



Connecticut State
Colleges & Universities

CHECKLIST FOR CONN. GEN. STAT. § 10a-55m(f)
SEXUAL VIOLENCE REPORT 2021 SUBMISSION

INSTITUTION INFORMATION

Name: Norwalk Community College **Contact:** George A Pepper

Reporting Office/Department: Dean of Student Affairs **Report Year:** 2021

NARRATIVE

Institution's narrative explaining the reported sexual violence statistics and data, including: ☒ Brief introduction about the institution, its history, its population and its efforts to ensure a safe and comfortable learning environment with respect to sexual violence.

POLICIES

Institution's most recent policies regarding sexual assault, stalking, and intimate partner violence.* ☒ BOR/CSCU Sexual Misconduct Reporting, Support Services and Processes Policy (Effective 6/16/2016)
☒ BOR/CSCU Policy on Consensual Relationships (Effective 10/20/2016)
☒ BOR/CSCU Policy Regarding Reporting Suspected Abuse or Neglect of a Child (Effective 1/10/2015)
☒ BOR/CSCU Student Code of Conduct (Effective 7/29/2020)

Note: * It is permissible to reference links to the above-listed policies in institution reports.
BOR policies are listed on the following web page: <http://www.ct.edu/regents/policies>.

WRITTEN NOTIFICATION

☒ Institution's most recent concise written notification of the rights and options of a student or employee who reports or discloses an alleged violation of its sexual assault, stalking and intimate partner violence policy or policies.

SEXUAL VIOLENCE STATISTICS AND DATA

Institution reports containing the following statistics and data on sexual assault, stalking, and intimate partner violence for the preceding calendar year:

(See Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10a-55m(f) Reportable Statistics and Data Template)

☒ Sexual Violence Reportable Statistics and Data
☒ Concise and informative explanation of reportable sexual violence statistics and data, including clarification of number of incidents, reports, disclosures, discipline, and final outcomes.

PUBLIC AWARENESS, PREVENTION, AND RISK REDUCTION INFORMATION

Public awareness, prevention, and risk reduction information submitted by institution: ☐ Title IX Related Training Provided Spreadsheet
☐ Brochures
☐ Handbooks/Booklets/Pamphlets
☐ Bulletin Boards Information
☒ Flyers
☐ Online Statements of Campus Safety and Support Services (e.g., Women's Centers, etc.)
☐ PowerPoint Presentations

OTHER SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Supplemental information submitted by institution: ☐ Public Safety Materials
☒ Institution Sexual Violence Reporting Procedures
☒ Institution Sexual Violence Forms
☐ Redacted Sample of Investigation Results
☒ Sexual Violence Website Information
☐ Documentation of Training Offerings, if available, including number of participants
☐ Other Sexual Violence Reports
☐ Other Supplemental Material

NARRATIVE

Institution Narrative

Norwalk Community College (NCC) is the educational center of the community that provides opportunities for intellectual inquiry, open dialogue, multicultural awareness and lifelong learning.

During the 2021 reporting period, NCC continued to strice towards creating a learning environment where faculty, staff and students feel welcome and safe. In furtherance of these objectives, NCC widely publicizes its policies and procedures related to preventing prohibited conduct, including sexual misconduct.

NCC policies included in this report affirm the College's commitment to preventing and responding to acts of sexual misconduct, by or against, students, staff or visitors. Acts of sexual violence, including but not limited to, intimate partner violence, sexual assault and/ or stalking will not be tolerated on campus.

Also included in this report are statistics, data and programming materials. These documents reflect the manner in which NCC continues to work and educate members of the NCC community of the impact of sexual violence, and the various support services available to both primary and secondary survivors of sexual violence.

The compilation of this report provided NCC an opportunity to inventory and review various methods in place to prevent

violence, raise awareness and also identify any trends in reporting/ disclosure.

During the reporting period, NCC received zero (0) reports of stalking.

Through the College's HR Department, Title IX Coordinator and Counseling Services Team, students and staff were provided with a variety of information on how to prevent sexual violence, how to recognize and report sexual violence, and the mental health and academic impact on sexual violence.

POLICIES

4.3	Consensual Relationships Policy	16-114	2016-10-20
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4.3 Policy on Consensual Relationships

The Board of Regents for Higher Education (BOR) of the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities' respects that the educational mission of its institutions is founded on an atmosphere of mutual trust and respect between all members of the academic community. Faculty members, as well as those individuals upon whom the institution confers managerial, supervisory, or evaluative responsibilities, (including graduate assistants or undergraduate teaching assistants) carry a special responsibility to adhere to the highest ethical and professional standards and to avoid any actions that may appear to undermine this atmosphere of trust and respect and thereby hinder the institution's educational mission.

Because of the inherent imbalance of power and need for trust, faculty members, supervisory staff, and those with evaluative authority should be aware that dating or sexual relationships that might be appropriate in other circumstances have inherent dangers when they occur between a faculty and or staff member and a student as well as when they occur between a supervisor and employee.

Such relationships can create real conflicts, are susceptible to an appearance of exploitation, and can impair the trust and integrity of the teaching, coaching, or other supervisory or evaluative relationship and may cause a perception of favoritism or bias on the part of the staff. In addition, although these relationships may begin and remain consensual, they may easily be later characterized as non-consensual and could potentially lead to sexual harassment charges.

Affirmative consent is the standard used to determine whether sexual activity was consensual. As defined by Public Act 16-106, "Affirmative consent" means an active, clear and voluntary agreement by a person to engage in sexual activity with another person.

Policy Prohibited Between Employee and Student

Consensual romantic, dating, or sexual relationships between any employee and any student over whom that employee exercises direct or otherwise significant academic, supervisory, or evaluative authority or influence are prohibited at all State Universities and Colleges. The evaluative relationship can take a variety of forms, such as teacher to student, advisor to advisee, coach to athlete, supervisor to student employee, or similar relationship.

Strongly Discouraged Between Employee and Student

Romantic, dating or sexual relationships between employees and students over whom said employee does *not* have supervisory or evaluative authority are strongly discouraged. Such relationships are not only susceptible to future conflicts of interest, but also may present the appearance of impropriety.

