective 5/27/21.]

WAC 132F-121-340 Sex discrimination—Initial order. In cases involving sex-based harassment, the initial decision shall be served on all parties simultaneously, as well as the Title IX coordinator.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 34.05.010(16) and 28B.50.140(13). WSR 25-02-075, s 132F-121-340, filed 12/24/24, effective 1/24/25. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.140 and 28B.50.090(3). WSR 21-10-027, § 132F-121-340, filed 4/26/21, effective 5/27/21.]

WAC 132F-121-350 Sex discrimination—Appeals. (1) Any party, including a complainant in sex-based harassment cases, may appeal the committee's decision to the president by filing a written appeal with the appropriate vice president's office (appeal authority) within 21 calendar days of service of the committee's decision. Failure to file a timely appeal constitutes a waiver of the right and the decision shall be deemed final.

(2) The written appeal must identify the specific findings of fact and/or conclusions of law in the decision that are challenged and must contain argument why the appeal should be granted. Appeals may be based upon, but are not limited to:

(a) Procedural irregularity that would change the outcome;
(b) New evidence that would change the outcome and that was not reasonably available when the initial decision was made; and

(c) The investigator, decision maker, or Title IX coordinator had a conflict of interest or bias for or against a respondent or complainant individually or respondents or complainants generally.

(3) Upon receiving a timely appeal, the appeal authority will promptly serve a copy of the appeal on all nonappealing parties, who will have 10 business days from the date of service to submit a written response addressing the issues raised in the appeal to the president or a designee, and serve it on all parties. Failure to file a timely response constitutes a waiver of the right to participate in the appeal.

(4) If necessary to aid review, the appeal authority may ask for additional briefing from the parties on issues raised on appeal. The appeal authority's review shall be restricted to the hearing record made before the student conduct committee and will normally be limited to a review of those issues and arguments raised in the appeal.

(5) The appeal authority shall serve a written decision on all parties and their attorneys, if any, within 20 calendar days after receipt of the appeal. This decision shall be final and subject to judicial review pursuant to chapter 34.05 RCW, Part V.

(6) In cases involving allegations of sex-based harassment, the appeal decision must be served simultaneously on all parties and the Title IX coordinator.

(7) The appeal authority shall not engage in an ex parte communication with any of the parties regarding an appeal.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 34.05.010(16) and 28B.50.140(13). WSR 25-02-075, s 132F-121-350, filed 12/24/24, effective 1/24/25. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.50.140 and 28B.50.090(3). WSR 23-12-052, § 132F-121-350, filed 6/1/23, effective 7/2/23; WSR 21-10-027, § 132F-121-350, filed 4/26/21, effective 5/27/21.]