

WSR 20-17-002
EMERGENCY RULES
DEPARTMENT OF
FISH AND WILDLIFE

[Order 20-151—Filed August 5, 2020, 1:13 p.m., effective August 8, 2020]

Effective Date of Rule: August 8, 2020.

Purpose: The purpose of this rule is to close ocean recreational salmon seasons in Marine Area 4, in state waters and in a manner consistent with federal salmon fishing regulations adopted by the National Marine Fisheries Service in response to actions taken by the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) and following annual salmon fishery harvest specifications and management measures; this action is intended to achieve regulatory consistency in federal and state waters for the ocean recreational salmon fishery, which operates in both areas.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: Repealing WAC 220-313-07000Y and 220-313-07000Z; and amending WAC 220-313-070.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.020, 77.12.045, and 77.12.047.

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that immediate adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule is necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety, or general welfare, and that observing the time requirements of notice and opportunity to comment upon adoption of a permanent rule would be contrary to the public interest.

Reasons for this Finding: The purpose of this rule is to close recreational salmon seasons in Catch Record Card Area 4. As of August 2, 2020, Catch Area 4 was at eighty-six percent of recreational coho quota. Catch Area 4 is expected to reach its coho quota by the end of the day August 7, 2020; sufficient quota remains for both Chinook and coho in Catch Areas 2 and 3 to remain open, Catch Record Card Area 1 is already closed. These rules are adopted at the recommendation of PFMC.

The ocean recreational salmon fishing seasons are developed and considered through the annual PFMC process, which coincides with the North of Falcon salmon season setting process and is managed under the Pacific Coast Salmon Fishery Management Plan (FMP). By managing this fishery under the FMP, it is required to be consistent with National Standard Guidelines, which ensure conservation objectives are achieved as well as long-term fishery sustainability, and that the social and economic needs of fishing communities are taken into account.

Because the ocean recreational salmon fishery occurs in Pacific Ocean waters across multiple jurisdictions (states of Washington and Oregon, tribal, and federal), developing and considering ocean recreational salmon season options through PFMC ensures that fishing regulations are developed in a comprehensive, coordinated manner. Having consistent regulations in state and federal waters also promotes compliance with and enforcement of fishing regulations, particularly as anglers often fish in both state and federal waters on the same fishing trip.

The immediate adoption of this rule is necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety, or general welfare, and observing the time requirements of notice and opportunity

to comment upon adoption of a permanent rule would be contrary to the public interest.

There is insufficient time to adopt permanent rules.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Non-governmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 1, Amended 0, Repealed 1.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: August 5, 2020.

Kelly Susewind
 Director

NEW SECTION

WAC 220-313-07000Z Coastal salmon—Saltwater seasons and daily limits. Effective August 8 through September 30, 2020 the provisions of WAC 220-313-070 regarding recreational salmon seasons for Marine Areas 1 and 4 shall be as described below. All other provisions of WAC 220-313-070 not addressed herein remain in effect unless otherwise amended by emergency rule:

- (1) **Catch Record Card Area 1:** Closed.
- (2) **Catch Record Card Area 4:** Closed.

REPEALER

The following section of the Washington Administrative Code is repealed effective August 8, 2020:

WAC 220-313-07000Y Coastal salmon—Saltwater seasons and daily limits.

The following section of the Washington Administrative Code is repealed effective October 1, 2020:

WAC 220-313-07000Z Coastal salmon—Saltwater seasons and daily limits.

WSR 20-17-008
EMERGENCY RULES
DEPARTMENT OF
FISH AND WILDLIFE

[Order 20-153—Filed August 6, 2020, 9:28 a.m., effective August 7, 2020]

Effective Date of Rule: August 7, 2020.

Purpose: The purpose of this rule is open additional Puget Sound recreational salmon harvest opportunities in Marine Areas 9, 10, and 11 by increasing the Chinook daily

limit to two fish in all of these areas and opening the East Elliott Bay Fishery for an additional four days.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: Repealing WAC 220-313-06000U; and amending WAC 220-313-060.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.020, 77.12.045, and 77.12.047.

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that immediate adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule is necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety, or general welfare, and that observing the time requirements of notice and opportunity to comment upon adoption of a permanent rule would be contrary to the public interest.

Reasons for this Finding: This emergency rule is needed to increase the Chinook daily limit in Catch Record Card Areas 9, 10, and 11. Sufficient recreational harvest quota remains available to allow for an increased daily limit of Chinook in these areas; respectively, as of August 2, 2020, the Washington department of fish and wildlife (WDFW) estimates that sixty-three percent of harvest quota of six thousand five hundred forty-two fish remains in Catch Area 9, ninety percent of four thousand one hundred fifty-nine fish in Catch Area 10, and eighty-one percent of four thousand one hundred ninety-six fish in Catch Area 11. Current projections indicate these fisheries will remain within allowed ESA impacts, as well.

Immediate adoption of this rule is necessary for the preservation of public health, safety, or general welfare. Observing the requirements of notice and opportunity to comment upon adoption of a permanent rule would be contrary to the public interest. There is insufficient time to adopt permanent rules.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Non-governmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 1, Amended 0, Repealed 1.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: August 6, 2020.

Kelly Susewind
Director

NEW SECTION

WAC 220-313-06000U Puget Sound salmon—Saltwater seasons and daily limits. Effective August 7 through September 30, 2020, the following provisions of WAC 220-313-060 regarding salmon seasons for Marine Areas 9, 10, and 11 shall be modified as described below. All other provisions of WAC 220-313-060 not addressed herein, or unless otherwise amended by emergency rule, remain in effect:

(1) **Catch Record Card Area 9:** Effective August 7 through August 15, 2020: Salmon; Chinook minimum size 22 inches. Other salmon species no minimum size. Daily limit 2. Release wild Chinook, chum, and wild coho.

(2) **Catch Record Card Area 10:**

(a) Entire Area except East Elliot Bay Fishery: Effective August 7 through August 31, 2020: Salmon; Chinook minimum size 22 inches. Other salmon species no minimum size. Daily limit 2. Release wild Chinook and chum.

(b) East Elliot Bay Fishery, waters of Elliott Bay east of a line from Duwamish Head to Pier 91 up to the mouth of the Duwamish River (an east-west line through the southernmost tip of Harbor Island): Effective 12:00 p.m. (noon) August 14 through August 17, 2020: Salmon; Chinook minimum size 22 inches. Other salmon species no minimum size. Daily limit 2. Release chum.

(3) **Catch Record Card Area 11:** Effective August 7 through September 30, 2020: Salmon; Chinook minimum size 22 inches. Other salmon species no minimum size. Daily limit 2. Release wild Chinook.

REPEALER

The following section of the Washington Administrative Code is repealed effective October 1, 2020:

WAC 220-313-06000U Puget Sound salmon—Saltwater seasons and daily limits. (20-153)

WSR 20-17-012

EMERGENCY RULES

DEPARTMENT OF

SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES

(Aging and Long-Term Support Administration)

[Filed August 6, 2020, 12:03 p.m., effective August 6, 2020, 12:03 p.m.]

Effective Date of Rule: Immediately upon filing.

Purpose: The department is amending the rule listed below to assure certified community residential services and supports (CCRSS) service providers are not significantly impeded from providing services and support to clients during the COVID-19 pandemic. Governor Inslee's Proclamation 20-18 and subsequent extensions identified that the pandemic has resulted in disruptions to long-term care systems, including the ability to safely conduct inspections. The governor's proclamations included the suspension of licensing inspections for all long-term care settings with the exception of CCRSS settings. Current rules state that the department may conduct an on-site certification evaluation for each service provider at any time, but at least once every two years. The amendment lengthens the amount of time to complete certification evaluations that are currently suspended for consistency and safety across all programs regulated by the department. The amendment will allow the department additional time to complete certification evaluations when it is safe and practical to do so.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: Amending WAC 388-101-3130.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: Chapter 71A.12 RCW.

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that immediate adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule is necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety, or general welfare, and that observing the time requirements of notice and opportunity to comment upon adoption of a permanent rule would be contrary to the public interest.

Reasons for this Finding: The threat of COVID-19 to our most vulnerable populations is significant, especially for those receiving long-term care services in their homes and congregate settings, such as CCRSS settings. Current CCRSS rules ensure the department may conduct on-site certification evaluations of each CCRSS service provider at any time, but at least once every two years. Due to the suspension of certification evaluations, as proclaimed for all other long-term care settings related to the COVID-19 pandemic, the amendment will allow for additional time to complete the certification evaluations when the pandemic subsides.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Non-governmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 0, Amended 1, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 1, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: August 4, 2020.

Katherine I. Vasquez
Rules Coordinator

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 08-02-022, filed 12/21/07, effective 2/1/08)

WAC 388-101-3130 Certification evaluation. (1) The department may conduct an on-site certification evaluation of each service provider at any time (~~(, but at least once every two years)~~).

(2) During certification evaluations the service provider's administrator or designee must:

(a) Cooperate with department representatives during the on-site visit;

(b) Provide all contractor records, client records, and other relevant information requested by the department representatives;

(c) Ensure the service provider's administrator or designee is available during any visit to respond to questions or issues identified by department representatives; and

(d) Ensure the service provider's administrator or designee is present at the exit conference.

WSR 20-17-026

EMERGENCY RULES

DEPARTMENT OF

FISH AND WILDLIFE

[Order 20-152—Filed August 6, 2020, 4:33 p.m., effective August 6, 2020, 4:33 p.m.]

Effective Date of Rule: Immediately upon filing.

Purpose: Amends Puget Sound recreational shrimp rules.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: Repealing WAC 220-330-07000B and 220-330-07000C; and amending WAC 220-330-070.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.020, 77.12.045, and 77.12.047.

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that immediate adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule is necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety, or general welfare, and that observing the time requirements of notice and opportunity to comment upon adoption of a permanent rule would be contrary to the public interest.

Reasons for this Finding: This regulation is needed to ensure an orderly fishery, manage the fishery within court-ordered sharing requirements, and ensure conservation. This rule opens Marine Areas 6, 7E, 7W and 9 on specified days in August to harvest remaining spot shrimp quota in these areas. Additionally, this rule maintains areas currently open to the harvest of nonspot shrimps using 1/2 inch mesh pots with depth restrictions specific to each marine area. This emergency regulation allows spot and nonspot shrimp opportunities to take place one hour before sunrise to one hour after sunset, which is the default daily times for those areas by permanent rule. Marine Areas 6 (within the Discovery Bay Shrimp District), 7S, 10, and 12 remain closed because quotas have been attained. Marine Area 13 will remain closed for spot shrimp for conservation reasons. There is insufficient time to adopt permanent rules.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Non-governmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 1, Amended 0, Repealed 2.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: August 6, 2020.

Kelly Susewind
Director

NEW SECTION**WAC 220-330-07000C Shrimp—Areas and seasons.**

Notwithstanding the provisions of WAC 220-330-070, effective immediately until further notice, or until this rule expires on October 16, 2020, it is unlawful to fish for or possess shrimp taken for personal use in all waters of Marine Areas 4 (east of the Bonilla-Tatoosh line), 5, 6, 7, 8-1, 8-2, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and the Discovery Bay Shrimp District portion of Marine Area 6, except as provided for in this section. All other provisions of WAC 220-330-070 not addressed herein, or unless otherwise amended by emergency rule, remain in effect:

(1) Marine Area 4 (east of the Bonilla-Tatoosh line) and 5: Open daily until further notice for all shrimp species.

(2) Marine Area 6 (excluding the Discovery Bay Shrimp District): Open August 12, 13, 15, and 16 for all shrimp species with no fishing depth restriction. Open until further notice, except for August 12, 13, 15, and 16, to the harvest of all shrimp species except spot shrimp with a 200-foot maximum fishing depth restriction. All spot shrimp caught before August 12 or after August 16 must be immediately returned to the water unharmed. It is unlawful to set or pull shrimp gear in waters greater than 200 feet deep.

(3) Marine Area 6 (within the Discovery Bay Shrimp District): Closed to the harvest of all species of shrimp.

(4) Marine Area 7 East: Open August 12, 13, 15, and 16 for all shrimp species no fishing depth restriction. Open until further notice, except for August 12, 13, 15, and 16, to the harvest of all shrimp species except spot shrimp with a 200-foot maximum fishing depth restriction. All spot shrimp caught before August 12 or after August 16 must be immediately returned to the water unharmed. It is unlawful to set or pull shrimp gear in waters greater than 200 feet deep.

(5) Marine Area 7 South: Closed to the harvest of all species of shrimp.

(6) Marine Area 7 West: Open August 12, 13, 15, 16, 20, 21, 22, and 23 for all shrimp species no fishing depth restriction.

(7) Marine Areas 8-1 and 8-2: Open until further notice to harvest of all shrimp species except spot shrimp with a 150-foot maximum fishing depth restriction. All spot shrimp caught must be immediately returned to the water unharmed. It is unlawful to set or pull shrimp gear in waters greater than 150 feet deep.

(8) Marine Area 9: Open August 12 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm for all shrimp species no fishing depth restriction. Open until further notice, except for August 12, to the harvest of all shrimp species except spot shrimp with a 150-foot maximum fishing depth restriction. All spot shrimp caught before or after August 12 must be immediately returned to the water unharmed. It is unlawful to set or pull shrimp gear in waters greater than 150 feet deep.

(9) Marine Area 10: Closed to the harvest of all species of shrimp.

(10) Marine Area 11: Open until further notice to harvest of all shrimp species except spot shrimp with a 150-foot maximum fishing depth restriction. All spot shrimp caught must be immediately returned to the water unharmed. It is unlawful to set or pull shrimp gear in waters greater than 150 feet deep.

(11) Marine Area 12: Closed to the harvest of all species of shrimp.

(12) Marine Area 13: Open until further notice to harvest of all species except spot shrimp with a 200-foot maximum fishing depth restriction. All spot shrimp caught must be returned to the water unharmed. It is unlawful to set or pull shrimp gear in waters greater than 200 feet deep.

REPEALER

The following section of the Washington Administrative Code is repealed:

WAC 220-330-07000B Shrimp—Areas and seasons. (20-140)

The following section of the Washington Administrative Code is repealed effective October 16, 2020:

WAC 220-330-07000C Shrimp—Areas and seasons.

**WSR 20-17-027
EMERGENCY RULES
DEPARTMENT OF
FISH AND WILDLIFE**

[Order 20-147—Filed August 7, 2020, 8:41 a.m., effective August 7, 2020, 8:41 a.m.]

Effective Date of Rule: Immediately upon filing.

Purpose: This emergency rule will allow nontreaty commercial fishing opportunities in the Columbia River while protecting fish listed as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). This rule implements federal court orders governing Washington's relationship with treaty Indian tribes, federal law governing Washington's relationship with Oregon, and Washington fish and wildlife commission policy guidance for Columbia River fisheries.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: Repealing WAC 220-358-03000N; and amending WAC 220-358-030.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.020, 77.12.045, and 77.12.047.

Other Authority: *United States v. Oregon*, Civil No. 68-513-KI (D. Or.), Order Adopting 2018-2027 *United States v. Oregon* Management Agreement (February 26, 2018) (Doc. No. 2607-1). *Northwest Gillnetters Ass'n v. Sandison*, 95 Wn.2d 638, 628 P.2d 800 (1981); Washington fish and wildlife commission policies concerning Columbia River fisheries; 40 Stat. 515 (Columbia River Compact).

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that immediate adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule is necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety, or general welfare, and that observing the time requirements of notice and opportunity to comment upon adoption of a permanent rule would be contrary to the public interest.

Reasons for this Finding: This rule sets commercial fisheries for fall 2020 in the mainstem and select areas. Impacts to nonlocal stocks are expected to be minimal in off channel select areas. The fishery is consistent with the *U.S. v. Oregon* Management Agreement and the associated biological opinion. Conforms Washington state rules with Oregon state

rules. Regulation is consistent with compact action of July 30, 2020. There is insufficient time to promulgate permanent rules.

Washington and Oregon jointly regulate Columbia River fisheries under the congressionally ratified Columbia River Compact. Four Indian tribes have treaty fishing rights in the Columbia River. The treaties preempt state regulations that fail to allow the tribes an opportunity to take a fair share of the available fish, and the states must manage other fisheries accordingly. *Sohappy v. Smith*, 302 F. Supp. 899 (D. Or. 1969). A court order sets the current parameters. *United States v. Oregon*, Civil No. 68-513-KI (D. Or.), Order Adopting 2018-2027 *United States v. Oregon* Management Agreement (February 26, 2018) (Doc. No. 2607-1). Some salmon and steelhead stocks in the Columbia River are listed as threatened or endangered under the federal ESA. On February 23, 2018, the National Marine Fisheries Service issued a biological opinion under 16 U.S.C. § 1536 that allows for some incidental take of these species in the fisheries as described in the 2018-2027 *U.S. v. Oregon* Management Agreement.

Some Columbia River Basin salmon and steelhead stocks are listed as threatened or endangered under the federal ESA. The Washington and Oregon fish and wildlife commissions have developed policies to guide the implementation of such biological opinions in the states' regulation of nontreaty fisheries.

Columbia River nontreaty fisheries are monitored very closely to ensure compliance with federal court orders, the ESA, and commission guidelines. Because conditions change rapidly, the fisheries are managed almost exclusively by emergency rule. Representatives from the Washington (WDFW) and Oregon (ODFW) departments of fish and wildlife convene public hearings and take public testimony when considering proposals for new emergency rules. WDFW and ODFW then adopt regulations reflecting agreements reached.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 1, Amended 0, Repealed 1; Federal Rules or Standards: New 1, Amended 0, Repealed 1; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 1, Amended 0, Repealed 1.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Non-governmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 1, Amended 0, Repealed 1.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: July 30, 2020.

Kelly Susewind
Director

NEW SECTION

WAC 220-358-0300P Columbia River seasons below Bonneville. Notwithstanding the provisions of WAC

220-358-030, WAC 220-358-040, and WAC 220-335-050, it is unlawful for a person to take or possess salmon, sturgeon, and shad for commercial purposes from Columbia River Salmon Management and Catch Reporting Areas 1A, 1B, 1C, 1D, 1E and Select Areas, except during the times and conditions listed below:

(1) Mainstem:

Open Dates	Open Days	Open Time	Open Duration
August 10 - August 11	Monday (night)	9:00 pm-6:00 am	9 hrs
August 12 - August 13	Wednesday (night)	9:00 pm-6:00 am	9 hrs
August 17 - August 18	Monday (night)	9:00 pm-6:00 am	9 hrs
August 19 - August 20	Wednesday (night)	9:00 pm-6:00 am	9 hrs
August 24 - August 25	Monday (night)	9:00 pm-6:00 am	9 hrs
August 26 - August 27	Wednesday (night)	9:00 pm-6:00 am	9 hrs
August 31 - September 1	Monday (night)	9:00 pm-6:00 am	9 hrs

(a) **Area:** Zones 4-5. The deadline at the lower end of Zone 4 is defined as a straight line projected from the Warrior Rock Lighthouse on the Oregon shore easterly through the green navigation Buoy #1 and continuing to the Washington shore. Sanctuaries: Washougal and Sandy Rivers

(b) **Gear:** Drift gillnets only. 9-inch minimum mesh size restriction. Multiple net rule **NOT** in effect, which means nets not authorized for this fishery may not be onboard. Lighted buoys required.

(c) **Allowable Sales:** Chinook, Coho, and Pink salmon, shad, and white sturgeon. A maximum of **five** white sturgeon with a fork length of 44-50 inches may be possessed or sold by each participating vessel during each calendar week (Sunday through Saturday). This white sturgeon possession and sales limit applies to mainstem fisheries only.

(2) Tongue Point/South Channel Select Area:

Open Dates	Open Days	Open Time	Open Duration
August 24 - August 27	Monday, Wednesday (night)	7:00 pm-7:00 am	12 hrs
August 31 - September 4	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday (night)	7:00 pm-7:00 am	12 hrs
September 7 - October 30	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday (night)	4:00 pm-10:00 am	18 hrs

(a) **Area:**

(i) The Tongue Point Select Area is defined as waters of the Columbia River bounded by a line from a regulatory marker on the eastern shore of Tongue Point (midway between the red USCG light "2" at the tip of Tongue Point and the northern-most pier (#8) at the Tongue Point Job

Corps facility) to the flashing green USCG light "3" on the rock jetty at the northwest tip of Mott Island, a line from a regulatory marker at the southeast end of Mott Island north-easterly to a regulatory marker on the northwest shore of Lois Island, and a line from a regulatory marker located on the Oregon shore approximately 300 yards northwest of the railroad bridge crossing the John Day River projecting easterly to a regulatory marker on the southwest shore of Lois Island:

(A) If the marker on the eastern shore of Tongue Point is not in place, the downstream boundary is defined by a line projecting from a point (46°12'31.1"N latitude 123°45'34.0"W longitude) on the eastern shore of Tongue Point to the flashing green USCG light "3" on the rock jetty at the northwest tip of Mott Island.

(B) If the marker on the Oregon shore is not in place, the upstream boundary is defined by a line projecting from a point (46°10'57.7"N latitude 123°44'35.3"W longitude) on the Oregon shore approximately 300 yards northwest of the railroad bridge crossing the John Day River projecting easterly to a regulatory marker on Lois Island.

(ii) The South Channel Area is defined as waters of the Columbia River bounded by a line from a regulatory marker on the Oregon shore at John Day Point projecting northeasterly to a regulatory marker on the southwest shore of Lois Island, and a line from a regulatory marker on Settler Point projecting northwesterly to the flashing red USCG light "10" then projecting westerly to the eastern tip of Burnside Island.

(b) **Gear:** Gillnets with a 6-inch maximum mesh size restriction. Maximum net length of 250 fathoms. In the Tongue Point Select Area, the lead line weight may not exceed two pounds per any one fathom; however, unstored gillnets legal for use in South Channel may be onboard.

In the South Channel Select Area, there is no lead line weight limit and attachment of additional weight and anchors directly to the lead line is permitted. Nets not specifically authorized for use may be onboard a vessel if properly stored. A properly stored net is defined as a net on a drum that is fully covered by a tarp (canvas or plastic) and bound with a minimum of ten revolutions of rope with a diameter of 3/8 (0.375) inches or greater. Nets fished any time between official sunset and official sunrise must have lighted buoys on both ends of the net. If the net is attached to the boat, then one lighted buoy on the end of the net opposite the boat is required.

(c) **Allowable Sales:** Salmon (except Chum), shad, and white sturgeon.

(3) Blind Slough/Knappa Slough Select Area:

Open Dates	Open Days	Open Time	Open Duration
August 24 - August 27	Monday, Wednesday (night)	7:00 pm-7:00 am	12 hrs
August 31 - September 4	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday (night)	7:00 pm-7:00 am	12 hrs
September 7 - October 30	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday (night)	6:00 pm-10:00 am	18 hrs

(a) **Area:** The Blind Slough Select Area is defined as waters of Blind Slough and Gnat Creek from a north-south line represented by regulatory markers at the mouth of Blind Slough upstream to a regulatory marker in Gnat Creek located approximately 0.5 miles southeasterly (upstream) of the Barendse Road Bridge. The Knappa Slough Select Area is defined as waters of Knappa Slough, Calendar Slough, and Big Creek Slough bounded to the north (upstream) by a line projecting from a regulatory marker on the eastern shore of Karlson Island to the northernmost regulatory marker at the mouth of Blind Slough and bounded to the west (downstream) by a line projecting southerly from a regulatory marker on the southwestern tip of Karlson Island through regulatory markers on the western tips of Minaker Island to a marker on the Oregon shore. The waters of Knappa Slough within a 100-foot radius of the railroad bridge crossing Big Creek are closed.

(b) **Gear:** Gillnets with a maximum mesh size restriction of 9 3/4 inch through September 6, and a 6-inch maximum thereafter. Maximum net length is 100 fathoms. There is no lead line weight limit and attachment of additional weight and anchors directly to the lead line is permitted.

Nets not specifically authorized for use may be onboard a vessel if properly stored. A properly stored net is defined as a net on a drum that is fully covered by a tarp (canvas or plastic) and bound with a minimum of ten revolutions of rope with a diameter of 3/8 (0.375) inches or greater. Nets fished any time between official sunset and official sunrise must have lighted buoys on both ends of the net. If the net is attached to the boat, then one lighted buoy on the end of the net opposite the boat is required.

(c) **Permanent transportation rules in effect.** In accordance with WACs 220-69-230 (1)(i) and 220-22-010 (9)(a-b), commercial fishers are expected, and fish dealers are required, to report landings for winter-summer fisheries in Knappa Slough and Blind Slough separately using appropriate zone codes. Fish dealers are requested to keep landings from these two sites separate to aid in sampling.

(d) **Allowable Sales:** Salmon (except Chum), shad, and white sturgeon.

(4) Deep River Select Area:

Open Dates	Open Days	Open Time	Open Duration
September 28 - October 29	Monday, Wednesday (night)	6:00 pm-9:00 am	15 hrs
November 2 - December 3	Monday, Wednesday (night)	5:00 pm-8:00 am	15 hrs

(a) **Area:** The Deep River fishing area includes all waters from West Deep River Road Bridge at the town of Deep River downstream to the mouth defined by a line from USCG navigation marker #16 southwest to a marker on the Washington shore.

(b) **Gear:** Gillnets with a maximum mesh size restriction of 6-inches. Maximum net length is 100 fathoms. No weight restriction on leadline. Use of additional weights or anchors attached directly to the leadline is allowed. No nets can be tied off to stationary structures. Nets may not fully cross the

navigation channel. It is unlawful to operate in any river, stream or channel any gillnet gear longer than three-fourths the width of the river, stream, or channel. "River, stream, or channel width" is defined as bank-to-bank, where the water meets the banks, regardless of the time of tide or the water level. This emergency provision shall supersede the permanent regulation and all other regulations that conflict with it. Nets not specifically authorized for use may be onboard the vessel if properly stored. A properly stored net is defined as a net on a drum that is fully covered by a tarp (canvas or plastic) and bound with a minimum of ten revolutions of rope with a diameter of 3/8 (0.375) inches or greater. Nets fished any time between official sunset and official sunrise must have lighted buoys on both ends of the net. If the net is attached to the boat, then one lighted buoy on the end of the net opposite the boat is required.

(c) **Permanent transportation rules in effect.** In accordance with WACs 220-69-230 (1)(i) and 220-22-010 (9)(a-b), commercial fishers are expected, and fish dealers are required, to report landings for winter-summer fisheries in Knappa Slough and Blind Slough separately using appropriate zone codes. Fish dealers are requested to keep landings from these two sites separate to aid in sampling.

(d) **Allowable Sales:** Salmon (except Chum), shad, and white sturgeon.

(5) **24-hour quick reporting** is in effect for Washington buyers (WAC 220-352-315)). Permanent transportation rules in effect. Oregon buyers are required to submit fish receiving tickets electronically pursuant to OAR 635-006-0210. Unique catch reporting codes have been established for Blind Slough and Knappa Slough to facilitate separation of landings and sampling for winter/spring fisheries. Blind Slough and Knappa Slough have unique catch reporting codes to facilitate separation of landings and sampling for winter/spring fisheries.

(6) **Multi-Net Rule:** Nets not specifically authorized for use in these areas may be onboard a vessel if properly stored. A properly stored net is defined as a net on a drum that is fully covered by a tarp (canvas or plastic) and bound with a minimum of ten revolutions of rope with a diameter of 3/8 (0.375) inches or greater (WAC 220-358-030(2)).

(7) **Lighted Buoys:** Nets that are fished at any time between official sunset and official sunrise must have lighted buoys on both ends of the net unless the net is attached to the boat. If the net is attached to the boat, then one lighted buoy on the opposite end of the net from the boat is required.

Reviser's note: The typographical errors in the above section occurred in the copy filed by the agency and appear in the Register pursuant to the requirements of RCW 34.08.040.

REPEALER

The following section of the Washington Administrative Code is repealed effective August 10, 2020:

WAC 220-358-03000N Columbia River seasons below Bonneville Dam. (20-131)

WSR 20-17-029 EMERGENCY RULES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIES

[Filed August 7, 2020, 9:07 a.m., effective August 7, 2020, 9:07 a.m.]

Effective Date of Rule: Immediately upon filing.

Purpose: This emergency rule is necessary to align the general journeyman electrician and specialty electrician licensing qualifications for reciprocity with the state of Oregon to facilitate a reciprocal agreement, as authorized by RCW 19.28.231. The emergency rule incorporates the qualifying conditions for issuance of reciprocal licenses for electricians from WAC 296-46B-940, with additional changes to some provisions. The proposed rule language removes the requirements for a one year waiting period and allows applicants who qualify to immediately apply for a reciprocal certificate with Washington. It also removes provisions that exclude certain individuals from qualifying for a reciprocal certificate if they previously failed the Washington examination. This rule making does not change requirements that reciprocal agreements can only be made with states that have equivalent qualifications as Washington.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: Amending WAC 296-46B-941 Electrician certificate reciprocity.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: Chapter 19.28 RCW, Electricians and electrical installations, including RCW 19.28.031 and 19.28.251.

Other Authority: None.

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that immediate adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule is necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety, or general welfare, and that observing the time requirements of notice and opportunity to comment upon adoption of a permanent rule would be contrary to the public interest.

Reasons for this Finding: According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment for electricians in the state will grow eighteen percent from 2018 to 2028, almost twice as fast as the national average. As homes and businesses require more wiring, more electricians are needed to install the necessary components. Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, the labor shortage is expected to continue as the construction economy continues to recover.

Social distancing requirements brought on by COVID-19 have reduced availability of electrician examinations. Positive COVID-19 test results are causing workforce instability. Property owners and employers reassess staffing needs on a continuous basis as a result. To remain employed, electricians may need to pass another state's examination to work there. To remain in business, employers must have access to electricians who have proper credentials. Because there are no reciprocal agreements, Oregon employers shifting their workforce to projects in Washington face delays while their electricians schedule and pass examinations. The same is true for Washington employers and their electricians pursuing work in Oregon.

The impacts of the shortage of qualified electricians include:

- Small projects delayed because electricians seek work on large projects that offer inflated wages;

- Companies stop bidding, causing delays in starting new projects;
- Projects take longer to complete resulting in cost overruns; and
- Public safety risks associated with hazards created when unqualified individuals step in to perform electrical work when qualified electricians are not available.

To help address these issues, the emergency rule allows electricians in Washington and Oregon to qualify for certification with the other state. This is necessary for the preservation of public safety by helping to alleviate the severe shortage of electricians, and provide more access to qualified electricians working near the border between Washington and Oregon.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Non-governmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 1, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 1, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 1, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: August 7, 2020.

Joel Sacks
Director

NEW SECTION

WAC 296-46B-941 Electrician certificate reciprocity. Notwithstanding WAC 246-46B-940:

(1) An individual will be issued a reciprocal electrician certificate of competency if all the following conditions are met:

(a) The department has a valid reciprocal agreement with the other state in the journey level or specialty category requested;

(b) The individual makes a complete application for a reciprocal certificate on the form provided by the department. A complete application includes:

(i) Application for reciprocal certificate of competency;

(ii) Evidence that the individual meets the eligibility requirements listed in RCW 19.28.191, by presenting a current, valid journey person or specialty electrician certificate or certified letter from the issuing state attesting to possession of such certificate by the applicant:

(A) Evidence from an apprenticeship training director that any journey level category applicant has successfully completed an apprenticeship program that is equivalent to an apprenticeship program approved under chapter 49.04 RCW approved by the department for the electrical construction

trade in which the applicant worked in the electrical construction trade for a minimum of eight thousand hours; or

(B) Evidence that any journey level category applicant has worked in the electrical construction trade for a minimum of sixteen thousand hours.

(iii) All appropriate fees as listed in WAC 296-46B-909.

(c) The individual obtained the reciprocal state's certificate of competency as a journey level or specialty electrician by examination.

(2) An individual is not eligible for a reciprocal electrician certificate of competency if the individual:

(a) Has failed to renew a similar Washington electrician certificate of competency as required in RCW 19.28.211; or

(b) Has a similar Washington electrician certificate of competency in suspended, revoked, or inactive status under this chapter; or

(c) Owes money as a result of an outstanding final judgment(s) to the department; or

(d) Has taken and failed a Washington exam for the certificate being applied for within the past two years.

WSR 20-17-031

EMERGENCY RULES

DEPARTMENT OF

FISH AND WILDLIFE

[Order 20-154—Filed August 7, 2020, 4:45 p.m., effective August 7, 2020, 4:45 p.m.]

Effective Date of Rule: Immediately upon filing.

Purpose: The purpose of this rule is to delay the recreational crab opening in Marine Area 7 North by one week. In order to make up the lost opportunity will be regained by opening Marine Area 7 North and 7 South seven days per week from September 24 through 30.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: Repealing WAC 220-330-04000M and 220-330-04000N; and amending WAC 220-330-040.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.020, 77.12.045, and 77.12.047.

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that immediate adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule is necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety, or general welfare, and that observing the time requirements of notice and opportunity to comment upon adoption of a permanent rule would be contrary to the public interest.

Reasons for this Finding: The previous emergency rule, WSR 20-14-060, was issued June 26, 2020, to open the recreational crab harvest in the marine areas listed to achieve the 50/50 harvest defined by the federal court order. Since that time, sampling revealed that legal size Dungeness crab in Marine Area 7 North will not have met the criteria of eighty percent hardshell prior to the previously announced opening date of August 13. This emergency rule delays the opening date for Marine Area 7 North until August 20, when it is projected to meet the criteria of eighty percent hardshell as required in the Region 1 Crab Management Plan. In consideration of the delay in opening Marine Area 7 North, the lost opportunity will be regained by opening Marine Area 7 North

and 7 South seven days per week from September 24 through 30.

Recreational crab fisheries will still open at 12:01 a.m. on the first day instead of 7:00 a.m. in each of the marine areas as stipulated by the permanent rule. Marine Area 12 south of a line projected due east from Ayock Point and Marine Area 13 will still be closed.

Immediate adoption of this rule is necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety, or general welfare. Observing time requirements of notice and opportunity to comment upon adoption of a permanent rule would be contrary to the public interest. There is insufficient time to adopt permanent rules.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Non-governmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 1, Amended 0, Repealed 2.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: August 7, 2020.

Kelly Susewind
Director

NEW SECTION

WAC 220-330-04000N Crab—Areas and seasons—Personal use. Notwithstanding the provisions of WAC 220-330-040, effective immediately through September 30, 2020, it is unlawful to fish for crab for personal use in Puget Sound in all waters of Marine Areas, 4 east of the Bonilla-Tatoosh line, 5, 6, 7, 8-1, 8-2, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13, except as provided herein:

(1) Marine Areas 4 east of the Bonilla-Tatoosh line, 5, 6, 8-1, 8-2, and 9: Effective immediately through 11:59 p.m. September 7, 2020, it is permissible to fish for crab for personal use on Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays and Mondays.

(2) Marine Area 10: Effective immediately through 11:59 p.m. September 7, 2020, it is permissible to fish for crab for personal use on Sundays and Mondays.

(3) Marine Area 11: Effective immediately through 11:59 p.m. September 7, 2020, it is permissible to fish for crab for personal use on Sundays and Mondays.

(4) The portion of Marine Area 12 north of a line projected due east from Ayock Point: Effective immediately through 11:59 p.m. September 7, 2020, it is permissible to fish for crab for personal use on Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays and Mondays.

(5) The portion of Marine Area 12 south of a line projected due east from Ayock Point: Closed until further notice.

(6) Those waters of Marine Area 7 south and west of a line projected from Village Point, Lummi Island, through the navigation buoy just east of Matia Island, thence to the buoy at Clements Reef, thence to the easternmost point of Patos Island, thence running along the northern shore of Patos Island to the westernmost point of Patos Island, thence true west to the international boundary and south of a line that extends from Point Francis on Portage Island, through the marker just north of Inati Bay on Lummi Island to Lummi Island: Effective immediately through 11:59 p.m. September 21, 2020, it is permissible to fish for crab for personal use on Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays and Mondays. Effective 12:01 a.m. September 24, 2020 through 11:59 p.m. September 30, 2020 it is permissible to fish for crab for personal use seven days a week.

(7) Those waters of Marine Area 7 north and east of a line projected from Village Point, Lummi Island through the navigation buoy just east of Matia Island thence to the buoy at Clements Reef thence to the easternmost point of Patos Island and from the westernmost point of Patos Island true west to the international boundary and north of a line that extends from Point Francis on Portage Island, through the marker just north of Inati Bay on Lummi Island to Lummi Island: Effective 12:01 a.m. August 20, 2020, through 11:59 p.m. September 21, 2020, it is permissible to fish for crab for personal use on Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays and Mondays. Effective 12:01 a.m. September 24, 2020 through 11:59 p.m. September 30, 2020 it is permissible to fish for crab for personal use seven days a week.

(8) Marine Area 13: Closed until further notice.

REPEALER

The following section of the Washington Administrative Code is repealed effective immediately:

WAC 220-330-04000M Crab—Areas and seasons—Personal use.

The following section of the Washington Administrative Code is repealed effective October 1, 2020:

WAC 220-330-04000N Crab—Areas and seasons—Personal use.

WSR 20-17-038

EMERGENCY RULES

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

(Dental Quality Assurance Commission)

[Filed August 10, 2020, 8:30 a.m., effective August 10, 2020, 8:30 a.m.]

Effective Date of Rule: Immediately upon filing.

Purpose: WAC 246-817-120 Examination content, this emergency rule will supersede WSR 20-13-059 filed June 15, 2020. The dental quality assurance commission (commission) adopted WSR 20-13-059 to add the Joint Commission on National Dental Examination's (JCND) Dental License Objective Structured Clinical Examination (DLOSCE)

to the list of allowable practical/clinical examinations in WAC 246-817-120. This emergency rule retains the use of the DLOSCE. The commission is also amending WAC 246-17-120 to allow an applicant to pass components of the practical examination using one or more testing agencies, rather than only one agency.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: Amending WAC 246-817-120.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 18.32.0365.

Other Authority: RCW 18.32.040 and 18.32.002.

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that immediate adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule is necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety, or general welfare, and that observing the time requirements of notice and opportunity to comment upon adoption of a permanent rule would be contrary to the public interest.

Reasons for this Finding: In response to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, all regional, patient-based clinical dentist examinations are cancelled for 2020 in the United States.

The commission received a request from the University of Washington School of Dentistry and other dental organizations to approve a new nonpatient-based clinical exam. The DLOSCE is a practical/clinical examination that is computer-based and does not use live patients. Adding DLOSCE to the list of allowable practical/clinical examinations will allow current graduates the opportunity to obtain Washington state dentist licensure while other examinations are temporarily unavailable.

On June 5, 2020, the dental commission also determined additional change was necessary to WAC 246-817-120 to allow graduates to obtain nonpatient-based clinical examination from more than one testing agency. Regional examination testing agencies have developed nonpatient-based clinical dentist examinations to replace patient-based. However, one or more of the testing agencies are unable to offer all required sections through nonpatient-based examination. Removing the requirement for all examination content sections to be passed with a single testing agency will provide additional options for new graduates to obtain clinical examinations for Washington state dentist licensure.

Standard rule making takes approximately nine to twelve months. Current patient-based clinical dentist examinations are cancelled for 2020 in the United States because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Computer-based and nonpatient-based examinations are needed so that 2020 dentist student graduates have the opportunity to obtain Washington state dentist licensure.

The immediate amendment of this existing rule is necessary for the preservation of public health, safety, and general welfare. Observing the time requirements of notice and opportunity to comment upon adoption of a permanent rule would be contrary to protecting immediate public interests.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Non-governmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 0, Amended 1, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 1, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: June 5, 2020.

Aaron Stevens, DMD, Chairperson
Dental Quality Assurance Commission

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 19-15-094, filed 7/22/19, effective 8/22/19)

WAC 246-817-120 Examination content. (1) An applicant seeking dentist licensure in Washington by examination, must successfully pass a written and practical examination approved by the Dental Quality Assurance Commission (commission).

The examination will consist of:

(a) A written examination. The Integrated National Board Dental Examination, Parts I and II of the National Board Dental Examination, or the Canadian National Dental Examining Board examination will be accepted, except as provided in subsection (4) of this section.

(b) A practical examination containing at least the following sections:

(i) Restorative;

(ii) Endodontic;

(iii) Periodontal;

(iv) Prosthodontic; and

(v) Comprehensive treatment planning or diagnostic skills.

(2)(a) The commission accepts the following practical examinations provided the testing agency offers at least the sections listed in subsection (1)(b) of this section:

(i) The Western Regional Examining Board's (WREB) clinical examination;

(ii) The Central Regional Dental Testing Services (CRDTS) clinical examination;

(iii) The Commission on Dental Competency Assessments (CDCA) formally known as Northeast Regional Board (NERB) clinical examination;

(iv) The Southern Regional Testing Agency (SRTA) clinical examination;

(v) The Council of Interstate Testing Agency's (CITA) clinical examination;

(vi) U.S. state or territory with an individual state board clinical examination;

(vii) The Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations dental licensure objective structured clinical examination (DLOSCE); or

(b) The commission will accept the complete National Dental Examining Board (NDEB) of Canada clinical examination as meeting its standards if the applicant is a graduate of an approved dental school defined in WAC 246-817-110 (2)(a).

(3) The applicant must pass all sections listed in subsection (1)(b) of this section of the practical examination with ~~((the same))~~ one or more testing ~~((agency))~~ agencies.

(4) The commission will only accept results of approved practical examinations taken within the preceding five years from the date of an application for licensure.

(5) The commission may, at its discretion, give or require an examination in any other subject under subsection (1)(a) and (b) of this section, whether in written or practical form or both written and practical.

WSR 20-17-042
EMERGENCY RULES
GREEN RIVER COLLEGE

[Filed August 10, 2020, 11:58 a.m., effective August 10, 2020, 11:58 a.m.]

Effective Date of Rule: Immediately upon filing.

Purpose: The Department of Education (DOE) issued updated Title IX rules on May 22, 2020, which take effect August 14, 2020, forward. The updated rules incorporate new Title IX student conduct code requirements that necessitate Green River College amending chapter 132J-126 WAC, Student conduct rules, and repealing chapter 132J-300 WAC, Grievance procedure—Sex discrimination, no later than August 14, 2020, to remain in compliance with the updated DOE requirements.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: New chapter 132J-126 WAC; and repealing chapter 132J-300 WAC.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: Title IX of Education Amendments of 1972; RCW 28B.50.140.

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that state or federal law or federal rule or a federal deadline for state receipt of federal funds requires immediate adoption of a rule.

Reasons for this Finding: Emergency rules adding rules to chapter 132J-126 WAC, student conduct rules, and repealing chapter 132J-300 WAC, Grievance procedure—Sex discrimination, are necessary for compliance with DOE updated Title IX rules issued on May 22, 2020, and requiring implementation of updated student conduct code requirements related to Title IX no later than August 14, 2020. The college intends to proceed with permanent rule making on these subjects in the near future.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 9, Amended 0, Repealed 1; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Non-governmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: August 5, 2020.

George Frasier
Vice President of
College Advancement

NEW SECTION

WAC 132J-126-310 Order of precedence. This supplemental procedure applies to allegations of sexual harassment 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 disciplinary procedures, WAC 132J-126-010 through 132J-126-300, these supplemental procedures shall take precedence.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132J-126-320 Prohibited conduct under Title IX. Pursuant to RCW 28B.50.140(13) and Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1681, the college may impose disciplinary sanctions against a student who commits, attempts to commit, or aids, abets, incites, encourages, or assists another person to commit, an act(s) of "sexual harassment."

For purposes of this supplemental procedure, "sexual harassment" encompasses the following conduct:

(1) **Quid pro quo harassment.** A college employee conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of the college on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct.

(2) **Hostile environment.** Unwelcome conduct that a reasonable person would find to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the college's educational programs or activities, or employment.

(3) **Sexual assault.** Sexual assault includes the following conduct:

(a) **Nonconsensual sexual intercourse.** Any actual or attempted sexual intercourse (anal, oral, or vaginal), however slight, with any object or body part, 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.** 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.** 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 eighteen.

(d) **Statutory rape.** Consensual sexual intercourse between someone who is eighteen years of age or older and someone who is under the age of sixteen.

(4) **Domestic violence.** Physical violence, bodily injury, assault, the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, sexual assault, or stalking 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 26.50.010.

(5) **Dating violence.** Physical violence, bodily injury, assault, the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, sexual assault, or stalking committed by a person:

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

(b) 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.

(6) **Stalking.** Engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for their safety or the safety of others, or suffer substantial emotional distress.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132J-126-330 Title IX jurisdiction. (1) This supplemental procedure applies only if the alleged misconduct:

(a) Occurred in the United States;

(b) Occurred during a college educational program or activity; and

(c) Meets the definition of sexual harassment as that term is defined in this supplemental procedure.

(2) For purposes of this supplemental procedure, an "educational program or activity" is defined as locations, events, or circumstances over which the college exercised substantial control over both the respondent and the context in which the alleged sexual harassment occurred. This definition includes any building owned or controlled by a student organization that is officially recognized by the college.

(3) Proceedings under this supplemental procedure must be dismissed if the decision maker determines that one or all of the requirements of subsection (1)(a) through (c) of this section have not been met. Dismissal under this supplemental procedure does not prohibit the college from pursuing other disciplinary action based on allegations that the respondent violated other provisions of the college's student conduct code, WAC 132J-126-090.

(4) If the Title IX coordinator determines the facts in the investigation report are not sufficient to support Title IX jurisdiction and/or pursuit of a Title IX violation, the Title IX coordinator will issue a notice of dismissal in whole or part to both parties explaining why some or all of the Title IX claims have been dismissed.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132J-126-340 Initiation of discipline. (1) Upon receiving the Title IX investigation report from the Title IX coordinator, the judicial officer will independently review the report to determine whether there are sufficient grounds to pursue a disciplinary action against the respondent for engaging in prohibited conduct under Title IX.

(2) If the judicial officer determines that there are sufficient grounds to proceed under these supplemental procedures, the judicial officer will initiate a Title IX disciplinary proceeding by filing a written disciplinary notice with the chair of the student conduct committee and serving the notice on the respondent and the complainant, and their respective advisors. The notice must:

(a) Set forth the basis for Title IX jurisdiction;

(b) Identify the alleged Title IX violation(s);

(c) Set forth the facts underlying the allegation(s);

(d) Identify the range of possible sanctions that may be imposed if the respondent is found responsible for the alleged violation(s); and

(e) Explain that the parties are entitled to be accompanied by their chosen advisors during the hearing and that:

(i) The advisors will be responsible for questioning all witnesses on the party's behalf;

(ii) An advisor may be an attorney; and

(iii) The college will appoint the party an advisor of the college's choosing at no cost to the party, if the party fails to do so.

(3) Explain that if a party fails to appear at the hearing, a decision of responsibility may be made in their absence.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132J-126-350 Prehearing procedure. (1) Upon filing and serving the written disciplinary notice, the chair of the student conduct committee will send a hearing notice to all parties, in compliance with WAC 132J-126-190. In no event will the hearing date be set less than ten days after the Title IX coordinator provided the final investigation report to the parties.

(2) A party may choose to have an attorney serve as their advisor at the party's own expense. This right will be waived unless, at least five days before the hearing, the attorney files a notice of appearance with the committee chair with copies to all parties and the student conduct officer.

(3) In preparation for the hearing, the parties will have equal access to all evidence gathered by the investigator during the investigation, regardless of whether the college intends to offer the evidence at the hearing.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132J-126-360 Rights of parties. (1) The college's student conduct procedures, chapter 132J-126 WAC and this supplemental procedure shall apply equally to all parties.

(2) The college 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 or chair of the student conduct committee will appoint an advisor of the college's choosing on the party's behalf at no expense to the party.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132J-126-370 Evidence. The introduction and consideration of evidence during the hearing is subject to the following procedures and restrictions:

(1) **Relevance:** The chair of the student conduct committee shall review all questions for relevance and shall explain on the record their reasons for excluding any question based on lack of relevance.

(2) **Relevance means** that information elicited by the question makes facts in dispute more or less likely to be true.

(3) Questions or evidence about a complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant and must be excluded, unless such question or evidence:

(a) Is asked or offered to prove someone other than the respondent committed the alleged misconduct; or

(b) Concerns specific incidents of prior sexual behavior between the complainant and the respondent, which are asked or offered on the issue of consent.

(4) **Cross-examination required:** If a party or witness does not submit to cross-examination during the live hearing, the student conduct committee must not rely on any statement by that party or witness in reaching a determination of responsibility.

(5) **No negative inference:** The student conduct committee may not make an inference regarding responsibility solely on a witness's or party's absence from the hearing or refusal to answer questions.

(6) **Privileged evidence:** The student conduct committee shall not consider legally privileged information unless the holder has effectively waived the privilege. Privileged information includes, but is not limited to, information protected by the following:

(a) Spousal/domestic partner privilege;

(b) Attorney-client and attorney work product privileges;

(c) Privileges applicable to members of the clergy and priests;

(d) Privileges applicable to medical providers, mental health therapists, and counselors;

(e) Privileges applicable to sexual assault and domestic violence advocates; and

(f) Other legal privileges identified in RCW 5.60.060.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132J-126-380 Initial order. (1) In addition to complying with WAC 132J-126-210, the student conduct committee will be responsible for conferring and drafting an initial order that:

(a) Identifies the allegations of sexual harassment;

(b) Describes the grievance and disciplinary procedures, starting with filing of the formal complaint through the determination of responsibility, including notices to parties, interviews with witnesses and parties, site visits, methods used to gather evidence, and hearings held;

(c) Makes findings of fact supporting the determination of responsibility;

(d) Reaches conclusions as to whether the facts establish whether the respondent is responsible for engaging in sexual harassment in violation of Title IX;

(e) Contains a statement of, and rationale for, the student conduct committee determination of responsibility for each allegation;

(f) Describes any disciplinary sanction or conditions imposed against the respondent, if any;

(g) Describes to what extent, if any, complainant is entitled to remedies designed to restore or preserve complainant's equal access to the college's education programs or activities; and

(h) Describes the process for appealing the initial order to the college president.

(2) The chair of the student conduct committee will serve the initial order on the parties simultaneously.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132J-126-390 Appeals. (1) The parties shall have the right to appeal from the initial order's determination of responsibility and/or dismissal of an allegation(s) of sexual harassment in a formal complaint. The right to appeal will be subject to the same procedures and time frames set forth in WAC 132J-126-220.

(2) The president or their delegate will determine whether the grounds for appeal have merit, provide the rationale for this conclusion, and state whether the disciplinary sanction and condition(s) imposed in the initial order are affirmed, vacated, or amended, and, if amended, set forth any new disciplinary sanction and/or condition(s).

(3) President's office shall serve the final decision on the parties simultaneously.

WSR 20-17-047

EMERGENCY RULES

DEPARTMENT OF

FISH AND WILDLIFE

[Order 20-155—Filed August 10, 2020, 4:38 p.m., effective August 10, 2020, 4:38 p.m.]

Effective Date of Rule: Immediately upon filing.

Purpose: The purpose of this rule is [to] close commercial harvest of nonspot shrimp species in Shrimp Management Region 1, which includes Shrimp Management Areas 1A, 1B, and 1C, due to attainment of quota, effective August 12, 2020.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: Repealing WAC 220-340-52000S; and amending WAC 220-340-520.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.020, 77.12.045, and 77.12.047.

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that immediate adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule is necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety, or general welfare, and that observing the time requirements of notice and opportunity to comment upon adoption of a permanent rule would be contrary to the public interest.

Reasons for this Finding: The 2020 State/Tribal Shrimp Harvest Management Plans for the Strait of Juan de Fuca and Puget Sound require adoption of harvest seasons contained in this emergency rule. This emergency rule (1) defines the shrimp management areas and regions open to spot and non-spot commercial harvest; (2) sets harvest restrictions for the nonspot commercial pot fishery; (3) sets harvest restrictions for the spot commercial pot fishery; (4) sets the harvest and gear limitations for the Puget Sound shrimp trawl fishery; (5) requires purchase of shrimp harvested by the designated fisheries to be done by appropriately licensed dealers; (6) closes Shrimp Management Area 1A to State commercial harvest of spot shrimp due to the attainment of quota (seven thousand one hundred thirty-seven pounds); (7) amends the second spot shrimp accounting period to allow two thousand five hundred pounds of spot shrimp harvest between July 15 and August 25, 2020; and (8) closes Region 1 nonspot shrimp due to attainment of quota. This change keeps state commercial harvest within limits agreed to in management plans.

Immediate adoption of this rule is necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety, or general welfare. Observing the time requirements of notice and opportunity to comment upon adoption of a permanent rule would be contrary to the public interest. There is insufficient time to adopt permanent rules.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Non-governmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 1, Amended 0, Repealed 1.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: August 10, 2020.

Kelly Susewind
Director

NEW SECTION

WAC 220-340-52000T Puget Sound shrimp pot and trawl fishery—Season. Effective immediately and until further notice, or until this rule expires on August 28, 2020 pursuant to RCW 34.05.350, the following provisions of WAC 220-340-520 regarding Puget Sound commercial shrimp pot harvest, non-spot shrimp harvest, spot shrimp harvest, trawl shrimp harvest and sales shall be described below. All other

provisions of WAC 220-340-520 not addressed herein, and unless otherwise amended, remain in effect:

(1) Shrimp Pot Harvests:

(a) All waters of Shrimp Management Areas 1A, 1B, 1C, 2E, 2W and 3 are open to the harvest of all shrimp species, effective immediately, until further notice, except as provided for in this section:

(i) All waters of Marine Fish/Shellfish Management and Catch Reporting Areas (Catch Areas) 23A-E, 23A-W, 23A-C, and 23A-S are closed to the harvest of non-spot shrimp until the spot quota is attained in all sub-areas of 23A. Catch Areas 23A-E, 23A-W, 23A-C, and 23A-S AE are within Shrimp Management Area 3 and comprise Catch Area 23A.

(ii) Effective immediately it is unlawful to harvest spot shrimp from sub-area 23A-E.

(iii) Effective immediately it is unlawful to harvest spot shrimp from Shrimp Management Area 1A.

(iv) Effective immediately it is unlawful to harvest non-spot shrimp from Region 2E. Region 2E is composed of Catch Areas 24A, 24B, 24C, 24D, and 26AE.

(v) Effective 12:00 a.m. August 12, 2020 is unlawful to harvest non-spot shrimp in Region 1. Region one is composed of Shrimp Management Areas 1A, 1B, and 1C.

(vi) Discovery Bay Shrimp District is closed to the harvest of all shrimp species.

(vii) Shrimp Management Areas 1B, 2E, and 2W are closed to the harvest of spot shrimp.

(b) It is unlawful to harvest non-spot and spot shrimp in the same day.

(c) It is unlawful to harvest shrimp in more than one Shrimp Management Area per day.

(2) Shrimp Non-spot Pot Harvest Restrictions

(a) The non-spot shrimp catch accounting period is weekly from Wednesday through Tuesday, totaling 7 days in length.

(b) It is unlawful for the combined total harvest of non-spot shrimp by a fisher or the fisher's alternate operator to exceed 600 pounds per shrimp catch accounting week from Shrimp Management Areas 1B, 1C, 2E, and 2W combined.

(c) Harvest of non-spot shrimp is not permitted deeper than 175 feet in Region 2W. Region 2W is comprised of Catch Areas 25B, 25C, 25D, and 26AW.

(d) Harvest of non-spot shrimp is not permitted deeper than 150 feet in Region 2E. Region 2E is comprised of Catch Areas 24A, 24B, 24C, 24D, and 26AE (26A northerly of a line drawn from the southern tip of Possession Point on Whidbey Island 110° true to the shipwreck on the opposite shore).

(3) Shrimp Spot Pot Harvest Restrictions:

(a) The second spot shrimp catch accounting period is from July 15, 2020 through 11:59 p.m. on August 25, 2020.

(b) It is unlawful for the combined total harvest of spot shrimp by a fisher or the fisher's alternate operator to exceed 2500 pounds for the second catch accounting period from Shrimp Management Areas 1A, 1C, and 3 combined.

(c) For the catch accounting period defined in 3(a) of this rule each fisher or alternate operator is required to report their intended catch area of harvest prior to the deployment of any spot shrimp gear to either shrimp.report@dfw.wa.gov or by text message to 360-302-6372.

(4) Shrimp trawl gear:

(a) Shrimp Management Area (SMA) 3 (outside of the Discovery Bay Shrimp District, Sequim Bay and Catch Area 23D) is open, effective immediately, until further notice. Sequim Bay includes those waters of Catch Area 25A south of a line projected west from Travis Spit on the Miller Peninsula.

(b) That portion of Catch Area 22A within SMA 1B east of a line projected 122.47°W longitude and west of a line projected 122.43°W longitude in Rosario Strait is open.

(c) The remaining portion of Catch Area 22A within SMA 1B is open effective immediately, until further notice, or until this expire on August 28, 2020.

(5) All shrimp taken under this section must be sold to licensed Washington State wholesale fish dealers.

Reviser's note: The typographical errors in the above section occurred in the copy filed by the agency and appear in the Register pursuant to the requirements of RCW 34.08.040.

Reviser's note: The unnecessary underscoring in the above section occurred in the copy filed by the agency and appears in the Register pursuant to the requirements of RCW 34.08.040.

REPEALER

The following section of Washington Administrative Code is repealed:

WAC 220-340-52000S Puget Sound shrimp pot and trawl fishery—Season. (20-142)

WSR 20-17-048

EMERGENCY RULES DEPARTMENT OF

SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES

(Aging and Long-Term Support Administration)

[Filed August 11, 2020, 8:49 a.m., effective August 11, 2020, 8:49 a.m.]

Effective Date of Rule: Immediately upon filing.

Purpose: The department is extending the amendment of the rules listed below to assure [ensure] nursing homes are not significantly impeded from admitting and caring for residents during the COVID-19 outbreak. These amendments will continue to align state nursing home rules with federal rules that are suspended or amended to help facilitate care during the COVID-19 pandemic. The federal rules were amended to remove the timelines for completing and transmitting resident assessments, and to delay the requirement by thirty days for a preadmission screening and resident review (PASRR) screening prior to admission to a nursing home. Federal rules also amended care-planning timelines, discharge and transfer notice requirements, and requirements that ensure residents can meet in groups. The rules identified below currently require a PASRR screen prior to admission, have timelines for completion of the comprehensive resident assessment and care plan, and have timelines for the transmission of the resident assessment. These rules also establish the right of residents to participate in resident groups and

require specific notice and time requirements before a resident discharge or transfer can occur.

The department filed a CR-101 Preproposal statement of inquiry as WSR 20-17-005 on August 5, 2020, to begin the permanent rule-making process.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: Repealing WAC 388-97-0920; and amending WAC 388-97-0120, 388-97-1000, 388-97-1020, 388-97-1915, and 388-97-1975.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 74.42.620.

Other Authority: Chapter 74.34 RCW.

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that immediate adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule is necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety, or general welfare, and that observing the time requirements of notice and opportunity to comment upon adoption of a permanent rule would be contrary to the public interest.

Reasons for this Finding: The continued threat of COVID-19 to our most vulnerable populations is significant, especially for those receiving long-term care services in their homes and congregate settings, such as long-term care facilities.

PASRR, resident assessment, and care planning: Current nursing home rules require a PASRR screen, typically performed by hospital staff prior to admission to a nursing home, followed by further evaluation from state agency staff or contractors under certain circumstances. Hospital staff are experiencing an extremely high workload during the pandemic due to the increased number of admissions, coupled with a reduced number of available staff. Additionally, face-to-face evaluation of the transferring resident continues to be restricted in many counties. The PASRR, care-planning and comprehensive assessment amendments will align state nursing home rules with federal rules that were suspended or amended to help facilitate care during the COVID-19 outbreak by shortening the transfer time from hospital to nursing home, and increasing the flexibility for nursing home staff to be able to prioritize immediate or emergency care needs of incoming residents.

Resident groups: Current rules establish resident rights to participate in resident groups and require the facility to assist with the organization of a group. Extending the amendment of these rules will permit facilities to restrict resident groups, and meets the state and federal recommendations for social distancing and limited gatherings. Extending this amendment also aligns state rules with federal rules that were suspended to accomplish social distancing recommendations.

Transfer and discharge notice: Current nursing home rules regarding discharge and transfer from a nursing home have specific criteria around when transfer or discharge can occur, and specific notice and time period requirements that must be met before a discharge or transfer can occur. The COVID-19 pandemic continues to necessitate that transfer and discharge decisions be made and implemented more quickly than the nursing home rules permit. Extending this amendment would decrease the notice requirements for transfer or discharge, and help expedite infection control processes and maximize the availability of nursing home beds. It would also align state nursing home rules with federal rules that were suspended or amended so facilities could more easily cohort residents to meet infection control goals.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 0, Amended 5, Repealed 1; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Non-governmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 5, Repealed 1.

Date Adopted: August 6, 2020.

Katherine I. Vasquez
Rules Coordinator

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 08-20-062, filed 9/24/08, effective 11/1/08)

WAC 388-97-0120 Individual transfer and discharge rights and procedures. (1) The skilled nursing facility and nursing facility must comply with all of the requirements of 42 C.F.R. § 483.10 and § 483.12, and RCW 74.42.450, or successor laws, and the nursing home must comply with all of the requirements of RCW 74.42.450 (1) through (4) and (7), or successor laws, including the following provisions and must not transfer or discharge any resident unless:

- (a) At the resident's request;
- (b) The transfer or discharge is necessary for the resident's welfare and the resident's needs cannot be met in the facility;
- (c) The transfer or discharge is appropriate because the resident's health has improved enough so the resident no longer needs the services provided by the facility;
- (d) The safety of individuals in the facility is endangered;
- (e) The health of individuals in the facility would otherwise be endangered; or
- (f) The resident has failed, after reasonable and appropriate notice, to pay for a stay at the facility.

(2) The following notice requirements apply if a nursing home/facility initiates the transfer or discharge of a resident. The notice must:

- (a) Include all information required by 42 C.F.R. § 483.12 when given in a nursing facility;
- (b) Be in writing, in language the resident understands;
- (c) Be given to the resident, the resident's surrogate decision maker, if any, the resident's family and to the department;
- (d) Be provided thirty days in advance of a transfer or discharge initiated by the nursing facility, except that the notice may be given as soon as practicable when the facility cannot meet the resident's urgent medical needs, or under the conditions described in (1)(c), (d), and (e) of this section; and

(e) Be provided fifteen days in advance of a transfer or discharge initiated by the nursing home, unless the transfer is an emergency.

(3) The nursing home must:

(a) Provide sufficient preparation and orientation to the resident to ensure safe and orderly transfer or discharge from the nursing home;

(b) Attempt to avoid the transfer or discharge of a resident from the nursing home through the use of reasonable accommodations unless agreed to by the resident and the requirements of WAC 388-97-0080 are met; and

(c) Develop and implement a bed-hold policy. This policy must be consistent with any bed-hold policy that the department develops.

(4) The nursing home (~~(must provide the)~~) bed-hold policy(~~(, in written format, to the resident, and a family member, before the resident is transferred or goes on therapeutic leave. At a minimum the policy)~~) must state, at a minimum:

(a) The number of days, if any, the nursing home will hold a resident's bed pending return from hospitalization or social/therapeutic leave;

(b) That a medicaid eligible resident, whose hospitalization or social/therapeutic leave exceeds the maximum number of bed-hold days will be readmitted to the first available semi-private bed, provided the resident needs nursing facility services. Social/therapeutic leave is defined under WAC 388-97-0001. The number of days of social/therapeutic leave allowed for medicaid residents and the authorization process is found under WAC 388-97-0160; and

(c) That a medicaid eligible resident may be charged if he or she requests that a specific bed be held, but may not be charged a bed-hold fee for the right to return to the first available bed in a semi-private room.

(5) The nursing facility must send a copy of the federally required transfer or discharge notice to:

(a) The department's home and community services when the nursing home has determined under WAC 388-97-0100, that the medicaid resident's health has improved sufficiently so that the resident no longer needs the services provided by the facility; and

(b) The department's designated local office when the transfer or discharge is for any of the following reasons:

- (i) The resident's needs cannot be met in the facility;
- (ii) The health or safety of individuals in the facility is endangered; or
- (iii) The resident has failed to pay for, or to have paid under medicare or medicaid, a stay at the facility.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 18-11-001, filed 5/2/18, effective 6/2/18)

WAC 388-97-1000 Resident assessment. (1) The nursing home must:

(a) Provide resident care based on a systematic, comprehensive, interdisciplinary assessment, and care planning process in which the resident participates, to the fullest extent possible;

(b) Conduct initially and periodically a comprehensive, accurate, standardized, reproducible assessment of each resident's functional capacity;

(c) ~~((At the time))~~ As soon as practicable after each resident is admitted:

(i) Have physician's orders for the resident's immediate care; and

(ii) Ensure that the resident's immediate care needs are identified in an admission assessment.

(d) Ensure that the comprehensive assessment of a resident's needs describes the resident's capability to perform daily life functions and significant impairments in functional capacity.

(2) The comprehensive assessment must include at least the following information:

(a) Identification and demographic information;

(b) Customary routine;

(c) Cognitive patterns;

(d) Communication;

(e) Vision;

(f) Mood and behavior patterns;

(g) Psychosocial well-being;

(h) Physical functioning and structural problems;

(i) Continence;

(j) Disease diagnosis and health conditions;

(k) Dental and nutritional status;

(l) Skin conditions;

(m) Activity pursuit;

(n) Medications;

(o) Special treatments and procedures;

(p) Discharge potential;

(q) Documentation of summary information regarding the assessment performed; and

(r) Documentation of participation in assessment.

(3) ~~((The nursing home must conduct comprehensive assessments:~~

~~(a) No later than fourteen days after the date of admission;~~

~~(b) Promptly after a significant change in the resident's physical or mental condition; and~~

~~(c) In no case less often than once every twelve months.~~

~~(4))~~ The nursing home must ensure that:

~~(a) ((Each resident is assessed no less than once every three months, and))~~ As appropriate, the resident's assessment is revised to assure the continued accuracy of the assessment; and

(b) The results of the assessment are used to develop, review and revise the resident's comprehensive plan of care under WAC 388-97-1020.

~~((5))~~ (4) The skilled nursing facility and nursing facility must:

(a) For the required assessment, complete the state approved resident assessment instrument (RAI) for each resident in accordance with federal requirements;

(b) Maintain electronic or paper copies of completed resident assessments in the resident's active medical record for fifteen months; this information must be maintained in a centralized location and be easily and readily accessible;

(c) Place the hard copies of the signature pages in the clinical record of each resident if a facility maintains their RAI data electronically and does not use electronic signatures;

~~(d) ((Assess each resident not less than every three months, using the state approved assessment instrument; and~~

~~((e))~~ Transmit all state and federally required RAI information for each resident to the department~~((:~~

~~((i))~~ in a manner and time period approved by the department~~((:~~

~~((ii) Within fourteen days of completion of any RAI assessment required under this subsection; and~~

~~((iii) Within fourteen days of discharging or admitting a resident for a tracking record)).~~

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 08-20-062, filed 9/24/08, effective 11/1/08)

WAC 388-97-1020 Comprehensive plan of care. (1)

The nursing home must develop a comprehensive plan of care for each resident that includes measurable objectives and timetables to meet a resident's medical, nursing and mental and psychosocial needs that are identified in the comprehensive assessment.

(2) The comprehensive plan of care must:

(a) Describe the services that are to be furnished to attain or maintain the resident's highest practicable physical, mental, and psychosocial well-being as required under WAC 388-97-1060;

(b) Describe any services that would otherwise be required, but are not provided due to the resident's exercise of rights, including the right to refuse treatment (refer to WAC 388-97-0300 and 388-97-0260;

~~(c) ((Be developed within seven days after completion of the comprehensive assessment;~~

~~((d))~~ Be prepared by an interdisciplinary team that includes the attending physician, a registered nurse with responsibility for the resident, and other appropriate staff in disciplines as determined by the residents needs;

~~((e))~~ (d) Consist of an ongoing process which includes a meeting if desired by the resident or the resident's representative; and

~~((f))~~ (e) Include the ongoing participation of the resident to the fullest extent possible, the resident's family or the resident's surrogate decision maker.

(3) The nursing home must implement a plan of care to meet the immediate needs of newly admitted residents, prior to the completion of the comprehensive assessment and plan of care.

(4) The nursing home must:

(a) Follow the informed consent process with the resident as specified in WAC 388-97-0260, regarding the interdisciplinary team's plan of care recommendations;

(b) Respect the resident's right to decide plan of care goals and treatment choices, including acceptance or refusal of plan of care recommendations;

(c) Include in the interdisciplinary plan of care process:

(i) Staff members requested by the resident; and

(ii) Direct care staff who work most closely with the resident.

(d) Respect the resident's wishes regarding which individuals, if any, the resident wants to take part in resident plan of care functions;

(e) Provide reasonable advance notice to and reasonably accommodate the resident family members or other individuals the resident wishes to have attend, when scheduling plan of care meeting times; and

(f) Where for practical reasons any individuals significant to the plan of care process, including the resident, are unable to attend plan of care meetings, provide a method for such individuals to give timely input and recommendations.

(5) The nursing home must ensure that each comprehensive plan of care:

(a) Designates the discipline of the individuals responsible for carrying out the program; and

(b) Is reviewed at least quarterly by qualified staff, as part of the ongoing process of monitoring the resident's needs and preferences.

Reviser's note: The typographical error in the above section occurred in the copy filed by the agency and appears in the Register pursuant to the requirements of RCW 34.08.040.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 15-18-026, filed 8/25/15, effective 9/25/15)

WAC 388-97-1915 PASRR requirements (~~(prior to admission of)~~ for new residents. (~~(Prior to every)~~ Within thirty days of admission (~~(of a new resident)~~)), the nursing facility must:

(1) Complete a PASRR level I screening, or verify that a PASRR level I screening has been completed (~~(, and deny admission until that screening has been completed)~~).

(2) Require a PASRR level II evaluation, or verify that a PASRR level II evaluation has been (~~(completed)~~) requested when the individual's PASRR level I screening indicates that the individual may have serious mental illness and/or intellectual disability or related condition (~~(, and deny admission until that evaluation has been completed, unless all three of the following criteria apply and are documented in the PASRR level I screening:~~

(a) ~~The individual is admitted directly from a hospital after receiving acute inpatient care;~~

(b) ~~The individual requires nursing facility services for the condition for which he or she received care in the hospital; and~~

(c) ~~The individual's attending physician has certified that the individual is likely to require fewer than thirty days of nursing facility services).~~

(3) (~~Decline to admit any individual whose PASRR level II evaluation determines that he or she does not require nursing facility services or that a nursing facility placement is otherwise inappropriate.~~

(4)) Coordinate with PASRR evaluators to the maximum extent practicable in order to avoid duplicative assessments and effort, and to ensure continuity of care for nursing facility residents with a serious mental illness and/or an intellectual disability or related condition.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 15-18-026, filed 8/25/15, effective 9/25/15)

WAC 388-97-1975 PASRR requirements after admission of a resident. (~~(Following)~~) After the thirtieth day of a resident's admission, the nursing facility must:

(1) Review all level I screening forms for accuracy. If at any time the facility finds that the previous level I screening was incomplete, erroneous or is no longer accurate, the facility must immediately complete a new screening using the department's standardized level I form, following the directions provided by the department's PASRR program. If the corrected level I screening identifies a possible serious mental illness or intellectual disability or related condition, the facility must notify DDA and/or the mental health PASRR evaluator so a level II evaluation can be conducted.

(2) Record the evidence of the level I screening and level II determinations (and any subsequent changes) in the resident assessment in accordance with the schedule required under WAC 388-97-1000.

(3) Maintain the level I form and the level II evaluation report in the resident's active clinical record.

(4) Immediately complete a level I screening using the department's standardized form if the facility discovers that a resident does not have a level I screening in his or her clinical record, following directions provided by the department's PASRR program. If the level I screening identifies a possible serious mental illness or intellectual disability or related condition, notify the DDA and/or mental health PASRR evaluator so a level II evaluation can be conducted.

(5) (~~Notify the DDA and/or mental health PASRR evaluator when a resident who was admitted on an exempted hospital discharge appears likely to need nursing facility services for more than thirty days, so a level II evaluation can be performed. This notification must occur as soon as the nursing facility anticipates that the resident may require more than 30 days of nursing facility services, and no later than the twenty-fifth day after admission unless good cause is documented for later notification.~~

(6)) Notify the DDA and/or mental health PASRR evaluator when a resident who was admitted with an advance categorical determination appears likely to need nursing facility services for longer than the period specified by DDA and/or the mental health PASRR evaluator, so that a full assessment of the individual's need for specialized services can be performed. This notification must occur as soon as the nursing facility anticipates that the resident will require more than the number of days of nursing facility services authorized for the specific advance categorical determination and no later than five days before expiration of the period (three days for protective services) unless good cause is documented for later notification.

(~~(7)~~) (6) Immediately notify the DDA and/or mental health PASRR evaluator for a possible resident review when there has been a significant change in the physical or mental condition, as defined in WAC 388-97-1910, of any resident who has been determined to have a serious mental illness or intellectual disability or related condition. Complete a new level I screening for the significant change.

(~~(8)~~) (7) Provide or arrange for the provision of any services recommended by a PASRR level II evaluator that are

within the scope of nursing facility services. If the facility believes that the recommended service either cannot or should not be provided, the facility must document the reason(s) for not providing the service and communicate the reason(s) to the level II evaluator.

~~((9))~~ (8) Immediately complete a new level I screening using the department's standardized form if the facility finds that a resident, not previously determined to have a serious mental illness, develops symptoms of a serious mental illness, and refer the resident to the mental health PASRR evaluator for further evaluation.

~~((10))~~ (9) Provide services and interventions that complement, reinforce and are consistent with any specialized services recommended by the level II evaluator. The resident's plan of care must specify how the facility will integrate relevant activities to achieve this consistency and the enhancement of the PASRR goals.

~~((11))~~ (10) Discharge, in accordance with WAC 388-97-0120, any resident with a serious mental illness or intellectual disability or related condition who does not meet nursing facility level of care, unless the resident has continuously resided in the facility for at least thirty months and requires specialized services. The nursing facility must cooperate with DDA and/or mental health PASRR evaluator as it prepares the resident for a safe and orderly discharge.

REPEALER

The following section of the Washington Administrative Code is repealed:

WAC 388-97-0920 Participation in resident and family groups.

WSR 20-17-051 EMERGENCY RULES BELLEVUE COLLEGE

[Filed August 11, 2020, 10:04 a.m., effective August 11, 2020, 10:04 a.m.]

Effective Date of Rule: Immediately upon filing.

Purpose: On May 19, 2020, the Federal Register printed amendments to Title IX regulations (85 F.R. 30575). The new regulations address the grievance process for formal complaints of sexual harassment and are scheduled to take effect on August 14, 2020. This requires emergency updates to the student conduct code of Bellevue to be compliant with federal regulations.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: New WAC 132H-126-400, 132H-126-410, 132H-126-420, 132H-126-430, 132H-126-440, 132H-126-450, 132H-126-460, 132H-126-470 and 132H-126-480; and amending WAC 132H-126-040, 132H-126-100, 132H-126-120, 132H-126-130, 132H-126-140, 132H-126-160, 132H-126-170, 132H-126-200, 132H-126-210, 132H-126-300, 132H-126-310, 132H-126-320, 132H-126-330, and 132H-126-340.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: Chapter 34.05 RCW; and RCW 28B.50.140(13); P.L. 113-4, 20 U.S.C. § 1092(f); Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. § 1681 et seq.

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that state or federal law or federal rule or a federal deadline for state receipt of federal funds requires immediate adoption of a rule.

Reasons for this Finding: Bellevue College is required by the United States Department of Education to comply with the recently adopted Title IX regulations, which take effect on August 14, 2020.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 9, Amended 15, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Non-governmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 0, Amended 15, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 9, Amended 15, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: August 4, 2020.

Tracy Biga MacLean
Associate Director

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 19-01-082, filed 12/17/18, effective 1/17/19)

WAC 132H-126-010 Authority. The board of trustees, acting pursuant to RCW 28B.50.140, delegates to the president of Bellevue College the authority to administer student disciplinary action. Administration of the disciplinary procedures is the responsibility of the provost for academic and student affairs or designee and/or the designated student conduct officer. The student conduct officer shall serve as the principal investigator and administrator for ~~((alleged))~~ reported violations of this code.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 19-01-082, filed 12/17/18, effective 1/17/19)

WAC 132H-126-040 Definitions. The following definitions shall apply for the purposes of this student conduct code:

(1) "**Business day**" means a weekday, excluding weekends and college holidays.

(2) "**College official**" is an employee of the college performing assigned administrative, security, professional, or paraprofessional duties.

(3) "**College premises**" shall include all campuses of the college, wherever located, and includes all land, buildings, facilities, vehicles, equipment, other property owned, used, or controlled by the college, study abroad program, retreat, and conference sites, and college-sponsored and/or college-hosted online platforms.

(4) "**Complainant**" is a student or another member of the college community who is allegedly directly affected by a

reported violation of this student conduct code. The complainant may be the reporting party, but not necessarily; witnesses or other third parties may report concerns. In any case involving a report of sexual misconduct as defined in this student conduct code, a complainant is afforded certain rights under this student conduct code including, but not limited to:

- (a) The right to be informed of all orders issued in the disciplinary case in which this person is a complainant;
- (b) The right to appeal a disciplinary decision; and
- (c) The right to be accompanied by a process advisor.

(5) **"Conduct review officer"** is the provost for academic and student affairs or designee or other college administrator designated by the president to be responsible for receiving and reviewing or referring appeals of student disciplinary actions in accordance with the procedures of this code. The president is authorized to reassign any and all of the conduct review officer's duties or responsibilities, as set forth in this chapter, as may be reasonably necessary.

((5)) (6) **"Disciplinary action"** is the process by which the student conduct officer imposes discipline against a student for a violation of the student conduct code.

((6)) (7) **"Disciplinary appeal"** is the process by which an aggrieved student can appeal the discipline imposed by the student conduct officer. Disciplinary appeals from a suspension in excess of ten instructional days or a dismissal are heard by the student conduct committee. Appeals of all other appealable disciplinary action shall be reviewed through brief adjudicative proceedings (BAP).

((7)) (8) **"Filing"** is the process by which a document is officially delivered to a college official responsible for facilitating a disciplinary review. Papers required to be filed shall be deemed filed upon actual receipt during office hours at the office of the specified college official. Unless otherwise provided, filing shall be accomplished by:

- (a) Hand delivery of the document to the specified college official or college official's assistant; or
- (b) Sending the document by email and first class mail to the specified college official's college email and office address.

((8)) **"Impacted party"** is a student or another member of the college community directly affected by an alleged violation of this student conduct code. The impacted party may be the reporting party, but not necessarily; witnesses or other third parties may report concerns. In any case involving an allegation of sexual misconduct as defined in this student conduct code, an impacted party is afforded certain rights under this student conduct code including, but not limited to:

- (a) The right to be informed of all orders issued in the disciplinary case in which this person is an impacted party;
- (b) The right to appeal a disciplinary decision; and
- (c) The right to be accompanied by a process advisor.

(9) **"Process advisor"** is a person selected by a ((responding party or an impacted party)) respondent or a complainant to provide support and guidance during disciplinary proceedings under this student conduct code.

(10) **"((Responding party)) Respondent"** is a student against whom disciplinary action is initiated. Each ((responding party)) respondent is afforded certain rights including, but not limited to:

(a) The right to be presumed not responsible for the reported misconduct unless or until a determination of responsibility is reached after completion of the disciplinary process;

(b) The right to be informed of all orders issued in the ((responding party's)) respondent's disciplinary case;

((b)) (c) The right to appeal a disciplinary decision; and

((c)) (d) The right to be accompanied by a process advisor.

(11) **"Service"** is the process by which a document is officially delivered to a party. Service is deemed complete upon hand delivery of the document or upon the date the document is emailed and deposited in the mail. Unless otherwise provided, service upon a party shall be accomplished by:

(a) Hand delivery of the document to the party; or

(b) Sending the document by email and by certified mail or first class mail to the party's last known address.

(12) **"Sexual misconduct"** includes prohibited sexual- or gender-based conduct by a student including, but not limited to, sexual harassment, sexual violence, sexual exploitation, indecent exposure, dating violence, or ((relationship)) domestic violence.

(13) **"Student"** includes all persons taking courses at or through the college, whether on a full-time or part-time basis, and whether such courses are credit courses, noncredit courses, online courses, or otherwise. Persons who withdraw, graduate, or complete courses after the date of ((an alleged)) a reported violation, who are not officially enrolled for a particular term but who have a continuing relationship with the college, or who have been notified of their acceptance for admission are considered "students."

(14) **"Student conduct officer"** is a college administrator designated by the president or provost for academic and student affairs or designee to be responsible for implementing and enforcing the student conduct code. The president or provost for academic and student affairs or designee is authorized to reassign any and all of the student conduct officer's duties or responsibilities, as set forth in this chapter, as may be reasonably necessary.

(15) **"The president"** is the president of the college. The president is authorized to delegate any and all of their responsibilities, as set forth in this chapter, as may be reasonably necessary.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 19-01-082, filed 12/17/18, effective 1/17/19)

WAC 132H-126-100 Prohibited student conduct. The college may impose disciplinary sanctions against a student who commits or attempts to commit, or aids, abets, incites, encourages, or assists another person to commit the following acts of misconduct:

(1) **Abuse of others.** Assault, physical abuse, verbal abuse, threat(s), intimidation, or other conduct that harms, threatens, or is reasonably perceived as threatening the health or safety of another person or another person's property unless otherwise protected by law.

(2) **Abuse of the student conduct process.**

(a) Abuse of the student conduct process includes:

(i) Attempting to influence the impartiality or participation of any decision maker including a student conduct officer, conduct review officer, or presiding student conduct committee member;

(ii) Influencing or attempting to influence another person to commit an abuse of the student conduct process;

(iii) Harassment or intimidation of any participant in the student conduct process; or

(iv) Submitting or providing false or misleading information in bad faith or with a view to personal gain or intentional harm to another in the conduct process.

(b) This provision does not apply to reports made or information provided in good faith, even if the respondent is ultimately found not responsible in that conduct proceeding.

(3) Academic dishonesty. Any act of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and fabrication.

(a) **Cheating.** Any attempt to give or obtain unauthorized assistance relating to the completion of an academic assignment.

(b) **Plagiarism.** Taking and using as one's own, without proper attribution, the ideas, writings, or work of another person in completing an academic assignment. May also include the unauthorized submission for credit of academic work that has been submitted for credit in another course.

(c) **Fabrication.** Falsifying data, information, or citations in completing an academic assignment. Fabrication also includes providing false or deceptive information to an instructor concerning the completion of an assignment.

(d) **Multiple submissions.** Submitting the same work in separate courses without the express permission of the instructor(s).

(e) **Deliberate damage.** Taking deliberate action to destroy or damage another's academic work or college property in order to gain an advantage for oneself or another.

~~((3))~~ **(4) Acts of dishonesty.** Acts of dishonesty include, but are not limited to:

(a) Forgery, alteration, submission of falsified documents, or misuse of any college document, record, or instrument of identification;

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

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

~~((4))~~ **(5) Alcohol.** Use, possession, manufacture, or distribution of alcoholic beverages or paraphernalia (except as expressly permitted by college policies, and federal, state, and local laws), or public intoxication on college premises or at college-sponsored events. Alcoholic beverages may not, in any circumstance, be used by, possessed by, or distributed to any person not of legal age.

~~((5))~~ **(6) Cyber misconduct.** Cyberstalking, cyberbullying, or online harassment. Use of electronic communications including, but not limited to, electronic mail, text messaging, social media sites, or applications (apps), to harass, abuse, bully, or engage in other conduct that 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 elec-

tronic communications or computer activities directly or through spyware, sending threatening emails or texts, disrupting electronic communications with spam or by sending a computer virus, or sending false emails or texts to third parties using another's identity (spoofing).

~~((6))~~ **(7) Dating violence.** Physical violence, bodily injury, assault, the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, sexual assault, or stalking committed by a person:

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

(b) 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.

(8) Discriminatory harassment.