If this situation exists, no employee should agree to supervise or evaluate a student with whom he or she has, or formerly had, a consensual relationship. A faculty member should inform the Dean if such a student wishes to enroll in a credit bearing course that he or she is teaching so that alternate arrangements can be made. Nor should a faculty member direct the student's independent study, internship, or thesis; participate in decisions regarding grades; or write letters of recommendation or reference

Between Employee and Employee

BOR discourages employees with supervisory or evaluative authority from engaging in romantic, dating or sexual relationships with employees who they supervise or evaluate. If such a relationship exists or develops, the supervisory employee must notify his/her manager so that arrangements can be made for the unbiased supervision and evaluation of the employee. These situations are handled on a case-by-case basis and may require transfer or reassignment of one or more employees.

In the Event of a Sexual Harassment Charge

Anyone who enters into a romantic, dating or sexual relationship where a professional power differential exists must realize that if a charge of sexual harassment is subsequently filed, it may be difficult to defend the charge by claiming that there was mutual consent. Employees could be held personally liable in a criminal or civil lawsuit. Affirmative consent is the standard used to determine whether sexual activity was consensual. As defined by Public Act 16-106, “Affirmative consent” means an active, clear and voluntary agreement by a person to engage in sexual activity with another person.

Sanctions

All violations of this policy should be reported to Human Resources for investigation and appropriate administrative action, up to and including disciplinary action.

5.2	Sexual Misconduct Reporting, Supportive Measures and Processes Policy	20-103	2020-07-29
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**Board of Regents for Higher Education
Connecticut State Colleges and Universities**

Policy Regarding

Sexual Misconduct Reporting, Supportive Measures and Processes Policy

STATEMENT OF POLICY

The Board of Regents for Higher Education (BOR) in conjunction with the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities (CSCU) is committed to ensuring that each member of every BOR governed college and university community has the opportunity to participate fully in the process of education and development. The BOR and CSCU strive to maintain a safe and welcoming environment free from acts of sexual misconduct, including, sexual harassment, sexual assault, intimate partner violence and stalking. It is the intent of the BOR and each of its colleges or universities to provide safety, privacy and support to victims of sexual misconduct and intimate partner violence.

The BOR strongly encourages students, parents, bystanders and employees to report any instance of sexual misconduct, including sexual harassment, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, stalking and intimate partner violence. Title IX Coordinators will promptly address these matters and treat all parties equitably. In accordance with federal law Respondents will be presumed not responsible and receive no punitive treatment unless and until found responsible after due process. All BOR governed colleges and universities will provide complainants and respondents with supportive measures, including referral to agencies that provide medical attention, counseling, legal services, advocacy, referrals and general information regarding sexual misconduct.

All CSCU employees and support persons will make any limits of confidentiality clear before any disclosure of facts takes place. Other than confidential resources as defined below and employees who qualify as Campus Security Authorities under the Jeanne Clery Act, all CSCU employees are required to immediately communicate to the institution's Title IX Coordinator any disclosure or report of sexual misconduct received from a student as well as communicate any disclosure or report of sexual misconduct the employee received from another employee when misconduct is related to the business of the institution.

Affirmative consent must be given by all parties before engaging in sexual activity. Affirmative consent means an active, clear and voluntary agreement by a person to engage in sexual activity with another person. Sexual misconduct, as defined herein, is a violation of BOR policies and, in addition, may subject an accused student or employee to criminal penalties. The BOR and each of its governed colleges and universities are committed to providing an environment free of personal offenses. Sexual relationships of any kind between staff/faculty and students are discouraged pursuant to BOR policy.

The Board of Regents for Higher Education hereby directs the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities to implement the Policy stated above pursuant to the following provisions:

TERMS, USAGE AND STANDARDS

Complainant means an individual who is alleged to be the victim of conduct that could constitute sexual harassment.

Consent must be affirmed and given freely, willingly, and knowingly of each participant to desired sexual involvement. Consent is a mutually affirmative, conscious decision – indicated clearly by words or actions – to engage in mutually accepted sexual contact. Consent may be revoked at any time during the sexual activity by any person engaged in the activity.

Affirmative consent may never be assumed because there is no physical resistance or other negative response. A person who initially consents to sexual activity shall be deemed not to have affirmatively consented to any such activity which occurs after that consent is withdrawn. It is the responsibility of each person to assure that he or she has the affirmative consent of all persons engaged in the sexual activity to engage in the sexual activity and that affirmative consent is sustained throughout the sexual activity. It shall not be a valid excuse to an alleged lack of affirmative consent that the student or employee responding to the alleged violation believed that the student reporting or disclosing the alleged violation consented to the activity (i) because the responding student or employee was intoxicated or reckless or failed to take reasonable steps to ascertain whether the student or employee reporting or disclosing the alleged violation affirmatively consented, or (ii) if the responding student or employee knew or should have known that the student or employee reporting or disclosing the alleged violation was unable to consent because the student or employee was unconscious, asleep, unable to communicate due to a mental or physical condition, or incapacitated due to the influence of drugs, alcohol or medication. The existence of a past or current dating or sexual relationship between the persons involved in the alleged violation shall not be determinative of a finding of affirmative consent.

Report means a document filed by a complainant or signed by the Title IX Coordinator alleging sexual harassment against a respondent and requesting that the institution investigate the allegation of sexual harassment. At the time of the filing the formal complaint, the complainant must be participating in or attempting to participate in an education program or activity of the institution.

Disclosure is the receipt of any communication of an incident of sexual misconduct that is not accompanied by a request for an investigation or adjudication by the institution.

Respondent means an individual who has been reported to be the perpetrator of conduct that could constitute sexual harassment.

Sexual misconduct includes engaging in any of the following behaviors:

- (a) **Sexual harassment**, which can include any unwelcome sexual advance or request for sexual favors, or any conduct of a sexual nature when submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual's education or employment; submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as a basis for academic or employment decisions affecting the individual; or such conduct has the purpose or effect of substantially interfering with an individual's academic or work performance or creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive educational or employment environment. Examples of conduct which may constitute sexual harassment include but are not limited to:

- sexual flirtation, touching, advances or propositions
- verbal abuse of a sexual nature
- pressure to engage in sexual activity
- graphic or suggestive comments about an individual's dress or appearance
- use of sexually degrading words to describe an individual
- display of sexually suggestive objects, pictures or photographs
- sexual jokes
- stereotypic comments based upon gender
- threats, demands or suggestions that retention of one's educational status is contingent upon toleration of or acquiescence in sexual advances.

