

EvCC6160: PROHIBITED STUDENT CONDUCT POLICY

Original Date: December 2017

Policy Contact: Executive Vice President of Instruction & Student Services

Prohibited student conduct includes engaging in, attempting to engage in, or encouraging or assisting another person to engage in, any of the conduct set forth in this section. As applicable, the term “conduct” includes acts performed by electronic means. The term “includes” or “including” as used in this section means “without limitation.”

- (1) **Abuse of others.** 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 and safety of another person or another person’s property.
- (2) **Abuse of the student conduct process.** Abuse of the student conduct process includes:
 - a. Knowingly making false allegations of misconduct under this conduct code;
 - b. Attempting to coerce a person not to make a report or to participate in proceedings under this conduct code;
 - c. Attempting to influence the impartiality or participation of a campus official or party of a campus disciplinary proceeding; or
 - d. Influencing or attempting to influence another person to commit an abuse of the student conduct process.
- (3) **Academic dishonesty.** Any act of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to:
 - a. Cheating including, but not limited to, 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.
 - b. Plagiarism including, but not limited to, presenting or submitting another person’s, entity’s, and/or sources’ ideas, words, or other works in an instructional course without assigning proper credit.
 - c. 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.
 - d. 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 the previously submitted in another course (without the current instructor’s approval).
- (4) **Aiding, solicitation, and attempt.** The following is prohibited:
 - a. Aiding or abetting another student or student organization in the commission of any misconduct prohibited by this conduct code;
 - b. Requesting, hiring, or encouraging another person to commit any act of misconduct prohibited by this conduct code, either intending that the other person commit the misconduct or with the knowledge that the other person intends to commit the misconduct; or
 - c. Attempting to commit any act of misconduct prohibited by this conduct code.
- (5) **Alcohol, other drugs, and tobacco violations.** The unlawful possession, use, distribution, or manufacture of alcohol is prohibited. The conduct officer may elect not to initiate disciplinary action under this subsection against a student who, while in the course of helping another student seek medical assistance, admits to the unlawful possession or use of alcohol. Generally, no disciplinary action under this subsection will be initiated against a complainant or another reporting student, who admits to the possession or use of alcohol (in violation of this subsection) in connection with an incident of sexual misconduct.

(6) Alcohol, other drugs, and tobacco violations.

- a. Alcohol. An alcohol violation includes, using, possessing, delivering, selling, or being under the influence of any alcoholic beverage, except as permitted by law and applicable college policies.
- b. Marijuana. A marijuana violation includes using, possessing, delivering, selling, or being 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 any possession or use of marijuana on college premises or in connection with college activities.
- c. Other drugs. A drug violation includes using, possessing, delivering, selling, or being under the influence of any legend drug, including anabolic steroids, androgens, or human growth hormones as defined in chapter 69.41 RCW, or any other controlled substance under chapter 69.50 RCW, except as prescribed for a student's use by a licensed practitioner. The abuse, misuse, or unlawful sale or distribution of prescription or over-the-counter medications may also constitute a drug violation.
- d. Tobacco. A tobacco violation means smoking or using tobacco products, electronic smoking devices (including e-cigarettes or vape pens), or other smoking devices in any area of college premises where smoking or tobacco use is prohibited in accordance with public law and college policy.

(7) Computer abuses. Computer abuses include, but are not limited to:

- a. Unauthorized use of college computer resources;
- b. Use of another person's college user name and/or password;
- c. Use of college computing facilities and resources to interfere with the work of another student, an instructor, or other college official;
- d. Use of college computing facilities or resources to send intimidating, harassing, or threatening messages;
- e. Use of a computer or software to interfere with normal operations of the college's computing system;
- f. Use of the college's computing facilities or resources in violation of any law, including copyright laws; and
- g. Any violation of the college's computer use policies.

(8) Creating a public nuisance in neighboring communities. In furtherance of the college's interest in maintaining positive relationships with its surrounding communities, the college shall have the authority to hold students accountable under this conduct code for misconduct within any residential or commercial communities adjacent to a college campus as follows:

- a. A student or a student organization may be subject to disciplinary proceedings if the college is made aware that the student or student organization has been contacted by a law enforcement agency regarding, and is determined to have engaged in, conduct that is in violation of the state statute or municipal ordinance and has a direct quality of life impact on the community residents or businesses including, but not limited to: Creating a public nuisance due to noise, residential disturbance, intentional destruction of property, urinating in public, or criminal trespass.
- b. A first minor violation under (a) of this subsection will not subject the student or student organization to disciplinary sanctions under this conduct code; however, the student or student organization may receive a letter regarding the expectations of college community members as residents in the area. This letter shall constitute a warning that repeated misconduct under this subsection may result in the imposition of disciplinary sanctions.
- c. A second violation of this subsection will result in the initiation of disciplinary proceedings under this conduct code.