(a) Unwelcome and offensive conduct, including verbal, nonverbal, or physical conduct, not otherwise protected by law, that is directed at a person because of such person's protected status and that is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive so as to:

(i) Limit the ability of a student to participate in or benefit from the college's educational and/or social programs and/or student housing;

(ii) Alter the terms of an employee's employment; or

(iii) Create an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment for other campus community members.

(b) Protected status includes a person's race; color; creed/religion; national origin; presence of any sensory, mental or physical disability; use of a trained service animal; sex, including pregnancy; marital status; age; genetic information; sexual orientation; gender identity or expression; honorably discharged veteran or military status; HIV/AIDS and hepatitis C status; or membership in any other group protected by federal, state, or local law.

(c) Discriminatory harassment may be physical, verbal, or nonverbal conduct and may include written, social media, and electronic communications not otherwise protected by law.

~~((7))~~ **(9) Disorderly conduct.** Conduct that is disorderly, lewd, or indecent; disturbing the peace; or assisting or encouraging another person to disturb the peace.

~~((8))~~ **(10) Disruption or obstruction.** Disruption or obstruction of any instruction, research, administration, disciplinary proceeding, or other college activity, including the obstruction of the free flow of pedestrian or vehicular movement on college property or at a college activity, or any activity that is authorized to occur on college property, whether or not actually conducted or sponsored by the college.

~~((9))~~ **(11) Domestic violence.** Physical violence, bodily injury, assault, the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, sexual assault, or stalking 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 26.50.010.

(12) 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.

(13) Failure to comply with directive. Failure to comply with the reasonable direction of a college official or employee who is acting in the legitimate performance of their duties, including failure to properly identify oneself to such a person when requested to do so.

(14) Harassment or bullying. Conduct unrelated to a protected class that is unwelcome and sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive such that it could reasonably be expected to create an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment, or has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with a person's academic or work performance, or a person's ability to participate in or benefit from the college's programs, services, opportunities, or activities.

(a) Harassing conduct may include, but is not limited to, physical, verbal, or nonverbal conduct, including written, social media and electronic communications unless otherwise protected by law.

(b) For purposes of this code, "bullying" is defined as repeated or aggressive unwanted behavior not otherwise protected by law when a reasonable person would feel humiliated, harmed, or intimidated.

(c) For purposes of this code, "intimidation" is an implied threat. Intimidation exists when a reasonable person would feel threatened or coerced even though an explicit threat or display of physical force has not been made. Intimidation is evaluated based on the intensity, frequency, or duration of the comments or actions.

(15) Hazing. 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) 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.

(17) Marijuana or other drugs.

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

(b) **Drugs.** The use, possession, production, delivery, sale, or being under the influence of any prescription drug or possession of drug paraphernalia, 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) Misuse of electronic resources. Theft or other misuse of computer time or other electronic information resources of the college. Such misuse includes, but is not limited to:

(a) Unauthorized 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 computer time or resources to interfere with someone else's work;

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

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

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

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

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

(19) Property violation. Damage to, misappropriation of, unauthorized use or possession of, vandalism of, or other nonaccidental damaging or destruction of college property or the property of another person. Property, for purposes of this subsection, also includes computer passwords, access codes, identification cards, personal financial account numbers, other confidential personal information, intellectual property, and college trademarks.

~~**(17) Relationship violence.** The infliction of physical harm, bodily injury, assault, psychological harm, or the fear of imminent physical harm, bodily injury, or assault committed by:~~

~~(a) The impacted party's current or former spouse;~~

~~(b) Current or former cohabitant;~~

~~(c) A person with whom the person shares a child in common; or~~

~~(d) A person who has been in a romantic or intimate relationship with the impacted party. Whether such a relationship exists will be gauged by the length, type, and frequency of interaction.~~

(20) Retaliation. Harming, threatening, intimidating, coercing, or taking adverse action of any kind against a person because such person reported ~~(an alleged)~~ a violation of this code or college policy, provided information about ~~(an alleged)~~ a reported violation, or participated as a witness or in any other capacity in a college investigation or disciplinary proceeding.

(21) Safety violations. Safety violations include committing any reckless or unsafe act that endangers others, failing to follow established safety procedures (e.g., failing to evacuate during a fire alarm), or interfering with or otherwise compromising any college equipment relating to the safety and security of the campus community including, but not limited to, tampering with fire safety or first-aid equipment, or triggering false alarms or other emergency response systems.

~~((20))~~ **(22) Sexual exploitation.** Taking nonconsensual or abusive sexual advantage of another for the ~~((responding party's))~~ respondent's own advantage or benefit, or to benefit or advantage 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:

- (a) Invading another person's sexual privacy;
- (b) Prostituting another person;
- (c) Nonconsensual photography and digital or video recording of nudity or sexual activity, or nonconsensual audio recording of sexual activity;
- (d) 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;
- (e) 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;
- (f) Knowingly or recklessly exposing another person to a significant risk of sexually transmitted disease or infection; or
- (g) Causing the nonconsensual indecent exposure of another person, as defined by subsection (13) of this section.

~~((21))~~ **(23) Sexual harassment.** Unwelcome sexual- or gender-based conduct, including unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal, non-verbal, or physical conduct of a sexual- or gender-based nature that is sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive as to:

- (a) Deny or limit the ability of a student to participate in or benefit from the college's educational program;
- (b) Alter the terms or conditions of employment; or
- (c) Create an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment for other campus community members.

~~((22))~~ For sexual harassment prohibited under Title IX, refer to WAC 132H-126-410.

(24) Sexual violence. A type of sexual harassment that includes nonconsensual intercourse, nonconsensual sexual contact, and sexual coercion.

(a) Consent is knowing, voluntary, and clear permission by word or action to engage in mutually agreed upon sexual activity.

(i) Effective consent cannot result from force, or threat of physical force, coercion, dishonesty, or intimidation.

(ii) Physical force means someone is physically exerting control of another person through violence. Physical force includes, but is not limited to, hitting, kicking, and restraining.

(iii) Threatening someone to obtain consent for a sexual act is a violation of this policy. Threats exist where a reasonable person would have been compelled by the words or actions of another to give permission to sexual activity to which they otherwise would not have consented.

(iv) 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.

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

(b) Nonconsensual sexual intercourse. 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.

(c) Nonconsensual sexual contact. Any intentional sexual touching, however slight, with any 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.

(d) Sexual coercion. Unreasonably pressuring another for sexual contact. When ~~((an impacted party))~~ a complainant makes it clear through words or actions that they do not want to engage in sexual contact, want to stop, or do not want to go past a certain point of sexual interaction, continued pressure beyond that point is presumptively unreasonable and coercive. Other examples of coercion may include using blackmail or extortion, or administering drugs and/or alcohol to overcome resistance or gain consent to sexual activity. Sexual contact that is the result of coercion is nonconsensual.

~~((23))~~ **(e) Incest.** 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 eighteen.

(f) Statutory rape. Consensual sexual intercourse between someone who is eighteen years of age or older and someone who is under the age of sixteen.

~~((25))~~ **(25) Stalking.** ~~((Intentional and repeated following of another person, which places that person in reasonable fear that the perpetrator intends to injure, intimidate, or harass that person.))~~ Engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for their safety or the safety of others, or suffer substantial emotional distress. Stalking also includes instances where the perpetrator knows or reasonably should know that the person is frightened, intimidated, or harassed, even if the perpetrator lacks such an intent.

~~((24))~~ **(26) Tobacco, electronic cigarettes, and related products.** The use of tobacco, electronic cigarettes, and related products is prohibited in any building owned, leased, or operated by the college or in any location where such use is prohibited, including twenty-five feet from entrances, exits, windows that open, and ventilation intakes of any building owned, leased, or operated by the college. Related products include, but are not limited to, cigarettes,

pipes, bidi, clove cigarettes, waterpipes, hookahs, chewing tobacco, and snuff.

~~((25))~~ **(27) Unauthorized access.** Unauthorized possession, duplication, or other use of a key, keycard, or other restricted means of access to college property, or unauthorized entry onto or into college property. Providing keys to an unauthorized person or providing access to an unauthorized person is also prohibited.

~~((26))~~ **(28) Unauthorized recording.** The following conduct is prohibited:

(a) Making audio, video, digital recordings, or photographic images of a person without that person's consent in a location where that person has a reasonable expectation of privacy (e.g., restroom or residence hall room).

(b) Storing, sharing, publishing, or otherwise distributing such recordings or images by any means.

~~((27))~~ **(29) Violation of other laws or policies.** Violation of any federal, state, or local law, rule, or regulation or other college rules or policies, including on-campus housing policies and college traffic and parking rules.

~~((28))~~ **(30) Weapons.**

(a) Possessing, holding, wearing, transporting, storing, or exhibiting 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:

(i) Commissioned law enforcement personnel; or

(ii) Legally authorized military personnel while in performance of their official duties.

(b) Students with legally issued concealed weapons permits may store their weapons in vehicles parked in accordance with RCW 9A.105 on campus provided the vehicle is locked and the weapon is concealed from view.

(c) The president or delegate 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 any terms or conditions incorporated therein.

(d) Possession and/or use of disabling chemical sprays for purposes of self-defense is not prohibited.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 19-01-082, filed 12/17/18, effective 1/17/19)

WAC 132H-126-120 Initiation of disciplinary action.

(1) Any member of the college community may file a complaint against a student for possible violations of the student conduct code.

(2) Upon receipt, a student conduct officer, or designee, may review and investigate any complaint to determine whether it appears to state a violation of the student conduct code.

(a) **Student on student sexual misconduct.** The college's Title IX coordinator or designee shall investigate complaints or other reports of (~~alleged~~) sexual misconduct by a student against a student.

(b) **Sexual misconduct involving an employee.** The college's human resource office or designee shall investigate complaints or other reports of sexual misconduct in which an

employee is either the (~~impacted or responding party~~) complainant or respondent.

(c) Investigations will be completed in a timely manner and the results of the investigation shall be referred to the student conduct officer for student disciplinary action.

(d) College personnel will honor requests to keep sexual misconduct complaints confidential to the extent this can be done in compliance with federal and state laws and without unreasonably risking the health, safety, and welfare of the (~~impacted party~~) complainant or other members of the college community.

(3) If a student conduct officer determines that a complaint appears to state a violation of the student conduct code, the student conduct officer will consider whether the matter might be resolved through agreement with the (~~responding party~~) respondent or through alternative dispute resolution proceedings involving the (~~impacted party~~) complainant and the reporting party.

(a) Informal dispute resolution shall not be used to resolve sexual misconduct complaints without written permission from both the (~~impacted party~~) complainant and the (~~responding party~~) respondent.

(b) If the parties elect to mediate a dispute, either party shall be free to discontinue mediation at any time.

(4) If the student conduct officer has determined that a complaint has merit and if the matter is not resolved through agreement or alternative dispute resolution, the student conduct officer may initiate disciplinary action against the (~~responding party~~) respondent.

(a) Both the (~~responding party~~) respondent and the (~~impacted party~~) complainant 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.

(b) The student conduct officer, prior to initiating disciplinary action in cases involving allegations of sexual misconduct, will make a reasonable effort to contact the (~~impacted party~~) complainant to discuss the results of the investigation and possible disciplinary sanctions and/or conditions, if any, that may be imposed upon the (~~responding party~~) respondent if the allegations of sexual misconduct are found to have merit.

(5) All disciplinary actions will be initiated by a student conduct officer. If that officer is the subject of a complaint initiated by the (~~responding party~~) respondent or the (~~impacted party~~) complainant, the president shall, upon request and when feasible, designate another person to fulfill any such disciplinary responsibilities.

(6) A student conduct officer shall initiate disciplinary action by serving the (~~responding party~~) respondent with written notice directing them to attend a disciplinary meeting.

(a) The notice shall briefly describe the factual allegations, the provision(s) of the student conduct code the (~~responding party is alleged~~) respondent is reported to have violated, the range of possible sanctions for the (~~alleged~~) reported violation(s), and it will specify the time and location of the meeting.

(b) At the disciplinary meeting, the student conduct officer will present the allegations to the (~~responding party~~)

respondent, and the ~~((responding party))~~ respondent shall be afforded an opportunity to explain what occurred.

(c) If the ~~((responding party))~~ respondent fails to attend the meeting, the student conduct officer may take disciplinary action based upon the available information.

(7) Within ten days of the initial disciplinary meeting and after considering the evidence in the case, including any facts or argument presented by the ~~((responding party))~~ respondent, the student conduct officer shall serve the ~~((responding party))~~ respondent with a written decision setting forth the facts and conclusions supporting the decision, the specific student conduct code provisions found to have been violated, the discipline imposed, if any, and a notice of any appeal rights with an explanation of the consequences of failing to file a timely appeal. This period may be extended if the student conduct officer, based on information presented at the disciplinary meeting, concludes that additional investigation is necessary. If the period is extended, the student conduct officer will notify the ~~((responding party))~~ respondent, and the ~~((impacted party))~~ complainant in cases involving allegations of sexual misconduct, of this extension, the reason(s), and the anticipated extension time frame.

(8) A student conduct officer may take any of the following disciplinary actions:

(a) Exonerate the ~~((responding party))~~ respondent and terminate the proceedings.

(b) Impose a disciplinary sanction(s), with or without condition(s), as described in WAC 132H-126-110.

(c) Refer the matter directly to the student conduct committee for such disciplinary action as the committee deems appropriate. Such referral shall be in writing, to the attention of the chair of the student conduct committee, with a copy served on the ~~((responding party))~~ respondent.

(9) In cases involving allegations of sexual misconduct, the student conduct officer, on the same date that a disciplinary decision is served on the ~~((responding party))~~ respondent, will serve a written notice informing the ~~((impacted party))~~ complainant of the decision, the reasons for the decision, and any disciplinary sanctions and/or conditions that may have been imposed upon the ~~((responding party))~~ respondent, including disciplinary suspension or dismissal of the ~~((responding party))~~ respondent. The notice will also inform the ~~((impacted party))~~ complainant of their appeal rights. If protective sanctions and/or conditions are imposed, the student conduct officer shall make a reasonable effort to contact the ~~((impacted party))~~ complainant to ensure prompt notice of the protective disciplinary sanctions and/or conditions.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 19-01-082, filed 12/17/18, effective 1/17/19)

WAC 132H-126-130 Appeal from disciplinary action. (1) The ~~((responding party))~~ respondent may appeal a disciplinary action by filing a written notice of appeal with the conduct review officer within twenty-one days of service of the student conduct officer's decision. Failure to timely file a notice of appeal constitutes a waiver of the right to appeal and the student conduct officer's decision shall be deemed final.

(2) The notice of appeal must include a brief statement explaining why the ~~((responding party))~~ respondent is seeking review.

(3) The parties to an appeal shall be the ~~((responding party))~~ respondent and the student conduct officer. If a case involves allegations of sexual misconduct, ~~((an impacted party))~~ a complainant also has a right to appeal a disciplinary decision or to intervene in the ~~((responding party's))~~ respondent's appeal of a disciplinary decision to the extent the disciplinary decision, sanctions or conditions relate to allegations of sexual misconduct against the ~~((responding party))~~ respondent.

(4) A ~~((responding party))~~ respondent, who timely appeals a disciplinary action or whose case is referred to the student conduct committee, has a right to a prompt, fair, and impartial hearing as provided for in these procedures.

(5) On appeal, the college bears the burden of establishing the evidentiary facts underlying the imposition of a disciplinary sanction by a preponderance of the evidence.

(6) Imposition of disciplinary action for violation of the student conduct code shall be stayed pending appeal, unless the ~~((responding party))~~ respondent has been summarily suspended.

(7) The student conduct committee shall hear appeals regarding:

(a) The imposition of disciplinary suspensions in excess of ten instructional days;

(b) Dismissals; and

(c) Discipline cases referred to the committee by the student conduct officer, the conduct review officer, or the president.

(8) Student conduct appeals from the imposition of the following disciplinary sanctions shall be reviewed through a brief adjudicative proceeding:

(a) Residence hall dismissals;

(b) Residence hall suspensions;

(c) Suspensions of ten instructional days or less;

(d) Disciplinary probation;

(e) Written reprimands;

(f) Any conditions or terms imposed in conjunction with one of the foregoing disciplinary actions; and

(g) Appeals by ~~((an impacted party))~~ a complainant in student disciplinary proceedings involving allegations of sexual misconduct in which the student conduct officer:

(i) Dismisses disciplinary proceedings based upon a finding that the allegations of sexual misconduct have no merit; or

(ii) Issues a verbal warning to the ~~((responding party))~~ respondent.

(9) Except as provided elsewhere in these rules, disciplinary warnings and dismissals of disciplinary complaints are final actions and are not subject to appeal.

(10) In cases involving allegations of sexual misconduct, the ~~((impacted party))~~ complainant has the right to appeal the following actions by the student conduct officer following the same procedures as set forth above for the ~~((responding party))~~ respondent:

(a) The dismissal of a sexual misconduct complaint; or

(b) Any disciplinary sanction(s) and conditions imposed against a ~~((responding party))~~ respondent for a sexual misconduct violation, including a disciplinary warning.

(11) If the ~~((responding party))~~ respondent timely appeals a decision imposing discipline for a sexual misconduct violation, the college shall notify the ~~((impacted party))~~ complainant of the appeal and provide the ~~((impacted party))~~ complainant an opportunity to intervene as a party to the appeal.

(12) Except as otherwise specified in this chapter, ~~((an impacted party))~~ a complainant who timely appeals a disciplinary decision or who intervenes as a party to ~~((responding party's))~~ respondent's appeal of a disciplinary decision shall be afforded the same procedural rights as are afforded the ~~((responding party))~~ respondent.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 19-01-082, filed 12/17/18, effective 1/17/19)

WAC 132H-126-140 Conduct hold on student records. (1) A student conduct officer or other designated college official may place a conduct hold on the student's record if the student is the ~~((responding party))~~ respondent in a pending complaint of prohibited conduct, a pending conduct proceeding under this code, or in conjunction with a disciplinary sanction or condition under this code.

(2) A conduct hold may restrict the student from registering for classes, requesting an official transcript, or receiving a degree from the college until the hold has been removed.

(3) If the conduct hold is placed pending or during a conduct proceeding, the student will be notified of the hold and be advised how to raise an objection about the hold or request that it be made less restrictive. The hold will remain in place until lifted by the student conduct officer or other designated college official with authority to do so.

(4) Implementation of any conduct hold prior to disciplinary action does not assume any determination of, or create any expectation of, responsibility for prohibited conduct under this conduct code.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 19-01-082, filed 12/17/18, effective 1/17/19)

WAC 132H-126-160 Interim measures. (1) After receiving a report of ~~((alleged))~~ sexual misconduct or other serious student misconduct, a student conduct officer or designee may implement interim measures which may include, but are not limited to:

(a) A no-contact order prohibiting direct or indirect contact, by any means, with ~~((an impacted party, a responding party))~~ a complainant, a respondent, a reporting party, other specified persons, and/or a specific student organization;

(b) Reassignment of on-campus housing;

(c) Changes to class schedules, assignments, or test schedules;

(d) Modified on-campus employment schedule or location;

(e) Restrictions on access to portions of campus including, but not limited to, on-campus housing; or

(f) Alternative safety arrangements such as campus safety escorts.

(2) If an interim measure is put in place pending or during a conduct proceeding, the student will be notified of the interim measure and be advised how to raise an objection about the interim measure or request that it be made less restrictive. The student conduct officer may adjust or modify interim measures as students' situations and schedules change and evolve over time. Interim measures will remain in place until the student receives notice they have been lifted or modified from the student conduct officer.

(3) Implementation of any interim measure does not assume any determination of, or create any presumption regarding responsibility for, a violation under this student conduct code.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 19-01-082, filed 12/17/18, effective 1/17/19)

WAC 132H-126-170 Summary suspension. (1) Summary suspension is a temporary exclusion from specified college premises or denial of access to all activities or privileges for which a ~~((responding party))~~ respondent might otherwise be eligible, while an investigation and/or formal disciplinary procedures are pending.

(2) The student conduct officer may impose a summary suspension if there is reasonable basis to believe that the ~~((responding party))~~ respondent:

(a) Has violated a provision of the student conduct code; and

(b) Presents an immediate danger to the health, safety, or welfare of members of the college community; or

(c) Poses an ongoing threat of substantial disruption of, or interference with, the operations of the college.

(3) Notice. Any ~~((responding party))~~ respondent who has been summarily suspended shall be served with oral or written notice of the summary suspension. If oral notice is given, a written notification shall be served on the ~~((responding party))~~ respondent within two business days of the oral notice.

(4) The written notice shall be entitled "Notice of Summary Suspension" and shall include:

(a) The reasons for imposing the summary suspension, including a description of the conduct giving rise to the summary suspension and reference to the provisions of the student conduct code or the law ~~((allegedly))~~ reportedly violated;

(b) The date, time, and location when the ~~((responding party))~~ respondent must appear before the conduct review officer for a hearing on the summary suspension; and

(c) The conditions, if any, under which the ~~((responding party))~~ respondent may physically access the campus or communicate with members of the campus community. If the ~~((responding party))~~ respondent has been trespassed from the campus, a notice against trespass shall be included that warns the student that their privilege to enter or remain on college premises has been withdrawn and that the ~~((responding party))~~ respondent shall be considered to be trespassing and subject to arrest for criminal trespass if the ~~((responding party))~~ respondent enters the college campus. The ~~((responding student))~~ respondent may be authorized to access college premises for the limited purpose of meeting with the student

conduct officer, the conduct review officer, or to attend a disciplinary hearing. All such meetings and hearings shall be confirmed in writing in advance and the ~~((responding party))~~ respondent entering college premises shall be required to produce the written permission to a college official on request.

(5) The conduct review officer shall conduct a hearing on the summary suspension as soon as practicable after imposition of the summary suspension.

(a) During the summary suspension hearing, the issue before the conduct review officer is whether there is probable cause to believe that the summary suspension should be continued pending the conclusion of disciplinary proceedings and/or whether the summary suspension should be less restrictive in scope.

(b) The ~~((responding party))~~ respondent shall be afforded an opportunity to explain why the summary suspension should not be continued while disciplinary proceedings are pending or why the summary suspension should be less restrictive in scope.

(c) If the ~~((responding party))~~ respondent fails to appear at the designated hearing time, the conduct review officer may order that the summary suspension remain in place pending the conclusion of the disciplinary proceedings.

(d) As soon as practicable following the hearing, the conduct review officer shall issue a written decision which shall include a brief explanation for any decision continuing and/or modifying the summary suspension and notice of any right to appeal.

(e) To the extent permissible under applicable law, the conduct review officer shall provide a copy of the decision to all persons or offices who may be bound or protected by it.

(6) In cases involving allegations of sexual misconduct, the ~~((impacted party))~~ complainant shall be notified that a summary suspension has been imposed on the same day that the summary suspension notice is served on the ~~((responding party))~~ respondent. The college will also provide the ~~((impacted party))~~ complainant with timely notice of any subsequent changes to the summary suspension order.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 19-01-082, filed 12/17/18, effective 1/17/19)

WAC 132H-126-200 Brief adjudicative proceedings—Initial hearing. (1) Brief adjudicative proceedings shall be conducted by a conduct review officer designated by the president. The conduct review officer shall not participate in any case in which they are ~~((an impacted party))~~ a complainant or witness, or in which they have direct or personal interest, prejudice, or bias, or in which they have acted previously in an advisory capacity.

(2) Before taking action, the conduct review officer shall conduct an informal hearing and provide each party:

(a) An opportunity to be informed of the agency's view of the matter; and

(b) An opportunity to explain the party's view of the matter.

(3) The conduct review officer shall serve an initial decision upon the parties within ten business days of consideration of the appeal. The initial decision shall contain a brief written statement of the reasons for the decision and informa-

tion about how to seek administrative review of the initial decision. If no request for review is filed within twenty-one days of service of the initial decision, the initial decision shall be deemed the final decision.

(4) If the matter is an appeal by the ~~((responding party))~~ respondent, or the ~~((impacted party))~~ complainant in the case of sexual misconduct, the conduct review officer may affirm, reverse, or modify the disciplinary sanctions and/or conditions imposed by the student conduct officer and/or impose additional disciplinary sanctions or conditions as authorized herein. If the conduct review officer, upon review, determines that the respondent's conduct may warrant imposition of a disciplinary suspension of more than ten instructional days or expulsion, the matter shall be referred to the student conduct committee for a disciplinary hearing.

(5) In cases involving allegations of sexual misconduct, the conduct review officer, on the same date as the initial decision is served on the ~~((responding party))~~ respondent, will serve a written notice upon the ~~((impacted party))~~ complainant of the decision, the reasons for the decision, and a description of any disciplinary sanctions and/or conditions that may have been imposed upon the ~~((responding party))~~ respondent. The notice will also inform the ~~((impacted party))~~ complainant of their appeal rights.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 19-01-082, filed 12/17/18, effective 1/17/19)

WAC 132H-126-210 Brief adjudicative proceedings—Review of an initial decision. (1) An initial decision is subject to review by the president, provided the ~~((responding party))~~ respondent files a written request for review with the conduct review officer within twenty-one days of service of the initial decision.

(2) The president shall not participate in any case in which they are ~~((an impacted party))~~ a complainant or witness, or in which they have direct or personal interest, prejudice, or bias, or in which they have acted previously in an advisory capacity.

(3) During the review, the president shall give each party an opportunity to file written responses explaining their view of the matter and shall make any inquiries necessary to determine whether the findings or sanctions should be modified or whether the proceedings should be referred to the student conduct committee for a formal adjudicative hearing.

(4) The decision on review must be in writing, include a brief statement of the reasons for the decision and typically must be served on the parties within twenty days of the request for review. The decision on review will contain a notice that judicial review may be available. A request for review may be deemed to have been denied if the president does not make a disposition of the matter within twenty days after the request is submitted without a response from the president.

(5) If the president, upon review, determines that the respondent's conduct may warrant imposition of a disciplinary suspension of more than ten instructional days or dismissal, the matter shall be referred to the student conduct committee for a disciplinary hearing.

(6) In cases involving allegations of sexual misconduct, the president, on the same date as the final decision is served on the ~~((responding party))~~ respondent, will serve a written notice upon the ~~((impacted party))~~ complainant informing the ~~((impacted party))~~ complainant of the decision, the reasons for the decision, and a description of any disciplinary sanctions and/or conditions that may have been imposed upon the ~~((responding party))~~ respondent. The notice will also inform the ~~((impacted party))~~ complainant of their appeal rights.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 19-01-082, filed 12/17/18, effective 1/17/19)

WAC 132H-126-300 Student conduct committee. (1)

The student conduct committee shall consist of six members:

(a) Two full-time students appointed by the student government;

(b) Two faculty members appointed by the president;

(c) Two administrative staff members, other than an administrator serving as a student conduct or conduct review officer, appointed by the president prior to the beginning of the academic year for alternating two-year terms.

(2) One of the administrative staff members shall serve as the chair of the committee and may take action on preliminary hearing matters prior to convening the committee. The administrative staff members shall receive annual training on protecting victims and promoting accountability in cases involving allegations of sexual misconduct.

(3) Hearings may be heard by a quorum of three members of the committee, so long as one faculty member, one student, and one administrative staff member are included on the hearing panel. Committee action may be taken upon a majority vote of all committee members attending the hearing.

(4) Members of the student conduct committee shall not participate in any case in which they:

(a) Are ~~((an impacted party))~~ a complainant or witness;

(b) Have direct or personal interest, prejudice, or bias; or

(c) Have acted previously in an advisory capacity.

(5) Any party may petition for disqualification of a committee member pursuant to RCW 34.05.425(4).

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 19-01-082, filed 12/17/18, effective 1/17/19)

WAC 132H-126-310 Student conduct committee—

Prehearing. (1) Proceedings of the student conduct committee shall be governed by the Administrative Procedure Act, chapter 34.05 RCW, and by the Model Rules of Procedure, chapter 10-08 WAC. To the extent there is a conflict between these rules and chapter 10-08 WAC, these rules shall control.

(2) The student conduct committee chair shall serve all parties with written notice of the hearing not less than seven days in advance of the hearing date, 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 shown.

(3) The committee chair is authorized to conduct prehearing conferences and/or to make prehearing decisions

concerning the extent and form of any discovery, issuance of protective decisions, and similar procedural matters.

(4) Upon request, filed at least five days before the hearing by any party or at the direction of the committee chair, the parties 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 to the committee. 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.

(5) The committee chair may provide to the committee members in advance of the hearing copies of: (a) The conduct officer's notice of discipline, or referral to the committee; and (b) the notice of appeal, or any response to referral, by the ~~((responding party))~~ respondent or, in a case involving allegations of sexual misconduct, the ~~((impacted party))~~ complainant. If doing so, however, the chair should remind the members that these "pleadings" are not evidence of any facts they may allege.

(6) The parties 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.

(7) The student conduct officer, upon request, shall provide reasonable assistance to the ~~((responding party))~~ respondent and ~~((impacted party))~~ complainant in obtaining relevant and admissible evidence that is within the college's control.

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

(9) All parties may be accompanied at the hearing by a ~~((nonattorney))~~ process advisor of their choice.

(10) The ~~((responding party))~~ respondent, in all appeals before the committee, and the ~~((impacted party))~~ complainant, in an appeal involving allegations of sexual misconduct before the committee, may elect to be represented by an attorney at their own expense. The ~~((responding))~~ respondent and/or ~~((impacted party))~~ complainant will be deemed to have waived the right to be represented by an attorney unless, at least four business days before the hearing, written notice of the attorney's identity and participation is filed with the committee chair with a copy to the student conduct officer.

(11) The committee will ordinarily be advised by an assistant attorney general. If the ~~((responding party))~~ respondent and/or the ~~((impacted party))~~ complainant is represented by an attorney, the student conduct officer may also be represented by a second, appropriately screened, assistant attorney general.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 19-01-082, filed 12/17/18, effective 1/17/19)

WAC 132H-126-320 Student conduct committee—
Presentation of evidence. (1) Upon the failure of any party

to attend or participate in a hearing, the student conduct committee may either:

(a) Proceed with the hearing and issuance of its decision; or

(b) Serve a decision of default in accordance with RCW 34.05.440.

(2) The hearing will ordinarily be closed to the public. However, if all parties agree on the record that some or all of the proceedings be open, the chair shall determine any extent to which the hearing will be open. 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 they select, in accordance with RCW 34.05.449. That recording, or a copy, shall be made available to any party upon request. The chair shall assure maintenance of the record of the proceeding that is required by RCW 34.05.476, which shall also be available upon request for inspection and copying by any party. 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 student conduct officer, unless represented by an assistant attorney general, shall present the case for imposing disciplinary sanctions.

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

(7) In cases involving ~~((allegations))~~ reports of sexual misconduct, the ~~((responding and the impacted parties))~~ respondent and complainant shall not directly question or cross-examine one another. Attorneys for the ~~((responding and impacted parties))~~ respondent and complainant are also prohibited from directly questioning opposing parties absent express permission from the committee chair. Subject to this exception, all cross-examination questions by the ~~((responding and impacted parties))~~ respondent and complainant shall be directed to the committee chair, who in their discretion shall pose the questions on the party's behalf. All cross-examination questions submitted to the chair in this manner shall be memorialized in writing and maintained as part of the hearing record.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 19-01-082, filed 12/17/18, effective 1/17/19)

WAC 132H-126-330 Student conduct committee—Initial decision. (1) At the conclusion of the hearing, the student conduct committee shall permit the parties 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 a proposed decision for its consideration.

(2) Within twenty days following the conclusion of the hearing or the committee's receipt of closing arguments, whichever is later, the committee shall issue an initial decision in accordance with RCW 34.05.461 and WAC 10-08-210. The initial decision shall include findings on all material issues of fact and conclusions on all material issues of law,

including which, if any, 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 initial order shall also include a determination on appropriate discipline, if any. If the matter was referred to the committee by the student conduct officer, the committee shall identify and impose disciplinary sanctions or conditions, if any, as authorized in the student conduct code. If the matter is an appeal by the ~~((responding party))~~ respondent or the ~~((impacted party))~~ complainant in the case of sexual misconduct, the committee may affirm, reverse, or modify the disciplinary sanctions and/or conditions imposed by the student conduct officer and/or impose additional disciplinary sanctions or conditions as authorized herein. The notice will also inform the ~~((responding party))~~ respondent of their appeal rights.

(4) The committee chair shall cause copies of the initial decision to be served on the parties and their legal counsel of record. The committee chair shall also promptly transmit a copy of the decision and the record of the committee's proceedings to the president.

(5) In cases involving allegations of sexual misconduct, the chair of the student conduct committee will make arrangements to have a written notice served on the ~~((impacted party))~~ complainant informing the ~~((impacted party))~~ complainant of the decision, the reasons for the decision, and a description of any disciplinary sanctions and/or conditions that may have been imposed upon the ~~((responding party))~~ respondent, including suspension or dismissal of the ~~((responding party))~~ respondent. The notice will also inform the ~~((impacted party))~~ complainant of their appeal rights. This notice shall be served on the ~~((impacted party))~~ complainant on the same date as the initial decision is served on the ~~((responding party))~~ respondent. The ~~((impacted party))~~ complainant may appeal the student conduct committee's initial decision to the president subject to the same procedures and deadlines applicable to other parties.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 19-01-082, filed 12/17/18, effective 1/17/19)

WAC 132H-126-340 Student conduct committee—Review of an initial decision. (1) A ~~((responding party, or an impacted party))~~ respondent, or a complainant in a case involving allegations of sexual misconduct, who is aggrieved by the findings or conclusions issued by the student conduct committee may request a review of the committee's initial decision to the president by filing a notice of appeal with the president's office within twenty-one days of service of the committee's initial decision or a written notice. Failure to file a timely appeal request within this time frame constitutes a waiver of the right and the initial decision shall be deemed final.

(2) The notice of appeal must identify the specific findings of fact and/or conclusions of law in the initial decision that are challenged and must contain an argument as to why the appeal should be granted. The president's review shall be restricted to the hearing record made before the student conduct committee and will normally be limited to those issues

and arguments raised in the notice of appeal. As part of the review process, the president may ask the nonappealing party(ies) to respond to the arguments contained in the notice of appeal.

(3) The president shall provide a written decision to all parties within thirty days after receipt of the notice of appeal or receipt of the response from nonappealing parties, whichever is later. The president's decision shall be final and shall include a notice of any rights to request reconsideration and/or judicial review.

(4) In cases involving allegations of sexual misconduct, the president, on the same date that the final decision is served upon the ~~((responding party))~~ **respondent**, shall serve a written notice informing the ~~((impacted party))~~ **complainant** of the final decision. This notice shall inform the ~~((impacted party))~~ **complainant** whether the sexual misconduct allegation was found to have merit and describe any disciplinary sanctions and/or conditions imposed upon the ~~((responding party))~~ **respondent** for the ~~((impacted party's))~~ **complainant's** protection, including suspension or dismissal of the ~~((responding party))~~ **respondent**.

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

SUPPLEMENTAL TITLE IX STUDENT CONDUCT PROCEDURES

NEW SECTION

WAC 132H-126-400 Order of precedence. This supplemental procedure applies to allegations of sexual harassment 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 disciplinary procedures, WAC 132H-126-100 through 132H-126-340, these supplemental procedures shall take precedence.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132H-126-410 Prohibited conduct under Title IX. Pursuant to RCW 28B.50.140(13) and Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1681, the college may impose disciplinary sanctions against a student who commits, attempts to commit, or aids, abets, incites, encourages, or assists another person to commit, an act(s) of "sexual harassment."

For purposes of this supplemental procedure, "sexual harassment" encompasses the following conduct:

(1) **Quid pro quo harassment.** A college employee conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of the college on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct.

(2) **Hostile environment.** Unwelcome conduct that a reasonable person would find to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the college's educational programs or activities, or employment.

(3) **Sexual assault.** Sexual assault includes the following conduct:

(a) **Nonconsensual sexual intercourse.** Any actual or attempted sexual intercourse (anal, oral, or vaginal), however slight, with any object or body part, 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.** 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.** 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 eighteen.

(d) **Statutory rape.** Consensual sexual intercourse between someone who is eighteen years of age or older and someone who is under the age of sixteen.

(4) **Domestic violence.** Physical violence, bodily injury, assault, the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, sexual assault, or stalking 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 26.50.010.

(5) **Dating violence.** Physical violence, bodily injury, assault, the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, sexual assault, or stalking committed by a person:

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

(b) 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.

(6) **Stalking.** Engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for their safety or the safety of others, or suffer substantial emotional distress.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132H-126-420 Title IX jurisdiction. (1) This supplemental procedure applies only if the reported misconduct:

(a) Occurred in the United States;

(b) Occurred during a college educational program or activity; and

(c) Meets the definition of sexual harassment as that term is defined in this supplemental procedure.

(2) For purposes of this supplemental procedure, an "educational program or activity" is defined as locations, events, or circumstances over which the college exercised substantial control over both the respondent and the context in which the reported sexual harassment occurred. This definition includes any building owned or controlled by a student organization that is officially recognized by the college.

(3) Proceedings under this supplemental procedure must be dismissed if the decision maker determines that one or all of the requirements of subsection (1)(a) through (c) of this section have not been met. Dismissal under this supplemental procedure does not prohibit the college from pursuing other disciplinary action based on allegations that the respondent violated other provisions of the college's student conduct code, chapter 132H-126 WAC.

(4) If the student conduct officer determines the facts in the investigation report are not sufficient to support Title IX jurisdiction and/or pursuit of a Title IX violation, the student conduct officer will issue a notice of dismissal in whole or part to both parties explaining why some or all of the Title IX claims have been dismissed.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132H-126-430 Initiation of discipline. (1) Upon receiving the Title IX investigation report from the Title IX coordinator, the student conduct officer will independently review the report to determine whether there are sufficient grounds to pursue a disciplinary action against the respondent for engaging in prohibited conduct under Title IX.

(2) If the student conduct officer determines that there are sufficient grounds to proceed under these supplemental procedures, the student conduct officer will initiate a Title IX disciplinary proceeding by filing a written disciplinary notice with the chair of the student conduct committee and serving the notice on the respondent, the complainant, and their respective advisors. The notice must:

- (a) Set forth the basis for Title IX jurisdiction;
- (b) Identify the reported Title IX violation(s);
- (c) Set forth the facts underlying the allegation(s);
- (d) Identify the range of possible sanctions that may be imposed if the respondent is found responsible for the reported violation(s); and
- (e) Explain that the parties are entitled to be accompanied by their chosen advisors during the hearing and that:
 - (i) The advisors will be responsible for questioning all witnesses on their party's behalf;
 - (ii) An advisor may be an attorney; and
 - (iii) The college will appoint the party an advisor of the college's choosing at no cost to the party, if the party fails to do so; and

(3) Explain that if a party fails to appear at the hearing, a decision of responsibility may be made in their absence.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132H-126-440 Prehearing procedure. (1) Upon receiving the disciplinary notice, the chair of the student conduct committee will send a hearing notice to all parties, in compliance with WAC 132H-126-310. In no event will the

hearing date be set less than ten days after the Title IX coordinator provided the final investigation report to the parties.

(2) A party may choose to have an attorney serve as their advisor at the party's own expense. This right will be waived unless, at least five days before the hearing, the attorney files a notice of appearance with the committee chair with copies to all parties and the student conduct officer.

(3) In preparation for the hearing, the parties will have equal access to all evidence gathered by the investigator during the investigation, regardless of whether the college intends to offer the evidence at the hearing.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132H-126-450 Rights of parties. (1) The student conduct code of Bellevue College, chapter 132H-126 WAC, and this supplemental procedure shall apply equally to all parties.

(2) The college 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 college's choosing on the party's behalf at no expense to the party.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132H-126-460 Evidence. The introduction and consideration of evidence during the hearing is subject to the following procedures and restrictions:

(1) **Relevance:** The committee chair shall review all questions for relevance and shall explain on the record their reasons for excluding any question based on lack of relevance.

(2) **Relevance means** that information elicited by the question makes facts in dispute more or less likely to be true.

(3) Questions or evidence about a complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant and must be excluded, unless such question or evidence:

(a) Is asked or offered to prove someone other than the respondent committed the reported misconduct; or

(b) Concerns specific incidents of prior sexual behavior between the complainant and the respondent, which are asked or offered on the issue of consent.

(4) **Cross-examination required:** If a party or witness does not submit to cross-examination during the live hearing, the committee must not rely on any statement by that party or witness in reaching a determination of responsibility.

(5) **No negative inference:** The committee may not make an inference regarding responsibility solely on a witness's or party's absence from the hearing or refusal to answer questions.

(6) **Privileged evidence:** The committee shall not consider legally privileged information unless the holder has

effectively waived the privilege. Privileged information includes, but is not limited to, information protected by the following:

- (a) Spousal/domestic partner privilege;
- (b) Attorney-client and attorney work product privileges;
- (c) Privileges applicable to members of the clergy and priests;
- (d) Privileges applicable to medical providers, mental health therapists, and counselors;
- (e) Privileges applicable to sexual assault and domestic violence advocates; and
- (f) Other legal privileges identified in RCW 5.60.060.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132H-126-470 Initial order. (1) In addition to complying with WAC 132H-126-330, the student conduct committee will be responsible for conferring and drafting an initial order that:

- (a) Identifies the allegations of sexual harassment;
 - (b) Describes the grievance and disciplinary procedures, starting with filing of the formal complaint through the determination of responsibility, including notices to parties, interviews with witnesses and parties, site visits, methods used to gather evidence, and hearings held;
 - (c) Makes findings of fact supporting the determination of responsibility;
 - (d) Reaches conclusions as to whether the facts establish whether the respondent is responsible for engaging in sexual harassment in violation of Title IX;
 - (e) Contains a statement of, and rationale for, the committee's determination of responsibility for each allegation;
 - (f) Describes any disciplinary sanction or conditions imposed against the respondent, if any;
 - (g) Describes to what extent, if any, complainant is entitled to remedies designed to restore or preserve complainant's equal access to the college's education programs or activities; and
 - (h) Describes the process for appealing the initial order to the president.
- (2) The committee chair will serve the initial order on the parties simultaneously.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132H-126-480 Appeals. (1) The parties shall have the right to appeal from the initial order's determination of responsibility and/or dismissal of an allegation(s) of sexual harassment in a formal complaint. The right to appeal will be subject to the same procedures and time frames set forth in WAC 132H-126-340.

(2) The president or their delegate will determine whether the grounds for appeal have merit, provide the rationale for this conclusion, and state whether the disciplinary sanction and condition(s) imposed in the initial order are affirmed, vacated, or amended, and, if amended, set forth any new disciplinary sanction and/or condition(s).

(3) President's office shall serve the final decision on the parties simultaneously.

WSR 20-17-052
EMERGENCY RULES
DEPARTMENT OF
FISH AND WILDLIFE

[Order 20-156—Filed August 11, 2020, 12:23 p.m., effective August 11, 2020, 12:23 p.m.]

Effective Date of Rule: Immediately upon filing.

Purpose: The purpose of this rule is to clarify the allowed fishing area within the mainstem Columbia River. The open area being, Catch Reporting Areas 1D and 1E. This is a matter of housekeeping of the previous rule (WSR 20-17-027).

This emergency rule will allow nontreaty commercial fishing opportunities in the Columbia River while protecting fish listed as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). This rule implements federal court orders governing Washington's relationship with treaty Indian tribes, federal law governing Washington's relationship with Oregon, and Washington fish and wildlife commission policy guidance for Columbia River fisheries.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: Repealing WAC 220-358-03000P; and amending WAC 220-358-030.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.020, 77.12.045, and 77.12.047.

Other Authority: *United States v. Oregon*, Civil No. 68-513-KI (D. Or.), Order Adopting 2018-2027 *United States v. Oregon* Management Agreement (February 26, 2018) (Doc. No. 2607-1). *Northwest Gillnetters Ass'n v. Sandison*, 95 Wn.2d 638, 628 P.2d 800 (1981); Washington fish and wildlife commission policies concerning Columbia River fisheries; 40 Stat. 515 (Columbia River Compact).

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that immediate adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule is necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety, or general welfare, and that observing the time requirements of notice and opportunity to comment upon adoption of a permanent rule would be contrary to the public interest.

Reasons for this Finding: This rule is needed to clarify the open areas within the mainstem Columbia River as Catch Reporting Areas 1D and 1E as a matter of housekeeping following the filing of WSR 20-17-027.

This rule sets commercial fisheries for fall 2020 in the mainstem and select areas. Impacts to nonlocal stocks are expected to be minimal in off channel select areas. The fishery is consistent with the *U.S. v. Oregon* Management Agreement and the associated biological opinion. Conforms Washington state rules with Oregon state rules. Regulation is consistent with compact action of July 30, 2020. There is insufficient time to promulgate permanent rules.

Washington and Oregon jointly regulate Columbia River fisheries under the congressionally ratified Columbia River Compact. Four Indian tribes have treaty fishing rights in the Columbia River. The treaties preempt state regulations that fail to allow the tribes an opportunity to take a fair share of the available fish, and the states must manage other fisheries accordingly. *Sohappy v. Smith*, 302 F. Supp. 899 (D. Or. 1969). A court order sets the current parameters. *United States v. Oregon*, Civil No. 68-513-KI (D. Or.), Order Adopting 2018-2027 *United States v. Oregon* Management Agreement (February 26, 2018) (Doc. No. 2607-1). Some salmon and steelhead stocks in the Columbia River are listed as

threatened or endangered under the federal ESA. On February 23, 2018, the National Marine Fisheries Service issued a biological opinion under 16 U.S.C. § 1536 that allows for some incidental take of these species in the fisheries as described in the 2018-2027 U.S. v. Oregon Management Agreement.

Some Columbia River Basin salmon and steelhead stocks are listed as threatened or endangered under the federal ESA. The Washington and Oregon fish and wildlife commissions have developed policies to guide the implementation of such biological opinions in the states' regulation of nontreaty fisheries.

Columbia River nontreaty fisheries are monitored very closely to ensure compliance with federal court orders, the ESA, and commission guidelines. Because conditions change rapidly, the fisheries are managed almost exclusively by emergency rule. Representatives from the Washington (WDFW) and Oregon (ODFW) departments of fish and wildlife convene public hearings and take public testimony when considering proposals for new emergency rules. WDFW and ODFW then adopt regulations reflecting agreements reached.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 1, Amended 0, Repealed 1; Federal Rules or Standards: New 1, Amended 0, Repealed 1; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 1, Amended 0, Repealed 1.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Non-governmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 1, Amended 0, Repealed 1.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: August 11, 2020.

Kelly Susewind
Director

NEW SECTION

WAC 220-358-03000Q Columbia River seasons below Bonneville. Notwithstanding the provisions of WAC 220-358-030, WAC 220-358-040, and WAC 220-335-050, it is unlawful for a person to take or possess salmon, sturgeon, and shad for commercial purposes from Columbia River Salmon Management and Catch Reporting Areas 1A, 1B, 1C, 1D, 1E and Select Areas, except during the times and conditions listed below:

(1) Catch Reporting Areas 1D and 1E (Zones 4-5 Mainstem):

Open Dates	Open Days	Open Time	Open Duration
August 10 - August 11	Monday (night)	9:00 pm-6:00 am	9 hrs
August 12 - August 13	Wednesday (night)	9:00 pm-6:00 am	9 hrs

Open Dates	Open Days	Open Time	Open Duration
August 17 - August 18	Monday (night)	9:00 pm-6:00 am	9 hrs
August 19 - August 20	Wednesday (night)	9:00 pm-6:00 am	9 hrs
August 24 - August 25	Monday (night)	9:00 pm-6:00 am	9 hrs
August 26 - August 27	Wednesday (night)	9:00 pm-6:00 am	9 hrs
August 31 - September 1	Monday (night)	9:00 pm-6:00 am	9 hrs

(a) **Area:** Catch Reporting Areas 1D and 1E. The deadline at the lower end of 1D is defined as a straight line projected from the Warrior Rock Lighthouse on the Oregon shore easterly through the green navigation Buoy #1 and continuing to the Washington shore. Sanctuaries: Washougal and Sandy Rivers

(b) **Gear:** Drift gillnets only. 9-inch minimum mesh size restriction. Multiple net rule **NOT** in effect, which means nets not authorized for this fishery may not be onboard. Lighted buoys required.

(c) **Allowable Sales:** Salmon (except Chum), shad, and white sturgeon. A maximum of **five** white sturgeon with a fork length of 44-50 inches may be possessed or sold by each participating vessel during each calendar week (Sunday through Saturday). This white sturgeon possession and sales limit applies to mainstem fisheries only.

(2) Tongue Point/South Channel Select Area:

Open Dates	Open Days	Open Time	Open Duration
August 24 - August 27	Monday, Wednesday (night)	7:00 pm-7:00 am	12 hrs
August 31 - September 4	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday (night)	7:00 pm-7:00 am	12 hrs
September 7 - October 30	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday (night)	4:00 pm-10:00 am	18 hrs

(a) **Area:**

(i) The Tongue Point Select Area is defined as waters of the Columbia River bounded by a line from a regulatory marker on the eastern shore of Tongue Point (midway between the red USCG light "2" at the tip of Tongue Point and the northern-most pier (#8) at the Tongue Point Job Corps facility) to the flashing green USCG light "3" on the rock jetty at the northwest tip of Mott Island, a line from a regulatory marker at the southeast end of Mott Island north-easterly to a regulatory marker on the northwest shore of Lois Island, and a line from a regulatory marker located on the Oregon shore approximately 300 yards northwest of the railroad bridge crossing the John Day River projecting easterly to a regulatory marker on the southwest shore of Lois Island:

(A) If the marker on the eastern shore of Tongue Point is not in place, the downstream boundary is defined by a line projecting from a point (46°12'31.1"N latitude 123°45'34.

0"W longitude) on the eastern shore of Tongue Point to the flashing green USCG light "3" on the rock jetty at the north-west tip of Mott Island.

(B) If the marker on the Oregon shore is not in place, the upstream boundary is defined by a line projecting from a point (46°10'57.7"N latitude 123°44'35.3"W longitude) on the Oregon shore approximately 300 yards northwest of the railroad bridge crossing the John Day River projecting easterly to a regulatory marker on Lois Island.

(ii) The South Channel Area is defined as waters of the Columbia River bounded by a line from a regulatory marker on the Oregon shore at John Day Point projecting northeasterly to a regulatory marker on the southwest shore of Lois Island, and a line from a regulatory marker on Settler Point projecting northwesterly to the flashing red USCG light "10" then projecting westerly to the eastern tip of Burnside Island.

(b) **Gear:** Gillnets with a 6-inch maximum mesh size restriction. Maximum net length of 250 fathoms. In the Tongue Point Select Area, the lead line weight may not exceed two pounds per any one fathom; however, unstored gillnets legal for use in South Channel may be onboard.

In the South Channel Select Area, there is no lead line weight limit and attachment of additional weight and anchors directly to the lead line is permitted. Nets not specifically authorized for use may be onboard a vessel if properly stored. A properly stored net is defined as a net on a drum that is fully covered by a tarp (canvas or plastic) and bound with a minimum of ten revolutions of rope with a diameter of 3/8 (0.375) inches or greater. Nets fished any time between official sunset and official sunrise must have lighted buoys on both ends of the net. If the net is attached to the boat, then one lighted buoy on the end of the net opposite the boat is required.

(c) **Allowable Sales:** Salmon (except Chum), shad, and white sturgeon.

(3) Blind Slough/Knappa Slough Select Area:

Open Dates	Open Days	Open Time	Open Duration
August 24 - August 27	Monday, Wednesday (night)	7:00 pm-7:00 am	12 hrs
August 31 - September 4	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday (night)	7:00 pm-7:00 am	12 hrs
September 7 - October 30	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday (night)	6:00 pm-10:00 am	18 hrs

(a) **Area:** The Blind Slough Select Area is defined as waters of Blind Slough and Gnat Creek from a north-south line represented by regulatory markers at the mouth of Blind Slough upstream to a regulatory marker in Gnat Creek located approximately 0.5 miles southeasterly (upstream) of the Barendse Road Bridge. The Knappa Slough Select Area is defined as waters of Knappa Slough, Calendar Slough, and Big Creek Slough bounded to the north (upstream) by a line projecting from a regulatory marker on the eastern shore of Karlson Island to the northernmost regulatory marker at the

mouth of Blind Slough and bounded to the west (downstream) by a line projecting southerly from a regulatory marker on the southwestern tip of Karlson Island through regulatory markers on the western tips of Minaker Island to a marker on the Oregon shore. The waters of Knappa Slough within a 100-foot radius of the railroad bridge crossing Big Creek are closed.

(b) **Gear:** Gillnets with a maximum mesh size restriction of 9 3/4-inch through September 6, and a 6-inch maximum thereafter. Maximum net length is 100 fathoms. There is no lead line weight limit and attachment of additional weight and anchors directly to the lead line is permitted. Nets not specifically authorized for use may be onboard a vessel if properly stored. A properly stored net is defined as a net on a drum that is fully covered by a tarp (canvas or plastic) and bound with a minimum of ten revolutions of rope with a diameter of 3/8 (0.375) inches or greater. Nets fished any time between official sunset and official sunrise must have lighted buoys on both ends of the net. If the net is attached to the boat, then one lighted buoy on the end of the net opposite the boat is required.

(c) **Permanent transportation rules in effect.** In accordance with WACs 220-69-230 (1)(i) and 220-22-010 (9)(a-b), commercial fishers are expected, and fish dealers are required, to report landings for winter-summer fisheries in Knappa Slough and Blind Slough separately using appropriate zone codes. Fish dealers are requested to keep landings from these two sites separate to aid in sampling.

(d) **Allowable Sales:** Salmon (except Chum), shad, and white sturgeon.

(4) Deep River Select Area:

Open Dates	Open Days	Open Time	Open Duration
September 28 - October 29	Monday, Wednesday (night)	6:00 pm-9:00 am	15 hrs
November 2 - December 3	Monday, Wednesday (night)	5:00 pm-8:00 am	15 hrs

(a) **Area:** The Deep River fishing area includes all waters from West Deep River Road Bridge at the town of Deep River downstream to the mouth defined by a line from USCG navigation marker #16 southwest to a marker on the Washington shore.

(b) **Gear:** Gillnets with a maximum mesh size restriction of 6-inches. Maximum net length is 100 fathoms. No weight restriction on leadline. Use of additional weights or anchors attached directly to the leadline is allowed. No nets can be tied off to stationary structures. Nets may not fully cross the navigation channel. It is unlawful to operate in any river, stream or channel any gillnet gear longer than three-fourths the width of the river, stream, or channel. "River, stream, or channel width" is defined as bank-to-bank, where the water meets the banks, regardless of the time of tide or the water level. This emergency provision shall supersede the permanent regulation and all other regulations that conflict with it. Nets not specifically authorized for use may be onboard the vessel if properly stored. A properly stored net is defined as a

net on a drum that is fully covered by a tarp (canvas or plastic) and bound with a minimum of ten revolutions of rope with a diameter of 3/8 (0.375) inches or greater. Nets fished any time between official sunset and official sunrise must have lighted buoys on both ends of the net. If the net is attached to the boat, then one lighted buoy on the end of the net opposite the boat is required.

(c) **Permanent transportation rules in effect.** In accordance with WACs 220-69-230 (1)(i) and 220-22-010 (9)(a-b), commercial fishers are expected, and fish dealers are required, to report landings for winter-summer fisheries in Knappa Slough and Blind Slough separately using appropriate zone codes. Fish dealers are requested to keep landings from these two sites separate to aid in sampling.

(d) **Allowable Sales:** Salmon (except Chum), shad, and white sturgeon.

(5) **24-hour quick reporting** is in effect for Washington buyers (WAC 220-352-315). Permanent transportation rules in effect. Oregon buyers are required to submit fish receiving tickets electronically pursuant to OAR 635-006-0210. Unique catch reporting codes have been established for Blind Slough and Knappa Slough to facilitate separation of landings and sampling for winter/spring fisheries. Blind Slough and Knappa Slough have unique catch reporting codes to facilitate separation of landings and sampling for winter/spring fisheries.

(6) **Multi-Net Rule:** Nets not specifically authorized for use in these areas may be onboard a vessel if properly stored. A properly stored net is defined as a net on a drum that is fully covered by a tarp (canvas or plastic) and bound with a minimum of ten revolutions of rope with a diameter of 3/8 (0.375) inches or greater (WAC 220-358-030(2)).

(7) **Lighted Buoys:** Nets that are fished at any time between official sunset and official sunrise must have lighted buoys on both ends of the net unless the net is attached to the boat. If the net is attached to the boat, then one lighted buoy on the opposite end of the net from the boat is required.

Reviser's note: The typographical errors in the above section occurred in the copy filed by the agency and appear in the Register pursuant to the requirements of RCW 34.08.040.

REPEALER

The following section of the Washington Administrative Code is repealed effective August 10, 2020:

WAC 220-358-03000P Columbia River seasons below Bonneville Dam. (20-147)

WSR 20-17-053

EMERGENCY RULES

CENTRAL WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

[Filed August 11, 2020, 2:00 p.m., effective August 14, 2020]

Effective Date of Rule: August 14, 2020.

Purpose: Update the Central Washington University's student conduct code in compliance with new Title IX federal regulations promulgated by the United States Department of

Education under 34 C.F.R. § 106. The new rules need to go in[to] effect by August 14, 2020.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: New WAC 106-125-200, 106-125-205, 106-125-210, 106-125-215, 106-125-220, 106-125-225, 106-125-230, 106-125-235, 106-125-240, and 106-125-245.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 28B.35.120 (12).

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that state or federal law or federal rule or a federal deadline for state receipt of federal funds requires immediate adoption of a rule.

Reasons for this Finding: Federal Title IX regulations require these rules to be implemented by August 14, 2020.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 10, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Non-governmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: August 11, 2020.

Kimberly Dawson
Rules Coordinator

SUPPLEMENTAL TITLE IX STUDENT CONDUCT PROCEDURES

NEW SECTION

WAC 106-125-200 Order of precedence. This supplemental procedure applies to allegations of sexual harassment 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 university's standard disciplinary procedures, WAC 106-125-005 through 106-125-090, these supplemental procedures shall take precedence.

NEW SECTION

WAC 106-125-205 Prohibited conduct under Title IX. Pursuant to RCW 28B.35.120(12) and Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1681, the university may impose disciplinary sanctions against a student who commits, attempts to commit, or aids, abets, incites, encourages, or assists another person to commit, an act(s) of "sexual harassment."

For purposes of this supplemental procedure, "sexual harassment" encompasses the following conduct:

(1) **Quid pro quo harassment.** A student employee of the university conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of the university on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct.

(2) **Hostile environment.** Unwelcome conduct that a reasonable person would find to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the university's educational programs or activities, or employment.

(3) **Sexual assault.** Sexual assault includes the following conduct:

(a) **Nonconsensual sexual intercourse.** Any actual or attempted sexual intercourse (anal, oral, or vaginal), however slight, with any object or body part, 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.** 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.** 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 eighteen.

(d) **Statutory rape.** Consensual sexual intercourse between someone who is eighteen years of age or older and someone who is under the age of sixteen.

(4) **Domestic violence.** Physical violence, bodily injury, assault, the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, sexual assault, or stalking 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 26.50.010.

(5) **Dating violence.** Physical violence, bodily injury, assault, the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, sexual assault, or stalking committed by a person:

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

(b) 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.

(6) **Stalking.** Engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for their safety or the safety of others, or suffer substantial emotional distress.

NEW SECTION

WAC 106-125-210 Title IX jurisdiction. (1) This supplemental procedure applies only if the alleged misconduct:

(a) Occurred in the United States;

(b) Occurred during a university educational program or activity;

(c) Meets the definition of sexual harassment as that term is defined in this supplemental procedure; and

(d) At the time of filing a formal complaint, the complainant was participating or attempting to participate in the educational program or activity.

(2) For purposes of this supplemental procedure, an "educational program or activity" is defined as locations, events, or circumstances over which the university exercised substantial control over both the respondent and the context in which the alleged sexual harassment occurred. This definition includes any building owned or controlled by a student organization that is officially recognized by the university.

(3) Proceedings under this supplemental procedure must be dismissed if the decision maker determines that one or all of the requirements of subsection (1)(a) through (d) of this section have not been met. Dismissal under this supplemental procedure does not prohibit the university from pursuing other disciplinary action based on allegations that the respondent violated other provisions of the student conduct code under WAC 106-125-020.

(4) If the student conduct officer determines the facts in the investigation report are not sufficient to support Title IX jurisdiction and/or pursuit of a Title IX violation, the student conduct officer will issue a notice of dismissal in whole or part to both parties explaining why some or all of the Title IX claims have been dismissed.

NEW SECTION

WAC 106-125-215 Initiation of discipline. (1) Upon receiving the Title IX investigation report from the Title IX coordinator, the student conduct officer will independently review the report to determine whether there are sufficient grounds to pursue a disciplinary action against the respondent for engaging in prohibited conduct under Title IX.

(2) If the student conduct officer determines there are sufficient grounds to proceed under these supplemental procedures, the student conduct officer will initiate a Title IX disciplinary proceeding by filing a written disciplinary notice with the chair of the student conduct council and serving the notice on the respondent and the complainant, and their respective advisors. The notice must:

(a) Set forth the basis for Title IX jurisdiction;

(b) Identify the alleged Title IX violation(s);

(c) Set forth the facts underlying the allegation(s);

(d) Identify the range of possible sanctions that may be imposed if the respondent is found responsible for the alleged violation(s);

(e) Explain that the parties are entitled to be accompanied by their chosen advisors during the hearing and that:

(i) The advisors will be responsible for questioning all witnesses on the party's behalf;

(ii) An advisor may be an attorney; and

(iii) The university will appoint the party an advisor of the university's choosing at no cost to the party, if the party fails to do so.

(3) Explain that if a party fails to appear at the hearing, a decision of responsibility may be made in the party's absence.

NEW SECTION

WAC 106-125-220 Student conduct council. For purposes of this supplemental Title IX procedure, the student conduct council shall consist of three university employees appointed by the university president or designee.

NEW SECTION

WAC 106-125-225 Prehearing procedure. (1) Upon receiving the disciplinary notice, the chair of the student conduct council will send a hearing notice to all parties, in compliance with WAC 106-125-075. In no event will the hearing date be set less than ten days after the Title IX coordinator provided the final investigation report to the parties.

(2) A party may choose to have an attorney serve as their advisor at the party's own expense. This right will be waived unless, at least five days before the hearing, the attorney files a notice of appearance with the conduct council chair with copies to all parties and the student conduct officer.

(3) In preparation for the hearing, the parties will have equal access to all evidence gathered by the investigator during the investigation, regardless of whether the university intends to offer the evidence at the hearing.

NEW SECTION

WAC 106-125-230 Rights of parties. (1) The university's student conduct council hearing procedures, WAC 106-125-075, 106-125-080, and 106-125-085, and this supplemental procedure shall apply equally to all parties.

(2) The university 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 university's choosing on the party's behalf at no expense to the party.

NEW SECTION

WAC 106-125-235 Evidence. The introduction and consideration of evidence during the hearing is subject to the following procedures and restrictions:

(1) **Relevance:** The conduct council chair shall review all questions for relevance and shall explain on the record the chair's reasons for excluding any question based on lack of relevance.

(2) **Relevance** means that information elicited by the question makes facts in dispute more or less likely to be true.

(3) Questions or evidence about a complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant and must be excluded, unless such question or evidence:

(a) Is asked or offered to prove someone other than the respondent committed the alleged misconduct; or

(b) Concerns specific incidents of prior sexual behavior between the complainant and the respondent, which are asked or offered on the issue of consent.

(4) **Cross-examination required:** If a party or witness does not submit to cross-examination during the live hearing, the conduct council must not rely on any statement by that party or witness in reaching a determination of responsibility.

(5) **No negative inference:** The conduct council may not make an inference regarding responsibility solely on a witness's or party's absence from the hearing or refusal to answer questions.

(6) **Privileged evidence:** The conduct council shall not consider legally privileged information unless the holder has effectively waived the privilege. Privileged information includes, but is not limited to, information protected by the following:

(a) Spousal/domestic partner privilege;

(b) Attorney-client and attorney work product privileges;

(c) Privileges applicable to members of the clergy and priests;

(d) Privileges applicable to medical providers, mental health therapists, and counselors;

(e) Privileges applicable to sexual assault and domestic violence advocates; and

(f) Other legal privileges identified in RCW 5.60.060.

NEW SECTION

WAC 106-125-240 Recommended decision. (1) In addition to complying with WAC 106-125-085, the student conduct council will be responsible for conferring and drafting a recommended decision that:

(a) Identifies the allegations of sexual harassment;

(b) Describes the grievance and disciplinary procedures, starting with filing of the formal complaint through the determination of responsibility, including notices to parties, interviews with witnesses and parties, site visits, methods used to gather evidence, and hearings held;

(c) Makes findings of fact supporting the determination of responsibility;

(d) Reaches conclusions as to whether the facts establish whether the respondent is responsible for engaging in sexual harassment in violation of Title IX;

(e) Contains a statement of, and rationale for, the conduct council's determination of responsibility for each allegation;

(f) Describes any disciplinary sanction or conditions imposed against the respondent, if any;

(g) Describes to what extent, if any, complainant is entitled to remedies designed to restore or preserve complainant's equal access to the university's education programs or activities; and

(h) Describes the process for review of the conduct council's recommended decision by the university's conduct review officer under WAC 106-125-090.

(2) The conduct council chair will serve the recommended decision on the parties simultaneously.

NEW SECTION

WAC 106-125-245 Review of recommended decision.

(1) The recommended decision of the student conduct council shall be reviewed by the conduct review officer in accordance with the procedures under WAC 106-125-090.

(2) The conduct review officer will prepare a review decision determining whether the disciplinary sanction and condition(s) imposed in the recommended decision are affirmed, vacated, or amended, and, if amended, set forth any new disciplinary sanction and/or condition(s).

(3) The conduct review officer shall serve the conduct review decision on the parties simultaneously.

WSR 20-17-054

EMERGENCY RULES

DEPARTMENT OF

FISH AND WILDLIFE

[Order 20-150—Filed August 11, 2020, 3:35 p.m., effective August 14, 2020]

Effective Date of Rule: August 14, 2020.

Purpose: The purpose of this rule is to close recreational clam harvest on the beaches of Belfair State Park, Potlatch State Park, Potlatch DNR, and Twanoh State Park due to having met 2020 harvest quotas.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: Repealing WAC 220-330-11000J and 220-330-14000H; and amending WAC 220-330-110 and 220-330-140.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.020, 77.12.045, and 77.12.047.

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that immediate adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule is necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety, or general welfare, and that observing the time requirements of notice and opportunity to comment upon adoption of a permanent rule would be contrary to the public interest.

Reasons for this Finding: This regulation is needed to ensure an orderly fishery and manage the fishery within court-ordered sharing requirements. This rule is needed to close recreational clam harvesting opportunities at Belfair State Park, Potlatch State Park, Potlatch DNR, and Twanoh State Park beaches due to having met 2020 clam harvest quotas. Observations and analysis demonstrating significantly higher than anticipated effort at several Puget Sound beaches, as well as current harvest projections, necessitate this management measure to comply with agreed-to comanagement plans.

Immediate adoption of this rule is necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety, or general welfare. Observing the time requirements of notice and opportunity to comment upon adoption of a permanent rule would be con-

trary to the public interest. There is insufficient time to adopt permanent rules.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Non-governmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 2, Amended 0, Repealed 2.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: August 11, 2020.

Kelly Susewind
Director

NEW SECTION

WAC 220-330-11000K Clams other than razor clams, mussels—Areas and seasons. Notwithstanding the provisions of WAC 220-330-110, effective August 14, 2020, the following provisions of WAC 220-330-110 shall be as described below until further notice or until this emergency regulation expires on October 6, 2020. All other provisions not addressed herein, or unless otherwise amended by emergency rule, remain in effect:

(1) Ala Spit: All public tidelands of Ala Spit are open through August 31, 2020 only.

(2) Belfair State Park: Closed.

(3) Dosewallips State Park: The area defined by boundary markers and signs posted on the beach is open through September 30, 2020 only.

(4) Eagle Creek: Open through September 15, 2020 only.

(5) Frye Cove County Park: Open through August 31, 2020 only.

(6) Hope Island State Park (South Puget Sound): Open through August 31, 2020 only.

(7) Port Gamble Heritage Park Tidelands: Open through October 6, 2020 only.

(8) Potlatch DNR tidelands: Closed.

(9) Potlatch State Park: Closed.

(10) Purdy Spit County Park: The southern shore of the spit from the boat ramp east to the southern utility tower near Purdy Bridge is open September 1 through September 30, 2020 only.

(11) Triton Cove Tidelands: Open through September 15, 2020 only.

(12) Twanoh State Park: Closed.

NEW SECTION

WAC 220-330-14000I Oysters—Areas and seasons. Notwithstanding the provisions of WAC 220-330-140, effective August 3, 2020, the following provisions of WAC 220-

330-140 shall be as described below until further notice or until this emergency regulation expires on October 6, 2020. All other provisions not addressed herein, or unless otherwise amended by emergency rule, remain in effect:

- (1) Ala Spit: All public tidelands of Ala Spit are open August 1 through August 31, 2020 only.
- (2) Belfair State Park: Open until further notice.
- (3) Frye Cove County Park: Open August 1 through August 31, 2020 only.
- (4) Hope Island State Park (South Puget Sound): Open August 1 through August 31, 2020 only.
- (5) Point Whitney Lagoon: Open through August 31, 2020 only.
- (6) Point Whitney Tidelands (excluding Point Whitney Lagoon): Open through August 31, 2020 only.
- (7) Port Gamble Heritage Park Tidelands: Open through October 6, 2020 only.
- (8) Potlatch DNR tidelands: Open through September 30, 2020 only.
- (9) Potlatch State Park: Open through September 30, 2020 only.
- (10) Purdy Spit County Park: The southern shore of the spit from the boat ramp east to the southern utility tower near Purdy Bridge is open September 1 through September 30, 2020 only.
- (11) Twanoh State Park: Open until further notice.

REPEALER

The following sections of the Washington Administrative Code are repealed effective August 14, 2020:

WAC 220-330-11000J Clams other than razor clams, mussels—Areas and seasons.

WAC 220-330-14000H Oysters—Areas and seasons.

WSR 20-17-058

EMERGENCY RULES

HEALTH CARE AUTHORITY

[Filed August 12, 2020, 8:35 a.m., effective August 12, 2020, 8:35 a.m.]

Effective Date of Rule: Immediately upon filing.

Purpose: The health care authority (HCA) is amending WAC 182-538-060 and 182-538-067 on an emergency basis in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency.

The purpose of these amendments is to help ensure (1) the viability of apple health integrated managed care (IMC) plans; (2) adequate performance by the IMC plans; (3) sufficient access to care for medicaid clients in IMC; and (4) the continued availability of an adequate network of physical and behavioral health providers in IMC plans.

Because of COVID-19, the state is experiencing an unprecedented increase in unemployment and a commensurate increase in applications for enrollment in medicaid. As part of managing this situation, HCA is amending WAC 182-538-060 to limit the auto-assignments of medicaid clients to IMC plans. In particular, HCA will prevent auto-assignments of new clients to any plan that has a statewide market share of

greater than forty percent in apple health IMC. This rule does not affect voluntary plan choices by clients, the family connect policy, or the plan reconnect policy.

In addition, HCA is amending WAC 182-538-067 to clarify when the agency will adjust the number of its IMC plans, either overall or on a region-to-region basis. In determining whether to make any such adjustment, HCA will consider statutory requirements as well as enrollment needs, the performance of the plans with respect to behavioral health integration, and the promotion of access to care for behavioral health services.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: Amending WAC 182-538-060 and 182-538-067.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160.

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that immediate adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule is necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety, or general welfare, and that observing the time requirements of notice and opportunity to comment upon adoption of a permanent rule would be contrary to the public interest.

Reasons for this Finding: Medicaid caseloads are growing by the day with skyrocketing statewide unemployment rates and closed businesses. HCA is taking measures necessary to ensure client access to contracted providers through HCA-contracted managed care organizations. The agency filed a CR-101 Preproposal statement of inquiry on June 26, 2020 (WSR 20-14-056), to begin permanent rule making, which is currently at the external review stage.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Non-governmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 0, Amended 2, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 2, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: August 12, 2020.

Wendy Barcus
Rules Coordinator

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 19-24-063, filed 11/27/19, effective 1/1/20)

WAC 182-538-060 Managed care choice and assignment. (1) The medicaid agency requires a client to enroll in integrated managed care (IMC) when that client:

- (a) Is eligible for one of the Washington apple health programs for which enrollment is mandatory;
 - (b) Resides in an area where enrollment is mandatory;
- and

(c) Is not exempt from IMC enrollment and the agency has not ended the client's managed care enrollment, consistent with WAC 182-538-130.

(2) American Indian and Alaska native (AI/AN) clients and their descendants may choose one of the following:

(a) Enrollment with a managed care organization (MCO) available in their regional service area;

(b) Enrollment with a PCCM provider through a tribal clinic or urban Indian center available in their area; or

(c) The agency's fee-for-service system for physical health or behavioral health or both.

(3) To enroll with an MCO or PCCM provider, a client may:

(a) Enroll online via the Washington Healthplanfinder at <https://www.wahealthplanfinder.org>;

(b) Call the agency's toll-free enrollment line at 800-562-3022; or

(c) Go to the ProviderOne client portal at <https://www.waproviderone.org/client> and follow the instructions.

(4) An enrollee in IMC must enroll with an MCO available in the regional service area where the enrollee resides.

(5) All family members will be enrolled with the same MCO, except family members of an enrollee placed in the patient review and coordination (PRC) program under WAC 182-501-0135 need not enroll in the same MCO as the family member placed in the PRC program.

(6) An enrollee may be placed into the PRC program by the MCO or the agency. An enrollee placed in the PRC program must follow the enrollment requirements of the program as stated in WAC 182-501-0135.

(7) When a client requests enrollment with an MCO or PCCM provider, the agency enrolls a client effective the earliest possible date given the requirements of the agency's enrollment system.

(8) The agency assigns a client who does not choose an MCO or PCCM provider as follows:

(a) If the client was enrolled with an MCO or PCCM provider within the previous six months, the client is reenrolled with the same MCO or PCCM provider;

(b) If (a) of this subsection does not apply and the client has a family member enrolled with an MCO, the client is enrolled with that MCO;

(c) The client is reenrolled within the previous six months with their prior MCO plan if:

(i) The agency identifies the prior MCO and the program is available; and

(ii) The client does not have a family member enrolled with an agency-contracted MCO or PCCM provider.

(d) If the client has a break in eligibility of less than two months, the client will be automatically reenrolled with his or her previous MCO or PCCM provider and no notice will be sent; or

(e) If the client cannot be assigned according to (a), (b), (c), or (d) of this subsection, the agency (~~assigns the client according to agency policy~~):

(i) Assigns the client according to agency policy, or this rule, or both;

(ii) Will not assign clients to any MCO that has a total statewide market share of forty percent or more of clients who are enrolled in apple health IMC. On a quarterly basis,

the agency will review enrollment data to determine each MCO's statewide market share in apple health IMC;

(iii) Will apply performance measures associated with increasing or reducing assignment consistent with this rule and agency policy or its contracts with MCOs.

(f) If the client cannot be assigned according to (a) or (b) of this subsection, the agency assigns the client as follows:

(i) If a client who is not AI/AN does not choose an MCO, the agency assigns the client to an MCO available in the area where the client resides. The MCO is responsible for primary care provider (PCP) choice and assignment.

(ii) For clients who are newly eligible or who have had a break in eligibility of more than six months, the agency sends a written notice to each household of one or more clients who are assigned to an MCO. The assigned client has ten calendar days to contact the agency to change the MCO assignment before enrollment is effective. The notice includes:

(A) The agency's toll-free number;

(B) The toll-free number and name of the MCO to which each client has been assigned;

(C) The effective date of enrollment; and

(D) The date by which the client must respond in order to change the assignment.

(9) An MCO enrollee's selection of a PCP or assignment to a PCP occurs as follows:

(a) An MCO enrollee may choose:

(i) A PCP or clinic that is in the enrollee's MCO and accepting new enrollees; or

(ii) A different PCP or clinic participating with the enrollee's MCO for different family members.

(b) The MCO assigns a PCP or clinic that meets the access standards set forth in the relevant managed care contract if the enrollee does not choose a PCP or clinic.

(c) An MCO enrollee may change PCPs or clinics in an MCO for any reason, with the change becoming effective no later than the beginning of the month following the enrollee's request.

(d) An MCO enrollee may file a grievance with the MCO if the MCO does not approve an enrollee's request to change PCPs or clinics.

(e) MCO enrollees required to participate in the agency's PRC program may be limited in their right to change PCPs (see WAC 182-501-0135).

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 19-24-063, filed 11/27/19, effective 1/1/20)

WAC 182-538-067 Qualifications to become a managed care organization (MCO) in integrated managed care. (1) To provide physical or behavioral health services under the apple health IMC ((~~medicaid~~)) contract, a managed care organization (MCO) must:

(a) ((~~An MCO must~~)) Contract with the agency((~~-~~)); and

(b) ((~~MCO must also~~)) Contract with an agency-contracted behavioral health administrative service organization (BH-ASO) that maintains an adequate provider network to deliver services to clients in IMC regional service areas.

(2) ((~~A managed care organization (-)~~)) An MCO((~~+~~)) must meet the following qualifications to be eligible to contract with the ((~~medicaid~~)) agency:

(a) Have a certificate of registration from the Washington state office of the insurance commissioner (OIC) that allows the MCO to provide health care services under a risk-based contract;

(b) Accept the terms and conditions of the agency's managed care contract;

(c) ~~((Be able to))~~ Meet the network and quality standards established by the agency; and

(d) Pass a readiness review, including an on-site visit conducted by the agency.

~~(3) ((At its discretion, the agency awards a contract to an MCO through a competitive process or an application process available to all qualified providers.))~~ (a) The agency may from time to time conduct a procurement for new apple health MCOs or to reduce or expand the use of existing apple health MCOs.

(b) The agency may conduct a procurement when the agency determines in its sole discretion there is a need to:

(i) Expand or reduce current MCO contracts;

(ii) Enhance current MCO provider networks; or

(iii) Establish new contracts for integrated managed care in one or more regional services areas; or

(iv) Adjust the program to ensure adherence to state and federal law.

(c) In accordance with RCW 74.09.522 and 74.09.871, the agency will give significant weight to the following factors in any procurement process:

(i) Demonstrated commitment to, and experience in, serving low-income populations;

(ii) Demonstrated commitment to, and experience in, serving persons who have mental illness, substance use disorders, or co-occurring disorders;

(iii) Demonstrated commitment to, and experience with, partnerships with county and municipal criminal justice systems, housing services, and other critical support services necessary to achieve the outcomes established in RCW 70.320.020, 71.24.435, and 71.36.025;

(iv) Recognition that meeting enrollees' physical and behavioral health care needs is a shared responsibility of contracted behavioral health administrative services organizations, MCOs, service providers, the state, and communities;

(v) Consideration of past and current performance and participation in other state or federal behavioral health programs as a contractor;

(vi) Quality of services provided to enrollees under previous contracts with the state of Washington or other states;

(vii) Accessibility, including appropriate utilization, of services offered to enrollees;

(viii) Demonstrated capability to perform contracted services, including the ability to supply an adequate provider network; and

(ix) The ability to meet any other requirements established by the agency.

(d) The agency may define and consider additional factors as part of any procurement including, but not limited to:

(i) Timely processing of, and payments to, providers in the MCO networks, including reconciliation of outstanding payments; and

(ii) The optimal number of MCOs per regional services area, based on population and in the manner that the agency

determines most beneficial for the program, clients, and providers.

(4) The agency reserves the right not to contract with any otherwise qualified MCO.

WSR 20-17-060

EMERGENCY RULES

DEPARTMENT OF

SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES

(Economic Services Administration)

[Filed August 12, 2020, 9:00 a.m., effective August 12, 2020, 9:00 a.m.]

Effective Date of Rule: Immediately upon filing.

Purpose: Due to the ongoing national and state emergency relating to COVID-19, the United States Postal Service (USPS) has made temporary changes to its certified mail signature gathering procedures to limit direct contact with recipients. This emergency WAC will clarify that these temporary procedures employed by USPS are acceptable for purposes of certified mail service. The department filed a CR-101 Preproposal statement of inquiry as WSR 20-09-148 on April 22, 2020, to begin the permanent rule-making process.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: New WAC 388-14A-2210.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 26.23.110, 34.05.220, 74.08.090, 74.20A.055.

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that immediate adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule is necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety, or general welfare, and that observing the time requirements of notice and opportunity to comment upon adoption of a permanent rule would be contrary to the public interest.

Reasons for this Finding: USPS certified mail delivery procedures have already been changed. This has had an immediate effect on our ability to serve notices by certified mail. This emergency rule will ensure child support enforcement actions can continue, providing crucial financial resources to clients.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 1, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Non-governmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 1, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 1, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: August 11, 2020.

Katherine I. Vasquez
Rules Coordinator

NEW SECTION**WAC 388-14A-2210 What is the procedure for service by certified mail during the COVID-19 emergency?**

(1) Due to the ongoing national and state emergency relating to COVID-19, the united states postal service has made temporary changes to its certified mail signature gathering procedures to limit direct contact with recipients. As long as these special signature gathering procedures remain in effect, the division of child support (DCS) will consider service by certified mail, return receipt requested when required under chapter 388-14A WAC to be successful ten days after the following requirements are satisfied:

(a) The notice is sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, with restricted delivery to the noncustodial or custodial parent DCS is serving; and

(b) The postal service employee signs the receipt on behalf of the individual taking delivery as required by current postal service restricted delivery procedures.

(2) The individual taking delivery under section (1)(b) of this section is presumed to be the subject of service or the authorized agent of the subject.

Reviser's note: The typographical error in the above section occurred in the copy filed by the agency and appears in the Register pursuant to the requirements of RCW 34.08.040.

**WSR 20-17-065
EMERGENCY RULES
CASCADIA COLLEGE**

[Filed August 12, 2020, 3:42 p.m., effective August 14, 2020]

Effective Date of Rule: August 14, 2020.

Purpose: Update Cascadia College's student conduct code in compliance with new Title IX federal regulations promulgated by the United States Department of Education under 34 C.F.R. § 106. The new rules need to go in [to] effect by August 14, 2020.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: New WAC 132Z-115-200, 132Z-115-205, 132Z-115-210, 132Z-115-215, 132Z-115-220, 132Z-115-225, 132Z-115-230, 132Z-115-235, 132Z-115-240, 132Z-115-245.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 28B.50.140 (13).

Other Authority: Federal Title IX regulations require these rules to be implemented by August 14, 2020.

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that state or federal law or federal rule or a federal deadline for state receipt of federal funds requires immediate adoption of a rule.

Reasons for this Finding: Federal Title IX regulations require these rules to be implemented by August 14, 2020.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 10, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Non-governmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: August 12, 2020.

Lily Allen
Rules Coordinator

**SUPPLEMENTAL TITLE IX STUDENT CONDUCT
PROCEDURES**

NEW SECTION

WAC 132Z-115-205 Order of precedence. This supplemental procedure applies to allegations of sexual harassment 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 disciplinary procedures, WAC 132Z-115-006 through 132Z-115-095, these supplemental procedures shall take precedence.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132Z-115-215 Prohibited conduct under Title IX. Pursuant to RCW 28B.50.140(13) and Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1681, the college may impose disciplinary sanctions against a student who commits, attempts to commit, or aids, abets, incites, encourages, or assists another person to commit, an act(s) of "sexual harassment."

For purposes of this supplemental procedure, "sexual harassment" encompasses the following conduct:

(1) Quid pro quo harassment. A student employee of the college conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of the college on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct.

(2) Hostile environment. Unwelcome conduct that a reasonable person would find to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the college's educational programs or activities, or employment.

(3) Sexual assault. Sexual assault includes the following conduct:

(a) Nonconsensual sexual intercourse. Any actual or attempted sexual intercourse (anal, oral, or vaginal), however slight, with any object or body part, 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. 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. 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 eighteen.

(d) Statutory rape. Consensual sexual intercourse between someone who is eighteen years of age or older and someone who is under the age of sixteen.