(b) ***Sexual assault*** shall include but is not limited to a sexual act directed against another person without the consent (as defined herein) of the other person or when that person is not capable of giving such consent-

Sexual assault is further defined in sections 53a-70, 53a-70a, 53a-70b, 53a-71, 53a-72a, 53a-72b and 53a-73a of the Connecticut General Statutes.

(c) ***Sexual exploitation*** occurs when a person takes non-consensual or abusive sexual advantage of another for anyone's advantage or benefit other than the person being exploited, and that behavior does not otherwise constitute one of the preceding sexual misconduct offenses. Examples of behavior that could rise to the level of sexual exploitation include:

- Prostituting another person;
- Non-consensual visual (e.g., video, photograph) or audio-recording of sexual activity;
- Non-consensual distribution of photos, other images, or information of an individual's sexual activity, intimate body parts, or nakedness, with the intent to or having the effect of embarrassing an individual who is the subject of such images or information;
- Going beyond the bounds of consent (for example, an individual who allows friends to hide in the closet to watch him or her having consensual sex);
- Engaging in non-consensual voyeurism;
- Knowingly transmitting an STI, such as HIV to another without disclosing your STI status;
- Exposing one's genitals in non-consensual circumstances, or inducing another to expose his or her genitals; or
- Possessing, distributing, viewing or forcing others to view illegal pornography.

Sexual exploitation is further defined as a crime in Connecticut State Law.

(d) ***Intimate partner, domestic and/or dating violence means*** any physical or sexual harm against an individual by a current or former spouse of or person in a dating or cohabitating relationship with such individual that results from any action by such spouse or such person that may be classified as a sexual assault under section 53a-70, 53a-70a, 53a-70b, 53a-71, 53a-72a, 53a-72b or 53a-73a of the general statutes, stalking under section 53a-181c, 53a-181d or 53a-181e of the

general statutes, or domestic or family violence as designated under section 46b-38h of the general statutes. This includes any physical or sexual harm against an individual by a current or former spouse or by a partner in a dating relationship that results from (1) sexual assault (2) sexual assault in a spousal or cohabiting relationship; (3) domestic violence; (4) sexual harassment (5) sexual exploitation, as such terms are defined in this policy.

Offenses that are designated as “domestic violence” are against family or household members or persons in dating or cohabitating relationships and include assaults, sexual assaults, stalking, and violations of protective or restraining orders issued by a Court. Intimate partner violence may also include physical abuse, threat of abuse, and emotional abuse.

- Physical abuse includes, but is not limited to, slapping, pulling hair or punching.
- Threat of abuse includes but is not limited to, threatening to hit, harm or use a weapon on another (whether victim or acquaintance, friend or family member of the victim) or other forms of verbal threat.
- Emotional abuse includes but is not limited to, damage to one’s property, driving recklessly to scare someone, name calling, threatening to hurt one’s family members or pets and humiliating another person.
- Cohabitation occurs when two individuals dwell together in the same place as if married.
- The determination of whether a “dating relationship” existed is to be based upon the following factors: the complainant’s statement as to whether such a relationship existed, the length of the relationship, the type of the relationship and the frequency of the interaction between the persons reported to be involved in the relationship.

(e) ***Stalking***, which is defined as repeatedly contacting another person when contacting person knows or should know that the contact is unwanted by the other person; and the contact causes the other person reasonable apprehension of imminent physical harm or the contacting person knows or should know that the contact causes substantial impairment of the other person’s ability to perform the activities of daily life.

As used in this definition, the term “contacting” includes, but is not limited to, communicating with (including internet communication via e-mail, instant message, on- line community or any other internet communication) or remaining in the physical presence of the other person.

Retaliation is prohibited and occurs when a person is subjected to an adverse employment or educational action because he or she made a complaint under this policy or assisted or participated in any manner in an investigation. No institution or person may intimidate, threaten, coerce, or discriminate against any individual for the purpose of interfering with any right or privilege secured by Title IX or because the individual has made a report of complaint, testified, assisted or participated or refused to participate in any manner in an investigation, proceeding or hearing related to a report or complaint related to sex discrimination.

CONFIDENTIALITY

When a BOR governed college or university receives a report of sexual misconduct all reasonable steps will be taken by the appropriate CSCU officials to preserve the privacy of the complainant and

respondent while promptly investigating and responding to the report. While the institution will strive to maintain the confidentiality of personally identifiable student information reported, which information is subject to privacy requirements of the Family Education Rights Privacy Act (FERPA), the institution also must fulfill its duty to protect the campus community.

Confidential resources are defined as follows: For the Universities, entities with statutory privilege, which include campus based counseling center, health center and pastoral counseling staff members whose official responsibilities include providing mental health counseling to members of the University community as well as off campus counseling and psychological services, health services providers, member(s) of the clergy, and the local Sexual Assault Crisis Center and Domestic Violence Center. For the Colleges, confidential resources are limited to entities with statutory privilege, such as off campus counseling, on campus counseling where available, and psychological services, health services providers, member(s) of the clergy, and the local Sexual Assault Crisis Center and Domestic Violence Center. The personnel of these centers and agencies are bound by state statutes and professional ethics from disclosing information about reports without written releases.

Information provided to a confidential resource by a complainant or respondent cannot be disclosed legally to any other person without consent, except under very limited circumstances, such as an imminent threat of danger to self or others or if the reported complainant is a minor. Therefore, for those who wish to obtain the fullest legal protections and disclose in full confidentiality, she/he must speak with a confidential resource. Each BOR governed college and university will provide a list of such confidential resources in the College or University's geographic region to complainants and respondents as well as publish these resources on-line and in various publications.

Where it is deemed necessary for the institution to take steps to protect the safety of members of the campus community, the institution will seek to act in a manner so as not to compromise the privacy or confidentiality of the either the complainant or respondent to the extent reasonably possible.

MANDATED REPORTING BY COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY EMPLOYEES

Other than confidential resources as defined above, in addition to employees who qualify as Campus Security Authorities under the Jeanne Clery Act, all employees are required to immediately communicate to the institution's designated recipient (e.g., Title IX Coordinator) any disclosure or report of sexual misconduct received from a student regardless of the age of the complainant. All employees are also required to communicate to the institution's designated recipient (e.g., Title IX Coordinator) any disclosure or report of sexual misconduct received from an employee that impacts employment with the institution or is otherwise related to the business of the institution.

Upon receiving a disclosure or a report of sexual misconduct, employees are expected to supportively, compassionately and professionally offer academic and other accommodations and to provide a referral for support and other services.