- (9) **Discrimination.** Discrimination is unfavorable treatment of a person based on that person's identity as described in the nondiscrimination policy (WAC 132E-122-050). Sex discrimination is conduct which harms or adversely affects any member of the college community because of their sex, actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, parental, marital, or pregnancy.
- (10) **Discriminatory harassment.** Discriminatory harassment is language or conduct directed at a person because of the person's identify 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 the person's ability to participate in or benefit from the college's programs, services, opportunities, or activities.
- (11) **Disruptive or obstructive conduct.** The term "disruptive" or "obstructive conduct" means conduct, not protected by law, that interferes with, impedes, or otherwise unreasonably hinders the normal teaching, learning, research, administrative, or other functions, procedures, services, programs, or activities of the college. The term includes disorderly conduct, breach of the peace, violation of local or college noise policies, lewd or obscene conduct, obstruction of pedestrian or vehicular traffic, tampering with student election processes, or interfering with the orderly conduct of college investigations or disciplinary proceedings, including interfering with or retaliating against any complainant, witness or other participant.
- (12) **Domestic violence.** Domestic violence includes:
- a. The infliction of physical harm, bodily injury, assault, or the fear of imminent physical harm, bodily injury or assault committed against a family or household member. Family or household members include:
 - i. A current or former spouse or intimate partner;
 - ii. A person with whom the person shares a child in common;
 - iii. A person with whom one is cohabitating or has cohabited; or
 - iv. A person with whom resides including a roommate, suitemate, or housemate.
 - b. Sexual assault of one family or household member by another family or household member; or
 - c. Stalking, as defined under sexual misconduct below, of one family or household member by another family or household member.
- (13) **Ethics violation.** An ethics violation includes the breach of any applicable code of ethics or standard of professional practices governing the conduct of a profession for which the student is studying to be licenses or certified. The term also includes the violation of any state law or college policy relating to the ethical use of college resources.
- (14) **Failure to comply.** Failure to comply means refusing to obey the lawful directive of a college official or authorized college body, including a failure to identify oneself upon request, refusing to comply with a disciplinary sanction, or violating any no-contact or other protective order.
- (15) **False or deceptive conduct.** The term "false" or "deceptive conduct" means dishonest conduct (other than academic dishonesty) that includes forgery, altering or falsifying of college records, furnishing false or misleading information to the college, falsely claiming an academic credential, or falsely accusing any person of misconduct.
- (16) **Gender-based harassment.** Gender-based harassment is a form of sex-based harassment and refers to unwelcome conduct based on an individual's actual or perceived sex, including harassment based on gender identity or nonconformity with sex stereotypes, and not necessarily involving conduct of a sexual nature.

(17) Harassment.

- a. Harassment means unwelcome and offensive conduct including verbal, nonverbal, or physical conduct that is directed at a person because of their membership of a protected identity under this student code of conduct. Unwelcome and offensive conduct is considered harassment when:
 - i. It is sufficiently serious as to deny or limit the ability of a student to participate in or benefit from the college's educational program; or
 - ii. That creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment for any campus community members.
- b. Petty slights, annoyances, offensive utterances, and isolated incidents (unless extremely serious) typically do not qualify as harassment. Examples of conduct that could rise to the level of harassment include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - i. Epithets, "jokes," ridicule, mockery or other offensive or derogatory conduct focused upon an individual's membership of a protected identity.
 - ii. Verbal or physical threats of violence or physical contact directed towards an individual based upon their membership of a protected identity.
 - iii. Making, posting, emailing, texting, or otherwise circulating demeaning or offensive pictures, cartoons, graffiti, notes or other materials that relate to the person's membership of a protected identity.
- c. Protected identities under this student code of conduct (as cited in the nondiscrimination policy, WAC 132E-122-050) include, but are not limited to race, color, national origin, citizenship, ethnicity, language, culture, age, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, pregnancy or parental status, marital status, actual or perceived disability, use of service animal, economic status, military or veteran status, spirituality or religion, or genetic information.

(18) Hazing.