(4) Domestic violence. Physical violence, bodily injury, assault, the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, sexual assault, or stalking 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 26.50.010.

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

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

(b) 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.

(6) Stalking. Engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for their safety or the safety of others, or suffer substantial emotional distress.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132Z-115-225 Title IX jurisdiction. (1) This supplemental procedure applies only if the alleged misconduct:

(a) Occurred in the United States;

(b) Occurred during a college educational program or activity;

(c) Meets the definition of sexual harassment as that term is defined in this supplemental procedure; and

(d) At the time of filing a formal complaint, the complainant was participating or attempting to participate in the educational program or activity.

(2) For purposes of this supplemental procedure, an "educational program or activity" is defined as locations, events, or circumstances over which the college exercised substantial control over both the respondent and the context in which the alleged sexual harassment occurred. This definition includes any building owned or controlled by a student organization that is officially recognized by the college.

(3) Proceedings under this supplemental procedure must be dismissed if the decision maker determines that one or all

of the requirements of subsection (1)(a) through (d) of this section have not been met. Dismissal under this supplemental procedure does not prohibit the college from pursuing other disciplinary action based on allegations that the respondent violated other provisions of the student conduct code under WAC 132Z-115-025.

(4) If the student conduct officer determines the facts in the investigation report are not sufficient to support Title IX jurisdiction and/or pursuit of a Title IX violation, the student conduct officer will issue a notice of dismissal in whole or part to both parties explaining why some or all of the Title IX claims have been dismissed.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132Z-115-235 Initiation of discipline. (1) Upon receiving the Title IX investigation report from the Title IX coordinator, the student conduct officer will independently review the report to determine whether there are sufficient grounds to pursue a disciplinary action against the respondent for engaging in prohibited conduct under Title IX.

(2) If the student conduct officer determines there are sufficient grounds to proceed under these supplemental procedures, the student conduct officer will initiate a Title IX disciplinary proceeding by filing a written disciplinary notice with the chair of the student conduct committee and serving the notice on the respondent and the complainant, and their respective advisors. The notice must:

(a) Set forth the basis for Title IX jurisdiction;

(b) Identify the alleged Title IX violation(s);

(c) Set forth the facts underlying the allegation(s);

(d) Identify the range of possible sanctions that may be imposed if the respondent is found responsible for the alleged violation(s);

(e) Explain that the parties are entitled to be accompanied by their chosen advisors during the hearing and that:

(i) The advisors will be responsible for questioning all witnesses on the party's behalf;

(ii) An advisor may be an attorney; and

(iii) The college will appoint the party an advisor of the university's choosing at no cost to the party, if the party fails to do so.

(3) Explain that if a party fails to appear at the hearing, a decision of responsibility may be made in the party's absence.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132Z-115-245 Student conduct committee. For purposes of this supplemental Title IX procedure, the student conduct committee shall consist of three college employees appointed by the college president or designee.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132Z-115-250 Prehearing procedure. (1) Upon receiving the disciplinary notice, the chair of the student conduct committee will send a hearing notice to all parties, in compliance with WAC 132Z-115-075. In no event will the hearing date be set less than ten days after the Title IX coordinator provided the final investigation report to the parties.

(2) A party may choose to have an attorney serve as their advisor at the party's own expense. This right will be waived unless, at least five days before the hearing, the attorney files a notice of appearance with the conduct committee chair with copies to all parties and the student conduct officer.

(3) In preparation for the hearing, the parties will have equal access to all evidence gathered by the investigator during the investigation, regardless of whether the college intends to offer the evidence at the hearing.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132Z-115-255 Rights of parties. (1) The college's student conduct committee hearing procedures, WAC 132Z-115-075, 132Z-115-083, and 132Z-115-085, and this supplemental procedure shall apply equally to all parties.

(2) The college 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 college's choosing on the party's behalf at no expense to the party.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132Z-115-260 Evidence. The introduction and consideration of evidence during the hearing is subject to the following procedures and restrictions:

(1) **Relevance:** The conduct committee chair shall review all questions for relevance and shall explain on the record the chair's reasons for excluding any question based on lack of relevance.

(2) **Relevance means** that information elicited by the question makes facts in dispute more or less likely to be true.

(3) Questions or evidence about a complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant and must be excluded, unless such question or evidence:

(a) Is asked or offered to prove someone other than the respondent committed the alleged misconduct; or

(b) Concerns specific incidents of prior sexual behavior between the complainant and the respondent, which are asked or offered on the issue of consent.

(4) **Cross-examination required:** If a party or witness does not submit to cross-examination during the live hearing, the conduct committee must not rely on any statement by that party or witness in reaching a determination of responsibility.

(5) **No negative inference:** The conduct committee may not make an inference regarding responsibility solely on a witness's or party's absence from the hearing or refusal to answer questions.

(6) **Privileged evidence:** The conduct committee shall not consider legally privileged information unless the holder has effectively waived the privilege. Privileged information

includes, but is not limited to, information protected by the following:

(a) Spousal/domestic partner privilege;

(b) Attorney-client and attorney work product privileges;

(c) Privileges applicable to members of the clergy and priests;

(d) Privileges applicable to medical providers, mental health therapists, and counselors;

(e) Privileges applicable to sexual assault and domestic violence advocates; and

(f) Other legal privileges identified in RCW 5.60.060.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132Z-115-265 Recommended decision. (1) In addition to complying with WAC 132Z-115-085, the student conduct committee will be responsible for conferring and drafting a recommended decision that:

(a) Identifies the allegations of sexual harassment;

(b) Describes the grievance and disciplinary procedures, starting with filing of the formal complaint through the determination of responsibility, including notices to parties, interviews with witnesses and parties, site visits, methods used to gather evidence, and hearings held;

(c) Makes findings of fact supporting the determination of responsibility;

(d) Reaches conclusions as to whether the facts establish whether the respondent is responsible for engaging in sexual harassment in violation of Title IX;

(e) Contains a statement of, and rationale for, the conduct committee's determination of responsibility for each allegation;

(f) Describes any disciplinary sanction or conditions imposed against the respondent, if any;

(g) Describes to what extent, if any, complainant is entitled to remedies designed to restore or preserve complainant's equal access to the college's education programs or activities; and

(h) Describes the process for review of the conduct committee's recommended decision by the college's conduct review officer under WAC 132Z-115-095.

(2) The conduct committee chair will serve the recommended decision on the parties simultaneously.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132Z-115-270 Review of recommended decision. (1) The recommended decision of the student conduct committee shall be reviewed by the conduct review officer in accordance with the procedures under WAC 132Z-115-095.

(2) The conduct review officer will prepare a review decision determining whether the disciplinary sanction and condition(s) imposed in the recommended decision are affirmed, vacated, or amended, and, if amended, set forth any new disciplinary sanction and/or condition(s).

(3) The conduct review officer shall serve the conduct review decision on the parties simultaneously.

WSR 20-17-068
EMERGENCY RULES
COMMUNITY COLLEGES
OF SPOKANE

[Filed August 13, 2020, 9:03 a.m., effective August 13, 2020, 9:03 a.m.]

Effective Date of Rule: Immediately upon filing.

Purpose: On May 19, 2020, the Federal Register printed amendments to Title IX regulations (85 F.R. 30575). The new regulations address the grievance process for formal complaints of sexual harassment and are scheduled to take effect on August 14, 2020. This requires emergency updates to the colleges' student conduct code to be compliant with federal regulations.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: New WAC 132Q-10-600, 132Q-10-601, 132Q-10-602, 132Q-10-603, 132Q-10-604, 132Q-10-605, 132Q-10-606, 132Q-10-607, and 132Q-10-608.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: Chapter 34.05 RCW; and RCW 28B.50.140(13); 20 U.S.C. § 1092(f); Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. § 1681 et seq.

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that state or federal law or federal rule or a federal deadline for state receipt of federal funds requires immediate adoption of a rule.

Reasons for this Finding: College is required by the United States Department of Education to comply with the recently adopted Title IX regulations, which take effect on August 14, 2020.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 9, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Non-governmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 9, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: August 6, 2020.

John O'Rourke
 Grants and Contracts Manager

**SUPPLEMENTAL TITLE IX STUDENT CONDUCT
 PROCEDURES**

NEW SECTION

WAC 132Q-10-600 Order of precedence. This supplemental procedure applies to allegations of sexual harassment 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 Community Colleges of Spo-

kane's standard disciplinary procedures, WAC 132Q-10-101 through 132Q-10-503, these supplemental procedures shall take precedence.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132Q-10-601 Prohibited conduct under Title IX. Pursuant to RCW 28B.50.140(13) and Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1681, the Community Colleges of Spokane may impose disciplinary sanctions against a student who commits, attempts to commit, or aids, abets, incites, encourages, or assists another person to commit, an act(s) of "sexual harassment."

For purposes of this supplemental procedure, "sexual harassment" encompasses the following conduct:

(1) Quid pro quo harassment. A Community Colleges of Spokane employee conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of the Community Colleges of Spokane on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct.

(2) Hostile environment. Unwelcome conduct that a reasonable person would find to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the Community Colleges of Spokane's educational programs or activities, or employment.

(3) Sexual assault. Sexual assault includes the following conduct:

(a) Nonconsensual sexual intercourse. Any actual or attempted sexual intercourse (anal, oral, or vaginal), however slight, with any object or body part, 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. 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. 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 eighteen.

(d) Statutory rape. Consensual sexual intercourse between someone who is eighteen years of age or older and someone who is under the age of sixteen.

(4) Domestic violence. Physical violence, bodily injury, assault, the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, sexual assault, or stalking 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 26.50.010.

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

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

(b) 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.

(6) Stalking. Engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for their safety or the safety of others, or suffer substantial emotional distress.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132Q-10-602 Title IX jurisdiction. (1) This supplemental procedure applies only if the alleged misconduct:

(a) Occurred in the United States;

(b) Occurred during a Community Colleges of Spokane educational program or activity; and

(c) Meets the definition of sexual harassment as that term is defined in this supplemental procedure.

(2) For purposes of this supplemental procedure, an "educational program or activity" is defined as locations, events, or circumstances over which the Community Colleges of Spokane exercised substantial control over both the respondent and the context in which the alleged sexual harassment occurred. This definition includes any building owned or controlled by a student organization that is officially recognized by the Community Colleges of Spokane.

(3) Proceedings under this supplemental procedure must be dismissed if one or all of the requirements of subsection (1)(a) through (c) of this section have not been met. Upon receipt of the formal complaint, the Title IX coordinator shall make an initial inquiry into whether Title IX jurisdiction extends to the complaint. If the Title IX coordinator determines there is no Title IX jurisdiction, the Title IX coordinator will issue a notice of dismissal in whole or part explaining why some or all of the Title IX claims have been dismissed. Dismissal under this supplemental procedure does not prohibit the Community Colleges of Spokane from pursuing other disciplinary action based on allegations that the respondent violated other provisions of the Community Colleges of Spokane's student conduct code, WAC 132Q-10-101 through 132Q-10-503.

(4) After receipt of the investigation report, if the student conduct officer determines the facts in the investigation report are not sufficient to support Title IX jurisdiction and/or pursuit of a Title IX violation, the student conduct officer will issue a notice of dismissal in whole or part to both parties explaining why some or all of the Title IX claims have been dismissed. Dismissal under this supplemental procedure does not prohibit the Community Colleges of Spokane from pursuing other disciplinary action based on allegations that the respondent violated other provisions of the Community Colleges of Spokane's student conduct code, WAC 132Q-10-101 through 132Q-10-503.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132Q-10-603 Initiation of discipline. (1) Upon receiving the Title IX investigation report from the Title IX coordinator or designee, the student conduct officer will independently review the report to determine whether there are sufficient grounds to pursue a disciplinary action against the respondent for engaging in prohibited conduct under Title IX.

(2) If the student conduct officer determines that there are sufficient grounds to proceed under these supplemental procedures, the student conduct officer will initiate a Title IX disciplinary proceeding by filing a written disciplinary notice with the chair of the student conduct administrative panel and serving the notice on the respondent and the complainant, and their respective advisors. The notice must:

(a) Set forth the basis for Title IX jurisdiction;

(b) Identify the alleged Title IX violation(s);

(c) Set forth the facts underlying the allegation(s);

(d) Identify the range of possible sanctions that may be imposed if the respondent is found responsible for the alleged violation(s); and

(e) Explain that the parties are entitled to be accompanied by their chosen advisors during the hearing and that:

(i) The advisors will be responsible for questioning all witnesses on the party's behalf;

(ii) An advisor may be an attorney; and

(iii) The Community Colleges of Spokane will appoint the party an advisor of the college's choosing at no cost to the party, if the party fails to do so.

(3) Explain that if a party fails to appear at the hearing, a decision of responsibility may be made in their absence.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132Q-10-604 Prehearing procedure. (1) Upon receiving the disciplinary notice, the chair of the student conduct administrative panel will send a hearing notice to all parties, in compliance with WAC 132Q-10-315. In no event will the hearing date be set less than ten days after the Title IX coordinator or designee provided the final investigation report to the parties.

(2) A party may choose to have an attorney serve as their advisor at the party's own expense. This right will be waived unless, at least five days before the hearing, the attorney files a notice of appearance with the committee chair with copies to all parties and the student conduct officer.

(3) In preparation for the hearing, the parties will have equal access to all evidence gathered by the investigator during the investigation, regardless of whether the Community Colleges of Spokane intends to offer the evidence at the hearing.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132Q-10-605 Rights of parties. (1) The Community Colleges of Spokane's student conduct procedures, WAC 132Q-10-101 through 132Q-10-503, and this supplemental procedure shall apply equally to all parties.

(2) The Community Colleges of Spokane bears the burden of offering and presenting sufficient testimony and evi-

dence 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 college's choosing on the party's behalf at no expense to the party.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132Q-10-606 Evidence. The introduction and consideration of evidence during the hearing is subject to the following procedures and restrictions:

(1) **Relevance:** The committee chair shall review all questions for relevance and shall explain on the record their reasons for excluding any question based on lack of relevance.

(2) **Relevance means** that information elicited by the question makes facts in dispute more or less likely to be true.

(3) Questions or evidence about a complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant and must be excluded, unless such question or evidence:

(a) Is asked or offered to prove someone other than the respondent committed the alleged misconduct; or

(b) Concerns specific incidents of prior sexual behavior between the complainant and the respondent, which are asked or offered on the issue of consent.

(4) **Cross-examination required:** If a party or witness does not submit to cross-examination during the live hearing, the committee must not rely on any statement by that party or witness in reaching a determination of responsibility.

(5) **No negative inference:** The committee may not make an inference regarding responsibility solely on a witness's or party's absence from the hearing or refusal to answer questions.

(6) **Privileged evidence:** The committee shall not consider legally privileged information unless the holder has effectively waived the privilege. Privileged information includes, but is not limited to, information protected by the following:

(a) Spousal/domestic partner privilege;

(b) Attorney-client and attorney work product privileges;

(c) Privileges applicable to members of the clergy and priests;

(d) Privileges applicable to medical providers, mental health therapists, and counselors;

(e) Privileges applicable to sexual assault and domestic violence advocates; and

(f) Other legal privileges identified in RCW 5.60.060.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132Q-10-607 Initial order. (1) In addition to complying with WAC 132Q-10-330, the student conduct administrative panel will be responsible for conferring and drafting an initial order that:

(a) Identifies the allegations of sexual harassment;

(b) Describes the grievance and disciplinary procedures, starting with filing of the formal complaint through the determination of responsibility, including notices to parties, interviews with witnesses and parties, site visits, methods used to gather evidence, and hearings held;

(c) Makes findings of fact supporting the determination of responsibility;

(d) Reaches conclusions as to whether the facts establish whether the respondent is responsible for engaging in sexual harassment in violation of Title IX;

(e) Contains a statement of, and rationale for, the student conduct administrative panel's determination of responsibility for each allegation;

(f) Describes any disciplinary sanction or conditions imposed against the respondent, if any;

(g) Describes to what extent, if any, complainant is entitled to remedies designed to restore or preserve complainant's equal access to the Community Colleges of Spokane's education programs or activities; and

(h) Describes the process for appealing initial orders from Spokane Community College to Spokane Falls Community College's vice president of student affairs or initial orders from Spokane Falls Community College to the vice president of student services.

(2) The committee chair will serve the initial order on the parties simultaneously.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132Q-10-608 Appeals. (1) The parties shall have the right to appeal from the initial order's determination of responsibility and/or dismissal of an allegation(s) of sexual harassment in a formal complaint. The right to appeal will be subject to the same procedures and time frames set forth in WAC 132Q-10-335.

(2) For appeals coming from Spokane Community College, the vice president of student affairs at Spokane Falls Community College will determine whether the grounds for appeal have merit, provide the rationale for this conclusion, and state whether the disciplinary sanction and condition(s) imposed in the initial order are affirmed, vacated, or amended, and, if amended, set forth any new disciplinary sanction and/or condition(s). For appeals coming from Spokane Falls Community College, the vice president of student services at Spokane Community College will determine whether the grounds for appeal have merit, provide the rationale for this conclusion, and state whether the disciplinary sanction and condition(s) imposed in the initial order are affirmed, vacated, or amended, and, if amended, set forth any new disciplinary sanction and/or condition(s).

(3) The appropriate vice president of student affairs/services shall serve the final decision on the parties simultaneously.

WSR 20-17-069
EMERGENCY RULES
DEPARTMENT OF
SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
(Economic Services Administration)

[Filed August 13, 2020, 9:15 a.m., effective August 15, 2020]

Effective Date of Rule: August 15, 2020.

Purpose: The department is extending emergency amendments to WAC 388-436-0040 Excluded income and resources for CEAP, 388-436-0050 Determining financial need and benefit amount for CEAP, and 388-436-0055 What is the disaster cash assistance program (DCAP)?

These amendments are necessary to expand consolidated emergency assistance and related disaster cash assistance program during the statewide public health crisis created by the COVID-19 virus (commonly referred to as the "coronavirus").

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: Amending WAC 388-436-0040, 388-436-0050, and 388-436-0055.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 74.04.050, 74.04.055, 74.04.660, 74.08.090, 74.08A.230.

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that immediate adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule is necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety, or general welfare, and that observing the time requirements of notice and opportunity to comment upon adoption of a permanent rule would be contrary to the public interest.

Reasons for this Finding: This filing is necessary to extend existing emergency rules originally filed under WSR 20-09-102, which provide relief in response to health and economic impacts of COVID-19. The department filed notice of its intent to adopt the rule as a permanent rule by filing a CR-101 Preproposal statement of inquiry on August 3, 2020, under WSR 20-16-129, and is actively undertaking appropriate procedures to adopt the rule as a permanent rule.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Non-governmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 0, Amended 3, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 3, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: August 6, 2020.

Katherine I. Vasquez
Rules Coordinator

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 04-05-010, filed 2/6/04, effective 3/8/04)

WAC 388-436-0040 Excluded income and resources for CEAP. Resources and income listed below will not be considered in determining need or payment for CEAP:

- (1) A home as defined under WAC 388-470-0045;
(2) Liquid resources as defined in WAC 388-470-0045 valued at six thousand dollars or less;
(3) One vehicle, running and used regularly by the assistance unit, with an equity value not to exceed ((one)) ten thousand ((five hundred)) dollars;
((2)) (4) Household furnishings being used by the assistance unit;
((4)) (5) Personal items being used by members of the assistance unit;
((5)) (6) Tools and equipment being used in the applicant's occupation;
((6)) (7) The value of the coupon allotment under the Food Stamp Act of 1977, as amended;
((7)) (8) Benefits received under the women, infants and children program (WIC) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966, as amended, and the special food service program for children under the National School Lunch Act, as amended;
((8)) (9) Energy assistance payments;
((9)) (10) Grants, loans, or work study to a student under Title IV of the Higher Education Amendments or Bureau of Indian Affairs for attendance costs as identified by the institution;
((10)) (11) Income and resources of an SSI recipient;
((11)) (12) Livestock when the products are consumed by members of the assistance unit;
((12)) (13) All resources and income excluded for the TANF program under WAC 388-470-0045 and by federal law.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 18-09-088, filed 4/17/18, effective 7/1/18)

WAC 388-436-0050 Determining financial need and benefit amount for CEAP. (1) To be eligible for the consolidated emergency assistance program (CEAP), the assistance unit's nonexcluded income, minus allowable deductions, must be less than ((ninety percent of)) or equal to the temporary assistance for needy families (TANF) payment standard for households with shelter costs. The net income limit for CEAP assistance units is:

Table with 2 columns: Assistance unit members, Net income limit. Rows show limits for 1 to 8 or more members, with values like (\$327), \$363, ((413)), 459, ((512)), 569, ((603)), 670, ((695)), 772, ((789)), 877, ((912)), 1,103, ((1,009)), 1,121.

(2) The assistance unit's allowable amount of need is the lesser of:

(a) The TANF payment standard, based on assistance unit size, for households with shelter costs as specified under WAC 388-478-0020; or

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8 or more
Food	\$220	\$280	\$345	\$408	\$469	\$532	\$608	\$672
Shelter	268	339	422	497	571	647	750	828
Clothing	31	39	49	57	66	77	85	97
Minor medical care	186	237	294	345	398	449	524	578
Utilities	91	115	142	166	191	220	254	280
Household maintenance	66	84	105	122	142	161	186	204
Job related transportation	363	459	569	670	772	877	1,013	1,121
Child related transportation	363	459	569	670	772	877	1,013	1,121

(3) The assistance unit's CEAP payment is determined by computing the difference between the allowable amount of need, as determined under subsection (2) of this section, and the total of:

(a) The assistance unit's net income, as determined under subsection (1) of this section and WAC 388-436-0045;

(b) Cash on hand, if not already counted as income; and

(c) The value of other nonexcluded resources available to the assistance unit.

(4) The assistance unit is not eligible for CEAP if the amount of income and resources, as determined in subsection (3) of this section, is equal to or exceeds its allowable amount of need.

(b) The assistance unit's actual emergent need, not to exceed maximum allowable amounts, for the following items:

Need item: Maximum allowable amount by assistance unit size:

(2) Applicants must demonstrate a financial need for emergency funds for one or more of the following basic requirements:

(a) Food;

(b) Shelter;

(c) Clothing;

(d) Minor medical care;

(e) Utilities;

(f) Household maintenance supplies; or

(g) Necessary clothing or transportation costs to accept or retain a job.

(3) Payments under this program are limited to not more than thirty consecutive days within a period of twelve consecutive months.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 08-18-008, filed 8/22/08, effective 9/22/08)

WAC 388-436-0055 What is the disaster cash assistance program (DCAP)? Disaster cash assistance program (DCAP) is paid through the consolidated emergency assistance program (CEAP) and is designed to provide cash assistance to individuals and families who face an emergency and do not have the money to meet their basic needs.

(1) DCAP is available if you meet all of the following:

(a) You suffered losses ~~((and))~~;

~~((b))~~ (b) You live in an area that has been declared a disaster for individuals or a state of emergency related to COVID-19 by the Governor~~((:))~~;

~~((c))~~ (c) In the event of a declared disaster, you are not able to live in your home or you cannot return to your home because of the disaster;

~~((d))~~ (d) Your home in the disaster or emergency area is your primary residence (not a vacation home) and you were living there at the time of the disaster or emergency;

~~((e))~~ (e) You are a resident of Washington state as defined in WAC 388-468-0005;

~~((f))~~ (f) Your net income is under the limits in WAC 388-436-0050(1); and

~~((g))~~ (g) You or your family is not eligible for any other program that could meet your need as stated in WAC 388-436-0030.

**WSR 20-17-070
EMERGENCY RULES
PENINSULA COLLEGE**

[Filed August 13, 2020, 9:16 a.m., effective August 13, 2020, 9:16 a.m.]

Effective Date of Rule: Immediately upon filing.

Purpose: On May 19, 2020, the Federal Register printed amendments to Title IX regulations (85 F.R. 30575). The new regulations address the grievance process for formal complaints of sexual harassment and are scheduled to take effect on August 14, 2020. This requires emergency updates to the college's student conduct code to be compliant with federal regulations. Chapter 132A-125 WAC will be repealed in its entirety and new chapter 132A-126 WAC will be submitted.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: New chapter 132A-126 WAC; and repealing chapter 132A-125 WAC.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: Chapter 34.05 RCW; and RCW 28B.50.140(13); 20 U.S.C. Section 1092(f); Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. Section 1681 et seq.

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that state or federal law or federal rule or a federal deadline for state receipt of federal funds requires immediate adoption of a rule.

Reasons for this Finding: Peninsula College is required by the United States Department of Education to comply with the recently adopted Title IX regulations, which take effect on August 14, 2020.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 29, Amended 0, Repealed 23; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Non-governmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 29, Amended 0, Repealed 23.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: August 14, 2020.

Kelly Griffith
Executive Assistant to the President
Rules Coordinator

Chapter 132A-126 WAC

CODE OF STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

NEW SECTION

WAC 132A-126-005 Preamble. Peninsula College is a diverse and dynamic learning community. As such, the college maintains a strong commitment to providing a learning environment that is civil and free from disruptive behavior. All members of the college community share in the responsibility to promote a positive learning environment, demonstrate mutual respect and dignity, and avoid adversarial relationships. Thus, students are expected to act as responsible members of this community, maintain a high degree of honesty and integrity, comply with the rules and regulations of the college, and respect the rights, privileges, and property of the college community.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132A-126-010 Authority. The board of trustees, acting pursuant to RCW 28B.50.140(14), delegates to the president of the college the authority to administer disciplinary action. Administration of the disciplinary procedures is the responsibility of the vice president for student services or their designee. The student conduct officer shall serve as the principal investigator and administrator for alleged violations of this code.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132A-126-015 Definitions. The following definitions shall apply for the purposes of this student conduct code:

(1) "Business day" means a weekday, excluding weekends and college holidays.

(2) "College premises" shall include all campuses of the college, wherever located, and includes all land, buildings, facilities, vehicles, equipment, and other property owned, used, or controlled by the college.

(3) "Complainant" is an alleged victim of sexual misconduct.

(4) "Conduct review officer" is the vice president of student services or other college administrator designated by the president to be responsible for receiving and for reviewing or referring appeals of student disciplinary actions in accordance with the procedures of this code.

(5) "Disciplinary action" is the process by which the student conduct officer imposes discipline against a student for a violation of the student conduct code.

(6) "Disciplinary appeal" is the process by which an aggrieved student can appeal the discipline imposed by the student conduct officer. Disciplinary appeals from a suspension in excess of ten instructional days or an expulsion are heard by the student conduct appeals board. Appeals of all other appealable disciplinary action shall be reviewed through brief adjudicative proceedings.

(7) "Filing" is the process by which a document is officially delivered to a college official responsible for facilitating a disciplinary review. Unless otherwise provided, filing shall be accomplished by:

(a) Hand delivery of the document to the specified college official or college official's assistant; or

(b) Sending the document by email and first class mail to the specified college official's office and college email address.

Papers required to be filed shall be deemed filed upon actual receipt during office hours at the office of the specified college official.

(8) "Instructional day" is a day identified in the academic calendar and quarterly schedule as a classroom instruction day.

(9) "President" is the president of the college. The president is authorized to:

(a) Delegate any of their responsibilities as set forth in this chapter as may be reasonably necessary; and

(b) Reassign any and all duties and responsibilities as set forth in this chapter as may be reasonably necessary.

(10) "Respondent" is the student against whom disciplinary action is initiated.

(11) "Service" is the process by which a document is officially delivered to a party. Unless otherwise provided, service upon a party shall be accomplished by:

(a) Hand delivery of the document to the party; or

(b) Sending the document by email and by certified mail or first class mail to the party's last known address.

Service is deemed complete upon hand delivery of the document or upon the date the document is emailed and deposited in the mail.

(12) "Sexual misconduct" has the meaning ascribed to this term in WAC 132A-126-030(13).

(13) "Student" includes all persons taking courses at or through the college, whether on a full-time or part-time basis, and whether such courses are credit courses, noncredit courses, online courses, or otherwise. Persons who withdraw after allegedly violating the code, who are not officially enrolled for a particular term but who have a continuing relationship with the college, or who have been notified of their acceptance for admission are considered "students" for purposes of this chapter.

(14) "Student conduct officer" is a college administrator designated by the president to be responsible for implementing and enforcing the student conduct code.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132A-126-020 Statement of jurisdiction. (1) The Peninsula College code of student rights and responsibilities shall apply to student conduct that occurs:

- (a) On college premises;
 - (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 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.

(3) Students are responsible for their conduct from the time of application for admission through the actual receipt of a 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. The college has sole discretion, on a case-by-case basis, to determine whether the student conduct code will be applied to conduct that occurs off campus.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132A-126-025 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:

(1) **Academic freedom.**

(a) 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.

(b) 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).

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

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

(2) **Due process.**

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

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

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

NEW SECTION

WAC 132A-126-030 Prohibited student conduct. The college may impose disciplinary sanctions against a student who commits, attempts to commit, aids, abets, incites, encourages or assists another person to commit an act(s) of misconduct, which include, but are not limited to, the following:

(1) **Academic dishonesty.** Any act of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and fabrication.

(a) Cheating includes any attempt to give or obtain unauthorized assistance relating to the completion of an academic assignment.

(b) Plagiarism includes taking and using as one's own, without proper attribution, the ideas, writings, or work of another person in completing an academic assignment. Prohibited conduct may also include the unauthorized submission for credit of academic work that has been submitted for credit in another course.

(c) Fabrication includes falsifying data, information, or citations in completing an academic assignment and also includes providing false or deceptive information to an instructor concerning the completion of an assignment.

(2) **Other dishonesty.** Any other acts of dishonesty. Such acts include, but are not limited to:

(a) Forgery, alteration, submission of falsified documents or misuse of any college document, record, or instrument of identification;

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

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

(3) **Obstructive or disruptive conduct.** Conduct, not otherwise protected by law, that interferes with, impedes, or otherwise unreasonably hinders:

(a) Instruction, research, administration, disciplinary proceeding, or other college activity, including the obstruction of the free flow of pedestrian or vehicular movement on college property or at a college activity; or

(b) Any activity that is authorized to occur on college property, whether or not actually conducted or sponsored by the college.

(4) **Assault, intimidation, harassment.** Unwanted touching, physical abuse, verbal abuse, threat(s), intimidation, harassment, bullying, for purposes of this code, "bullying" is defined as repeated or aggressive unwanted behavior, not otherwise protected by law that intentionally humiliates, harms, or intimidates the victim.

(5) **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 of sexual activity, and nonconsensual distribution of a recording of sexual activity.

(6) **Property violation.** Damage to, misappropriation of, unauthorized use or possession of, vandalism, or other nonaccidental damaging or destruction of college property or the property of another person. Property for purposes of this subsection includes computer passwords, access codes, identification cards, personal financial account numbers, other confidential personal information, intellectual property, and college trademarks.

(7) **Failure to comply with directive.** Failure to comply with the direction of a college officer or employee who is acting in the legitimate performance of his or her duties including failure to properly identify oneself to such a person when requested to do so.

(8) **Weapons.** Possession, holding, wearing, transporting, storage, or presence 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; or

(b) A student with a valid concealed weapons permit may store a firearm in his or her vehicle parked on campus in accordance with RCW 9.41.050 (2) or (3), provided the vehicle is locked and the weapon is concealed from view; or

(c) The president or his or her designee may grant permission to bring a weapon on campus upon a determination 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 in the written permission; or

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

(9) **Hazing.** 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.

(10) **Alcohol, drug, and tobacco violations.**

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

(b) **Marijuana.** The use, possession, delivery, sale or being observably under the influence 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.

(c) **Drugs.** The use, possession, delivery, sale, or being observably 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.

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

(11) **Lewd conduct.** Conduct that is lewd or obscene that is not otherwise protected under the law.

(12) **Discriminatory conduct.** Discriminatory conduct that harms or adversely affects any member of the college community because of her/his 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; veteran's status; or any other legally protected classification.

(13) **Sexual misconduct.** The term "sexual misconduct" includes sexual harassment, sexual intimidation, and sexual violence. Sexual harassment prohibited by Title IX is defined in the supplemental procedures to this code. See WAC 132A-126-205 Prohibited conduct under Title IX.

(a) **Sexual harassment.** The term "sexual harassment" means unwelcome sexual- or gender-based conduct, including unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, quid pro quo harassment, and other verbal, nonverbal, or

physical conduct of a sexual or a gendered nature that is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive as to:

(i) Deny or limit the ability of a student to participate in or benefit from the college's educational program;

(ii) Alter the terms or conditions of employment for a college employee(s); and/or

(iii) Creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment for other campus community members.

(b) **Sexual intimidation.** The term "sexual intimidation" incorporates the definition of "sexual harassment" and means threatening or emotionally distressing conduct based on sex including, but not limited to, nonconsensual recording of sexual activity or the distribution of such recording.

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

(i) **Nonconsensual sexual intercourse.** Any actual or attempted sexual intercourse (anal, oral, or vaginal), however slight, with any object or body part, 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.** 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.

(iii) **Incest.** 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 eighteen.

(iv) **Statutory rape.** Consensual intercourse between a person who is eighteen years of age or older, and a person who is under the age of sixteen.

(v) **Domestic violence.** Physical violence, bodily injury, assault, the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, sexual assault, or stalking 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 26.50.010.

(vi) **Dating violence.** Physical violence, bodily injury, assault, the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, sexual assault, or stalking committed by a person:

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

(B) 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.

(vii) **Stalking.** 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.

For the purposes of this code, "consent" means 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 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.

(14) **Harassment.** Unwelcome and offensive conduct, including verbal, nonverbal, or physical conduct, that is directed at a person because of such person's protected status 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; veteran's status; or any other legally protected classification. See "sexual misconduct" for the definition of "sexual harassment." Harassing conduct may include, but is not limited to, physical conduct, verbal, written, social media, and electronic communications.

(15) **Retaliation.** Retaliation against any individual for reporting, providing information, exercising one's rights or responsibilities, or otherwise being involved in the process of responding to, investigating, or addressing allegations or violations of federal, state, or local law, or college policies including, but not limited to, student conduct code provisions prohibiting discrimination and harassment.

(16) **Misuse of electronic resources.** Theft or other misuse of computer time or other electronic information resources of the college. 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 college'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 college's electronic information resources without authorization; or

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

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

(18) **Safety violations.** 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.

(19) **Violation of other laws or policies.** Violation of any federal, state, or local law, rule, or regulation or other college rules or policies, including college traffic and parking rules.

(20) **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 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.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132A-126-035 Disciplinary sanctions—Terms—Conditions. The following disciplinary sanctions may be imposed upon students found to have violated the student conduct code.

(1) **Disciplinary warning.** A verbal statement to a student that there is a violation and that continued violation may be cause for further disciplinary action.

(2) **Written reprimand.** Notice in writing that the student has violated one or more terms of this code of conduct and that continuation of the same or similar behavior may result in more severe disciplinary action.

(3) **Disciplinary probation.** 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 take effect immediately without further review. Any such sanction 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.

(4) **Disciplinary suspension.** Dismissal from the college and from student status for a stated period of time. There will be no refund of tuition or fees for the quarter in which the action is taken.

(5) **Dismissal.** The revocation of all rights and privileges of membership in the college community and exclusion from the campus and college-owned or controlled facilities without any possibility of return. There will be no refund of tuition or fees for the quarter in which the action is taken. Disciplinary terms and conditions that may be imposed in conjunction with the imposition of a disciplinary sanction include, but are not limited to, the following:

(a) **Restitution.** Reimbursement for damage to or misappropriation of property, or for injury to persons, or for reasonable costs incurred by the college in pursuing an investigation or disciplinary proceeding. This may take the form of monetary reimbursement, appropriate service, or other compensation.

(b) **Professional evaluation.** Referral for drug, alcohol, psychological or medical evaluation by an appropriately certified or licensed professional may be required. The student may choose the professional within the scope of practice and with the professional credentials as defined by the college. The student will sign all necessary releases to allow the college access to any such evaluation. The student's return to college may be conditioned upon compliance with recommendations set forth in such a professional evaluation. If the evaluation indicates that the student is not capable of functioning within the college community, the student will remain suspended until future evaluation recommends that the student is capable of reentering the college and complying with the rules of conduct.

(6) **Not in good standing.** A student may be deemed "not in good standing" with the college. If so, the student shall be subject to the following restrictions:

(a) Ineligible to hold an office in any student organization recognized by the college or to hold any elected or appointed office of the college.

(b) Ineligible to represent the college to anyone outside the college community in any way, including representing the college at any official function, or any forms of intercollegiate competition or representation.

(7) **No contact order.** An order directing a student to have no contact with a specified student, college employee, a member of the college community, or a particular college facility.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132A-126-040 Initiation of disciplinary action.

(1) All disciplinary actions shall be initiated by the student conduct officer. If that officer is the subject of a complaint initiated by the respondent, the president shall, upon request and when feasible, designate another person to fulfill any such disciplinary responsibilities relative to the complainant.

(2) The student conduct officer shall initiate disciplinary action by serving the respondent with written notice directing him or her to attend a disciplinary meeting. The notice shall

briefly describe the factual allegations, the provision(s) of the conduct code the respondent is alleged to have violated, the range of possible sanctions for the alleged violation(s), and specify the time and location of the meeting. At the meeting, the student conduct officer will present the allegations to the respondent and the respondent shall be afforded an opportunity to explain what took place. If the respondent fails to attend the meeting, the student conduct officer may take disciplinary action based upon the available information.

(3) The student conduct officer, prior to taking disciplinary action in a case involving allegations of sexual misconduct, will make a reasonable effort to contact the complainant to discuss the results of the investigation and possible disciplinary sanctions and/or conditions, if any, that may be imposed upon the respondent if the allegations of sexual misconduct are found to have merit.

(4) Within ten days of the initial disciplinary meeting and after considering the evidence in the case, including any facts or argument presented by the respondent, the student conduct officer shall serve the respondent with a written decision setting forth the facts and conclusions supporting his or her decision, the specific student conduct code provisions found to have been violated, the discipline imposed, if any, and a notice of any appeal rights with an explanation of the consequences of failing to file a timely appeal.

(5) The student conduct officer may take any of the following disciplinary actions:

(a) Exonerate the respondent and terminate the proceedings.

(b) Impose a disciplinary sanction(s), as described in WAC 132A-126-035.

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

(6) In cases involving allegations of sexual misconduct, the student conduct officer, on the same date that a disciplinary decision is served on the respondent, will serve a written notice informing the complainant whether the allegations of sexual misconduct were found to have merit and describing any disciplinary sanctions and/or conditions imposed upon the respondent for the complainant's protection, including disciplinary suspension or dismissal of the respondent. The notice will also inform the complainant of their appeal rights. If protective sanctions and/or conditions are imposed, the student conduct officer shall make a reasonable effort to contact the complainant to ensure that prompt notice of the protective disciplinary sanctions and/or conditions occurs.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132A-126-045 Appeal of disciplinary action.

(1) The respondent may appeal a disciplinary action by filing a written notice of appeal with the conduct review officer within ten days of service of the student conduct officer's decision. Failure to timely file a notice of appeal constitutes a waiver of the right to appeal and the student conduct officer's decision shall be deemed final.

(2) The notice of appeal must include a brief statement explaining why the respondent is seeking review.

(3) The parties to an appeal shall be the respondent and the conduct review officer.

(4) A respondent, who timely appeals a disciplinary action or whose case is referred to the student conduct committee, has a right to a prompt, fair, and impartial hearing as provided for in these procedures.

(5) On appeal, the college bears the burden of establishing the evidentiary facts underlying the imposition of a disciplinary sanction by a preponderance of the evidence.

(6) Imposition of disciplinary action for violation of the student conduct code shall be stayed pending appeal, unless the respondent has been summarily suspended.

(7) The student conduct committee shall hear appeals from:

(a) The imposition of disciplinary suspensions in excess of ten instructional days;

(b) Dismissals; and

(c) Discipline cases referred to the committee by the student conduct officer, the conduct review officer, or the president.

(8) Student conduct appeals from the imposition of the following disciplinary sanctions shall be reviewed through a brief adjudicative proceeding:

(a) Suspensions of ten instructional days or less;

(b) Disciplinary probation;

(c) Written reprimands; and

(d) Any conditions or terms imposed in conjunction with one of the foregoing disciplinary actions.

Except as provided elsewhere in these rules, disciplinary warnings and dismissals of disciplinary actions are final action and are not subject to appeal.

(9) In cases involving allegations of sexual misconduct, the complainant has the right to appeal the following actions by the student conduct officer following the same procedures as set forth above for the respondent:

(a) The dismissal of a sexual misconduct complaint; or

(b) Any disciplinary sanction(s) and conditions imposed against a respondent for a sexual misconduct violation, including a disciplinary warning.

(10) If the respondent timely appeals a decision imposing discipline for a sexual misconduct violation, the college shall notify the complainant of the appeal and provide the complainant an opportunity to intervene as a party to the appeal.

(11) Except as otherwise specified in this chapter, a complainant who timely appeals a disciplinary decision or who intervenes as a party to a respondent's appeal of a disciplinary decision shall be afforded the same procedural rights as are afforded the respondent.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132A-126-050 Brief adjudicative proceedings authorized. Brief adjudicative proceedings shall be used for student conduct appeals involving the following disciplinary actions:

(1) Suspensions of ten instructional days or less;

(2) Disciplinary probation;

- (3) Written reprimands;
- (4) Any conditions or terms imposed in conjunction with one of the foregoing disciplinary actions; and
- (5) Appeals by a complainant in student disciplinary proceedings involving allegations of sexual misconduct in which the student conduct officer:
 - (a) Dismisses disciplinary proceedings based upon a finding that the allegations of sexual misconduct have no merit; or
 - (b) Issues a verbal warning to the respondent.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132A-126-055 Brief adjudicative proceedings—Initial hearing. (1) Brief adjudicative proceedings shall be conducted by a conduct review officer. The conduct review officer shall not participate in any case in which they are a complainant or witness, or in which they have direct or personal interest, prejudice, or bias, or in which they have acted previously in an advisory capacity.

(2) The parties to a brief adjudicative proceeding are the respondent, the student conduct officer, and in cases involving sexual misconduct, the complainant. Before taking action, the conduct review officer shall conduct an informal hearing and provide each party:

- (a) An opportunity to be informed of the agency's view of the matter; and
- (b) An opportunity to explain the party's view of the matter.

(3) The conduct review officer shall serve an initial decision upon the respondent and the student conduct officer within ten days of consideration of the appeal. The initial decision shall contain a brief written statement of the reasons for the decision and information about how to seek administrative review of the initial decision. If no request for review is filed within ten days of service of the initial decision, the initial decision shall be deemed the final decision.

(4) In cases involving allegations of sexual misconduct, the conduct review officer, on the same date the initial decision is served on the respondent, will serve a written notice upon the complainant informing the complainant whether the allegations of sexual misconduct were found to have merit and describing any disciplinary sanctions and/or conditions imposed upon the respondent for the complainant's protection. The notice will also inform the complainant of their appeal rights.

(5) If the conduct review officer upon review determines that the respondent's conduct may warrant imposition of a disciplinary suspension of more than ten instructional days or expulsion, the matter shall be referred to the student conduct committee for a disciplinary hearing.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132A-126-060 Brief adjudicative proceedings—Review of an initial decision. (1) An initial decision is subject to review by the president, provided the respondent files a written request for review with the conduct review officer within twenty-one days of service of the initial decision.

(2) The president shall not participate in any case in which he or she is a complainant or witness, or in which they have direct or personal interest, prejudice, or bias, or in which they have acted previously in an advisory capacity.

(3) During the review, the president shall give each party an opportunity to file written responses explaining their view of the matter and shall make any inquiries necessary to ascertain whether the sanctions should be modified or whether the proceedings should be referred to the student conduct committee for a formal adjudicative hearing.

(4) The decision on review must be in writing and must include a brief statement of the reasons for the decision and must be served on the parties within twenty days of the initial decision or of the request for review, whichever is later. The decision on review will contain a notice that judicial review may be available. A request for review may be deemed to have been denied if the president does not make a disposition of the matter within twenty days after the requestor is submitted.

(5) If the president upon review determines that the respondent's conduct may warrant imposition of a disciplinary suspension of more than ten instructional days or expulsion, the matter shall be referred to the student conduct committee for a disciplinary hearing.

(6) In cases involving allegations of sexual misconduct, the president, on the same date the final decision is served on the respondent, will serve a written notice upon the complainant informing the complainant whether the allegations of sexual misconduct were found to have merit and describing any disciplinary sanctions and/or conditions imposed upon the respondent for the complainant's protection, including suspension or dismissal of the respondent. The notice will also inform the complainant of their appeal rights.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132A-126-065 Brief adjudicative proceedings—Agency record. The agency record for brief adjudicative proceedings shall consist of any documents regarding the matter that were considered or prepared by the presiding officer for the brief adjudicative proceeding or by the reviewing officer for any review. These records shall be maintained as the official record of the proceedings.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132A-126-070 Student conduct committee proceedings. (1) The student conduct committee shall consist of five members:

- (a) Two full-time students appointed by the student government;
- (b) Two faculty members appointed by the president;
- (c) One faculty member or administrator (other than an administrator serving as a student conduct or conduct review officer) appointed by the president at the beginning of the academic year.

(2) The faculty member or administrator appointed on a yearly basis shall serve as the chair of the committee and may take action on preliminary hearing matters prior to convening the committee. The chair shall receive annual training on pro-

tecting victims and promoting accountability in cases involving allegations of sexual misconduct.

(3) Hearings may be heard by a quorum of three members of the committee, so long as one faculty member and one student are included on the hearing panel. Committee action may be taken upon a majority vote of all committee members attending the hearing.

(4) Members of the student conduct committee shall not participate in any case in which they are a party, complainant, or witness, in which they have direct or personal interest, prejudice, or bias, or in which they have acted previously in an advisory capacity. Any party may petition the committee for disqualification of a committee member.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132A-126-075 Appeal—Student conduct committee. (1) Proceedings of the student conduct committee shall be governed by the Administrative Procedure Act, chapter 34.05 RCW.

(2) The student conduct committee chair shall serve all parties with written notice of the hearing not less than seven days in advance of the hearing date, 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 at a later time for good cause shown.

(3) The committee chair is authorized to conduct prehearing conferences and/or to make prehearing decisions concerning the extent and form of any discovery, issuance of protective decisions, and similar procedural matters.

(4) Upon request, filed at least five days before the hearing by any party or at the direction of the committee chair, the parties 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 to the committee. 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.

(5) The committee chair may provide to the committee members in advance of the hearing copies of:

(a) The conduct officer'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.

(6) The parties 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.

(7) The student conduct officer, upon request, shall provide reasonable assistance to the respondent in obtaining relevant and admissible evidence that is within the college's control.

(8) Communications between committee members and other hearing participants 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.

(9) In cases heard by the committee, each party may be accompanied at the hearing by a nonattorney assistant of their choice. The respondent in all appeals before the committee, or a complainant in an appeal involving allegations of sexual misconduct before the committee, may elect to be represented by an attorney at their own cost, but will be deemed to have waived that right unless, at least four business days before the hearing, written notice of the attorney's identity and participation is filed with the committee chair with a copy to the student conduct officer. The committee will ordinarily be advised by an assistant attorney general. If the respondent and/or the complainant is represented by an attorney, the student conduct officer may also be represented by a second, appropriately screened assistant attorney general.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132A-126-080 Student conduct committee hearings—Presentations of evidence. (1) Upon the failure of any party to attend or participate in a hearing, the student conduct committee may either:

(a) Proceed with the hearing and issuance of its decision; or

(b) Serve a decision of default in accordance with RCW 34.05.440.

(2) The hearing will ordinarily be closed to the public. However, if all parties agree on the record that some or all of the proceedings be open, the chair shall determine any extent to which the hearing will be open. 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 any party upon request. The chair shall assure maintenance of the record of the proceeding that is required by RCW 34.05.476, which shall also be available upon request for inspection and copying by any party. 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 student conduct officer, unless represented by an assistant attorney general, shall present the case for imposing disciplinary sanctions.

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

In cases involving allegations of sexual misconduct, no party shall directly question or cross-examine one another. Attorneys for the parties are also prohibited from questioning the opposing party absent express permission from the committee chair. Subject to this exception, all cross-examination questions shall be directed to the committee chair, who in their discretion shall pose the questions on the party's behalf.

NEW SECTION**WAC 132A-126-085 Student conduct committee—**

Initial decision. (1) At the conclusion of the hearing, the student conduct committee shall permit the parties 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 a proposed decision for its consideration.

(2) Within twenty days following the later of the conclusion of the hearing, or the committee's receipt of closing arguments, the committee shall issue an initial decision in accordance with RCW 34.05.461 and WAC 10-08-210. The initial decision shall include findings on all material issues of fact and conclusions on all material issues of law including which, if any, 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 initial order shall also include a determination on appropriate discipline, if any. If the matter was referred to the committee by the student conduct officer, the committee shall identify and impose disciplinary sanction(s) or conditions, if any, as authorized in the student code. If the matter is an appeal by the respondent, the committee may affirm, reverse, or modify the disciplinary sanction and/or conditions imposed by the student conduct officer and/or impose additional disciplinary sanction(s) or conditions as authorized herein.

(4) The committee chair shall cause copies of the initial decision to be served on the parties and their legal counsel of record. The committee chair shall also promptly transmit a copy of the decision and the record of the committee's proceedings to the president.

(5) In cases involving allegations of sexual misconduct, the chair of the student conduct committee, on the same date as the initial decision is served on the respondent, will serve a written notice upon the complainant informing the complainant whether the allegations of sexual misconduct were found to have merit and describing any disciplinary sanctions and/or conditions imposed upon the respondent for the complainant's protection, including suspension or dismissal of the respondent. Complainant may appeal the student conduct committee's initial decision to the president subject to the same procedures and deadlines applicable to other parties. The notice will also inform the complainant of their appeal rights.

NEW SECTION**WAC 132A-126-090 Appeal from student conduct**

committee initial decision. (1) A party who is aggrieved by the findings or conclusions issued by the student conduct committee may appeal the committee's initial decision to the president by filing a notice of appeal with the president's office within ten days of service of the committee's initial decision. Failure to file a timely appeal constitutes a waiver of the right and the initial decision shall be deemed final.

(2) The notice of appeal must identify the specific findings of fact and/or conclusions of law in the initial decision that are challenged and must contain argument why the

appeal should be granted. If necessary to aid review, the president may ask for additional briefing from the parties on issues raised on appeal. The president'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 notice of appeal.

(3) The president shall provide a written decision to all parties within twenty days after receipt of the notice of appeal. The president's decision shall be final and shall include a notice of any rights to request reconsideration and/or judicial review.

(4) In cases involving allegations of sexual misconduct, the president, on the same date that the final decision is served upon the respondent, shall serve a written notice informing the complainant of the final decision. This notice shall inform the complainant whether the sexual misconduct allegation was found to have merit and describe any disciplinary sanctions and/or conditions imposed upon the respondent for the complainant's protection, including suspension or dismissal of the respondent.

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

NEW SECTION**WAC 132A-126-095 Summary suspension.** (1) Sum-

mary suspension is a temporary exclusion from specified college premises or denial of access to all activities or privileges, for which a respondent might otherwise be eligible, while an investigation and/or formal disciplinary procedures are pending.

(2) The student conduct officer may impose a summary suspension if there is probable cause to believe that the respondent:

(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) Poses an ongoing threat of substantial disruption of, or interference with, the operations of the college.

(3) Notice. Any respondent who has been summarily suspended shall be served with oral or written notice of the summary suspension. If oral notice is given, a written notification shall be served on the respondent within two business days of the oral notice.

(4) The written notification shall be entitled "Notice of Summary Suspension" and shall include:

(a) The reasons for imposing the summary suspension, including a description of the conduct giving rise to the summary suspension and reference to the provisions of the student conduct code or the law allegedly violated;

(b) The date, time, and location when the respondent must appear before the conduct review officer for a hearing on the summary suspension; and

(c) The conditions, if any, under which the respondent may physically access the campus or communicate with members of the campus community. If the respondent has been trespassed from the campus, a notice against trespass shall be included warning respondent that their privilege to enter into or remain on college premises has been withdrawn,

and that the respondent shall be considered trespassing and subject to arrest for criminal trespass if the respondent enters the college campus other than to meet with the student conduct officer or conduct review officer, or to attend a disciplinary hearing.

(5)(a) The conduct review officer shall conduct a hearing on the summary suspension as soon as practicable after imposition of the summary suspension.

(b) During the summary suspension hearing, the issue before the conduct review officer is whether there is probable cause to believe that the summary suspension should be continued pending the conclusion of disciplinary proceedings and/or whether the summary suspension should be less restrictive in scope.

(c) The respondent shall be afforded an opportunity to explain why summary suspension should not be continued while disciplinary proceedings are pending or why the summary suspension should be less restrictive in scope.

(d) If the student fails to appear at the designated hearing time, the conduct review officer may order that the summary suspension remain in place pending the conclusion of the disciplinary proceedings.

(e) As soon as practicable following the hearing, the conduct review officer shall issue a written decision which shall include a brief explanation for any decision continuing and/or modifying the summary suspension and notice of any right to appeal.

(f) To the extent permissible under applicable law, the conduct review officer shall provide a copy of the decision to all persons or offices that may be bound or protected by it.

(6) In cases involving allegations of sexual misconduct, 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.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132A-126-100 Sexual misconduct proceedings.

Both the respondent and the complainant 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.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132A-126-200 Supplemental Title IX student conduct procedures—Order of precedence. This supplemental procedure applies to allegations of sexual harassment 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 disciplinary procedures, WAC 132A-126-005 through 132A-126-095, these supplemental procedures shall take precedence.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132A-126-205 Prohibited conduct under Title IX. Pursuant to RCW 28B.50.140(13) and Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1681, the college may impose disciplinary sanctions against a student who commits, attempts to commit, or aids, abets, incites, encourages, or assists another person to commit, an act(s) of "sexual harassment."

For purposes of this supplemental procedure, "sexual harassment" encompasses the following conduct:

(1) Quid pro quo harassment. A college employee conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of the college on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct.

(2) Hostile environment. Unwelcome conduct that a reasonable person would find to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the college's educational programs or activities, or employment.

(3) Sexual assault. Sexual assault includes the following conduct:

(a) Nonconsensual sexual intercourse. Any actual or attempted sexual intercourse (anal, oral, or vaginal), however slight, with any object or body part, 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. 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. 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 eighteen.

(d) Statutory rape. Consensual sexual intercourse between someone who is eighteen years of age or older and someone who is under the age of sixteen.

(4) Domestic violence. Physical violence, bodily injury, assault, the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, sexual assault, or stalking 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 26.50.010.

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

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

(b) 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.

(6) Stalking. Engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for their safety or the safety of others, or suffer substantial emotional distress.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132A-126-210 Title IX jurisdiction. (1) This supplemental procedure applies only if the alleged misconduct:

- (a) Occurred in the United States;
- (b) Occurred during a college educational program or activity; and
- (c) Meets the definition of sexual harassment as that term is defined in this supplemental procedure.

(2) For purposes of this supplemental procedure, an "educational program or activity" is defined as locations, events, or circumstances over which the college exercised substantial control over both the respondent and the context in which the alleged sexual harassment occurred. This definition includes any building owned or controlled by a student organization that is officially recognized by the college.

(3) Proceedings under this supplemental procedure must be dismissed if the decision maker determines that one or all of the requirements of subsection (1)(a) through (c) of this section have not been met. Dismissal under this supplemental procedure does not prohibit the college from pursuing other disciplinary action based on allegations that the respondent violated other provisions of the college's student conduct code, WAC 132A-126-020 through 132A-126-095.

(4) If the student conduct officer determines the facts in the investigation report are not sufficient to support Title IX jurisdiction and/or pursuit of a Title IX violation, the student conduct officer will issue a notice of dismissal in whole or part to both parties explaining why some or all of the Title IX claims have been dismissed.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132A-126-215 Initiation of discipline. (1) Upon receiving the Title IX investigation report from the Title IX coordinator, the student conduct officer will independently review the report to determine whether there are sufficient grounds to pursue a disciplinary action against the respondent for engaging in prohibited conduct under Title IX.

(2) If the student conduct officer determines that there are sufficient grounds to proceed under these supplemental procedures, the student conduct officer will initiate a Title IX disciplinary proceeding by filing a written disciplinary notice with the chair of the student conduct committee and serving the notice on the respondent and the complainant, and their respective advisors. The notice must:

- (a) Set forth the basis for Title IX jurisdiction;
- (b) Identify the alleged Title IX violation(s);
- (c) Set forth the facts underlying the allegation(s);

(d) Identify the range of possible sanctions that may be imposed if the respondent is found responsible for the alleged violation(s);

(e) Explain that the parties are entitled to be accompanied by their chosen advisors during the hearing and that:

- (i) The advisors will be responsible for questioning all witnesses on the party's behalf;
- (ii) An advisor may be an attorney; and
- (iii) The college will appoint the party an advisor of the college's choosing at no cost to the party, if the party fails to do so.

(3) Explain that if a party fails to appear at the hearing, a decision of responsibility may be made in their absence.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132A-126-220 Prehearing procedure. (1) Upon receiving the disciplinary notice, the chair of the student conduct committee will send a hearing notice to all parties, in compliance with WAC 132A-126-040. In no event will the hearing date be set less than ten days after the Title IX coordinator provided the final investigation report to the parties.

(2) A party may choose to have an attorney serve as their advisor at the party's own expense. This right will be waived unless, at least five days before the hearing, the attorney files a notice of appearance with the committee chair with copies to all parties and the student conduct officer.

(3) In preparation for the hearing, the parties will have equal access to all evidence gathered by the investigator during the investigation, regardless of whether the college intends to offer the evidence at the hearing.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132A-126-225 Rights of parties. (1) The college's student conduct procedures, WAC 132A-126-040 through 132A-126-095, and this supplemental procedure shall apply equally to all parties.

(2) The college 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 college's choosing on the party's behalf at no expense to the party.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132A-126-230 Evidence. The introduction and consideration of evidence during the hearing is subject to the following procedures and restrictions:

(1) Relevance: The committee chair shall review all questions for relevance and shall explain on the record their reasons for excluding any question based on lack of relevance.

(2) Relevance means that information elicited by the question makes facts in dispute more or less likely to be true.

(3) Questions or evidence about a complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant and must be excluded, unless such question or evidence:

(a) Is asked or offered to prove someone other than the respondent committed the alleged misconduct; or

(b) Concerns specific incidents of prior sexual behavior between the complainant and the respondent, which are asked or offered on the issue of consent.

(4) Cross-examination required: If a party or witness does not submit to cross-examination during the live hearing, the committee must not rely on any statement by that party or witness in reaching a determination of responsibility.

(5) No negative inference: The committee may not make an inference regarding responsibility solely on a witness's or party's absence from the hearing or refusal to answer questions.

(6) Privileged evidence: The committee shall not consider legally privileged information unless the holder has effectively waived the privilege. Privileged information includes, but is not limited to, information protected by the following:

(a) Spousal/domestic partner privilege;

(b) Attorney-client and attorney work product privileges;

(c) Privileges applicable to members of the clergy and priests;

(d) Privileges applicable to medical providers, mental health therapists, and counselors;

(e) Privileges applicable to sexual assault and domestic violence advocates; and

(f) Other legal privileges identified in RCW 5.60.060.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132A-126-235 Initial order. (1) In addition to complying with WAC 132A-126-055, the student conduct committee will be responsible for conferring and drafting an initial order that:

(a) Identifies the allegations of sexual harassment;

(b) Describes the grievance and disciplinary procedures, starting with filing of the formal complaint through the determination of responsibility, including notices to parties, interviews with witnesses and parties, site visits, methods used to gather evidence, and hearings held;

(c) Makes findings of fact supporting the determination of responsibility;

(d) Reaches conclusions as to whether the facts establish whether the respondent is responsible for engaging in sexual harassment in violation of Title IX;

(e) Contains a statement of, and rationale for, the committee's determination of responsibility for each allegation;

(f) Describes any disciplinary sanction or conditions imposed against the respondent, if any;

(g) Describes to what extent, if any, complainant is entitled to remedies designed to restore or preserve complainant's equal access to the college's education programs or activities; and

(h) Describes the process for appealing the initial order to the college president.

(2) The committee chair will serve the initial order on the parties simultaneously.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132A-126-240 Appeals. (1) The parties shall have the right to appeal from the initial order's determination of responsibility and/or dismissal of an allegation(s) of sexual harassment in a formal complaint. The right to appeal will be subject to the same procedures and time frames set forth in WAC 132A-126-060.

(2) The president or their delegate will determine whether the grounds for appeal have merit, provide the rationale for this conclusion, and state whether the disciplinary sanction and condition(s) imposed in the initial order are affirmed, vacated, or amended, and, if amended, set forth any new disciplinary sanction and/or condition(s).

The president's office shall serve the final decision on the parties simultaneously.

REPEALER

The following chapter of the Washington Administrative Code is repealed:

WAC 132A-125-005 Preamble.

WAC 132A-125-010 Authority.

WAC 132A-125-015 Definitions.

WAC 132A-125-020 Statement of jurisdiction.

WAC 132A-125-025 Student rights.

WAC 132A-125-030 Prohibited student conduct.

WAC 132A-125-035 Disciplinary sanctions—Terms—Conditions.

WAC 132A-125-040 Initiation of disciplinary action.

WAC 132A-125-045 Appeal of disciplinary action.

WAC 132A-125-050 Brief adjudicative proceedings authorized.

WAC 132A-125-055 Brief adjudicative proceedings—Initial hearing.

WAC 132A-125-060 Brief adjudicative proceedings—Review of an initial decision.

WAC 132A-125-065 Brief adjudicative proceedings—Agency record.

WAC 132A-125-070 Student conduct committee proceedings.

WAC 132A-125-075 Student conduct committee proceedings—Appeals.

WAC 132A-125-080 Student conduct committee proceedings—Hearings and presentations of evidence.

WAC 132A-125-085 Student conduct committee proceedings—Initial decision.

WAC 132A-125-090 Student conduct committee proceedings—Appeal of initial decision.

- WAC 132A-125-095 Summary suspension.
 WAC 132A-125-100 Supplemental sexual misconduct procedures.
 WAC 132A-125-105 Supplemental definitions.
 WAC 132A-125-110 Supplemental complaint process.
 WAC 132A-125-115 Supplemental appeal rights.

WSR 20-17-071**EMERGENCY RULES
PENINSULA COLLEGE**

[Filed August 13, 2020, 9:32 a.m., effective August 13, 2020, 9:32 a.m.]

Effective Date of Rule: Immediately upon filing.

Purpose: On May 19, 2020, the Federal Register printed amendments to Title IX regulations (85 F.R. 30575). The new regulations address the grievance process for formal complaints of sexual harassment and are scheduled to take effect on August 14, 2020. This requires emergency updates to the college's discrimination and harassment policy and procedure. Current policy and procedure are codified and do not need to be, according to the assistant attorney general's office. **THESE WILL BOTH BE REPEALED IN THEIR ENTIRETY** and will be covered by new College Board Policy 501.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: Repealing WAC 132A-350-020 and 132A-350-015.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: Chapter 34.05 RCW; and RCW 28B.50.140(13); 20 U.S.C. Section 1092(f); Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. Section 1681 et seq.

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that state or federal law or federal rule or a federal deadline for state receipt of federal funds requires immediate adoption of a rule.

Reasons for this Finding: Peninsula College is required by the United States Department of Education to comply with the recently adopted Title IX regulations, which take effect on August 14, 2020.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 13; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Non-governmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 13.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: August 14, 2020.

Kelly Griffith
Executive Assistant to the President

WSR 20-17-072**EMERGENCY RULES
DEPARTMENT OF****CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES**

[Filed August 13, 2020, 9:52 a.m., effective August 15, 2020]

Effective Date of Rule: August 15, 2020.

Purpose: Amend chapters 110-04 and 110-06 WAC to allow the department of children, youth, and families (DCYF) to issue background check clearance authorizations before completing fingerprint-based background checks. Amend WAC 110-06-120 to remove certain crimes that disqualify a subject individual from authorization.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: Amending WAC 110-04-0040, 110-04-0080, 110-06-0040, 110-06-0046, and 110-06-120.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 43.216.065.

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that immediate adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule is necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety, or general welfare, and that observing the time requirements of notice and opportunity to comment upon adoption of a permanent rule would be contrary to the public interest.

Reasons for this Finding: Proclamation of the Governor 20-05 declared a State of Emergency in all counties in the state of Washington as a result of the outbreak of COVID-19. As of March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization has classified COVID-19 as a pandemic. Proclamation of the Governor 20-31 amends Proclamation 20-05 and waives and suspends fingerprint-based background checks before a person may be approved to have unsupervised access to children during the COVID-19 pandemic due to the potential risk of exposure to COVID-19 resulting from face-to-face contact in submitting fingerprints, limited access to fingerprinting as entities that receive and process fingerprints limit or suspend operations in order to limit exposure to COVID-19, and the unavailability of law enforcement agencies to process fingerprints during the pandemic. The ability to issue background check clearance authorizations before completing fingerprint-based background checks better enables DCYF to ensure the availability of child welfare service providers as well as stable and quality child care during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The amendment to WAC 110-06-120 temporarily removes crimes that account for thirty-three percent of family, friends, and neighbors being disqualified from participation in working connections child care. The amendment is in accord with the federal disqualifying crimes list, significantly increases the number of individuals who may provide care, and will not pose a safety risk for children in care.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Non-governmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 0, Amended 5, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: August 13, 2020.

Brenda Villarreal
Rules Coordinator

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 20-05-024, filed 2/7/20, effective 3/9/20)

WAC 110-04-0040 Who must have background checks? (1) Under RCW 74.15.030, (~~prior to authorizing unsupervised access to children,~~) the department requires background checks on all providers who may have unsupervised access to children. This includes licensed, certified, or contracted providers, their current or prospective employees and prospective adoptive parents as defined in RCW 26.33.-020.

(2) Under RCW 74.15.030, (~~prior to authorizing unsupervised access to children,~~) the department also requires background checks on other individuals who may have unsupervised access to children in department licensed or contracted homes, or facilities that provide care. The department requires background checks on all of the following people:

(a) A volunteer or intern with regular or unsupervised access to children.

(b) Any person who regularly has unsupervised access to a child. However, a background check is not required when a caregiver approves the unsupervised access for a normal childhood activity that lasts less than seventy-two hours, as stated in RCW 74.13.710.

(c) A relative other than a parent who may be caring for a child.

(d) A person who is at least sixteen years old and resides in a foster, relative, or other suitable person's home and is not a foster child.

(e) A person who is younger than sixteen years old in situations where it may be warranted to ensure the safety of children in out-of-home care. The department may require a background check for persons younger than sixteen years old in situations where it may be warranted to ensure the safety of children in out-of-home care.

(3) Any person employed at a group care facility, including those not directly working with children.

(4) Under RCW 13.34.138, (~~prior to returning a dependent child home,~~) the department requires a background check on all adults residing in the home, including the parents.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 20-05-024, filed 2/7/20, effective 3/9/20)

WAC 110-04-0080 What does the background check cover? (1) The department must review criminal convictions and pending charges based on identifying information provided by you. The background check may include, but is not limited to, the following information sources:

- (a) Washington state patrol.
- (b) Washington courts.
- (c) Department of corrections.
- (d) Department of health.
- (e) Civil adjudication proceedings.
- (f) Applicant's self-disclosure.
- (g) Out-of-state law enforcement and court records.

(2) Background checks conducted for DCYF also includes:

(a) A review of child protective services case files information or other applicable information system.

(b) Administrative hearing decisions related to any DSHS or DCYF license that has been revoked, suspended, or denied.

(3) In addition to the requirements in subsections (1) and (2) of this section, background checks conducted by DCYF for placement of a child in out-of-home care, including foster homes, group care facilities, adoptive homes, relative placements, and placement with other suitable persons under chapter 13.34 RCW, include the following for each person over eighteen years of age residing in the home, all staff working in a group care facility, including those not directly working with children, and group care volunteers who provide direct care:

(a) Child abuse and neglect registries in each state a person has lived in, in the five years prior to conducting the background check.

(b) Washington state patrol (WSP) and Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) fingerprint-based background checks regardless of how long you have resided in Washington.

(4) Except as required in subsection (3)(b) of this section, DCYF will conduct a fingerprint-based background check on any individual who has resided in the state less than three consecutive years before application.

(5) Applicants may be approved before the fingerprint-based background check is conducted.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 19-21-064, filed 10/11/19, effective 11/11/19)

WAC 110-06-0040 Background clearance requirements. This section applies to all subject individuals other than in-home/relative providers.

(1) Subject individuals associated with early learning services applying for a first-time background check must complete the DCYF background check application process including, but not limited to:

- (a) Submitting a completed background check application;
- (b) Completing the required fingerprint process; and
- (c) Paying all required fees as provided in WAC 110-06-0044.

(2) All subject individuals qualified by the department to have unsupervised access to children in care who are renewing their applications must:

(a) Submit the new background check application through DCYF;

(b) Submit payment of all required fees as provided in WAC 110-06-0044; and

(c) Complete the required fingerprint process if the subject individual lives or has lived outside of Washington state since the previous background check was completed, or has not previously completed the fingerprint process required by this section.

(3) Each subject individual completing the DCYF background check process must disclose whether they have:

- (a) Been convicted of any crime;
- (b) Any pending criminal charges; and
- (c) Been subject to any negative action, as defined by WAC 110-06-0020.

(4) Subject individuals must not have unsupervised access to children in care unless they have obtained DCYF authorization under this chapter.

(5) Applicants may be approved to have unsupervised access to children before the fingerprint-based background check is conducted.

(6) A subject individual who has been disqualified by DCYF must not be present on the premises when early learning services are provided to children.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 19-01-111, filed 12/18/18, effective 1/18/19)

WAC 110-06-0046 Requirements for license-exempt in-home/relative providers. (1) The background check process must be completed for:

- (a) All license-exempt in-home/relative providers who apply to care for a WCCC consumer's child; and
- (b) Any individual sixteen years of age or older who is residing with a license-exempt in-home/relative provider when the provider cares for the child in the provider's own home where the child does not reside.

(2) Additional background checks must be completed for individuals listed in subsection (1)(a) and (b) of this section when an individual sixteen years of age or older is newly residing with a license-exempt in-home/relative provider when the provider cares for the child in the provider's own home where the child does not reside.

(3) The background check process for license-exempt in-home/relative providers requires:

- (a) Submitting a completed background check application; and
 - (b) Completing the required fingerprint process.
- (4) Each subject individual completing the DCYF background check process must disclose:
- (a) Whether he or she has been convicted of any crime;
 - (b) Whether he or she has any pending criminal charges; and
 - (c) Whether he or she has been subject to any negative actions, as defined by WAC 110-06-0020.

(5) A subject individual must not have unsupervised access to children in care unless he or she has obtained DCYF background check clearance authorization under this chapter.

(6) Applicants may be approved to have unsupervised access to children before the fingerprint-based background check is conducted.

(7) A subject individual who has been disqualified by DCYF must not be present on the premises when early learning services are provided to children.

((7)) (8) DCYF pays for the cost of the background check process. The fees include:

- (a) Fingerprint process fees as defined by the Washington state patrol, Federal Bureau of Investigation and the DCYF fingerprint contractor; and
- (b) The DCYF administrative fee.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 19-01-111, filed 12/18/18, effective 1/18/19)

WAC 110-06-0120 Secretary's list. (1) A subject individual's conviction for any crimes listed in column (a) in the table below will permanently disqualify ~~((him or her))~~ the individual from authorization to care for or have unsupervised access to children receiving early learning services.

(2) A subject individual's conviction for any crime listed in column (b) in the table below will disqualify ~~((him or her))~~ the individual from authorization to care for or have unsupervised access to children receiving early learning services for a period of five years from the date of conviction.

(a) Crimes that permanently disqualify a subject individual	(b) Crimes that disqualify a subject individual for five years from date of conviction
Abandonment of a child	Abandonment of a dependent person not against child
Arson	Assault 3 not domestic violence
Assault 1	Assault 4/simple assault
Assault 2	Burglary
Assault 3 domestic violence	Coercion
Assault of a child	Custodial assault
((Bail jumping))	Custodial sexual misconduct
	Extortion 2
Child buying or selling	((Forgery))
Child molestation	Harassment
Commercial sexual abuse of a minor	
Communication with a minor for immoral purposes	((Identity theft))
Controlled substance homicide	Leading organized crime
Criminal mistreatment	((Malicious explosion 3))

(a) Crimes that permanently disqualify a subject individual	(b) Crimes that disqualify a subject individual for five years from date of conviction
Custodial interference	((Malicious mischief))
Dealing in depictions of minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct	Malicious placement of an explosive 2
Domestic violence (felonies only)	Malicious placement of an explosive 3
Drive-by shooting	Malicious placement of imitation device 1
Extortion 1	((Patronizing a prostitute))
Harassment domestic violence	Possess explosive device
Homicide by abuse	Promoting pornography
Homicide by watercraft	Promoting prostitution 1
Incendiary devices (possess, manufacture, dispose)	Promoting prostitution 2
Incest	Promoting suicide attempt
Indecent exposure/public indecency (felonies only)	((Prostitution))
Indecent liberties	Reckless endangerment
Kidnapping	Residential burglary
Luring	Stalking
Malicious explosion 1	((Theft))
Malicious explosion 2	((Theft-welfare))
Malicious harassment	Unlawful imprisonment
Malicious mischief domestic violence	Unlawful use of a building for drug purposes
Malicious placement of an explosive 1	Violation of the Imitation Controlled Substances Act (manufacture/deliver/intent)
Manslaughter	Violation of the Uniform Controlled Substances Act (manufacture/deliver/intent)
Murder/aggravated murder	Violation of the Uniform Legend Drug Act (manufacture/deliver/intent)
	Violation of the Uniform Precursor Drug Act (manufacture/deliver/intent)
Possess depictions minor engaged in sexual conduct	
Rape	
Rape of child	
Robbery	

(a) Crimes that permanently disqualify a subject individual	(b) Crimes that disqualify a subject individual for five years from date of conviction
Selling or distributing erotic material to a minor	
Sending or bringing into the state depictions of a minor	
Sexual exploitation of minors	
Sexual misconduct with a minor	
Sexually violating human remains	
Use of machine gun in felony	
Vehicular assault	
Vehicular homicide (negligent homicide)	
Violation of child abuse restraining order	
Violation of civil anti-harassment protection order	
Violation of protection/contact/restraining order	
Voyeurism	

Reviser's note: The bracketed material preceding the section above was supplied by the code reviser's office.

**WSR 20-17-073
EMERGENCY RULES
PIERCE COLLEGE**

[Filed August 13, 2020, 10:39 a.m., effective August 14, 2020]

Effective Date of Rule: August 14, 2020.

Purpose: Pierce College is utilizing the WAC emergency rule to update the student conduct code chapter 132K-135 WAC in order to be in compliance with the United States Department of Education (DOE) federal rule regarding Title IX which goes into effect on August 14, 2020.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: New WAC 132K-135-300, 132K-135-310, 132K-135-320, 132K-135-330, 132K-135-340, 132K-135-350, 132K-135-360, 132K-135-370, and 132K-135-380; and amending WAC 132K-135-020, 132K-135-040, and 132K-135-070.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 34.05.350.

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that state or federal law or federal rule or a federal deadline

for state receipt of federal funds requires immediate adoption of a rule.

Reasons for this Finding: DOE requires institutions of higher education to be in compliance with Title IX and make appropriate policy and procedure changes under the new Federal Rule by August 14, 2020.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 9, Amended 3, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Non-governmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: August 14, 2020.

Michele Johnson
Chancellor

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 17-13-102, filed 6/20/17, effective 7/21/17)

WAC 132K-135-020 Authority. The board, acting pursuant to RCW 28B.50.140(14), delegates to the chancellor of the college the authority to administer disciplinary action. The chancellor is authorized to delegate or reassign any and all duties and responsibilities as set forth in this chapter as may be reasonably necessary. Administration of the disciplinary procedures is the responsibility of the vice president of learning and student success or their designee. The student conduct officer shall serve as the principal investigator and administrator for alleged violations of this code.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 17-13-102, filed 6/20/17, effective 7/21/17)

WAC 132K-135-040 Statement of jurisdiction. (1) The student conduct code shall apply to student conduct that occurs:

- (a) On college premises~~(, to conduct that occurs)~~;
- (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 and/or visitors or the pursuit of its objectives.

(2) Jurisdiction extends to, but is not limited to, locations in which students 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.

(3) Students are responsible for their conduct from the time of notification of acceptance at the college through the actual receipt of a degree or certificate, 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. 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 that occurs off-campus.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 17-13-102, filed 6/20/17, effective 7/21/17)

WAC 132K-135-070 Prohibited student conduct. The college may impose disciplinary sanctions against a student who commits, attempts to commit, aids, abets, incites, encourages, or assists another person to commit, an act(s) of misconduct which include, but are not limited to, the following:

(1) **Academic dishonesty.** Any act of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and fabrication.

(a) Cheating includes using or any attempt to use, give or obtain unauthorized assistance relating to the completion of an academic assignment.

(b) Plagiarism includes taking and using as one's own, without proper attribution, the ideas, writings, or work of another person in completing an academic assignment. Plagiarism may also include the unauthorized submission for credit of academic work that has been submitted for credit in another course.

(c) Fabrication includes falsifying data, information, or citations in completing an academic assignment and also includes providing false or deceptive information to an instructor concerning the completion of an assignment.

(d) No student shall be allowed to withdraw from a course or from the college to avoid the consequences of academic dishonesty.

(2) **Other dishonesty.** Any other acts of dishonesty, such acts include, but are not limited to:

(a) Forgery, alteration, submission of falsified documents, or misuse of any college document, record, or instrument of identification;

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

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

(3) **Obstruction or disruption.** Obstruction or disruption of:

(a) Any instruction, research, administration, disciplinary proceeding, or other college activity, including the obstruction of the free flow of pedestrian or vehicular movement on college property or at a college activity; or

(b) Any activity that is authorized to occur on college property, whether or not actually conducted or sponsored by the college.

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

(5) **Bullying is severe or pervasive physical or verbal (written or oral) abuse.**

(6) **Cyber misconduct.** Cyberstalking, cyberbullying, or online harassment. Use of electronic communications including, but not limited to, email, instant messaging, online 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 of sexual activity, and nonconsensual distribution of a recording of sexual activity.

(7) **Property violation.** Damage to, or theft or misuse of, real or personal property or money of:

(a) The college or state;

(b) Any student or college officer, employee, or organization;

(c) Any other member of the college community, visitors, or organization; or

(d) Possession of such property or money after it has been stolen.

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

(9) **Weapons.** Possession, holding, wearing, transporting, storage or presence 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 pistol in the student's vehicle parked on campus in accordance with RCW 9.41.050 (2) or (3), provided the vehicle is locked and the weapon is concealed from view; or

(c) The president or chancellor may grant permission to bring a weapon on campus upon a determination 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 in the written permission.

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

(10) **Hazing.** 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.

(11) **Alcohol, drug, and tobacco violations.**

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

(b) **Marijuana.** The use, possession, delivery, sale, or being observably under the influence 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.

(c) **Drugs.** The use, possession, delivery, sale, or being observably 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.

(d) **Tobacco, electronic cigarettes, and related products.** The college community and visitors will abide by all Washington state laws and college policy as it relates to the use of tobacco, electronic cigarettes, and related products.

(12) **Lewd conduct.** Conduct which is lewd, obscene, or indecent.

(13) **Disorderly conduct.** Conduct which disrupts campus operations or the educational, social, or housing programs, or assisting or encouraging another person to engage in such conduct.

(14) **Discriminatory conduct.** Discriminatory conduct which harms or adversely affects any member of the college community and/or visitors because of 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; veteran's status; or any other legally protected classification.

(15) **Sexual misconduct.** The term "sexual misconduct" includes sexual harassment, sexual intimidation, and sexual violence. Sexual harassment prohibited by Title IX defined in the supplemental procedures to this code. See WAC 132K-135-300.

(a) **Sexual harassment.** The term "sexual harassment" means unwelcome sexual or gender-based conduct (~~(of a sexual nature)~~), including unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, quid pro quo harassment, and other verbal, nonverbal, or physical conduct of a sexual or a gendered nature that is sufficiently (~~(serious)~~) severe, persistent, or pervasive as to:

(i) ~~Deny or limit~~(~~, and that does deny or limit, based on sex,~~) the ability of a student to participate in or benefit from the college's educational(~~, social, or housing programs or that~~) program;

(ii) Alter the terms or conditions of employment for a college employee(s); and/or

(iii) Creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment for other (~~(college)~~) campus community members (~~(and/or visitors)~~).

(b) **Sexual intimidation.** The term "sexual intimidation" means threatening or emotionally distressing conduct based

on sex including, but not limited to, nonconsensual recording of sexual activity or the distribution of such recording.

(c) **Sexual violence.** "Sexual violence" is a type of sexual discrimination and sexual harassment. Nonconsensual sexual intercourse, nonconsensual sexual contact, domestic violence, intimate partner violence, and stalking are all types of sexual violence.

(i) ~~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.~~

(ii) ~~Nonconsensual sexual contact is any intentional sexual touching, however slight, with any 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.~~

(iii) ~~Domestic violence includes asserted violent misdemeanor and felony offenses committed by the victim's current or former spouse, current or former cohabitant, person similarly situated under domestic or family violence law, or anyone else protected under domestic or family violence law.~~

(iv) ~~Intimate partner violence is violence by a person who is or has been in a dating, romantic, or intimate relationship with the victim.~~

(v) ~~Stalking is intentional and repeated harassment or following of another person, which places that person in reasonable fear that the perpetrator intends to injure, intimidate, or harass that person. Stalking also includes instances where the perpetrator knows or reasonably should know that the person is frightened, intimidated, or harassed, even if the perpetrator lacks such intent.~~

(vi) ~~Consent~~). Any actual or attempted sexual intercourse (anal, oral, or vaginal), however slight, with any object or body part, 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. 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.

(iii) Incest. 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 eighteen.

(iv) Statutory rape. Consensual intercourse between a person who is eighteen years of age or older, and a person who is under the age of sixteen.

(v) Domestic violence. Physical violence, bodily injury, assault, the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, sexual assault, or stalking 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 26.50.010.

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

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

(B) 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.

(vii) Stalking. 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.

(d) For the purposes of this code, "consent" means 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 ((action)) conduct indicating freely given agreement to have sexual intercourse or sexual contact.

~~((A person may be incapable of giving consent by reason of age, threat or intimidation, lack of opportunity to object, disability, drug or alcohol consumption, or other cause.))~~ 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.

Intoxication is not a defense against allegations that an individual has engaged in nonconsensual ~~((sexual activity.~~

~~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 sexual activity)) conduct.~~

(16) **Harassment.** Unwelcome and offensive conduct including verbal, nonverbal, or physical conduct, that is directed at a person because of such person's protected status 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, social, or housing programs or that creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment for other college community members and/or visitors. Harassing conduct may include, but is not limited to, physical, verbal, written, social media, and electronic communications.

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; veteran's status; or any other legally protected classification. See "sexual misconduct" for the definition of "sexual harassment."

(17) **Retaliation.** Any intentional, adverse action taken by an accused individual or allied third party, absent legitimate nondiscriminatory purposes, as reprisal against any individual for reporting, providing information, exercising one's rights or responsibilities, or otherwise being involved in the process of responding to, investigating, or addressing allegations or violations of federal, state or local law, or college policies including, but not limited to, student conduct code provisions prohibiting discrimination and harassment. Retaliatory actions include, but are not limited to, threats or actual violence against the person or their property, adverse educational or employment consequences, ridicule, intimidation, bullying, or ostracism.

(18) **Theft or misuse of electronic resources.** Theft or other misuse of computer time or other electronic information resources of the college. 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 college'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 college's electronic information resources without authorization; or
- (i) Failure to comply with the student computing resources policy.

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

(20) **Safety violations.** Safety violations include any nonaccidental conduct that interferes with or otherwise compromises any college policy, equipment, or procedure relating to the safety and security of the college community and/or visitors, including tampering with fire safety equipment and triggering false alarms or other emergency response systems.

(21) **Violation of other laws or policies.** Violation of any federal, state, or local law, rule, or regulation, or other college rules or policies, including college traffic and parking rules.