Further, in accordance with Connecticut State law, with the exception of student employees, any paid administrator, faculty, staff, athletic director, athletic coach or athletic trainer who, in the ordinary course of their employment, has a reasonable cause to suspect or believe that a person under the age

of 18 years has been abused or neglected, has been placed in imminent harm or has had a non-accidental injury is required by law and Board policy to report the incident within twelve hours to their immediate supervisor and to the Department of Children and Families.

RIGHTS OF PARTIES

Complainants and respondents will be informed in a timely manner of all their rights and options, including the necessary steps and potential outcomes of each option. Complainants and respondents shall be offered non-disciplinary, non-punitive individualized services as appropriate and available that are designed to restore or preserve equal access to the institution's education program or activity without unreasonably burdening the other party, which may include measures designed to protect the safety of all parties or the institution's educational environment or deter sexual harassment.

When choosing a reporting resource the following information should be considered:

- All reports of sexual misconduct will be treated seriously and with dignity by the institution.
- Referrals to off-campus counseling and medical services that are available immediately and confidential, whether or not those who report feel ready to make any decisions about reporting to police, a college or university employee or the campus's Title IX Coordinator.
- Information regarding the right to take both criminal and civil legal action against the individual allegedly responsible.
- Those who seek confidentiality may contact a clergy member(s), a University counseling center psychologist, a University health center care provider, the Sexual Assault Crisis Center of Connecticut and/or the Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence – all of whom are bound by state statutes and professional ethics to maintain confidentiality without written releases.

RIGHT TO NOTIFY LAW ENFORCEMENT & SEEK PROTECTIVE AND OTHER ORDERS

Complainants and respondents shall be provided written information about her/his right to:

- (1) notify law enforcement and receive assistance from campus authorities in making the notification; and,
- (2) obtain a protective order, apply for a temporary restraining order or seek enforcement of an existing order. Such orders include:
 - standing criminal protective orders;
 - protective orders issued in cases of stalking, harassment, sexual assault, or risk of injury to or impairing the morals of a child;
 - temporary restraining orders or protective orders prohibiting the harassment of a witness;
 - family violence protective orders.

The institution will also honor lawful protective or temporary restraining orders.

Each and every BOR governed college and university shall create and provide information specific to its campus detailing the procedures to follow after the commission of such violence, including people or agencies to contact for reporting purposes or to request assistance, and information on the importance of preserving physical evidence.

OPTIONS FOR CHANGING ACADEMIC, HOUSING, TRANSPORTATION AND WORKING ARRANGEMENTS

College and university Title IX Coordinators will provide supportive measures to complainants and respondents. These supportive measures may include, but are not limited to, reasonably available options for changing academic situations, including but not limited to extensions of deadlines or other course related adjustments, modifications of work or class schedules, campus transportation and escort services, mutual restrictions on contact between parties, leaves of absence, increased security and monitoring and housing or working situations.

SUPPORT SERVICES CONTACT INFORMATION

It is BOR policy that whenever a college or university Title IX Coordinator or other employee receives a report of sexual misconduct, the Title IX Coordinator shall immediately provide all parties with contact information for and, if requested, professional assistance in accessing and using any appropriate campus resources, or local advocacy, counseling, health, and mental health services, without fee. All CSCU campuses shall develop and distribute contact information for this purpose as well as provide such information on-line.

SEXUAL MISCONDUCT INVESTIGATION AND PROCEDURES

All complaints of sexual misconduct will be reviewed by the college or university Title IX Coordinator who will determine supportive measures and whether the complaint falls within the scope of Title IX. If the institution's Title IX Coordinator determines that the alleged harassment is

- (1) so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to an education program or activity; or,
- (2) implicates an employee of the institution, alleging that the employee conditioned a provision of an aid, benefit, or service upon the complainant's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct; or,

(3) alleges “Sexual assault” as defined in 20 U.S.C. 1092(f)(6)(A)(v)¹, “dating violence” as defined in 34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(10)², “domestic violence” as defined in 34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(8)³, or “stalking” as defined in 34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(30)⁴ as defined in 34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(30)⁵

and

(4) the alleged harassment occurred within the United States on property owned or controlled by the institution or any building owned or controlled by a student organization officially recognized by the institution; and

(5) at the time of the filing the Complainant was participating or attempting to participate in the educational program or activity;

The Title IX coordinator will initiate the Title IX Process which shall be applicable to students, faculty and staff. The Title IX Process and Procedures are available on-line and through the Office of the Title IX Coordinator.

If the institution’s Title IX Coordinator determines that the alleged harassment does not meet the factors above but the alleged misconduct violates BOR Policy, the following procedures apply:

- Each party shall have the opportunity to request that an investigation or disciplinary proceedings begin promptly; that such disciplinary proceedings shall be conducted by an official trained annually in issues relating to sexual assault, stalking and dating, domestic or intimate partner violence and shall use the preponderance of the evidence (more likely than

¹ 20 U.S.C. 1092(f)(6)(A)(v), The term “[sexual assault](#)” means an offense classified as a forcible or non-forcible sex offense under the uniform crime reporting system of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

² 34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(10) The term “[dating violence](#)” means violence 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. (iii) The frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.

³ 34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(8) The term “[domestic violence](#)” includes felony or misdemeanor crimes of violence committed by a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim, 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 or intimate partner, by a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction receiving grant monies, 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 jurisdiction.

⁴ 34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(30) (30) The term “[stalking](#)” means engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to - (A) fear for his or her safety or the safety of others; or (B) suffer substantial emotional distress.

⁵ 34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(30) (30) The term “[stalking](#)” means engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to - (A) fear for his or her safety or the safety of others; or (B) suffer substantial

emotional distress. not) standard in accordance with State law in making a determination concerning sexual assault, stalking or domestic/dating/intimate partner violence.