- a. Hazing includes 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. Hazing activities may include, but are not limited to, encouraging or promoting the abuse of alcohol; striking another person whether by use of any object or any part of one's body; causing someone to experience excessive fatigue or physical and/or psychological shock; and causing someone to engage in degrading or humiliating games or activities that create a risk of serious mental, emotional, and/or physical harm.
- b. Consent of a victim or victims is not a defense to an allegation of hazing.
- c. Hazing does not include generally accepted practice, training, and conditioning activities, or activities reasonably designed to test a participant's ability to meet eligibility requirements for established athletic events such as intramural or club sports, intercollegiate athletics, or other similar contests or competitions.

(19) Personal offenses. The term "personal offense" is an offense against the safety or security of any person and includes physical assault, reckless endangerment, physical or verbal abuse, threats, intimidation, harassment, bullying, stalking, invasion of privacy, or other similar conduct that harms any person, or that is reasonably perceived as threatening the health or safety of any person, or that has the purpose or effect of unlawfully interfering with any person's rights. The term includes personal offenses committed by electronic means.

(20) Property violations. The term "property violation" includes the theft, misappropriation, unauthorized use or possession, vandalism, or other non-accidental 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.

(21) **Retaliation.** The term “retaliation” means harming, threatening, intimidating, coercing or taking adverse action of any kind against a person because such person reported an alleged violation of this code or other 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.

(22) **Safety violations.** The term “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.

(23) **Sexual misconduct.** Sexual misconduct includes committing, or aiding, soliciting, or attempting the commission of, the following prohibited conduct: Sexual harassment, sexual intimidation, sexual violence and quid pro quo.

(24) **Sexual harassment.** Sexual harassment includes, but is not limited to, unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature, including unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal, nonverbal, or physical conduct of a sexual nature that is sufficiently serious as to deny or limit, based on sex:

- a. The ability of a student to participate in or benefit from the college’s educational program; or
- b. That creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment for any campus community member(s).

Examples of behaviors that may rise to the level of sexual harassment include, but are not limited to:

- i. Physical assault.
- ii. A pattern of behaviors that is unwelcome and severe, persistent, or pervasive, resulting in unreasonable interference with the work or educational environment, and may include, but is not limited to, the following:
 - a. Comments of a sexual nature;
 - b. Sexually explicit statements, questions, jokes, or anecdotes;
 - c. Unnecessary or undesirable touching, patting, hugging, or brushing against an individual’s body;
 - d. Remarks of a sexual nature about an individual’s clothing, body, or speculations about previous sexual experiences;
 - e. Persistent, unwanted attempts to change a professional relationship to an amorous relationship;
 - f. Subtle propositions for sexual activity or direct propositions of a sexual nature;
 - g. Uninvited letters, emails, telephone calls, or other correspondence referring to or depicting sexual activities.

(25) **Sexual intimidation.** The term “sexual intimidation” incorporates the definition of “sexual harassment” and means threatening or emotionally distressing conduct based on sex, including stalking (or cyberstalking), voyeurism, indecent exposure, or the nonconsensual recording of sexual activity or distribution of such recording. Stalking means engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for such person’s safety or the safety of others, or to suffer substantial emotional distress.

(26) **Sexual violence.** Sexual violence incorporates the definition of “sexual harassment” and means a physical sexual act perpetrated against a person’s will or where the person is incapable of giving consent, including dating violence, domestic violence, nonconsensual intercourse (rape), nonconsensual sexual contact (sexual assault), and stalking. 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, unconsciousness, or other cause.

- a. **“Consent”** is 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.

- b. **“Dating violence”** means violence by a person who has been in a romantic or intimate relationship with that person. Where there was such relationship will be gauged by its length, type and frequency of interaction.
- c. **“Domestic violence”** includes asserted violent misdemeanor and felony offenses committed by the person’s current or former spouse, current or former cohabitant, person similarly situated under domestic or family violence laws, or anyone else protected under domestic or family violence law.
- d. **“Nonconsensual sexual intercourse (rape)”** 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 of genital to mouth contact.
- e. **“Nonconsensual sexual contact (sexual assault)”** is any intentional sexual contact, however slight, with any object, by a person upon another person that is without consent and/or by force. “Sexual contact” includes any touching of another person for the purposes of sexual gratification, or any 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.
- f. **“Stalking”** means intentional and repeated harassment, following of, or otherwise surveilling 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.
 - i. 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.
 - ii. “Reasonable fear” is a fear that a reasonable person in the same situation would experience under most circumstances.