(22) **Ethical violation.** The breach of any generally recognized and published code of ethics or standards of profes-

sional practice that governs the conduct of a particular profession for which the student is taking a course or is pursuing an educational goal or major.

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.

SUPPLEMENTAL TITLE IX STUDENT CONDUCT PROCEDURES

NEW SECTION

WAC 132K-135-300 Order of precedence. This supplemental procedure applies to allegations of sexual harassment 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 disciplinary procedures, WAC 132K-135-020 through 132K-135-250, these supplemental procedures shall take precedence.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132K-135-310 Prohibited conduct under Title IX. Pursuant to RCW 28B.50.140(13) and Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1681, the college may impose disciplinary sanctions against a student who commits, attempts to commit, or aids, abets, incites, encourages, or assists another person to commit, an act(s) of "sexual harassment."

For purposes of this supplemental procedure, "sexual harassment" encompasses the following conduct:

(1) **Quid pro quo harassment.** A college employee conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of the college on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct.

(2) **Hostile environment.** Unwelcome conduct that a reasonable person would find to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the college's educational programs or activities, or employment.

(3) **Sexual assault.** Sexual assault includes the following conduct:

(a) **Nonconsensual sexual intercourse.** Any actual or attempted sexual intercourse (anal, oral, or vaginal), however slight, with any object or body part, 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.** 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. 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 eighteen.

(d) Statutory rape. Consensual sexual intercourse between someone who is eighteen years of age or older and someone who is under the age of sixteen.

(4) Domestic violence. Physical violence, bodily injury, assault, the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, sexual assault, or stalking 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 26.50.010.

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

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

(b) 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.

(6) Stalking. Engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for their safety or the safety of others, or suffer substantial emotional distress.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132K-135-320 Title IX jurisdiction. (1) The supplemental procedure applies only if the alleged misconduct:

(a) Occurred in the United States;

(b) Occurred during a college educational program or activity; and

(c) Meets the definition of sexual harassment as that term is defined in this supplemental procedure.

(2) For purposes of this supplemental procedure, an "educational program or activity" is defined as locations, events, or circumstances over which the college exercised substantial control over both the respondent and the context in which the alleged sexual harassment occurred. This definition includes any building owned or controlled by a student organization that is officially recognized by the college.

(3) Proceedings under this supplemental procedure must be dismissed if the decision maker determines that one or all of the requirements of subsection (1)(a) through (c) of this section have not been met. Dismissal under this supplemental procedure does not prohibit the college from pursuing other disciplinary action based on allegations that the respondent violated other provisions of the college's student conduct code, chapter 132K-135 WAC.

(4) If the student conduct officer determines the facts in the investigation report are not sufficient to support Title IX jurisdiction and/or pursuit of a Title IX violation, the student conduct officer will issue a notice of dismissal in whole or part to both parties explaining why some or all of the Title IX claims have been dismissed.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132K-135-330 Initiation of discipline. (1) Upon receiving the Title IX investigation report from the Title IX coordinator, the student conduct officer will independently review the report to determine whether there are sufficient grounds to pursue a disciplinary action against the respondent for engaging in prohibited conduct under Title IX.

(2) If the student conduct officer determines that there are sufficient grounds to proceed under these supplemental procedures, the student conduct officer will initiate a Title IX disciplinary proceeding by filing a written disciplinary notice with the chair of the student conduct committee and serving the notice on the respondent and the complainant, and their respective advisors. The notice must:

(a) Set forth the basis for Title IX jurisdiction;

(b) Identify the alleged Title IX violation(s);

(c) Set forth the facts underlying the allegation(s);

(d) Identify the range of possible sanctions that may be imposed if the respondent is found responsible for the alleged violation(s);

(e) Explain that the parties are entitled to be accompanied by their chosen advisors during the hearing and that:

(i) The advisors will be responsible for questioning all witnesses on the party's behalf;

(ii) An advisor may be an attorney; and

(iii) The college will appoint the party an advisor of the college's choosing at no cost to the party, if the party fails to do so.

(3) Explain that if a party fails to appear at the hearing, a decision of responsibility may be made in their absence.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132K-135-340 Prehearing procedure. (1) Upon receiving the disciplinary notice, the chair of the student conduct committee will send a hearing notice to all parties, in compliance with WAC 132K-135-150. In no event will the hearing date be set less than ten days after the Title IX coordinator provided the final investigation report to the parties.

(2) A party may choose to have an attorney serve as their advisor at the party's own expense. This right will be waived unless, at least five days before the hearing, the attorney files a notice of appearance with the committee chair with copies to all parties and the student conduct officer.

(3) In preparation for the hearing, the parties will have equal access to all evidence gathered by the investigator during the investigation, regardless of whether the college intends to offer the evidence at the hearing.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132K-135-350 Rights of parties. (1) The college's student conduct procedures, chapter 132K-135 WAC,

and this supplemental procedure shall apply equally to all parties.

(2) The college 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 college's choosing on the party's behalf at no expense to the party.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132K-135-360 Evidence. The introduction and consideration of evidence during the hearing is subject to the following procedures and restrictions:

(1) **Relevance:** The committee chair shall review all questions for relevance and shall explain on the record their reasons for excluding any question based on lack of relevance.

(2) **Relevance means** that information elicited by the question makes facts in dispute more or less likely to be true.

(3) Questions or evidence about a complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant and must be excluded, unless such question or evidence:

(a) Is asked or offered to prove someone other than the respondent committed the alleged misconduct; or

(b) Concerns specific incidents of prior sexual behavior between the complainant and the respondent, which are asked or offered on the issue of consent.

(4) **Cross-examination required:** If a party or witness does not submit to cross-examination during the live hearing, the committee must not rely on any statement by that party or witness in reaching a determination of responsibility.

(5) **No negative inference:** The committee may not make an inference regarding responsibility solely on a witness's or party's absence from the hearing or refusal to answer questions.

(6) **Privileged evidence:** The committee shall not consider legally privileged information unless the holder has effectively waived the privilege. Privileged information includes, but is not limited to, information protected by the following:

(a) Spousal/domestic partner privilege;

(b) Attorney-client and attorney work product privileges;

(c) Privileges applicable to members of the clergy and priests;

(d) Privileges applicable to medical providers, mental health therapists, and counselors;

(e) Privileges applicable to sexual assault and domestic violence advocates; and

(f) Other legal privileges identified in RCW 5.60.060.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132K-135-370 Initial order. (1) In addition to complying with WAC 132K-135-170, the student conduct committee will be responsible for conferring and drafting an initial order that:

(a) Identifies the allegations of sexual harassment;

(b) Describes the grievance and disciplinary procedures, starting with filing of the formal complaint through the determination of responsibility, including notices to parties, interviews with witnesses and parties, site visits, methods used to gather evidence, and hearings held;

(c) Makes findings of fact supporting the determination of responsibility;

(d) Reaches conclusions as to whether the facts establish whether the respondent is responsible for engaging in sexual harassment in violation of Title IX;

(e) Contains a statement of, and rationale for, the committee's determination of responsibility for each allegation;

(f) Describes any disciplinary sanction or conditions imposed against the respondent, if any;

(g) Describes to what extent, if any, complainant is entitled to remedies designed to restore or preserve complainant's equal access to the college's education programs or activities; and

(h) Describes the process for appealing the initial order to the college president.

(2) The committee chair will serve the initial order on the parties simultaneously.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132K-135-380 Appeals. (1) The parties shall have the right to appeal from the initial order's determination of responsibility and/or dismissal of an allegation(s) of sexual harassment in a formal complaint. The right to appeal will be subject to the same procedures and time frames set forth in WAC 132K-135-180.

(2) The president or their delegate will determine whether the grounds for appeal have merit, provide the rationale for this conclusion, and state whether the disciplinary sanction and condition(s) imposed in the initial order are affirmed, vacated, or amended, and, if amended, set forth any new disciplinary sanction and/or condition(s).

(3) President's office shall serve the final decision on the parties simultaneously.

WSR 20-17-074

EMERGENCY RULES

LOWER COLUMBIA COLLEGE

[Filed August 13, 2020, 10:55 a.m., effective August 13, 2020, 10:55 a.m.]

Effective Date of Rule: Immediately upon filing.

Purpose: Lower Columbia College must amend their chapter 132M-125 WAC to meet new federal regulations for Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX) that specify how recipients of federal financial assistance covered by Title IX, including postsecondary institutions, must respond to allegations of sexual harassment consistent with

Title IX's prohibition against sex discrimination. These new regulations go into effect August 14, 2020.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: New WAC 132M-125-300 through 132M-125-340.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 28B.50.140 (13).

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that state or federal law or federal rule or a federal deadline for state receipt of federal funds requires immediate adoption of a rule.

Reasons for this Finding: New regulations for Title IX that specify how recipients of federal financial assistance covered by Title IX, including postsecondary institutions, must respond to allegations of sexual harassment consistent with Title IX's prohibition against sex discrimination go into effect August 14, 2020.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 9, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Non-governmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: August 13, 2020.

Sue Orchard
Vice President of Student Services

SUPPLEMENTAL TITLE IX STUDENT CONDUCT PROCEDURES

NEW SECTION

WAC 132M-125-300 Order of precedence. This supplemental procedure applies to allegations of sexual harassment 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 disciplinary procedures, WAC 132M-125-005 through 132M-125-225, these supplemental procedures shall take precedence.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132M-125-305 Prohibited conduct under Title IX. Pursuant to RCW 28B.50.140(13) and Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1681, the college may impose disciplinary sanctions against a student who commits, attempts to commit, or aids, abets, incites, encourages, or assists another person to commit, an act(s) of "sexual harassment."

For purposes of this supplemental procedure, "sexual harassment" encompasses the following conduct:

(1) Quid pro quo harassment. A college employee conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of the college on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct.

(2) Hostile environment. Unwelcome conduct that a reasonable person would find to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the college's educational programs or activities, or employment.

(3) Sexual assault. Sexual assault includes the following conduct:

(a) Nonconsensual sexual intercourse. Any actual or attempted sexual intercourse (anal, oral, or vaginal), however slight, with any object or body part, 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. 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. 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 eighteen.

(d) Statutory rape. Consensual sexual intercourse between someone who is eighteen years of age or older and someone who is under the age of sixteen.

(4) Domestic violence. Physical violence, bodily injury, assault, the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, sexual assault, or stalking 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 26.50.010.

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

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

(b) 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.

(6) Stalking. Engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear

for their safety or the safety of others, or suffer substantial emotional distress.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132M-125-310 Title IX jurisdiction. (1) This supplemental procedure applies only if the alleged misconduct:

- (a) Occurred in the United States;
- (b) Occurred during a college educational program or activity; and
- (c) Meets the definition of sexual harassment as that term is defined in this supplemental procedure.

(2) For purposes of this supplemental procedure, an "educational program or activity" is defined as locations, events, or circumstances over which the college exercised substantial control over both the respondent and the context in which the alleged sexual harassment occurred. This definition includes any building owned or controlled by a student organization that is officially recognized by the college.

(3) Proceedings under this supplemental procedure must be dismissed if the decision maker determines that one or all of the requirements of subsection (1)(a) through (c) of this section have not been met. Dismissal under this supplemental procedure does not prohibit the college from pursuing other disciplinary action based on allegations that the respondent violated other provisions of the college's student conduct code, WAC 132M-125-005 through 132M-125-225.

(4) If the student conduct officer determines the facts in the investigation report are not sufficient to support Title IX jurisdiction and/or pursuit of a Title IX violation, the student conduct officer will issue a notice of dismissal in whole or part to both parties explaining why some or all of the Title IX claims have been dismissed.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132M-125-315 Initiation of discipline. (1) Upon receiving the Title IX investigation report from the Title IX coordinator, the student conduct officer will independently review the report to determine whether there are sufficient grounds to pursue a disciplinary action against the respondent for engaging in prohibited conduct under Title IX.

(2) If the student conduct officer determines that there are sufficient grounds to proceed under these supplemental procedures, the student conduct officer will initiate a Title IX disciplinary proceeding by filing a written disciplinary notice with the chair of the student conduct committee and serving the notice on the respondent and the complainant, and their respective advisors. The notice must:

- (a) Set forth the basis for Title IX jurisdiction;
- (b) Identify the alleged Title IX violation(s);
- (c) Set forth the facts underlying the allegation(s);
- (d) Identify the range of possible sanctions that may be imposed if the respondent is found responsible for the alleged violation(s); and
- (e) Explain that the parties are entitled to be accompanied by their chosen advisors during the hearing and that:
 - (i) The advisors will be responsible for questioning all witnesses on the party's behalf;
 - (ii) An advisor may be an attorney; and

(iii) The college will appoint the party an advisor of the college's choosing at no cost to the party, if the party fails to do so.

(3) Explain that if a party fails to appear at the hearing, a decision of responsibility may be made in their absence.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132M-125-320 Prehearing procedure. (1) Upon receiving the disciplinary notice, the chair of the student conduct committee will send a hearing notice to all parties, in compliance with WAC 132M-125-125. In no event will the hearing date be set less than ten days after the Title IX coordinator provided the final investigation report to the parties.

(2) A party may choose to have an attorney serve as their advisor at the party's own expense. This right will be waived unless, at least five days before the hearing, the attorney files a notice of appearance with the committee chair with copies to all parties and the student conduct officer.

(3) In preparation for the hearing, the parties will have equal access to all evidence gathered by the investigator during the investigation, regardless of whether the college intends to offer the evidence at the hearing.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132M-125-325 Rights of parties. (1) The college's student conduct procedures, WAC 132M-125-125 through 132M-125-130, and this supplemental procedure shall apply equally to all parties.

(2) The college 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 college's choosing on the party's behalf at no expense to the party.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132M-125-330 Evidence. The introduction and consideration of evidence during the hearing is subject to the following procedures and restrictions:

(1) **Relevance:** The committee chair shall review all questions for relevance and shall explain on the record their reasons for excluding any question based on lack of relevance.

(2) **Relevance** means that information elicited by the question makes facts in dispute more or less likely to be true.

(3) Questions or evidence about a complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant and must be excluded, unless such question or evidence:

- (a) Is asked or offered to prove someone other than the respondent committed the alleged misconduct; or

(b) Concerns specific incidents of prior sexual behavior between the complainant and the respondent, which are asked or offered on the issue of consent.

(4) Cross-examination required: If a party or witness does not submit to cross-examination during the live hearing, the committee must not rely on any statement by that party or witness in reaching a determination of responsibility.

(5) No negative inference: The committee may not make an inference regarding responsibility solely on a witness's or party's absence from the hearing or refusal to answer questions.

(6) Privileged evidence: The committee shall not consider legally privileged information unless the holder has effectively waived the privilege. Privileged information includes, but is not limited to, information protected by the following:

- (a) Spousal/domestic partner privilege;
- (b) Attorney-client and attorney work product privileges;
- (c) Privileges applicable to members of the clergy and priests;
- (d) Privileges applicable to medical providers, mental health therapists, and counselors;
- (e) Privileges applicable to sexual assault and domestic violence advocates; and
- (f) Other legal privileges identified in RCW 5.60.060.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132M-125-335 Initial order. (1) In addition to complying with WAC 132M-125-135, the student conduct committee will be responsible for conferring and drafting an initial order that:

- (a) Identifies the allegations of sexual harassment;
- (b) Describes the grievance and disciplinary procedures, starting with filing of the formal complaint through the determination of responsibility, including notices to parties, interviews with witnesses and parties, site visits, methods used to gather evidence, and hearings held;
- (c) Makes findings of fact supporting the determination of responsibility;
- (d) Reaches conclusions as to whether the facts establish whether the respondent is responsible for engaging in sexual harassment in violation of Title IX;
- (e) Contains a statement of, and rationale for, the committee's determination of responsibility for each allegation;
- (f) Describes any disciplinary sanction or conditions imposed against the respondent, if any;
- (g) Describes to what extent, if any, complainant is entitled to remedies designed to restore or preserve complainant's equal access to the college's education programs or activities; and
- (h) Describes the process for appealing the initial order to the college president.

(2) The committee chair will serve the initial order on the parties simultaneously.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132M-125-340 Appeals. (1) The parties shall have the right to appeal from the initial order's determination of responsibility and/or dismissal of an allegation(s) of sexual

harassment in a formal complaint. The right to appeal will be subject to the same procedures and time frames set forth in WAC 132M-125-140.

(2) The president or their delegate will determine whether the grounds for appeal have merit, provide the rationale for this conclusion, and state whether the disciplinary sanction and condition(s) imposed in the initial order are affirmed, vacated, or amended, and, if amended, set forth any new disciplinary sanction and/or condition(s).

(3) President's office shall serve the final decision on the parties simultaneously.

WSR 20-17-077

EMERGENCY RULES

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

[Filed August 13, 2020, 12:05 p.m., effective August 14, 2020]

Effective Date of Rule: August 14, 2020.

Purpose: The university edited sections and created new sections to update current chapter 478-121 WAC, Student conduct code for the University of Washington, in order to be in compliance with the new United States Department of Education (DOE) Title IX regulations that go into effect on August 14, 2020.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: New WAC 478-121-600, 478-121-605, 478-121-610, 478-121-615, 478-121-620, 478-121-625, 478-121-630, 478-121-635, 478-121-640, 478-121-645, 478-121-650, 478-121-655, 478-121-660, 478-121-665, 478-121-670, 478-121-675, 478-121-680 and 478-121-685; and amending WAC 478-121-020, 478-121-040, and 478-121-100.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 28B.20.130.

Other Authority: 34 C.F.R. Part 106.

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that state or federal law or federal rule or a federal deadline for state receipt of federal funds requires immediate adoption of a rule.

Reasons for this Finding: The University of Washington needs to file an emergency rule in order to be in compliance with and to meet the August 14, 2020, deadline set by DOE incorporating their updated Title IX regulations. There was not enough time to do permanent rule making upon notification of the new federal regulations and the federal deadline set for compliance. Universities that fail to comply with the updated federal regulations risk a loss of federal funding. We will be doing permanent rule making while the emergency is in place.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 18, Amended 3, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Non-governmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 18, Amended 3, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: August 13, 2020.

Barbara Lechtanski
Director of the University
Policy and Rules Office

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 17-15-068, filed 7/14/17, effective 8/18/17)

WAC 478-121-020 General application of the student conduct code. This conduct code applies to all students from the time of admission through the actual conferral of a degree, including any period between terms of enrollment.

The disciplinary sanctions specified in WAC 478-121-210, up to and including suspension or dismissal, may be imposed on any student or student organization found responsible for prohibited conduct set forth in WAC 478-121-100 through 478-121-173, WAC 478-121-605, and as described in relevant university policies.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 17-15-068, filed 7/14/17, effective 8/18/17)

WAC 478-121-040 Jurisdiction of the university. (1) The scope of the university's jurisdiction includes reports that prohibited conduct occurred:

(a) On any university premises or in connection with any university-sponsored program or activity, regardless of the location of the program or activity; or

(b) Off campus (i.e., conduct that does not occur on university premises or in the context of a university-sponsored program or activity) where: The university reasonably determines that the conduct adversely affects a university interest or, has continuing adverse effects or may create a hostile environment on university premises or in the context of a university-sponsored program or activity.

(2) Nothing in this conduct code shall be construed to limit academic action that may be taken by schools, colleges, or programs against a respondent based on an established violation of this conduct code that demonstrates a failure to meet the academic and/or professional standards of the school, college, or program.

(3) If a respondent withdraws from the university (or fails to reenroll) while a conduct proceeding is pending, the university may move forward with the conduct proceeding and, if so, the respondent will be provided with a continued opportunity to participate.

(4) Under 34 C.F.R. Part 106, federal regulations established by the United States Department of Education, specific prohibited conduct, defined in WAC 478-121-605, that is alleged to have occurred in a university education program or activity and is against a person in the United States must be addressed as provided under Part VII of this code, not as provided under Parts II through V.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 17-15-068, filed 7/14/17, effective 8/18/17)

WAC 478-121-100 General application. Prohibited conduct under this code includes, but is not limited to, the prohibited conduct described in WAC 478-121-100 through 478-121-173, WAC 478-121-605, and relevant university policies. For additional interpretation of prohibited conduct, see *Student Governance and Policies*, chapter 209, student conduct policy for academic misconduct and behavioral misconduct, and chapter 210, student conduct policy for discriminatory and sexual harassment, intimate partner violence, sexual misconduct, stalking, and retaliation (~~and chapter 209, student conduct policy for academic misconduct and behavioral misconduct~~)).

PART VII

COMPLIANCE WITH DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FEDERAL REGULATIONS REGARDING SEXUAL HARASSMENT

NEW SECTION

WAC 478-121-600 Scope of Part VII. The United States Department of Education federal regulations, 34 C.F.R. Part 106, establish a definition of "sexual harassment" that includes all of the prohibited conduct listed under WAC 478-121-605 (Department of Education federal regulations prohibited conduct or EDFR prohibited conduct). The conduct listed under WAC 478-121-605 is prohibited conduct under this code and is subject to the procedures set forth under Part VII of this code if, and only if:

(1) The EDFR prohibited conduct occurs in a university education program or activity; and

(2) The EDFR prohibited conduct is against a person in the United States.

EDFR prohibited conduct that does not meet both of these requirements or is reported by a person who is not eligible to file a formal complaint under WAC 478-121-625 is subject to Parts II through V of this code.

For the purposes of Part VII of this code, "education program or activity" includes locations, events, or circumstances over which the university exercised substantial control over both the respondent and the context in which the EDFR prohibited conduct occurred and also includes any building owned or controlled by a recognized student organization. Part VII only applies to formal complaints made on or after August 14, 2020, and only when 34 C.F.R. Part 106 is deemed enforceable by law and/or by United States courts.

NEW SECTION

WAC 478-121-605 Department of Education federal regulations prohibited conduct (sexual harassment). Department of Education federal regulations (EDFR) define "sexual harassment" as conduct on the basis of sex that satisfies one or more of the following, which are referred to collectively under this code as "EDFR prohibited conduct":

(1) EDFR hostile environment sexual harassment. EDFR hostile environment sexual harassment is unwelcome con-

duct determined by a reasonable person to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the university's education program or activity.

(2) EDFR sexual assault. EDFR sexual assault includes a sex offense under the uniform crime reporting system of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Specifically, EDFR sexual assault means one or more of the following:

(a) The penetration, no matter how slight, of the vagina or anus with any body part or object, or oral penetration by a sex organ of another person, without the consent of the complainant.

(b) The oral or anal sexual intercourse with a complainant, without the consent of the complainant, including instances where the complainant is incapable of giving consent because of age or because of temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.

(c) The use of an object or instrument to penetrate, however slightly, the genital or anal opening of the body of a complainant, without the consent of the complainant, including instances where the complainant is incapable of giving consent because of age or because of temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.

(d) The touching of the private body parts of a complainant (e.g., buttocks, groin, breasts) for the purpose of sexual gratification, without the consent of the complainant, including instances where the complainant is incapable of giving consent because of age or because of temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.

(e) Sexual intercourse between persons who are related to each other within the degrees wherein marriage is prohibited by Washington law.

(f) Sexual intercourse with a person who is under the statutory age of consent of Washington.

(3) EDFR dating violence. EDFR dating violence is an act or acts of violence committed by a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the complainant. The existence of such a relationship will be determined based on the length and type of relationship as well as the frequency of interaction between the individuals involved in the relationship.

(4) EDFR domestic violence. EDFR domestic violence is an act or acts of violence committed by a current or former intimate partner of the complainant, by a person with whom the complainant shares a child in common, or by a person who is cohabitating with or has cohabitated with the complainant as an intimate partner.

(5) EDFR stalking. EDFR stalking is engaging in a course of conduct directed at a complainant that would cause a reasonable person to fear for the complainant's safety or the safety of others, including the safety of the respondent, or would cause a reasonable person to suffer substantial emotional distress.

(a) For the purposes of this section, "course of conduct" means two or more acts including, but not limited to, acts in which the respondent directly, indirectly, or through third parties, by any action, method, device, or means, follows, monitors, observes, surveils, threatens, or communicates to or about a person, or interferes with a person's property. Stalking also includes cyberstalking such as through elec-

tronic media, the internet, social networks, blogs, cell phones, or text messages.

(b) For the purposes of this section, "substantial emotional distress" means significant mental suffering or anguish that may, but does not necessarily, require medical or other professional treatment or counseling.

NEW SECTION

WAC 478-121-610 Consent for purposes of EDFR prohibited conduct. Consent means that at the time of and throughout the sexual contact, there are words or conduct that reasonably communicate freely given agreement between or among the persons engaging in the sexual contact.

(1) Consistent with WAC 478-121-150, consent cannot be obtained when force or threat is used to gain consent; consent cannot be obtained where the respondent knew or reasonably should have known the complainant was incapacitated; and consent cannot be given or granted by a person who is under the statutory age of consent in accordance with the criminal code of Washington, chapter 9A.44 RCW, Sex offenses. A respondent's use of alcohol or drugs is not a valid defense to a charge of EDFR sexual assault, and a respondent will be held to the standard of a reasonable sober person in evaluating whether the respondent knew or reasonably should have known the complainant was incapacitated.

(2) For the purposes of determining whether consent was present:

(a) Consent cannot solely be inferred from silence, passivity, or a lack of resistance, and relying on nonverbal communication alone may violate the code;

(b) Consent cannot be inferred merely from an existing or previous dating or sexual relationship;

(c) Even in the context of a relationship, there must be mutual consent to engage in sexual contact;

(d) Past consent alone is not sufficient to imply future consent;

(e) Consent given to one person does not constitute consent given to another person;

(f) Consent to one sexual act does not constitute consent to other sexual acts; and

(g) Consent can be withdrawn at any time, and once consent is withdrawn and reasonably communicated, sexual contact must stop immediately.

(3) As used in the definition of consent, incapacity means an individual lacks the ability to understand the facts, nature, extent, or implications of the sexual contact for any reason including, but not limited to, being asleep, unconscious, unaware that the sexual contact is occurring, mentally or physically impaired due to an intellectual or other disability, or mentally or physically incapacitated due to the effects of alcohol or other drugs.

(a) When assessing whether the respondent "knew or reasonably should have known" the complainant was incapacitated, indicators of incapacitation include, but are not limited to, stumbling, falling down, an inability to stand or walk on the complainant's own, slurred speech or incoherent communication, an inability to focus the complainant's eyes or confusion about what is happening around the com-

plainant, combativeness, emotional volatility, incontinence, passing out, or vomiting.

(b) A failure to exhibit any of these behaviors, however, does not necessarily mean that a person is capable of giving consent or is not incapacitated.

NEW SECTION

WAC 478-121-615 Additional definitions. For the purposes of Part VII of this code and where a respondent is charged with prohibited conduct defined under WAC 478-121-605:

(1) Complainant. Complainant is an individual who is alleged to be the victim of conduct that could constitute EDFR prohibited conduct.

(2) Formal complaint. Formal complaint is a document filed by a complainant or signed by the university's Title IX coordinator alleging EDFR prohibited conduct against a respondent and requesting that the university investigate the allegation of EDFR prohibited conduct. When filed by a complainant, the formal complaint must contain the complainant's physical or digital signature or otherwise indicate that the complainant is the person filing the formal complaint.

(3) Hearing advisor. Hearing advisor refers to the person who may accompany a complainant or respondent to any part of the investigation or hearing outlined in Part VII of this code. At a hearing, a complainant and a respondent must have a hearing advisor to conduct oral cross-examination on that party's behalf. This hearing advisor may or may not be an attorney, as defined in WAC 478-121-050(1). If a party does not choose a hearing advisor prior to a hearing, the university will provide a hearing advisor of the university's choice to conduct cross-examination on behalf of the party at the hearing. One hearing advisor and one support advisor are the only persons a party is permitted to bring with them to any part of the investigation or hearing. Hearing advisors and support advisors may be referred to collectively as "advisors."

(4) Hearing officer. Hearing officer is the individual delegated authority by the university to preside over the hearing and act as the decision-maker to reach a determination about responsibility. The hearing officer may simultaneously preside over a hearing under this Part VII of this code and a full adjudicative proceeding, consistent with WAC 478-121-400 through 478-121-427.

(5) Investigator(s). Investigator is an individual delegated authority by the university to provide written notification of a formal complaint, interview witnesses, gather documentation, and prepare the investigative report.

(6) Party or parties. Party or parties refers to a complainant and/or respondent.

(7) Respondent. Respondent is an individual who has been reported to be the perpetrator of conduct that could constitute EDFR prohibited conduct. A respondent must be a student as defined in WAC 478-121-050(14).

(8) Support advisor. Support advisor refers to a person who may accompany a party to any part of the investigation or hearing outlined in this Part VII of this code. If a party has both a support advisor and hearing advisor, the support advisor's ability to communicate with the hearing officer and other party and the other party's advisors at a hearing will be

limited. One support advisor and one hearing advisor are the only persons a party is permitted to bring with them to any part of the investigation or hearing. Support advisors and hearing advisors may be referred to collectively as "advisors."

(9) Supportive measure. Supportive measures are non-disciplinary, nonpunitive individualized services offered as appropriate, as reasonably available, and without fee or charge to the complainant or the respondent before or after the filing of a formal complaint or where no formal complaint has been filed. Supportive measures are designed to restore or preserve equal access to the university's education programs and activities without unreasonably burdening the respondent, including measures designed to deter EDFR prohibited conduct or protect the safety of all parties or the university's educational environment. Supportive measures may include counseling, extensions of deadlines or other course-related adjustments, modifications of work or class schedules, restrictions on contact between the parties, changes in work or housing locations, leaves of absence, increased security and monitoring of certain areas of the campus, and other similar measures.

NEW SECTION

WAC 478-121-620 Reporting EDFR prohibited conduct. (1) Any person may report EDFR prohibited conduct in person, by mail, by telephone, or by electronic mail, using the contact information listed on the website for the university's Title IX coordinator, or designee, or by any other means that results in the Title IX coordinator receiving the person's verbal or written report. The person reporting may, but need not, be the person alleged to be the victim of conduct that could constitute EDFR prohibited conduct.

(2) Upon receipt of a report as provided under subsection (1) of this section, the Title IX coordinator, or designee, will promptly contact the complainant to discuss the availability of supportive measures, consider the complainant's wishes with respect to supportive measures, inform the complainant of the availability of supportive measures with or without the filing of a formal complaint, and explain to the complainant the process for filing a formal complaint.

NEW SECTION

WAC 478-121-625 Formal complaint. (1) Only a complainant or the university's Title IX coordinator may file a formal complaint. At the time of filing a formal complaint, a complainant must be participating in or attempting to participate in a university education program or activity. The authority to initiate conduct proceedings provisions outlined in WAC 478-121-215 (1) and (2) do not apply to Part VII of this code.

(2) A complainant may file a formal complaint with the Title IX coordinator or designee in person, by mail, or by electronic mail at the address provided on the Title IX coordinator's website.

(3) Upon receipt of a formal complaint, the university will, at a minimum, provide the following written notice to the known parties:

(a) The allegations potentially constituting EDFR prohibited conduct, including the identities of the parties involved in the incident, if known, the conduct allegedly constituting EDFR prohibited conduct, and the date and location of the alleged incident, if known;

(b) Information regarding the university's grievance process for formal complaints, including the parties' right to be accompanied by a hearing advisor and support advisor and to inspect and review evidence; and

(c) An explanation regarding presumptions regarding nonresponsibility and good-faith filing.

(4) The university may consolidate formal complaints where allegations of EDFR prohibited conduct arise out of the same facts or circumstances. The university may also join or consolidate any complaint alleging prohibited conduct under Part II of this code with a formal complaint if the allegations arise out of or relate to the same facts or circumstances. Should the university consolidate a formal complaint under Part VII with allegations of prohibited conduct under Part II, the university may elect to hold one hearing to consider all allegations. During such a hearing, the university may adhere to the process described in Parts II through V to the extent feasible for allegations of prohibited conduct outlined in Part II and to the process described in Part VII for allegations of EDFR prohibited conduct. Where these processes conflict, Part VII will be followed.

NEW SECTION

WAC 478-121-630 Dismissal of a formal complaint.

(1) Mandatory dismissal. In accordance with the Department of Education federal regulations, the university will dismiss a formal complaint for purposes of Title IX and its implementing regulations if the alleged conduct:

(a) Would not constitute EDFR prohibited conduct even if proved;

(b) Did not occur in the university's education program or activity;

(c) Did not occur against a person in the United States; or

(d) Was alleged by or in respect to a complainant who is not participating in or attempting to participate in a university education program or activity.

If dismissal occurs under this subsection (1) of this section, the university may pursue a conduct proceeding under other parts of this code.

(2) Discretionary dismissal. The university may dismiss the formal complaint, or any allegations therein, for the purposes of Title IX and its implementing regulations, if at any time during the investigation or hearing:

(a) A complainant notifies the university's Title IX coordinator in writing that the complainant would like to withdraw the formal complaint or any specific allegations in the formal complaint;

(b) The respondent is no longer an enrolled university student; or

(c) Specific circumstances prevent the university from gathering evidence sufficient to reach a determination as to the formal complaint or any allegations made in the formal complaint.

(3) Notice. Upon a dismissal required or permitted under this section, the university will promptly send written notice of the dismissal and reason(s) therefore simultaneously to the parties.

(4) Consequences of dismissal. Dismissal of a formal complaint does not preclude the university from investigating alleged misconduct under Part II or adjudicating such alleged misconduct under Parts III through V of this code.

(5) Appeal. If the university dismisses a formal complaint, the parties have a right to appeal, as described in WAC 478-121-635.

NEW SECTION

WAC 478-121-635 Appeal from a dismissal of a formal complaint. (1) A party may appeal a dismissal of a formal complaint or dismissal of any allegations in a formal complaint on any of the following bases:

(a) Procedural irregularity affected the outcome of the matter;

(b) New evidence that was not reasonably available at the time the dismissal was made; and/or

(c) A university official involved in the dismissal of the formal complaint had a conflict of interest or bias for or against complainants or respondents generally, or the individual complainant or respondent, that affected the outcome of the matter.

If one of the grounds is to consider newly discovered evidence, that evidence must be provided with the appeal.

(2) An appeal must be submitted in writing to the investigator within five business days of the notice of dismissal of formal complaint. The appeal is the party's opportunity to provide the party's position regarding why the appeal should be granted, and it must identify at least one of the grounds outlined in subsection (1) of this section.

(3) When an appeal is received, the university will:

(a) Notify both parties in writing that the appeal was received, of the name of the individual(s) who will be deciding the outcome of the appeal, and when the nonappealing party's response is due;

(b) Provide the nonappealing party an opportunity to submit a written statement within five business days of receipt of notice of the appeal. This is the nonappealing party's opportunity to respond to the appeal;

(c) Consider the available evidence, which may include, but is not limited to, any summaries of interviews conducted by the investigator, evidence gathered by or provided to the investigator, and/or any newly discovered evidence;

(d) Issue a written decision describing the result of the appeal and rationale for such result; and

(e) Provide the written decision simultaneously to both parties.

(4) Communications with the individual(s) deciding the appeal, except for communications related to procedural aspects of maintaining an orderly process, must be made in the presence of, or with a copy to, all other parties, advisors (if any), and the investigator(s). Any communications not following such a procedure will be placed on the record, and others will be given an opportunity to respond.

(5) Appeals of a dismissal of a formal complaint may be decided by a single individual, and such appeals will be decided within five business days of the deadline for the non-appealing party's response.

NEW SECTION

WAC 478-121-640 Informal resolution. If a formal complaint has been filed and parties have received notice of the allegations, the university may facilitate an informal resolution process consistent with RCW 34.05.060. Parties will be informed of the informal resolution process, including circumstances where the parties would be precluded from resuming a formal complaint based on the same allegations. Before an informal resolution process can proceed, both parties must provide voluntary, written consent to the process. A party has the right to withdraw from an informal resolution process at any time prior to agreeing to a resolution. If a party withdraws from such informal resolution process, the investigation or adjudication process resumes.

NEW SECTION

WAC 478-121-645 Emergency removal. The university may remove a respondent from the university's educational programs or activities on an emergency basis pursuant to WAC 478-121-237. Such emergency removal must be based on a belief the alleged EDFR prohibited conduct poses an immediate threat to the physical health, safety, or welfare of any student or other individual(s).

NEW SECTION

WAC 478-121-650 Investigation. (1) After a formal complaint is filed, the university will commence an investigation. Throughout the investigative process, including meetings with an investigator, a party may be accompanied by a hearing advisor and/or a support advisor. During the investigation, a party's hearing advisor and/or support advisor may provide advice to the party but may not speak on behalf of the party. The initial interview of a respondent will be scheduled to allow time for the respondent to prepare a response following receipt of the notice of formal complaint.

(2) During an investigation, parties may present witnesses as well as other inculpatory and exculpatory evidence for the investigator to consider. Parties will be provided an equal opportunity to inspect and review any evidence obtained as part of the investigation that is directly related to the allegations raised in a formal complaint so that each party may meaningfully respond to the evidence prior to the conclusion of the investigation.

(3) Prior to completion of the investigative report, the university will send to each party and the party's advisors, if any, the evidence subject to inspection and review. The parties will have at least ten calendar days to submit a written response, which the investigator will consider prior to completion of the investigative report.

(4) At least ten calendar days prior to the hearing, the investigator will provide the parties with the final investigative report and all evidence gathered during the investigation.

The final investigative report and all evidence related to the allegations will be included in the record for the hearing.

(5) No later than at the conclusion of the investigation, the investigator will notify the hearing officer that it is appropriate to commence a hearing to consider the allegations contained in the formal complaint. Such notification is consistent with a conversion to full adjudicative proceeding, as described in WAC 478-121-205, and consistent with RCW 34.05.413 through 34.05.476.

NEW SECTION

WAC 478-121-655 Hearings. (1) The hearing officer, or designee, will set the time and place of the hearing and give ten or more calendar days' notice to all parties and the investigator. At the hearing officer's discretion, any or all parties, witnesses, and other participants, such as advisors and investigator(s), may appear at the hearing virtually, with technology enabling participants simultaneously to see and hear each other.

(2) Communications with the hearing officer, except for communications related to procedural aspects of maintaining an orderly process, must be made in the presence of, or with a copy to, all other parties, advisors (if any), and the investigator(s). Any communications not following such a procedure will be placed on the record, and other parties, hearing advisor(s), or investigator(s) will be given an opportunity to respond.

(3) Prior to the hearing, the hearing officer, upon a self-initiated motion or upon request of the parties, may request that the parties, advisors (if any), and the investigator(s) engage in a meeting or meetings to consider:

- (a) Simplification of issues;
- (b) Necessity of amending notices, if any;
- (c) The possibility of obtaining stipulations;
- (d) Limitations on the number of witnesses and/or which witnesses will testify at the hearing;
- (e) Procedural matters; and/or
- (f) Other matters that may aid in the disposition or settlement of the proceeding.

If such a prehearing meeting(s) is held, it may occur in person, by telephone conference, or by other technological means as determined by the hearing officer or designee. Further, if such a prehearing meeting(s) occurs, the hearing officer will issue, in writing, determinations regarding the issues discussed at the meeting(s). The determinations will be effective when served on the parties and advisors.

(4) At appropriate stages, the hearing officer will give parties reasonable opportunity to submit and respond to requests, such as pleadings, motions, and objections.

(5) The hearing officer has the discretion to grant postponements, continuances, extensions of time, and/or adjournment if good cause is shown.

(6) The applicable standard of proof is the "preponderance of evidence" standard. This means that, in order for a respondent to be held responsible for EDFR prohibited conduct as defined in WAC 478-121-605, the hearing officer must conclude, based on all of the evidence in the record, that it is more likely than not that the respondent engaged in an act or acts of EDFR prohibited conduct. The parties will be pro-

vided equal opportunity to present witnesses and other inculpatory and exculpatory evidence.

(7) During a hearing, all testimony of parties and witnesses shall be made under oath or affirmation. The hearing officer will permit each party's hearing advisor to ask the other party and any witnesses all relevant questions and follow-up questions, including those challenging credibility. Such cross-examination will be conducted directly, orally, and in real-time. Only relevant cross-examination and other questions may be asked of a party or witness. Before a complainant, respondent, or witness answers a cross-examination or other question, the hearing officer will first determine whether the question is relevant and explain any decision to exclude a question as not relevant. If a hearing advisor is disruptive or interferes with any aspect of the proceeding, as determined by the hearing officer, the hearing advisor may be removed and a new hearing advisor made available to the party.

(8) The university will create an audio, audiovisual, or transcribed recording of the hearing. Upon request to the hearing office or as may otherwise be required under Part VII of this code, the university will make the recording available to the parties for inspection and review.

(9) Hearings will be conducted in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 U.S.C. Sec. 1232g) and its implementing regulations (34 C.F.R. Part 99) except to the extent preempted by 34 C.F.R. Part 106.

NEW SECTION

WAC 478-121-660 Determination regarding responsibility. (1) Following a hearing, the hearing officer will apply the preponderance of the evidence standard described in WAC 478-121-655(6) and issue a written determination regarding responsibility in accordance with RCW 34.05.461, which will be simultaneously served on the parties. The written determination will include:

- (a) Identification of the allegations as defined in WAC 478-121-605;
- (b) A description of procedural steps taken from receipt of the formal complaint through the determination;
- (c) Findings of fact supporting the hearing officer's determination;
- (d) Conclusions regarding the application of Part VII of this code to the facts and the rationale for those conclusions; and
- (e) Directions as to any sanctions imposed on the respondent or remedies provided to the complainant.

(2) One or more of the disciplinary sanctions outlined in WAC 478-121-210 may be imposed for any violation of EDRF prohibited conduct. In determining an appropriate sanction, if any, the hearing officer may consider the factors contained in WAC 478-121-210 (2) and (3), which are incorporated herein by this reference. Remedies for the complainant may be the same as the individualized services that comprise supportive measures or may be effectuated via sanctions impacting the respondent.

(3) The hearing officer must provide the written determination to the parties simultaneously and include the univer-

sity's procedures for the parties to appeal. The determination regarding responsibility and any applicable sanction imposed becomes final and effective either on the date that the university provides the parties with the written determination of the result of the appeal, if an appeal is filed, or if an appeal is not filed, the date on which an appeal would no longer be considered timely.

NEW SECTION

WAC 478-121-665 Appeal from determination regarding responsibility. (1) A party may appeal a determination of responsibility on any of the following bases:

- (a) Procedural irregularity affected the outcome of the matter;
- (b) A material error substantially affected the outcome of the fact finding or sanctioning;
- (c) New evidence that was not reasonably available at the time the determination regarding responsibility and/or dismissal was made could affect the outcome of the matter; and/or
- (d) A university official involved in the formal complaint investigation or adjudication had a conflict of interest or bias for or against complainants or respondents generally, or the individual complainant or respondent, that affected the outcome of the matter.

If one of the grounds is to consider newly discovered evidence, that evidence must be provided with the appeal.

(2) An appeal must be submitted in writing to the hearing officer within twenty-one calendar days of service of the determination of responsibility. The appeal is the party's opportunity to provide the party's position regarding why the appeal should be granted, and it must identify at least one of the grounds outlined in subsection (1) of this section.

(3) When an appeal is received, the university will:

- (a) Notify both parties in writing that the appeal was received; of the name of the individual(s) who will be deciding the outcome of the appeal; and when the nonappealing party's response is due;
- (b) Provide the nonappealing party an opportunity to submit a written statement within twenty-one calendar days of receipt of notice of the appeal. This is the nonappealing party's opportunity to respond to the appeal;
- (c) Consider the available evidence, which may include, but is not limited to, the transcript of the hearing, any summaries of interviews conducted by the investigator, evidence gathered by or provided to the investigator, the investigative report, decisions related to the hearing, the recording of the hearing, the written determination of responsibility, the appeal and/or response to the appeal, and/or any newly discovered evidence;
- (d) Issue a written decision describing the result of the appeal and rationale for such result; and
- (e) Provide the written decision simultaneously to both parties.

(4) Communications with the individual(s) deciding the appeal, except for communications related to procedural aspects of maintaining an orderly process, must be made in the presence of, or with a copy to, all other parties, advisors, the investigator(s), and the hearing officer. Any communica-

tions not following such a procedure will be placed on the record, and others will be given an opportunity to respond.

(5) Appeals of a determination regarding responsibility will be made by a panel consisting of an odd number of members, and such appeals will be decided within thirty calendar days of the deadline for the nonappealing party's response. The panel will be managed by a nonvoting individual who may be the review coordinator as defined in WAC 478-121-050(11). The panel may include reviewing officers, as defined by WAC 478-121-050(13), and may decide appeals of determinations of responsibility regarding EDFR prohibited conduct under Part VII or initial orders regarding prohibited conduct under Part II of this code.

NEW SECTION

WAC 478-121-670 Service and time—Subpoenas—No discovery. (1) Service of all university notices will be sent by electronic mail (email) addressed to the parties' university-issued email addresses unless either party provides an alternative and preferred email address. Parties are permitted to file documents, provide evidence, and respond to investigators, the hearing officer, or other individuals responsible for appeals via email. Service is complete at the moment the email is sent to the email addresses.

(2) In computing any period of time prescribed or allowed under Part VII of this code, the day of the act or event from which the designated period of time begins to run shall not be included. The last day of the period so computed shall be included, unless it is a Saturday, a Sunday, or a legal holiday, in which event the period runs until the end of the next day which is neither a Saturday, a Sunday, nor a legal holiday. Legal holidays are prescribed in RCW 1.16.050. When the period of time prescribed or allowed is less than seven days, intermediate Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays shall be excluded in the computation. A "business day" is any Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday that is not a legal holiday. A "calendar day" is any day of the week, Monday through Sunday, including legal holidays.

(3) Typically, the period from commencement of a proceeding conducted under Part VII of this code to the issuance of the investigative report, inclusive of the time parties may review the draft report and provide feedback will not exceed eighteen weeks. The period from issuance of an investigative report to the date of the hearing will not exceed seven weeks. Finally, the period from the hearing to the determination of responsibility, inclusive of the time frames required by the Department of Education federal regulations in light of those required to comply with state law for any appeal, will not exceed twenty-two weeks. Investigators and the hearing officer, or designee(s), will notify the parties in writing of any delay in the proceedings and the cause for such delay. Delays are permissible for good cause, which may include, and not be limited to, the absence or unavailability of a party or witness, scheduling conflicts, concurrent law enforcement activity, holidays, or academic calendar breaks.

(4) The hearing officer may issue subpoenas. The parties may also request that the hearing officer issue subpoenas or a party's attorney of record may also issue a subpoena on whose behalf the witness is required to appear at a hearing.

The requesting party is responsible for serving the subpoena upon the witness.

(5) Discovery, including depositions, interrogatories, requests for production, entry onto land for inspection or other purposes, and physical and mental examinations, is not available in conduct proceedings under this code.

NEW SECTION

WAC 478-121-675 Evidence. (1) If a party or witness does not submit to questioning or cross-examination at the hearing, the hearing officer cannot rely on any statement of that party or witness in reaching a determination regarding responsibility. The hearing officer may not draw an inference about determination regarding responsibility based solely on a party's or witness's absence from the hearing or refusal to answer questions or submit to cross-examination. This subsection does not apply to allegations of prohibited conduct under Part II of this code, WAC 478-121-103 through 478-121-173. The term "statement" does not include statements that constitute verbal conduct.

(2) Questions or evidence about a complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant, unless such questions or evidence about a party's sexual behavior are offered to prove that someone other than the respondent committed the sexual conduct alleged by the complainant or such questions or evidence concern specific incidents of the parties' prior sexual behavior and such information is relevant to determine the presence or absence of consent.

(3) Except as otherwise provided in this section, evidence may be considered if, in the judgment of the hearing officer, it is the kind of evidence on which reasonably prudent persons are accustomed to rely in the conduct of such reasonably prudent person's affairs. The relevance of evidence will be determined by the hearing officer at a hearing. The hearing officer may exclude from consideration evidence that is not relevant. Statements of personal opinion or general reputation about a party or witness are generally not considered to be relevant. Evidence that is duplicative of other evidence is generally not considered to be relevant.

(4) An investigator or hearing officer may not require, allow, rely upon, or otherwise use questions or evidence that constitute, or seek disclosure of, information protected under a legally recognized privilege, unless the person holding such privilege has voluntarily waived the privilege in writing. An investigator or hearing officer also may not access, consider, disclose, or otherwise use a party's records that are made or maintained by a physician, psychiatrist, psychologist, or other recognized professional or paraprofessional acting in the professional or paraprofessional's capacity, or assisting in that capacity, and which are made and maintained in connection with the provision of treatment to the party, unless the recipient obtains that party's voluntary, written consent.

NEW SECTION

WAC 478-121-680 Disqualification. (1) Any person designated by the university as an investigator, hearing officer, or Title IX coordinator, or to determine an appeal or facilitate an informal resolution process shall self-recuse if

this person discovers a conflict of interest or bias for or against complainants or respondents generally or an individual complainant or respondent or otherwise cannot act impartially.

(2) A party shall promptly petition for the disqualification of an individual described in subsection (1) of this section upon receiving notice of a formal complaint or upon discovering facts establishing grounds for disqualification. Such petition must be in writing and delivered to the person whose disqualification is requested, with copies of the petition delivered simultaneously to other known parties and any person known to be designated by the university as an investigator, hearing officer, or Title IX coordinator, or to determine an appeal or facilitate an informal resolution process.

(3) The individual whose disqualification is requested shall determine whether to grant the petition, stating facts and reasons for the determination. If the individual whose disqualification is requested does not self-disqualify, the party may cite such failure for disqualification as a reason to appeal a dismissal or determination of responsibility. If the individual whose disqualification is requested self-disqualifies, an appropriate individual will be substituted for the disqualified individual's role in the investigation, hearing, appeal, or informal resolution process.

NEW SECTION

WAC 478-121-685 General record keeping. Records related to proceedings under Part VII of this code shall be maintained consistent with RCW 34.05.476 and 34.05.494, university records retention policies, and other relevant policies, rules, and regulations. If federal regulations under 34 C.F.R. Part 106 differ from Washington state law requirements or university policies, rules, or regulations, records will be maintained in accord with the more stringent standard.

WSR 20-17-078

EMERGENCY RULES

DEPARTMENT OF

FISH AND WILDLIFE

[Order 20-159—Filed August 13, 2020, 12:13 p.m., effective August 13, 2020, 12:13 p.m.]

Effective Date of Rule: Immediately upon filing.

Purpose: The purpose of this emergency rule is a matter of housekeeping. WSR 20-17-008 unintentionally opened salmon fishing in the waters Catch Record Card Area 9 south of a line from Foulwether Bluff to Olele Point. This rule is needed to close those waters.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: Repealing WAC 220-313-06000U and 220-313-06000W; and amending WAC 220-313-060.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.020, 77.12.045, and 77.12.047.

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that immediate adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule is necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety, or general welfare, and that observing the time requirements of

notice and opportunity to comment upon adoption of a permanent rule would be contrary to the public interest.

Reasons for this Finding: This emergency rule is a matter of housekeeping. The previous filing of this emergency rule WSR 20-17-008, unintentionally opened a portion of Catch Record Card Area 9 that was intended to be closed to salmon fishing per the North of Falcon List of Agreed to Fisheries, through August 15, 2020. It is needed to clarify the portion of Area 9 that is intended to be open as those waters of Area 9 north of a line from Foulwether Bluff to Olele Point and that waters of Marine Area 9 south of said line are to remain closed by permanent rule.

Immediate adoption of this rule is necessary for the preservation of public health, safety, or general welfare. Observing the requirements of notice and opportunity to comment upon adoption of a permanent rule would be contrary to the public interest. There is insufficient time to adopt permanent rules.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Non-governmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 1, Amended 0, Repealed 2.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: August 13, 2020.

Kelly Susewind
Director

NEW SECTION

WAC 220-313-06000W Puget Sound salmon—Salt-water seasons and daily limits. Effective immediately through September 30, 2020, the following provisions of WAC 220-313-060 regarding salmon seasons for Marine Areas 9, 10, and 11 shall be modified as described below. All other provisions of WAC 220-313-060 not addressed herein, or unless otherwise amended by emergency rule, remain in effect:

(1) **Catch Record Card Area 9:** Waters of Area 9 north of a line from Foulwether Bluff to Olele Point: Effective immediately through August 15, 2020: Salmon; Chinook minimum size 22 inches. Other salmon species no minimum size. Daily limit 2. Release wild Chinook, chum, and wild coho.

(2) **Catch Record Card Area 10:**

(a) Entire Area except East Elliot Bay Fishery: Effective immediately through August 31, 2020: Salmon; Chinook minimum size 22 inches. Other salmon species no minimum size. Daily limit 2. Release wild Chinook and chum.

(b) East Elliot Bay Fishery, waters of Elliott Bay east of a line from Duwamish Head to Pier 91 up to the mouth of the Duwamish River (an east-west line through the southernmost tip of Harbor Island): Effective August 14 through 12:00 p.m. (noon) August 17, 2020: Salmon; Chinook minimum size 22 inches. Other salmon species no minimum size. Daily limit 2. Release chum.

(3) **Catch Record Card Area 11:** Effective immediately through September 30, 2020: Salmon; Chinook minimum size 22 inches. Other salmon species no minimum size. Daily limit 2. Release wild Chinook.

Reviser's note: The spelling error in the above section occurred in the copy filed by the agency and appears in the Register pursuant to the requirements of RCW 34.08.040.

REPEALER

The following section of the Washington Administrative Code is repealed effective immediately:

WAC 220-313-06000U Puget Sound salmon—Saltwater seasons and daily limits. (20-153)

The following section of the Washington Administrative Code is repealed effective October 1, 2020:

WAC 220-313-06000W Puget Sound salmon—Saltwater seasons and daily limits. (20-159)

WSR 20-17-079 EMERGENCY RULES BIG BEND

COMMUNITY COLLEGE

[Filed August 13, 2020, 12:14 p.m., effective August 14, 2020]

Effective Date of Rule: August 14, 2020.

Purpose: On May 19, 2020, the Federal Register printed amendments to Title IX regulations (85 F.R. 30575). The new regulations address the grievance process for formal complaints of sexual harassment and are scheduled to take effect on August 14, 2020. This requires emergency updates to the college's student conduct code to be compliant with federal regulations.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: New Supplemental Title IX Student Conduct Procedures, WAC 132R-04-300, 132R-04-305, 132R-04-310, 132R-04-315, 132R-04-320, 132R-04-325, 132R-04-330, 132R-04-335, and 132R-04-340.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: Chapter 34.05 RCW; and RCW 28B.50.140(13); 20 U.S.C. § 1092(f); Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. § 1681 et seq.

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that state or federal law or federal rule or a federal deadline for state receipt of federal funds requires immediate adoption of a rule.

Reasons for this Finding: Big Bend Community College is required by the United States Department of Education to comply with the recently adopted Title IX regulations, which take effect on August 14, 2020.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 9, Amended 15, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Non-governmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 9, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: August 13, 2020.

Melinda Dourte
Executive Assistant to the President

NEW SECTION

WAC 132R-04-300 Order of precedence. This supplemental procedure applies to allegations of sexual harassment 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 disciplinary procedures, WAC 132R-04-010 through 132R-04-200, these supplemental procedures shall take precedence.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132R-04-305 Prohibited conduct under Title IX. Pursuant to RCW 28B.50.140(13) and Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1681, the college may impose disciplinary sanctions against a student who commits, attempts to commit, or aids, abets, incites, encourages, or assists another person to commit, an act(s) of "sexual harassment."

For purposes of this supplemental procedure, "sexual harassment" encompasses the following conduct:

(1) **Quid pro quo harassment.** A college employee conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of the college on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct.

(2) **Hostile environment.** Unwelcome conduct that a reasonable person would find to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the college's educational programs or activities, or employment.

(3) **Sexual assault.** Sexual assault includes the following conduct:

(a) **Nonconsensual sexual intercourse.** Any actual or attempted sexual intercourse (anal, oral, or vaginal), however slight, with any object or body part, 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. 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. 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 eighteen.

(d) Statutory rape. Consensual sexual intercourse between someone who is eighteen years of age or older and someone who is under the age of sixteen.

(4) Domestic violence. Physical violence, bodily injury, assault, the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, sexual assault, or stalking 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 26.50.010.

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

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

(b) 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.

(6) Stalking. Engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for their safety or the safety of others, or suffer substantial emotional distress.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132R-04-310 Title IX jurisdiction. (1) This supplemental procedure applies only if the alleged misconduct:

(a) Occurred in the United States;

(b) Occurred during a college educational program or activity; and

(c) Meets the definition of sexual harassment as that term is defined in this supplemental procedure.

(2) For purposes of this supplemental procedure, an "educational program or activity" is defined as locations, events, or circumstances over which the college exercised substantial control over both the respondent and the context in which the alleged sexual harassment occurred. This definition includes any building owned or controlled by a student organization that is officially recognized by the college.

(3) Proceedings under this supplemental procedure must be dismissed if the decision maker determines that one or all

of the requirements of subsection (1)(a) through (c) of this section have not been met. Dismissal under this supplemental procedure does not prohibit the college from pursuing other disciplinary action based on allegations that the respondent violated other provisions of the college's student conduct code, WAC 132R-04-010 through 132R-04-200.

(4) If the student conduct officer determines the facts in the investigation report are not sufficient to support Title IX jurisdiction and/or pursuit of a Title IX violation, the student conduct officer will issue a notice of dismissal in whole or part to both parties explaining why some or all of the Title IX claims have been dismissed.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132R-04-315 Initiation of discipline. (1) Upon receiving the Title IX investigation report from the Title IX coordinator, the student conduct officer will independently review the report to determine whether there are sufficient grounds to pursue a disciplinary action against the respondent for engaging in prohibited conduct under Title IX.

(2) If the student conduct officer determines that there are sufficient grounds to proceed under these supplemental procedures, the student conduct officer will initiate a Title IX disciplinary proceeding by filing a written disciplinary notice with the chair of the student conduct committee and serving the notice on the respondent and the complainant, and their respective advisors. The notice must:

(a) Set forth the basis for Title IX jurisdiction;

(b) Identify the alleged Title IX violation(s);

(c) Set forth the facts underlying the allegation(s);

(d) Identify the range of possible sanctions that may be imposed if the respondent is found responsible for the alleged violation(s); and

(e) Explain that the parties are entitled to be accompanied by their chosen advisors during the hearing and that:

(i) The advisors will be responsible for questioning all witnesses on the party's behalf;

(ii) An advisor may be an attorney; and

(iii) The college will appoint the party an advisor of the college's choosing at no cost to the party, if the party fails to do so.

(3) Explain that if a party fails to appear at the hearing, a decision of responsibility may be made in their absence.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132R-04-320 Prehearing procedure. (1) Upon receiving the disciplinary notice, the chair of the student conduct committee will send a hearing notice to all parties, in compliance with WAC 132R-04-130. In no event will the hearing date be set less than ten days after the Title IX coordinator provided the final investigation report to the parties.

(2) A party may choose to have an attorney serve as their advisor at the party's own expense. This right will be waived unless, at least five days before the hearing, the attorney files a notice of appearance with the committee chair with copies to all parties and the student conduct officer.

(3) In preparation for the hearing, the parties will have equal access to all evidence gathered by the investigator

during the investigation, regardless of whether the college intends to offer the evidence at the hearing.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132R-04-325 Rights of parties. (1) The college's student conduct procedures, WAC 132R-04-010 through 132R-04-200, and this supplemental procedure shall apply equally to all parties.

(2) The college 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 college's choosing on the party's behalf at no expense to the party.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132R-04-330 Evidence. The introduction and consideration of evidence during the hearing is subject to the following procedures and restrictions:

(1) Relevance: The committee chair shall review all questions for relevance and shall explain on the record their reasons for excluding any question based on lack of relevance.

(2) Relevance means that information elicited by the question makes facts in dispute more or less likely to be true.

(3) Questions or evidence about a complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant and must be excluded, unless such question or evidence:

(a) Is asked or offered to prove someone other than the respondent committed the alleged misconduct; or

(b) Concerns specific incidents of prior sexual behavior between the complainant and the respondent, which are asked or offered on the issue of consent.

(4) Cross-examination required: If a party or witness does not submit to cross-examination during the live hearing, the committee must not rely on any statement by that party or witness in reaching a determination of responsibility.

(5) No negative inference: The committee may not make an inference regarding responsibility solely on a witness's or party's absence from the hearing or refusal to answer questions.

(6) Privileged evidence: The committee shall not consider legally privileged information unless the holder has effectively waived the privilege. Privileged information includes, but is not limited to, information protected by the following:

(a) Spousal/domestic partner privilege;

(b) Attorney-client and attorney work product privileges;

(c) Privileges applicable to members of the clergy and priests;

(d) Privileges applicable to medical providers, mental health therapists, and counselors;

(e) Privileges applicable to sexual assault and domestic violence advocates; and

(f) Other legal privileges identified in RCW 5.60.060.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132R-04-335 Initial order. (1) In addition to complying with WAC 132R-04-140, the student conduct committee will be responsible for conferring and drafting an initial order that:

(a) Identifies the allegations of sexual harassment;

(b) Describes the grievance and disciplinary procedures, starting with filing of the formal complaint through the determination of responsibility, including notices to parties, interviews with witnesses and parties, site visits, methods used to gather evidence, and hearings held;

(c) Makes findings of fact supporting the determination of responsibility;

(d) Reaches conclusions as to whether the facts establish whether the respondent is responsible for engaging in sexual harassment in violation of Title IX;

(e) Contains a statement of, and rationale for, the committee's determination of responsibility for each allegation;

(f) Describes any disciplinary sanction or conditions imposed against the respondent, if any;

(g) Describes to what extent, if any, complainant is entitled to remedies designed to restore or preserve complainant's equal access to the college's education programs or activities; and

(h) Describes the process for appealing the initial order to the college president.

(2) The committee chair will serve the initial order on the parties simultaneously.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132R-04-340 Appeals. (1) The parties shall have the right to appeal from the initial order's determination of responsibility and/or dismissal of an allegation(s) of sexual harassment in a formal complaint. The right to appeal will be subject to the same procedures and time frames set forth in WAC 132R-04-150.

(2) The president or their delegate will determine whether the grounds for appeal have merit, provide the rationale for this conclusion, and state whether the disciplinary sanction and condition(s) imposed in the initial order are affirmed, vacated, or amended, and, if amended, set forth any new disciplinary sanction and/or condition(s).

(3) President's office shall serve the final decision on the parties simultaneously.

WSR 20-17-080

EMERGENCY RULES

SHORELINE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

[Filed August 13, 2020, 12:14 p.m., effective August 14, 2020]

Effective Date of Rule: August 14, 2020.

Purpose: The Department of Education issued updated Title IX rules on May 22, 2020, which take effect August 14,

2020, forward. The updated rules incorporate new Title IX student conduct code requirements that necessitate Shoreline Community College amending chapter 132G-121 WAC, student conduct rules no later than August 14, 2020, to remain in compliance with the updated Department of Education requirements.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: Nine new rules added to chapter 132G-121 WAC.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: Title IX of Education Amendments of 1972; RCW 28B.50.140.

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that state or federal law or federal rule or a federal deadline for state receipt of federal funds requires immediate adoption of a rule.

Reasons for this Finding: Emergency rules adding rules to chapter 132G-121 WAC, student conduct is necessary for compliance with the Department of Education updated Title IX rules issued on May 22, 2020, and requiring implementation of updated student conduct code requirements related to Title IX no later than August 14, 2020. The college intends to proceed with permanent rule making on these subjects in the near future.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 9, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Non-governmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: August 14, 2020.

Veronica Zura
Executive Director
Human Resources

SUPPLEMENTAL TITLE IX STUDENT CONDUCT PROCEDURES

NEW SECTION

WAC 132G-121-200 Order of precedence. This supplemental procedure applies to allegations of sexual harassment 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 disciplinary procedures, WAC 132G-121-005 through 132G-121-090, these supplemental procedures shall take precedence.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132G-121-210 Prohibited conduct under Title IX. Pursuant to RCW 28B.50.140(13) and Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1681, the college may impose disciplinary sanctions against a student who commits, attempts to commit, or aids, abets, incites, encourages, or assists another person to commit, an act(s) of "sexual harassment."

For purposes of this supplemental procedure, "sexual harassment" encompasses the following conduct:

(1) Quid pro quo harassment. A college employee conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of college on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct.

(2) Hostile environment. Unwelcome conduct that a reasonable person would find to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the college's educational programs or activities, or employment.

(3) Sexual assault. Sexual assault includes the following conduct:

(a) Nonconsensual sexual intercourse. Any actual or attempted sexual intercourse (anal, oral, or vaginal), however slight, with any object or body part, 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. 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. 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 eighteen.

(d) Statutory rape. Consensual sexual intercourse between someone who is eighteen years of age or older and someone who is under the age of sixteen.

(4) Domestic violence. Physical violence, bodily injury, assault, the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, sexual assault, or stalking 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 26.50.010.

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

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

(b) 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.

(6) Stalking. Engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for their safety or the safety of others, or suffer substantial emotional distress.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132G-121-220 Title IX jurisdiction. (1) This supplemental procedure applies only if the alleged misconduct:

- (a) Occurred in the United States;
- (b) Occurred during a college educational program or activity; and
- (c) Meets the definition of sexual harassment as that term is defined in this supplemental procedure.

(2) For purposes of this supplemental procedure, an "educational program or activity" is defined as locations, events, or circumstances over which the college exercised substantial control over both the respondent and the context in which the alleged sexual harassment occurred. This definition includes any building owned or controlled by a student organization that is officially recognized by the college.

(3) Proceedings under this supplemental procedure must be dismissed if the decision maker determines that one or all of the requirements of subsection (1)(a) through (c) of this section have not been met. Dismissal under this supplemental procedure does not prohibit the college from pursuing other disciplinary action based on allegations that the respondent violated other provisions of the college's student conduct code, WAC 132G-121-015.

(4) If the student conduct officer determines the facts in the investigation report are not sufficient to support Title IX jurisdiction and/or pursuit of a Title IX violation, the student conduct officer will issue a notice of dismissal in whole or part to both parties explaining why some or all of the Title IX claims have been dismissed.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132G-121-230 Initiation of discipline. (1) Upon receiving the Title IX investigation report from the Title IX coordinator, the student conduct officer will independently review the report to determine whether there are sufficient grounds to pursue a disciplinary action against the respondent for engaging in prohibited conduct under Title IX.

(2) If the student conduct officer determines that there are sufficient grounds to proceed under these supplemental procedures, the student conduct officer will initiate a Title IX disciplinary proceeding by filing a written disciplinary notice with the chair of the student conduct committee and serving the notice on the respondent and the complainant, and their respective advisors. The notice must:

- (a) Set forth the basis for Title IX jurisdiction;
- (b) Identify the alleged Title IX violation(s);
- (c) Set forth the facts underlying the allegation(s);

(d) Identify the range of possible sanctions that may be imposed if the respondent is found responsible for the alleged violation(s); and

(e) Explain that the parties are entitled to be accompanied by their chosen advisors during the hearing and that:

(i) The advisors will be responsible for questioning all witnesses on the party's behalf;

(ii) An advisor may be an attorney; and

(iii) The college will appoint the party an advisor of the college's choosing at no cost to the party, if the party fails to do so.

(3) Explain that if a party fails to appear at the hearing, a decision of responsibility may be made in their absence.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132G-121-240 Prehearing procedure. (1) Upon receiving the disciplinary notice, the chair of the student conduct committee will send a hearing notice to all parties, in compliance with WAC 132G-121-060. In no event will the hearing date be set less than ten days after the Title IX coordinator provided the final investigation report to the parties.

(2) A party may choose to have an attorney serve as their advisor at the party's own expense. This right will be waived unless, at least five days before the hearing, the attorney files a notice of appearance with the committee chair with copies to all parties and the student conduct officer.

(3) In preparation for the hearing, the parties will have equal access to all evidence gathered by the investigator during the investigation, regardless of whether the college intends to offer the evidence at the hearing.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132G-121-250 Rights of parties. (1) The college's student conduct procedures and this supplemental procedure shall apply equally to all parties.

(2) The college 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 college's choosing on the party's behalf at no expense to the party.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132G-121-260 Evidence. The introduction and consideration of evidence during the hearing is subject to the following procedures and restrictions:

(1) Relevance: The committee chair shall review all questions for relevance and shall explain on the record their reasons for excluding any question based on lack of relevance.

(2) Relevance means that information elicited by the question makes facts in dispute more or less likely to be true.

(3) Questions or evidence about a complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant and must be excluded, unless such question or evidence:

(a) Is asked or offered to prove someone other than the respondent committed the alleged misconduct; or

(b) Concerns specific incidents of prior sexual behavior between the complainant and the respondent, which are asked or offered on the issue of consent.

(4) Cross-examination required: If a party or witness does not submit to cross-examination during the live hearing, the committee must not rely on any statement by that party or witness in reaching a determination of responsibility.

(5) No negative inference: The committee may not make an inference regarding responsibility solely on a witness's or party's absence from the hearing or refusal to answer questions.

(6) Privileged evidence: The committee shall not consider legally privileged information unless the holder has effectively waived the privilege. Privileged information includes, but is not limited to, information protected by the following:

(a) Spousal/domestic partner privilege;

(b) Attorney-client and attorney work product privileges;

(c) Privileges applicable to members of the clergy and priests;

(d) Privileges applicable to medical providers, mental health therapists, and counselors;

(e) Privileges applicable to sexual assault and domestic violence advocates; and

(f) Other legal privileges identified in RCW 5.60.060.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132G-121-270 Initial order. (1) In addition to complying with WAC 132G-121-070, the student conduct committee will be responsible for conferring and drafting an initial order that:

(a) Identifies the allegations of sexual harassment;

(b) Describes the grievance and disciplinary procedures, starting with filing of the formal complaint through the determination of responsibility, including notices to parties, interviews with witnesses and parties, site visits, methods used to gather evidence, and hearings held;

(c) Makes findings of fact supporting the determination of responsibility;

(d) Reaches conclusions as to whether the facts establish whether the respondent is responsible for engaging in sexual harassment in violation of Title IX;

(e) Contains a statement of, and rationale for, the committee's determination of responsibility for each allegation;

(f) Describes any disciplinary sanction or conditions imposed against the respondent, if any;

(g) Describes to what extent, if any, complainant is entitled to remedies designed to restore or preserve complainant's equal access to the college's education programs or activities; and

(h) Describes the process for appealing the initial order to the college president.

(2) The committee chair will serve the initial order on the parties simultaneously.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132G-121-280 Appeals. (1) The parties shall have the right to appeal from the initial order's determination of responsibility and/or dismissal of an allegation(s) of sexual harassment in a formal complaint. The right to appeal will be subject to the same procedures and time frames set forth in WAC 132G-121-075.

(2) The president or their delegate will determine whether the grounds for appeal have merit, provide the rationale for this conclusion, and state whether the disciplinary sanction and condition(s) imposed in the initial order are affirmed, vacated, or amended, and, if amended, set forth any new disciplinary sanction and/or condition(s).

(3) President's office shall serve the final decision on the parties simultaneously.

WSR 20-17-081

EMERGENCY RULES

LAKE WASHINGTON

INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

[Filed August 13, 2020, 12:27 p.m., effective August 13, 2020, 12:27 p.m.]

Effective Date of Rule: Immediately upon filing.

Purpose: On May 19, 2020, the Federal Register printed amendments to Title IX regulations (85 F.R. 30575). The new regulations address the grievance process for formal complaints of sexual harassment and are scheduled to take effect on August 14, 2020. This requires emergency updates to the college's student conduct code to be compliant with federal regulations.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: New Supplemental Title IX Student Conduct Procedures; WAC 495D-121-680, 495D-121-690, 495D-121-700, 495D-121-710, 495D-121-720, 495D-121-730, 495D-121-740, 495D-121-750, and 495D-121-760.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: Chapter 34.05 RCW; and RCW 28B.50.140(13); 20 U.S.C. § 1092(f); Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. § 1681 et seq.

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that state or federal law or federal rule or a federal deadline for state receipt of federal funds requires immediate adoption of a rule.

Reasons for this Finding: Lake Washington Institute of Technology is required by the United States Department of Education to comply with the recently adopted Title IX regulations, which take effect on August 14, 2020.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 9, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Non-governmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: August 4, 2020.

Elsa J. Gossett
Senior Executive Assistant
to the President
and Board of Trustees

NEW SECTION

WAC 495D-121-680 Student conduct code—Order of precedence. This supplemental procedure applies to allegations of sexual harassment 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 Lake Washington Institute of Technology's standard disciplinary procedures, WAC 495D-121-320 through 495D-121-670, these supplemental procedures shall take precedence.

NEW SECTION

WAC 495D-121-690 Student conduct code—Prohibited conduct under Title IX. Pursuant to RCW 28B.50.140 (13) and Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1681, Lake Washington Institute of Technology may impose disciplinary sanctions against a student who commits, attempts to commit, or aids, abets, incites, encourages, or assists another person to commit, an act(s) of "sexual harassment."

For purposes of this supplemental procedure, "sexual harassment" encompasses the following conduct:

(1) Quid pro quo harassment. A Lake Washington Institute of Technology employee conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of Lake Washington Institute of Technology on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct.

(2) Hostile environment. Unwelcome conduct that a reasonable person would find to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to Lake Washington Institute of Technology's educational programs or activities, or employment.

(3) Sexual assault. Sexual assault includes the following conduct:

(a) Nonconsensual sexual intercourse. Any actual or attempted sexual intercourse (anal, oral, or vaginal), however slight, with any object or body part, 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. 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. 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 eighteen.

(d) Statutory rape. Consensual sexual intercourse between someone who is eighteen years of age or older and someone who is under the age of sixteen.

(4) Domestic violence. Physical violence, bodily injury, assault, the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, sexual assault, or stalking 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 26.50.010.

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

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

(b) 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.

(6) Stalking. Engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for their safety or the safety of others, or suffer substantial emotional distress.

NEW SECTION

WAC 495D-121-700 Student conduct code—Prohibited conduct under Title IX jurisdiction. (1) This supplemental procedure applies only if the alleged misconduct:

(a) Occurred in the United States;

(b) Occurred during a Lake Washington Institute of Technology educational program or activity; and

(c) Meets the definition of sexual harassment as that term is defined in this supplemental procedure.

(2) For purposes of this supplemental procedure, an "educational program or activity" is defined as locations, events, or circumstances over which Lake Washington Institute of Technology exercised substantial control over both the respondent and the context in which the alleged sexual harassment occurred. This definition includes any building owned or controlled by a student organization that is officially recognized by Lake Washington Institute of Technology.

(3) Proceedings under this supplemental procedure must be dismissed if the decision maker determines that one or all of the requirements of subsection (1)(a) through (c) of this

section have not been met. Dismissal under this supplemental procedure does not prohibit Lake Washington Institute of Technology from pursuing other disciplinary action based on allegations that the respondent violated other provisions of Lake Washington Institute of Technology's student conduct code, WAC 495D-121-320 through 495D-121-670.

(4) If the student conduct officer determines the facts in the investigation report are not sufficient to support Title IX jurisdiction and/or pursuit of a Title IX violation, the student conduct officer will issue a notice of dismissal in whole or part to both parties explaining why some or all of the Title IX claims have been dismissed.

NEW SECTION

WAC 495D-121-710 Student conduct code—Initiation of discipline. (1) Upon receiving the Title IX investigation report from the Title IX coordinator, the student conduct officer will independently review the report to determine whether there are sufficient grounds to pursue a disciplinary action against the respondent for engaging in prohibited conduct under Title IX.

(2) If the student conduct officer determines that there are sufficient grounds to proceed under these supplemental procedures, the student conduct officer will initiate a Title IX disciplinary proceeding by filing a written disciplinary notice with either the chair of the student conduct committee or the college's appointed Title IX hearing officer and serving the notice on the respondent and the complainant, and their respective advisors. The notice must:

- (a) Set forth the basis for Title IX jurisdiction;
- (b) Identify the alleged Title IX violation(s);
- (c) Set forth the facts underlying the allegation(s);
- (d) Identify the range of possible sanctions that may be imposed if the respondent is found responsible for the alleged violation(s);
- (e) Explain that the parties are entitled to be accompanied by their chosen advisors during the hearing and that:
 - (i) The advisors will be responsible for questioning all witnesses on the party's behalf;
 - (ii) An advisor may be an attorney; and
 - (iii) Lake Washington Institute of Technology will appoint the party an advisor of Lake Washington Institute of Technology's choosing at no cost to the party, if the party fails to do so.
- (3) Explain that if a party fails to appear at the hearing, a decision of responsibility may be made in their absence.

NEW SECTION

WAC 495D-121-720 Student conduct code—Pre-hearing procedure. (1) Upon receiving the disciplinary notice, the chair of the student conduct committee or the college's appointed Title IX hearing officer will send a hearing notice to all parties, in compliance with WAC 495D-121-410. In no event will the hearing date be set less than ten days after the Title IX coordinator provided the final investigation report to the parties.

(2) A party may choose to have an attorney serve as their advisor at the party's own expense. This right will be waived unless, at least five days before the hearing, the attorney files

a notice of appearance with the committee chair with copies to all parties and the student conduct officer.

(3) In preparation for the hearing, the parties will have equal access to all evidence gathered by the investigator during the investigation, regardless of whether Lake Washington Institute of Technology intends to offer the evidence at the hearing.

NEW SECTION

WAC 495D-121-730 Student conduct code—Rights of parties. (1) Lake Washington Institute of Technology's student conduct procedures, WAC 495D-121-320 through 495D-121-670, and this supplemental procedure shall apply equally to all parties.

(2) The Lake Washington Institute of Technology 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 Lake Washington Institute of Technology's choosing on the party's behalf at no expense to the party.

NEW SECTION

WAC 495D-121-740 Student conduct code—Evidence. The introduction and consideration of evidence during the hearing is subject to the following procedures and restrictions:

(1) Relevance: The committee chair or the college's appointed Title IX hearing officer shall review all questions for relevance and shall explain on the record their reasons for excluding any question based on lack of relevance.

(2) Relevance means that information elicited by the question makes facts in dispute more or less likely to be true.

(3) Questions or evidence about a complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant and must be excluded, unless such question or evidence:

(a) Is asked or offered to prove someone other than the respondent committed the alleged misconduct; or

(b) Concerns specific incidents of prior sexual behavior between the complainant and the respondent, which are asked or offered on the issue of consent.

(4) Cross-examination required: If a party or witness does not submit to cross-examination during the live hearing, the committee or the college's appointed Title IX hearing officer must not rely on any statement by that party or witness in reaching a determination of responsibility.

(5) No negative inference: The committee or the college's appointed Title IX hearing officer may not make an inference regarding responsibility solely on a witness's or party's absence from the hearing or refusal to answer questions.

(6) Privileged evidence: The committee or the college's appointed Title IX hearing officer shall not consider legally privileged information unless the holder has effectively waived the privilege. Privileged information includes, but is not limited to, information protected by the following:

- (a) Spousal/domestic partner privilege;
- (b) Attorney-client and attorney work product privileges;
- (c) Privileges applicable to members of the clergy and priests;
- (d) Privileges applicable to medical providers, mental health therapists, and counselors;
- (e) Privileges applicable to sexual assault and domestic violence advocates; and
- (f) Other legal privileges identified in RCW 5.60.060.

NEW SECTION

WAC 495D-121-750 Student conduct code—Initial order. (1) In addition to complying with WAC 495D-121-430, the student conduct committee or the college's appointed Title IX hearing officer will be responsible for conferring and drafting an initial order that:

- (a) Identifies the allegations of sexual harassment;
- (b) Describes the grievance and disciplinary procedures, starting with filing of the formal complaint through the determination of responsibility, including notices to parties, interviews with witnesses and parties, site visits, methods used to gather evidence, and hearings held;
- (c) Makes findings of fact supporting the determination of responsibility;
- (d) Reaches conclusions as to whether the facts establish whether the respondent is responsible for engaging in sexual harassment in violation of Title IX;
- (e) Contains a statement of, and rationale for, the committee's or the college's appointed Title IX hearing officer's determination of responsibility for each allegation;
- (f) Describes any disciplinary sanction or conditions imposed against the respondent, if any;
- (g) Describes to what extent, if any, complainant is entitled to remedies designed to restore or preserve complainant's equal access to Lake Washington Institute of Technology's education programs or activities; and
- (h) Describes the process for appealing the initial order to the Lake Washington Institute of Technology president.

(2) The committee chair or the college's appointed Title IX hearing officer will serve the initial order on the parties simultaneously.

NEW SECTION

WAC 495D-121-760 Student conduct code—Appeals. (1) The parties shall have the right to appeal from the initial order's determination of responsibility and/or dismissal of an allegation(s) of sexual harassment in a formal complaint. The right to appeal will be subject to the same procedures and time frames set forth in WAC 495D-121-440.

(2) The president or their delegate will determine whether the grounds for appeal have merit, provide the rationale for this conclusion, and state whether the disciplinary sanction and condition(s) imposed in the initial order are

affirmed, vacated, or amended, and, if amended, set forth any new disciplinary sanction and/or condition(s).

(3) President's office shall serve the final decision on the parties simultaneously.

WSR 20-17-086
EMERGENCY RULES
SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

[Filed August 13, 2020, 2:22 p.m., effective August 13, 2020, 2:22 p.m.]

Effective Date of Rule: Immediately upon filing.

Purpose: The purpose of this emergency rule revision is to (1) define student absence in the 2020-21 school year for school districts across the state to collect and use daily attendance data during the COVID-19 epidemic, and (2) establish the minimum criteria of the attendance system that each school district must implement as required under WAC 180-16-200 (4)(c). These rules continue to support the state and school districts in addressing the challenge of chronic absenteeism, improving learning outcomes and success in school for all students, and supporting the whole child.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: New chapter 392-401A WAC.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 28A.300.046.

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that immediate adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule is necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety, or general welfare, and that observing the time requirements of notice and opportunity to comment upon adoption of a permanent rule would be contrary to the public interest.

Reasons for this Finding: The COVID-19 pandemic has required that many school districts must provide instruction remotely in school year 2020-21, either completely or partially, in order to ensure the safety of their students, staff, and communities. The immediate adoption of this emergency rule is therefore necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety, and general welfare in order to support districts in defining absence for students participating in remote learning and supporting students to access learning.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Non-governmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 13, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: August 13, 2020.

Chris P. S. Reykdal

State Superintendent
of Public Instruction

Remote learning activities may be synchronous or asynchronous.

Chapter 392-401A WAC

STATEWIDE DEFINITION OF ABSENCE FOR THE 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR

NEW SECTION

WAC 392-401A-005 Purpose. Attendance is a critical building block for student learning. If students are not present, they cannot engage in learning. Attendance is a leading indicator of equity that signals when students might need additional support and areas for system and school improvement.

The purpose of this chapter is to:

(1) Define student absence in the 2020-21 school year for school districts across the state to collect and use daily attendance data during the COVID-19 epidemic; and

(2) Establish the minimum criteria of the attendance system that each school district must implement as required under WAC 180-16-200 (4)(c).

These rules continue to support the state and school districts in addressing the challenge of chronic absenteeism, improving learning outcomes and success in school for all students, and supporting the whole child.

NEW SECTION

WAC 392-401A-010 Authority. The authority for this chapter is RCW 28A.300.046, which requires the superintendent of public instruction to adopt rules establishing a standard definition of student absence from school.

NEW SECTION

WAC 392-401A-011 Scope and application. (1) While in effect, this chapter supersedes chapter 392-401 WAC.

(2) This chapter applies to common school districts, charter public schools, and state-tribal education compact schools.

(3) This chapter does not apply to students enrolled in an alternative learning experience and claimed for state funding pursuant to WAC 392-121-182.

(4) This chapter shall be effective only during the 2020-21 school year.

NEW SECTION

WAC 392-401A-012 General definitions. (1) "Parent" has the same meaning as in WAC 392-172A-01125.

(2) "In-person learning" is when instructional activity is planned and delivered under the supervision of school district staff and on school grounds.

(3) "Remote learning" is when daily learning activities are delivered through remote learning modalities including, but not limited to, distance learning, hybrid classrooms, rotating schedules, and other methods that allow for the delivery of basic education services during the COVID-19 epidemic.