- Both the complainant and respondent are entitled to be accompanied to any meeting or proceeding relating to the allegation of sexual misconduct by an advisor or support person of their choice, provided the involvement of such advisor or support person does not result in the postponement or delay of such meeting as scheduled and provided such an advisor or support person may not directly address the Hearing Body, question witnesses or otherwise actively participate in the hearing process or other meeting pertaining to a report of sexual misconduct and each party shall have the opportunity to present evidence and witnesses on her/his behalf during any disciplinary proceeding.
- Both parties are entitled to be provided at the same time written notice of the results of any disciplinary proceeding, normally within one (1) business day after the conclusion of such proceeding, which notice shall include the following: the name of the respondent the violation committed, if any, and any sanction imposed upon the respondent. Sanctions may range from a warning to expulsion, depending upon the behavior and its severity of the violation(s). The complainant shall have the same right to request a review of the decision of any disciplinary proceeding in the same manner and on the same basis as shall the respondent; however, in such cases, if a review by any complainant is granted, among the other actions that may be taken, the sanction of the disciplinary proceeding may also be increased. Both the complainant and respondent are entitled to be simultaneously provided written notice of any change in the results of any disciplinary proceeding prior to the time when the results become final as well as to be notified when such results become final.

If the institution's Title IX Coordinator determines that the allegations do not constitute a violation of either Title IX or Board policy and can make no finding of responsibility, complainant and respondent shall be notified that the matter shall be closed.

Employee sexual misconduct not subject to Title IX is subject to discipline in accordance with the procedures applicable to the employee's classification of employment.

REVIEW AND AUDIT

The Title IX Coordinator will report to the President of the institution on a regular basis all findings on reported sexual misconduct matters. The Title IX Coordinator shall include within its annual Connecticut General Statute 10a-55m Sexual Misconduct Report a separate report specifically disclosing the number of complaints, the subject matter of each complaint and the final outcome of each case processed under Title IX. At a joint meeting of the Human Resources and Administration Committee and the Academic and Student Affairs Committee, the CSCU Title IX

Coordinator will report annually on CSCU data of complaints and outcomes of sexual misconduct matters reviewed under Title IX, BOR policies, and other applicable state statutes.

DISSEMINATION OF THIS POLICY

Upon adoption by the Board all CSCU institutions shall, upon receipt, immediately post and maintain this policy at all times in an easily accessible manner on each institution's website, handbook and catalogue. This policy shall thereafter be annually provided to all Title IX Coordinators, campus law enforcement officers and security personnel, and other campus personnel. Further, this policy shall be presented at student orientation and at student awareness and prevention trainings, and made broadly available at each campus. The policy shall be expanded upon by each institution to provide resources and contact information specific to their institution and geographic area as set forth above. This includes but is not limited to the name, office address, email address and telephone number of the Title IX Coordinators.

5.6	Reporting Suspected Abuse or Neglect of a Child	15-010	2015-01-10
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5.6 Reporting Suspected Abuse or Neglect of a Child

The Board of Regents for Higher Education (BOR) of the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities (CSCU) accept that institutions of higher education foster educational opportunities for people under the age of 18 years. The BOR, in acknowledging the special care required for children, strives to the utmost to protect children on its campuses from any form of abuse or neglect.

Pursuant to state law, with the exception of student employees, any paid administrator, faculty, staff, athletic director, athletic coach or athletic trainer, collectively referred to as “mandatory reporters” who in the ordinary course of their employment has a reasonable cause to suspect or believe that a person under the age of 18 years has been abused or neglected, has been placed in imminent harm or has had a non-accidental injury is required to cause a report to be made to the Department of Children and Families within 12 hours of becoming aware or suspecting abuse, neglect or imminent harm to a child.

The BOR recognizes that each CSCU campus must be a safe and secure environment for children to grow and develop. Therefore, the BOR further requires mandatory reporters to report any witnessed or suspected abuse or neglect of a child on a CSCU campus to their immediate supervisor in addition to DCF. The supervisor must report the incident to their director or vice president who must then inform the campus President and the System Office Vice President for Human Resources or his/her designee.

If the director or vice president reasonably believes that a reportable incident has occurred, and, if the suspected perpetrator is a BOR or CSCU employee, he/she will immediately contact their Chief Human Resources Officer who shall assign an objective person to investigate the report. An employee under investigation may be placed on administrative leave pending the results of the investigation. Employees who report suspicions of abuse or neglect are protected from any disciplinary action unless the report is determined to have been maliciously made. An employee who fails to report, but is later determined to have had previous knowledge of the abuse, may be subject to discipline.

A report is required if there is reasonable cause to suspect that a person under the age of 18 is in imminent harm, has had non accidental injuries or has been abused or neglected. Reasonable cause to believe or suspect that child abuse has occurred is sufficient to make a report.

All staff designated as mandatory reporters are required to take the Department of Children and Families Mandated Reporter Training, either on-line or in person, and Mandated Reporter Training will be included in New Employee Orientation. Compliance with training will be monitored by each CSCU campus’s Department of Human Resources. A copy of this policy shall be disseminated annually to all employees.

Reasonable steps will be taken to preserve privacy while promptly investigating and responding to the report. While the institution will strive to maintain the confidentiality of the information reported, which information may be subject to privacy requirements of the Family Education Rights Privacy Act (FERPA), the institution also must fulfill its duty to protect the CSCU community and to assure that the appropriate disciplinary processes are implemented.



BOR/CSCU STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

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I. STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT PREAMBLE

Academic institutions exist for the transmission of knowledge, the pursuit of truth, the development of students, and the general well-being of society. In line with this purpose, the Board of Regents for Higher Education (“BOR”) in conjunction with the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities (“CSCU”) has the duty to protect the freedoms of inquiry and expression, and furthermore, has the responsibility to encourage all of its members to develop the capacity for critical judgment in their sustained and independent search for truth.

CSCU has certain self-defined institutional values. Principal among these values is respect for the safety, dignity, rights, and individuality of each member of the CSCU Community. The opportunity to live, study, and work in an institution which values diverse intellectual and cultural perspectives and encourages discussion and debate about competing ideas in an atmosphere of civility is a basic component of quality higher education.

All members of CSCU must at all times govern their social and academic interactions with tolerance and mutual respect so that the students who pass through a CSCU door are enriched by these experiences and are prepared for full and enlightened participation in a multi-cultural society. Because of the BOR’s and CSCU’s commitment to principles of pluralism, mutual respect, and civility, certain activities are not acceptable on CSCU campuses. Acts of intolerance, of hatred or violence based on race, religion, sexual orientation or expression, disability, gender, age, or ethnic background are antithetical to the BOR’s and CSCU’s fundamental principles and values. It is the BOR’s and CSCU’s responsibility to protect our students’ right to learn by establishing an environment of civility.

The disciplinary process is intended to be part of the educational mission of CSCU. Student disciplinary proceedings are not criminal proceedings and are not subject to court rules of procedure and evidence.

