

# LIBERTY

## UNIVERSITY

OFFICE of EQUITY  
& COMPLIANCE

### Sanctioning Guidelines for Students

According to the Discrimination, Harassment, and Sexual Misconduct Policy (“Policy”), a Respondent found responsible for Prohibited Conduct, a violation of the Policy, is typically imposed sanctions by the University. Several factors are considered when determining appropriate sanctions for Policy violations. The purpose of these sanctions is to eliminate the Prohibited Conduct, prevent its reoccurrence, and remedy its effects while supporting the University’s educational mission and legal obligations.

#### **DEFINITIONS**

Sanctions may include, but are not limited to, any of the sanctions listed below, as well as any sanctions set forth in other applicable University policies or conduct codes and may be imposed individually or in combination.

#### **Reprimand**

A formal written notice that the student has violated University policy(ies) and should the student engage in additional violations, could result in more severe and/or additional sanctions while enrolled. This notice will appear in a student’s disciplinary record at the University and may be disclosed by the University when the student consents in writing or as otherwise required by law.

#### **University Probation**

A more serious admonition that may be assigned for a definite amount of time. University Probation means that any future policy violation, regardless of the nature, during that time, may be grounds for suspension or expulsion from the University. University probation will exhaustively consider the seriousness of any subsequent infraction, even if the probationary period has expired. University probation appears in a student’s disciplinary record at the University and may be disclosed by the University when the student consents in writing or as otherwise required by law.

#### **Points**

Points are awarded for violations as listed below in the “Sanction Matrix for Students.” Students who accumulate more than 30 points per semester for any form of misconduct are subject to possible suspension or expulsion from the University. Consistent point accumulation per semester may be considered a violation of *The Liberty Way* and result in dismissal.

#### **Revocation or Withholding of Degree**

The University reserves the right to withdraw or withhold academic degrees. If the Prohibited Conduct is found to have occurred before graduation and during the time the student has applied to, or was enrolled at the University, but a complaint had not been filed prior to graduation, and a sanction for the Prohibited Conduct would have included non-return or administrative withdrawal of the Respondent, the degree may be withdrawn. If alleged Prohibited Conduct with a potential sanction of non-return or administrative withdrawal occurs prior to a student graduating and is under investigation, the University may postpone the awarding of a degree pending the outcome of the investigation and imposition of appropriate disciplinary sanctions.

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### **Suspension**

Separation from the University for a specified period of time after which the student is eligible to return provided any specific conditions noted at the time of suspension are satisfied. The student is typically required to vacate the campus within 24 hours of notification of suspension, though this deadline may be extended upon request to the Title IX Coordinator. During the suspension period, the student is banned from University property, functions (on and off campus), events, and activities unless the student receives prior written approval from the Title IX Coordinator. Relevant information remains on the student's disciplinary record at the University and may be disclosed by Liberty University when the student consents in writing or as otherwise required or permitted by law.

### **Expulsion**

Permanent separation from the University. The student is banned from University property and the student's presence at any University-sponsored activity or event (on or off campus) is prohibited. This action may be enforced with a trespass action, as necessary. This is an indefinite and immediate termination of the Respondent's student status at Liberty University. A student expelled from the University is not eligible for readmission. Relevant information remains in the student's disciplinary record at the University and may be disclosed by the University when the student consents in writing or as otherwise required or permitted by law.

### **Transcript Notation**

Liberty University will make a prominent notation on the academic transcript of each student who is under investigation for a report of Sexual Violence. In accordance with Va. Code § 23.1-900, Liberty University will also make a prominent notation on the academic transcript of each student who has been administratively withdrawn for, has been non-returned for, or has withdrawn from the University while under investigation for, an offense involving sexual violence under the Policy. The notation will be removed once the student is found not responsible or has been determined to be in good standing by the University.

### **Community Service**

Community service work for a church or non-profit organization for a prescribed number of hours.

### **Fines**

Penalty monetary fees payable to the University.

### **Restitution of Damages**

Penalty monetary fees payable to the Complainant via the University.

### **University Housing**

Removal from University housing or reassignment to a different location within University housing.

### **Restriction of Access to Spaces, Resources, Activities**

Restrictions placed on a student's access to space and/or resources or on a student's participation in activities so as to limit opportunities for contact between the Parties.

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### **Written Apology(ies)**

Submission of a written apology for the Prohibited Conduct and the harm it caused to the Complainant or other persons. The written apology will be submitted through the University, rather than directly to the recipient(s). This sanction will only be appropriate with the prior consent of the Complainant or other recipient(s).

### **Recovery Program**

Required completion of a recovery program, such as a 12-Step Celebrate Recovery program or another similar program approved by the University.

### **Educational Programs**

Required participation in educational programs prescribed by the University.