NEW SECTION

WAC 392-401A-015 Definition of absence from in-person learning. (1) A student is absent from in-person learning when the student is:

(a) Not physically present on school grounds; and

(b) Not participating in the following activities at an approved location during a scheduled in-person learning day:

(i) Instruction;

(ii) Any instruction-related activity; or

(iii) Any other district- or school-approved activity that is regulated by an instructional/academic accountability system, such as participation in district-sponsored sports.

(2) A full day absence from in-person learning is when a student is absent for fifty percent or more of their scheduled day.

NEW SECTION

WAC 392-401A-016 Definition of absence from remote learning. (1) A student is absent from remote learning when the student is not participating in planned instructional activities on a scheduled remote learning day.

(2) Evidence of student participation in remote learning may include, but is not limited to:

(a) Daily logins to learning management systems;

(b) Daily interactions with the teacher to acknowledge attendance (including messages, emails, phone calls or video chats); or

(c) Evidence of participation in a task or assignment.

NEW SECTION

WAC 392-401A-018 Daily attendance taking. School districts must take daily attendance for all enrolled students participating in remote learning and in-person learning.

NEW SECTION

WAC 392-401A-020 Excused absences from in-person learning or remote learning. (1) Absences due to the following reasons must be excused:

(a) Illness, health condition or medical appointment (including, but not limited to, medical, counseling, dental, optometry, pregnancy, and in-patient or out-patient treatment for chemical dependency or mental health) for the student or person for whom the student is legally responsible;

(b) Family emergency including, but not limited to, a death or illness in the family;

(c) Religious or cultural purpose, including observance of a religious or cultural holiday or participation in religious or cultural instruction;

(d) Court, judicial proceeding, court-ordered activity, or jury service;

(e) Post-secondary, technical school or apprenticeship program visitation, or scholarship interview;

(f) State-recognized search and rescue activities consistent with RCW 28A.225.055;

(g) Absence directly related to the student's homeless or foster care/dependency status;

(h) Absences related to deployment activities of a parent who is an active duty member consistent with RCW 28A.705.010;

(i) Absences due to suspensions, expulsions or emergency expulsions imposed pursuant to chapter 392-400 WAC if the student is not receiving educational services and is not enrolled in qualifying "course of study" activities as defined in WAC 392-121-107;

(j) Absences due to student safety concerns, including absences related to threats, assaults, or bullying;

(k) Absences due to a student's migrant status;

(l) An approved activity that is consistent with district policy and is mutually agreed upon by the principal or designee and a parent or emancipated youth;

(m) Absences related to the student's illness, health condition, or medical appointments due to COVID-19;

(n) Absences related to caring for a family member who has an illness, health condition, or medical appointment due to COVID-19;

(o) Absences related to the student's employment or other family obligations during regularly scheduled school hours that are temporarily necessary due to COVID-19 until other arrangements can be made, including placement in a more flexible education program;

(p) Absences due to the student's parent's work schedule or other obligations during regularly scheduled school hours, until other arrangements can be made;

(q) Absences due to the student's lack of necessary instructional tools, including internet broadband access or connectivity; and

(r) Other COVID-19 related circumstances as determined between school and parent or emancipated youth.

(2) A school principal or designee has the authority to determine if an absence meets the above criteria for an excused absence.

(3) School districts may define additional categories or criteria for excused absences.

NEW SECTION

WAC 392-401A-030 Unexcused absences from in-person learning. Any absence from in-person learning is unexcused unless it meets one of the criteria provided in WAC 392-401A-020.

NEW SECTION

WAC 392-401A-035 Unexcused absences from remote learning. (1) Absences from remote learning must be marked as a "nontruancy remote learning absence" until October 4, 2020. Such absences shall not be marked as excused or unexcused.

(2) Beginning October 5, 2020, any absence from remote learning is unexcused unless it meets one of the criteria in WAC 392-401A-020.

NEW SECTION

WAC 392-401A-038 Data reporting. School districts must report student absences to the office of superintendent of public instruction through the comprehensive education and data research system (CEDARS) as provided in the CEDARS data manual.

NEW SECTION

WAC 392-401A-040 Student absences—General requirements. (1) Students shall not be absent if:

(a) They have been suspended, expelled, or emergency expelled pursuant to chapter 392-400 WAC;

(b) Are receiving educational services as required by RCW 28A.600.015 and chapter 392-400 WAC; and

(c) The student is enrolled in qualifying "course of study" activities as defined in WAC 392-121-107.

(2) A school or district shall not convert or combine tardies into absences that contribute to a truancy petition.

NEW SECTION

WAC 392-401A-045 Tiered response system for student absences. (1) School districts must implement a tiered response system to reduce chronic absenteeism and address barriers to student engagement in learning during the COVID epidemic.

(2) Tiered response systems under this section must include:

(a) Monitoring daily attendance data for all students who are absent from remote learning, whether excused or unexcused;

(b) A process to contact families and verify current contact information for each enrolled student that includes multiple attempts and modalities in the parent's home language;

(c) Daily notification of absences to parents;

(d) A process for outreach from the school to determine student needs, such as basic needs, connectivity and hardware, connection with health and social services as necessary;

(e) Differentiated supports that address the barriers to attendance and participation that includes universal supports for all students and tiered interventions for students at-risk of and experiencing chronic absence; and

(f) When feasible and appropriate, transitioning the students to full-time in-person learning or other program to accommodate the student's needs.

WSR 20-17-087

EMERGENCY RULES

GRAYS HARBOR COLLEGE

[Filed August 13, 2020, 3:25 p.m., effective August 13, 2020, 3:25 p.m.]

Effective Date of Rule: Immediately upon filing.

Purpose: On May 19, 2020, the Federal Register printed amendments to Title IX regulations (85 F.R. 30575). The new regulations address the grievance process for formal complaints of sexual harassment and are scheduled to take

effect on August 14, 2020. This requires emergency updates to the college's student conduct code to be compliant with federal regulations.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: New Supplemental Title IX Student Conduct Procedures, WAC 132B-120-320, 132B-120-325, 132B-120-330, 132B-120-335, 132B-120-340, 132B-120-345, 132B-120-350, 132B-120-355 and 132B-120-360; and repealing WAC 132B-120-300, 132B-120-305, 132B-120-310, and 132B-120-315.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: Chapter 34.05 RCW; and RCW 28B.50.140(13); 20 U.S.C. § 1092(f); Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. § 1681 et seq.

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that state or federal law or federal rule or a federal deadline for state receipt of federal funds requires immediate adoption of a rule.

Reasons for this Finding: Grays Harbor College is required by the United States Department of Education to comply with the recently adopted Title IX regulations, which take effect on August 14, 2020.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 9, Amended 0, Repealed 4; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Non-governmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 9, Amended 0, Repealed 4.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: August 13, 2020.

Dr. Jennifer Alt
Vice President
for Student Services

SUPPLEMENTAL TITLE IX STUDENT CONDUCT PROCEDURES

NEW SECTION

WAC 132B-120-320 Order of precedence. This supplemental procedure applies to allegations of sexual harassment 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 Grays Harbor College's standard disciplinary procedures, WAC 132B-120-010 through 132B-120-220, these supplemental procedures shall take precedence.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132B-120-325 Prohibited conduct under Title IX. Pursuant to RCW 28B.50.140(13) and Title IX of the

Education Amendments Act of 1972, 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1681, Grays Harbor College may impose disciplinary sanctions against a student who commits, attempts to commit, or aids, abets, incites, encourages, or assists another person to commit, an act(s) of "sexual harassment."

For purposes of this supplemental procedure, "sexual harassment" encompasses the following conduct:

(1) Quid pro quo harassment. A Grays Harbor College employee conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of Grays Harbor College on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct.

(2) Hostile environment. Unwelcome conduct that a reasonable person would find to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to Grays Harbor College's educational programs or activities, or employment.

(3) Sexual assault. Sexual assault includes the following conduct:

(a) Nonconsensual sexual intercourse. Any actual or attempted sexual intercourse (anal, oral, or vaginal), however slight, with any object or body part, 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. 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. 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 eighteen.

(d) Statutory rape. Consensual sexual intercourse between someone who is eighteen years of age or older and someone who is under the age of sixteen.

(4) Domestic violence. Physical violence, bodily injury, assault, the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, sexual assault, or stalking 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 26.50.010.

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

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

(b) 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.

(6) Stalking, Engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for their safety or the safety of others, or suffer substantial emotional distress.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132B-120-330 Title IX jurisdiction. (1) This supplemental procedure applies only if the alleged misconduct:

- (a) Occurred in the United States;
- (b) Occurred during a Grays Harbor College educational program or activity; and
- (c) Meets the definition of sexual harassment as that term is defined in this supplemental procedure.

(2) For purposes of this supplemental procedure, an "educational program or activity" is defined as locations, events, or circumstances over which Grays Harbor College exercised substantial control over both the respondent and the context in which the alleged sexual harassment occurred. This definition includes any building owned or controlled by a student organization that is officially recognized by Grays Harbor College.

(3) Proceedings under this supplemental procedure must be dismissed if the decision maker determines that one or all of the requirements of subsection (1)(a) through (c) of this section have not been met. Dismissal under this supplemental procedure does not prohibit Grays Harbor College from pursuing other disciplinary action based on allegations that the respondent violated other provisions of Grays Harbor College's student conduct code, chapter 132B-120 WAC.

(4) If the student conduct officer determines the facts in the investigation report are not sufficient to support Title IX jurisdiction and/or pursuit of a Title IX violation, the student conduct officer will issue a notice of dismissal in whole or part to both parties explaining why some or all of the Title IX claims have been dismissed.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132B-120-335 Initiation of discipline. (1) Upon receiving the Title IX investigation report from the Title IX coordinator, the student conduct officer will independently review the report to determine whether there are sufficient grounds to pursue a disciplinary action against the respondent for engaging in prohibited conduct under Title IX.

(2) If the student conduct officer determines that there are sufficient grounds to proceed under these supplemental procedures, the student conduct officer will initiate a Title IX disciplinary proceeding by filing a written disciplinary notice with the chair of the Title IX conduct committee and serving the notice on the respondent and the complainant, and their respective advisors. The notice must:

- (a) Set forth the basis for Title IX jurisdiction;
- (b) Identify the alleged Title IX violation(s);
- (c) Set forth the facts underlying the allegation(s);
- (d) Identify the range of possible sanctions that may be imposed if the respondent is found responsible for the alleged violation(s); and

(e) Explain that the parties are entitled to be accompanied by their chosen advisors during the hearing and that:

- (i) The advisors will be responsible for questioning all witnesses on the party's behalf;
- (ii) An advisor may be an attorney; and
- (iii) Grays Harbor College will appoint the party an advisor of the college's choosing at no cost to the party, if the party fails to do so.

(3) Explain that if a party fails to appear at the hearing, a decision of responsibility may be made in their absence.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132B-120-340 Prehearing procedure. (1) Upon receiving the disciplinary notice, the chair of the Title IX conduct committee will send a hearing notice to all parties, in compliance with WAC 132B-120-120. In no event will the hearing date be set less than ten days after the Title IX coordinator provided the final investigation report to the parties.

(2) A party may choose to have an attorney serve as their advisor at the party's own expense. This right will be waived unless, at least five days before the hearing, the attorney files a notice of appearance with the committee chair with copies to all parties and the student conduct officer.

(3) In preparation for the hearing, the parties will have equal access to all evidence gathered by the investigator during the investigation, regardless of whether the college intends to offer the evidence at the hearing.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132B-120-345 Rights of parties. (1) Grays Harbor College's student conduct procedures, chapter 132B-120 WAC, and this supplemental procedure shall apply equally to all parties.

(2) Grays Harbor College 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 college's choosing on the party's behalf at no expense to the party.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132B-120-350 Evidence. The introduction and consideration of evidence during the hearing is subject to the following procedures and restrictions:

(1) Relevance: The committee chair shall review all questions for relevance and shall explain on the record their reasons for excluding any question based on lack of relevance.

(2) Relevance means that information elicited by the question makes facts in dispute more or less likely to be true.

(3) Questions or evidence about a complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant and must be excluded, unless such question or evidence:

(a) Is asked or offered to prove someone other than the respondent committed the alleged misconduct; or

(b) Concerns specific incidents of prior sexual behavior between the complainant and the respondent, which are asked or offered on the issue of consent.

(4) Cross-examination required: If a party or witness does not submit to cross-examination during the live hearing, the committee must not rely on any statement by that party or witness in reaching a determination of responsibility.

(5) No negative inference: The committee may not make an inference regarding responsibility solely on a witness's or party's absence from the hearing or refusal to answer questions.

(6) Privileged evidence: The committee shall not consider legally privileged information unless the holder has effectively waived the privilege. Privileged information includes, but is not limited to, information protected by the following:

(a) Spousal/domestic partner privilege;

(b) Attorney-client and attorney work product privileges;

(c) Privileges applicable to members of the clergy and priests;

(d) Privileges applicable to medical providers, mental health therapists, and counselors;

(e) Privileges applicable to sexual assault and domestic violence advocates; and

(f) Other legal privileges identified in RCW 5.60.060.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132B-120-355 Initial Order. (1) In addition to complying with WAC 132B-120-143, the Title IX conduct committee:

(a) Identifies the allegations of sexual harassment;

(b) Describes the grievance and disciplinary procedures, starting with filing of the formal complaint through the determination of responsibility, including notices to parties, interviews with witnesses and parties, site visits, methods used to gather evidence, and hearings held;

(c) Makes findings of fact supporting the determination of responsibility;

(d) Reaches conclusions as to whether the facts establish whether the respondent is responsible for engaging in sexual harassment in violation of Title IX;

(e) Contains a statement of, and rationale for, the committee's determination of responsibility for each allegation;

(f) Describes any disciplinary sanction or conditions imposed against the respondent, if any;

(g) Describes to what extent, if any, complainant is entitled to remedies designed to restore or preserve complainant's equal access to Grays Harbor College's education programs or activities; and

(h) Describes the process for appealing the initial order to the Grays Harbor College president.

(2) The committee chair will serve the initial order on the parties simultaneously.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132B-120-360 Appeals. (1) The parties shall have the right to appeal from the initial order's determination of responsibility and/or dismissal of an allegation(s) of sexual harassment in a formal complaint. The right to appeal will be subject to the same procedures and time frames set forth in WAC 132B-120-145.

(2) The president or their delegate will determine whether the grounds for appeal have merit, provide the rationale for this conclusion, and state whether the disciplinary sanction and condition(s) imposed in the initial order are affirmed, vacated, or amended, and, if amended, set forth any new disciplinary sanction and/or condition(s).

(3) President's office shall serve the final decision on the parties simultaneously.

REPEALER

The following sections of the Washington Administrative Code are repealed:

WAC 132B-120-300 Supplemental sexual misconduct procedures.

WAC 132B-120-305 Supplemental definitions.

WAC 132B-120-310 Supplemental complaint process (sexual misconduct).

WAC 132B-120-315 Supplemental appeal rights.

WSR 20-17-088

EMERGENCY RULES

SOUTH PUGET SOUND

COMMUNITY COLLEGE

[Filed August 13, 2020, 5:15 p.m., effective August 13, 2020, 5:15 p.m.]

Effective Date of Rule: Immediately upon filing.

Purpose: On May 19, 2020, the Federal Register printed amendments to Title IX regulations (85 F.R. 30575). The new regulations address the grievance process for formal complaints of sexual harassment and are scheduled to take effect on August 14, 2020. This requires emergency updates to the college's code of student rights and responsibilities to be compliant with federal regulations. Included will be language to update and clarify guidelines and procedural changes on the necessary Supplemental Title IX Procedures.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: New Supplemental Title IX Procedures, WAC 132X-60-200, 132X-60-210, 132X-60-220, 132X-60-230, 132X-60-240, 132X-60-250, 132X-60-260, 132X-60-270, and 132X-60-280.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: Chapter 34.05 RCW; and RCW 28B.50.140(13); 20 U.S.C. § 1092(f); Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. § 1681 et seq.

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that state or federal law or federal rule or a federal deadline for state receipt of federal funds requires immediate adoption of a rule.

Reasons for this Finding: South Puget Sound Community College is required by the United States Department of

Education to comply with the recently adopted Title IX regulations, which take effect on August 14, 2020.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 9, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Non-governmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 9, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: August 11, 2020.

Dr. Timothy Stokes
College President

SUPPLEMENTAL TITLE IX STUDENT CONDUCT PROCEDURES

NEW SECTION

WAC 132X-60-200 Order of precedence. This supplemental procedure applies to allegations of sexual harassment 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 South Puget Sound Community College's standard disciplinary procedures in chapter 132X-60 WAC, these supplemental procedures shall take precedence.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132X-60-210 Prohibited conduct under Title IX. Pursuant to RCW 28B.50.140(13) and Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1681, South Puget Sound Community College may impose disciplinary sanctions against a student who commits, attempts to commit, or aids, abets, incites, encourages, or assists another person to commit, an act(s) of "sexual harassment."

For purposes of this supplemental procedure, "sexual harassment" encompasses the following conduct:

(1) Quid pro quo harassment. A college employee conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of the college on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct.

(2) Hostile environment. Unwelcome conduct that a reasonable person would find to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the college's educational programs or activities, or employment.

(3) Sexual assault. Sexual assault includes the following conduct:

(a) Nonconsensual sexual intercourse. Any actual or attempted sexual intercourse (anal, oral, or vaginal), however

slight, with any object or body part, 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. 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. 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 eighteen.

(d) Statutory rape. Consensual sexual intercourse between someone who is eighteen years of age or older and someone who is under the age of sixteen.

(4) Domestic violence. Physical violence, bodily injury, assault, the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, sexual assault, or stalking 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 26.50.010.

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

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

(b) 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.

(6) Stalking. Engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for their safety or the safety of others, or suffer substantial emotional distress.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132X-60-220 Title IX jurisdiction. (1) This supplemental procedure applies only if the alleged misconduct:

(a) Occurred in the United States;

(b) Occurred during a college educational program or activity; and

(c) Meets the definition of sexual harassment as that term is defined in this supplemental procedure.

(2) For purposes of this supplemental procedure, an "educational program or activity" is defined as locations, events, or circumstances over which the college exercised substantial control over both the respondent and the context

in which the alleged sexual harassment occurred. This definition includes any building owned or controlled by a student organization that is officially recognized by the college.

(3) Proceedings under this supplemental procedure must be dismissed if the decision maker determines that one or all of the requirements of subsection (1)(a) through (c) of this section have not been met. Dismissal under this supplemental procedure does not prohibit the college from pursuing other disciplinary action based on allegations that the respondent violated other provisions of the college's student conduct code in chapter 132X-60 WAC.

(4) If the student conduct officer determines the facts in the investigation report are not sufficient to support Title IX jurisdiction and/or pursuit of a Title IX violation, the vice president for student services or their designee will issue a notice of dismissal in whole or part to both parties explaining why some or all of the Title IX claims have been dismissed.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132X-60-230 Initiation of discipline. (1) Upon receiving the Title IX investigation report from the Title IX coordinator, the vice president for student services or their designee will independently review the report to determine whether there are sufficient grounds to pursue a disciplinary action against the respondent for engaging in prohibited conduct under Title IX.

(2) If the vice president for student services or their designee determines that there are sufficient grounds to proceed under these supplemental procedures, the vice president for student services or their designee will initiate a Title IX disciplinary proceeding by filing a written disciplinary notice with the chair of the student conduct committee and serving the notice on the respondent and the complainant, and their respective advisors. The notice must:

- (a) Set forth the basis for Title IX jurisdiction;
 - (b) Identify the alleged Title IX violation(s);
 - (c) Set forth the facts underlying the allegation(s);
 - (d) Identify the range of possible sanctions that may be imposed if the respondent is found responsible for the alleged violation(s); and
 - (e) Explain that the parties are entitled to be accompanied by their chosen advisors during the hearing and that:
 - (i) The advisors will be responsible for questioning all witnesses on the party's behalf;
 - (ii) An advisor may be an attorney; and
 - (iii) The college will appoint the party an advisor of the college's choosing at no cost to the party, if the party fails to do so.
- (3) Explain that if a party fails to appear at the hearing, a decision of responsibility may be made in their absence.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132X-60-240 Prehearing procedure. (1) Upon receiving the disciplinary notice, the chair of the student conduct committee will send a hearing notice to all parties, in compliance with chapter 132X-60 WAC. In no event will the hearing date be set less than ten business days after the Title IX coordinator provided the final investigation report to the parties.

(2) A party may choose to have an attorney serve as their advisor at the party's own expense. This right will be waived unless, at least five business days before the hearing, the attorney files a notice of appearance with the committee chair with copies to all parties and the student conduct officer.

(3) In preparation for the hearing, the parties will have equal access to all evidence gathered by the investigator during the investigation, regardless of whether the college intends to offer the evidence at the hearing.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132X-60-250 Rights of parties. (1) The college's standard student conduct procedures in chapter 132X-60 WAC, and this supplemental procedure shall apply equally to all parties.

(2) The college 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 college's choosing on the party's behalf at no expense to the party.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132X-60-260 Evidence. The introduction and consideration of evidence during the hearing is subject to the following procedures and restrictions:

(1) Relevance: The committee chair shall review all questions for relevance and shall explain on the record their reasons for excluding any question based on lack of relevance.

(2) Relevance means that information elicited by the question makes facts in dispute more or less likely to be true.

(3) Questions or evidence about a complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant and must be excluded, unless such question or evidence:

- (a) Is asked or offered to prove someone other than the respondent committed the alleged misconduct; or
- (b) Concerns specific incidents of prior sexual behavior between the complainant and the respondent, which are asked or offered on the issue of consent.

(4) Cross-examination required: If a party or witness does not submit to cross-examination during the live hearing, the committee must not rely on any statement by that party or witness in reaching a determination of responsibility.

(5) No negative inference: The committee may not make an inference regarding responsibility solely on a witness's or party's absence from the hearing or refusal to answer questions.

(6) Privileged evidence: The committee shall not consider legally privileged information unless the holder has effectively waived the privilege. Privileged information

includes, but is not limited to, information protected by the following:

- (a) Spousal/domestic partner privilege;
- (b) Attorney-client and attorney work product privileges;
- (c) Privileges applicable to members of the clergy and priests;
- (d) Privileges applicable to medical providers, mental health therapists, and counselors;
- (e) Privileges applicable to sexual assault and domestic violence advocates; and
- (f) Other legal privileges identified in RCW 5.60.060.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132X-60-270 Initial order. (1) In addition to complying with chapter 132X-60 WAC, the student conduct committee will be responsible for conferring and drafting an initial order that:

- (a) Identifies the allegations of sexual harassment;
 - (b) Describes the grievance and disciplinary procedures, starting with filing of the formal complaint through the determination of responsibility, including notices to parties, interviews with witnesses and parties, site visits, methods used to gather evidence, and hearings held;
 - (c) Makes findings of fact supporting the determination of responsibility;
 - (d) Reaches conclusions as to whether the facts establish whether the respondent is responsible for engaging in sexual harassment in violation of Title IX;
 - (e) Contains a statement of, and rationale for, the committee's determination of responsibility for each allegation;
 - (f) Describes any disciplinary sanction or conditions imposed against the respondent, if any;
 - (g) Describes to what extent, if any, complainant is entitled to remedies designed to restore or preserve complainant's equal access to the college's education programs or activities; and
 - (h) Describes the process for appealing the initial order to the college president.
- (2) The committee chair will serve the initial order on the parties simultaneously.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132X-60-280 Appeals. (1) The parties shall have the right to appeal from the initial order's determination of responsibility and/or dismissal of an allegation(s) of sexual harassment in a formal complaint. The right to appeal will be subject to the same procedures and time frames set forth in chapter 132X-60 WAC.

(2) The president or their delegate will determine whether the grounds for appeal have merit, provide the rationale for this conclusion, and state whether the disciplinary sanction and condition(s) imposed in the initial order are affirmed, vacated, or amended, and, if amended, set forth any new disciplinary sanction and/or condition(s).

(3) President's office shall serve the final decision on the parties simultaneously.

WSR 20-17-089

EMERGENCY RULES

HIGHLINE COLLEGE

[Filed August 13, 2020, 6:41 p.m., effective August 13, 2020, 6:41 p.m.]

Effective Date of Rule: Immediately upon filing.

Purpose: On May 19, 2020, the Federal Register printed amendments to Title IX regulations (85 F.R. 30575). The new regulations address the grievance process for formal complaints of sexual harassment and are scheduled to take effect on August 14, 2020. This requires emergency repeal of the college's Title IX policy and procedures to be compliant with federal regulations. We request an emergency repeal of the existing WAC because the language no longer aligns with the new regulations. Updated Title IX policy and procedures will be adopted locally.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: Repealing [amending] WAC 1321-300-010 [132I-300-010] and 1321-300-020 [132I-300-020].

Statutory Authority for Adoption: Chapter 34.05 RCW; and RCW 28B.50.140(13); 20 U.S.C. § 1092(f); Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. § 1681 et seq.

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that state or federal law or federal rule or a federal deadline for state receipt of federal funds requires immediate adoption of a rule.

Reasons for this Finding: Highline College is required by the United States Department of Education to comply with the recently adopted Title IX regulations, which take effect on August 14, 2020.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 2; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Non-governmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: August 13, 2020.

Summer Korst
Executive Director
of Human Resources

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 12-16-111, filed 8/1/12, effective 9/1/12)

WAC 1321-300-010 Statement of policy. ~~((The college provides equal opportunity in education and employment and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, creed, religion, or status as a veteran of war as required by Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, Section~~

504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, RCW 49.60.030 and their implementing regulations. Prohibited sex discrimination includes sexual harassment (unwelcome sexual conduct of various types).

Sexual harassment is a form of sex discrimination. It occurs in a variety of situations which share a common element: The inappropriate introduction of sexual activities or comments into the work or learning situation, the creation of relationships of unequal power and/or elements of coercion, such as requests for sexual favors as a criterion for granting work, study, or grading benefits. Sexual harassment may also involve relationships among peers of repeated sexual advances or demeaning verbal behavior resulting in a harmful effect on a person's ability to study or work in the academic setting. In addition, third parties may submit claims if a sexual relationship unfairly confers preferential treatment to participant(s) in the relationship.)) (1) Highline College recognizes its responsibility to investigate, resolve, implement corrective measures, and monitor the educational environment and workplace to stop, remediate, and prevent discrimination on the basis of sex, as required by Title IX of the Educational Amendments Act of 1972, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act, and Washington state's law against discrimination, and their implementing regulations. To this end, Highline College has enacted and adopted the Title IX grievance procedure for receiving and investigating sexual harassment allegations arising during education programs and activities. Any individual found responsible for violating Highline College's Title IX policy is subject to disciplinary action up to and including dismissal from the Highline College educational programs and activities and/or termination of employment.

(2) Application of this Title IX grievance procedure WAC 132I-300-020 is restricted to allegations of "sexual harassment," as that term is defined in 34 C.F.R. Part 106.30. Nothing in this procedure limits or otherwise restricts Highline College's ability to investigate and pursue discipline based on alleged violations of other federal, state, and local laws, their implementing regulations, and other college policies prohibiting gender discrimination through processes set forth in Highline College's code of student conduct, employment contracts, employee handbooks, and collective bargaining agreements.

(3) Any employee, student, applicant, or visitor who believes that they have been the subject of sexual harassment should report the incident or incidents to Highline College's Title IX coordinator identified below. If the complaint is against that Title IX coordinator, the complainant should report the matter to the president's office for referral to an alternate designee.

(4) Complaints may be submitted in writing or verbally. For complainants who wish to submit a written complaint, a formal complaint form is available online at incident reporting form.

TITLE IX/EEO Coordinator

Title: Title IX Coordinator

Office: Human Resources, Building 99, Room 200

Phone: 206-592-3812

(5) The responsibilities of the Title IX/EEO coordinator or designee include:

(a) Accepting and processing all Title IX reports, referrals, and formal complaints.

(b) Executing and submitting a formal complaint when appropriate and necessary.

(c) Handling requests for confidentiality.

(d) Determining during the grievance procedure:

(i) Whether a formal complaint should be dismissed either in whole or in part, and if so;

(ii) Providing notice to both parties about why dismissal was necessary or desirable; and

(iii) Referring the complaint to the appropriate disciplinary authority for proceedings outside the jurisdiction of Title IX.

(e) Maintaining accurate records of all complaints, reports, and referrals, and retaining investigation files, complaints, reports, and referrals in compliance with the applicable records retention schedules or federal or state law, whichever is longer.

(f) Assigning and overseeing investigations.

(g) Engaging in an interactive process with both parties to identify and provide supportive measures that ensure during the investigation and disciplinary processes that the parties have equitable access to education programs and activities and are protected from further discrimination or retaliation.

(h) Upon completion of an investigation, issuing or overseeing the issuance of a final investigation report to the parties and the appropriate disciplinary authority in compliance with this grievance procedure.

(i) Recommending nondisciplinary corrective measures to stop, remediate, and/or prevent recurrence of discriminatory conduct to disciplinary authorities and other college administrators.

(6) Individuals experiencing harassment or discrimination also have the right to file a formal grievance with government authorities:

Equal Employment Opportunity Commission

909 First Avenue, Suite 400

Seattle, WA 98104-1061

www.eeoc.gov

Washington State Human Rights Commission

1511 Third Avenue, Suite 921

Seattle, WA 98101

www.hum.wa.gov

Office for Civil Rights

U.S. Department of Education

915 Second Avenue

Seattle, WA 98171-1099

www.ed.gov

(7) In the event that an incident involves alleged misconduct by the Title IX/EEO coordinator, reports should be made directly to the vice president of human resources.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 12-16-111, filed 8/1/12, effective 9/1/12)

WAC 132I-300-020 Discrimination and sexual harassments complaints—Procedure. ~~((1) Any student or employee who believes that he or she has been the subject of discrimination or sexual harassment, should report the incident or incidents to the chief human resources officer, the administrator so designated by the college president, hereafter referred to as the CHRO. If the complaint is against that official, the complainant should report the matter to the president's office for referral to an alternate designee. The college encourages the timely reporting of any incident(s) of discrimination or sexual harassment.~~

~~(2) All reports of incident(s) will be forwarded to the CHRO for coordination and a determination on how to process the complaint.~~

~~(3) The student or employee who files a complaint alleging discrimination or sexual harassment (the complainant) may submit a brief written statement of allegations to the CHRO. If the complainant does not submit a written statement, the CHRO shall prepare a statement of facts which is approved by the complainant. That statement will be forwarded as well to the subject of the complaint, who may choose to submit a response.~~

~~(4) The CHRO shall appoint a college employee to investigate the complaint. The CHRO shall inform the complainant and respondent(s) of the appointment.~~

~~(5) The college representative shall conduct an investigation based upon the written statement submitted by the complainant and, if applicable, respondent(s). If the complainant did not file a written statement, the representative shall conduct an investigation based upon the statement prepared by the CHRO.~~

~~(6) The college representative shall conduct a thorough investigation. The investigation shall include, but is not limited to, providing the complainant and the respondent the opportunity to state their positions, interviewing witness, and reviewing relevant documents. The investigation shall be concluded within a reasonable time, normally thirty days.~~

~~(7) At the conclusion of the investigation the college representative shall set forth his or her findings and recommendations in writing. The representative shall send a copy of the findings and recommendations to the CHRO.~~

~~(8) The CHRO shall consider the findings and recommendations of the representative. The CHRO shall determine whether disciplinary action may be appropriate. If the CHRO so recommends, he or she will consult with the respondent's appointing authority regarding possible personnel action. These options may include voluntary training/counseling, development of a remediation plan, or formal discipline. The CHRO shall advise the complainant and respondent of the college's decision.~~

~~(9) If the CHRO and respondent's appointing authority determine that disciplinary actions should be instituted against an employee the applicable provisions of employee rights and responsibilities shall be followed. These provisions include but are not limited to, state and federal constitutional and statutory provisions, rules Washington office of financial management, collective bargaining agreements, and college policies.~~

~~(10) If the CHRO determines that disciplinary action should be instituted against a student, the applicable provisions of the college student code shall be followed.~~

~~(11) If the CHRO determines that disciplinary action is not appropriate and the complainant disagrees, the complainant may appeal, in writing, to the president.~~

~~(12) The procedures regarding complaints of discrimination shall be published and distributed as determined by the president or president's designee. Any person who believes he or she has been subjected to sexual harassment will be provided a copy of this policy and procedure.))~~ **(1) Purpose.**

Highline College recognizes its responsibility to investigate, resolve, implement corrective measures, and monitor the educational environment and workplace to stop, remediate, and prevent discrimination on the basis of sex, as required by Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act, and Washington state's law against discrimination, and their implementing regulations. To this end, Highline College has enacted the Highline College Policy XXXX - Discrimination, Harassment and Retaliation and adopted the following Title IX grievance procedure for receiving and investigating sexual harassment allegations arising during educational programs and activities. Any individual found responsible for violating the college's Title IX policy is subject to disciplinary action up to and including dismissal from the college's educational programs and activities and/or termination of employment.

Application of this Title IX grievance procedure is restricted to allegations of "sexual harassment," as that term is defined in 34 C.F.R. Part 106.30. Nothing in this procedure limits or otherwise restricts the college's ability to investigate and pursue discipline based on alleged violations of other federal, state and local laws, their implementing regulations, and other college policies prohibiting gender discrimination through processes set forth in the college's code of student conduct, employment contracts, discrimination, harassment and retaliation policy, and collective bargaining agreements.

(2) Definitions.

For purposes of this Title IX grievance procedure, the following terms are defined as follows:

(a) **Consent** means 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 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.

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

(b) **Complainant** - An individual who is alleged to be the victim of conduct that could constitute sexual harassment.

(c) **Respondent** - An individual who has been reported to be the perpetrator of conduct that could constitute sexual harassment.

(d) **Formal complaint** - A writing submitted by the complainant or signed by the Title IX coordinator alleging sexual harassment against a respondent and requesting that the college conduct an investigation.

(e) **Educational program or activity** includes locations, events, or circumstances over which the college exercised substantial control over both the respondent and the context in which the alleged sexual harassment occurred. It also includes any building owned or controlled by a student organization officially recognized by the college.

(f) **Grievance procedure** - The process the college uses to initiate, informally resolve, and/or investigate allegations that an employee or student has violated Title IX provisions prohibiting sexual harassment.

(g) **Supportive measures** are nondisciplinary, nonpunitive individualized services offered as appropriate, as reasonably available, and without fee or charge to the complainant or the respondent regardless of whether the complainant or the Title IX coordinator has filed a formal complaint. Supportive measures restore or preserve a party's access to the college's educational programs and activities without unreasonably burdening the other party, as determined through an interactive process between the Title IX coordinator and the party. Supportive measures include measures designed to protect the safety of all parties and/or the college's educational environment and/or to deter sexual harassment or retaliation. Supportive measures may include, but are not limited to: (i) Counseling and other medical assistance; (ii) extensions of deadlines or other course-related adjustments; (iii) modifications of work or class schedules; (iv) leaves of absence; (v) increased security or monitoring of certain areas of campus; and (vi) imposition of orders prohibiting the parties from initiating contact with one another in housing or work situations at Highline College as well as at college-sponsored events or activities. Determinations about whether to impose a one-way no contact order must be made on a case-by-case basis. If supportive measures are not provided, the Title IX coordinator must document in writing why this was clearly reasonable under the circumstances.

(h) **Summary suspension** means an emergency suspension of a student respondent pending investigation and resolution of disciplinary proceedings pursuant to the procedure and standards set forth in WAC 1321-125-350.

(i) **Sexual harassment** - For purposes of these Title IX grievance procedures, sexual harassment occurs when a respondent engages in the following discriminatory conduct on the basis of sex:

(i) **Quid pro quo harassment.** A college employee conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of the college on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct.

(ii) **Hostile environment.** Unwelcome conduct that a reasonable person would find to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the college's educational programs or activities or college employment.

(iii) **Sexual assault.** Sexual assault includes the following conduct:

(A) **Nonconsensual sexual intercourse.** Any actual or attempted sexual intercourse (anal, oral, or vaginal), however slight, with any object or body part, 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.** 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.** 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 eighteen.

(D) **Statutory rape.** Consensual intercourse between a person who is eighteen years of age or older, and a person who is under the age of sixteen.

(E) **Domestic violence.** Physical violence, bodily injury, assault, the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, sexual assault, or stalking 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 26.50.010.

(F) **Dating violence.** 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:

(aa) The length of the relationship;

(bb) The type of relationship; and

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

(G) **Stalking.** 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.

(j) **Title IX administrators** are the Title IX coordinator, Title IX investigators, the student conduct manager, student conduct committee members, deputy Title IX coordinator, deputy safety coordinator, hearing officer, employee disciplinary officer, and college-provided advisors assigned to the parties by the college during Title IX disciplinary proceedings.

(k) **Title IX coordinator** is responsible for processing Title IX complaints and conducting and/or overseeing formal investigations and informal resolution processes under this

grievance procedure. Among other things, the Title IX coordinator is responsible for:

(i) Accepting and processing all Title IX reports, referrals, and formal complaints.

(ii) Executing and submitting a formal complaint when appropriate and necessary.

(iii) Handling requests for confidentiality.

(iv) Determining during the grievance procedure:

(A) Whether a formal complaint should be dismissed either in whole or in part, and if so;

(B) Providing notice to both parties about why dismissal was necessary or desirable; and

(C) Referring the complaint to the appropriate disciplinary authority for proceedings outside the jurisdiction of Title IX.

(v) Maintaining accurate records of all complaints, reports, and referrals, and retaining investigation files, complaints, reports, and referrals in compliance with the applicable records retention schedules or federal or state law, whichever is longer.

(vi) Assigning and overseeing investigations.

(vii) Engaging in an interactive process with both parties to identify and provide supportive measures that ensure during the investigation and disciplinary processes that the parties have equitable access to educational programs and activities and are protected from further discrimination or retaliation.

(viii) Upon completion of an investigation, issuing or overseeing the issuance of a final investigation report to the parties and the appropriate disciplinary authority in compliance with this grievance procedure.

(ix) Recommending nondisciplinary corrective measures to stop, remediate, and/or prevent recurrence of discriminatory conduct to disciplinary authorities and other college administrators.

(3) Principles for Title IX grievance procedure.

(a) Respondent shall be presumed not responsible for the alleged conduct unless or until a determination of responsibility is reached after completion of the grievance and disciplinary processes.

(b) Before imposing discipline, the college is responsible for gathering and presenting evidence to a neutral and unbiased decision maker establishing responsibility for a Title IX violation by a preponderance of the evidence.

(c) The college shall treat both the complainant and respondent equitably by providing complainant with remedies against respondent who has been found responsible for sexual harassment through application of the institution's Title IX grievance and applicable Title IX disciplinary procedures and by providing respondent with Title IX procedural safeguards contained in this Title IX grievance procedures and in the applicable Title IX disciplinary procedures.

(d) The investigator shall base investigation results on all relevant evidence, including both exculpatory and inculpatory evidence.

(e) Formal and informal resolutions will be pursued within reasonably prompt time frames with allowances for temporary delays and extensions for good cause shown. The Title IX coordinator or designee will respond to reports of sexual harassment within three business days. It is expected

that complaints addressed through an informal process will be resolved within ninety days. It is expected that complaints addressed through the formal investigation and hearing process will be resolved in one hundred five days. Grounds for temporary delay include, but are not limited to, breaks in the academic calendar, unusual circumstances where employees are unable to work on campus, weather conditions, a natural disaster, or lack of participation from the complainant or respondent. Good cause supporting a request for an extension includes, but is not limited to: A college party, a party's advisor or a witness being unavailable, concurrent law enforcement activity, the need for language assistance or accommodation of disabilities, or unforeseen circumstances causing the Title IX coordinator to be unavailable for more than three business days during the grievance process. Both parties will receive written notice of any temporary delay or extension for good cause with an explanation of why the action was necessary.

(f) A respondent found responsible for engaging in sexual harassment may receive discipline up to and including dismissal from the college. A description of other possible disciplinary sanctions and conditions that may be imposed against students can be found in WAC 132-125-125.

An employee found responsible for sexual harassment may receive discipline up to and including dismissal from employment. A description of possible disciplinary sanctions and conditions that may be imposed against employees can be found at Supplemental Title IX Employee Disciplinary Hearing Procedures, Article 806 of the Highline College Education Association (HCEA) Bargaining Agreement, and Article 27 of the Washington public employees association (WPEA) bargaining agreement.

In proceedings against an employee respondent, the parties may appeal the employee disciplinary decision to the president pursuant to the Supplemental Title IX Employee Disciplinary Procedures.

(g) Title IX administrators may not require, allow, rely upon, or otherwise use questions or evidence that seeks disclosure of privileged communications, unless the privilege has been effectively waived by the holder. This provision applies, but is not limited to, information subject to the following:

(i) Spousal/domestic partner privilege;

(ii) Attorney-client and attorney work product privileges;

(iii) Privileges applicable to members of the clergy and priests;

(iv) Privileges applicable to medical providers, mental health therapists, and counselors;

(v) Privileges applicable to sexual assault and domestic violence advocates; and

(vi) Other legal privileges identified in RCW 5.60.060.

(4) Title IX administrators - Free from bias - Training requirements.

(a) Title IX administrators shall perform their duties free from bias or conflicts.

(b) Title IX administrators shall undergo training on the following topics:

(i) The definition of sexual harassment under these procedures;

(ii) The scope of the college's educational programs and activities;

(iii) How to conduct an investigation;

(iv) How to serve impartially without prejudgment of facts, conflicts of interest or bias;

(v) Use of technology used during any investigation or hearing;

(vi) The relevance of evidence and questions; and

(vii) Effective report writing.

(c) All Title IX administrator training materials shall be available on the college's Title IX web page.

(5) Filing a complaint.

Any employee, student, applicant, or visitor who believes that they have been the subject of sexual harassment should report the incident or incidents to the college's Title IX coordinator identified below. If the complaint is against that Title IX coordinator, the complainant should report the matter to the president's office for referral to an alternate designee.

Complaints may be submitted in writing or verbally. For complainants who wish to submit a written complaint, a formal complaint form is available online at incident reporting form.

Name: Summer Korst

Title: Title IX Coordinator

Office: Human Resources, Building 99, Room 200

Email: skorst@highline.edu

Phone: 206-592-3812

(6) Confidentiality.

(a) The college will seek to protect the privacy of the complainant to the fullest extent possible, consistent with the legal obligation to investigate, take appropriate remedial and/or disciplinary action, and comply with the federal and state law, as well as college policies and procedures. Although the college will attempt to honor complainants' requests for confidentiality, it cannot guarantee complete confidentiality. Determinations regarding how to handle requests for confidentiality will be made by the Title IX coordinator.

(b) The Title IX coordinator will inform and attempt to obtain consent from the complainant before commencing an investigation of alleged sexual harassment. If a complainant asks that their name not be revealed to the respondent or that the college not investigate the allegation, the Title IX coordinator will inform the complainant that maintaining confidentiality may limit the college's ability to fully respond to the allegations and that retaliation by the respondent and/or others is prohibited. If the complainant still insists that their name not be disclosed or that the college not investigate, the Title IX coordinator will determine whether the college can honor the request and at the same time maintain a safe and nondiscriminatory environment for all members of the college community, including the complainant. Factors to be weighed during this determination may include, but are not limited to:

(i) The seriousness of the alleged sexual harassment;

(ii) The age of the complainant;

(iii) Whether the sexual harassment was perpetrated with a weapon;

(iv) Whether the respondent has a history of committing acts of sexual harassment or violence or has been the subject of other sexual harassment or violence complaints or findings;

(v) Whether the respondent threatened to commit additional acts of sexual harassment or violence against the complainant or others; and

(vi) Whether relevant evidence about the alleged incident can be obtained through other means (e.g., security cameras, other witnesses, physical evidence).

(c) If the college is unable to honor a complainant's request for confidentiality, the Title IX coordinator will notify the complainant of the decision and ensure that complainant's identity is disclosed only to the extent reasonably necessary to effectively conduct and complete the investigation in compliance with this grievance procedure.

(d) If the college decides not to conduct an investigation or take disciplinary action because of a request for confidentiality, the Title IX coordinator will evaluate whether other measures are available to address the circumstances giving rise to the complaint and prevent their recurrence, and implement such measures if reasonably feasible.

(7) Complaint resolution.

The Title IX resolution processes are initiated when the Title IX coordinator's office receives a written complaint alleging that a respondent(s) sexually harassed a complainant and requesting that the college initiate an investigation (a formal complaint). A formal complaint must be either submitted by the complainant or signed by the Title IX coordinator on behalf of the complainant. Formal complaints submitted to the Title IX coordinator may be resolved through either informal or formal resolution processes. The college will not proceed with either resolution process without a formal complaint.

For purposes of this Title IX grievance procedure, the complainant must be participating in or attempting to participate in a college education program or activity at the time the formal complaint is filed.

(a) Informal resolution.

Under appropriate circumstances and if the impacted and responding parties agree, they may voluntarily pursue informal resolution during the investigation of a concern. Informal resolution is not appropriate when the allegations involve a mandatory reporting situation, an immediate threat to the health, safety or welfare of a member of the college community, or in cases where an employee is alleged to have sexually harassed a student.

If an informal resolution is appropriate, the impacted party and the responding party may explore remedies or resolution through:

(i) Guided conversations or communications conducted by the Title IX coordinator/HRO representative or a mutually agreed upon third party;

(ii) Structured resolution process conducted by a trained mediator; or

(iii) Voluntarily agreed on alterations to either or both of the parties' work or class schedules or student housing arrangements.

If the parties agree to an informal resolution process, the college will commence the process within ten days after the

parties agree to this option and conclude within ninety days of beginning that process, subject to reasonable delays and extensions for good cause shown. The informal process is voluntary. Either the impacted or responding party may withdraw from the informal resolution process at any time, at which point the formal investigation process will resume.

If the impacted and responding party voluntarily resolve a report, the college will record the terms of the resolution in a written agreement signed by both parties and provide written notice to both parties that the report has been closed.

(b) Formal resolution.

Formal resolution means that the complainant's allegations of sexual harassment will be subjected to a formal investigation by an impartial and unbiased investigator. The investigator will issue a report of the investigation findings. Upon completion of the investigation, the investigator will submit the final investigation report to the appropriate disciplinary authority to determine whether disciplinary proceedings are warranted.

(8) Emergency removal.

If a student respondent poses an immediate threat to the health and safety of the college community or an immediate threat of significant disruption to college operations, the college's student conduct officer may summarily suspend a respondent pursuant to WAC 132-125-350, pending final resolution of the allegations. Nothing in this grievance procedure prohibits the college from placing nonstudent employees on administrative leave pending final resolution of the allegations.

(9) Investigation notices.

Upon receiving a formal complaint and determining that allegations comport with Title IX claims, the college will provide the parties with the following notices containing the following information:

(a) Notice of formal and informal resolution processes. A description of the college's grievance resolution procedures, including the informal resolution procedure.

(b) The investigator will serve the respondent and the complainant with a notice of investigation in advance of the initial interview with the respondent to allow the respondent sufficient time to prepare a response to the allegations and to inform the complainant that the college has commenced an investigation. The investigation notice will:

(i) Include the identities of the parties (if known), a description of the conduct alleged constituting Title IX sexual harassment, and the time and location of the incident (if known).

(ii) Confirm that the respondent is presumed not responsible for the alleged conduct and that the college will not make a final determination of responsibility until after the grievance and disciplinary processes have been completed.

(iii) Inform parties that they are both entitled to have an advisor of their own choosing, who may be an attorney.

(iv) Inform parties they have a right to review and inspect evidence.

(v) Inform parties about student conduct code provisions and employment policies that prohibit students and employees from knowingly submitting false information during the grievance and disciplinary processes.

(c) Amended investigation notice. If during the course of the investigation, the college decides to investigate Title IX sexual harassment allegations about the complainant or respondent that are not included in the investigation notice, the college will issue an amended notice of investigation to both parties that includes this additional information.

(d) Interview and meeting notices. Before any interview or meeting with a party about Title IX allegations, the college shall provide the party with a written notice identifying the date, time, location, participants, and purpose of the interview or meeting with sufficient time, at least five days, for the party to prepare for the interview or meeting.

(10) Investigation process - Dismissal.

(a) Mandatory dismissal - The Title IX coordinator will dismiss the Title IX allegations, if during the course of a formal investigation under the Title IX grievance process, the investigator determines that the alleged misconduct in the formal complaint:

(i) Does not meet the definition of sexual harassment under Title IX, even if proved; or

(ii) Did not occur in the context of a college educational program or activity; or

(iii) Occurred outside the United States.

(b) Discretionary dismissal - The college may dismiss a Title IX claim in whole or in part, if:

(i) The complainant notifies the Title IX coordinator in writing that they would like to withdraw the formal complaint in whole or in part;

(ii) Respondent is no longer enrolled with or employed by the college; or

(iii) Specific circumstances prevent the college from gathering evidence sufficient to complete the investigation of the Title IX allegations in whole or in part.

(c) The Title IX coordinator will provide both parties written notice if Title IX allegations are dismissed with an explanation for the dismissal.

(d) Mandatory or discretionary dismissal of a Title IX claim does not preclude the college from investigating and pursuing discipline based on allegations that a respondent violated other federal or state laws and regulations, college conduct policies, and/or other codes and contractual provisions governing student and employee conduct.

(11) Investigation process - Consolidation of formal complaints.

When multiple sexual harassment allegations by or against different parties arise out of the same facts or circumstances, the college may consolidate the investigation of formal complaints, provided consolidation can be accomplished in compliance with confidentiality protections imposed by the Family Educational Records and Privacy Act (FERPA). This includes instances in which complainant and respondent have lodged formal complaints against one another or when allegations of sexual assault are lodged by a single complainant against multiple respondents, or when multiple complainants lodge sexual assault complaints against single or multiple respondents.

(12) Investigation process - Required procedures.

During the investigation, the investigator:

(a) Will provide the parties with equal opportunity to present relevant statements, and other evidence in the form of

fact or expert witnesses and inculpatory or exculpatory evidence.

(b) Will not restrict the ability of either party to discuss the allegations under investigation or gather and present relevant evidence, except when a no contact order has been imposed based on an individualized and fact specific determination that a party poses a threat to the health, safety or welfare of another party and/or witnesses or when contact with a party and/or witness is prohibited by court order. A college-imposed no contact shall be no broader than is necessary to protect the threatened party or witness and must provide the impacted party or their advisor with alternative means of gathering and presenting relevant evidence from the protected witness and/or party.

(c) Will allow each party to be accompanied by an advisor of their choosing, who may be an attorney, to any grievance related meeting or interview. Advisors' roles during the investigation meetings or interviews will be limited to providing support and advice to the party. Advisors will not represent or otherwise advocate on behalf of the parties during the investigation process. An attorney representing a party must enter a notice of appearance with the Title IX coordinator and the investigator at least five days before the initial interview or meeting they plan to attend, so that the college can secure its own legal representation, if necessary.

(d) The investigator will provide both parties and their respective advisors with an equal opportunity to review the draft investigation report and to inspect and review any evidence obtained during the investigation that is directly related to the allegations raised in the formal complaint, including inculpatory or exculpatory evidence, regardless of its source, as well as evidence the investigator does not intend to rely in the final investigation report. After disclosure, each party will receive ten days in which to submit a written response, which the investigator will consider prior to completion of the investigation report. If a party fails to submit a written response within ten days, the party will be deemed to have waived their right to submit comments and the investigator will finalize the report without this information.

(e) The investigator will forward the final report to the Title IX coordinator, who distributes the report and evidence to the parties, as well as the disciplinary authority responsible for determining whether pursuing disciplinary action is warranted.

WSR 20-17-090

EMERGENCY RULES

DEPARTMENT OF

FISH AND WILDLIFE

[Order 20-158—Filed August 14, 2020, 7:12 a.m., effective August 16, 2020]

Effective Date of Rule: August 16, 2020.

Purpose: The purpose of this rule is to close Chinook retention in Catch Record Card Area 7 from August 16 through 21, 2020.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: WAC 220-313-06000V; and amending WAC 220-313-060.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.020, 77.12.045, and 77.12.047.

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that immediate adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule is necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety, or general welfare, and that observing the time requirements of notice and opportunity to comment upon adoption of a permanent rule would be contrary to the public interest.

Reasons for this Finding: This emergency rule is needed to close Marine Area 7 to Chinook retention from August 16 through 21, 2020. With two hundred six Chinook remaining of the Catch Record Card Area 7 quota of 1,562, it is unlikely the fishery could endure the entirety of the scheduled season, from August 16 through 31, 2020. This closure is intended to maximize opportunity and participation while ensuring fisheries remain within allowed Endangered Species Act impacts. The decision for this closure and its timing were made in consultation with the citizens' board of the Puget Sound sport fishing advisory group.

Immediate adoption of this rule is necessary for the preservation of public health, safety, or general welfare. Observing the requirements of notice and opportunity to comment upon adoption of a permanent rule would be contrary to the public interest. There is insufficient time to adopt permanent rules.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Non-governmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 1, Amended 0, Repealed 1.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: August 13, 2020.

Amy Windrope
for Kelly Susewind
Director

NEW SECTION

WAC 220-313-06000V Puget Sound salmon—Salt-water seasons and daily limits. Effective August 16 through August 21, 2020, the following provisions of WAC 220-313-060 regarding salmon seasons for Marine Area 7, shall be modified as described below. All other provisions of WAC 220-313-060 not addressed herein, or unless otherwise amended by emergency rule, remain in effect:

Catch Record Card Area 7: Daily limit 2. Release Chinook and chum.

REPEALER

The following section of the Washington Administrative Code is repealed effective August 22, 2020:

WAC 220-313-06000V Puget Sound salmon—Saltwater seasons and daily limits. (20-158)

**WSR 20-17-091
EMERGENCY RULES
DEPARTMENT OF
FISH AND WILDLIFE**

[Order 20-160—Filed August 14, 2020, 7:15 a.m., effective August 19, 2020]

Effective Date of Rule: August 19, 2020.

Purpose: The purpose of this rule is to close commercial gillnet fisheries in Management and Catch Reporting Area 7C, from August 19 through 26, 2020.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: Repealing WAC 220-354-12000V and 220-354-16000D; and amending WAC 220-354-120 and 220-354-160.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.020, 77.12.045, and 77.12.047.

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that immediate adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule is necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety, or general welfare, and that observing the time requirements of notice and opportunity to comment upon adoption of a permanent rule would be contrary to the public interest.

Reasons for this Finding: This emergency rule is needed to close commercial gillnet salmon fisheries in Puget Sound Salmon Management and Catch Reporting Area 7C beginning August 19, 2020. The reason for the closure is to avoid gear conflicts with a tribal crab opening. This action is undertaken through comanager agreement.

Immediate adoption of these rules is necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety, or general welfare. Observing the time requirements of notice and opportunity to comment upon adoption of a permanent rule would be contrary to the public interest. There is insufficient time to adopt permanent rules.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Non-governmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 1, Amended 0, Repealed 1.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: August 13, 2020.

Amy Windrope
for Kelly Susewind
Director

NEW SECTION

WAC 220-354-16000D Puget Sound salmon—Gillnet—Open periods. Effective 7 p.m. August 18 through 7 a.m. September 4, 2020 the following provisions of WAC 220-354-160 regarding commercial gillnet open periods and mesh size for Management and Catch Reporting Areas 7B and 7C shall be as described below. All other provisions of WAC 220-354-160 not addressed herein, or unless otherwise amended by emergency rule, remain in effect:

Area	Open/Closed	Time	Date	Mesh Size
7C:	Closed	7 PM - 8 AM	Nightly 8/18, 8/19, 8/25, 8/26	7"
7C:	Open	7 PM - 8 AM	Nightly 8/23, 8/24	7"
7B, 7C:	Open	7 AM 8/30 - 7 AM 9/4		7"

REPEALER

The following section of the Washington Administrative Code is repealed effective August 27, 2019:

WAC 220-354-16000D Puget Sound salmon—Gillnet—Open periods.

**WSR 20-17-092
EMERGENCY RULES
RENTON TECHNICAL COLLEGE**

[Filed August 14, 2020, 7:20 a.m., effective August 14, 2020]

Effective Date of Rule: August 14, 2020.

Purpose: The Department of Education (DOE) issued updated Title IX rules on May 22, 2020, which take effect August 14, 2020, forward. The updated rules incorporate new Title IX student conduct code requirements that necessitate Renton Technical College [update] chapter 495E-110 WAC, amending WAC 495E-110-230 - 495E-110-310, and repealing WAC 495E-110-170 - 495E-110-200 of the student conduct code and hearing procedure, no later than August 14,

2020, to remain in compliance with the updated DOE requirements.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: New WAC 495E-110-230, 495E-110-240, 495E-110-250, 495E-110-260, 495E-110-270, 495E-110-280, 495E-110-290, 495E-110-300 and 495E-110-310; and repealing WAC 495E-110-170, 495E-110-180, 495E-110-190, and 495E-110-200.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: Title IX of Education Amendments of 1972; RCW 28B.50.140.

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that immediate adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule is necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety, or general welfare, and that observing the time requirements of notice and opportunity to comment upon adoption of a permanent rule would be contrary to the public interest; and that state or federal law or federal rule or a federal deadline for state receipt of federal funds requires immediate adoption of a rule.

Reasons for this Finding: Emergency rules adding and repealing rules to chapter 495E-110 WAC, Student conduct code and hearing procedure, rules are necessary for compliance with DOE updated Title IX rules issued on May 22, 2020, and requiring implementation of updated student conduct code requirements related to Title IX no later than August 14, 2020. The college intends to proceed with permanent rule making on these subjects in the near future.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 9, Amended 0, Repealed 4; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Non-governmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: August 14, 2020.

Eduardo Rodriguez
Vice President of
Administration and Finance

SUPPLEMENTAL TITLE IX STUDENT CONDUCT PROCEDURES

NEW SECTION

WAC 495E-110-230 Order of precedence. This supplemental procedure applies to allegations of sexual harassment 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 disciplinary procedures, WAC 495E-110-010 through 495E-110-220, these supplemental procedures shall take precedence.

NEW SECTION

WAC 495E-110-240 Prohibited conduct under Title IX. Pursuant to RCW 28B.50.140(13) and Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1681, the college may impose disciplinary sanctions against a student who commits, attempts to commit, or aids, abets, incites, encourages, or assists another person to commit, an act(s) of "sexual harassment."

For purposes of this supplemental procedure, "sexual harassment" encompasses the following conduct:

(1) Quid pro quo harassment. A college employee conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of college on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct.

(2) Hostile environment. Unwelcome conduct that a reasonable person would find to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the college's educational programs or activities, or employment.

(3) Sexual assault. Sexual assault includes the following conduct:

(a) Nonconsensual sexual intercourse. Any actual or attempted sexual intercourse (anal, oral, or vaginal), however slight, with any object or body part, 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. 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. 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 eighteen.

(d) Statutory rape. Consensual sexual intercourse between someone who is eighteen years of age or older and someone who is under the age of sixteen.

(4) Domestic violence. Physical violence, bodily injury, assault, the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, sexual assault, or stalking 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 26.50.010.

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

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

(b) 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.

(6) Stalking. Engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for their safety or the safety of others, or suffer substantial emotional distress.

NEW SECTION

WAC 495E-110-250 Title IX jurisdiction. (1) This supplemental procedure applies only if the alleged misconduct:

- (a) Occurred in the United States;
- (b) Occurred during a college educational program or activity; and
- (c) Meets the definition of sexual harassment as that term is defined in this supplemental procedure.

(2) For purposes of this supplemental procedure, an "educational program or activity" is defined as locations, events, or circumstances over which the college exercised substantial control over both the respondent and the context in which the alleged sexual harassment occurred. This definition includes any building owned or controlled by a student organization that is officially recognized by the college.

(3) Proceedings under this supplemental procedure must be dismissed if the decision maker determines that one or all of the requirements of subsection (1)(a) through (c) of this section have not been met. Dismissal under this supplemental procedure does not prohibit the college from pursuing other disciplinary action based on allegations that the respondent violated other provisions of the college's student conduct code, WAC 495E-110-030.

(4) If the student conduct officer determines the facts in the investigation report are not sufficient to support Title IX jurisdiction and/or pursuit of a Title IX violation, the student conduct officer will issue a notice of dismissal in whole or part to both parties explaining why some or all of the Title IX claims have been dismissed.

NEW SECTION

WAC 495E-110-260 Initiation of discipline. (1) Upon receiving the Title IX investigation report from the Title IX coordinator, the student conduct officer will independently review the report to determine whether there are sufficient grounds to pursue a disciplinary action against the respondent for engaging in prohibited conduct under Title IX.

(2) If the student conduct officer determines that there are sufficient grounds to proceed under these supplemental procedures, the student conduct officer will initiate a Title IX disciplinary proceeding by filing a written disciplinary notice with the chair of the student conduct committee and serving the notice on the respondent and the complainant, and their respective advisors. The notice must:

- (a) Set forth the basis for Title IX jurisdiction;
- (b) Identify the alleged Title IX violation(s);
- (c) Set forth the facts underlying the allegation(s);

(d) Identify the range of possible sanctions that may be imposed if the respondent is found responsible for the alleged violation(s); and

(e) Explain that the parties are entitled to be accompanied by their chosen advisors during the hearing and that:

- (i) The advisors will be responsible for questioning all witnesses on the party's behalf;
- (ii) An advisor may be an attorney; and
- (iii) The college will appoint the party an advisor of the college's choosing at no cost to the party, if the party fails to do so.

(3) Explain that if a party fails to appear at the hearing, a decision of responsibility may be made in their absence.

NEW SECTION

WAC 495E-110-270 Prehearing procedure. (1) Upon receiving the disciplinary notice, the chair of the student conduct committee will send a hearing notice to all parties, in compliance with WAC 495E-110-120. In no event will the hearing date be set less than ten days after the Title IX coordinator provided the final investigation report to the parties.

(2) A party may choose to have an attorney serve as their advisor at the party's own expense. This right will be waived unless, at least five days before the hearing, the attorney files a notice of appearance with the committee chair with copies to all parties and the student conduct officer.

(3) In preparation for the hearing, the parties will have equal access to all evidence gathered by the investigator during the investigation, regardless of whether the college intends to offer the evidence at the hearing.

NEW SECTION

WAC 495E-110-280 Rights of parties. (1) The college's student conduct procedures and this supplemental procedure shall apply equally to all parties.

(2) The college 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 college's choosing on the party's behalf at no expense to the party.

NEW SECTION

WAC 495E-110-290 Evidence. The introduction and consideration of evidence during the hearing is subject to the following procedures and restrictions:

(1) Relevance: The committee chair shall review all questions for relevance and shall explain on the record their reasons for excluding any question based on lack of relevance.

(2) Relevance means that information elicited by the question makes facts in dispute more or less likely to be true.

(3) Questions or evidence about a complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant and must be excluded, unless such question or evidence:

(a) Is asked or offered to prove someone other than the respondent committed the alleged misconduct; or

(b) Concerns specific incidents of prior sexual behavior between the complainant and the respondent, which are asked or offered on the issue of consent.

(4) Cross-examination required: If a party or witness does not submit to cross-examination during the live hearing, the committee must not rely on any statement by that party or witness in reaching a determination of responsibility.

(5) No negative inference: The committee may not make an inference regarding responsibility solely on a witness's or party's absence from the hearing or refusal to answer questions.

(6) Privileged evidence: The committee shall not consider legally privileged information unless the holder has effectively waived the privilege. Privileged information includes, but is not limited to, information protected by the following:

(a) Spousal/domestic partner privilege;

(b) Attorney-client and attorney work product privileges;

(c) Privileges applicable to members of the clergy and priests;

(d) Privileges applicable to medical providers, mental health therapists, and counselors;

(e) Privileges applicable to sexual assault and domestic violence advocates; and

(f) Other legal privileges identified in RCW 5.60.060.

NEW SECTION

WAC 495E-110-300 Initial order. (1) In addition to complying with WAC 495E-110-140, the student conduct committee will be responsible for conferring and drafting an initial order that:

(a) Identifies the allegations of sexual harassment;

(b) Describes the grievance and disciplinary procedures, starting with filing of the formal complaint through the determination of responsibility, including notices to parties, interviews with witnesses and parties, site visits, methods used to gather evidence, and hearings held;

(c) Makes findings of fact supporting the determination of responsibility;

(d) Reaches conclusions as to whether the facts establish whether the respondent is responsible for engaging in sexual harassment in violation of Title IX;

(e) Contains a statement of, and rationale for, the committee's determination of responsibility for each allegation;

(f) Describes any disciplinary sanction or conditions imposed against the respondent, if any;

(g) Describes to what extent, if any, complainant is entitled to remedies designed to restore or preserve complainant's equal access to the college's education programs or activities; and

(h) Describes the process for appealing the initial order to the college president.

(2) The committee chair will serve the initial order on the parties simultaneously.

NEW SECTION

WAC 495E-110-310 Appeals. (1) The parties shall have the right to appeal from the initial order's determination of responsibility and/or dismissal of an allegation(s) of sexual harassment in a formal complaint. The right to appeal will be subject to the same procedures and time frames set forth in WAC 495E-110-150.

(2) The president or their delegate will determine whether the grounds for appeal have merit, provide the rationale for this conclusion, and state whether the disciplinary sanction and condition(s) imposed in the initial order are affirmed, vacated, or amended, and, if amended, set forth any new disciplinary sanction and/or condition(s).

(3) The president's office shall serve the final decision on the parties simultaneously.

REPEALER

The following sections of the Washington Administrative Code are repealed:

WAC 495E-110-170 Supplemental sexual misconduct procedures.

WAC 495E-110-180 Supplemental definitions.

WAC 495E-110-190 Supplemental complaint process.

WAC 495E-110-200 Supplemental appeal rights.

WSR 20-17-093

EMERGENCY RULES

COLUMBIA BASIN COLLEGE

[Filed August 14, 2020, 8:14 a.m., effective August 14, 2020, 8:14 a.m.]

Effective Date of Rule: Immediately upon filing.

Purpose: On May 19, 2020, the Federal Register printed amendments to Title IX regulations (85 F.R. 30575). The new regulations address the grievance process for formal complaints of sexual harassment and are scheduled to take effect on August 14, 2020. This requires emergency updates to the college's student conduct code to be compliant with federal regulations.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: New Supplemental Title IX Student Conduct Procedures, WAC 132S-110-010 through 132S-110-090.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: Chapter 34.05 RCW; and RCW 28B.50.140(13); 20 U.S.C. § 1092(f); Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. § 1681 et seq.

Other Authority: Title IX of the Education Act Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. Section 1681.

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that state or federal law or federal rule or a federal deadline for state receipt of federal funds requires immediate adoption of a rule.

Reasons for this Finding: Columbia Basin College is required by the United States Department of Education to

comply with the recently adopted Title IX regulations, which take effect on August 14, 2020.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 9, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Non-governmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: August 14, 2020.

Camilla Glatt
Vice President
for Human Resources
and Legal Affairs
Title IX Coordinator

Chapter 132S-110 WAC

TITLE IX HEARING PROCEDURE FOR STUDENTS

NEW SECTION

WAC 132S-110-010 Order of precedence. This procedure applies to allegations of sexual harassment subject to Title IX jurisdiction pursuant to the college's Title IX grievance policy and regulations promulgated by the United States Department of Education. See 34 C.F.R. Part 106. To the extent these hearing procedures conflict with Columbia Basin College's standard disciplinary procedures, WAC 132S-100-010 through 132S-100-500 these procedures shall take precedence.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132S-110-020 Prohibited conduct under Title IX. Pursuant to RCW 28B.50.140(13) and Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1681, the college may impose disciplinary sanctions against a student who commits, attempts to commit, or aids, abets, incites, encourages, or assists another person to commit, an act(s) of "sexual harassment."

For purposes of this procedure, "sexual harassment" encompasses the following conduct:

(1) **Quid pro quo harassment.** A college employee conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of the college on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct.

(2) **Hostile environment.** Unwelcome conduct that a reasonable person would find to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal

access to the college's educational programs or activities, or employment.

(3) **Sexual assault.** Sexual assault includes the following conduct:

(a) **Nonconsensual sexual intercourse.** Any actual or attempted sexual intercourse (anal, oral, or vaginal), however slight, with any object or body part, 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.** 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.** 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 either wholly or half related. Descendant includes stepchildren and adopted children under the age of eighteen.

(d) **Statutory rape.** Consensual sexual intercourse between someone who is eighteen years of age or older and someone who is under the age of sixteen.

(4) **Domestic violence.** Physical violence, bodily injury, assault, the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, sexual assault, or stalking 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 26.50.010.

(5) **Dating violence.** Physical violence, bodily injury, assault, the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, sexual assault, or stalking committed by a person:

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

(b) 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.

(6) **Stalking.** Engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for their safety or the safety of others, or suffer substantial emotional distress.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132S-110-030 Title IX jurisdiction. (1) This procedure applies only if the alleged misconduct:

(a) Occurred in the United States;

(b) Occurred during a college educational program or activity; and

(c) Meets the definition of Title IX sexual harassment as that term is defined in this procedure.

(2) For purposes of this procedure, an "educational program or activity" is defined as locations, events, or circumstances over which the college exercised substantial control over both the respondent and the context in which the alleged sexual harassment occurred. This definition includes any building owned or controlled by a student organization that is officially recognized by the college.

(3) Proceedings under this procedure must be dismissed if the Title IX coordinator or designee determines that one or all of the requirements of subsection (1)(a) through (c) of this section have not been met. Dismissal under this procedure does not prohibit the college from addressing allegations or taking disciplinary action against conduct that violates provisions of the college's student conduct code, chapter 132S-100 WAC, federal or state law, or other college policies.

(4) If the Title IX coordinator or designee determines the facts in the investigation report are not sufficient to support Title IX jurisdiction and/or does not constitute a Title IX violation, the Title IX coordinator or designee will issue a notice of dismissal in whole or part to both parties explaining why some or all of the Title IX claims have been dismissed.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132S-110-040 Initiation of hearing. (1) Upon receiving the Title IX investigation report the Title IX coordinator or designee will review the report to determine whether there are sufficient grounds to proceed with a live hearing.

(2) If the Title IX coordinator or designee determines that there are sufficient grounds to proceed, the Title IX coordinator or designee will initiate a live hearing by filing a written notice with the chair of the Title IX student hearing panel and serving the notice on the respondent and the complainant, and their respective advisors. The notice must:

- (a) Set forth the basis for Title IX jurisdiction;
- (b) Identify the alleged Title IX violation(s);
- (c) Set forth the facts underlying the allegation(s);
- (d) Identify the range of possible sanctions that may be imposed if the respondent is found responsible for the alleged violation(s); and
- (e) Explain that the parties are entitled to be accompanied by their chosen advisors during the hearing and that:
 - (i) The advisors will be responsible for questioning all witnesses on the party's behalf;
 - (ii) An advisor may be an attorney; and
 - (iii) If the party does not have an advisor, the college will provide a list of available advisors for the party to choose from at no cost to the party.

(3) Explain that if a party fails to appear at the hearing, a decision of responsibility may be made in their absence.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132S-110-050 Prehearing procedure. (1) Upon receiving the notice of live hearing, the chair of the Title IX student hearing panel will send a hearing notice to all parties. In no event will the hearing date be set less than ten days after

the Title IX coordinator or designee provides the final investigation report to the parties.

(2) A party may choose to have an attorney serve as their advisor at the party's own expense. This right will be waived unless, at least five days before the hearing, the attorney files a notice of appearance with the hearing panel chair with copies to all parties and the Title IX coordinator.

(3) In preparation for the hearing, the parties will have equal access to all evidence gathered by the investigator during the investigation, regardless of whether the college intends to offer the evidence at the hearing.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132S-110-060 Rights of parties. (1) To the extent they are consistent with this procedure, the college's student conduct procedures, chapter 132S-100 WAC and this procedure shall apply equally to all parties.

(2) The college bears the burden of offering and presenting sufficient testimony and evidence to establish whether or not 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 or designee will provide a list of available advisors for the party to choose from at no cost to the party.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132S-110-070 Evidence. The introduction and consideration of evidence during the hearing is subject to the following procedures and restrictions:

(1) Relevance: The hearing panel chair shall review all questions for relevance and shall explain on the record their reasons for excluding any question based on lack of relevance.

(2) Relevance means that information elicited by the question makes facts in dispute more or less likely to be true.

(3) Questions or evidence about a complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant and must be excluded, unless such question or evidence:

(a) Is asked or offered to prove someone other than the respondent committed the alleged misconduct; or

(b) Concerns specific incidents of prior sexual behavior between the complainant and the respondent, which are asked or offered on the issue of consent.

(4) Cross-examination required: If a party or witness does not submit to cross-examination during the live hearing, the hearing panel must not rely on any statement by that party or witness in reaching a determination of responsibility.

(5) No negative inference: The hearing panel may not make an inference regarding responsibility solely on a witness's or party's absence from the hearing or refusal to answer questions.

(6) Privileged evidence: The hearing panel shall not consider legally privileged information unless the holder has

effectively waived the privilege. Privileged information includes, but is not limited to, information protected by the following:

- (a) Spousal/domestic partner privilege;
- (b) Attorney-client and attorney work product privileges;
- (c) Privileges applicable to members of the clergy and priests;
- (d) Privileges applicable to medical providers, mental health therapists, and counselors;
- (e) Privileges applicable to sexual assault and domestic violence advocates; and
- (f) Other legal privileges identified in RCW 5.60.060.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132S-110-080 Initial order. (1) The Title IX student hearing panel will be responsible for conferring and drafting an initial order that:

- (a) Identifies the allegations of sexual harassment;
 - (b) Describes the grievance and disciplinary procedures, starting with filing of the formal complaint through the determination of responsibility, including notices to parties, interviews with witnesses and parties, site visits, methods used to gather evidence, and hearings held;
 - (c) Describes findings of fact supporting the decision of the hearing panel;
 - (d) Reaches conclusions as to whether the facts establish that the respondent is responsible or not responsible for engaging in sexual harassment in violation of Title IX;
 - (e) Contains a statement of, and rationale for, the hearing panel's determination of each allegation;
 - (f) Describes any disciplinary sanction or conditions imposed against the respondent, if any;
 - (g) Describes to what extent, if any, complainant is entitled to remedies designed to restore or preserve complainant's equal access to the college's education programs or activities; and
 - (h) Describes the process for appealing the initial order to the college president.
- (2) The hearing panel chair will serve the initial order on the parties simultaneously.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132S-110-090 Appeals. (1) The parties shall have the right to appeal from the initial order's determination of responsibility and/or dismissal of an allegation(s) of sexual harassment in a formal complaint. The right to appeal will be subject to the following procedures and time frames:

- (a) An appeal may be filed in writing with the president's office within twenty-one days of the notice of initial order, with copies to all parties and the Title IX coordinator.
- (b) The request for appeal must include a brief statement explaining the grounds for the appeal or why the party is seeking review. Disagreement with the initial order and/or sanctions does not, by itself, represent grounds for appeals.
- (c) Decisions may be appealed for one or more of the following:
 - (i) To determine whether there was a procedural irregularity that substantially affected the outcome of the initial

order. Deviation from designated procedures is not a basis for sustaining an appeal unless significant prejudice results.

(ii) To consider new evidence, sufficient to alter a decision, that was not reasonably available during fact finding and cross-examination, because such information and/or facts were not known, and the student bringing the appeal had no duty to discover or could not have reasonably discovered facts giving rise to the issues during investigation, live hearing, or fact finding. Refusal to participate during the investigation or live hearing does not constitute a right to appeal.

(iii) The Title IX coordinator or designee, investigator(s), or decision-maker(s) had a conflict of interest or bias for or against complainants or respondents generally or the individual complainant or respondent that affected the outcome of the matter.

(d) A party who timely appeals a decision under this procedure, has a right to a prompt, fair, and impartial review of their appeal.

(e) Supportive measures will remain in effect pending an appeal.

(f) Complainants are afforded the same right to appeal as respondents. If both parties appeal the decision, the appeals will be reviewed in the order in which they are filed or reviewed together, if they state the same, similar, or related grounds or substance for appeal.

(2) The president or their delegate will determine whether the grounds for appeal have merit, provide the rationale for this conclusion, and state whether the disciplinary sanction and condition(s) imposed in the initial order are affirmed, vacated, or amended, and, if amended, set forth any new disciplinary sanction and/or condition(s).

(3) The president's office shall serve the final decision on the parties simultaneously.

WSR 20-17-094 EMERGENCY RULES CLARK COLLEGE

[Filed August 14, 2020, 8:35 a.m., effective August 14, 2020, 8:35 a.m.]

Effective Date of Rule: Immediately upon filing.

Purpose: On May 19, 2020, the Federal Register printed amendments to Title IX regulations (85 F.R. 30575). The new regulations address the grievance process for formal complaints of sexual harassment and are scheduled to take effect on August 14, 2020. This requires emergency updates to the college's code of student conduct to be compliant with federal regulations.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: New Discipline procedures for cases involving allegations of violation of Title IX, WAC 132N-125-300, 132N-125-305, 132N-125-310, 132N-125-315, 132N-125-320, 132N-125-325, 132N-125-330, 132N-125-335, and 132N-125-340.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: Chapter 34.05 RCW; and RCW 28B.50.140(13); 20 U.S.C. § 1092(f); Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. § 1681 et seq.

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that state or federal law or federal rule or a federal deadline for state receipt of federal funds requires immediate adoption of a rule.

Reasons for this Finding: Clark College is required by the United States Department of Education to comply with the recently adopted Title IX regulations, which take effect on August 14, 2020.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 9, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Non-governmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 9, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: August 14, 2020.

Bob Williamson
Vice President
of Administrative Services

DISCIPLINE PROCEDURES FOR CASES INVOLVING ALLEGATIONS OF VIOLATION OF TITLE IX

NEW SECTION

WAC 132N-125-300 Order of precedence. This supplemental procedure applies to allegations of sexual harassment 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 Clark College's standard disciplinary procedures, WAC 132N-125-005 through 132N-125-225, these supplemental procedures shall take precedence.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132N-125-305 Prohibited conduct under Title IX. Pursuant to RCW 28B.50.140(13) and Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1681, Clark College may impose disciplinary sanctions against a student who commits, attempts to commit, or aids, abets, incites, encourages, or assists another person to commit, an act(s) of "sexual harassment."

For purposes of this supplemental procedure, "sexual harassment" encompasses the following conduct:

(1) Quid pro quo harassment. A Clark College employee conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of the college on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct.

(2) Hostile environment. Unwelcome conduct that a reasonable person would find to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the college's educational programs or activities, or employment.

(3) Sexual assault. Sexual assault includes the following conduct:

(a) Nonconsensual sexual intercourse. Any actual or attempted sexual intercourse (anal, oral, or vaginal), however slight, with any object or body part, 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. 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. 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 eighteen.

(d) Statutory rape. Consensual sexual intercourse between someone who is eighteen years of age or older and someone who is under the age of sixteen.

(4) Domestic violence. Physical violence, bodily injury, assault, the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, sexual assault, or stalking 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 26.50.010.

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

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

(b) 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.

(6) Stalking. Engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for their safety or the safety of others, or suffer substantial emotional distress.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132N-125-310 Title IX jurisdiction. (1) This supplemental procedure applies only if the alleged misconduct:

(a) Occurred in the United States;

(b) Occurred during a Clark College educational program or activity; and

(c) Meets the definition of sexual harassment as that term is defined in this supplemental procedure.

(2) For purposes of this supplemental procedure, an "educational program or activity" is defined as locations, events, or circumstances over which the college exercised substantial control over both the respondent and the context in which the alleged sexual harassment occurred. This definition includes any building owned or controlled by a student organization that is officially recognized by the Clark College.

(3) Proceedings under this supplemental procedure must be dismissed if the decision maker determines that one or all of the requirements of subsection (1)(a) through (c) of this section have not been met. Dismissal under this supplemental procedure does not prohibit Clark College from pursuing other disciplinary action based on allegations that the respondent violated other provisions of the college's student conduct code, WAC 132N-125-200.

(4) If the student conduct officer determines the facts in the investigation report are not sufficient to support Title IX jurisdiction and/or pursuit of a Title IX violation, the student conduct officer will issue a notice of dismissal in whole or part to both parties explaining why some or all of the Title IX claims have been dismissed.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132N-125-315 Initiation of discipline. (1) Upon receiving the Title IX investigation report from the Title IX coordinator, the student conduct officer will independently review the report to determine whether there are sufficient grounds to pursue a disciplinary action against the respondent for engaging in prohibited conduct under Title IX.

(2) If the student conduct officer determines that there are sufficient grounds to proceed under these supplemental procedures, the student conduct officer will initiate a Title IX disciplinary proceeding by filing a written disciplinary notice with the chair of the student conduct committee and serving the notice on the respondent and the complainant, and their respective advisors. The notice must:

- (a) Set forth the basis for Title IX jurisdiction;
 - (b) Identify the alleged Title IX violation(s);
 - (c) Set forth the facts underlying the allegation(s);
 - (d) Identify the range of possible sanctions that may be imposed if the respondent is found responsible for the alleged violation(s); and
 - (e) Explain that the parties are entitled to be accompanied by their chosen advisors during the hearing and that:
 - (i) The advisors will be responsible for questioning all witnesses on the party's behalf;
 - (ii) An advisor may be an attorney; and
 - (iii) The college will appoint the party an advisor of the college's choosing at no cost to the party, if the party fails to do so.
- (3) Explain that if a party fails to appear at the hearing, a decision of responsibility may be made in their absence.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132N-125-320 Prehearing procedure. (1) Upon receiving the disciplinary notice, the chair of the student con-

duct committee will send a hearing notice to all parties, in compliance with WAC 132N-125-125. In no event will the hearing date be set less than ten days after the Title IX coordinator provided the final investigation report to the parties.

(2) A party may choose to have an attorney serve as their advisor at the party's own expense. This right will be waived unless, at least five days before the hearing, the attorney files a notice of appearance with the committee chair with copies to all parties and the student conduct officer.

(3) In preparation for the hearing, the parties will have equal access to all evidence gathered by the investigator during the investigation, regardless of whether Clark College intends to offer the evidence at the hearing.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132N-125-325 Rights of parties. (1) Clark College's student conduct procedures, WAC 132N-125-120, 132N-125-125, 132N-125-130, and 132N-125-200, and this supplemental procedure shall apply equally to all parties.

(2) The college 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 college's choosing on the party's behalf at no expense to the party.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132N-125-330 Evidence. The introduction and consideration of evidence during the hearing is subject to the following procedures and restrictions:

(1) Relevance: The committee chair shall review all questions for relevance and shall explain on the record their reasons for excluding any question based on lack of relevance.

(2) Relevance means that information elicited by the question makes facts in dispute more or less likely to be true.

(3) Questions or evidence about a complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant and must be excluded, unless such question or evidence:

- (a) Is asked or offered to prove someone other than the respondent committed the alleged misconduct; or
- (b) Concerns specific incidents of prior sexual behavior between the complainant and the respondent, which are asked or offered on the issue of consent.

(4) Cross-examination required: If a party or witness does not submit to cross-examination during the live hearing, the committee must not rely on any statement by that party or witness in reaching a determination of responsibility.

(5) No negative inference: The committee may not make an inference regarding responsibility solely on a witness's or party's absence from the hearing or refusal to answer questions.

(6) Privileged evidence: The committee shall not consider legally privileged information unless the holder has effectively waived the privilege. Privileged information includes, but is not limited to, information protected by the following:

- (a) Spousal/domestic partner privilege;
- (b) Attorney-client and attorney work product privileges;
- (c) Privileges applicable to members of the clergy and priests;
- (d) Privileges applicable to medical providers, mental health therapists, and counselors;
- (e) Privileges applicable to sexual assault and domestic violence advocates; and
- (f) Other legal privileges identified in RCW 5.60.060.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132N-125-335 Initial order. (1) In addition to complying with WAC 132N-125-135, the student conduct committee will be responsible for conferring and drafting an initial order that:

- (a) Identifies the allegations of sexual harassment;
- (b) Describes the grievance and disciplinary procedures, starting with filing of the formal complaint through the determination of responsibility, including notices to parties, interviews with witnesses and parties, site visits, methods used to gather evidence, and hearings held;
- (c) Makes findings of fact supporting the determination of responsibility;
- (d) Reaches conclusions as to whether the facts establish whether the respondent is responsible for engaging in sexual harassment in violation of Title IX;
- (e) Contains a statement of, and rationale for, the committee's determination of responsibility for each allegation;
- (f) Describes any disciplinary sanction or conditions imposed against the respondent, if any;
- (g) Describes to what extent, if any, complainant is entitled to remedies designed to restore or preserve complainant's equal access to Clark College's education programs or activities; and
- (h) Describes the process for appealing the initial order to the Clark College president.