INTRODUCTION

This Student Code of Conduct (hereinafter the “Student Code” or “Code”) is intended to present a clear statement of student rights and responsibilities established by the Board of Regents for Higher Education. The BOR has charged the President of the Board of Regents for Higher Education with developing procedures to protect those rights and to address the abdication of responsibilities in collaboration with the four State Universities, the twelve Community Colleges and Charter Oak State College. The Student Code describes the types of acts that are not acceptable in an academic community.

Disclaimer: This Code is neither a contract nor an offer of a contract between any BOR governed institution and any student. The provisions of this Code are subject to revision at any time.

PART A: DEFINITIONS

The following list of defined terms utilized throughout this Student Code is provided in an effort to facilitate a more thorough understanding of the Code. This list is not intended to be a complete list of all the terms referenced in the Student Code that might require interpretation or clarification. The Vice President for Student Affairs at a University, the Dean of Students at a Community College, the Provost at Charter Oak State College or their designee shall make the final decision of the interpretation of the definition of any term found in the Student Code. For purposes of interpretation and application of the Student Code only, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

1. ***“Accused Student”*** means any student accused of violating this Student Code.
2. ***“Advisor”*** means a person who accompanies an Accused Student or an alleged victim to a hearing (or a proceeding pertaining to a report of sexual violence) for the limited purpose of providing advice and guidance to the student. An advisor may not directly address the Hearing Body, question witnesses, or otherwise actively participate in the hearing process (or other proceeding pertaining to a report of sexual violence).
3. ***“Appellate Body”*** means any person or persons authorized by the University Vice President for Student Affairs, Community College Dean of Students, Charter Oak State College Provost or their designee to consider an appeal from a determination by a Hearing Body that a student has violated the Student Code.
4. ***“Calendar Days”*** means the weekdays (Mondays through Fridays) when the University or College is open.
5. ***“College”*** means either collectively or singularly any of the following institutions: Asnuntuck Community College, Capital Community College, Gateway Community College, Housatonic Community College, Manchester Community College, Middlesex Community College, Naugatuck Valley Community College, Northwestern Connecticut Community College, Norwalk Community College, Quinebaug Valley Community College, Three Rivers Community College, Tunxis Community College, and Charter Oak State College.
6. ***“Complainant(s)”*** means the person(s) who initiates a complaint by alleging that a Student(s) violated the Code.
7. ***“CSCU”*** means either collectively or singularly, any of the following institutions: Central Connecticut State University, Eastern Connecticut State University, Southern Connecticut State University, Western Connecticut State University; Asnuntuck Community College, Capital Community College, Gateway Community College, Housatonic Community College, Manchester Community College, Middlesex Community College, Naugatuck Valley Community College, Northwestern Connecticut Community College, Norwalk Community College, Quinebaug Valley Community College, Three Rivers Community College, Tunxis Community College, and Charter Oak State College.

8. ***“CSCU Affiliates”*** means individuals and/or entities with whom or with which the College or University has a contractual relationship.
9. ***“CSCU Official”*** means any person employed by the College or University to perform assigned administrative, instructional, or professional responsibilities.
10. ***“CSCU Premises”*** means all land, buildings, facilities, and other property in the possession of, or owned, used, and/or controlled by, the University or College, either solely or in conjunction with another entity.
11. ***“Disciplinary Officer” or “Conduct Administrator”*** means a University, College or CSCU official who is authorized to determine the appropriate resolution of an alleged violation of the Code, and/or to impose sanctions or affect other remedies as appropriate. Subject to the provisions of this Code, a disciplinary officer or conduct administrator is vested with the authority to, among other duties: investigate a complaint of an alleged violation of the Code decline to pursue a complaint, refer identified disputants to mediation or other appropriate avenues of resolution, establish charges against a student, enter into an administrative agreement developed with an Accused Student in accordance with Section II-B-3 of this Code, advise a Hearing Body, and present the case before the Hearing Body.
12. ***“Hearing Body” or “Hearing Panel”*** means any person or persons authorized by the University Vice President for Student Affairs, Community College Dean of Students or Charter Oak State College Provost to determine whether a student has violated the Code and to impose sanctions as warranted, including a hearing officer or hearing board.
13. ***“Institution”*** means the University or College within CSCU.
14. ***“Instructor”*** means any faculty member, teaching assistant or any other person authorized by the University to provide educational services, including, but not limited to, teaching, research, and academic advising.
15. ***“Member of the CSCU Community”*** means any person who is a student, an official or any other person who works for CSCU, either directly or indirectly (e.g., for a private enterprise doing business on a CSCU campus).
16. ***“Policy”*** means the written regulations, standards, and student conduct expectations adopted by the BOR and found in, but not limited to the Student Handbook, the Residence Life Handbook, the housing contract, the graduate and undergraduate catalogs, and other publicized University and College notices.
17. ***“Prohibited Conduct”*** means the conduct prohibited by this Code, as more particularly described in Part I-D of this Code.
18. ***“Reporting Party”*** means any person who alleges that a student has violated this Code.

19. ***“Student”*** means either (1) any person admitted, registered, enrolled or attending any CSCU course or CSCU conducted program, whether full-time or part-time, and whether pursuing undergraduate, graduate or professional studies, or continuing education; (2) any person who is not officially enrolled for a particular term but who has a continuing relationship with a CSCU; or (3) any person within two calendar years after the conclusion of their last registered Community College course unless the student has formally withdrawn, graduated or been expelled from the College.
20. ***“Student Code” or “Code”*** means this Student Code of Conduct.
21. ***“Student Organization”*** means an association or group of persons that have complied with the formal requirements for University or College recognition.
22. ***“Support Person”*** means a person, who accompanies an Accused Student, a Reporting Party or a victim to a hearing for the limited purpose of providing support and guidance. A support person may not directly address the Hearing Body, question witnesses, or otherwise actively participate in the hearing process.
23. ***“University”*** means any of the following institutions: Central Connecticut State University, Eastern Connecticut State University, Southern Connecticut State University, and Western Connecticut State University, whichever the alleged violation of the Code occurred.
24. ***“Shall” and “will”*** are used in the imperative sense.
25. ***“May”*** is used in the permissive sense.