(27) **Quid pro quo.** Quid pro quo occurs when an individual in a position of real or perceived authority conditions the recipient of a benefit upon granting sexual favors. Examples of conduct that may qualify include:

- a. Persistent comments or questions of a sexual nature.
- b. A supervisor who gives an employee a promotion or special privileges in exchange for sexual favors.
- c. Sexually explicit statements, questions, jokes, or anecdotes.
- d. Unwelcome touching, patting, hugging, kissing, or brushing against an individual’s body.
- e. Remarks of a sexual nature about an individual’s clothing, body, or speculation about previous sexual experiences.
- f. Persistent, unwanted attempts to change a professional relationship to a romantic relationship.
- g. Direct or indirect propositions for sexual activity.
- h. Unwelcome letters, emails, texts, telephone calls, or other communications referring to a depicting sexual activities.

(28) **Sexual exploitation.** Sexual exploitation includes:

- a. Taking nonconsensual or abusive advantage of another for one’s own sexual benefit, or for the sexual benefit of anyone other than the one being exploited;
- b. Compelling another by threat or force to engage in sexual conduct or activity;

- c. Transmitting, distributing, publishing, or threatening to transmit, distribute, or publish photos, video, or other recordings of a private and sexual nature where such transmission, publication, or distribution is without consent of the subject(s) and is likely to cause emotional distress to the subject(s);
- d. Taking or making photographs, films, or digital images of the private body parts of another person without that person's consent;
- e. Causing or attempting to cause the impairment of another person to gain nonconsensual sexual advantage over that person;
- f. Prostituting another person;
- g. Knowingly allowing another to surreptitiously watch otherwise consensual sexual activity; or
- h. Taking, making, or directly transmitting nonconsensual video or audio recordings of sexual activity.

(29) **Theft.** Theft is the taking of property or services without express permission of the owner. This includes, but is not limited to, taking, possessing, or aiding another to take college property or services, or property belonging to members of the college community.

(30) **Unauthorized access.** The term "unauthorized access" means gaining entry without permission to any restricted area or property of the college or the property of another person, including any facility, computer system, email account, or electronic or paper files. Unauthorized access includes computer hacking and the unauthorized possession or sharing of any restricted means of gaining access, including keys, keycards, passwords, or access codes.

(31) **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.
- b. Storing, sharing, publishing, or otherwise distributing such recordings or images by any means.

(32) **Vandalism.** Vandalism includes maliciously damaging or misusing college property, or the property of any member of the college community.

(33) **Violation of disciplinary sanctions.** The violation of any term or condition of any final disciplinary order issued under this conduct code, or the failure to complete a disciplinary sanction in the specified time frame, may be grounds for additional disciplinary action.

(34) **Violation of law.** Any conduct that would constitute a violation of any federal, state, or local criminal law may be the subject of disciplinary proceedings under this conduct code.

(35) **Weapons violations.** A "weapons violation" includes the possession, display, or use of any firearm, explosive, dangerous chemical, knife, or other instrument capable of inflicting serious bodily harm in circumstances that are reasonably perceived as causing alarm for the safety of any person. The term "weapons violation" includes any threat to use a weapon to harm any person and the use of any fake weapon or replica to cause the apprehension of harm. The term further includes the possession on college premises of any firearm or other dangerous weapon in violation of public law or college policy, but does not include the lawful possession of any personal protection spray device authorized under RCW 9.91.160. Examples include, but are not limited to:

- a. Firearms, explosives, dangerous chemicals, or other dangerous weapons or instrumentalities are not permitted on campus premises, except for authorized campus purposes, or unless prior written approval has been obtained from the director of campus safety and security, or any other college official designated by the president.

- b. Firearms include, but are not limited to, what are commonly known as air guns or rifles, BB guns, and pellet guns, and any instrument used in the propulsion of shot, shell, bullets, or other harmful objects by:
 - i. The action of gunpowder or other explosives;
 - ii. The action of compressed air; or
 - iii. The power of springs or other forms of propulsion.
- c. The exhibition or display of a replica or a dangerous weapon prohibited under this subsection is also prohibited if done in a manner, and at a time or place that either manifests an intent to intimidate another or that warrants alarm for the safety of other persons.

RELEVANT LAWS AND OTHER RELATED INFORMATION

[RCW 28B.50.140](#)

[WAC 132E-122-160](#)

REVISION HISTORY

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APPROVED BY

Board of Trustees