(2) The committee chair will serve the initial order on the parties simultaneously.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132N-125-340 Appeals. (1) The parties shall have the right to appeal from the initial order's determination of responsibility and/or dismissal of an allegation(s) of sexual harassment in a formal complaint. The right to appeal will be subject to the same procedures and time frames set forth in WAC 132N-125-215.

(2) The president or their delegate will determine whether the grounds for appeal have merit, provide the rationale for this conclusion, and state whether the disciplinary sanction and condition(s) imposed in the initial order are affirmed, vacated, or amended, and, if amended, set forth any new disciplinary sanction and/or condition(s).

(3) President's office shall serve the final decision on the parties simultaneously.

WSR 20-17-095

EMERGENCY RULES

BELLINGHAM TECHNICAL COLLEGE

[Filed August 14, 2020, 8:36 a.m., effective August 14, 2020, 8:36 a.m.]

Effective Date of Rule: Immediately upon filing.

Purpose: On May 19, 2020, the Federal Register printed amendments to Title IX regulations (85 F.R. 30026-30579; 34 C.F.R. 106). The new regulations address the grievance process for formal complaints of sexual harassment and are scheduled to take effect on August 14, 2020. This requires emergency updates to the college's student conduct code to be compliant with federal regulations.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: New Supplemental Title IX Student Conduct Procedures, WAC 495B-121-155, 495B-121-165, 495B-121-175, 495B-121-185, 495B-121-195, 495B-121-205, 495B-121-210, 495B-121-215 and 495B-121-225; and repealing WAC 495B-121-150, 495B-121-160, 495B-121-170, 495B-121-180, 495B-305-010, 495B-305-020, 495B-305-030, 495B-305-040, 495B-305-050, 495B-305-060, 495B-305-070, 495B-305-080, 495B-305-090, and 495B-305-100.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: Chapter 34.05 RCW; and RCW 28B.50.140(13); 20 U.S.C. § 1092(f); Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. § 1681 et seq.

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that state or federal law or federal rule or a federal deadline for state receipt of federal funds requires immediate adoption of a rule.

Reasons for this Finding: Bellingham Technical College is required by the United States Department of Education to comply with the recently adopted Title IX regulations, which take effect on August 14, 2020.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 9, Amended 14, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Non-governmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 9, Amended 0, Repealed 14.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: July 30, 2020.

Ronda Laughlin
Executive Assistant
to the President

(DISCIPLINE PROCEDURES FOR CASES INVOLVING ALLEGATIONS OF SEXUAL MISCONDUCT)

**SUPPLEMENTAL TITLE IX STUDENT CONDUCT
PROCEDURES**

NEW SECTION

WAC 495B-121-155 Order of precedence. This supplemental procedure applies to allegations of sexual harassment 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 Bellingham Technical College's standard disciplinary procedures, WAC 495B-121-010 through 495B-121-140, these supplemental procedures shall take precedence.

NEW SECTION

WAC 495B-121-165 Prohibited conduct under Title IX. Pursuant to RCW 28B.50.140(13) and Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1681, the college may impose disciplinary sanctions against a student who commits, attempts to commit, or aids, abets, incites, encourages, or assists another person to commit, an act(s) of "sexual harassment."

For purposes of this supplemental procedure, "sexual harassment" encompasses the following conduct:

(1) Quid pro quo harassment. A college employee conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of the college on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct.

(2) Hostile environment. Unwelcome conduct that a reasonable person would find to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the college's educational programs or activities, or employment.

(3) Sexual assault. Sexual assault includes the following conduct:

(a) Nonconsensual sexual intercourse. Any actual or attempted sexual intercourse (anal, oral, or vaginal), however slight, with any object or body part, 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. 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. 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 eighteen.

(d) Statutory rape. Consensual sexual intercourse between someone who is eighteen years of age or older and someone who is under the age of sixteen.

(4) Domestic violence. Physical violence, bodily injury, assault, the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, sexual assault, or stalking 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 26.50.010.

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

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

(b) 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.

(6) Stalking. Engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for their safety or the safety of others, or suffer substantial emotional distress.

NEW SECTION

WAC 495B-121-175 Title IX jurisdiction. (1) This supplemental procedure applies only if the alleged misconduct:

(a) Occurred in the United States;

(b) Occurred during a college educational program or activity; and

(c) Meets the definition of sexual harassment as that term is defined in this supplemental procedure.

(2) For purposes of this supplemental procedure, an "education program or activity" is defined as locations, events, or circumstances over which the college exercised substantial control over both the respondent and the context in which the alleged sexual harassment occurred. This definition includes any building owned or controlled by a student organization that is officially recognized by the college.

(3) Proceedings under this supplemental procedure must be dismissed if the decision maker determines that one or all of the requirements of subsection (1)(a) through (c) of this section have not been met. Dismissal under this supplemental procedure does not prohibit the college from pursuing other disciplinary action based on allegations that the respondent violated other provisions of the college's student conduct code, WAC 495B-121-010 through 495B-121-140.

(4) If the student conduct officer determines the facts in the investigation report are not sufficient to support Title IX jurisdiction and/or pursuit of a Title IX violation, the student conduct officer will issue a notice of dismissal in whole or part to both parties explaining why some or all of the Title IX claims have been dismissed.

NEW SECTION

WAC 495B-121-185 Initiation of discipline. (1) Upon receiving the Title IX investigation report from the Title IX coordinator, the student conduct officer will independently review the report to determine whether there are sufficient grounds to pursue a disciplinary action against the respondent for engaging in prohibited conduct under Title IX.

(2) If the student conduct officer determines that there are sufficient grounds to proceed under these supplemental procedures, the student conduct officer will initiate a Title IX disciplinary proceeding by filing a written disciplinary notice with the chair of the Title IX hearing committee and serving the notice on the respondent and the complainant, and their respective advisors. The notice must:

- (a) Set forth the basis for Title IX jurisdiction;
- (b) Identify the alleged Title IX violation(s);
- (c) Set forth the facts underlying the allegation(s);
- (d) Identify the range of possible sanctions that may be imposed if the respondent is found responsible for the alleged violation(s); and
- (e) Explain that the parties are entitled to be accompanied by their chosen advisors during the hearing and that:
 - (i) The advisors will be responsible for questioning all witnesses on the party's behalf;
 - (ii) An advisor may be an attorney; and
 - (iii) The college will appoint the party an advisor of the college's choosing at no cost to the party, if the party fails to do so.
- (f) Explain that if a party fails to appear at the hearing, a decision of responsibility may be made in their absence.

NEW SECTION

WAC 495B-121-195 Prehearing procedure. (1) Upon receiving the disciplinary notice, the chair of the Title IX hearing committee will send a hearing notice to all parties, in compliance with WAC 495B-121-120. In no event will the hearing date be less than ten days after the Title IX coordinator provided the final investigation report to the parties.

(2) A party may choose to have an attorney serve as their advisor at the party's own expense. The right will be waived unless, at least five days before the hearing, the attorney files a notice of appearance with the committee chair with copies to all parties and the student conduct officer.

(3) In preparation for the hearing, the parties will have equal access to all evidence gathered by the investigator during the investigation, regardless of whether the college intends to offer the evidence at the hearing.

NEW SECTION

WAC 495B-121-205 Rights of parties. (1) The college's student conduct procedures, WAC 495B-121-010 through 495B-121-140 and this supplemental procedure shall apply equally to all parties.

(2) The college 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 college's choosing on the party's behalf at no expense to the party.

NEW SECTION

WAC 495B-121-210 Evidence. The introduction and consideration of evidence during the hearing is subject to the following procedures and restrictions:

(1) **Relevance:** The committee chair shall review all questions for relevance and shall explain on the record their reasons for excluding any question based on lack of relevance.

(2) **Relevance means** that information elicited by the question makes facts in dispute more or less likely to be true.

(3) Questions or evidence about a complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant and must be excluded, unless such question or evidence:

(a) Is asked or offered to prove someone other than the respondent committed the alleged misconduct; or

(b) Concerns specific incidents of prior sexual behavior between the complainant and the respondent, which are asked or offered on the issue of consent.

(4) **Cross-examination required:** If a party or witness does not submit to cross-examination during the live hearing, the committee must not rely on any statement by that party or witness in reaching a determination of responsibility.

(5) **No negative inference:** The committee may not make an inference regarding responsibility solely on a witness's or party's absence from the hearing or refusal to answer questions.

(6) **Privileged evidence:** The committee shall not consider legally privileged information unless the holder has effectively waived the privilege. Privileged information includes, but is not limited to, information protected by the following:

(a) Spousal/domestic partner privilege;

(b) Attorney-client and attorney work product privileges;

(c) Privileges applicable to members of the clergy and priests;

(d) Privileges applicable to medical providers, mental health therapists, and counselors;

(e) Privileges applicable to sexual assault and domestic violence advocates; and

(f) Other legal privileges identified in RCW 5.60.060.

NEW SECTION

WAC 495B-121-215 Initial order. (1) In addition to complying with WAC 495B-121-130, the Title IX hearing committee will be responsible for conferring and drafting an initial order that:

(a) Identifies the allegations of sexual harassment;

(b) Describes the grievance and disciplinary procedures, starting with filing of the formal complaint through the deter-

mination of responsibility, including notices to parties, interviews with witnesses and parties, site visits, methods used to gather evidence, and hearings held;

(c) Makes findings of fact supporting the determination of responsibility;

(d) Reaches conclusions as to whether the facts establish whether the respondent is responsible for engaging in sexual harassment in violation of Title IX;

(e) Contains a statement of, and rationale for, the committee's determination of responsibility for each allegation;

(f) Describes any disciplinary sanction or conditions imposed against the respondent, if any;

(g) Describes to what extent, if any, the complainant is entitled to remedies designed to restore or preserve complainant's equal access to the college education programs or activities; and

(h) Describes the process for appealing the initial order to the college president.

(2) The committee chair will serve the initial order on the parties simultaneously.

NEW SECTION

WAC 495B-121-225 Appeals. (1) The parties shall have the right to appeal from the initial order's determination of responsibility and/or dismissal of an allegation(s) of sexual harassment in a formal complaint. The right to appeal will be subject to the same procedures and time frames set forth in WAC 495B-121-135.

(2) The president or their delegate will determine whether the grounds for appeal have merit, provide the rationale for this conclusion, and state whether the disciplinary sanction and condition(s) imposed in the initial order are affirmed, vacated, or amended, and, if amended, set forth any new disciplinary sanction and/or condition(s).

(3) The president's office shall serve the final decision on the parties simultaneously.

REPEALER

The following sections of the Washington Administrative Code are repealed:

WAC 495B-121-150 Supplemental sexual misconduct—Procedures.

WAC 495B-121-160 Supplemental sexual misconduct—Definitions.

WAC 495B-121-170 Supplemental complaint process.

WAC 495B-121-180 Supplemental appeal rights.

REPEALER

The following chapter of the Washington Administrative Code is repealed:

WAC 495B-305-010 Preamble.

WAC 495B-305-020 Definitions.

WAC 495B-305-030 Who may file a complaint.

WAC 495B-305-040 Confidentiality and right to privacy.

WAC 495B-305-050 Investigation procedure.

WAC 495B-305-060 Publication of antidiscrimination policies and procedures.

WAC 495B-305-070 Limits to authority.

WAC 495B-305-080 Nonretaliation, intimidation, and coercion.

WAC 495B-305-090 Criminal complaints.

WAC 495B-305-100 Other discrimination complaint options.

WSR 20-17-096

EMERGENCY RULES

YAKIMA VALLEY COLLEGE

[Filed August 14, 2020, 8:51 a.m., effective August 14, 2020, 8:51 a.m.]

Effective Date of Rule: Immediately upon filing.

Purpose: On May 19, 2020, the Federal Register printed amendments to Title IX regulations (85 F.R. 30575). The new regulations address the grievance process for formal complaints of sexual harassment and are scheduled to take effect on August 14, 2020. This requires emergency updates to the college's student conduct code to be compliant with federal regulations.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: New Supplemental Title IX Student Conduct Procedures, WAC 132P-33-300, 132P-33-310, 132P-33-320, 132P-33-335, 132P-33-345, 132P-33-350, 132P-33-360, 132P-33-370 and 132P-33-380; and repealing WAC 132P-33-400, 132P-33-410, 132P-33-415, 132P-33-420, 132P-33-422, 132P-33-424, 132P-33-426, 132P-33-428, and 132P-33-430.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: Chapter 34.05 RCW; and RCW 28B.50.140(13); 20 U.S.C. § 1092(f); Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. § 1681 et seq.

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that state or federal law or federal rule or a federal deadline for state receipt of federal funds requires immediate adoption of a rule.

Reasons for this Finding: Yakima Valley College is required by the United States Department of Education to comply with the recently adopted Title IX regulations, which take effect on August 14, 2020.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 9, Amended 0, Repealed 9; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Non-governmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 9, Amended 0, Repealed 9.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making:

New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: August 10, 2020.

Megan Jensen
Rules Coordinator

DISCIPLINE PROCEDURES FOR CASES INVOLVING ALLEGATIONS OF SEXUAL MISCONDUCT

NEW SECTION

WAC 132P-33-305 Order of precedence. This supplemental procedure applies to allegations of sexual harassment 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 Yakima Valley College's standard disciplinary procedures, WAC 132P-33-440 through 132P-33-540, these supplemental procedures shall take precedence.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132P-33-315 Prohibited conduct under Title IX. Pursuant to RCW 28B.50.140(13) and Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1681, the college may impose disciplinary sanctions against a student who commits, attempts to commit, or aids, abets, incites, encourages, or assists another person to commit, an act(s) of "sexual harassment."

For purposes of this supplemental procedure, "sexual harassment" encompasses the following conduct:

(1) Quid pro quo harassment. A college employee conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of the college on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct.

(2) Hostile environment. Unwelcome conduct that a reasonable person would find to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the college's educational programs or activities, or employment.

(3) Sexual assault. Sexual assault includes the following conduct:

(a) Nonconsensual sexual intercourse. Any actual or attempted sexual intercourse (anal, oral, or vaginal), however slight, with any object or body part, 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. 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. 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 eighteen.

(d) Statutory rape. Consensual sexual intercourse between someone who is eighteen years of age or older and someone who is under the age of sixteen.

(4) Domestic violence. Physical violence, bodily injury, assault, the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, sexual assault, or stalking 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 26.50.010.

(5) Dating violence. 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:

- (a) The length of the relationship;
- (b) The type of relationship; and
- (c) The frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.

(6) Stalking. Engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for their safety or the safety of others, or suffer substantial emotional distress.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132P-33-325 Title IX jurisdiction. (1) This supplemental procedure applies only if the alleged misconduct:

- (a) Occurred in the United States;
- (b) Occurred during a college educational program or activity; and
- (c) Meets the definition of sexual harassment as that term is defined in this supplemental procedure.

(2) For purposes of this supplemental procedure, an "educational program or activity" is defined as locations, events, or circumstances over which the college exercised substantial control over both the respondent and the context in which the alleged sexual harassment occurred. This definition includes any building owned or controlled by a student organization that is officially recognized by the college.

(3) Proceedings under this supplemental procedure must be dismissed if the decision maker determines that one or all of the requirements of subsection (1)(a) through (c) of this section have not been met. Dismissal under this supplemental procedure does not prohibit the college from pursuing other disciplinary action based on allegations that the respondent violated other provisions of the college's student conduct code, WAC 132P-33-440 through 132P-33-540.

(4) If the student conduct officer determines the facts in the investigation report are not sufficient to support Title IX jurisdiction and/or pursuit of a Title IX violation, the student

conduct officer will issue a notice of dismissal in whole or part to both parties explaining why some or all of the Title IX claims have been dismissed.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132P-33-335 Initiation of discipline. (1) Upon receiving the Title IX investigation report from the Title IX coordinator, the student conduct officer will independently review the report to determine whether there are sufficient grounds to pursue a disciplinary action against the respondent for engaging in prohibited conduct under Title IX.

(2) If the student conduct officer determines that there are sufficient grounds to proceed under these supplemental procedures, the student conduct officer will initiate a Title IX disciplinary proceeding by filing a written disciplinary notice with the chair of the student conduct committee and serving the notice on the respondent and the complainant, and their respective advisors. The notice must:

- (a) Set forth the basis for Title IX jurisdiction;
- (b) Identify the alleged Title IX violation(s);
- (c) Set forth the facts underlying the allegation(s);
- (d) Identify the range of possible sanctions that may be imposed if the respondent is found responsible for the alleged violation(s);
- (e) Explain that the parties are entitled to be accompanied by their chosen advisors during the hearing and that:
 - (i) The advisors will be responsible for questioning all witnesses on the party's behalf;
 - (ii) An advisor may be an attorney; and
 - (iii) The college will appoint the party an advisor of the college's choosing at no cost to the party, if the party fails to do so.
- (3) Explain that if a party fails to appear at the hearing, a decision of responsibility may be made in their absence.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132P-33-345 Prehearing procedure. (1) Upon receiving the disciplinary notice, the chair of the student conduct committee will send a hearing notice to all parties, in compliance with WAC 132P-33-335. In no event will the hearing date be set less than ten days after the Title IX coordinator provided the final investigation report to the parties.

(2) A party may choose to have an attorney serve as their advisor at the party's own expense. This right will be waived unless, at least five days before the hearing, the attorney files a notice of appearance with the committee chair with copies to all parties and the student conduct officer.

(3) In preparation for the hearing, the parties will have equal access to all evidence gathered by the investigator during the investigation, regardless of whether the college intends to offer the evidence at the hearing.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132P-33-355 Rights of parties. (1) The college's student conduct procedures, WAC 132P-33-460 through 132P-33-540 and this supplemental procedure shall apply equally to all parties.

(2) The college 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 college's choosing on the party's behalf at no expense to the party.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132P-33-360 Evidence. The introduction and consideration of evidence during the hearing is subject to the following procedures and restrictions:

(1) **Relevance:** The committee chair shall review all questions for relevance and shall explain on the record their reasons for excluding any question based on lack of relevance.

(2) **Relevance means** that information elicited by the question makes facts in dispute more or less likely to be true.

(3) Questions or evidence about a complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant and must be excluded, unless such question or evidence:

- (a) Is asked or offered to prove someone other than the respondent committed the alleged misconduct; or
- (b) Concerns specific incidents of prior sexual behavior between the complainant and the respondent, which are asked or offered on the issue of consent.

(4) **Cross-examination required:** If a party or witness does not submit to cross-examination during the live hearing, the committee must not rely on any statement by that party or witness in reaching a determination of responsibility.

(5) **No negative inference:** The committee may not make an inference regarding responsibility solely on a witness's or party's absence from the hearing or refusal to answer questions.

(6) **Privileged evidence:** The committee shall not consider legally privileged information unless the holder has effectively waived the privilege. Privileged information includes, but is not limited to, information protected by the following:

- (a) Spousal/domestic partner privilege;
- (b) Attorney-client and attorney work product privileges;
- (c) Privileges applicable to members of the clergy and priests;
- (d) Privileges applicable to medical providers, mental health therapists, and counselors;
- (e) Privileges applicable to sexual assault and domestic violence advocates; and
- (f) Other legal privileges identified in RCW 5.60.060.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132P-33-370 Initial order. (1) In addition to complying with WAC 132P-33-335, the student conduct committee will be responsible for conferring and drafting an initial order that:

- (a) Identifies the allegations of sexual harassment;
 - (b) Describes the grievance and disciplinary procedures, starting with filing of the formal complaint through the determination of responsibility, including notices to parties, interviews with witnesses and parties, site visits, methods used to gather evidence, and hearings held;
 - (c) Makes findings of fact supporting the determination of responsibility;
 - (d) Reaches conclusions as to whether the facts establish whether the respondent is responsible for engaging in sexual harassment in violation of Title IX;
 - (e) Contains a statement of, and rationale for, the committee's determination of responsibility for each allegation;
 - (f) Describes any disciplinary sanction or conditions imposed against the respondent, if any;
 - (g) Describes to what extent, if any, complainant is entitled to remedies designed to restore or preserve complainant's equal access to the college's education programs or activities; and
 - (h) Describes the process for appealing the initial order to the college president.
- (2) The committee chair will serve the initial order on the parties simultaneously.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132P-33-380 Appeals. (1) The parties shall have the right to appeal from the initial order's determination of responsibility and/or dismissal of an allegation(s) of sexual harassment in a formal complaint. The right to appeal will be subject to the same procedures and time frames set forth in WAC 132P-33-520.

(2) The president or their delegate will determine whether the grounds for appeal have merit, provide the rationale for this conclusion, and state whether the disciplinary sanction and condition(s) imposed in the initial order are affirmed, vacated, or amended, and, if amended, set forth any new disciplinary sanction and/or condition(s).

(3) President's office shall serve the final decision on the parties simultaneously.

REPEALER

The following sections of the Washington Administrative Code are repealed:

- WAC 132P-33-400 Supplemental sexual misconduct procedures.
- WAC 132P-33-410 Supplemental definitions.
- WAC 132P-33-420 Supplemental complaint process.
- WAC 132P-33-430 Supplemental appeal rights.

WSR 20-17-097**EMERGENCY RULES****SKAGIT VALLEY COLLEGE**

[Filed August 14, 2020, 9:30 a.m., effective August 14, 2020, 9:30 a.m.]

Effective Date of Rule: Immediately upon filing.

Purpose: On May 19, 2020, the Federal Register printed amendments to Title IX regulations (85 F.R. 30575). The new regulations address the grievance process for formal complaints of sexual harassment and are scheduled to take effect on August 14, 2020. This requires emergency updates to the college's code of student conduct to be compliant with federal regulations.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: New Code of Student Conduct, WAC 132D-150-500, 132D-150-510, 132D-150-520, 132D-150-530, 132D-150-540, 132D-150-550, 132D-150-560, 132D-150-570 and 132D-150-580; and amending WAC 132D-150-010, 132D-150-020, 132D-150-030, 132D-150-090, 132D-150-110, 132D-150-130, 132D-150-150, 132D-150-170, 132D-150-230, 132D-150-250, 132D-150-270, 132D-150-290, 132D-150-310, and 132D-150-410.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 28B.50.150.

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that state or federal law or federal rule or a federal deadline for state receipt of federal funds requires immediate adoption of a rule.

Reasons for this Finding: Skagit Valley College is required by the United States Department of Education to comply with the recently adopted Title IX regulations, which take effect on August 14, 2020.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 9, Amended 15, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Non-governmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 9, Amended 15, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: August 14, 2020.

Lisa Radeleff
Rules Coordinator

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 16-04-102, filed 2/2/16, effective 3/4/16)

WAC 132D-150-010 Authority. The board of trustees, acting pursuant to RCW 28B.50.140(14), delegates to the president of the college the authority to administer disciplinary action. Administration of the disciplinary procedures is the responsibility of the vice president for student (~~affairs~~) services or designee. The student conduct officer

shall serve as the principal investigator and administrator for alleged violations of this code.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 16-04-102, filed 2/2/16, effective 3/4/16)

WAC 132D-150-020 Statement of jurisdiction. (1)

The code of student conduct shall apply to student conduct that occurs:

(a) On college premises ~~(, to conduct that occurs);~~

(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 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, on-line education, practicums, supervised work experiences or any other college-sanctioned social or club activities.

(3) Students are responsible for their conduct from the time of application for admission through the actual receipt of a 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. The college has sole discretion, on a case-by-case basis, to determine whether the student conduct code will be applied to conduct that occurs off campus.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 16-04-102, filed 2/2/16, effective 3/4/16)

WAC 132D-150-030 Definitions. The following definitions shall apply for purpose of this student conduct code:

(1) "Student conduct officer" is a college administrator designated by the president or vice president for student services to be responsible for implementing and enforcing the student conduct code. The president or vice president for student services is authorized to reassign any and all of the student conduct officer's duties or responsibilities as set forth in this chapter as may be reasonably necessary.

(2) "Conduct review officer" is the vice president for student services or other college administrator designated by the president to be responsible for receiving and for reviewing or referring appeals of student disciplinary actions in accordance with the procedures of this code. The president is authorized to reassign any and all of the conduct review officer's duties or responsibilities as set forth in this chapter as may be reasonably necessary.

(3) "The president" is the president of the college. The president is authorized to delegate any of ~~((his or her))~~ their responsibilities as set forth in this chapter as may be reasonably necessary, and reassign any and all duties or responsibilities as set forth in this chapter as may be reasonably necessary.

(4) "Disciplinary action" is the process by which the student conduct officer imposes discipline against a student for a violation of the student conduct code.

(5) "Disciplinary appeal" is the process by which an aggrieved student can appeal the discipline imposed by the student conduct officer. Disciplinary appeals from a suspension in excess of ten instructional days or an expulsion are heard by the student conduct appeals board. Appeals of all other appealable disciplinary action shall be reviewed through brief adjudicative proceedings.

(6) "Respondent" is the student against whom disciplinary action is initiated.

(7) "Service" is the process by which a document is officially delivered to a party. Unless otherwise provided, service upon a party shall be accomplished by:

(a) Hand delivery of the document to the party; or

(b) By sending the document via first class mail to the party's last known address; or

(c) By sending the document by email via Skagit Valley College's online student conduct software. It is the responsibility of each student to regularly check their official Skagit Valley College email address.

Service is deemed complete upon hand delivery of the document or upon the date the document is emailed and deposited in the mail.

(8) "Filing" is the process by which a document is officially delivered to a college official responsible for facilitating a disciplinary review. Unless otherwise provided, filing shall be accomplished by:

(a) Hand delivery of the document to the specified college official or college official's assistant; or

(b) By sending the document by email and first class mail to the specified college official's office and college email address.

Papers required to be filed shall be deemed filed upon actual receipt during office hours at the office of the specified college official.

(9) "College premises" shall include all campuses of the college, wherever located, and includes all land, buildings, facilities, vehicles, equipment, and other property owned, used, or controlled by the college.

(10) "Student" includes all persons taking courses at or through the college, whether on a full-time or part-time basis, and whether such courses are credit courses, noncredit courses, online courses, or otherwise. Persons who withdraw after allegedly violating the code, who are not officially enrolled for a particular term but who have a continuing relationship with the college, or who have been notified of their acceptance for admission are considered "students."

(11) "Business day" means a weekday, excluding weekends and college holidays.

(12) "Calendar day" means days on the calendar including weekends and holidays.

(13) "Sexual misconduct" has the meaning ascribed to this term in WAC 132D-150-050.

Note: "Day" refers to calendar days unless otherwise specified.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 16-04-102, filed 2/2/16, effective 3/4/16)

WAC 132D-150-090 Initiation of disciplinary action.

(1) All disciplinary actions will be initiated by the student conduct officer. If that officer is the subject of a complaint initiated by the respondent, the president shall, upon request and when feasible, designate another person to fulfill any such disciplinary responsibilities relative to the complainant.

(2) The student conduct officer shall initiate disciplinary action by serving the respondent with written notice directing him or her to attend a disciplinary meeting. The notice shall briefly describe the factual allegations, the provision(s) of the conduct code the respondent is alleged to have violated, the range of possible sanctions for the alleged violation(s), and specify the time and location of the meeting. At the meeting, the student conduct officer will present the allegations to the respondent and the respondent shall be afforded an opportunity to explain what took place. If the respondent fails to attend the meeting after proper service of notice, the student conduct officer may take disciplinary action based upon the available information.

(3) The student conduct officer, prior to taking disciplinary action in a case involving allegations of sexual misconduct, will make a reasonable effort to contact the complainant to discuss the results of the investigation and possible disciplinary sanctions and/or conditions, if any, that may be imposed upon the respondent if the allegations of sexual misconduct are found to have merit.

(4) Within ten business days of the initial disciplinary meeting, and after considering the evidence in the case, including any facts or argument presented by the respondent, the student conduct officer shall serve the respondent with a written decision setting forth the facts and conclusions supporting his or her decision, the specific student conduct code provisions found to have been violated, the discipline imposed, if any, and a notice of any appeal rights with an explanation of the consequences of failing to file a timely appeal.

~~((4))~~ (5) The student conduct officer may take any of the following disciplinary actions:

(a) Exonerate the respondent and terminate the proceedings.

(b) Impose a disciplinary sanction(s), as described in WAC 132D-150-070.

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

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 16-04-102, filed 2/2/16, effective 3/4/16)

WAC 132D-150-110 Appeal from disciplinary action.

(1) The respondent may appeal a disciplinary action by filing a written notice of appeal with the conduct review officer within ten business days of service of the student conduct officer's decision. Failure to timely file a notice of appeal constitutes a waiver of the right to appeal and the student conduct officer's decision shall be deemed final.

(2) The notice of appeal must include a brief statement explaining why the respondent is seeking review.

(3) The parties to an appeal shall be the respondent and the conduct review officer.

(4) A respondent, who timely appeals a disciplinary action or whose case is referred to the student conduct committee, has a right to a prompt, fair, and impartial hearing as provided for in these procedures.

(5) On appeal, the college bears the burden of establishing the evidentiary facts underlying the imposition of a disciplinary sanction by a preponderance of the evidence.

(6) Imposition of disciplinary action for violation of the student conduct code shall be stayed pending appeal, unless respondent has been summarily suspended.

(7) The student conduct committee shall hear appeals from:

(a) The imposition of disciplinary suspensions in excess of ten instructional days;

(b) Dismissals; and

(c) Discipline cases referred to the committee by the student conduct officer, the conduct review officer, or the president.

(8) Student conduct appeals from the imposition of the following disciplinary sanctions shall be reviewed through a brief adjudicative proceeding:

(a) Suspensions of ten instructional days or less;

(b) Disciplinary probation;

(c) Written reprimands; and

(d) Any conditions or terms imposed in conjunction with one of the foregoing disciplinary actions.

(9) Except as provided elsewhere in these rules, disciplinary warnings and dismissals of disciplinary actions are final action and are not subject to appeal.

(10) In cases involving allegations of sexual misconduct, the complainant has the right to appeal the following actions by the student conduct officer following the same procedures as set forth above for the respondent:

(a) The dismissal of a sexual misconduct complaint; or

(b) Any disciplinary sanction(s) and conditions imposed against a respondent for a sexual misconduct violation, including a disciplinary warning.

(11) If the respondent timely appeals a decision imposing discipline for a sexual misconduct violation, the college shall notify the complainant of the appeal and provide the complainant an opportunity to intervene as a party to the appeal.

(12) Except as otherwise specified in this chapter, a complainant who timely appeals a disciplinary decision or who intervenes as a party to the respondent's appeal of a disciplinary decision shall be afforded the same procedural rights as are afforded the respondent.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 16-04-102, filed 2/2/16, effective 3/4/16)

WAC 132D-150-150 Brief adjudicative proceedings—Initial hearing.

(1) Brief adjudicative proceedings shall be conducted by a conduct review officer. The conduct review officer shall not participate in any case in which he or she is a complainant or witness, or in which they have direct

or personal interest, prejudice, or bias, or in which they have acted previously in an advisory capacity.

(2) The parties to a brief adjudicative proceeding are the respondent, the student conduct officer, and in cases involving sexual misconduct, the complainant. Before taking action, the conduct review officer shall conduct an informal hearing and provide each party:

(a) An opportunity to be informed of the agency's view of the matter; and

(b) An opportunity to explain the party's view of the matter.

(3) The conduct review officer shall serve an initial decision upon both the parties within ten business days of consideration of the appeal. The initial decision shall contain a brief written statement of the reasons for the decision and information about how to seek administrative review of the initial decision. If no request for review is filed within ~~((twenty-one))~~ ten calendar days of service of the initial decision, the initial decision shall be deemed the final decision.

(4) In cases involving allegations of sexual misconduct, the conduct review officer, on the same date as the initial decision is served on the respondent, will serve a written notice upon the complainant informing the complainant whether the allegations of sexual misconduct were found to have merit and describing any disciplinary sanctions and/or conditions imposed upon the respondent for the complainant's protection. The notice will also inform the complainant of their appeal rights.

(5) If the conduct review officer upon review determines that the respondent's conduct may warrant imposition of a disciplinary suspension of more than ten instructional days or expulsion, the matter shall be referred to the student conduct committee for a disciplinary hearing.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 16-04-102, filed 2/2/16, effective 3/4/16)

WAC 132D-150-170 Brief adjudicative proceedings—Review of an initial decision. (1) An initial decision is subject to review by the president, provided the respondent files a written request for review with the conduct review officer within twenty-one days of service of the initial decision.

(2) The president shall not participate in any case in which he or she is a complainant or witness, or in which they have direct or personal interest, prejudice, or bias, or in which they have acted previously in an advisory capacity.

(3) During the review, the president shall give each party an opportunity to file written responses explaining their view of the matter and shall make any inquiries necessary to ascertain whether the sanctions should be modified or whether the proceedings should be referred to the student conduct committee for a formal adjudicative hearing.

(4) The decision on review must be in writing and must include a brief statement of the reasons for the decision and must be served on the parties within twenty days of the initial decision or of the request for review, whichever is later. The decision on review will contain a notice that judicial review may be available. A request for review may be deemed to have been denied if the president does not make a disposition

of the matter within twenty days after the request is submitted.

(5) If the president upon review determines that the respondent's conduct may warrant imposition of a disciplinary suspension of more than ten instructional days or expulsion, the matter shall be referred to the student conduct committee for a disciplinary hearing.

(6) In cases involving allegations of sexual misconduct, the president on the same date as the final decision is served on the respondent, will serve a written notice upon the complainant informing the complainant whether the allegations of sexual misconduct were found to have merit and describing any disciplinary sanctions and/or conditions imposed upon the respondent for the complainant's protection, including suspension or dismissal of the respondent. The notice will also inform the complainant of their appeal rights.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 16-04-102, filed 2/2/16, effective 3/4/16)

WAC 132D-150-230 Appeal—Student conduct committee. (1) Proceedings of the student conduct committee shall be governed by the Administrative Procedure Act, chapter 34.05 RCW, and by the model rules of procedure, chapter 10-08 WAC. To the extent there is a conflict between these rules and chapter 10-08 WAC, these rules shall control.

(2) The student conduct committee chair shall serve all parties with written notice of the hearing no less than seven days in advance of the hearing date ~~(, 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 shown.

(3) The committee chair is authorized to conduct pre-hearing conferences and/or to make prehearing decisions concerning the extent and form of any discovery, issuance of protective decisions, and similar procedural matters.

(4) Upon request filed at least five days before the hearing by any party or at the direction of the committee chair, the parties 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 to the committee. 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.

(5) The committee chair may provide to the committee members in advance of the hearing copies of:

(a) The conduct officer'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.

(6) The parties 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.

(7) The student conduct officer, upon request, shall provide reasonable assistance to the respondent in obtaining relevant and admissible evidence that is within the college's control.

(8) Communications between committee members and other hearing participants 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.

(9) Each party may be accompanied at the hearing by a nonattorney assistant of his/her choice. ~~((A respondent may elect to be represented by an attorney at his or her))~~ The respondent in all appeals before the committee, or a complainant in an appeal involving allegations of sexual misconduct before the committee, may elect to be represented by an attorney at their own cost, but will be deemed to have waived that right unless, at least four business days before the hearing, written notice of the attorney's identity and participation is filed with the committee chair with a copy to the student conduct officer. The committee will ordinarily be advised by an assistant attorney general. If the respondent and/or the complainant is represented by an attorney, the student conduct officer may also be represented by a second, appropriately screened assistant attorney general.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 16-04-102, filed 2/2/16, effective 3/4/16)

WAC 132D-150-250 Student conduct committee hearings—Presentations of evidence. (1) Upon the failure of any party to attend or participate in a hearing, the student conduct committee may either:

(a) Proceed with the hearing and issuance of its decision; or

(b) Serve a decision of default in accordance with RCW 34.05.440.

(2) The hearing will ordinarily be closed to the public. However, if all parties agree on the record that some or all of the proceedings be open, the chair shall determine any extent to which the hearing will be open. 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 any party upon request. The chair shall assure maintenance of the record of the proceeding that is required by RCW 34.05.476, which shall also be available upon request for inspection and copying by any party. 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 student conduct officer, unless represented by an assistant attorney general, shall present the case for imposing disciplinary sanctions.

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

(7) In cases involving allegations of sexual misconduct, no party shall directly question or cross examine one another. Attorneys for the parties are also prohibited from questioning the opposing party absent express permission from the committee chair. Subject to this exception, all cross-examination questions shall be directed to the committee chair, who in their discretion shall pose the questions on the party's behalf.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 16-04-102, filed 2/2/16, effective 3/4/16)

WAC 132D-150-270 Student conduct committee—Initial decision. (1) At the conclusion of the hearing, the student conduct committee shall permit the parties 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 a proposed decision for its consideration.

(2) Within twenty days following the later of the conclusion of the hearing or the committee's receipt of closing arguments, the committee shall issue an initial decision in accordance with RCW 34.05.461 and WAC 10-08-210. The initial decision shall include findings on all material issues of fact and conclusions on all material issues of law, including which, if any, 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 initial order shall also include a determination on appropriate discipline, if any. If the matter was referred to the committee by the student conduct officer, the committee shall identify and impose disciplinary sanction(s) or conditions, if any, as authorized in the student code. If the matter is an appeal by the respondent, the committee may affirm, reverse, or modify the disciplinary sanction and/or conditions imposed by the student conduct officer and/or impose additional disciplinary sanction(s) or conditions as authorized herein.

(4) The committee chair shall cause copies of the initial decision to be served on the parties and their legal counsel of record. The committee chair shall also promptly transmit a copy of the decision and the record of the committee's proceedings to the president.

(5) In cases involving allegations of sexual misconduct, the chair of the student conduct committee, on the same date as the initial decision is served on the respondent, will serve a written notice upon the complainant informing the complainant whether the allegations of sexual misconduct were found to have merit and describing any disciplinary sanctions and/or conditions imposed upon the respondent for the complainant's protection, including suspension or dismissal of the respondent. Complainant may appeal the student conduct committee's initial decision to the president subject to the same procedures and deadlines applicable to other parties. The notice will also inform the complainant of their appeal rights.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 16-04-102, filed 2/2/16, effective 3/4/16)

WAC 132D-150-290 Appeal from student conduct committee initial decision. (1) A ~~((respondent))~~ party who is aggrieved by the findings or conclusions issued by the student conduct committee may appeal the committee's initial decision to the president by filing a notice of appeal with the president's office within ~~((twenty-one))~~ ten days of service of the committee's initial decision. Failure to file a timely appeal constitutes a waiver of the right and the initial decision shall be deemed final.

(2) The notice of appeal must identify the specific findings of fact and/or conclusions of law in the initial decision that are challenged and must contain argument why the appeal should be granted. If necessary to aid review, the president may ask for additional briefing from the parties on issues raised on appeal. The president'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 notice of appeal.

(3) The president shall provide a written decision to all parties within ~~((forty-five))~~ twenty days after receipt of the notice of appeal. The president's decision shall be final and shall include a notice of any rights to request reconsideration and/or judicial review.

(4) In cases involving allegations of sexual misconduct, the conduct review officer, on the same date as the initial decision is served on the respondent, will serve a written notice upon the complainant informing the complainant whether the allegations of sexual misconduct were found to have merit and describing any disciplinary sanctions and/or conditions imposed upon the respondent for the complainant's protection. The notice will also inform the complainant of their appeal rights.

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

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 16-04-102, filed 2/2/16, effective 3/4/16)

WAC 132D-150-310 Summary suspension. (1) Summary suspension is a temporary exclusion from specified college premises or denial of access to all activities or privileges for which a respondent might otherwise be eligible, while an investigation and/or formal disciplinary procedures are pending.

(2) The student conduct officer may impose a summary suspension if there is probable cause to believe that the respondent:

- (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) Poses an ongoing threat of substantial disruption of, or interference with, the operations of the college.

(3) Notice. Any respondent who has been summarily suspended shall be served with oral or written notice of the summary suspension. If oral notice is given, a written notification shall be served on the respondent within two business days of the oral notice.

(4) The written notification shall be entitled "Notice of Summary Suspension" and shall include:

(a) The reasons for imposing the summary suspension, including a description of the conduct giving rise to the summary suspension and reference to the provisions of the student conduct code or the law allegedly violated;

(b) The date, time, and location when the respondent must appear before the conduct review officer for a hearing on the summary suspension; and

(c) The conditions, if any, under which the respondent may physically access the campus or communicate with members of the campus community. If the respondent has been trespassed from the campus, a notice against trespass shall be included that warns the student that his or her privilege to enter into or remain on college premises has been withdrawn, that the respondent shall be considered trespassing and subject to arrest for criminal trespass if the respondent enters the college campus other than to meet with the student conduct officer or conduct review officer, or to attend a disciplinary hearing.

(5) The conduct review officer shall conduct a hearing on the summary suspension as soon as practicable after imposition of the summary suspension.

(a) During the summary suspension hearing, the issue before the conduct review officer is whether there is probable cause to believe that the summary suspension should be continued pending the conclusion of disciplinary proceedings and/or whether the summary suspension should be less restrictive in scope.

(b) The respondent shall be afforded an opportunity to explain why summary suspension should not be continued while disciplinary proceedings are pending or why the summary suspension should be less restrictive in scope.

(c) If the ~~((student))~~ respondent fails to appear at the designated hearing time, the conduct review officer may order that the summary suspension remain in place pending the conclusion of the disciplinary proceedings.

(d) As soon as practicable following the hearing, the conduct review officer shall issue a written decision which shall include a brief explanation for any decision continuing and/or modifying the summary suspension and notice of any right to appeal.

(e) To the extent permissible under applicable law, the conduct review officer shall provide a copy of the decision to all persons or offices who may be bound or protected by it.

(6) In cases involving allegations of sexual misconduct, the complainant shall be notified that a summary suspension has been imposed in 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.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132D-150-500 Order of precedence. This supplemental procedure applies to allegations of sexual harassment 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 Skagit Valley College's

standard disciplinary procedures, WAC 132D-150-010 through 132D-150-410, these supplemental procedures shall take precedence.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132D-150-510 Prohibited conduct under Title IX. Pursuant to RCW 28B.50.140(13) and Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1681, the college may impose disciplinary sanctions against a student who commits, attempts to commit, or aids, abets, incites, encourages, or assists another person to commit, an act(s) of "sexual harassment."

For purposes of this supplemental procedure, "sexual harassment" encompasses the following conduct:

(1) **Quid pro quo harassment.** A college employee conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of Skagit Valley College on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct.

(2) **Hostile environment.** Unwelcome conduct that a reasonable person would find to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the college's educational programs or activities, or employment.

(3) **Sexual assault.** Sexual assault includes the following conduct:

(a) **Nonconsensual sexual intercourse.** Any actual or attempted sexual intercourse (anal, oral, or vaginal), however slight, with any object or body part, 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.** 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.** 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 eighteen.

(d) **Statutory rape.** Consensual sexual intercourse between someone who is eighteen years of age or older and someone who is under the age of sixteen.

(4) **Domestic violence.** Physical violence, bodily injury, assault, the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, sexual assault, or stalking 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 26.50.010.

(5) **Dating violence.** Physical violence, bodily injury, assault, the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, sexual assault, or stalking committed by a person:

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

(b) 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.

(6) **Stalking.** Engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for their safety or the safety of others, or suffer substantial emotional distress.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132D-150-520 Title IX jurisdiction. (1) This supplemental procedure applies only if the alleged misconduct:

(a) Occurred in the United States;

(b) Occurred during a Skagit Valley College educational program or activity; and

(c) Meets the definition of sexual harassment as that term is defined in this supplemental procedure.

(2) For purposes of this supplemental procedure, an "educational program or activity" is defined as locations, events, or circumstances over which the college exercised substantial control over both the respondent and the context in which the alleged sexual harassment occurred. This definition includes any building owned or controlled by a student organization that is officially recognized by the college.

(3) Proceedings under this supplemental procedure must be dismissed if the decision maker determines that one or all of the requirements of subsection (1)(a) through (c) of this section have not been met. Dismissal under this supplemental procedure does not prohibit the college from pursuing other disciplinary action based on allegations that the respondent violated other provisions of the college's student conduct code, WAC 132D-150-010 through 132D-150-410.

(4) If the student conduct officer determines the facts in the investigation report are not sufficient to support Title IX jurisdiction and/or pursuit of a Title IX violation, the student conduct officer will issue a notice of dismissal in whole or part to both parties explaining why some or all of the Title IX claims have been dismissed.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132D-150-530 Initiation of discipline. (1) Upon receiving the Title IX investigation report from the Title IX coordinator, the student conduct officer will independently review the report to determine whether there are sufficient grounds to pursue a disciplinary action against the respondent for engaging in prohibited conduct under Title IX.

(2) If the student conduct officer determines that there are sufficient grounds to proceed under these supplemental procedures, the student conduct officer will initiate a Title IX disciplinary proceeding by filing a written disciplinary notice with the chair of the student conduct committee and serving

the notice on the respondent and the complainant, and their respective advisors. The notice must:

- (a) Set forth the basis for Title IX jurisdiction;
 - (b) Identify the alleged Title IX violation(s);
 - (c) Set forth the facts underlying the allegation(s);
 - (d) Identify the range of possible sanctions that may be imposed if the respondent is found responsible for the alleged violation(s); and
 - (e) Explain that the parties are entitled to be accompanied by their chosen advisors during the hearing and that:
 - (i) The advisors will be responsible for questioning all witnesses on the party's behalf;
 - (ii) An advisor may be an attorney; and
 - (iii) The college will appoint the party an advisor of the college's choosing at no cost to the party, if the party fails to do so.
- (3) Explain that if a party fails to appear at the hearing, a decision of responsibility may be made in their absence.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132D-150-540 Prehearing procedure. (1) Upon receiving the disciplinary notice, the chair of the student conduct committee will send a hearing notice to all parties, in compliance with WAC 132D-150-230. In no event will the hearing date be set less than ten days after the Title IX coordinator provided the final investigation report to the parties.

(2) A party may choose to have an attorney serve as their advisor at the party's own expense. This right will be waived unless, at least five days before the hearing, the attorney files a notice of appearance with the committee chair with copies to all parties and the student conduct officer.

(3) In preparation for the hearing, the parties will have equal access to all evidence gathered by the investigator during the investigation, regardless of whether the college intends to offer the evidence at the hearing.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132D-150-550 Rights of parties. (1) The college's student conduct procedures, WAC 132D-150-010 through 132D-150-410, and this supplemental procedure shall apply equally to all parties.

(2) The college 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 Skagit Valley College's choosing on the party's behalf at no expense to the party.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132D-150-560 Evidence. The introduction and consideration of evidence during the hearing is subject to the following procedures and restrictions:

(1) **Relevance:** The committee chair shall review all questions for relevance and shall explain on the record their reasons for excluding any question based on lack of relevance.

(2) **Relevance means** that information elicited by the question makes facts in dispute more or less likely to be true.

(3) Questions or evidence about a complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant and must be excluded, unless such question or evidence:

(a) Is asked or offered to prove someone other than the respondent committed the alleged misconduct; or

(b) Concerns specific incidents of prior sexual behavior between the complainant and the respondent, which are asked or offered on the issue of consent.

(4) **Cross-examination required:** If a party or witness does not submit to cross-examination during the live hearing, the committee must not rely on any statement by that party or witness in reaching a determination of responsibility.

(5) **No negative inference:** The committee may not make an inference regarding responsibility solely on a witness's or party's absence from the hearing or refusal to answer questions.

(6) **Privileged evidence:** The committee shall not consider legally privileged information unless the holder has effectively waived the privilege. Privileged information includes, but is not limited to, information protected by the following:

(a) Spousal/domestic partner privilege;

(b) Attorney-client and attorney work product privileges;

(c) Privileges applicable to members of the clergy and priests;

(d) Privileges applicable to medical providers, mental health therapists, and counselors;

(e) Privileges applicable to sexual assault and domestic violence advocates; and

(f) Other legal privileges identified in RCW 5.60.060.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132D-150-570 Initial order. (1) In addition to complying with WAC 132D-150-270, the student conduct committee will be responsible for conferring and drafting an initial order that:

(a) Identifies the allegations of sexual harassment;

(b) Describes the grievance and disciplinary procedures, starting with filing of the formal complaint through the determination of responsibility, including notices to parties, interviews with witnesses and parties, site visits, methods used to gather evidence, and hearings held;

(c) Makes findings of fact supporting the determination of responsibility;

(d) Reaches conclusions as to whether the facts establish whether the respondent is responsible for engaging in sexual harassment in violation of Title IX;

(e) Contains a statement of, and rationale for, the committee's determination of responsibility for each allegation;

(f) Describes any disciplinary sanction or conditions imposed against the respondent, if any;

(g) Describes to what extent, if any, complainant is entitled to remedies designed to restore or preserve complainant's equal access to the college's education programs or activities; and

(h) Describes the process for appealing the initial order to the college president.

(2) The committee chair will serve the initial order on the parties simultaneously.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132D-150-580 Appeals. The parties shall have the right to appeal from the initial order's determination of responsibility and/or dismissal of an allegation(s) of sexual harassment in a formal complaint. The right to appeal will be subject to the same procedures and time frames set forth in WAC 132D-150-290.

(1) The president or their delegate will determine whether the grounds for appeal have merit, provide the rationale for this conclusion, and state whether the disciplinary sanction and condition(s) imposed in the initial order are affirmed, vacated, or amended, and, if amended, set forth any new disciplinary sanction and/or condition(s).

(2) President's office shall serve the final decision on the parties simultaneously.

WSR 20-17-098

EMERGENCY RULES

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY

[Filed August 14, 2020, 9:45 a.m., effective August 14, 2020, 9:45 a.m.]

Effective Date of Rule: Immediately upon filing.

Purpose: The university is updating the rules regarding the standards of conduct for students.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: New WAC 504-26-231; and amending WAC 504-26-010, 504-26-015, 504-26-020, 504-26-045, 504-26-050, 504-26-120, 504-26-204, 504-26-206, 504-26-209, 504-26-217, 504-26-219, 504-26-220, 504-26-221, 504-26-222, 504-26-223, 504-26-227, 504-26-230, 504-26-401, 504-26-402, 504-26-403, 504-26-409, 504-26-415, 504-26-420, 504-26-425, 504-26-504, 504-26-515, and 504-26-525.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 28B.30.150.

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that state or federal law or federal rule or a federal deadline for state receipt of federal funds requires immediate adoption of a rule.

Reasons for this Finding: On May 19, 2020, the United States Department of Education (the department) published amendments to its regulations implementing Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX). The department's amended regulations specify how recipients of federal financial assistance covered by Title IX (which include the university) must respond to allegations of sexual harassment. The department's amended regulations are scheduled to become effective on August 14, 2020. Amendments to the univer-

sity's standards of conduct for students is required to comply with the department's amended Title IX regulations.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 1, Amended 15, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Non-governmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 0, Amended 12, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 0, Amended 12, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 1, Amended 27, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: August 14, 2020.

Deborah L. Bartlett
Director, Procedures, Records,
and Forms, and University Rules Coordinator

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 18-23-083, filed 11/19/18, effective 12/20/18)

WAC 504-26-010 Definitions. Words and phrases used in the standards of conduct regardless of their associated gender identity include all genders. Words and phrases used in the standards of conduct in the singular or plural encompass both the singular and the plural, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise. For purposes of the standards of conduct, the following definitions apply:

(1) Academic integrity hearing board. Teaching faculty and student representatives who, collectively, are authorized by the university or college to review an instructor's determination that a student violated university academic integrity policies and whether or not the outcome proposed by the instructor is in keeping with the instructor's published policies.

(2) Appeals board. The group of students, faculty, and staff, collectively, authorized in accordance with WAC 504-26-115 to consider appeals from a university conduct board's or conduct officer's determination as to whether a student has violated the standards of conduct and any sanctions (~~imposed~~) assigned.

(3) Brief adjudication. The process by which a conduct officer may adjudicate student conduct matters (~~involving~~) that are not resolving allegations that would constitute Title IX sexual harassment within the university's Title IX jurisdiction, and where possible sanctions (~~(-other than matters involving)~~) do not include suspension for more than ten instructional days, expulsion, loss of recognition, or revocation of degree. Also referred to as a "conduct officer hearing" or "brief adjudicative proceeding."

(4) CCR. The university's office of compliance and civil rights.

(5) Cheating. Includes, but is not limited to:

(a) Use of unauthorized materials in taking quizzes, tests, or examinations, or giving or receiving unauthorized assis-

tance by any means, including talking, copying information from another student, using electronic devices, or taking an examination for another student.

(b) Use of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments.

(c) Acquisition or possession of tests or other academic material belonging to a member of the university faculty or staff when acquired without the permission of the university faculty or staff member.

(d) Fabrication, which is the intentional invention or counterfeiting of information in the course of an academic activity. Fabrication includes, but is not limited to:

(i) Counterfeiting data, research results, information, or procedures with inadequate foundation in fact. The office of research must be consulted in matters involving alleged research misconduct as that term is defined in the university's executive policy 33.

(ii) Counterfeiting a record of internship or practicum experiences.

(iii) Submitting a false excuse for absence or tardiness or a false explanation for failing to complete a class requirement or scheduled examination at the appointed date and time.

(e) Engaging in any behavior for the purpose of gaining an unfair advantage specifically prohibited by a faculty member in the course syllabus or class discussion.

(f) Scientific misconduct. Falsification, fabrication, plagiarism, or other forms of dishonesty in scientific and scholarly research are prohibited. Complaints and inquiries involving cases of scientific misconduct are managed according to the university's policy for responding to allegations of scientific misconduct. A finding of scientific misconduct is subject to sanctions by the center for community standards. The policy for responding to allegations of scientific misconduct (executive policy 33) may be reviewed by contacting the office of research.

(g) Unauthorized collaboration on assignments.

(h) Intentionally obtaining unauthorized knowledge of examination materials.

(i) Plagiarism. Presenting the information, ideas, or phrasing of another person as the student's own work without proper acknowledgment of the source. This includes submitting a commercially prepared paper or research project or submitting for academic credit any work done by someone else. The term "plagiarism" includes, but is not limited to, the use, by paraphrase or direct quotation, of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment. It also includes the unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials.

(j) Unauthorized multiple submission of the same work.

(k) Sabotage of others' work.

(l) Tampering with or falsifying records.

~~((5))~~ (6) Complainant. Any person who is the alleged victim of prohibited student conduct, whether or not such person has made an actual complaint. Any individual, group, or entity, including the university, who submits a complaint alleging that a student or a registered or recognized student organization violated the standards of conduct.

~~((6))~~ (7) Conduct board. The group of students, faculty, and staff, collectively authorized in accordance with WAC 504-26-110 to adjudicate certain student conduct matters.

~~((7))~~ (8) Conduct officer. A university official authorized by the vice president for student affairs to initiate, manage, and/or adjudicate certain student conduct matters in accordance with WAC 504-26-401 and 504-26-402.

~~((8))~~ (9) Faculty member. For purposes of this chapter, any person hired by the university to conduct classroom or teaching activities or who is otherwise considered by the university to be a member of its faculty.

~~((9))~~ (10) Full adjudication. The process by which a conduct board adjudicates matters involving possible suspension of greater than ten instructional days, expulsion, loss of recognition, revocation of degree, or other matters as determined by the university. Also referred to as "formal adjudication," "formal (or full) adjudicative proceeding," or "conduct board hearing."

~~((10))~~ (11) Gender identity. Having or being perceived as having a gender identity, self-image, appearance, behavior, or expression, whether or not that gender identity, self-image, appearance, behavior, or expression is different from that traditionally associated with the sex assigned to the person at birth.

~~((11))~~ (12) Member of the university community. Includes any person who is a student, faculty member, university official, any person employed by the university, or any person with a relationship with the university, including guests of and visitors to the university. A person's status in a particular situation is determined by the vice president for student affairs or designee.

~~((12))~~ (13) Parties. The parties to a student conduct proceeding must include the university and the respondent. The parties in a student conduct matter ~~((implicating Title IX of the Civil Rights Act of 1964))~~ where the allegations, if true, would constitute Title IX sexual harassment within the university's Title IX jurisdiction must also include the complainant(s) ~~((, if the complainant(s) notifies the university in writing that they wish to participate as a party))~~. The university may designate other complainants, individuals, or recognized or registered student organizations as parties to conduct proceedings, or allow individuals or recognized or registered student organizations to intervene in conduct proceedings.

~~((13))~~ (14) Policies. The written rules and regulations of the university as found in, but not limited to, the standards of conduct, university policy manuals, housing and dining policies, academic regulations, and the university's graduate, undergraduate, and professional catalogs and other publications, including electronic publications.

~~((14))~~ (15) Recognized or registered student organization. A group of students, collectively, that has complied with the formal requirements for university recognition or registration.

~~((15))~~ (16) Respondent. A student or recognized or registered student organization alleged to have violated these standards of conduct.

~~((16))~~ (17) Student. Any person taking courses at the university, either full-time or part-time, pursuing undergraduate, graduate, or professional studies. Persons who withdraw after allegedly violating the standards of conduct, who

are not officially enrolled for a particular term but who have a continuing relationship with the university (including suspended students) or who have been notified of their acceptance for admission are considered "students" as are persons who are living in university residence halls, even if not enrolled.

~~((17))~~ (18) Title IX. Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, 20 U.S.C. 1681 and its implementing 34 C.F.R. Part 106.

(19) University. Includes all locations, premises, programs, and operations of Washington State University.

~~((18))~~ (20) University official. Any person employed by the university, performing assigned administrative or professional responsibilities.

~~((19))~~ (21) University premises. All land, buildings, facilities, vehicles, websites, and other property in the possession of or owned, used, or controlled by the university (including adjacent streets and sidewalks), including its study abroad program sites, as well as university-sponsored or hosted online platforms.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 18-23-083, filed 11/19/18, effective 12/20/18)

WAC 504-26-015 Jurisdiction and applicability—Relationship to other proceedings. (1) General. The standards of conduct apply to conduct that occurs on university premises or in connection with university sponsored activities, including transit to or from the activity.

(2) Off-campus conduct. In addition to subsection (1) of this section, the standards of conduct may apply to conduct that occurs off university premises and not in connection with university-sponsored activities, if the conduct adversely affects the health and/or safety of the university community or the pursuit of the university's vision, mission, or values.

(a) The university has sole discretion to make this determination. In making this determination, the conduct officer considers whether the alleged conduct:

(i) Requires the university to exercise jurisdiction under law or as required by federal or state agencies;

(ii) Negatively impacted the reputation of the university or its students;

(iii) Occurred on the property of recognized or registered student organizations;

(iv) Caused physical, mental, or emotional harm to another; or

(v) Was recognized by onlookers, complainants, or witnesses as being carried out by a student or recognized or registered student organization.

(b) When the university chooses to exercise jurisdiction for off-campus conduct not in connection with a university-sponsored activity, the parties must be notified in writing of the decision and the reasons for the decision, and their right to challenge the decision to the vice president for student affairs or designee. Challenges to jurisdiction must be in writing and filed within five calendar days from the date the notice is sent. In cases implicating Washington State University's executive policy 15, ~~((which prohibits discrimination, sexual harassment, and sexual misconduct,))~~ the vice presi-

dent for student affairs or designee must consult with the university's Title IX coordinator.

(3) Online conduct - Electronic communications. These standards of conduct may be applied to behavior conducted online, via electronic mail, text message, or other electronic means.

(4) Time frame for applicability. Each student is responsible and accountable for their conduct from the time of application for admission through the actual awarding of a 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. These standards apply to a student's conduct even if the student withdraws from school, takes a leave of absence, or graduates.

(5) Group accountability. Recognized or registered student organizations that violate university policies and the standards of conduct are subject to sanctions. A recognized or registered student organization may be held accountable for the behavior of its officers, members, or guests when the university demonstrates that:

(a) The organization or its officers should have foreseen that behavior constituting a violation was likely to occur, yet failed to take reasonable precautions against such behavior;

(b) A policy or practice of the organization was responsible for a violation; or

(c) The behavior constituting a violation was committed by, condoned by, or involved a significant number of organization officers, members, or guests.

(6) International and national study programs. Students who participate in any university-sponsored or sanctioned international or national study program must observe the following rules and regulations:

(a) The laws of the host country and/or state;

(b) The academic and disciplinary regulations of the educational institution or residential housing program where the student is studying;

(c) Any other agreements related to the student's study program; and

(d) These standards of conduct.

(7) Academic and professional standards. Nothing in these standards of conduct is to be construed as limiting academic action that may be taken by a program or other academic unit against a respondent who, based on an established violation of these standards or otherwise, demonstrates a failure to meet the academic and/or professional standards of the program.

(8) Relationship between student conduct process and other legal processes. The university is not required to stay a student conduct proceeding pending any criminal or civil proceeding, nor must the disposition of any such criminal or civil proceeding control the outcome of any student conduct proceeding. Respondents may choose to remain silent during conduct proceedings, in accordance with WAC 504-26-045.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 18-23-083, filed 11/19/18, effective 12/20/18)

WAC 504-26-020 Advisors and representatives. (1) Advisors. Any party may have an advisor of their choice

present during all stages of a conduct process. Upon a party's request, a list of trained advisors from outside the office of the dean of students (and those offices reporting to the dean of students) who can provide support at no cost to the student is provided. Advisors may assist any party engaged in the conduct process and attend meetings and hearings. Advisors may not be witnesses to the alleged behavior. ~~((Students should select an advisor whose schedule allows for attendance at the scheduled date and time of the informational meeting and/or hearing, because delays are not normally allowed due to scheduling conflicts of the advisor.))~~

(2) Communication with the center for community standards. Advisors and representatives may communicate directly with the center for community standards to receive information on dates and times of meetings, status of conduct processes, and outcomes. As a condition of participation in the conduct process, the center for community standards may require advisors and representatives to sign a statement agreeing to comply with legal requirements and university rules including, but not limited to, requirements related to confidentiality of student information.

(3) Advisors in conduct meetings and conduct officer hearings. During any conduct ~~((process))~~ meeting or conduct officer hearing, breaks may be taken, within reason, to allow a party to consult with their advisor. However, advisors are not permitted to speak on behalf of parties.

(4) Advisors in conduct board hearings. As with all other conduct meetings and conduct officer hearings, advisors are not permitted to speak on behalf of parties, except that in conduct board hearings, advisors are permitted to ask relevant cross-examination questions as instructed by a party.

(5) Representatives. A party may choose to be represented during a full adjudication, at their own expense. Only persons currently admitted to practice law, including licensed legal interns, are permitted to act as representatives. In conduct board hearings, questions regarding logistical and administrative issues are to be directed to the presiding officer, who may impose reasonable conditions upon participation of advisors and representatives.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 18-23-083, filed 11/19/18, effective 12/20/18)

WAC 504-26-045 Evidence. (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, evidence, including hearsay evidence, is admissible in student conduct proceedings if, in the judgment of the conduct officer or presiding officer, it is the kind of evidence that reasonably prudent persons are accustomed to rely on in the conduct of their affairs. The conduct officer or presiding officer determines the admissibility and relevance of all information and evidence. ~~((The sexual history of a complainant is not admissible in a student conduct proceeding except to the extent permitted by evidence rule 412 and RCW 34.05.452 (stating that presiding officers must refer to the Washington rules of evidence as guidelines for evidentiary rulings.))~~

(2) In conduct board hearings to resolve allegations that, if proven, would constitute Title IX sexual harassment within the university's Title IX jurisdiction, witnesses, including parties, must submit to cross-examination for their written or

verbal statements to be considered by the university conduct board.

(3) The sexual history of a complainant is not relevant and not admissible in a student conduct proceeding unless such evidence about the complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior is offered to prove that someone other than the respondent committed the conduct alleged by the complainant, or if the questions and evidence concern specific incidents of the complainant's prior sexual behavior with respect to the respondent and are offered to prove consent.

(4) Students may choose to remain silent during conduct proceedings, recognizing that they give up the opportunity to explain their version of events and that the decision is made based on the information presented at the hearing. No student must be compelled to give self-incriminating evidence, and no negative inference will be drawn from a student's refusal to participate in any stage of the conduct proceeding. If either party does not attend or participate in a hearing, the conduct officer or conduct board may resolve the matter based on the information available at the time of the hearing.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 18-23-083, filed 11/19/18, effective 12/20/18)

WAC 504-26-050 Interim measures. (1) While a student conduct matter is pending, the university may take a number of interim actions or supportive measures in order to ensure the preservation of the educational experience and the overall university environment of the parties. These actions may include, but are not limited to:

(a) A no-contact order ~~((imposed on))~~ assigned to any party;

(b) University housing room change for one or more involved parties; and/or

(c) Changes in academic schedules or assignments for any party.

(2) As stated in the university's housing and dining policies, the university reserves the right to assign roommates, to change room or hall assignments, and/or to consolidate vacancies by requiring residents to move from one room to another in the event such reassignments are determined to be necessary by the university.

(3) University departments taking interim or supportive measures must coordinate with the center for community standards, which advises the parties of the interim measures and the process for challenging them. For matters involving the university's executive policy 15, ~~((which prohibits discrimination, sexual harassment, and sexual misconduct,))~~ the departments must also consult with ~~((the university's office for equal opportunity))~~ CCR regarding interim or supportive measures. Interim and supportive measures are not sanctions and do not imply or assume responsibility for a violation of the standards of conduct.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 18-23-083, filed 11/19/18, effective 12/20/18)

WAC 504-26-120 Training. (1) Board members and presiding officers. Conduct board members, appeals board members, and presiding officers must not participate in any

student conduct matter until, at a minimum, training in the following areas has been completed:

- (a) Cultural competency and implicit bias;
 - (b) Student development and student conduct philosophies, including the educational component of the student conduct process;
 - (c) Identifying bias against individuals and against groups;
 - (d) Conflict of interest;
 - (e) Sexual assault and gender-based violence;
 - (f) Alcohol and drug prevention;
 - (g) Due process and burden of proof in student conduct matters; ~~((and))~~
 - (h) Sanctioning principles and guidelines;
 - (i) Title IX regulatory definitions, jurisdiction, and grievance processes; and
 - (j) Relevant and admissible evidence.
- (2) Conduct officers. Conduct officers must not participate in any student conduct matter until, at a minimum, training in the following areas has been completed:
- (a) Alternative dispute resolution;
 - (b) Restorative justice; and
 - (c) All training required of board members (see subsection (1) of this section).
- (3) Renewal of training. Training must be renewed on an annual basis.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 18-23-083, filed 11/19/18, effective 12/20/18)

WAC 504-26-204 Abuse of others or disruption or interference with the university community. Abuse of others or disruption or interference with the university community ~~((includes, but is not limited to))~~ **is defined as:**

- (1) Physical abuse, threats, intimidation, and/or other conduct that threatens, endangers, harms, or undermines the health, safety, or welfare of the university community or any person ~~((, including, but not limited to, domestic or intimate partner violence))~~.
- (2) Conduct that disrupts the university community or prevents any member of the university community from completing their duties.
- (3) Conduct that interferes with or disrupts the university's mission, operations, or activities.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 18-23-083, filed 11/19/18, effective 12/20/18)

WAC 504-26-206 Hazing. (1) No student or recognized or registered student organization at Washington State University may conspire to engage in hazing or participate in hazing of another.

(a) Hazing includes any activity expected of someone joining a group (or maintaining full status in a group) that causes or is likely to cause a risk of mental, emotional and/or physical harm, regardless of the person's willingness to participate.

(b) Hazing activities may include, but are not limited to, the following: Abuse of alcohol during new member activities; striking another person whether by use of any object or one's body; creation of excessive fatigue; physical and/or

psychological shock; morally degrading or humiliating games or activities that create a risk of bodily, emotional, or mental harm.

(c) Hazing does not include practice, training, conditioning and eligibility requirements for customary athletic events such as intramural or club sports and NCAA athletics, or other similar contests or competitions, but gratuitous hazing activities occurring as part of such customary athletic event or contest are prohibited.

(2) Washington state law also prohibits hazing which may subject violators to criminal prosecution. As used in RCW 28B.10.901 and 28B.10.902, "hazing" includes any method of initiation into a recognized or registered student organization or living group, or any pastime or amusement engaged in with respect to such an organization or living group that causes, or is likely to cause, bodily danger or physical harm, or serious mental or emotional harm, to any student or other person attending a public or private institution of higher education or other postsecondary education institution in this state.

(3) Washington state law (RCW 28B.10.901) also provides sanctions for hazing:

(a) Any person who violates this rule, in addition to other sanctions that may be ~~((imposed))~~ assigned, forfeits any entitlement to state-funded grants, scholarships, or awards for a period of time determined by the university.

(b) Any recognized or registered student organization that knowingly permits hazing by its members or others subject to its direction or control must be deprived of any official recognition or approval granted by the university.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 15-01-080, filed 12/15/14, effective 1/15/15)

WAC 504-26-209 Violation of university policy, rule, or regulation. Violation of any university policy, rule, or regulation published electronically on the university website or in hard copy including, but not limited to, Washington State University's alcohol and drug policy, executive policy 15 ~~((policy prohibiting discrimination, sexual harassment and sexual misconduct))~~, and housing and residence life policy.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 06-23-159, filed 11/22/06, effective 12/23/06)

WAC 504-26-217 Unauthorized use of electronic or other devices. Unauthorized use of electronic or other devices: Making an audio or video record of any person while on university premises without ~~((his or her))~~ their prior knowledge, or without ~~((his or her))~~ their effective consent when such a recording is of a private conversation or of images taken of a person(s) at a time and place where ~~((she or he))~~ they would reasonably expect privacy and where such images are likely to cause injury or distress. This includes, but is not limited to, surreptitiously taking pictures of another person in a gym, locker room, or restroom, but does not include taking pictures of persons in areas which are considered by the reasonable person to be open to public view, such as Martin Stadium or the Glenn Terrell Mall.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 18-23-083, filed 11/19/18, effective 12/20/18)

WAC 504-26-219 Abuse of the student conduct system. Abuse of the student conduct system (~~((including, but not limited to))~~) is defined as:

(1) Failure to obey any notice from a university conduct board or other university official to appear for a meeting or hearing as part of the student conduct system.

(2) Willful falsification, distortion, or misrepresentation of information before a university conduct proceeding.

(3) Disruption or interference with the orderly conduct of a university conduct board proceeding.

(4) Filing fraudulent charges or initiating a university conduct proceeding in bad faith.

(5) Attempting to discourage an individual's proper participation in, or use of, the student conduct system.

(6) Attempting to influence the impartiality of a member of the university conduct system prior to, and/or during the course of, any university conduct board proceeding.

(7) Harassment (verbal, written, or physical) and/or intimidation of a member of a university conduct board, any individual involved in the conduct process, or any conduct officer before, during, and/or after any university conduct proceeding.

(8) Failure to comply with or failure to complete any term or condition of any disciplinary sanction(s) (~~((imposed))~~) assigned under the standards of conduct.

(9) Influencing or attempting to influence another person to commit an abuse of the university conduct system.

(10) Violation of probation or any probationary conditions.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 18-23-083, filed 11/19/18, effective 12/20/18)

WAC 504-26-220 (~~((Discrimination and))~~) Discriminatory harassment. (~~((Discrimination or discriminatory harassment))~~) (1) Unwelcome, intentional conduct on the basis of race; (~~((sex/gender))~~) sex and/or gender; sexual orientation; gender identity(~~((/))~~) or expression; religion; age; color; creed; national or ethnic origin; marital status; genetic information; status as an honorably discharged veteran or member of the military; physical, mental, or sensory disability (including disability requiring the use of a trained service animal);(~~marital status; genetic information; and/or status as an honorably discharged veteran or member of the military; and as defined in Washington State University's executive policy 15, which prohibits discrimination, sexual harassment, and sexual misconduct.~~) or immigration or citizenship status, except as authorized by federal or state law, regulation, or government practice, which is so severe or pervasive, and objectively offensive, that it substantially and unreasonably:

(a) Interferes with, or has the potential to interfere with, an individual's ability to participate in WSU employment, education, programs, or activities;

(b) Adversely alters the condition of an individual's WSU employment, education, or participation status;

(c) Creates an objectively abusive employment, program, or educational environment; or

(d) Results in a material or substantial disruption of WSU's operations or the rights of students, staff, faculty, visitors, or program participants.

(2) In determining if conduct is harassing, the totality of the circumstances are assessed including, but not limited to, the following factors:

(a) Severity;

(b) Frequency of the discrimination;

(c) Status of the reporting and responding parties and their relationship to each other;

(d) Physicality, threats, or endangerment; and

(e) Whether or not the conduct could be reasonably considered protected speech or serving some other lawful purpose.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 17-13-049, filed 6/15/17, effective 7/16/17)

WAC 504-26-221 Sexual misconduct. (1) Sexual misconduct is an egregious form of sex discrimination/sexual harassment. (~~((A number of acts may be regarded as sexual misconduct including, but not limited to, noneconsensual sexual contact (including sexual intercourse) and sexual exploitation.))~~) Sexual misconduct (~~((includes sexual assault and other sexual violence.))~~) is defined as:

(a) Sex offense. Any sexual act directed against another person, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent.

(b) Rape (except statutory rape). The carnal knowledge of a person, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of their age or because of their temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.

(c) Sodomy. Oral or anal sexual intercourse with another person, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of their age or because of their temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.

(d) Sexual assault with an object. To use an object or instrument to unlawfully penetrate, however slightly, the genital or anal opening of the body of another person, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of their age or because of their temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.

(e) Fondling. The touching of the private body parts of another person for the purpose of sexual gratification, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of their age or because of their temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.

(f) Incest. Sexual intercourse between persons who are related to each other within the degrees wherein marriage is prohibited by law.

(g) Sexual exploitation, which occurs when a person takes nonconsensual or abusive sexual advantage of another for their own advantage or benefit, or to benefit or advantage anyone other than the one being exploited, and that behavior does not otherwise constitute one of the other sexual miscon-

duct offenses explained above. Examples of sexual exploitation may include, but are not limited to:

(i) Causing or attempting to cause the incapacitation of another person to gain sexual advantage over such other person.

(ii) Invading another person's sexual privacy.

(iii) Prostituting another person.

(iv) Engaging in voyeurism. A person commits voyeurism if, for the purpose of arousing or gratifying the sexual desire of any person, 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 they have a reasonable expectation of privacy.

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

(vi) Exposing one's intimate parts in nonconsensual circumstances.

(h) Statutory rape. Sexual intercourse with a person who is under the statutory age of consent.

(i) Sexually based stalking and/or bullying.

(2) Consent. Consent to any sexual activity must be clear, knowing, and voluntary. Anything less is equivalent to a "no." Clear, knowing, and voluntary consent to sexual activity requires that, at the time of the act, and throughout the sexual contact, all parties actively express words or conduct that a reasonable person would conclude demonstrates clear permission regarding willingness to engage in sexual activity and the conditions of such activity. Consent is active; silence or passivity is not consent. Even if words or conduct alone seem to imply consent, sexual activity is nonconsensual when:

(a) Force or coercion is threatened or used to procure compliance with the sexual activity.

(i) Force is the use of physical violence, physical force, threat, or intimidation to overcome resistance or gain consent to sexual activity.

(ii) Coercion is unreasonable pressure for sexual activity. When an individual makes it clear through words or actions that the individual does not want to engage in sexual contact, wants to stop, or does not want to go past a certain point of sexual interaction, continued pressure beyond that point may be coercive. Other examples of coercion may include using blackmail or extortion to overcome resistance or gain consent to sexual activity.

(b) The person is asleep, unconscious, or physically unable to communicate ~~((his or her))~~ their unwillingness to engage in sexual activity; or

(c) A reasonable person would or should know that the other person lacks the mental capacity at the time of the sexual activity to be able to understand the nature or consequences of the act, whether that incapacity is produced by illness, defect, the influence of alcohol or another substance, or some other cause. When alcohol or drugs are involved, a person is considered incapacitated or unable to give valid consent if the individual cannot fully understand the details of the sexual interaction (i.e., who, what, when, where, why, and how), and/or the individual lacks the capacity to reasonably understand the situation and to make rational, reasonable decisions.

(3) ~~((Noneconsensual sexual contact is any intentional sexual touching, however slight, with any object or body part, by one person against another person's intimate parts (or clothing covering any of those areas), or by causing another person to touch his or her own or another person's intimate body parts without consent and/or by force. Sexual contact also can include any intentional bodily contact in a sexual manner with another person's nonintimate body parts. It also includes noneconsensual sexual intercourse.~~

~~(4) Sexual exploitation occurs when a person takes non-consensual or abusive sexual advantage of another for his/her own advantage or benefit, or to benefit or advantage anyone other than the one being exploited, and that behavior does not otherwise constitute one of the other sexual misconduct offenses explained above. Examples of sexual exploitation may include, but are not limited to:~~

~~(a) Causing or attempting to cause the incapacitation of another person to gain sexual advantage over such other person;~~

~~(b) Invading another person's sexual privacy;~~

~~(c) Prostituting another person;~~

~~(d) Engaging in voyeurism. A person commits voyeurism if, for the purpose of arousing or gratifying the sexual desire of any person, he or she knowingly views, photographs, records, or films another person, without that person's knowledge and consent, while the person being viewed, photographed, recorded, or filmed is in a place where he or she has a reasonable expectation of privacy;~~

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

~~(f) Exposing one's intimate parts in noneconsensual circumstances;~~

~~(g) Sexually based stalking and/or bullying.~~

~~(5)) Use of alcohol or other drugs is not a valid defense to a violation of this policy.~~

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 14-11-025, filed 5/12/14, effective 6/12/14)

WAC 504-26-222 Harassment (other than sexual harassment or discriminatory harassment). Harassment is conduct by any means that is severe, persistent, or pervasive, and is of such a nature that it would cause a reasonable person in the victim's position substantial emotional distress and undermine ~~((his or her))~~ their ability to work, study, or participate in ~~((his or her))~~ their regular life activities or participate in the activities of the university, and/or actually does cause the victim substantial emotional distress and undermines the victim's ability to work, study, or participate in the victim's regular life activities or participate in the activities of the university.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 14-11-025, filed 5/12/14, effective 6/12/14)

WAC 504-26-223 Stalking. (1) Stalking is engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to:

(a) Fear for ~~((his or her))~~ their safety or the safety of others; or

(b) ~~((Fear for harm to his or her property or the property of others; or~~

~~(e)) Suffer substantial emotional distress.~~

~~(2) ((Stalking includes, but is not limited to, conduct occurring in person, electronically, or through a third party.)) Course of conduct means two or more acts including, but not limited to, acts in which the stalker directly, indirectly, or through third parties, by any action, method, device, or means, follows, monitors, observes, surveils, threatens, or communicates to or about a person, or interferes with a person's property.~~

~~(3) Reasonable person means a reasonable person under similar circumstances and with similar identities to the victim.~~

~~(4) Substantial emotional distress means significant mental suffering or anguish that may, but does not necessarily, require medical or other professional treatment or counseling.~~

~~(5) The use of alcohol or other drugs is not a valid defense to a violation of this policy.~~

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 18-23-083, filed 11/19/18, effective 12/20/18)

WAC 504-26-227 Sexual harassment. ~~((Sexual harassment includes behavior defined in Washington State University's executive policy 15, which prohibits discrimination, sexual harassment, and sexual misconduct.)) Unwelcome, intentional conduct, on the basis of sex and/or gender, which is so severe or pervasive, and objectively offensive, that it substantially and unreasonably:~~

~~(1) Interferes with, or has the potential to interfere with, an individual's ability to participate in WSU employment, education, programs, or activities;~~

~~(2) Adversely alters the condition of an individual's WSU employment, education, or participation status;~~

~~(3) Creates an objectively abusive employment, program, or educational environment; or~~

~~(4) Results in a material or substantial disruption of WSU's operations or the rights of students, staff, faculty, visitors, or program participants.~~

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 18-23-083, filed 11/19/18, effective 12/20/18)

WAC 504-26-230 Retaliation. ~~((Retaliation includes any act that would dissuade a reasonable person from making or supporting a complaint, or participating in an investigation, under the standards of conduct (this chapter). Retaliatory behavior includes action or threat of action that could negatively affect another's employment, education, reputation, or other interest. It also includes retaliation as defined in Washington State University's executive policy 15, which prohibits discrimination, sexual harassment, and sexual misconduct.)) (1) Intimidation, threats, coercion, or discrimination against any individual for the purpose of interfering with any right or privilege secured by university policies, or because the individual has made a report or complaint, testified, assisted, or participated or refused to participate in any manner in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing.~~

(2) First amendment activities do not constitute retaliation.

NEW SECTION

WAC 504-26-231 Intimate partner violence. Intimate partner violence is defined as:

(1) Dating violence, which is defined as violence committed by a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim. The existence of such a relationship is determined based on the:

(a) Length of the relationship;

(b) Type of relationship; and

(c) Frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.

(2) Domestic violence, which is defined as a felony or misdemeanor crime of violence committed by:

(a) A current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim;

(b) A person with whom the victim shares a child in common;

(c) A person who is cohabitating with, or has cohabitated with, the victim as a spouse or intimate partner;

(d) A person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family violence laws of Washington; or

(e) Any other person against an adult or youth victim who is protected from that person's act under the domestic or family violence laws of Washington.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 18-23-083, filed 11/19/18, effective 12/20/18)

WAC 504-26-401 Initiating conduct proceedings. (1) Complaints. Any member of the university community may submit a complaint that a student or recognized or registered student organization violated the standards of conduct. In addition, the university may initiate conduct proceedings when it receives any direct or indirect report of conduct that may violate the standards of conduct.

(2) Decision not to refer the matter for hearing. Except as provided below, after reviewing the initial information, if the conduct officer determines that further conduct proceedings are not warranted, the conduct officer dismisses the matter. If the conduct officer decides not to initiate a conduct proceeding when requested by a complainant, the conduct officer must notify the complainant in writing of the decision, the reasons for the decision, and how to seek review of the decision. Conduct matters may be reopened if new relevant information becomes known. A conduct officer cannot dismiss a matter received from CCR where CCR completed a formal investigation implicating Title IX sexual harassment within the university's Title IX jurisdiction, as defined by university executive policy 15, regardless of the investigation's outcome. In such cases, the conduct officer must refer the matter to a conduct board hearing, which must be held within sixty days of the date the CCR formal investigation report was received, unless good cause exists to extend the date of the hearing or the matter is resolved through agreement or alternative dispute resolution.

(3) Notice of informational meeting. After reviewing initial information regarding a possible student conduct violation, if the student conduct officer decides conduct proceedings are warranted, the student conduct officer sends the respondent, or parties as appropriate, written notice of an informational meeting. The notice must, at a minimum, briefly describe the factual allegations or issues involved, the specific standard of conduct provision(s) the respondent is alleged to have violated, the range of possible sanctions for such violations, and the time, date, and place of the meeting. In addition, information regarding the student conduct process and student rights, as required by WAC 504-26-504 (Interpretation—Policies, procedures, and guidelines) must be provided. Any request to change or extend the time or date of the informational meeting should be addressed to the conduct officer.

(4) Purpose of informational meeting. The purpose of the informational meeting is to provide the respondent with information on the conduct process and their rights and responsibilities, and to determine next steps, if any, in resolving the matter. During the informational meeting, the respondent may provide names of witnesses to the conduct officer to potentially contact. In cases involving Title IX, an informational meeting is also offered to a complainant.

(5) Agreement and alternative dispute resolution. A conduct officer may resolve a matter by agreement. Agreements may be reached directly or through alternative dispute resolution. In cases where agreement is not reached directly, before referring the matter to a hearing, the conduct officer must consider, and make a written determination, whether alternative dispute resolution is appropriate to resolve the matter. Alternative dispute resolution must not be used in matters involving sexual misconduct or sexual harassment. When resolution of a matter is reached by agreement or alternative dispute resolution, the agreement must be in writing and signed by the parties and the conduct officer. In the agreement, the parties must be advised in writing that:

(a) The disposition is final and they are waiving any right to a hearing on the matter, including any right to appeal; and

(b) If any party decides not to sign the agreement, and the matter proceeds to a hearing, neither the agreement nor a party's refusal to sign will be used against either party at the hearing.