PART B: APPLICATION, DISTRIBUTION, AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

1. Application of the Student Code: The Student Code shall apply to the four Connecticut State Universities, the twelve Community Colleges, and the on-line college: Central Connecticut State University, Eastern Connecticut State University, Southern Connecticut State University, Western Connecticut State University; Asnuntuck Community College, Capital Community College, Gateway Community College, Housatonic Community College, Manchester Community College, Middlesex Community College, Naugatuck Valley Community College, Northwestern Connecticut Community College, Norwalk Community College, Quinebaug Valley Community College, Three Rivers Community College, Tunxis Community College, and Charter Oak State College.

An alleged violation of the Student Code shall be addressed in accordance with the Code of Conduct, even if the accused Student has withdrawn from the Institution prior to the completion of the disciplinary procedures.

The Student Code shall apply to Students and to University Student Organizations. The term “student” shall generally apply to the student as an individual and to a Student Organization as a

single entity. The officers or leaders of a particular Student Organization usually will be expected to represent the organization during the disciplinary process. Nothing in this Student Code shall preclude holding certain members of a Student Organization accountable for their individual acts committed in the context of or in association with the organization's alleged violation of this Code.

2. Distribution of the Student Code: The Student Code shall be made readily available electronically and/or in a printed publication to students, faculty and staff. The office responsible for Student Affairs will annually distribute and make available to students, faculty and staff, electronically and/or in a printed publication, any revisions to the Code.

3. Administration of the Student Code: A University's and Charter Oak State College's Provost or a Community College's Dean of Students shall be the person designated by the institution President to be responsible for the administration of the Academic Misconduct portion of the Student Code. A University's Vice President for Student Affairs, a Community College's Dean of Students, or Charter Oak State College's Provost shall be the person designated by the institution President to be responsible for the administration of the Non-Academic Misconduct portion of the Student Code.

PART C: SCOPE OF AUTHORITY

A Student who is found responsible for engaging in conduct that violates the Student Code on any CSCU campus or on property controlled by the BOR or by any CSCU Affiliate or any CSCU sponsored function or event shall be subject to the sanctions described in this Code. The Student Code of Conduct also applies to online activities, where applicable. Students who attempt to engage in conduct that violates this Code, who knowingly encourage, aid or assist another person in engaging in such conduct, or who agree with another person, explicitly or otherwise, to engage in such conduct, may also be subject to disciplinary action.

Off-campus misconduct by University students may be subject to the jurisdiction of the University and addressed through its disciplinary procedures if one of the following conditions is met: (i) a Student engages in prohibited conduct at an official University event, at a University-sanctioned event, or at an event sponsored by a recognized University Student Organization; or (ii) a Student engages in prohibited conduct under such circumstances that reasonable grounds exist for believing that the Accused Student poses a threat to the life, health or safety of any member of the CSCU or to the property of the CSCU.

Community College students conduct is subject to the Code on campus and off-campus whenever such conduct impairs College-related activities or affairs of another member of the College community or creates a risk of harm to a member or members of the College community. Students must be aware that, as citizens, they are subject to all federal and state laws in addition to all CSCU regulations governing student conduct and responsibilities. Students do not relinquish their rights nor do they shed their responsibilities as citizens by becoming members of the CSCU Community. However, where a court of law has found a student to have violated the law, an institution has the right to impose the sanctions of this Code even though the conduct does not impair institution-related activities of another member of the university or college community and does not create a risk of harm to the college or university community. The decision to exercise this right will be in the sole discretion of the President of the impacted institution or his/her designee.

Charter Oak State College applies this Code to matriculated and non-matriculated students, including those participating in portfolio assessment, credential evaluation, testing, or contract learning. Jurisdiction shall be limited to student conduct that occurs while students are taking Charter Oak State College courses or availing themselves of Charter Oak State College services. However, if a matriculated Charter Oak State College student is found guilty of student misconduct at another institution, including but not limited to misrepresentation of records from other institutions, the student may be subject to disciplinary action at Charter Oak State College.

PART D: PROHIBITED CONDUCT

The following list of behaviors is intended to represent the types of acts that constitute violations of this Code.

1. Academic misconduct, which includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism and all forms of cheating.

Plagiarism is defined as the submission of work by a student for academic credit as one's own work of authorship which contains work of another author without appropriate attribution.

Cheating includes, but is not limited to: (i) use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests or examinations; (ii) use of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems or carrying out other assignments; (iii) the acquisition, without permission, of tests or other academic material belonging to a member of the University faculty or staff; and (iv) engaging in any other behavior specifically prohibited by a faculty member in the course syllabus.

2. Acts of dishonesty, including but not limited to the following:
 - a. Misuse of University or College documents, including, but not limited to forging, transferring, altering or otherwise misusing a student fee card, student payroll card, identification card or other College or University identification document, course registration document, schedule card, transcript, or any other institution- issued document or record.
 - b. Knowingly furnishing false information to any CSCU Official, faculty member or office.
3. Theft of property or services, or damage to, defacement or destruction of, or tampering with, real or personal property owned by the State of Connecticut, CSCU/BOR, the institution, or any member of the CSCU Community.
4. Actual or threatened physical assault or abuse, threatening behavior, intimidation, or coercion.
5. Sexual misconduct may include engaging in one of more behaviors:

(a) **Sexual harassment**, which can include any unwelcome sexual advance or request for sexual favors, or any conduct of a sexual nature when submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual's education; submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as a basis for academic decisions affecting the individual; or such conduct has the purpose or effect of substantially interfering with an individual's academic performance or creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive educational environment. Examples of conduct which may constitute sexual harassment include but are not limited to:

- sexual flirtation, touching, advances or propositions
- verbal abuse of a sexual nature
- pressure to engage in sexual activity
- graphic or suggestive comments about an individual's dress or appearance
- use of sexually degrading words to describe an individual
- display of sexually suggestive objects, pictures or photographs
- sexual jokes
- stereotypic comments based upon gender
- threats, demands or suggestions that retention of one's educational status is contingent upon toleration of or acquiescence in sexual advances.

(b) **Sexual assault** shall include but is not limited to a sexual act directed against another person when that person is not capable of giving consent, which shall mean the voluntary agreement by a person in the possession and exercise of sufficient mental capacity to make a deliberate choice to do something proposed by another.