(6) Referral for adjudication. Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, after the informational meeting, if the conduct officer determines that a conduct hearing is warranted, and the matter is not resolved through agreement or alternative dispute resolution, the matter is handled through either a conduct officer hearing (brief adjudication) in accordance with WAC 504-26-402, or conduct board hearing (full adjudication) in accordance with WAC 504-26-403. In determining which process is appropriate, the conduct officer considers factors including, but not limited to, the nature and severity of the allegations, the respondent's past contacts with the center for community standards, and the range of possible sanctions that could be (~~imposed~~) assigned. A student may request that a conduct board hear the case, but the final decision regarding whether to refer the matter to the conduct board for hearing is made by the conduct officer and is not subject to appeal.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 18-23-083, filed 11/19/18, effective 12/20/18)

WAC 504-26-402 Conduct officer hearings (brief adjudications). (1) The majority of student conduct matters are adjudicated through conduct officer hearings. However, conduct officer hearings are not used to adjudicate matters in which the respondent faces possible sanctions of suspension for more than ten instructional days, expulsion, or revocation of degree or when a recognized or registered student organization faces possible loss of recognition. In addition, conduct officer hearings generally are not used to adjudicate matters in which the respondent faces allegations of sexual misconduct, as that term is defined in WAC 504-26-221.

(2) Notice of hearing. The conduct officer must provide the parties with written notice no later than ten calendar days prior to the conduct officer hearing. The notice must, at a minimum, briefly describe the factual allegations or issues involved, the specific standard of conduct provision(s) the respondent is alleged to have violated, the range of possible sanctions for such violations, and the time, date, and place of the hearing. In addition, information regarding the student conduct process and student rights, as required by WAC 504-26-504 must be provided. The notice must also include:

(a) A jurisdiction statement if the alleged behavior occurred off campus and information regarding the right to challenge jurisdiction in accordance with WAC 504-26-015;

(b) Information regarding the right to request recusal of a conduct officer under WAC 504-26-125; and

(c) Any request to extend the time or date of the conduct officer conference/hearing should be addressed to the conduct officer.

(3) Hearing and possible outcomes. Conduct officer hearings are brief adjudications conducted in accordance with RCW 34.05.482 through 34.05.494. The hearing allows the conduct officer to review available information, hear the parties' view of the matter, render a decision regarding responsibility, and (~~impose~~) assign sanctions, as appropriate.

(a) Before the hearing begins, the conduct officer must inform the respondent that:

(i) All respondents are presumed "not responsible" for pending charges;

(ii) The university must prove all violations by a preponderance of the evidence, meaning that it is more likely than not that the violation occurred; and

(iii) The parties have the right to have an advisor present at the hearing.

(b) Upon conclusion of the hearing, the conduct officer may take any of the following actions:

(i) Terminate the proceeding and enter a finding that the respondent is not responsible for the alleged conduct violation;

(ii) Dismiss the matter with no finding regarding responsibility, in which case the matter may be reopened at a later date if relevant new information becomes known;

(iii) Find the respondent responsible for any violations and impose sanctions within the limitations described in subsection (1) of this section; or

(iv) Refer the matter to the conduct board.

(4) Notice of decision and right to appeal. The conduct officer notifies the parties in writing of the decision within ten calendar days of the conduct officer hearing. This is the initial order of the university and includes information regarding the parties' right to appeal under WAC 504-26-420.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 18-23-083, filed 11/19/18, effective 12/20/18)

WAC 504-26-403 Conduct board hearings (full adjudications). (1) Conduct board hearings are used in matters in which the respondent faces possible sanctions of suspension for more than ten instructional days, expulsion, or revocation of degree and matters in which a recognized or registered student organization faces possible loss of recognition. In addition, conduct board hearings are generally used to adjudicate matters in which the respondent faces allegations of sexual misconduct, as that term is defined in WAC 504-26-221. Other matters may be referred to a conduct board in the discretion of the conduct officer.

(2) Adoption of model rules of procedure. Conduct board hearings are full adjudications governed by the Administrative Procedure Act, RCW 34.05.413 through 34.05.476, and chapter 10-08 WAC, Model rules of procedure, except as otherwise provided in this chapter. In the event of a conflict between the rules in this chapter and the model rules, this chapter governs.

(3) Notice of hearing. Notice to the parties of a conduct board hearing must comply with model rule WAC 10-08-040 and standards of conduct rule WAC 504-26-035. In addition, information regarding the student conduct process and student rights, as required by WAC 504-26-504 must be provided.

(4) Time for conduct board hearings. The conduct board hearing is scheduled not less than ten calendar days after the parties have been sent notice of the hearing.

In accordance with WAC 10-08-090, requests to extend the time and/or date for hearing must be addressed to the presiding officer. A request for extension of time is granted only upon a showing of good cause.

(5) Subpoenas. Subpoenas may be issued and enforced in accordance with model rule WAC 10-08-120. In determining whether to issue, quash, or modify a subpoena, the presiding officer must give due consideration to state and federal legal requirements including, but not limited to, Title IX, its implementing regulations, and guidance issued by the federal Office for Civil Rights. The party requesting the subpoena has the burden of showing that a subpoena is necessary for full disclosure of all the relevant facts and issues.

(6) Discovery. Depositions, interrogatories, and physical or medical examinations of parties are not permitted in adjudications of student conduct matters. Other forms of discovery may be permitted at the discretion of the presiding officer; however, discovery should be limited to help ensure the prompt completion of the adjudication process.

(7) Cross-examination. As required by RCW 34.05.449, cross-examination of witnesses is permitted to the extent necessary for full disclosure of all relevant facts and issues. ~~((The preferred method of cross-examination in all student conduct matters is through written questions submitted to,~~

~~and asked by, the presiding officer. Regardless, in))~~ Cross-examination is conducted orally through the party's advisor or representative. If a party does not have an advisor or representative, an advisor is provided by the university free of charge to conduct cross-examination on that party's behalf. Advisors and representatives are required to engage in cross-examination questioning in a respectful manner. In no circumstance may the complainant or respondent be permitted to cross-examine each other directly ((in person or through their representative)). Before any witness or party may answer a cross-examination question, the presiding officer must first determine whether the question is relevant. The presiding officer ((may decline to ask)) must instruct parties or witnesses not to answer cross-examination questions that are irrelevant, immaterial, or unduly repetitious. ((All questions submitted by the parties must be retained as part of the agency record, in accordance with RCW 34.05.566-))

(8) Decision requirements. Decisions regarding responsibility and sanctions are made by a majority of the conduct board hearing the matter, except that any sanction of expulsion, revocation of degree, or loss of recognition of a recognized or registered student organization requires a supermajority consisting of no more than one "no" vote.

(9) Notice of decision and right to appeal. Within ten calendar days of the completion of the hearing, the conduct board must issue a decision simultaneously to all parties, which is the initial order of the university and must contain the following:

(a) Description of the allegations that initiated the community standards process;

(b) Description of procedural steps taken from the receipt of the formal complaint up to and including the university conduct board hearing;

(c) Appropriately numbered findings of fact and conclusions;

~~((b))~~ (d) The sanction(s) and/or remedy(ies) to be ((imposed)) assigned, if any, and the rationale for the sanction(s) and/or remedy(ies);

~~((c))~~ (e) Information regarding the parties' right to appeal according to WAC 504-26-420, including the time frame for seeking review; and

~~((d))~~ (f) Notice that the initial order becomes final unless an appeal is filed within ((twenty-one)) twenty calendar days of ((service of)) the date the initial order is sent to the parties.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 18-23-083, filed 11/19/18, effective 12/20/18)

WAC 504-26-409 Emergency suspension. (1) Definition. An emergency suspension is a temporary exclusion of a student from all or specified portions of university premises, programs, or activities pending an investigation or student conduct proceeding relating to alleged standards of conduct violations. An emergency suspension may be ~~((imposed))~~ assigned at any time prior to the issuance of the university's final order in the matter.

(2) Circumstances warranting emergency suspension.

(a) For matters which would not constitute Title IX sexual harassment within the university's Title IX jurisdiction, as

defined by university executive policy 15, emergency suspension may be ~~((imposed))~~ assigned only in situations when the ~~((vice president for student affairs))~~ dean of students or campus chancellor (in consultation with the center for community standards), or their designee, has cause to believe that the student:

~~((a))~~ (i) Has violated any provision of the standards of conduct; and

~~((b))~~ (ii) Presents an immediate danger to the health, safety, or welfare of any part of the university community or the public at large. Conduct that creates an ongoing disruption of, or interference with, the operations of the university and that prevents other students, employees, or invitees from completing their duties or accessing their education or the educational environment, is conduct harmful to the welfare of members of the university community.

(b) For matters which would constitute Title IX sexual harassment within the university's Title IX jurisdiction, as defined by university executive policy 15, emergency suspension may be assigned only in a situation where the dean of students or campus chancellor (in consultation with the center for community standards), or their designee, has engaged in an individualized safety and risk analysis, and determines that removal is justified because the student:

(i) Has violated any provision of the standards of conduct; and

(ii) Is an immediate threat to the physical health or safety of any student or other individual arising from the allegations of Title IX sexual harassment.

(3) Procedure. The ~~((vice president for student affairs))~~ dean of students or campus chancellor, or their designee, ordering an emergency suspension must send the student a written notice of emergency suspension. The notice must contain the reasons for the decision (both the factual basis and the conclusions as to why those facts constitute a violation of the standards of conduct), ~~((and))~~ the policy reasons for the emergency suspension, and the process to challenge the decision. The emergency suspension does not replace the regular hearing process, which must proceed to a conduct officer hearing or conduct board hearing, as applicable, as quickly as feasible. Once a final order is entered, any emergency suspension is lifted and the sanction, if any, set forth in the final order is ~~((imposed))~~ assigned.

(4) Challenge of the decision. The student can challenge the emergency suspension decision within ten calendar days of the date of notice. Challenges are reviewed by the vice president of student affairs or their designee, provided the designee is not the same person who made the original emergency suspension decision. The vice president of student affairs or designee has ten calendar days to respond to the review and can uphold, reverse, or modify the emergency suspension. The submission of a challenge does not stay the emergency suspension decision.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 18-23-083, filed 11/19/18, effective 12/20/18)

WAC 504-26-415 Procedure for academic integrity violations. (1) Initial hearing.

(a) When a responsible instructor finds that a violation of academic integrity has occurred, the instructor must assemble the evidence and, upon reasonable notice to the student of the date, time, and nature of the allegations, meet with the student suspected of violating academic integrity policies. If the student admits violating academic integrity policies, the instructor assigns an outcome in keeping with published course policies and notifies the center for community standards in writing, including the allegations, the student's admission, and the sanctions ~~((imposed))~~ assigned.

(b) If the instructor is unable to meet with the student or if the respondent disputes the allegation(s) and/or the outcome proposed by the instructor, the instructor must make a determination as to whether the student did or did not violate the academic integrity policies. If the instructor finds that the student was in violation, the instructor must provide the student and the center for community standards with a written determination, the evidence relied upon, and the sanctions ~~((imposed))~~ assigned.

(c) The student has twenty-one calendar days from the date of the decision letter to request review of the instructor's determination and/or sanction(s) ~~((imposed))~~ assigned to the academic integrity hearing board.

(2) Review.

(a) Upon timely request for review by a student who has been found by their instructor to have violated the academic integrity policies, the academic integrity hearing board must make a separate and independent determination of whether or not the student is responsible for violating the academic integrity policies and/or whether the outcome proposed by the instructor is in keeping with the instructor's published course policies.

(b) The academic integrity hearing board is empowered to provide an appropriate remedy for a student including arranging a withdrawal from the course, having the student's work evaluated, or changing a grade where it finds that:

(i) The student is not responsible for violating academic integrity policies; or

(ii) The outcome ~~((imposed))~~ assigned by the instructor violates the instructor's published policies.

(c) Academic integrity hearing board proceedings.

(i) Any student appealing a responsible instructor's finding of an academic integrity violation is provided written notice of an academic integrity hearing board hearing in accordance with WAC 504-26-035. The written notice must include:

(A) The specific complaint, including the university or instructor academic integrity policy or regulation allegedly violated;

(B) The approximate time and place of the alleged act that forms the factual basis for the violation;

(C) The time, date, and place of the hearing;

(D) A list of the witnesses who may be called to testify, to the extent known; and

(E) A description of all documentary and real evidence to be used at the hearing, to the extent known, including a statement that the student must have the right to inspect the documentation.

(ii) Time for hearings.

(A) Academic integrity hearing board hearings are scheduled not less than seven calendar days after the student has been sent notice of the hearing.

(B) Requests to extend the time and/or date for hearing must be addressed to the chair of the academic integrity hearing board, and must be copied to the center for community standards. A request for extension of time is granted only upon a showing of good cause.

(iii) Academic integrity hearing board hearings are conducted according to the following procedures, except as provided by (c)(iv) of this subsection:

(A) Academic integrity hearing board hearings are conducted in private.

(B) The instructor, respondent, and their advisor, if any, are allowed to attend the entire portion of the hearing at which information is received (excluding deliberations). Admission of any other person to the hearing is at the discretion of the academic integrity hearing board chair.

(C) In academic integrity hearings involving more than one respondent, the academic integrity hearing board chair may permit joint or separate hearings at the chair's discretion.

(D) In hearings involving graduate students, board memberships are comprised to include graduate students and graduate teaching faculty to the extent possible.

(E) The responsible instructor and the respondent may arrange for witnesses to present relevant information to the academic integrity hearing board. Witnesses must provide written statements to the conduct officer at least two weeks before the hearing. The respondent is responsible for informing their witnesses of the time and place of the hearing. Witnesses provide information to and answer questions from the academic integrity hearing board, the responsible instructor, and the respondent, as appropriate. The respondent and/or responsible instructor may suggest written questions to be answered by each other or by other witnesses. Written questions are submitted to, and asked by, the academic integrity hearing board chair. This method is used to preserve the educational tone of the hearing and to avoid creation of an unduly adversarial environment, and to allow the board chair to determine the relevancy of questions. Questions concerning whether potential information may be received are resolved at the discretion of the academic integrity hearing board chair, who has the discretion to determine admissibility of information.

(F) Pertinent records, exhibits, and written statements may be accepted as information for consideration by an academic integrity hearing board at the discretion of the chair.

(G) Questions related to the order of the proceedings are subject to the final decision of the chair of the academic integrity hearing board.

(H) After the portion of the hearing concludes in which all pertinent information is received, the academic integrity hearing board determines (by majority vote) whether or not the respondent is responsible for violating the academic integrity policy and/or whether the outcome proposed by the instructor is in keeping with the instructor's published course policies.

(I) The respondent is notified of the academic integrity hearing board's decision within twenty calendar days from the date the matter is heard. The respondent must receive

written notice of the decision, the reasons for the decision (both the factual basis therefore and the conclusions as to how those facts apply to the academic integrity policies), and the sanction.

(iv) If a respondent to whom notice of the hearing has been sent (in the manner provided above) does not appear at the hearing, the information in support of the complaint is presented and considered in the respondent's absence, and the board may issue a decision based upon that information.

(v) The academic integrity hearing board may for convenience, or to accommodate concerns for the personal safety, well-being, and/or fears of confrontation of any person, provide separate facilities, and/or permit participation by telephone, audio tape, written statement, or other means, as determined in the sole judgment of the chair of the academic integrity hearing board to be appropriate.

(vi) The written decision of the academic integrity hearing board is the university's final order. There is no appeal from findings of responsibility or outcomes assigned by university or college academic integrity hearing boards.

(3) If the reported violation is the respondent's first offense, the center for community standards ordinarily requires the respondent to attend a workshop separate from, and in addition to, any academic outcomes (~~imposed~~) assigned by the instructor. A hold is placed on the respondent's record preventing registration or graduation until completion of the workshop.

(4) If the reported violation is the respondent's second offense, the respondent is ordinarily referred for a full adjudicative hearing in accordance with WAC 504-26-403, with a recommendation that the respondent be dismissed from the university.

(5) If the instructor or academic integrity hearing board determines that the act of academic dishonesty for which the respondent is found responsible is particularly egregious in light of all attendant circumstances, the instructor or academic integrity hearing board may direct that the respondent's case be referred for a full adjudicative hearing, with a recommendation for dismissal from the university even if it is the respondent's first offense.

(6) Because instructors and departments have a legitimate educational interest in the outcomes, reports of academic integrity hearing board and/or conduct board hearings must be reported to the responsible instructor and the chair or dean.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 18-23-083, filed 11/19/18, effective 12/20/18)

WAC 504-26-420 Appeals. (1) Time for appeals. Decisions made by a conduct officer or conduct board become final (~~twenty-one~~) on the twenty-first calendar day(~~s~~) after the date the decision is sent to the parties, unless an appeal is submitted (~~before that date~~) within twenty calendar days of the date the decision is sent to the parties.

(2) Effect of appeal - Stay. Except in extraordinary circumstances, which must be explained in writing in the conduct officer's or conduct board's initial order, the implementation of an initial order (~~imposing~~) assigning sanctions

must be stayed pending the time for filing an appeal and the issuance of the university's final order.

(3) Appeals of conduct officer decisions. Upon receipt of a timely appeal, the appeals board provides the other parties, if applicable, with a copy of the appeal and an opportunity to respond, and conducts a limited review as described below.

(a) Scope of review. Except as required to explain the basis of new information, appeal of a conduct officer decision is limited to a review of the record for one or more of the following purposes:

(i) To determine whether the conduct officer hearing was conducted fairly in light of the charges and information presented, and in conformity with prescribed procedures; deviations from designated procedures are not a basis for sustaining an appeal unless significant prejudice results;

(ii) To determine whether the decision reached was based on substantial information, that is, whether there were facts in the case that, if believed by the fact finder, were sufficient to establish that a violation of the standards of conduct occurred;

(iii) To determine whether the sanction(s) (~~imposed~~) assigned were appropriate for the violation of the standards of conduct that the respondent was found to have committed; or

(iv) To consider new information, sufficient to alter a decision, or other relevant facts not brought out in the original conduct officer hearing, because such information and/or facts were not known to the person appealing at the time of the original conduct officer hearing.

(b) Conversion to conduct board hearing. The appeals board makes any inquiries necessary to ascertain whether the proceeding must be converted to a conduct board hearing in accordance with WAC 504-26-403.

(4) Appeals of conduct board decisions. Upon receipt of a timely appeal, the appeals board provides the other parties, if applicable, with a copy of the appeal and an opportunity to respond.

(a) The appeals board must have and exercise all the decision-making power that the conduct board had, except that the appeals board must give due regard to the conduct board's opportunity to observe the witnesses, if applicable. The appeals board members must personally consider the whole record or such portions of it as may be cited by the parties.

(b) Scope of review. The appeals board conducts a full review in accordance with RCW 34.05.464.

(5) University's right to initiate appeal. The university president or designee, at their own initiative, may request that the appeals board review any initial order. Prior to taking action, the appeals board must notify the parties and allow them an opportunity to explain the matter.

(6) Appeals board decisions.

(a) Actions. After reviewing the record and any information provided by the parties, the appeals board may take the following actions:

(i) Affirm, reverse, or modify the conduct board's or conduct officer's decision, or any part of the decision;

(ii) Affirm, reverse, or modify the sanctions (~~imposed~~) assigned by the conduct board or conduct officer, or any part of the sanctions; or

(iii) Set aside the findings or sanctions, or any part of the findings or sanctions, and remand the matter back to the conduct board or conduct officer with instructions for further proceedings.

(b) Content of decision. The decision includes the outcome, any sanction, and a brief statement of the reasons for the decision. The letter must advise the parties that judicial review may be available. For appeals of conduct board hearings, the decision includes, or incorporates by reference to the conduct board's decision, all matters as set forth in WAC 504-26-403.

(c) Service and effective date of decision. For appeals of conduct officer decisions, the appeals board's decision must be sent simultaneously to the parties within twenty calendar days of receipt of the appeal. For appeals of conduct board decisions, the appeals board's decision must be sent simultaneously to the parties within thirty calendar days of receipt of the appeal, unless the appeals board notifies the parties in writing that additional time (up to ninety calendar days) is needed. The appeals board's decision is the final order of the university, except in the case of remand, and is effective when sent.

(7) Reconsideration of final orders. Within ten calendar days of service of a final order, any party may submit a request for reconsideration. The request must be in writing, directed to the appeals board, and must state the reasons for the request. The request for reconsideration does not stay the effective date of the final order. However, the time for filing a petition for judicial review does not commence until the date the appeals board responds to the request for reconsideration or twenty-one calendar days after the request has been submitted, whichever is sooner. If the appeals board does not respond to the request for reconsideration within twenty-one calendar days, the request is deemed to have been denied.

(8) Stay. A party may request that the university delay the date that the final order becomes effective by requesting a stay in writing to the appeals board within ten calendar days of the date the order was served.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 18-23-083, filed 11/19/18, effective 12/20/18)

WAC 504-26-425 Sanctions. (1) Publication of guidelines for sanctioning. Sanctioning guidelines and other information regarding sanctioning must be published on the center for community standards website. Guidelines must explain in plain language the types of sanctions that a respondent may face for a particular violation and the factors that are used to determine the sanction(s) (~~imposed~~) assigned for a particular violation. Factors must include, but not be limited to, the following:

(a) Conduct record. Any record of past violations of the standards of conduct, and the nature and severity of such past violations;

(b) Malicious intent. If a respondent is found to have intentionally selected a victim based upon the respondent's perception of the victim's race, color, religion, national or ethnic origin, age, sex/gender, marital status, status as an honorably discharged veteran or member of the military, sexual orientation, genetic information, gender identity/expres-

sion, or mental, physical, or sensory disability (including disability requiring the use of a trained service animal), such finding is considered an aggravating factor in determining a sanction for such conduct; and

(c) Impact on victim and/or university community.

(2) Effective date of sanctions. Except as provided in WAC 504-26-420(2), sanctions are implemented when a final order becomes effective. If no appeal is filed, an initial order becomes a final order on the day after the period for requesting review has expired. (See WAC 504-26-420.)

(3) Types of sanctions. The following sanctions may be (~~imposed upon~~) assigned to any respondent found to have violated the standards of conduct. More than one of the sanctions listed below may be (~~imposed~~) assigned for any single violation:

(a) Warning. A notice in writing to the respondent that the respondent is violating or has violated institutional regulations.

(b) Probation. Formal action placing conditions upon the respondent's continued attendance, recognition, or registration at the university. Probation is for a designated period of time and warns the student or recognized or registered student organization that suspension, expulsion, loss of recognition, or any other sanction outlined in this section may be (~~imposed~~) assigned if the student or recognized or registered student organization is found to have violated any institutional regulation(s) or fails to complete any conditions of probation during the probationary period. A student on probation is not eligible to run for or hold an office in any recognized or registered student group or organization; they are not eligible for certain jobs on campus including, but not limited to, resident advisor or orientation counselor; and they are not eligible to serve on the university conduct or appeals board.

(c) Loss of privileges. Denial of specified privileges for a designated period of time.

(d) Restitution. Compensation for loss, damage, or injury. This may take the form of appropriate service and/or monetary or material replacement.

(e) Education. The university may require the respondent to successfully complete an educational project designed to create an awareness of the respondent's misconduct.

(f) Community service. (~~Imposition~~) Assignment of service hours (not to exceed eighty hours per student or per member of a recognized or registered student organization).

(g) University housing suspension. Separation of the student from a residence hall or halls for a definite period of time, after which the student may be eligible to return. Conditions for readmission may be specified.

(h) University housing expulsion. Permanent separation of the student from a residence hall or halls.

(i) University suspension. Separation of the student from the university for a definite period of time, after which the student is eligible to request readmission. Conditions for readmission may be specified.

(j) University expulsion. Permanent separation of the student from the university. Also referred to as university dismissal. The terms are used interchangeably throughout this chapter.

(k) Revocation of admission and/or degree. Admission to or a degree awarded from the university may be revoked

for fraud, misrepresentation, or other violation of law or standard of conduct in obtaining the degree, or for other serious violations committed by a student before awarding of the degree.

(l) Withholding degree. The university may withhold awarding a degree otherwise earned until the completion of the process set forth in these standards of conduct, including the completion of all sanctions (~~imposed~~) assigned, if any.

(m) Trespass. A student may be restricted from any or all university premises based on their misconduct.

(n) Loss of recognition. A recognized or registered student organization's recognition (or ability to register) may be withheld permanently or for a specific period of time. A fraternity or sorority may be prohibited from housing first year students. Loss of recognition is defined as withholding university services, privileges, or administrative approval from a recognized or registered student organization. Services, privileges, and approval to be withdrawn include, but are not limited to, intramural sports (although individual members may participate), information technology services, university facility use and rental, student involvement office organizational activities, and center for fraternity and sorority life advising.

(o) Hold on transcript and/or registration. A hold restricts release of a student's transcript or access to registration until satisfactory completion of conditions or sanctions (~~imposed~~) assigned by a conduct officer or university conduct board. Upon proof of satisfactory completion of the conditions or sanctions, the hold is released.

(p) No contact order. A prohibition of direct or indirect physical, verbal, and/or written contact with another individual or group.

(q) Fines. Previously established and published fines may be (~~imposed~~) assigned. Fines are established each year prior to the beginning of the academic year and are approved by the vice president for student affairs.

(r) Additional sanctions for hazing. In addition to other sanctions, a student who is found responsible for hazing forfeits any entitlement to state-funded grants, scholarships, or awards for a specified period of time, in accordance with RCW 28B.10.902.

(s) Remedies. Sanctions designed to restore or preserve a victim's equal access to the university's educational programs or activities.

(4) Academic integrity violations. No credit need be given for work that is not a student's own. Thus, in academic integrity violations, the responsible instructor has the authority to assign a grade and/or educational sanction in accordance with the expectations set forth in the relevant course syllabus. The instructor's choices may include, but are not limited to, assigning a grade of "F" for the assignment and/or assigning an educational sanction such as extra or replacement assignments, quizzes, or tests, or assigning a grade of "F" for the course.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 18-23-083, filed 11/19/18, effective 12/20/18)

WAC 504-26-504 Interpretation—Policies, procedures, and guidelines. (1) The vice president for student

affairs or designee has authority to interpret these rules and develops policies, procedures, and guidelines for the administration of the university's student conduct system that are consistent with the provisions in this chapter. These must be published, at a minimum, on the center for community standards website and in the university's student handbook. A link to the student handbook or center for community standards website must be provided to parties prior to any informational meeting or student conduct hearing and must provide the following information:

- (a) Rights in the student conduct process;
- (b) A clear explanation of what to expect during the process;
- (c) Information regarding legal resources available in the community;
- (d) A statement that respondents are presumed "not responsible"; and
- (e) A statement regarding the right not to self-incriminate in accordance with WAC 504-26-045.

(2) Definitions from these standards are incorporated into Washington State University's executive policy 15(~~which prohibits discrimination, sexual harassment, and sexual misconduct~~).

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 18-23-083, filed 11/19/18, effective 12/20/18)

WAC 504-26-515 Periodic review and assessment. At the end of each academic year, the center for community standards provides a report to the vice president for student affairs which must include, at a minimum, a numerical breakdown of the types of matters handled and the sanctions (~~imposed~~) assigned. The vice president for student affairs must make the report publicly available, provided all personally identifiable or readily ascertainable student information is removed.

The standards of conduct and the student conduct system as a whole are reviewed every three years under the direction of the vice president for student affairs or designee. The student government council is asked to provide recommendations and input on proposed changes. After completion of any adjudication or other resolution of a student conduct matter, the center for community standards must send a survey to all parties requesting feedback on the process. Feedback results must be reviewed, at a minimum, every three years in connection with the periodic review and assessment.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 18-23-083, filed 11/19/18, effective 12/20/18)

WAC 504-26-525 Good standing. The award of a degree and/or diploma is conditioned upon the student's good standing in the university and satisfaction of all university graduation requirements. "Good standing" means the student has resolved any acts of academic or behavioral misconduct and complied with all sanctions (~~imposed~~) assigned as a result of the misconduct. The university has the sole authority in determining whether to withhold the degree and/or diploma in cases where the student is not in good standing. The university must deny the award of a degree if the student is dismissed from the university based on their misconduct.

Neither diplomas nor transcripts are sent until students have resolved any unpaid fees and resolved any acts of academic or behavioral misconduct and complied with all sanctions (~~imposed~~) assigned as a result of misconduct. (See also academic regulation 45 in the university general catalog.)

WSR 20-17-099
EMERGENCY RULES
OLYMPIC COLLEGE

[Filed August 14, 2020, 11:12 a.m., effective August 14, 2020]

Effective Date of Rule: August 14, 2020.

Purpose: On May 19, 2020, the Federal Register printed amendments to Title IX regulations (85 F.R. 30575). The new regulations address the grievance process for formal complaints of sexual harassment and are scheduled to take effect on August 14, 2020. This requires emergency updates to the college's student conduct code to be compliant with federal regulations.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: New WAC 132C-120-320, 132C-120-325, 132C-120-330, 132C-120-335, 132C-120-340, 132C-120-345, 123C-120-350, 132C-120-355 and 132C-120-360; and repealing chapter 132C-285 WAC.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 28B.50.140.

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that state or federal law or federal rule or a federal deadline for state receipt of federal funds requires immediate adoption of a rule.

Reasons for this Finding: Federal Title IX regulations require this be implemented by August 14, 2020.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 9, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Non-governmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: August 11, 2020.

Martin Cavalluzzi
President

SUPPLEMENTAL TITLE IX STUDENT CONDUCT PROCEDURES

NEW SECTION

WAC 132C-120-320 Order of precedence. These supplemental procedures apply to allegations of sexual harass-

ment 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 Olympic College's standard disciplinary procedures, WAC 132C-120-010 through 132C-120-315 these supplemental procedures shall take precedence.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132C-120-325 Prohibited conduct under Title IX. Pursuant to RCW 28B.50.140(13) and Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1681, the college may impose disciplinary sanctions against a student who commits, attempts to commit, or aids, abets, incites, encourages, or assists another person to commit, an act(s) of "sexual harassment."

For purposes of these supplemental procedures, "sexual harassment" encompasses the following conduct:

(1) Quid pro quo harassment. A college employee conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of the college on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct.

(2) Hostile environment. Unwelcome conduct that a reasonable person would find to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the college's educational programs or activities, or employment.

(3) Sexual assault. Sexual assault includes the following conduct:

(a) Nonconsensual sexual intercourse. Any actual or attempted sexual intercourse (anal, oral, or vaginal), however slight, with any object or body part, 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. 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. 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 eighteen.

(d) Statutory rape. Consensual sexual intercourse between someone who is eighteen years of age or older and someone who is under the age of sixteen.

(4) Domestic violence. Physical violence, bodily injury, assault, the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, sexual assault, or stalking 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 26.50.010.

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

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

(b) 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.

(6) Stalking. Engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for their safety or the safety of others, or suffer substantial emotional distress.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132C-120-330 Title IX jurisdiction. (1) These supplemental procedures apply only if the alleged misconduct:

(a) Occurred in the United States;

(b) Occurred during a college educational program or activity; and

(c) Meets the definition of sexual harassment as that term is defined in these supplemental procedures.

(2) For purposes of these supplemental procedures, an "educational program or activity" is defined as locations, events, or circumstances over which the college exercised substantial control over both the respondent and the context in which the alleged sexual harassment occurred. This definition includes any building owned or controlled by a student organization that is officially recognized by the college.

(3) Proceedings under this supplemental procedure must be dismissed if the decision maker determines that one or all of the requirements of subsection (1)(a) through (c) of this section have not been met. Dismissal under this supplemental procedure does not prohibit the college from pursuing other disciplinary action based on allegations that the respondent violated other provisions of the college's student conduct code, WAC 132C-120-065.

(4) If the student conduct officer determines the facts in the investigation report are not sufficient to support Title IX jurisdiction and/or pursuit of a Title IX violation, the student conduct officer will issue a notice of dismissal in whole or part to both parties explaining why some or all of the Title IX claims have been dismissed.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132C-120-335 Initiation of discipline. (1) Upon receiving the Title IX investigation report from the Title IX coordinator, the student conduct officer will independently review the report to determine whether there are sufficient grounds to pursue a disciplinary action against the respondent for engaging in prohibited conduct under Title IX.

(2) If the student conduct officer determines that there are sufficient grounds to proceed under these supplemental

procedures, the student conduct officer will initiate a Title IX disciplinary proceeding by filing a written disciplinary notice with the chair of the student conduct committee and serving the notice on the respondent and the complainant, and their respective advisors. The notice must:

- (a) Set forth the basis for Title IX jurisdiction;
- (b) Identify the alleged Title IX violation(s);
- (c) Set forth the facts underlying the allegation(s);
- (d) Identify the range of possible sanctions that may be imposed if the respondent is found responsible for the alleged violation(s);
- (e) Explain that the complainant and the respondent are entitled to be accompanied by their chosen advisors during the hearing and that:
 - (i) The advisors will be responsible for questioning all witnesses on the party's behalf;
 - (ii) An advisor may be an attorney; and
 - (iii) The college will appoint the party an advisor of the college's choosing at no cost to the party, if the party fails to do so.
- (3) Explain that if a party fails to appear at the hearing, a decision of responsibility may be made in their absence.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132C-120-340 Prehearing procedure. (1) Upon receiving the disciplinary notice, the chair of the student conduct committee will send a hearing notice to all parties, in compliance with WAC 132C-120-122. In no event will the hearing date be set less than ten days after the Title IX coordinator provided the final investigation report to the parties.

(2) A party may choose to have an attorney serve as their advisor at the party's own expense. This right will be waived unless, at least five days before the hearing, the attorney files a notice of appearance with the committee chair with copies to all parties and the student conduct officer.

(3) In preparation for the hearing, the parties will have equal access to all evidence gathered by the investigator during the investigation, regardless of whether the college intends to offer the evidence at the hearing.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132C-120-345 Rights of parties. (1) The college's student conduct procedures, WAC 132C-120-010 through 132C-120-315 and these supplemental procedures shall apply equally to all parties.

(2) The college 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 college's choosing on the party's behalf at no expense to the party.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132C-120-350 Evidence. The introduction and consideration of evidence during the hearing is subject to the following procedures and restrictions:

(1) **Relevance:** The committee chair shall review all questions for relevance and shall explain on the record their reasons for excluding any question based on lack of relevance.

(2) **Relevance means** that information elicited by the question makes facts in dispute more or less likely to be true.

(3) Questions or evidence about a complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant and must be excluded, unless such question or evidence:

(a) Is asked or offered to prove someone other than the respondent committed the alleged misconduct; or

(b) Concerns specific incidents of prior sexual behavior between the complainant and the respondent, which are asked or offered on the issue of consent.

(4) **Cross-examination required:** If a party or witness does not submit to cross-examination during the live hearing, the committee must not rely on any statement by that party or witness in reaching a determination of responsibility.

(5) **No negative inference:** The committee may not make an inference regarding responsibility solely on a witness's or party's absence from the hearing or refusal to answer questions.

(6) **Privileged evidence:** The committee shall not consider legally privileged information unless the holder has effectively waived the privilege. Privileged information includes, but is not limited to, information protected by the following:

(a) Spousal/domestic partner privilege;

(b) Attorney-client and attorney work product privileges;

(c) Privileges applicable to members of the clergy and priests;

(d) Privileges applicable to medical providers, mental health therapists, and counselors;

(e) Privileges applicable to sexual assault and domestic violence advocates; and

(f) Other legal privileges identified in RCW 5.60.060.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132C-120-355 Initial order. (1) In addition to complying with WAC 132C-120-122, the student conduct committee will be responsible for conferring and drafting an initial order that:

(a) Identifies the allegations of sexual harassment;

(b) Describes the grievance and disciplinary procedures, starting with filing of the formal complaint through the determination of responsibility, including notices to parties, interviews with witnesses and parties, site visits, methods used to gather evidence, and hearings held;

(c) Makes findings of fact supporting the determination of responsibility;

(d) Reaches conclusions as to whether the facts establish whether the respondent is responsible for engaging in sexual harassment in violation of Title IX;

(e) Contains a statement of, and rationale for, the committee's determination of responsibility for each allegation;

(f) Describes any disciplinary sanction or conditions imposed against the respondent, if any;

(g) Describes to what extent, if any, complainant is entitled to remedies designed to restore or preserve complainant's equal access to the college's education programs or activities; and

(h) Describes the process for appealing the initial order to the college president.

(2) The committee chair will serve the initial order on the parties simultaneously.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132C-120-360 Appeals. (1) The parties shall have the right to appeal from the initial order's determination of responsibility and/or dismissal of an allegation(s) of sexual harassment in a formal complaint. The right to appeal will be subject to the same procedures and time frames set forth in WAC 132C-120-139.

(2) The president or their delegate will determine whether the grounds for appeal have merit, provide the rationale for this conclusion, and state whether the disciplinary sanction and condition(s) imposed in the initial order are affirmed, vacated, or amended, and, if amended, set forth any new disciplinary sanction and/or condition(s).

(3) President's office shall serve the final decision on the parties simultaneously.

WSR 20-17-100

EMERGENCY RULES

WENATCHEE VALLEY COLLEGE

[Filed August 14, 2020, 11:33 a.m., effective August 14, 2020, 11:33 a.m.]

Effective Date of Rule: Immediately upon filing.

Purpose: On May 19, 2020, the Federal Register printed amendments to Title IX regulations (85 F.R. 30575). The new regulations address the grievance process for formal complaints of sexual harassment and are scheduled to take effect on August 14, 2020. This requires emergency updates to the college's student conduct code to be compliant with federal regulations.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: New Supplemental Title IX Student Conduct Procedures, WAC 132W-115-110; and amending WAC 132W-115-080, 132W-115-110, and 132W-112-060.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: Chapter 34.05 RCW; and RCW 28B.50.140(13); 20 U.S.C. § 1092(f); Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. § 1681 et seq.

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that state or federal law or federal rule or a federal deadline for state receipt of federal funds requires immediate adoption of a rule.

Reasons for this Finding: Wenatchee Valley College is required by the United States Department of Education to comply with the recently adopted Title IX regulations, which take effect on August 14, 2020.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 1, Amended 3, Repealed 0; or

Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Non-governmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 1, Amended 3, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: August 14, 2020.

Jim Richardson
President

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 14-08-013, filed 3/20/14, effective 4/20/14)

WAC 132W-112-060 Freedom from sexual (~~harassment~~) misconduct. It is the responsibility of Wenatchee Valley College to ~~((provide and maintain a work and academic community which is free from sexual harassment. Sexual harassment violates federal and state law and will not be tolerated by Wenatchee Valley College. Any student or employee in violation of this policy and who engages in unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature, where such behavior offends the recipient, causes discomfort or humiliation, or interferes with job or academic performance, will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from the school or dismissal from employment))~~ maintain an academic work environment free of sexual harassment, which includes sexual harassment, sexual intimidation and sexual violence. Sexual harassment of faculty, staff or students is against the law and will not be tolerated. Sexual harassment violates the dignity of individuals and impedes the realization of the college's educational mission. The college is committed to preventing and addressing sexual harassment of faculty, staff and students through education and by encouraging faculty, staff and students to report any concerns or complaints about sexual harassment. Prompt corrective measures will be taken to stop sexual harassment whenever and wherever it occurs.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 14-09-009, filed 4/4/14, effective 5/5/14)

WAC 132W-115-080 Code of conduct. Wenatchee Valley College expects that its students, both on and off campus, conduct themselves in a manner that maintains high standards of integrity, honesty and morality at all times. A student who does not follow college rules will be subject to such action as may be deemed appropriate by designated college authorities. Conduct, either on or off campus, should be of such nature as not to reflect adversely on the reputation of the individual or the college. Students arrested for violation of criminal law on or off campus may also be subject to dis-

ciplinary action by the college. The following misconduct on college facilities is subject to disciplinary action:

(1) Intentionally or recklessly endangering, threatening, or causing physical harm to any person or oneself, or intentionally or recklessly causing reasonable apprehension of such harm.

(2) Harassment, bullying, abuse: No student shall physically, sexually, or emotionally harass, bully, abuse, coerce, intimidate, seriously embarrass, assault, or recklessly endanger any other person.

(3) Students engaging in any activity which inhibits or interferes with the orderly operation of Wenatchee Valley College or the ability of students and/or college personnel to perform their functions in an orderly environment shall be subject to disciplinary action. No student shall intentionally or recklessly interfere with normal college or college-sponsored activities or any form of emergency services.

(4) Unauthorized entry or use of college facilities.

(5) Knowingly violating the term of any disciplinary sanction imposed in accordance with the code.

(6) Theft of property or services; knowing possession of stolen property.

(7) Violating college policies or procedures by any student or by the guest of any student.

(8) Using tobacco products on the college premises.

(9) The consumption of alcoholic beverages on college property, except in accordance with state of Washington liquor license procedures. The unlawful (as a matter of local, state or federal law) manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession or use of alcohol, legend drugs, narcotic drugs, or controlled substances including marijuana, on college property or during college-sponsored events, whether on or off campus except when use or possession of a legend drug, narcotic drug, or controlled substance other than marijuana is specifically prescribed by an appropriately licensed health care provider.

(10) Academic dishonesty, including cheating, plagiarism, or knowingly furnishing false information to the college.

(11) Forgery, alteration, or misuse of college documents, records, funds, or instruments of identification.

(12) Refusal to comply with the direction of college officials acting in the legitimate performance of their duties.

(13) Possession or use of firearms (licensed or unlicensed), explosives, dangerous chemicals, or other dangerous weapons or instruments. Legal defense sprays are not covered by this rule. Exceptions to this rule are permitted when the weapon is used in conjunction with an approved college instructional program or is carried by a duly commissioned law enforcement officer.

(14) Failure to comply with the college's network acceptable use policy, WashingtonOnline (WAOL) memorandum of understanding and/or misuse of computing equipment services and facilities, including use of electronic mail and the internet.

(15) Ethics violation: The breach of any generally recognized and published code of ethics or standards of professional practice that governs the conduct of a particular trade, skill, craft or profession for which the student is taking courses or is pursuing as their educational goal or major.

These ethics codes must be distributed to students as part of an educational program, course, or sequence of courses and the student must be informed that a violation of such ethics codes may subject the student to disciplinary action by the college.

(16) Hazing: Conspiracy to engage in hazing or participation in hazing another. Hazing shall include any method of initiation into a student organization or living group, or any pastime or amusement engaged in with respect to such an organization or living group, that causes, or is likely to cause, bodily danger or physical harm, or serious mental or emotional harm to any student or other person attending Wenatchee Valley College. Consent is no defense to hazing. The term does not include customary athletic events or other similar contests or competitions. Hazing is also a misdemeanor, punishable under state law.

(17) Initiation violation: Conduct associated with initiation into a student organization, association, or living group, or any pastime or amusement engaged in with respect to an organization, association or living group not amounting to a violation under the definition of hazing. Conduct covered by this definition may include embarrassment, ridicule, sleep deprivation, verbal abuse, or personal humiliation. Consent is no defense to initiation violation.

(18) Animals, with the exception of service animals, are not allowed on or in college facilities. All service animals on campus shall be under direct physical control, leashed by their owner or custodian and registered with the special populations coordinator.

(19) Gambling: Any form of gambling is prohibited.

(20) Sexual misconduct: The term "sexual misconduct" includes sexual harassment, sexual intimidation, and sexual violence. Sexual harassment prohibited by Title IX is defined in the supplemental procedures to this code. See WAC 132W-115-110 (supplemental Title IX student conduct procedures).

(a) Sexual harassment. The term "sexual harassment" means unwelcome sexual or gender based conduct, including unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, quid pro quo harassment, and other verbal, nonverbal, or physical conduct of a sexual or a gendered nature that is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive as to:

(i) Deny or limit the ability of a student to participate in or benefit from the college's educational program;

(ii) Alter the terms or conditions of employment for a college employee(s); and/or

(iii) Create an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment for other campus community members.

(b) Sexual intimidation. The term "sexual intimidation" incorporates the definition of "sexual harassment" and means threatening or emotionally distressing conduct based on sex including, but not limited to, nonconsensual recording of sexual activity or the distribution of such recording.

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

(i) Nonconsensual sexual intercourse. Any actual or attempted sexual intercourse (anal, oral, or vaginal), however slight, with any object or body part, 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. 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.

(iii) Incest. 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 eighteen.

(iv) Statutory rape. Consensual intercourse between a person who is eighteen years of age or older, and a person who is under the age of sixteen.

(v) Domestic violence. Physical violence, bodily injury, assault, the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, sexual assault, or stalking 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 26.50.010.

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

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

(B) 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.

(vii) Stalking. 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.

(d) For purposes of this code, "consent" means 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 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. Intoxication is not a defense against allegations that an individual has engaged in nonconsensual sexual conduct.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 01-12-015, filed 5/25/01, effective 6/25/01)

WAC 132W-115-110 Procedures for resolving disciplinary violations. (1) The dean of student services is responsible for initiating disciplinary proceedings. The dean of student services may delegate this responsibility to members of his/her staff, and he/she may also establish committees or other hearing bodies to advise or act for him/her in disciplinary matters.

(2) In order that any informality in disciplinary proceedings not mislead a student as to the seriousness of the matter under consideration, the student involved shall be informed at the initial conference or hearing of the sanctions that may be involved.

(3) Upon initiation of formal disciplinary proceedings, the dean of student services or designee shall provide written notification to the student, either in person or by delivery via regular mail to the student's last known address, specifying the violations with which the student is charged. The dean of student services or designee shall set a time and place for meeting with the student to inform the student of the charges, the evidence supporting the charges, and to allow the student an opportunity to be heard regarding the charges and evidence.

(4) After considering the evidence in a case and interviewing the student or students involved, the dean of student services or designee may take any of the following actions:

(a) Terminate the proceeding, exonerating the student or students;

(b) Dismiss the case after whatever counseling and advice may be appropriate; not subject to the appeal rights provided in this code;

(c) Dismiss the case after verbally admonishing the student, not subject to the appeal rights provided in this code;

(d) Direct the parties to make a reasonable attempt to achieve a mediated settlement;

(e) Impose disciplinary sanctions directly, subject to the student's right of appeal as described in this chapter. The student shall be notified in writing of the action taken except that disciplinary warnings may be given verbally;

(f) Refer the matter to the academic regulations committee requesting their recommendation for appropriate action. The student shall be notified in writing that the matter has been referred to the academic regulations committee.

(5) This section shall not be construed as preventing the appropriate official from summarily suspending a student.

(6) If the dean of student services or his or her designee(s) has cause to believe that any student:

(a) Has committed a felony; or

(b) Has violated any provision of this chapter; and

(c) Presents an imminent danger either to himself or herself, other persons on the college campus or to the educational process; that student shall be summarily suspended and shall be notified by certified and regular mail at the student's last known address, or shall be personally served.

Summary suspension is appropriate only where (c) of this subsection can be shown, either alone or in conjunction with (a) or (b) of this subsection.

(7) During the summary suspension period, the suspended student shall not enter campus other than to meet with the dean of student services or to attend the hearing. However, the dean of student services or the college president may grant the student special permission to enter a campus for the express purpose of meeting with faculty, staff, or students in preparation for a probable cause hearing.

(8) When the president or his/her designee exercises the authority to summarily suspend a student, he/she shall cause notice thereof to be served upon that student by registered or certified mail at the student's last known address, or by causing personal service of such notice upon that student. The notice shall be entitled "notice of summary suspension proceedings" and shall state:

(a) The charges against the student including reference to the provisions of the student code or the law involved; and

(b) That the student charged must appear before the designated disciplinary officer at a time specified in the notice for a hearing as to whether probable cause exists to continue the summary suspension. The hearing shall be held as soon as practicable after the summary suspension.

(9) The summary suspension hearing shall be considered an emergency adjudicative proceeding. The proceeding must be conducted as soon as practicable with the dean of student services or designee presiding. At the summary suspension hearing, the dean of student services shall determine whether there is probable cause to believe that continued suspension is necessary and/or whether some other disciplinary action is appropriate.

(10) If the dean of student services, following the conclusion of the summary suspension proceedings, finds that there is probable cause to believe that:

(a) The student against whom specific violations of law or of provisions of this chapter are alleged has committed one or more of such violations; and

(b) That summary suspension of said student is necessary for the protection of the student, other students or persons on college facilities, college property, the educational process, or to restore order to the campus; and

(c) Such violation or violations of the law or of provisions of this chapter constitute grounds for disciplinary action, then the dean of student services may, with the written approval of the president, continue to suspend such student from the college and may impose any other disciplinary action as appropriate.

(11) A student who is suspended or otherwise disciplined pursuant to the above rules shall be provided with a written copy of the dean of student services' findings of fact and conclusions, as expressly concurred in by the president, which constituted probable cause to believe that the conditions for summary suspension existed. The student suspended pursuant to the authority of this rule shall be served a copy of the notice of suspension by personal service or by registered mail to said student's last known address within three working days following the conclusion of the summary suspension hearing. The notice of suspension shall state the duration of

the suspension or nature of other disciplinary action and the conditions under which the suspension may be terminated.

(12) The dean of student services is authorized to enforce the suspension of the summarily suspended student in the event the student has been served pursuant to the notice requirement and fails to appear at the time designated for the summary suspension proceeding.

(13) Any student aggrieved by an order issued at the summary suspension proceeding may appeal to the academic regulations committee. No such appeal shall be entertained, however, unless:

(a) The student has first appeared at the student hearing in accordance with subsection (9) of this section;

(b) The student has been officially notified of the outcome of the hearing;

(c) Summary suspension or other disciplinary sanction has been upheld; and

(d) The appeal conforms to the standards set forth in chapter 132W-109 WAC. The academic regulations committee shall, within five working days, conduct a formal hearing in the manner described in chapter 132W-109 WAC.

(14) Sexual misconduct proceedings. Both the respondent and the complainant 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.

(15) Order of precedence. Both the respondent and the complainant 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. This procedure applies to allegations of sexual harassment 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 hearing procedures conflict with Wenatchee Valley College's standard disciplinary procedures in this section.

(16) Prohibited conduct under Title IX. Pursuant to RCW 28B.50.140(13) and Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1681, the college may impose disciplinary sanctions against a student who commits, attempts to commit, or aids, abets, incites, encourages, or assists another person to commit, an act(s) of "sexual harassment."

For purposes of this procedure, "sexual harassment" encompasses the following conduct:

(a) Quid pro quo harassment. A college employee conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of the college on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct.

(b) Hostile environment. Unwelcome conduct that a reasonable person would find to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the college's educational programs or activities, or employment.

(c) Sexual assault. Sexual assault includes the following conduct:

(i) Nonconsensual sexual intercourse. Any actual or attempted sexual intercourse (anal, oral, or vaginal), however slight, with any object or body part, 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. 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.

(iii) Incest. 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 eighteen.

(iv) Statutory rape. Consensual sexual intercourse between someone who is eighteen years of age or older and someone who is under the age of sixteen.

(d) Domestic violence. Physical violence, bodily injury, assault, the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, sexual assault, or stalking 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 26.50.010.

(e) Dating violence. 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.

(f) Stalking. Engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for their safety or the safety of others, or suffer substantial emotional distress.

(17) Title IX jurisdiction.

(a) This procedure applies only if the alleged misconduct:

(i) Occurred in the United States;

(ii) Occurred during a college educational program or activity; and

(iii) Meets the definition of sexual harassment as that term is defined in this procedure.

(b) For purposes of this procedure, an "educational program or activity" is defined as locations, events, or circumstances over which the college exercised substantial control over both the respondent and the context in which the alleged

sexual harassment occurred. This definition includes any building owned or controlled by a student organization that is officially recognized by Wenatchee Valley College.

(c) Proceedings under this procedure must be dismissed if the decision maker determines that one or all of the requirements of subsection (1)(a) through (c) of this section have not been met. Dismissal under this procedure does not prohibit the college from pursuing other disciplinary action based on allegations that the respondent violated other provisions of the college's student conduct code, WAC 132W-115-080.

(d) If the student conduct officer determines the facts in the investigation report are not sufficient to support Title IX jurisdiction and/or pursuit of a Title IX violation, the student conduct officer will issue a notice of dismissal in whole or part to both parties explaining why some or all of the Title IX claims have been dismissed.

(18) Initiation of discipline.

(a) Upon receiving the Title IX investigation report from the Title IX coordinator, the student conduct officer will independently review the report to determine whether there are sufficient grounds to pursue a disciplinary action against the respondent for engaging in prohibited conduct under Title IX.

(b) If the student conduct officer determines that there are sufficient grounds to proceed under these procedures, the student conduct officer will initiate a Title IX disciplinary proceeding by filing a written disciplinary notice with the chair of the student conduct committee and serving the notice on the respondent and the complainant, and their respective advisors. The notice must:

(i) Set forth the basis for Title IX jurisdiction;

(ii) Identify the alleged Title IX violation(s);

(iii) Set forth the facts underlying the allegation(s);

(iv) Identify the range of possible sanctions that may be imposed if the respondent is found responsible for the alleged violation(s);

(v) Explain that the parties are entitled to be accompanied by their chosen advisors during the hearing and that:

(A) The advisors will be responsible for questioning all witnesses on the party's behalf;

(B) An advisor may be an attorney; and

(C) The college will appoint the party an advisor of the college's choosing at no cost to the party, if the party fails to do so.

(c) Explain that if a party fails to appear at the hearing, a decision of responsibility may be made in their absence.

(19) Prehearing procedure.

(a) Upon receiving the disciplinary notice, the chair of the student conduct committee will send a hearing notice to all parties, in compliance with WAC 132W-115-010. In no event will the hearing date be set less than ten days after the Title IX coordinator provided the final investigation report to the parties.

(b) A party may choose to have an attorney serve as their advisor at the party's own expense. This right will be waived unless, at least five days before the hearing, the attorney files a notice of appearance with the committee chair with copies to all parties and the student conduct officer.

(c) In preparation for the hearing, the parties will have equal access to all evidence gathered by the investigator

during the investigation, regardless of whether the college intends to offer the evidence at the hearing.

(20) Rights of parties.

(a) The college's student conduct procedures, WAC 132W-115-110 and this procedure shall apply equally to all parties.

(b) The college 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.

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

(d) 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 college's choosing on the party's behalf at no expense to the party.

(21) Evidence. The introduction and consideration of evidence during the hearing is subject to the following procedures and restrictions:

(a) Relevance: The committee chair shall review all questions for relevance and shall explain on the record their reasons for excluding any question based on lack of relevance.

(b) Relevance means that information elicited by the question makes facts in dispute more or less likely to be true.

(c) Questions or evidence about a complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant and must be excluded, unless such question or evidence:

(i) Is asked or offered to prove someone other than the respondent committed the alleged misconduct; or

(ii) Concerns specific incidents of prior sexual behavior between the complainant and the respondent, which are asked or offered on the issue of consent.

(d) Cross-examination required: If a party or witness does not submit to cross-examination during the live hearing, the committee must not rely on any statement by that party or witness in reaching a determination of responsibility.

(e) No negative inference: The committee may not make an inference regarding responsibility solely on a witness's or party's absence from the hearing or refusal to answer questions.

(f) Privileged evidence: The committee shall not consider legally privileged information unless the holder has effectively waived the privilege. Privileged information includes, but is not limited to, information protected by the following:

(i) Spousal/domestic partner privilege;

(ii) Attorney-client and attorney work product privileges;

(iii) Privileges applicable to members of the clergy and priests;

(iv) Privileges applicable to medical providers, mental health therapists, and counselors;

(v) Privileges applicable to sexual assault and domestic violence advocates; and

(vi) Other legal privileges identified in RCW 5.60.060.

(22) Initial order.

(a) In addition to complying with this section, the student conduct committee will be responsible for conferring and drafting an initial order that:

(i) Identifies the allegations of sexual harassment;

(ii) Describes the grievance and disciplinary procedures, starting with filing of the formal complaint through the determination of responsibility, including notices to parties, interviews with witnesses and parties, site visits, methods used to gather evidence, and hearings held;

(iii) Makes findings of fact supporting the determination of responsibility;

(iv) Reaches conclusions as to whether the facts establish whether the respondent is responsible for engaging in sexual harassment in violation of Title IX;

(v) Contains a statement of, and rationale for, the committee's determination of responsibility for each allegation;

(vi) Describes any disciplinary sanction or conditions imposed against the respondent, if any;

(vii) Describes to what extent, if any, complainant is entitled to remedies designed to restore or preserve complainant's equal access to the college's education programs or activities; and

(viii) Describes the process for appealing the initial order to the college president.

(b) The committee chair will serve the initial order on the parties simultaneously.

(23) Appeals.

(a) The parties shall have the right to appeal from the initial order's determination of responsibility and/or dismissal of an allegation(s) of sexual harassment in a formal complaint. The right to appeal will be subject to the same procedures and time frames set forth in this section.

(b) The president or their delegate will determine whether the grounds for appeal have merit, provide the rationale for this conclusion, and state whether the disciplinary sanction and condition(s) imposed in the initial order are affirmed, vacated, or amended, and, if amended, set forth any new disciplinary sanction and/or condition(s).

(c) President's office shall serve the final decision on the parties simultaneously.

WSR 20-17-102

EMERGENCY RULES

EVERETT COMMUNITY COLLEGE

[Filed August 14, 2020, 4:33 p.m., effective August 14, 2020]

Effective Date of Rule: August 14, 2020.

Purpose: On May 19, 2020, the Federal Register printed amendments to Title IX regulations (85 F.R. 30575). The new regulations address the grievance process for formal complaints of sexual harassment and are scheduled to take effect on August 14, 2020. This requires emergency updates to the college's student conduct code to be compliant with federal regulations.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: New Supplemental Title IX Student Conduct Procedures, WAC 132E-122-410 through 132E-122-490; and amending WAC 132E-122-170 and 132E-122-250.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: Chapter 34.05 RCW; and RCW 28B.50.140(13); 20 U.S.C. § 1092(f); Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. § 1681 et seq.

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that state or federal law or federal rule or a federal deadline for state receipt of federal funds requires immediate adoption of a rule.

Reasons for this Finding: Everett Community College is required by the United States Department of Education to comply with the recently adopted Title IX regulations, which take effect on August 14, 2020.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 8, Amended 2, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Non-governmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 8, Amended 2, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: August 14, 2020.

Erin Carr
Director of Equal Opportunity
and Title IX Programs

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 18-01-119, filed 12/19/17, effective 1/19/18)

WAC 132E-122-170 Reporting—Sexual misconduct and discrimination. (1) Persons who believe that a sexual misconduct or discrimination violation has been committed may contact and make a report to the Title IX coordinator directly (~~or by filing a report online at everettcc.edu/Title IX~~).

~~((Becky Lamboley))~~
Title IX Coordinator
425-388-9271
TitleIXcoordinator@everettcc.edu
Olympus Hall ~~((207))~~ 114
2000 Tower Street
Everett, WA 98201

(2) The person filing the report will be asked to write a brief statement of allegation(s), including dates, names, a description of the incident, and the remedy sought.

(3) **Sexual misconduct responsible employee reporting.** Any employee who receives a report, formally or informally, of an alleged Title IX violation is required to report such information to the Title IX coordinator. The employee may contact the Title IX coordinator directly ~~((6))~~ at TitleIXcoordinator@everettcc.edu or 425-388-9271 ~~((or may file a Title IX report through the college online reporting system))~~.

(4) **Campus counselors.** If information regarding a possible sexual misconduct violation is disclosed during a confidential counseling session with a campus counselor, the counselor is not required to report this information to the Title IX coordinator.

(5) If the complaint is against the conduct officer or Title IX coordinator, the matter is to be reported to the vice president of ~~((administrative services))~~ human resources.

Vice President of ~~((Administrative Services vpadmin@everettcc.edu))~~ Human Resources
hr@everettcc.edu
425-388-9232
2000 Tower Street
Everett, WA 98201

NEW SECTION

WAC 132E-122-410 Order of precedence. This supplemental procedure applies to allegations of sexual harassment 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 Everett Community College's standard disciplinary procedures, WAC 132E-122-010 through 132E-122-490, these supplemental procedures shall take precedence.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132E-122-420 Prohibited conduct under Title IX. Pursuant to RCW 28B.50.140(13) and Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1681, Everett Community College may impose disciplinary sanctions against a student who commits, attempts to commit, or aids, abets, incites, encourages, or assists another person to commit, an act(s) of "sexual harassment."

For purposes of this supplemental procedure, "sexual harassment" encompasses the following conduct:

(1) **Quid pro quo harassment.** An Everett Community College employee conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of Everett Community College on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct.

(2) **Hostile environment.** Unwelcome conduct that a reasonable person would find to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to Everett Community College's educational programs or activities, or employment.

(3) **Sexual assault.** Sexual assault includes the following conduct:

(a) **Nonconsensual sexual intercourse.** Any actual or attempted sexual intercourse (anal, oral, or vaginal), however slight, with any object or body part, 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.** 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.** 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 eighteen.

(d) **Statutory rape.** Consensual sexual intercourse between someone who is eighteen years of age or older and someone who is under the age of sixteen.

(4) **Domestic violence.** Physical violence, bodily injury, assault, the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, sexual assault, or stalking 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 26.50.010.

(5) **Dating violence.** Physical violence, bodily injury, assault, the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, sexual assault, or stalking committed by a person:

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

(b) 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.

(6) **Stalking.** Engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for their safety or the safety of others, or suffer substantial emotional distress.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132E-122-430 Title IX jurisdiction. (1) This supplemental procedure applies only if the alleged misconduct:

(a) Occurred in the United States;

(b) Occurred during an Everett Community College educational program or activity; and

(c) Meets the definition of sexual harassment as that term is defined in this supplemental procedure.

(2) For purposes of this supplemental procedure, an "educational program or activity" is defined as locations, events, or circumstances over which Everett Community College exercised substantial control over both the respondent and the context in which the alleged sexual harassment occurred. This definition includes any building owned or controlled by a student organization that is officially recognized by Everett Community College.

(3) Proceedings under this supplemental procedure must be dismissed if the decision maker determines that one or all of the requirements of subsection (1)(a) through (c) of this section have not been met. Dismissal under this supplemental

procedure does not prohibit Everett Community College from pursuing other disciplinary action based on allegations that the respondent violated other provisions of Everett Community College's student conduct code, WAC 132E-122-010 through 132E-122-490.

(4) If the student conduct officer determines the facts in the investigation report are not sufficient to support Title IX jurisdiction and/or pursuit of a Title IX violation, the student conduct officer will issue a notice of dismissal in whole or part to both parties explaining why some or all of the Title IX claims have been dismissed.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132E-122-440 Initiation of Title IX proceedings. (1) Upon receiving the Title IX investigation report from the Title IX coordinator, the student conduct officer will independently review the report to determine whether there are sufficient grounds to pursue a disciplinary action against the respondent for engaging in prohibited conduct under Title IX.

(2) If the student conduct officer determines that there are sufficient grounds to proceed under these supplemental procedures, the student conduct officer will initiate a Title IX disciplinary proceeding by filing a written disciplinary notice with the chair of the student conduct committee and serving the notice on the respondent and the complainant, and their respective advisors. The notice must:

(a) Set forth the basis for Title IX jurisdiction;

(b) Identify the alleged Title IX violation(s);

(c) Set forth the facts underlying the allegation(s);

(d) Identify the range of possible sanctions that may be imposed if the respondent is found responsible for the alleged violation(s);

(e) Explain that the parties are entitled to be accompanied by their chosen advisor(s) during the hearing and that:

(i) The advisor(s) will be responsible for questioning all witnesses on the party's behalf;

(ii) An advisor may be an attorney; and

(iii) Everett Community College will appoint the party an advisor of the Everett Community College's choosing at no cost to the party, if the party fails to do so.

(3) Explain that if a party fails to appear at the hearing, a decision of responsibility may be made in their absence.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132E-122-450 Prehearing procedure. (1) Upon receiving the disciplinary notice, the chair of the student conduct committee will send a hearing notice to all parties, in compliance with WAC 132E-122-440. In no event will the hearing date be set less than ten days after the Title IX coordinator provided the final investigation report to the parties.

(2) A party may choose to have an attorney serve as their advisor at the party's own expense. This right will be waived unless, at least five days before the hearing, the attorney files a notice of appearance with the committee chair with copies to all parties and the student conduct officer.

(3) In preparation for the hearing, the parties will have equal access to all evidence gathered by the investigator

during the investigation, regardless of whether Everett Community College intends to offer the evidence at the hearing.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132E-122-460 Rights of parties. (1) Everett Community College's student conduct procedures and this supplemental procedure shall apply equally to all parties.

(2) Everett Community College 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 Everett Community College's choosing on the party's behalf at no expense to the party.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132E-122-470 Evidence. The introduction and consideration of evidence during the hearing is subject to the following procedures and restrictions:

(1) **Relevance:** The committee chair shall review all questions for relevance and shall explain on the record their reasons for excluding any question based on lack of relevance.

(2) **Relevance** means that information elicited by the question makes facts in dispute more or less likely to be true.

(3) Questions or evidence about a complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant and must be excluded, unless such question or evidence:

(a) Is asked or offered to prove someone other than the respondent committed the alleged misconduct; or

(b) Concerns specific incidents of prior sexual behavior between the complainant and the respondent, which are asked or offered on the issue of consent.

(4) **Cross-examination required:** If a party or witness does not submit to cross-examination during the live hearing, the committee must not rely on any statement by that party or witness in reaching a determination of responsibility.

(5) **No negative inference:** The committee may not make an inference regarding responsibility solely on a witness's or party's absence from the hearing or refusal to answer questions.

(6) **Privileged evidence:** The committee shall not consider legally privileged information unless the holder has effectively waived the privilege. Privileged information includes, but is not limited to, information protected by the following:

(a) Spousal/domestic partner privilege;

(b) Attorney-client and attorney work product privileges;

(c) Privileges applicable to members of the clergy and priests;

(d) Privileges applicable to medical providers, mental health therapists, and counselors;

(e) Privileges applicable to sexual assault and domestic violence advocates; and

(f) Other legal privileges identified in RCW 5.60.060.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132E-122-480 Initial order. The student conduct committee will be responsible for conferring and drafting an initial order that:

(1) Identifies the allegations of sexual harassment;

(2) Describes the grievance and disciplinary procedures, starting with filing of the formal complaint through the determination of responsibility, including notices to parties, interviews with witnesses and parties, site visits, methods used to gather evidence, and hearings held;

(3) Makes findings of fact supporting the determination of responsibility;

(4) Reaches conclusions as to whether the facts establish whether the respondent is responsible for engaging in sexual harassment in violation of Title IX;

(5) Contains a statement of, and rationale for, the committee's determination of responsibility for each allegation;

(6) Describes any disciplinary sanction or conditions imposed against the respondent, if any;

(7) Describes to what extent, if any, complainant is entitled to remedies designed to restore or preserve complainant's equal access to Everett Community College's education programs or activities; and

(8) Describes the process for appealing the initial order to Everett Community College's president.

(9) The committee chair will serve the initial order on the parties simultaneously.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132E-122-490 Title IX appeals. (1) The parties have the right to appeal from the determination of responsibility and/or from a Title IX dismissal, in whole or part, of a formal complaint, as set forth in the initial order.

(2) The president or the president's delegate will determine whether the grounds for appeal have merit, provide the rationale for this conclusion, and state whether the disciplinary sanctions and conditions imposed in the initial order are affirmed, vacated, or amended, and, if amended, set forth the new disciplinary sanctions and conditions.

(3) If a request for reconsideration is received, the Title IX coordinator shall respond within seven business days. The Title IX coordinator shall either deny the request or, if the Title IX coordinator determines that the request for reconsideration has merit, issue amended findings.

(4) If any of the grounds in the request for appeal do not meet the grounds in this policy, that request will be denied and the parties and their advisors will be notified in writing of the denial and the rationale.

(5) If any of the grounds in the request for appeal meet the grounds in this policy, then the other party(ies) and their advisors, and, when appropriate, the investigators and/or the original decision-maker(s) will be notified of the decision.

(6) The other party(ies) and their advisors, and, when appropriate, the investigators and/or the original decision-maker(s) will be mailed, emailed, and/or provided a hard

copy of the request with the approved grounds and be provided seven business days to submit a response to the portion of the appeal that was approved and involves them. All responses will be forwarded by the appeal decision-maker(s) to all parties for review and comment.

(7) The nonappealing party (if any) may also choose to raise a new ground for appeal at this time. If so, that will be reviewed for standing by the appeal decision-maker(s) and either denied or approved. If approved, it will be forwarded to the party who initially requested an appeal, the investigator(s) and/or original decision-maker(s), as necessary, who will submit their responses in seven business days, which will be circulated for review and comment by all parties.

(8) Neither party may submit any new requests for appeal after this time period. The appeal decision-maker(s) will collect any additional information needed and all documentation regarding the approved grounds and the subsequent responses and will render a decision in no more than seven business days, barring exigent circumstances. All decisions apply the preponderance of the evidence standard.

(9) A notice of appeal outcome will be sent to all parties simultaneously including the decision on each approved ground and rationale for each decision. The notice of appeal outcome will specify the finding on each ground for appeal, any specific instructions for remand or reconsideration, any sanctions that may result which the recipient is permitted to share according to state or federal law, and the rationale supporting the essential findings to the extent the recipient is permitted to share under state or federal law.

(10) Notification will be made in writing and may be delivered by one or more of the following methods: In person, mailed to the local or permanent address of the parties as indicated in official institutional records, or emailed to the parties' recipient-issued email or otherwise approved account. Once mailed, emailed and/or received in-person, notice will be presumptively delivered.

(11) The grounds for appeal are as follows:

(a) Procedural irregularity that affected the outcome of the matter;

(b) New evidence that was not reasonably available at the time the determination regarding responsibility or dismissal was made, that could affect the outcome of the matter; and

(c) The Title IX coordinator, investigator(s), or decision-maker(s) had a conflict of interest or bias for or against complainants or respondents generally or the specific complainant or respondent that affected the outcome of the matter.

(12) All decisions reached through this process are final. No decisions or recommendations arising from this disciplinary procedure will be subject to grievance pursuant to any collective bargaining agreement.

(13) If no request for reconsideration is received within seven days, the findings become final.

(14) Decisions on appeal are to be deferential to the original decision, making changes to the finding only when there is clear error and to the sanction(s)/responsive action(s) only if there is a compelling justification to do so.

(15) Appeals are not intended to provide for a full rehearing of the allegation(s). In most cases, appeals are con-

finied to a review of the written documentation or record of the original hearing and pertinent documentation regarding the specific grounds for appeal.

(16) An appeal is not an opportunity for appeal decision-maker(s) to substitute their judgment for that of the original decision-maker(s) merely because they disagree with the finding and/or sanction(s).

(17) Once an appeal is decided, the outcome is final. Further appeals are not permitted, even if a decision or sanction is changed on remand except in the case of a new hearing.

(18) Any amended findings are final and no further reconsideration is available.

WSR 20-17-103

EMERGENCY RULES

EDMONDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

[Filed August 17, 2020, 8:37 a.m., effective August 17, 2020, 8:37 a.m.]

Effective Date of Rule: Immediately upon filing.

Purpose: To comply with new Federal Title IX regulations, revisions have been made to Edmonds College WAC, chapter 132Y-125 WAC regarding the student code of conduct. In these sections, students' rights during an investigation are explained, Title IX hearing procedures are outlined, jurisdiction is outlined, sexual harassment is defined, and requirements for investigating a Title IX complaint are outlined.

Revisions have been made to Edmonds College chapter 132Y-300 WAC regarding the college's nondiscrimination and harassment policy to comply with the new Federal Title IX regulations. Sections of this policy have been removed from the WAC to create expediency when updating the policies.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: New WAC 132Y-125-120, 132Y-125-125, 132Y-125-130, 132Y-125-135, 132Y-125-140, 132Y-125-145, 132Y-125-150, 132Y-125-155, 132Y-125-160 and 132Y-125-165; repealing WAC 132Y-300-001, 132Y-300-020, 132Y-125-100, 132Y-125-105, 132Y-125-110 and 132Y-125-115; and amending WAC 132Y-300-005, 132Y-300-010, 132Y-300-015, 132Y-125-001, 132Y-125-005, 132Y-125-010, 132Y-125-015, 132Y-125-020, 132Y-125-025, 132Y-125-030, and 132Y-125-060.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: Chapter 34.05 RCW; and RCW 28B.50.140(13); 20 U.S.C. § 1092(f); Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. § 1681 et seq.

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that state or federal law or federal rule or a federal deadline for state receipt of federal funds requires immediate adoption of a rule.

Reasons for this Finding: In order to comply with the deadline of August 14, an emergency rule is necessary. Edmonds College will also complete the WAC process to make this emergency rule permanent.

Emergency rules adding rules to chapter 132Y-125 WAC, student conduct and chapter 132-300 for Title IX allegations affecting college staff are necessary for compliance with the Department of Education updated Title IX rules issued on May 22, 2020, and requiring implementation of updated student conduct code requirements related to Title

IX no later than August 14, 2020. The college intends to proceed with permanent rule making on these subjects in the near future.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 6, Amended 11, Repealed 6; Federal Rules or Standards: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Non-governmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: August 13, 2020.

Muchka Rohani
Executive Director
of Human Resources

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 15-12-068, filed 5/29/15, effective 6/29/15)

WAC 132Y-125-001 Student code of conduct. (1) **Authority.** The Edmonds (~~Community~~) College board of trustees, acting pursuant to RCW 28B.50.140(~~(14)~~) (13), delegates to the president of the college the authority to administer disciplinary action. Administration of the disciplinary procedures is the responsibility of the vice president for student services or their designee. The student conduct officer or delegee shall serve as the principal investigator and administrator for alleged violations of this code.

(2) **Statement of student rights.** As members of the Edmonds (~~Community~~) College 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 rights are guaranteed to each student within the limitations of statutory law and college policies necessary to achieve the educational goals of the college(~~and also acting pursuant to Edmonds Community College Academic Freedom Policy (B.1.4)~~):

(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).

(ii) 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 the student conduct hearing procedures.

(3) **Student misconduct.** The college may impose disciplinary sanctions against a student who commits, attempts to commit, aids, abets, incites, encourages or assists another person to commit, an act(s) of misconduct which includes, but is not limited to, any of the following:

(a) **Academic dishonesty.** Any act of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to:

(i) Cheating (~~(including, but not limited to)~~): Includes any attempt to give or obtain unauthorized assistance relating to the completion of an academic assignment, intentional use or attempted use of unauthorized material, information, or study aids, misrepresentation of invention or any information such as falsifying research, inventing or exaggerating data, or listing incorrect or fictitious references.

(ii) Plagiarism including, but not limited to, presenting or submitting another person's, entities', and/or sources' ideas, words, or other works in an instructional course without assigning proper credit.

(iii) Unauthorized collaboration including, but not limited to, intentionally sharing or working together in an academic exercise when such actions are not approved by the course instructor.

(iv) Academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, presenting or 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).

(b) **Other dishonesty.** Any other acts of dishonesty. Such acts include, but are not limited to:

(i) Forgery, alteration, submission of falsified documents or misuse of any college document, record, or instrument of identification;

(ii) Tampering with an election conducted by or for college students; or

(iii) Knowingly furnishing false information, or failing to furnish accurate and honest information, in response to the request or requirement of a college officer or employee.

(c) **Obstruction or ~~((disruption of))~~ disruptive conduct.** Conduct, not otherwise protected by law, that interferes with, impedes, or otherwise hinders:

(i) Any instruction, research, administration, disciplinary proceeding, or other college activity, including the obstruction of the free flow of pedestrian or vehicular movement on college property or at a college activity; or

(ii) Any operation of the college, including the infringement on the rights of another member(s) of the college community; or

(iii) Any activity that is authorized to occur on college property, whether or not actually conducted or sponsored by the college.

(d) **Assault, intimidation, harassment.** Unwanted touching, assault, battery, physical abuse, verbal abuse, threat(s), intimidation, harassment, bullying, stalking, or other conduct which harms, threatens, or is reasonably perceived as threatening the health or safety of another person or another person's property. For purposes of this subsection:

(i) Bullying is ~~((physical or verbal abuse, repeated over time, and involving a power imbalance between the aggressor and))~~ defined as repeated or aggressive unwanted behavior, not otherwise protected by law that intentionally humiliates, harms, or intimidates the victim.

(ii) Stalking is ~~((intentional and repeated harassment or repeated following of another person, which places that person in reasonable fear that the stalker intends to injure the person, another person, or the property of the person or another person, and the stalker either intends to frighten, intimidate, or harass the person, or knows or reasonably should know that the person is frightened, intimidated or harassed, even if the stalker lacks such an intent.~~

~~(A) The person being harassed or followed is placed in reasonable fear that the stalker intends to injure the person, another person, or property of the person or of another person.~~

~~(B) Reasonable fear is a fear that a reasonable person in the same situation would experience under most circumstances)) defined as engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for their safety or the safety of others, or suffer substantial emotional distress.~~

(e) **Cyber misconduct.** Cyberstalking, cyberbullying or online harassment. Use of electronic communications including, but not limited to, electronic mail, instant messaging, text and image 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 and/or social media identity, nonconsensual recording of sexual activity, and/or nonconsensual distribution of a recording of sexual activity.

(f) **Property violation.** Attempted or actual damage to, or theft or misuse of, real or personal property, or money of:

(i) The college or state;

(ii) Any student, college official, employee, or college affiliated or sponsored organization; or

(iii) Any other member of the college community, or organization; or

(iv) Possession of such property or money after it has been stolen.

(g) **Failure to comply with directive.** Failure to comply with the direction of a college official or employee who is acting in the legitimate performance of their duties, including refusal to properly identify oneself to such a person when requested to do so.

(h) **Weapons.** Possession 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, unless previously authorized in writing by the president or designee.

(i) **Hazing.** Hazing includes, but is not limited to, any initiation into or affiliation with 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.

(j) **Tobacco violation.** Violation of the college's Tobacco ~~((Use — Smoking on Campus Policy (C 6.3.520)))~~ and Smoke-Free Policy HR 8.0.

(k) **Alcohol.** The use, possession, delivery, sale, or being observably under the influence of any alcoholic beverage, except as permitted by law and applicable college policies.

(l) **Marijuana.** The use, possession, delivery, sale, or being observably under the influence 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.

(m) **Drugs.** The use, possession, delivery, sale, or being observably under the influence of any legend drug, narcotic drug, or controlled substance as defined in chapters 69.41 and 69.50 RCW except in accordance with a lawful prescription for that student by a licensed health care professional.

(n) **Lewd conduct.** Conduct which is lewd, or obscene.

(o) **Discrimination.** 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; age (40+); religion; creed; genetic information; sexual orientation; gender identity and expression; veteran's status; any other legally protected classification; or any violation of the college's nondiscrimination policy.

(p) **Sexual misconduct.** The term "sexual misconduct" includes sexual harassment, sexual intimidation, and sexual violence. Sexual harassment prohibited by Title IX is defined in the supplemental procedures to this code. See WAC 132Y-125-130. (prohibited conduct under Title IX).

~~(i) **Sexual harassment.** ((Conduct includes, but is not limited to, engaging in)) The term "sexual harassment" means unwelcome sexual or gender-based conduct including unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, ((or other sexual conduct, including)) quid pro quo harassment.~~

~~and other verbal, nonverbal, ((electronic or social media communication;)) or physical ((touching)) conduct of a sexual or a gendered nature that is sufficiently ((serious)) severe, persistent, or pervasive as to ((deny or limit, and that does deny or limit, based on sex;)):~~

~~(A) Deny or limit the ability of a student to participate in or benefit from the college's educational program((s or that));~~

~~(B) Alter the terms or conditions of employment for a college employee(s); and/or~~

~~(C) Create((s)) an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment for other campus community members((, or violation of the college's sexual harassment policy)).~~

(ii) **Sexual intimidation.** The term "sexual intimidation" incorporates the definition of "sexual harassment" and means threatening or emotionally distressing conduct based on sex including, but not limited to, nonconsensual recording of sexual activity or the distribution of such recording.

(iii) **Sexual violence.** "Sexual violence" is a type of sexual discrimination and harassment. Nonconsensual sexual intercourse, nonconsensual sexual contact, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking are all types of sexual violence.

(A) Nonconsensual sexual intercourse ((is any)). Any actual or attempted 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 ((is any intentional)). 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. Sexual intercourse or sexual contact with a person known to be related to them, either legitimately, as an ancestor, descendant, brother, or sister or either wholly or half related. Descendant includes stepchildren, and adopted children under the age of eighteen.

(D) Statutory rape. Consensual intercourse between a person who is eighteen years of age or older, and a person who is under the age of sixteen.

~~(E) Domestic violence ((includes asserted violent misdemeanor and felony offenses committed by the victim's current or former spouse, current or former cohabitant, person similarly situated under domestic or family violence law, or anyone else protected under domestic or family violence law.~~

~~(F))~~. Physical violence, bodily injury, assault, the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, sexual assault, or stalking committed by a person with whom the victim shares a child in common, by a person cohabitating with or has cohabitated with the victim, 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 the person's act under the domestic or family violence laws of the state of Washington, RCW 26.50.010.

~~(F) Dating violence ((means violence by a person who has been in a romantic or intimate relationship with the victim. Whether there was such relationship will be gauged by its length, type, and frequency of interaction.~~

~~(E))~~. 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:

(aa) The length of the relationship;

(bb) The type of relationship; and

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

~~(G) Stalking ((means intentional and repeated harassment or following of another person, which places that person in reasonable fear that the perpetrator intends to injure, intimidate, or harass that person. Stalking also includes instances where the perpetrator knows or reasonably should know that the person is frightened, intimidated, or harassed, even if the perpetrator lacks such intent.~~

~~(F) Consent:))~~. 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.

For the purposes of this code, "consent" means 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 he or she is 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 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.

(q) **Harassment.** Unwelcome and offensive conduct, including verbal, nonverbal, or physical conduct, that is directed at a person because of such person's protected status 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 and expression; veteran's status; or any other legally protected classification. See "sexual misconduct" for the definition of "sexual harassment." ((as defined in (p)(i) of this subsection.)) Harassing conduct may include, but is not limited to, physical conduct, verbal, written, social media, and electronic communications.

(r) **Retaliation.** (~~Retaliation against any individual for reporting, providing information, exercising one's own rights or responsibilities, or otherwise being involved in the process of responding to, investigating, or addressing allegations or violations of federal, state or local law, or college policies including, but not limited to, student conduct code provisions prohibiting discrimination and harassment.~~) Harming, threatening, intimidating, coercing, or taking adverse action of any kind against a person because such a person reported an alleged violation of this code or college policy, provided information about an alleged violation, or participated as a witness or in any other capacity in a college investigation or disciplinary proceeding.

(s) **Misuse of electronic resources.** Theft of or other misuse of computer time or other electronic information resources of the college. Such misuse includes, but is not limited to:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(ix) Failure to comply with the college's regulation on appropriate use of college information technology resources or the electronic use policies as established by the college.

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

(u) **Safety violation.** Safety violation includes any non-accidental 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.

(v) **Violation of other laws or policies.** Violation of any federal, state, or local law, rule, or regulation or other college rules or policies, including college traffic and parking rules.

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

(i) Falsification or misrepresentation of information;

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

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

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

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

(vi) Failure to comply with any disciplinary sanction(s) imposed under ((EdCC's)) Edmonds College's student conduct code.

(x) **Ethical violation.** The breach of any generally recognized and/or 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 program.

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 investigation or prosecution.

(4) **Sanctions.** Disciplinary actions include, but are not limited to, the following sanctions that may be imposed upon students according to the student code of conduct hearing procedures.

(a) **Warning.** A verbal statement to a student that there is a violation and that continued violation may be cause for further disciplinary action.

(b) **Reprimand.** Notice in writing that the student has violated one or more terms of the college's student conduct code and that continuation of the same or similar behavior may result in more severe disciplinary action.

(c) **Probation.** Formal action placing specific conditions and restrictions upon the student's continued attendance and/or enrollment, and/or participation in college programs or activities, 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 take effect immediately without further review. Any such sanction 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 and/or enrollment at the college.

(d) **Suspension.** Dismissal from the college and from the student status for a stated period of time. There may be no refund of tuition or fees for the quarter in which the action is taken.

(e) **Dismissal.** The revocation of all rights and privileges of membership in the college community and exclusion from the campus and college-owned or controlled facilities without any possibility of return. There will be no refund of tuition or fees for the quarter in which the sanction is taken.

(5) **Terms and conditions.** Disciplinary terms and conditions that may be imposed alone or in conjunction with the imposition of a sanction(s) include, but are not limited to, the following:

(a) **Restitution.** Reimbursement for damage to or misappropriation of property, or for injury to persons, or for reason-

able costs incurred by the college in pursuing an investigation or disciplinary proceeding. This may take the form of monetary reimbursement, appropriate service, or other compensation.

(b) **Professional evaluation.** Referral for drug, alcohol, psychological or medical evaluation by an appropriately certified or licensed professional may be required. The student may choose the professional within the scope of practice and with the professional credentials as approved by the college. The student will sign all necessary releases to allow the college access to any such evaluation. The student's return to college may be conditioned upon compliance with recommendations set forth in such a professional evaluation. A student may not return to campus if the evaluation indicates that the student is not capable of functioning within the college community, or if the evaluation lacks information for the college to make reasonable accommodations, or until future evaluation recommends that the student is capable of reentering the college and complying with the rules of conduct.

(c) **No contact/trespass order.** An order directing a student to have no contact with a specified student, college employee, a member of the college community, or a particular college facility for a stated period of time.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 15-12-068, filed 5/29/15, effective 6/29/15)

WAC 132Y-125-005 Statement of jurisdiction. (1)

The student conduct code shall apply to student conduct that occurs:

(a) On college premises~~((, to conduct that occurs));~~

(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 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.

(3) Students are responsible for their conduct from the time of application for admission through the actual receipt of a 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. The ~~((college))~~ student conduct officer has sole discretion, on a case-by-case basis, to determine whether the student conduct code will be applied to conduct that occurs off-campus.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 15-12-068, filed 5/29/15, effective 6/29/15)

WAC 132Y-125-010 Definitions. The following definitions shall apply for purposes of this student conduct code:

(1) "Business day" means a weekday, excluding weekends and college holidays and/or college closures.

(2) "College premises" includes all campuses of the college, wherever located, and includes all land, buildings, facilities, vehicles, equipment, and other property owned, used, or controlled by the college.

(3) "Conduct review officer" is the vice president for student services or other college administrator designated by the president to be responsible for receiving and for reviewing or referring appeals of student disciplinary actions, in accordance with the procedures of this code. ~~((The president is authorized to reassign any and all of the conduct review officer's duties or responsibilities as set forth in this chapter as may be reasonably necessary.))~~

(4) "Disciplinary action" is the process by which the student conduct officer imposes discipline against a student for a violation of the student conduct code.

(5) "Disciplinary appeal" is the process by which an aggrieved student can appeal the discipline imposed by the student conduct officer. Disciplinary appeals from a suspension in excess of ten instructional days or an expulsion are heard by the student conduct appeals board. Appeals of all other appealable disciplinary action shall be reviewed through brief adjudicative proceedings.

(6) "Filing" is the process by which a document is officially delivered to a college official responsible for facilitating a disciplinary review. Unless otherwise provided, filing shall be accomplished by:

(a) Hand delivery of the document to the specified college official or college official's assistant; or

(b) Sending the document by email and first class mail to the specified college official's office and college email address.

Papers required to be filed shall be deemed filed upon actual receipt during office hours at the office of the specified college official.

(7) ~~((The))~~ President is the president of Edmonds Community College. The president is authorized to delegate any of ~~((his or her))~~ their responsibilities as set forth in this chapter, and as may be reasonably necessary; and reassign any and all duties and responsibilities as set forth in this chapter as may be reasonably necessary.

(8) "Complainant" is an alleged victim of sexual misconduct.

(9) "Respondent" is the student against whom disciplinary ~~((proceedings have been initiated or who has received sanctions))~~ action is initiated.

~~((+))~~ (10) "Service" is the process by which a document is officially delivered to a party. Unless otherwise provided, service upon a party shall be accomplished by:

(a) Hand delivery of the document to the party; or

(b) Sending the document by email and by certified mail or first-class mail to the party's last known address.

Service is deemed complete upon hand delivery of the document or upon the date the document is emailed and deposited in the mail.

~~((+))~~ (11) "Student" includes all persons taking courses at or through the college, whether on a full-time or part-time basis, and whether such courses are credit courses, noncredit courses, online courses, or otherwise. Persons who

withdraw after allegedly violating the code, who are not officially enrolled for a particular term but who have a continuing relationship with the college, or who have been notified of their acceptance for admission are considered "students."

~~((H))~~ (12) "Student conduct officer" is a college administrator designated by the ~~((vice))~~ president ~~((for student services))~~ to be responsible for implementing and enforcing the student conduct code. ~~((The vice president for student services is authorized to reassign any and all of the student conduct officer's duties or responsibilities as set forth in this chapter as may be reasonably necessary.))~~

(13) "Sexual misconduct" has the meaning ascribed to this term in WAC 132Y-125-001.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 15-12-068, filed 5/29/15, effective 6/29/15)

WAC 132Y-125-015 Initiation of disciplinary action.

(1) All disciplinary actions will be initiated by the student conduct officer. If that officer is the subject of a complaint initiated by the respondent, the vice president for student services shall, upon request and when feasible, designate another person to fulfill any such disciplinary responsibilities relative to the complainant.

(2) The student conduct officer shall initiate disciplinary action by serving the respondent with written notice directing him or her to attend a disciplinary meeting. The notice shall briefly describe the factual allegations, the provision(s) of the conduct code the respondent is alleged to have violated, the range of possible sanctions for the alleged violation(s), and shall also specify the time and location of the meeting. At the meeting, the student conduct officer will present the allegations to the respondent and the respondent shall be afforded an opportunity to explain what took place. If the respondent fails to attend the meeting after proper service of notice, the student conduct officer may take disciplinary action based upon the available information.

(3) Within ten days of the initial disciplinary meeting, and after considering the evidence in the case, including any facts or argument presented by the respondent, the student conduct officer shall serve the respondent with a written decision setting forth the facts and conclusions supporting his or her decision, the specific student conduct code provisions found to have been violated, the discipline imposed, if any, and a notice of any appeal rights with an explanation of the consequences of failing to file a timely appeal.

(4) The student conduct officer may take any of the following disciplinary actions:

(a) Exonerate the respondent and terminate the proceedings; or

(b) Impose a disciplinary sanction(s), as described in WAC 132Y-125-001 (4) and (5).

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

(5) In cases involving allegations of sexual misconduct, the student conduct officer, on the same date that a disciplinary decision is served on the respondent, will serve a

written notice informing the complainant whether the allegations of sexual misconduct were found to have merit and describing any disciplinary sanctions and/or conditions imposed upon the respondent for the complainant's protection, including disciplinary suspension or dismissal of the respondent. The notice will also inform the complainant of their appeal rights. If protective sanctions and/or conditions are imposed, the student conduct officer shall make a reasonable effort to contact the complainant to ensure prompt notice of the protective disciplinary sanctions and/or conditions.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 15-12-068, filed 5/29/15, effective 6/29/15)

WAC 132Y-125-020 Appeal from disciplinary action.

(1) The respondent may appeal a disciplinary action by filing a written notice of appeal with the conduct review officer within twenty-one days of service of the student conduct officer's decision. Failure to timely file a notice of appeal constitutes a waiver of the right to appeal and the student conduct officer's decision shall be deemed final.

(2) The notice of appeal must include a brief statement explaining why the respondent is seeking review.

(3) The parties to an appeal shall be the respondent and the conduct review officer.

(4) A respondent, who timely appeals a disciplinary action or whose case is referred to the student conduct committee, has a right to a prompt, fair, and impartial hearing as provided for in these procedures.

(5) On appeal, the college bears the burden of establishing the evidentiary facts underlying the imposition of a disciplinary sanction by a preponderance of the evidence.

(6) Imposition of disciplinary action for violation of the student conduct code shall be stayed pending appeal, unless respondent has been summarily suspended.

(7) The student conduct committee shall hear appeals from:

(a) The imposition of disciplinary suspensions in excess of ten instructional days;

(b) Dismissals; and

(c) Disciplinary cases referred to the committee by the student conduct officer, the conduct review officer, or the president.

(8) Student conduct appeals of the imposition of the following disciplinary sanctions shall be reviewed through a brief adjudicative proceeding:

(a) Suspensions of ten instructional days or less;

(b) Probation;

(c) Written reprimands; and

(d) Any conditions or terms imposed in conjunction with one of the foregoing disciplinary actions.

(9) Except as provided elsewhere in these rules, disciplinary verbal warnings and dismissals of disciplinary actions are final action and are not subject to appeal.

(10) In cases involving allegations of sexual misconduct, the complainant has the right to appeal the following actions by the student conduct officer following the same procedures as set forth above for the respondent:

(a) The dismissal of a sexual misconduct complaint; or

(b) Any disciplinary sanction(s) and conditions imposed against a respondent for a sexual misconduct violation, including a disciplinary warning.

(11) If the respondent timely appeals a decision imposing discipline for a sexual misconduct violation, the college shall notify the complainant of the appeal and provide the complainant an opportunity to intervene as a party to the appeal.

(12) Except as otherwise specified in this chapter, a complainant who timely appeals a disciplinary decision or who intervenes as a party to respondent's appeal of a disciplinary decision shall be afforded the same procedural rights as are afforded the respondent.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 15-12-068, filed 5/29/15, effective 6/29/15)

WAC 132Y-125-025 Brief adjudicative proceedings—Initial hearing. (1) Brief adjudicative proceedings shall be conducted by a conduct review officer (~~designated by the vice president for student services~~). The conduct review officer shall not participate in any case in which (~~he or she is~~) they are a complainant or witness, or in which they have direct or personal interest, prejudice, or bias, or in which they have acted previously in an advisory capacity.

(2) The parties to a brief adjudicative proceeding are the respondent, the student conduct officer, and in cases involving sexual misconduct, the complainant. Before taking action, the conduct review officer shall conduct an informal hearing and provide each party:

(a) An opportunity to be informed of the agency's view of the matter; and

(b) An opportunity to explain the party's view of the matter.

(3) The conduct review officer shall serve an initial decision upon (~~both the parties~~) the respondent and the student conduct officer within ten days of consideration of the appeal. The initial decision shall contain a brief written statement of the reasons for the decision and information about how to seek administrative review of the initial decision. If no request for review is filed within (~~twenty-one~~) ten days of service of the initial decision, the initial decision shall be deemed the final decision.

(4) In cases involving allegations of sexual misconduct, the conduct review officer, on the same date as the initial decision is served on the respondent, will serve a written notice upon the complainant informing the complainant whether the allegations of sexual misconduct were found to have merit and describing any disciplinary sanctions and/or conditions imposed upon the respondent for the complainant's protection. The notice will also inform the complainant of their appeal rights.

(5) If the conduct review officer, upon review, determines that the respondent's conduct may warrant imposition of a disciplinary suspension of more than ten instructional days or expulsion, the matter shall be referred to the student conduct committee for a disciplinary hearing.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 15-12-068, filed 5/29/15, effective 6/29/15)

WAC 132Y-125-030 Brief adjudicative proceedings—Review of an initial decision. (1) An initial decision is subject to review by the president, provided the respondent files a written request for review with the conduct review officer within (~~twenty-one~~) ten days of service of the initial decision.

(2) The president shall not participate in any case in which he or she is a complainant or witness, or in which they have direct or personal interest, prejudice, or bias, or in which they have acted previously in an advisory capacity.

(3) During the review, the president shall give each party an opportunity to file written responses explaining their views of the matter and shall make any inquiries necessary to ascertain whether the sanctions should be modified or whether the proceedings should be referred to the student conduct committee for a formal adjudicative hearing.

(4) The decision on review must be in writing and must include a brief statement of the reasons for the decision and must be served on the parties within twenty days of the initial decision or of the request for review, whichever is later. The decision on review will contain a notice that judicial review may be available. A request for review may be deemed to have been denied if the president does not make a disposition of the matter within twenty days after the request is submitted.

(5) If the president upon review determines that the respondent's conduct may warrant imposition of a disciplinary suspension of more than ten instructional days or expulsion, the matter shall be referred to the student conduct committee for a disciplinary hearing.

(6) In cases involving allegations of sexual misconduct, the president, on the same date as the final decision is served on the respondent, will serve a written notice upon the complainant informing the complainant whether the allegations of sexual misconduct were found to have merit and describing any disciplinary sanctions and/or conditions imposed upon the respondent for the complainant's protection, including suspension or dismissal of the respondent. The notice will also inform the complainant of their appeal rights.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 15-12-068, filed 5/29/15, effective 6/29/15)

WAC 132Y-125-060 Summary suspension. (1) Summary suspension is a temporary exclusion from specified college premises or denial of access to all activities or privileges for which a respondent might otherwise be eligible, while an investigation and/or formal disciplinary procedures are pending.

(2) The student conduct officer may impose a summary suspension if there is probable cause to believe that the respondent:

(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) Poses an ongoing threat of substantial disruption of, or interference with, the operations of the college.

(3) Notice. Any respondent who has been summarily suspended shall be served with oral or written notice of the summary suspension. If oral notice is given, a written notification shall be served on the respondent within two business days of the oral notice.

(4) The written notification shall be entitled "Notice of Summary Suspension" and shall include:

(a) The reasons for imposing the summary suspension, including a description of the conduct giving rise to the summary suspension and reference to the provisions of the student conduct code or the law allegedly violated;

(b) The date, time, and location when the respondent must appear before the conduct review officer for a hearing on the summary suspension; and

(c) The conditions, if any, under which the respondent may physically access the campus or communicate with members of the campus community. If the respondent has been trespassed from the campus, a notice against trespass shall be included that warns the student that his or her privilege to enter into or remain on college premises has been withdrawn, that the respondent shall be considered trespassing and subject to arrest for criminal trespass if the respondent enters the college campus other than to meet with the student conduct officer or conduct review officer, or to attend a disciplinary hearing.

(5) If the respondent chooses to appeal the summary suspension, the conduct review officer shall conduct a hearing on the summary suspension as soon as practicable after imposition of the summary suspension.

(a) During the summary suspension hearing, the issue before the conduct review officer is whether there is probable cause to believe that the summary suspension should be continued pending the conclusion of disciplinary proceedings and/or whether the summary suspension should be less restrictive in scope;

(b) The respondent shall be afforded an opportunity to explain why summary suspension should not be continued while disciplinary proceedings are pending or why the summary suspension should be less restrictive in scope;

(c) If the student fails to appear at the designated hearing time, the conduct review officer may order that the summary suspension remain in place pending the conclusion of the disciplinary proceedings;

(d) As soon as practicable following the hearing, the conduct review officer shall issue a written decision, which shall include a brief explanation for any decision continuing and/or modifying the summary suspension and notice of any right to appeal; and

(e) To the extent permissible under applicable law, the conduct review officer shall provide a copy of the decision to all persons or offices, who may be bound or protected by it.

(6) In cases involving allegations of sexual misconduct, 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.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132Y-125-125 Order of precedence. This supplemental procedure applies to allegations of sexual harassment 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 Edmonds College's standard disciplinary procedures, WAC 132Y-125-005 through 132Y-125-060, these supplemental procedures shall take precedence.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132Y-125-130 Prohibited conduct under Title IX. Pursuant to RCW 28B.50.140(13) and Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1681, Edmonds College may impose disciplinary sanctions against a student who commits, attempts to commit, or aids, abets, incites, encourages, or assists another person to commit, an act(s) of "sexual harassment."

For purposes of this supplemental procedure, "sexual harassment" encompasses the following conduct:

(1) Quid pro quo harassment. An Edmonds College student employee conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of the college on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct.

(2) Hostile environment. Unwelcome conduct that a reasonable person would find to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to Edmonds College's educational programs or activities, or employment.

(3) Sexual assault. Sexual assault includes the following conduct:

(a) Nonconsensual sexual intercourse. Any actual or attempted sexual intercourse (anal, oral, or vaginal), however slight, with any object or body part, 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. 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. 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 eighteen.

(d) Statutory rape. Consensual sexual intercourse between someone who is eighteen years of age or older and someone who is under the age of sixteen.

(4) Domestic violence. Physical violence, bodily injury, assault, the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, sexual assault, or stalking 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, 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 26.50.010.

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

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

(b) 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.

(6) Stalking. Engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for their safety or the safety of others, or suffer substantial emotional distress.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132Y-125-135 Title IX jurisdiction. (1) This supplemental procedure applies only if the alleged misconduct:

(a) Occurred in the United States;

(b) Occurred during a college educational program or activity; and

(c) Meets the definition of sexual harassment as that term is defined in this supplemental procedure.

(2) For purposes of this supplemental procedure, an "educational program or activity" is defined as locations, events, or circumstances over which Edmonds College exercised substantial control over both the respondent and the context in which the alleged sexual harassment occurred. This definition includes any building owned or controlled by a student organization that is officially recognized by the college.

(3) Proceedings under this supplemental procedure must be dismissed if the decision maker determines that one or all of the requirements of subsection (1)(a) through (c) of this section have not been met. Dismissal under this supplemental procedure does not prohibit Edmonds College from pursuing other disciplinary action based on allegations that the respondent violated other provisions of the Edmonds College's student conduct code, WAC 132Y-125-001.

(4) If the student conduct officer determines the facts in the investigation report are not sufficient to support Title IX jurisdiction and/or pursuit of a Title IX violation, the student conduct officer will issue a notice of dismissal in whole or part to both parties explaining why some or all of the Title IX claims have been dismissed.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132Y-125-140 Initiation of discipline. (1) Upon receiving the Title IX investigation report from the Title IX coordinator, the student conduct officer will independently review the report to determine whether there are sufficient

grounds to pursue a disciplinary action against the respondent for engaging in prohibited conduct under Title IX.

(2) If the student conduct officer determines that there are sufficient grounds to proceed under these supplemental procedures, the student conduct officer will initiate a Title IX disciplinary proceeding by filing a written disciplinary notice with the chair of the student conduct committee and serving the notice on the respondent and the complainant, and their respective advisors. The notice must:

(a) Set forth the basis for Title IX jurisdiction;

(b) Identify the alleged Title IX violation(s);

(c) Set forth the facts underlying the allegation(s);

(d) Identify the range of possible sanctions that may be imposed if the respondent is found responsible for the alleged violation(s);

(e) Explain that the parties are entitled to be accompanied by their chosen advisors during the hearing and that:

(i) The advisors will be responsible for questioning all witnesses on the party's behalf;

(ii) An advisor may be an attorney; and

(iii) Edmonds College will appoint the party an advisor of the college's choosing at no cost to the party, if the party fails to do so.

(3) Explain that if a party fails to appear at the hearing, a decision of responsibility may be made in their absence.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132Y-125-145 Prehearing procedure. (1) Upon receiving the disciplinary notice, the chair of the student conduct committee will send a hearing notice to all parties, in compliance with WAC 132Y-125-040. In no event will the hearing date be set less than ten days after the Title IX coordinator provided the final investigation report to the parties.

(2) A party may choose to have an attorney serve as their advisor at the party's own expense. This right will be waived unless, at least five days before the hearing, the attorney files a notice of appearance with the committee chair with copies to all parties and the student conduct officer.

(3) In preparation for the hearing, the parties will have equal access to all evidence gathered by the investigator during the investigation, regardless of whether Edmonds College intends to offer the evidence at the hearing.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132Y-125-150 Rights of parties. (1) Edmonds College's student conduct procedures, WAC 132Y-125-040, and this supplemental procedure shall apply equally to all parties.

(2) The college 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 Edmonds College's choosing on the party's behalf at no expense to the party.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132Y-125-155 Evidence. The introduction and consideration of evidence during the hearing is subject to the following procedures and restrictions:

(1) Relevance: The committee chair shall review all questions for relevance and shall explain on the record their reasons for excluding any question based on lack of relevance.

(2) Relevance means that information elicited by the question makes facts in dispute more or less likely to be true.

(3) Questions or evidence about a complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant and must be excluded, unless such question or evidence:

(a) Is asked or offered to prove someone other than the respondent committed the alleged misconduct; or

(b) Concerns specific incidents of prior sexual behavior between the complainant and the respondent, which are asked or offered on the issue of consent.

(4) Cross-examination required: If a party or witness does not submit to cross-examination during the live hearing, the committee must not rely on any statement by that party or witness in reaching a determination of responsibility.

(5) No negative inference: The committee may not make an inference regarding responsibility solely on a witness's or party's absence from the hearing or refusal to answer questions.

(6) Privileged evidence: The committee shall not consider legally privileged information unless the holder has effectively waived the privilege. Privileged information includes, but is not limited to, information protected by the following:

(a) Spousal/domestic partner privilege;

(b) Attorney-client and attorney work product privileges;

(c) Privileges applicable to members of the clergy and priests;

(d) Privileges applicable to medical providers, mental health therapists, and counselors;

(e) Privileges applicable to sexual assault and domestic violence advocates; and

(f) Other legal privileges identified in RCW 5.60.060.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132Y-125-160 Initial order. (1) In addition to complying with WAC 132Y-125-050, the student conduct committee will be responsible for conferring and drafting an initial order that:

(a) Identifies the allegations of sexual harassment;

(b) Describes the grievance and disciplinary procedures, starting with filing of the formal complaint through the determination of responsibility, including notices to parties, interviews with witnesses and parties, site visits, methods used to gather evidence, and hearings held;

(c) Makes findings of fact supporting the determination of responsibility;

(d) Reaches conclusions as to whether the facts establish whether the respondent is responsible for engaging in sexual harassment in violation of Title IX;

(e) Contains a statement of, and rationale for, the committee's determination of responsibility for each allegation;

(f) Describes any disciplinary sanction or conditions imposed against the respondent, if any;

(g) Describes to what extent, if any, complainant is entitled to remedies designed to restore or preserve complainant's equal access to Edmonds College's educational programs or activities; and

(h) Describes the process for appealing the initial order to the Edmonds College president.

(2) The committee chair will serve the initial order on the parties simultaneously.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132Y-125-165 Appeals. (1) The parties shall have the right to appeal from the initial order's determination of responsibility and/or dismissal of an allegation(s) of sexual harassment in a formal complaint. The right to appeal will be subject to the same procedures and time frames set forth in WAC 132Y-125-055.

(2) The president or their delegate will determine whether the grounds for appeal have merit, provide the rationale for this conclusion, and state whether the disciplinary sanction and condition(s) imposed in the initial order are affirmed, vacated, or amended, and, if amended, set forth any new disciplinary sanction and/or condition(s).

(3) President's office shall serve the final decision on the parties simultaneously.

REPEALER

The following sections of the Washington Administrative Code are repealed:

WAC 132Y-125-100 Supplemental sexual misconduct procedures.

WAC 132Y-125-105 Supplemental definitions.

WAC 132Y-125-110 Supplemental complaint process.

WAC 132Y-125-115 Supplemental appeal rights.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 15-12-069, filed 5/29/15, effective 6/29/15)

WAC 132Y-300-005 Statement of policy. Edmonds Community College provides equal opportunity in education and employment and does not discriminate on the basis of protected classes as required by state and federal law. Prohibited discrimination and/or harassment of protected classes includes sexual harassment.

~~((1) Harassment is defined, for the purpose of this policy, as unwelcome and unauthorized incidents and/or patterns of conduct or speech that are:~~

~~(a) Persistent, pervasive, or severe; and~~

~~(b) Based on an association or perceived association with a protected class and which:~~

(i) ~~The respondent either knows, or should know, will have the effect of making the college environment hostile, intimidating, or demeaning to the complainant; and~~

(ii) ~~Renders the college environment (including the environment for employees, students, and visitors) hostile, intimidating, or demeaning for the complainant.~~

(2) ~~Sexual harassment is a form of sex discrimination. Sexual harassment is defined, for the purpose of this policy, as unwelcome sexual advances, requests, and other unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature where:~~

(a) ~~Submission to such conduct is made, either expressly or implicitly, a term or condition of an individual's employment or education; or~~

(b) ~~Submission or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for employment or educational decisions affecting any individual; or~~

(c) ~~Such unwelcome conduct is sufficiently persistent, pervasive, or severe to have the effect of substantially interfering with any individual's academic or professional performance.~~

(3) ~~Sexual harassment conduct includes, but is not limited to, engaging in unwelcome sexual advances; requesting sexual favors; engaging in other sexual behaviors including verbal, nonverbal, electronic or social media communication; or physically touching that would create an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment or substantially interfere with a reasonable person's work or educational performance.)~~

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 15-12-069, filed 5/29/15, effective 6/29/15)

WAC 132Y-300-010 Procedures. (1) Introduction. Edmonds ~~((Community))~~ College, hereinafter referred to as "the college," recognizes its responsibility for investigating and resolving incidents; implementing corrective measures; monitoring the educational environment and workplace; and implementing regulations to stop, remediate, and prevent discrimination and harassment based on an individual's association ~~((or perceived association))~~ with protected classes as required by law. To this end, the college has enacted a policy prohibiting discrimination against and harassment of members of these protected classes and procedures that deal with complaints and violations of the policy. Any individual found to be in violation of the policy will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from the college or dismissal from employment.

Any employee, student, or visitor who is the alleged subject of discrimination or harassment should report the incident or incidents to the EO/AA office, Title IX coordinator identified below. If the complaint is against that officer, the complainant should report the matter to the president's office for referral to an alternate designee.

Civil Rights: Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action (EO/AA).

Title IX: Gender Discrimination, Sexual Harassment, and Sexual Violence.

Title: EO/AA Office, Title IX Coordinator
Office: Edmonds Community College
20000 - 68th Ave. W.

Clearview Building, Room 122

Lynnwood, WA 98036

~~((The EO/AA office, Title IX coordinator or designee:~~

~~• Will accept all complaints and referrals from college employees, students, and visitors.~~

~~• Will make determinations regarding how to handle requests by complainants for privacy.~~

~~• Will keep accurate records of all complaints and referrals for the required time period.~~

~~• May conduct investigations or assign and oversee investigations conducted by others.~~

~~• May impose interim remedial measures to protect parties during investigations of discrimination or harassment.~~

~~• Will issue written findings of fact on completed investigations.~~

~~• May recommend specific corrective measures to stop, remediate, and prevent the recurrence of inappropriate action.~~

(2) Definitions:

(a) ~~Complainant. Any employee, student, or visitor of the college who is the alleged subject of discrimination or harassment due to an association or perceived association with a protected class.~~

(b) ~~Complaint. A description of facts that allege violation of the college's nondiscrimination and harassment policy.~~

(c) ~~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.~~

~~Individuals 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 that person knows, or should know, that the other individual 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.~~

(d) ~~Discrimination. The unfavorable treatment of a person based on an individual's association or perceived association with a protected class. Harassment is a form of discrimination.~~

(e) ~~Harassment. Unwelcome and unauthorized incidents and/or patterns of conduct or speech that are persistent, pervasive, or severe and based on an association or perceived association with a protected class; and which the respondent either knows, or should know, will have the effect of making the college environment hostile, intimidating, or demeaning to the complainant, and renders the college environment (including the environment for employees, students, and visitors) hostile, intimidating, or demeaning for the complainant. Examples of conduct that could rise to the level of discriminatory harassment include, but are not limited to, the following:~~

- Epithets, "jokes," ridicule, mockery, or other offensive or derogatory conduct focused upon an individual's membership in a protected class.

- Verbal or physical threats of violence or physical contact directed towards an individual based upon their membership in a protected class.

- Making, posting, emailing, texting, or otherwise circulating demeaning or offensive pictures, cartoons, graffiti, notes or other materials that relate to race, ethnic origin, gender, or any other protected class.

(f) Protected class. A group of individuals who are protected under state or federal laws, including laws that prohibit discrimination on the basis of age, citizenship, color, creed, disability, gender identity or expression, genetic information, marital status, national origin, pregnancy, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, use of service animal, or veteran/military status.

(g) Resolution. The means by which the complaint is finally addressed. This may be accomplished through informal or formal processes, including counseling, mediation, or the formal imposition of discipline.

(h) Respondent. An individual who is a member of the campus community who allegedly discriminates against or harasses another person.

(i) Sexual harassment. Unwelcome sexual advances, requests, and other unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature where submission to such conduct is made, either expressly or implicitly, a term or condition of an individual's employment or education; or submission or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for employment or educational decisions affecting any individual; or such unwelcome conduct is sufficiently persistent, pervasive, or severe to have the effect of substantially interfering with any individual's academic or professional performance. Two types of sexual harassment include:

(i) Hostile environment sexual harassment. A form of harassment that occurs when the conduct is sufficiently persistent, pervasive, or severe and so objectively offensive that it has the effect of altering the terms or conditions of an employee's employment or substantially limiting the ability of a student to participate in or benefit from the college's educational programs, social programs, and/or student housing.

(ii) Quid pro quo sexual harassment. A form of harassment that occurs when an individual in a position of real or perceived authority makes receiving a benefit conditional upon granting of sexual favors.

Examples of conduct that may qualify as sexual harassment include:

- Persistent comments or questions of a sexual nature.
- A supervisor who gives an employee a raise in exchange for submitting to sexual advances.
- An instructor who promises a student a better grade in exchange for sexual favors.
- Sexually explicit statements, questions, jokes, or anecdotes.
- Unwelcome touching, patting, hugging, kissing, or brushing against an individual's body.
- Remarks of a sexual nature about an individual's clothing, body, or speculations about previous sexual experiences.

- Persistent, unwanted attempts to change a professional relationship to an amorous relationship.

- Direct or indirect propositions for sexual activity.

- Unwelcome letters, emails, texts, telephone calls, or other communications referring to or depicting sexual activities.

(j) Sexual violence. A type of sexual discrimination and harassment. Noneconsensual sexual intercourse, noneconsensual sexual contact, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking are all types of sexual violence.

(i) Noneconsensual 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.

(ii) Noneconsensual sexual contact is any intentional sexual touching, however slight, with any 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.

(iii) Domestic violence includes asserted violent misdemeanor and felony offenses committed by the victim's current or former spouse, current or former cohabitant, person similarly situated under domestic or family violence law, or anyone else protected under domestic or family violence law.

(iv) Dating violence is violence by a person who has been in a romantic or intimate relationship with the complainant. Whether there was such relationship will be gauged by its length, type, and frequency of interaction.

(v) Stalking is intentional and repeated harassment or following of another person, which places that person in reasonable fear that the respondent intends to injure, intimidate, or harass that person. Stalking also includes instances where the respondent knows or reasonably should know that the person is frightened, intimidated, or harassed, even if the respondent lacks such intent.

~~(3))~~ **(2) Filing a complaint.** The college encourages the timely reporting of any incidents of alleged discrimination or harassment. Any employee of, student of, or visitor to the college may file a complaint. Complaints ~~((may))~~ must be submitted in writing ~~((or verbally))~~.

For complainants who wish to submit a written complaint, a formal complaint form is available online at www.edcc.edu/titleix/. Hardcopies of the complaint form are available at the following locations on campus: Human resources office(;) and vice president for student services office. Any person submitting a discrimination or harassment complaint shall be provided with a written copy of the college's nondiscrimination and harassment policy and procedures.

~~((4))~~ The proposed content is designed to assist you with filing a discrimination and/or harassment complaint. Please write clearly and focus on the alleged discriminatory and/or harassing conduct. The complaint should include as much information regarding the incident(s) giving rise to the complaint as possible, including the location, date, and time of the alleged incident(s); the name of the individual or group

whom the complaint is against, if known; a description of the incident(s); and the remedy sought.

You may attach additional documents if needed. Please include your contact information (phone, email, mailing address), sign, and return your complaint to the EO/AA office, Title IX coordinator or designee. A link to an online reporting form is located at <http://www.edcc.edu/titleix/>.

(3) Confidentiality and right to privacy. The college will seek to protect the privacy of the ((individuals involved)) complainant to the fullest extent possible, consistent with the legal obligation to investigate, take appropriate remedial and/or disciplinary action, comply with the state and federal laws, ((and follow)) as well as the college's policy and procedures. ((The college cannot guarantee complete confidentiality. The EO/AA office, Title IX coordinator or designee will determine how to handle requests for privacy.

The EO/AA office, Title IX coordinator or designee will inform and obtain consent from the complainant before commencing an investigation into a sexual violence complaint. If a sexual violence complainant asks for their name to not be revealed to the respondent or that the college not investigate the allegation, the EO/AA office, Title IX coordinator or designee will inform the complainant that maintaining confidentiality may limit the college's ability to fully respond to the allegations and that retaliation by the respondent and/or others is prohibited. If the complainant still insists that their name not be disclosed or that the college not investigate, the EO/AA office, Title IX coordinator or designee will determine whether the college can honor the request and at the same time maintain a safe and nondiscriminatory environment for all members of the college community, including the complainant. Factors to be weighed during this determination may include, but are not limited to:

- ~~The seriousness of the alleged sexual violence;~~
- ~~The age of the complainant;~~
- ~~Whether the sexual violence was perpetrated with a weapon;~~
- ~~Whether the respondent has a history of committing acts of sexual violence or has been the subject of other sexual violence complaints;~~
- ~~Whether the respondent threatened to commit additional acts of sexual violence against the complainant or others; and~~
- ~~Whether relevant evidence can be obtained through other means (e.g., security cameras, other witnesses, physical evidence).~~

If the college is unable to honor a complainant's request for privacy, the EO/AA office, Title IX coordinator or designee will notify the complainant of the decision and ensure that complainant's identity is disclosed only to the extent reasonably necessary to effectively conduct and complete the investigation.

If the college decides not to conduct an investigation or take disciplinary action because of a request for privacy, the EO/AA office, Title IX coordinator or designee will evaluate whether other measures are available to limit the effects of the harassment and prevent its recurrence and implement such measures if reasonably feasible.

(5) Investigation procedure. Upon receiving a complaint, the college shall commence an impartial investigation.

The EO/AA office, Title IX coordinator or designee shall be responsible for overseeing all investigations. The EO/AA office, Title IX coordinator or designee may conduct investigations. If the investigation is assigned to someone other than the EO/AA office, Title IX coordinator or designee then the complainant and respondent shall be notified of the appointment of an investigator.

(a) Interim measures. The EO/AA office, Title IX coordinator or designee may impose interim measures to protect the complainant and/or respondent pending the conclusion of the investigation. Interim measures may include, but are not limited to, imposition of nonecontact orders, rescheduling classes, temporary work reassignments, referrals for counseling or medical assistance, and imposition of summary discipline on the respondent consistent with the college's student code of conduct or the college's employment policies and collective bargaining agreements.

(b) Investigation. Complaints shall be thoroughly and impartially investigated. The investigation shall include, but will not be limited to, interviewing the complainant and the respondent, interviewing relevant witnesses, and reviewing relevant documents. The investigation shall be concluded within a reasonable time, normally sixty days barring urgent circumstances. At the conclusion of the investigation, the investigator(s) shall set forth findings and recommendations in writing. If the investigator(s) is a designee, the investigator(s) shall send a copy of the findings and recommendations to the EO/AA office, Title IX coordinator or designee. The EO/AA office, Title IX coordinator or designee shall consider the findings and recommendations and determine, based on a preponderance of evidence, whether a violation of the nondiscrimination and harassment policy occurred, and, if so, what steps will be taken to resolve the complaint, remedy the effects of the violation on the complainant, and prevent the violation's recurrence. Possible remedial steps may include, but will not be limited to, referral for voluntary training/counseling, development of a remediation plan, a non-contact order, and referral and recommendation for formal disciplinary action. Referrals for disciplinary action will be consistent with the college's student code of conduct or the college's employment policies and collective bargaining agreements.

(c) Written notice of decision. The EO/AA office, Title IX coordinator or designee will provide each party and the appropriate student services administrator or appointing authority with written notice of the investigative findings and of actions taken or recommended in an effort to resolve the complaint, subject to the following limitations. The complainant shall be informed in writing of the findings and of actions taken or recommended in an effort to resolve the complaint, such as a finding that the complaint is or is not meritorious or a recommendation that the respondent not contact the complainant. The complainant may be notified generally that the matter has been referred for disciplinary action. The respondent shall be informed in writing of the findings and of actions taken or recommended to resolve the complaint and shall be notified of referrals for disciplinary action. Both the complainant and the respondent are entitled to review any final findings, conclusions, and recommendations, subject to any FERPA confidentiality requirements.

~~(d) Informal dispute resolution. Informal dispute resolution processes, such as mediation, may be used to resolve complaints, when appropriate. Informal dispute resolution shall not be used to resolve sexual discrimination complaints without written permission from both the complainant and the respondent. If the parties elect to mediate a dispute, either party shall be free to discontinue mediation at any time. In no event shall mediation be used to resolve complaints involving allegations of sexual violence.~~

~~(e) Final decision/reconsideration. Either the complainant or the respondent may seek reconsideration of the decision by the EO/AA office, Title IX coordinator or designee. Requests for reconsideration must be submitted in writing to the EO/AA office, Title IX coordinator or designee within seven days of receiving the decision. Requests must specify which portion of the decision should be reconsidered and the basis for reconsideration. If no request for reconsideration is received within seven days, the decision becomes final. If a request for reconsideration is received, the EO/AA office, Title IX coordinator or designee shall respond within 14 days. The EO/AA office, Title IX coordinator or designee shall either deny the request or will issue an amended decision. Any amended decision is final and no further reconsideration is available.~~

~~((6)) Although the college will attempt to honor complainants' requests for confidentiality, it cannot guarantee complete confidentiality. Determinations regarding how to handle requests for confidentiality will be made by the Title IX coordinator.~~

~~(a) The Title IX coordinator will inform and attempt to obtain consent from the complainant before commencing an investigation of alleged discrimination or sexual harassment. If a complainant asks that their name not be revealed to the respondent or that the college not investigate the allegation, the Title IX coordinator will inform the complainant that maintaining confidentiality may limit the college's ability to fully respond to the allegations and that retaliation by the respondent and/or others is prohibited. If the complainant still insists that their name not be disclosed or that the college not investigate, the Title IX coordinator will determine whether the college can honor the request and at the same time maintain a safe and nondiscriminatory environment for all members of the college community, including the complainant. Factors to be weighed during this determination may include, but are not limited to:~~

- ~~(i) The seriousness of the alleged sexual harassment;~~
- ~~(ii) The age of the complainant;~~
- ~~(iii) Whether the sexual harassment was perpetrated with a weapon;~~
- ~~(iv) Whether the respondent has a history of committing acts of sexual harassment or violence or has been the subject of other sexual harassment or violence complaints or findings;~~
- ~~(v) Whether the respondent threatened to commit additional acts of sexual harassment or violence against the complainant or others; and~~
- ~~(vi) Whether relevant evidence about the alleged incident can be obtained through other means (e.g., security cameras, other witnesses, physical evidence).~~

~~(b) If the college is unable to honor a complainant's request for confidentiality, the Title IX coordinator will notify the complainant of the decision and ensure that complainant's identity is disclosed only to the extent reasonably necessary to effectively conduct and complete the investigation in compliance with this grievance procedure.~~

~~(c) If the college decides not to conduct an investigation or take disciplinary action because of a request for confidentiality, the Title IX coordinator will evaluate whether other measures are available to address the circumstances giving rise to the complaint and prevent their recurrence, and implement such measures if reasonably feasible.~~

~~(4) **Publication of nondiscrimination and harassment policy and procedures.** The policy and procedures regarding complaints of discrimination and harassment shall be published and distributed as determined by the president or designee. Individuals who believe they have been subjected to discrimination or harassment will be provided a copy of the policy and procedures.~~

~~((7)) (5) **Limits to authority.** Nothing in these procedures shall prevent the president or designee from taking immediate disciplinary action in accordance with the college's policies and procedures, and federal, state, and/or municipal rules and regulations.~~

~~((8)) (6) **Retaliation, intimidation, and coercion.** Retaliation by, for, or against any participant (including complainant, respondent, witness, investigator, or EO/AA office, Title IX coordinator or designee) is expressly prohibited. Retaliatory action of any kind taken against a participant who is seeking redress under the nondiscrimination and harassment policy and using these procedures is prohibited and is subject to discipline. Individuals who think they have been retaliated against, intimidated, or coerced should contact the EO/AA office, Title IX coordinator or designee immediately.~~

REPEALER

The following sections of the Washington Administrative Code are repealed:

WAC 132Y-300-001 Preamble.

WAC 132Y-300-020 Complaint content.

**WSR 20-17-106
EMERGENCY RULES
DEPARTMENT OF
FISH AND WILDLIFE**

[Order 20-157—Filed August 17, 2020, 11:11 a.m., effective August 18, 2020]

Effective Date of Rule: August 18, 2020.

Purpose: The purpose of this rule is to open fall Chinook seasons in the Snake River from August 18 through October 31, 2020.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: Repealing WAC 220-312-05000F; and amending WAC 220-312-050.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.020, 77.12.045, and 77.12.047.

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that immediate adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule is necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety, or general welfare, and that observing the time requirements of notice and opportunity to comment upon adoption of a permanent rule would be contrary to the public interest.

Reasons for this Finding: This emergency rule is needed to open salmon seasons in the Snake River, effective August 18, 2020.

The 2020 Columbia River forecasted return for Upriver Bright adult Chinook is 233,400 fish, with 18,150 of these fish expected to return to the Snake River. This forecast is large enough to allow for Chinook harvest in the Snake River. The Upriver Bright stock primarily returns to the Hanford Reach and Snake River sections of the Columbia River and the *US v. OR* Management Agreement reaches only to the confluence of the Snake River. There is no Endangered Species Act component in this section of the Columbia River, and Washington has its own FMEP with Idaho for the Snake River itself. Because of these factors, management and the opening of this fishery by emergency rule is needed [to] maintain concurrency with Idaho's salmon rules and season openings for the Snake River.

Immediate adoption of this emergency rule is necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety, or general welfare. Observing the time requirements of notice and opportunity to comment upon adoption of a permanent rule would be contrary to the public interest. There is insufficient time to adopt permanent rules.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Non-governmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 1, Amended 0, Repealed 1.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: August 17, 2020.

Kelly Susewind
Director

NEW SECTION

WAC 220-312-05000F Freshwater exceptions to statewide rules—Eastside. Effective August 18 through October 31, 2020 the following provisions of WAC 220-312-050 regarding salmon seasons for the Snake River shall be as described below. All other provisions of WAC 220-312-050 not addressed herein, or unless otherwise amended by emergency rule, remain in effect:

Snake River (Franklin/Walla Walla Counties):

from the downstream edge of the large power lines crossing the Snake River (just upstream from West Evans Road on the south shore, approximately 3 miles below Clarkston) upstream to the Oregon state line:

Salmon:

(a) Adult daily limit is 3 Chinook of which no more than 1 may be wild.

(b) No daily limit for jack Chinook. Jack Chinook may be wild or hatchery.

(c) Release all salmon other than Chinook.

(d) Salmon that are not to be kept as part of the daily limit may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately and unharmed.

REPEALER

The following section of the Washington Administrative code is repealed effective November 1, 2020:

WAC 220-312-05000F Freshwater exceptions to statewide rules—Eastside.

WSR 20-17-111 EMERGENCY RULES HIGHLINE COLLEGE

[Filed August 14, 2020, 12:06 p.m., effective August 14, 2020, 12:06 p.m.]

Effective Date of Rule: Immediately upon filing.

Purpose: On May 19, 2020, the Federal Register printed amendments to Title IX regulations (85 F.R. 30575). The new regulations address the grievance process for formal complaints of sexual harassment and are scheduled to take effect on August 14, 2020. This requires emergency updates to the college's student conduct code to be compliant with federal regulations.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: New Supplemental Title IX Student Conduct Procedures, WAC 132I-125-505, 132I-125-515, 132I-125-525, 132I-125-535, 132I-125-545, 132I-125-555, 132I-125-565, 132I-125-575, and 132I-125-585.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: Chapter 34.05 RCW; and RCW 28B.50.140(13); 20 U.S.C. § 1092(f); Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. § 1681 et seq.

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that state or federal law or federal rule or a federal deadline for state receipt of federal funds requires immediate adoption of a rule.

Reasons for this Finding: Highline College is required by the United States Department of Education to comply with the recently adopted Title IX regulations, which take effect on August 14, 2020.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 9, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Non-governmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 9, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: August 13, 2020.

Aaron Reader
Vice President
of Student Services

SUPPLEMENTAL DISCIPLINE PROCEDURES FOR CASES INVOLVING TITLE IX SEXUAL HARASSMENT

NEW SECTION

WAC 132I-125-505 Order of precedence. This supplemental procedure applies to allegations of sexual harassment 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 disciplinary procedures, WAC 132I-125-010 through 132I-125-300, these supplemental procedures shall take precedence.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132I-125-515 Prohibited conduct under Title IX. Pursuant to RCW 28B.50.140(13) and Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1681, the college may impose disciplinary sanctions against a student who commits, attempts to commit, or aids, abets, incites, encourages, or assists another person to commit, an act(s) of "sexual harassment."

For purposes of this supplemental procedure, "sexual harassment" encompasses the following conduct:

(1) Quid pro quo harassment. A college employee conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of the college on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct.

(2) Hostile environment. Unwelcome conduct that a reasonable person would find to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the college's educational programs or activities, or employment.

(3) Sexual assault. Sexual assault includes the following conduct:

(a) Nonconsensual sexual intercourse. Any actual or attempted sexual intercourse (anal, oral, or vaginal), however slight, with any object or body part, 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. 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. 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 eighteen.

(d) Statutory rape. Consensual sexual intercourse between someone who is eighteen years of age or older and someone who is under the age of sixteen.

(4) Domestic violence. Physical violence, bodily injury, assault, the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, sexual assault, or stalking 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 26.50.010.

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

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

(b) 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.

(6) Stalking. Engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for their safety or the safety of others, or suffer substantial emotional distress.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132I-125-525 Title IX jurisdiction. (1) This supplemental procedure applies only if the alleged misconduct:

(a) Occurred in the United States;

(b) Occurred during a college educational program or activity; and

(c) Meets the definition of sexual harassment as that term is defined in this supplemental procedure.

(2) For purposes of this supplemental procedure, an "educational program or activity" is defined as locations, events, or circumstances over which the college exercised substantial control over both the respondent and the context in which the alleged sexual harassment occurred. This definition includes any building owned or controlled by a student organization that is officially recognized by the college.

(3) Proceedings under this supplemental procedure must be dismissed if the decision maker determines that one or all of the requirements of subsection (1)(a) through (c) of this

section have not been met. Dismissal under this supplemental procedure does not prohibit the college from pursuing other disciplinary action based on allegations that the respondent violated other provisions of the college's student conduct code, chapter 132I-125 WAC.

(4) If the student conduct officer determines the facts in the investigation report are not sufficient to support Title IX jurisdiction and/or pursuit of a Title IX violation, the student conduct officer will issue a notice of dismissal in whole or part to both parties explaining why some or all of the Title IX claims have been dismissed.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132I-125-535 Initiation of discipline. (1) Upon receiving the Title IX investigation report from the Title IX coordinator, the student conduct officer will independently review the report to determine whether there are sufficient grounds to pursue a disciplinary action against the respondent for engaging in prohibited conduct under Title IX.

(2) If the student conduct officer determines that there are sufficient grounds to proceed under these supplemental procedures, the student conduct officer will initiate a Title IX disciplinary proceeding by filing a written disciplinary notice with the chair of the student conduct committee and serving the notice on the respondent and the complainant, and their respective advisors. The notice must:

- (a) Set forth the basis for Title IX jurisdiction;
 - (b) Identify the alleged Title IX violation(s);
 - (c) Set forth the facts underlying the allegation(s);
 - (d) Identify the range of possible sanctions that may be imposed if the respondent is found responsible for the alleged violation(s);
 - (e) Explain that the parties are entitled to be accompanied by their chosen advisors during the hearing and that:
 - (i) The advisors will be responsible for questioning all witnesses on the party's behalf;
 - (ii) An advisor may be an attorney; and
 - (iii) The college will appoint the party an advisor of the college's choosing at no cost to the party, if the party fails to do so.
- (3) Explain that if a party fails to appear at the hearing, a decision of responsibility may be made in their absence.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132I-125-545 Prehearing procedure. (1) Upon receiving the disciplinary notice, the chair of the student conduct committee will send a hearing notice to all parties, in compliance with WAC 132I-125-270. In no event will the hearing date be set less than ten days after the Title IX coordinator provided the final investigation report to the parties.

(2) A party may choose to have an attorney serve as their advisor at the party's own expense. This right will be waived unless, at least five days before the hearing, the attorney files a notice of appearance with the committee chair with copies to all parties and the student conduct officer.

(3) In preparation for the hearing, the parties will have equal access to all evidence gathered by the investigator during the investigation, regardless of whether the college intends to offer the evidence at the hearing.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132I-125-555 Rights of parties. (1) The college's student conduct procedures, WAC 132I-125-200, and this supplemental procedure shall apply equally to all parties.

(2) The college 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 college's choosing on the party's behalf at no expense to the party.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132I-125-565 Evidence. The introduction and consideration of evidence during the hearing is subject to the following procedures and restrictions:

(1) **Relevance:** The committee chair shall review all questions for relevance and shall explain on the record their reasons for excluding any question based on lack of relevance.

(2) **Relevance means** that information elicited by the question makes facts in dispute more or less likely to be true.

(3) **Questions or evidence about a complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior** are not relevant and must be excluded, unless such question or evidence:

(a) Is asked or offered to prove someone other than the respondent committed the alleged misconduct; or

(b) Concerns specific incidents of prior sexual behavior between the complainant and the respondent, which are asked or offered on the issue of consent.

(4) **Cross-examination required:** If a party or witness does not submit to cross-examination during the live hearing, the committee must not rely on any statement by that party or witness in reaching a determination of responsibility.

(5) **No negative inference:** The committee may not make an inference regarding responsibility solely on a witness's or party's absence from the hearing or refusal to answer questions.

(6) **Privileged evidence:** The committee shall not consider legally privileged information unless the holder has effectively waived the privilege. Privileged information includes, but is not limited to, information protected by the following:

- (a) Spousal/domestic partner privilege;
- (b) Attorney-client and attorney work product privileges;
- (c) Privileges applicable to members of the clergy and priests;
- (d) Privileges applicable to medical providers, mental health therapists, and counselors;
- (e) Privileges applicable to sexual assault and domestic violence advocates; and
- (f) Other legal privileges identified in RCW 5.60.060.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132I-125-575 Initial order. (1) In addition to complying with WAC 132I-125-290, the student conduct committee will be responsible for conferring and drafting an initial order that:

- (a) Identifies the allegations of sexual harassment;
 - (b) Describes the grievance and disciplinary procedures, starting with filing of the formal complaint through the determination of responsibility, including notices to parties, interviews with witnesses and parties, site visits, methods used to gather evidence, and hearings held;
 - (c) Makes findings of fact supporting the determination of responsibility;
 - (d) Reaches conclusions as to whether the facts establish whether the respondent is responsible for engaging in sexual harassment in violation of Title IX;
 - (e) Contains a statement of, and rationale for, the committee's determination of responsibility for each allegation;
 - (f) Describes any disciplinary sanction or conditions imposed against the respondent, if any;
 - (g) Describes to what extent, if any, complainant is entitled to remedies designed to restore or preserve complainant's equal access to the college's education programs or activities; and
 - (h) Describes the process for appealing the initial order to the college president.
- (2) The committee chair will serve the initial order on the parties simultaneously.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132I-125-585 Appeals. (1) The parties shall have the right to appeal from the initial order's determination of responsibility and/or dismissal of an allegation(s) of sexual harassment in a formal complaint. The right to appeal will be subject to the same procedures and time frames set forth in WAC 132I-125-300.

(2) The president or their delegate will determine whether the grounds for appeal have merit, provide the rationale for this conclusion, and state whether the disciplinary sanction and condition(s) imposed in the initial order are affirmed, vacated, or amended, and, if amended, set forth any new disciplinary sanction and/or condition(s).

(3) President's office shall serve the final decision on the parties simultaneously.

**WSR 20-17-114
EMERGENCY RULES
DEPARTMENT OF
FISH AND WILDLIFE**

[Order 20-161—Filed August 17, 2020, 2:52 p.m., effective August 17, 2020, 2:52 p.m.]

Effective Date of Rule: Immediately upon filing.

Purpose: The purpose of this rule making is to provide for treaty Indian fishing opportunity in the Columbia River while protecting salmon listed as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). This rule making

implements federal court orders governing Washington's relationship with treaty Indian tribes and federal law governing Washington's relationship with Oregon.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: Repealing WAC 220-359-02000C; and amending WAC 220-359-020.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.020, 77.04.130, 77.12.045, and 77.12.047.

Other Authority: *United States v. Oregon*, Civil No. 68-513-KI (D. Or.), Order Adopting 2018-2027 *United States v. Oregon* Management Agreement (February 26, 2018) (Doc. No. 2607-1). *Northwest Gillnetters Ass'n v. Sandison*, 95 Wn.2d 638, 628 P.2d 800 (1981); Washington fish and wildlife commission policies concerning Columbia River fisheries; 40 Stat. 515 (Columbia River Compact).

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that immediate adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule is necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety, or general welfare, and that observing the time requirements of notice and opportunity to comment upon adoption of a permanent rule would be contrary to the public interest.

Reasons for this Finding: Allowable harvest of Columbia River salmonids remains available to provide additional fishing opportunity to the previously planned tribal commercial fishery period in areas SMCRA 1F, 1G, 1H. This rule is consistent with actions of the Columbia River Compacts on June 8, June 30, July 8, July 15, July 30 and August 13, 2020. Conforms state rules with tribal rules. There is insufficient time to promulgate permanent regulations.

The Yakama, Warm Springs, Umatilla, and Nez Perce Indian tribes have treaty fishing rights in the Columbia River and inherent sovereign authority to regulate their fisheries. Washington and Oregon also have some authority to regulate fishing by treaty Indians in the Columbia River, authority that the states exercise jointly under the congressionally ratified Columbia River Compact. *Sohappy v. Smith*, 302 F. Supp. 899 (D. Or. 1969). The tribes and the states adopt parallel regulations for treaty Indian fisheries under the supervision of the federal courts. A court order sets the current parameters. *United States v. Oregon*, Civil No. 68-513-KI (D. Or.), Order Adopting 2018-2027 *United States v. Oregon* Management Agreement (February 26, 2018) (Doc. No. 2607-1). Some salmon and steelhead stocks in the Columbia River are listed as threatened or endangered under the federal ESA. On February 23, 2018, the National Marine Fisheries Service issued a biological opinion under 16 U.S.C. § 1536 that allows for some incidental take of these species in the fisheries as described in the 2018-2027 *U.S. v. Oregon* Management Agreement.

Columbia River fisheries are monitored very closely to ensure consistency with court orders and ESA guidelines. Because conditions change rapidly, the fisheries are managed almost exclusively by emergency rule. As required by court order, the Washington (WDFW) and Oregon (ODFW) departments of fish and wildlife convene public hearings and invite tribal participation when considering proposals for new emergency rules affecting treaty fishing rights. *Sohappy*, 302 F. Supp. at 912. WDFW and ODFW then adopt regulations reflecting agreements reached.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 1, Amended 0, Repealed 1; Federal

Rules or Standards: New 1, Amended 0, Repealed 1; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 1, Amended 0, Repealed 1.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Non-governmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 1, Amended 0, Repealed 1.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: August 17, 2020.

Kelly Susewind
Director

NEW SECTION

WAC 220-359-02000D Columbia River salmon seasons Effective immediately until further notice, the following provisions of WAC 220-301-010, WAC 220-359-010, WAC 220-359-020, WAC 220-359-030, and WAC 220-359-090 regarding tribal commercial fisheries above and below Bonneville Dam, shall be as described below. All other provisions of WAC 220-301-010, WAC 220-359-010, WAC 220-359-020, WAC 220-359-030, and WAC 220-359-090 not addressed herein, or unless amended by emergency rule, remain in effect:

1) Open Areas: SMCRA 1F, 1G, 1H (Zone 6)

(a) Season: Immediately until further notice.

(b) Gear: Hoop nets/bag nets, dip nets, and rod and reel with hook and line.

(c) Allowable sale: Salmon (any species) and steelhead, shad, yellow perch, bass, walleye, catfish, and carp may be sold or retained for subsistence. Sturgeon may not be sold, but sturgeon from 38 to 54 inches fork length in the Bonneville Pool and sturgeon from 43 to 54 inches fork length in The Dalles and John Day Pools may be kept for subsistence purposes.

(d) Standard river mouth and dam sanctuary closures remain in place for this gear.

2) Open Areas: SMCRA 1F, 1G, 1H (Zone 6)

(a) Season: 6:00 AM August 24 through 6:00 PM August 27

6:00 AM August 31 through 6:00 PM September 3

(b) Gear: Set and Drift Gillnets with an 8-inch minimum mesh size

(c) Allowable sale: Salmon (any species), steelhead, shad, yellow perch, bass, walleye, catfish, and carp may be sold or retained for subsistence. Fish landed during the open periods are allowed to be sold after the period concludes. Sturgeon from 38 to 54 inches fork length in the Bonneville Pool and sturgeon from 43 to 54 inches fork length in The Dalles and John Day Pools may be kept for subsistence purposes.

(d) Standard sanctuaries applicable to gillnet gear. The standard Spring Creek Hatchery Sanctuary is in place.

3) Open Areas: SMCRA 1E1 (Downstream of Bonneville Dam)

(a) Season: Immediately through 11:59 PM October 31, 2020, only during days and times opened under tribal rules. Enrolled members of the Yakama, Warm Springs, Nez Perce, and Umatilla tribes when lawfully permitted by Treaty regulations under provisions of the agreements with the states of Oregon and Washington. Tribal members fishing below Bonneville Dam must carry an official tribal enrollment card.

(b) Gear: Hook and line and/or platform gear identified in tribal rules.

(c) Allowable sale: Salmon (any species), steelhead, shad, yellow perch, bass, walleye, catfish, and carp may be sold or retained for subsistence. Sturgeon may not be retained in the fisheries downstream of Bonneville Dam.

4) Open Areas: Wind River, Drano Lake, and Klickitat River

(a) Season: Wind River open immediately until further notice and Drano Lake and Klickitat River immediately through 6:00 PM December 15 only during those days and hours when the tributaries listed are open under lawfully enacted Yakama Nation tribal subsistence fishery regulations for enrolled Yakama Nation members.

(b) Gear: Hoop Nets/Bag Nets, Dip Nets, and Rod and Reel with Hook and Line. Gillnets may only be used in Drano Lake.

(c) Allowable sale: Salmon (any species), steelhead, shad, yellow perch, bass, walleye, catfish, and carp may be sold or retained for subsistence. Sturgeon from 38 to 54 inches fork length in the Bonneville Pool may be kept for subsistence.

5) 24-hour quick reporting is required for Washington wholesale dealers for all areas as provided in WAC 220-352-315, except that all landings from treaty fisheries described above must be reported within 24-hours of completing the fish ticket (not 24-hours after the period concludes).

6) Fish caught during the open period may be sold after the period concludes.

REPEALER

The following section of the Washington Administrative Code is repealed:

WAC 220-359-02000C Columbia River salmon seasons.
(20-148)

WSR 20-17-115

EMERGENCY RULES

WHATCOM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

[Filed August 18, 2020, 8:09 a.m., effective August 18, 2020, 8:09 a.m.]

Effective Date of Rule: Immediately upon filing.

Purpose: On May 19, 2020, the Federal Register printed amendments to Title IX regulations (85 F.R. 30575). The new regulations address the grievance process for formal complaints of sexual harassment and are scheduled to take effect on August 14, 2020. This requires emergency updates

to the college's student conduct code to be compliant with federal regulations.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: New Supplemental Title IX Student Conduct Procedures, chapter 132U-305 WAC.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: Chapter 34.05 RCW; and RCW 28B.50.140(13); 20 U.S.C. § 1092(f); Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. § 1681 et seq.

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that state or federal law or federal rule or a federal deadline for state receipt of federal funds requires immediate adoption of a rule.

Reasons for this Finding: Whatcom Community College is required by the United States Department of Education to comply with the recently adopted Title IX regulations, which take effect on August 14, 2020.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 9, Amended 15, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Non-governmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 9, Amended 15, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: August 12, 2020.

Barbara Nolze
Administrative Assistant
to Vice President
for Student Services

Chapter 132U-305 WAC

SUPPLEMENTAL TITLE IX PROCEDURES

NEW SECTION

WAC 132U-305-001 Order of precedence. This supplemental procedure applies to allegations of sexual harassment 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 disciplinary procedures, WAC 132U-300-030 through 132U-300-140, and WAC 132U-126-001 through 132U-126-100¹ these supplemental procedures shall take precedence.²

¹ Cite to existing student conduct code and procedure.

² To comply with these procedures, college officials must read these supplemental procedures in conjunction with the regular procedures. The regular procedures still apply, even if they are not expressly mentioned in the supplemental procedures. The only time one will not comply with the regular procedures is when they conflict with the supplemental procedures, in which case, the supplemental procedures control.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132U-305-002 Prohibited conduct under Title IX. Pursuant to RCW 28B.50.140(13) and Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1681, the college may impose disciplinary sanctions against a student who commits, attempts to commit, or aids, abets, incites, encourages, or assists another person to commit, an act(s) of "sexual harassment."

For purposes of this supplemental procedure, "sexual harassment"³ encompasses the following conduct:

(1) Quid pro quo harassment. A college employee conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of the college on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct.

(2) Hostile environment. Unwelcome conduct that a reasonable person would find to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the college's educational programs or activities, or employment.

(3) Sexual assault. Sexual assault includes the following conduct:

(a) Nonconsensual sexual intercourse. Any actual or attempted sexual intercourse (anal, oral, or vaginal), however slight, with any object or body part, 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. 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. 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 eighteen.

(d) Statutory rape. Consensual sexual intercourse between someone who is eighteen years of age or older and someone who is under the age of sixteen.

(4) Domestic violence. Physical violence, bodily injury, assault, the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, sexual assault, or stalking 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 26.50.010.

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

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

(b) 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.

(6) Stalking, Engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for their safety or the safety of others, or suffer substantial emotional distress.

³ Washington's Law Against Discrimination (WLAD), chapter 49.60 RCW, and Gender Equality in Higher Education Act, chapter 28B.110 RCW, provide broader protection from sexual misconduct than the narrow definitions of "sexual harassment" prohibited under Title IX. Accordingly, institutions will want to retain broader definitions of sexual misconduct that are in their regular student conduct code, as this conduct is still subject to regulation under state law and institutional policies prohibiting gender discrimination.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132U-305-003 Title IX jurisdiction. (1) This supplemental procedure applies only if the alleged misconduct:

- (a) Occurred in the United States;
- (b) Occurred during a college educational program or activity; and
- (c) Meets the definition of sexual harassment as that term is defined in this supplemental procedure.

(2) For purposes of this supplemental procedure, an "educational program or activity" is defined as locations, events, or circumstances over which the college exercised substantial control over both the respondent and the context in which the alleged sexual harassment occurred. This definition includes any building owned or controlled by a student organization that is officially recognized by the college.

(3) Proceedings under this supplemental procedure must be dismissed if the decision maker determines that one or all of the requirements of subsection (1)(a) through (c) of this section have not been met. Dismissal under this supplemental procedure does not prohibit the college from pursuing other disciplinary action based on allegations that the respondent violated other provisions of the college's student conduct code, chapter 132U-126 WAC.⁴

(4) If the student conduct officer determines the facts in the investigation report are not sufficient to support Title IX jurisdiction and/or pursuit of a Title IX violation, the student conduct officer will issue a notice of dismissal in whole or part to both parties explaining why some or all of the Title IX claims have been dismissed.

⁴ Insert citation to the institution's student conduct code.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132U-305-004 Initiation of discipline. (1) Upon receiving the Title IX investigation report from the Title IX coordinator, the student conduct officer will independently review the report to determine whether there are sufficient grounds to pursue a disciplinary action against the respondent for engaging in prohibited conduct under Title IX.

(2) If the student conduct officer determines that there are sufficient grounds to proceed under these supplemental procedures, the student conduct officer will initiate a Title IX disciplinary proceeding by filing a written disciplinary notice with the chair of the student conduct committee⁵ and serving the notice on the respondent and the complainant, and their respective advisors. The notice must:

- (a) Set forth the basis for Title IX jurisdiction;
- (b) Identify the alleged Title IX violation(s);
- (c) Set forth the facts underlying the allegation(s);
- (d) Identify the range of possible sanctions that may be imposed if the respondent is found responsible for the alleged violation(s); and
- (e) Explain that the parties are entitled to be accompanied by their chosen advisors during the hearing and that:
 - (i) The advisors will be responsible for questioning all witnesses on the party's behalf;
 - (ii) An advisor may be an attorney; and
 - (iii) The college will appoint the party an advisor of the college's choosing at no cost to the party, if the party fails to do so.

(3) Explain that if a party fails to appear at the hearing, a decision of responsibility may be made in their absence.

⁵ Given the sensitivity and complexity of Title IX matters, institutions may want to consider having hearings heard by a smaller panel of college employees (e.g., two faculty and an administrator) or even a single hearing officer. There is no legal requirement that a student conduct committee hear these cases. Institutions may also want to consider utilizing the same panel or hearing officer to hear both employee and student Title IX discipline cases. Finally, institutions may want to combine resources by retaining and training one hearing officer or committee chair to handle cases at multiple institutions. Any school pursuing these options will want to carefully review and revise the supplemental procedures to reflect these decisions.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132U-305-005 Prehearing procedure. (1) Upon receiving the disciplinary notice, the chair of the student conduct committee will send a hearing notice to all parties, in compliance with WAC 132U-300-090. In no event will the hearing date be set less than ten days after the Title IX coordinator provided the final investigation report to the parties.

(2) A party may choose to have an attorney serve as their advisor at the party's own expense. This right will be waived unless, at least five days before the hearing, the attorney files a notice of appearance with the committee chair with copies to all parties and the student conduct officer.

(3) In preparation for the hearing, the parties will have equal access to all evidence gathered by the investigator during the investigation, regardless of whether the college intends to offer the evidence at the hearing.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132U-305-006 Rights of parties. (1) The college's student conduct procedures, chapter 132U-126 WAC,⁶ and this supplemental procedure shall apply equally to all parties.

(2) The college 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 coordinator⁷ will appoint an advisor of the college's choosing on the party's behalf at no expense to the party.

⁶ Citation to the institution's student conduct procedures.

⁷ This responsibility could also be assigned to the chair of the student conduct committee. This may invite allegations of bias or conflict of interest. The Title IX coordinator does not have any part in the determination of responsibility, so may be a better choice.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132U-305-007 Evidence. The introduction and consideration of evidence during the hearing is subject to the following procedures and restrictions:

(1) **Relevance:** The committee chair shall review all questions for relevance and shall explain on the record their reasons for excluding any question based on lack of relevance.

(2) **Relevance means** that information elicited by the question makes facts in dispute more or less likely to be true.

(3) Questions or evidence about a complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant and must be excluded, unless such question or evidence:

(a) Is asked or offered to prove someone other than the respondent committed the alleged misconduct; or

(b) Concerns specific incidents of prior sexual behavior between the complainant and the respondent, which are asked or offered on the issue of consent.

(4) **Cross-examination required:** If a party or witness does not submit to cross-examination during the live hearing, the committee must not rely on any statement by that party or witness in reaching a determination of responsibility.

(5) **No negative inference:** The committee may not make an inference regarding responsibility solely on a witness's or party's absence from the hearing or refusal to answer questions.

(6) **Privileged evidence:** The committee shall not consider legally privileged information unless the holder has effectively waived the privilege. Privileged information includes, but is not limited to, information protected by the following:

(a) Spousal/domestic partner privilege;

(b) Attorney-client and attorney work product privileges;

(c) Privileges applicable to members of the clergy and priests;

(d) Privileges applicable to medical providers, mental health therapists, and counselors;

(e) Privileges applicable to sexual assault and domestic violence advocates; and

(f) Other legal privileges identified in RCW 5.60.060.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132U-305-008 Initial order. (1) In addition to complying with chapter 132U-126 WAC, the student conduct committee will be responsible for conferring and drafting an initial order that:

(a) Identifies the allegations of sexual harassment;

(b) Describes the grievance and disciplinary procedures, starting with filing of the formal complaint through the determination of responsibility, including notices to parties, interviews with witnesses and parties, site visits, methods used to gather evidence, and hearings held;

(c) Makes findings of fact supporting the determination of responsibility;

(d) Reaches conclusions as to whether the facts establish whether the respondent is responsible for engaging in sexual harassment in violation of Title IX;

(e) Contains a statement of, and rationale for, the committee's determination of responsibility for each allegation;

(f) Describes any disciplinary sanction or conditions imposed against the respondent, if any;

(g) Describes to what extent, if any, complainant is entitled to remedies designed to restore or preserve complainant's equal access to the college's education programs or activities; and

(h) Describes the process for appealing the initial order to the college president.

(2) The committee chair will serve the initial order on the parties simultaneously.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132U-305-009 Appeals. (1) The parties shall have the right to appeal from the initial order's determination of responsibility and/or dismissal of an allegation(s) of sexual harassment in a formal complaint. The right to appeal will be subject to the same procedures and time frames set forth in WAC 132U-126-090.⁸

(2) The president or their delegate will determine whether the grounds for appeal have merit, provide the rationale for this conclusion, and state whether the disciplinary sanction and condition(s) imposed in the initial order are affirmed, vacated, or amended, and, if amended, set forth any new disciplinary sanction and/or condition(s).

(3) President's office shall serve the final decision on the parties simultaneously.

⁸ Citation to the procedure for appealing an initial order to the president under the institution's student conduct procedure.

WSR 20-17-137

EMERGENCY RULES

HEALTH CARE AUTHORITY

[Filed August 18, 2020, 4:29 p.m., effective August 18, 2020, 4:29 p.m.]

Effective Date of Rule: Immediately upon filing.

Purpose: The agency is filing this emergency rule to meet the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) milestone requirement 3 regarding the agency's substance use disorder (SUD) waiver implementation plan. Milestone 3

required the agency adopt rules by July 1, 2020, reflecting the requirement that residential treatment facilities offer medication assisted treatment access on-site or facilitate off-site access.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: Amending WAC 182-502-0016.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 71.24.035 and 71.24.520.

Other Authority: 42 U.S.C. 1315, Sec. 1115; RCW 71.24.585.

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that state or federal law or federal rule or a federal deadline for state receipt of federal funds requires immediate adoption of a rule.

Reasons for this Finding: The agency is filing an emergency rule to ensure continued federal funding by meeting CMS milestone requirement 3 regarding the agency's SUD waiver implementation plan. Milestone 3 required the agency to adopt rules by July 1, 2020, reflecting the requirement that residential treatment facilities offer medication assisted treatment access on-site or facilitate off-site access. The agency is filing this emergency rule while proceeding with the permanent rule-making process. The proposed language in this emergency filing has not changed from the previous emergency filing, under WSR 20-10-011. The agency decided to add the proposed language into the existing WAC 182-502-0016, instead of creating a new section.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 1, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Non-governmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 0, Amended 1, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 1, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: August 18, 2020.

Wendy Barcus
Rules Coordinator

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 19-20-060, filed 9/26/19, effective 10/27/19)

WAC 182-502-0016 Continuing requirements. (1) To continue to provide services for eligible clients and be paid for those services, a provider must:

(a) Provide all services without discriminating on the grounds of race, creed, color, age, sex, sexual orientation, religion, national origin, marital status, the presence of any sensory, mental or physical handicap, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability;

(b) Provide all services according to federal and state laws and rules, medicaid agency billing instructions, provider

alerts issued by the agency, and other written directives from the agency;

(c) Inform the agency of any changes to the provider's application or contract including, but not limited to, changes in:

(i) Ownership (see WAC 182-502-0018);

(ii) Address or telephone number;

(iii) Professional practicing under the billing provider number; or

(iv) Business name.

(d) Retain a current professional state license, registration, certification or applicable business license for the service being provided, and update the agency of all changes;

(e) Inform the agency in writing within seven calendar days of changes applicable to the provider's clinical privileges;

(f) Inform the agency in writing within seven business days of receiving any informal or formal disciplinary order, disciplinary decision, disciplinary action or other action(s) including, but not limited to, restrictions, limitations, conditions and suspensions resulting from the practitioner's acts, omissions, or conduct against the provider's license, registration, or certification in any state;

(g) Screen employees and contractors with whom they do business prior to hiring or contracting, and on a monthly ongoing basis thereafter, to assure that employees and contractors are not excluded from receiving federal funds as required by 42 U.S.C. 1320a-7 and 42 U.S.C. 1320c-5;

(h) Report immediately to the agency any information discovered regarding an employee's or contractor's exclusion from receiving federal funds in accordance with 42 U.S.C. 1320a-7 and 42 U.S.C. 1320c-5. See WAC 182-502-0010 (2)(j) for information on the agency's screening process;

(i) Pass any portion of the agency's screening process as specified in WAC 182-502-0010 (2)(j) when the agency requires such information to reassess a provider;

(j) Maintain professional and general liability coverage to the extent the provider is not covered:

(i) Under agency, center, or facility professional and general liability coverage; or

(ii) By the Federal Tort Claims Act, including related rules and regulations.

(k) Not surrender, voluntarily or involuntarily, the provider's professional state license, registration, or certification in any state while under investigation by that state or due to findings by that state resulting from the practitioner's acts, omissions, or conduct;

(l) Furnish documentation or other assurances as determined by the agency in cases where a provider has an alcohol or chemical dependency problem, to adequately safeguard the health and safety of medical assistance clients that the provider:

(i) Is complying with all conditions, limitations, or restrictions to the provider's practice both public and private; and

(ii) Is receiving treatment adequate to ensure that the dependency problem will not affect the quality of the provider's practice.

(m) Submit to a revalidation process at least every five years. This process includes, but is not limited to:

(i) Updating provider information including, but not limited to, disclosures;

(ii) Submitting forms as required by the agency including, but not limited to, a new core provider agreement; and

(iii) Passing the agency's screening process as specified in WAC 182-502-0010 (2)(j).

(n) Comply with the employee education requirements regarding the federal and the state false claims recovery laws, the rights and protections afforded to whistleblowers, and related provisions in Section 1902 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396a(68)) and chapter 74.66 RCW when applicable. See WAC 182-502-0017 for information regarding the agency's requirements for employee education about false claims recovery.

(2) A provider may contact the agency with questions regarding its programs. However, the agency's response is based solely on the information provided to the agency's representative at the time of inquiry, and in no way exempts a provider from following the laws and rules that govern the agency's programs.

(3) The agency may refer the provider to the appropriate state health professions quality assurance commission.

(4) In addition to the requirements in subsections (1), (2), and (3) of this section, to continue to provide services for eligible clients and be paid for those services, residential treatment facilities (as defined in chapter 246-337 WAC) must:

(a) Not deny entry or acceptance of clients into the facility solely because the client is prescribed medication to treat substance use disorders (SUD).

(b) Facilitate access to medications specific to the client's diagnosed clinical needs, including medications used to treat SUD.

(c) Not mandate titration of any prescribed medications to treat any SUD as a condition of clients receiving treatment or continuing to receive treatment. Decisions concerning medication adjustment must be coordinated with the prescribing provider and be based on medical necessity.

(d) Coordinate care upon discharge for client to continue medications specific to a client's diagnosed clinical needs, including medications used to treat SUD. See RCW 71.24.585.

WSR 20-17-145A

EMERGENCY RULES

SHORELINE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

[Filed August 13, 2020, 12:14 p.m., effective August 14, 2020]

Effective Date of Rule: August 14, 2020.

Purpose: The Department of Education (DOE) issued updated Title IX rules on May 22, 2020, which take effect August 14, 2020, forward. The updated rules incorporate new Title IX student conduct code requirements that necessitate Shoreline Community College amending chapter 132G-121 WAC, student conduct rules no later than August 14, 2020, to remain in compliance with the updated DOE requirements.

Citation of Rules Affected by this Order: New 9 new rules added to chapter 132G-121 WAC.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: Title IX of Education Amendments of 1972; RCW 28B.50.140.

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds that state or federal law or federal rule or a federal deadline for state receipt of federal funds requires immediate adoption of a rule.

Reasons for this Finding: Emergency rules adding rules to chapter 132G-121 WAC, student conduct is necessary for compliance with the DOE updated Title IX rules issued on May 22, 2020, and requiring implementation of updated student conduct code requirements related to Title IX no later than August 14, 2020. The college intends to proceed with permanent rule making on these subjects in the near future.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Comply with Federal Statute: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Federal Rules or Standards: New 9, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Recently Enacted State Statutes: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted at the Request of a Non-governmental Entity: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted on the Agency's own Initiative: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted in Order to Clarify, Streamline, or Reform Agency Procedures: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Number of Sections Adopted using Negotiated Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; Pilot Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0; or Other Alternative Rule Making: New 0, Amended 0, Repealed 0.

Date Adopted: August 13, 2020.

Veronica Zura
Executive Director
Human Resources

SUPPLEMENTAL TITLE IX STUDENT CONDUCT PROCEDURES

NEW SECTION

WAC 132G-121-200 Order of precedence. This supplemental procedure applies to allegations of sexual harassment 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 disciplinary procedures, WAC 132G-121-005 through 132G-121-090, these supplemental procedures shall take precedence.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132G-121-210 Prohibited conduct under Title IX. Pursuant to RCW 28B.50.140(13) and Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1681, the college may impose disciplinary sanctions against a student who commits, attempts to commit, or aids, abets, incites, encourages, or assists another person to commit, an act(s) of "sexual harassment."

For purposes of this supplemental procedure, "sexual harassment" encompasses the following conduct:

(1) Quid pro quo harassment. A college employee conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of college

on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct.

(2) Hostile environment. Unwelcome conduct that a reasonable person would find to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the college's educational programs or activities, or employment.

(3) Sexual assault. Sexual assault includes the following conduct:

(a) Nonconsensual sexual intercourse. Any actual or attempted sexual intercourse (anal, oral, or vaginal), however slight, with any object or body part, 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. 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. 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 eighteen.

(d) Statutory rape. Consensual sexual intercourse between someone who is eighteen years of age or older and someone who is under the age of sixteen.

(4) Domestic violence. Physical violence, bodily injury, assault, the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, sexual assault, or stalking 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 26.50.010.

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

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

(b) 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.

(6) Stalking. Engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for their safety or the safety of others, or suffer substantial emotional distress.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132G-121-220 Title IX jurisdiction. (1) This supplemental procedure applies only if the alleged misconduct:

(a) Occurred in the United States;

(b) Occurred during a college educational program or activity; and

(c) Meets the definition of sexual harassment as that term is defined in this supplemental procedure.

(2) For purposes of this supplemental procedure, an "educational program or activity" is defined as locations, events, or circumstances over which the college exercised substantial control over both the respondent and the context in which the alleged sexual harassment occurred. This definition includes any building owned or controlled by a student organization that is officially recognized by the college.

(3) Proceedings under this supplemental procedure must be dismissed if the decision maker determines that one or all of the requirements of subsection (1)(a) through (c) of this section have not been met. Dismissal under this supplemental procedure does not prohibit the college from pursuing other disciplinary action based on allegations that the respondent violated other provisions of the college's student conduct code, WAC 132G-121-015.

(4) If the student conduct officer determines the facts in the investigation report are not sufficient to support Title IX jurisdiction and/or pursuit of a Title IX violation, the student conduct officer will issue a notice of dismissal in whole or part to both parties explaining why some or all of the Title IX claims have been dismissed.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132G-121-230 Initiation of discipline. (1) Upon receiving the Title IX investigation report from the Title IX coordinator, the student conduct officer will independently review the report to determine whether there are sufficient grounds to pursue a disciplinary action against the respondent for engaging in prohibited conduct under Title IX.

(2) If the student conduct officer determines that there are sufficient grounds to proceed under these supplemental procedures, the student conduct officer will initiate a Title IX disciplinary proceeding by filing a written disciplinary notice with the chair of the student conduct committee and serving the notice on the respondent and the complainant, and their respective advisors. The notice must:

(a) Set forth the basis for Title IX jurisdiction;

(b) Identify the alleged Title IX violation(s);

(c) Set forth the facts underlying the allegation(s);

(d) Identify the range of possible sanctions that may be imposed if the respondent is found responsible for the alleged violation(s); and

(e) Explain that the parties are entitled to be accompanied by their chosen advisors during the hearing and that:

(i) The advisors will be responsible for questioning all witnesses on the party's behalf;

(ii) An advisor may be an attorney; and

(iii) The college will appoint the party an advisor of the college's choosing at no cost to the party, if the party fails to do so.

(3) Explain that if a party fails to appear at the hearing, a decision of responsibility may be made in their absence.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132G-121-240 Prehearing procedure. (1) Upon receiving the disciplinary notice, the chair of the student conduct committee will send a hearing notice to all parties, in compliance with WAC 132G-121-060. In no event will the hearing date be set less than ten days after the Title IX coordinator provided the final investigation report to the parties.

(2) A party may choose to have an attorney serve as their advisor at the party's own expense. This right will be waived unless, at least five days before the hearing, the attorney files a notice of appearance with the committee chair with copies to all parties and the student conduct officer.

(3) In preparation for the hearing, the parties will have equal access to all evidence gathered by the investigator during the investigation, regardless of whether the college intends to offer the evidence at the hearing.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132G-121-250 Rights of parties. (1) The college's student conduct procedures and this supplemental procedure shall apply equally to all parties.

(2) The college 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 college's choosing on the party's behalf at no expense to the party.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132G-121-260 Evidence. The introduction and consideration of evidence during the hearing is subject to the following procedures and restrictions:

(1) **Relevance:** The committee chair shall review all questions for relevance and shall explain on the record their reasons for excluding any question based on lack of relevance.

(2) Relevance means that information elicited by the question makes facts in dispute more or less likely to be true.

(3) Questions or evidence about a complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant and must be excluded, unless such question or evidence:

(a) Is asked or offered to prove someone other than the respondent committed the alleged misconduct; or

(b) Concerns specific incidents of prior sexual behavior between the complainant and the respondent, which are asked or offered on the issue of consent.

(4) **Cross-examination required:** If a party or witness does not submit to cross-examination during the live hearing,

the committee must not rely on any statement by that party or witness in reaching a determination of responsibility.

(5) **No negative inference:** The committee may not make an inference regarding responsibility solely on a witness's or party's absence from the hearing or refusal to answer questions.

(6) **Privileged evidence:** The committee shall not consider legally privileged information unless the holder has effectively waived the privilege. Privileged information includes, but is not limited to, information protected by the following:

(a) Spousal/domestic partner privilege;

(b) Attorney-client and attorney work product privileges;

(c) Privileges applicable to members of the clergy and priests;

(d) Privileges applicable to medical providers, mental health therapists, and counselors;

(e) Privileges applicable to sexual assault and domestic violence advocates; and

(f) Other legal privileges identified in RCW 5.60.060.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132G-121-270 Initial order. (1) In addition to complying with WAC 132G-121-070, the student conduct committee will be responsible for conferring and drafting an initial order that:

(a) Identifies the allegations of sexual harassment;

(b) Describes the grievance and disciplinary procedures, starting with filing of the formal complaint through the determination of responsibility, including notices to parties, interviews with witnesses and parties, site visits, methods used to gather evidence, and hearings held;

(c) Makes findings of fact supporting the determination of responsibility;

(d) Reaches conclusions as to whether the facts establish whether the respondent is responsible for engaging in sexual harassment in violation of Title IX;

(e) Contains a statement of, and rationale for, the committee's determination of responsibility for each allegation;

(f) Describes any disciplinary sanction or conditions imposed against the respondent, if any;

(g) Describes to what extent, if any, complainant is entitled to remedies designed to restore or preserve complainant's equal access to the college's education programs or activities; and

(h) Describes the process for appealing the initial order to the college president.

(2) The committee chair will serve the initial order on the parties simultaneously.

NEW SECTION

WAC 132G-121-280 Appeals. (1) The parties shall have the right to appeal from the initial order's determination of responsibility and/or dismissal of an allegation(s) of sexual harassment in a formal complaint. The right to appeal will be subject to the same procedures and time frames set forth in WAC 132G-121-075.

(2) The president or their delegate will determine whether the grounds for appeal have merit, provide the ratio-

nale for this conclusion, and state whether the disciplinary sanction and condition(s) imposed in the initial order are affirmed, vacated, or amended, and, if amended, set forth any new disciplinary sanction and/or condition(s).

(3) President's office shall serve the final decision on the parties simultaneously.