A person who initially consents to sexual activity shall be deemed not to have consented to any such activity which occurs after that consent is withdrawn. Consent cannot be assumed because there is no physical resistance or other negative response. A lack of consent may result from mental incapacity (e.g., ingestion of alcohol or drugs which significantly impair awareness or judgment) or physical incapacity (e.g., the person is unconscious or otherwise unable to communicate consent). Consent must be affirmative. (See Sexual Misconduct Reporting, Support Services and Processes Policy).

Sexual assault is further defined in sections 53a-70, 53a-70a, 53a-70b, 53a-71, 53a-72a, 53a-72b and 53a-73a of the Connecticut General Statutes.

(c) **Sexual exploitation** occurs when a person takes non-consensual or abusive sexual advantage of another for anyone's advantage or benefit other than the person being exploited, and that behavior does not otherwise constitute one of the preceding sexual misconduct offenses. Examples of behavior that could rise to the level of sexual exploitation include:

- Prostituting another person;
- Non-consensual visual (e.g., video, photograph) or audio-recording of sexual activity;
- Non-consensual distribution of photos, other images, or information of an individual's sexual activity, intimate body parts, or nakedness, with the intent to or having the effect of embarrassing an individual who is the subject of such images or information;
- Going beyond the bounds of consent (such as letting your friends hide in the closet to watch you having consensual sex);
- Engaging in non-consensual voyeurism;
- Knowingly transmitting an STI, such as HIV to another without disclosing your STI status;
- Exposing one's genitals in non-consensual circumstances, or inducing another to expose his or her genitals; or
- Possessing, distributing, viewing or forcing others to view illegal pornography.

6. Intimate partner violence is defined as:

- Including intimate partner violence, which is any physical or sexual harm against an individual by a current or former spouse or by a partner in a dating relationship that results from (1) sexual assault, as defined in section 5 above; (2) sexual assault in a spousal or cohabiting relationship; (3) domestic violence; (4) sexual harassment, as defined in section 5 above or, (5) sexual exploitation, as defined in section 5 above.
 - Physical abuse, which can include but is not limited to, slapping, pulling hair or punching.
 - Threat of abuse, which can include but is not limited to, threatening to hit, harm or use a weapon on another (whether victim or acquaintance, friend or family member of the victim) or other forms of verbal threat.
 - Emotional abuse, which can include but is not limited to, damage to one's property, driving recklessly to scare someone, name calling, threatening to hurt one's family members or pets and humiliating another person.
7. Violations of privacy, including, but not limited to, voyeurism and the use of web-based, electronic or other devices to make a photographic, audio or video record of any person without his or her express consent, when such a recording is intended or likely to cause injury or distress. This includes, but is not limited to: (i) surreptitiously taking pictures or videos of another person in spaces such as sleeping areas, bathrooms, gymnasiums, locker rooms, and changing areas; and (ii) sexually exploiting another person by electronically recording or permitting others to view or electronically record, consensual sexual activity without a partner's knowledge or permitting others to view or listen to such video or audio tapes without a partner's knowledge and consent. Publicizing or threatening to publicize such records will also be considered a violation of this Code.
8. Hazing, which is defined as an act which endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a Student, or which destroys, damages, or removes public or private property for the purpose of initiation or admission into, affiliation with or as a condition for continued membership in a group or organization. The express or implied consent of the victim will not be a defense to an allegation of hazing. Consenting to the activity by remaining silent or not objecting in the presence of hazing is not a neutral act and is also a violation of this Student Code.

9. Stalking, which is defined as repeatedly contacting another person when:
- a. The contacting person knows or should know that the contact is unwanted by the other person; and
 - b. The contact causes the other person reasonable apprehension of imminent physical harm or the contacting person knows or should know that the contact causes substantial impairment of the other person's ability to perform the activities of daily life.

As used in this definition, the term "contacting" includes, but is not limited to, communicating with (including internet communication via e-mail, instant message, on-line community or any other internet communication) or remaining in the physical presence of the other person.

10. Harassment, which is defined as conduct which is abusive or which interferes with a person's pursuit of his or her customary or usual affairs, including, but not limited to, such conduct when directed toward an individual or group because of race, ethnicity, ancestry, national origin, religion, gender, sexual orientation or expression, age, physical attribute, or physical or mental disability or disorder, including learning disabilities and mental retardation.
11. Conduct that is disorderly, lewd or indecent (including, but not limited to, public nudity and sexual activity in areas generally open to members of the campus community), breach of peace or aiding, abetting or procuring another person to breach the peace on CSCU premises or at functions sponsored by, or affiliated with the University or College.
12. Behavior or activity which endangers the health, safety, or well-being of oneself or others.
13. Offensive or disorderly conduct which causes interference, annoyance or alarm or recklessly creates a risk thereof at CSCU or CSCU premises, CSCU web or social media sites, at a CSCU-sponsored activity or in college or university courses, including cyber bullying. This offense does not apply to speech or other forms of constitutionally protected expression.
14. Unauthorized possession, duplication or use of keys (including, but not limited to, card access, card keys, fobs, etc.) to any CSCU premises or forcible and/or unauthorized entry on or into CSCU premises.
15. Starting fires, causing explosions, falsely reporting the presence of fire, bombs, incendiary or explosive devices, or falsely reporting an emergency.
16. Unauthorized or improper possession, use, removal, tampering or disabling of fire and/or safety equipment and warning devices, failure to follow standard fire and/or emergency safety procedures, or interference with firefighting or emergency response equipment or personnel.

17. Use, possession, purchase, sale or distribution of alcoholic beverages, except as expressly permitted by law and CSCU regulations. Alcoholic beverages may not, under any circumstances, be used by, possessed by, or distributed to any person under twenty-one (21) years of age.
18. Use, possession, purchase, sale, distribution or manufacturing of narcotics, controlled substances and/or drugs, including, but not limited to, marijuana and heroin, or drug paraphernalia, except as expressly permitted by law.
19. Use, possession or distribution of firearms, ammunition for firearms, other weapons or dangerous instruments, facsimiles of weapons or firearms, fireworks, explosives or dangerous chemicals. A dangerous instrument is any instrument, article or substance that, under the circumstances in which it is being utilized, is capable of causing death or serious physical injury. The possession of a deadly weapon or dangerous instrument on campus is strictly prohibited, even if such item is legally owned.
20. Gambling, including, but not limited to, promoting, wagering, receiving monies for wagering or gambling for money or property on CSCU premises.
21. Disruption or obstruction of any College or University function, activity or event, whether it occurs on or off the campus, or of any non-University or College function, activity or event which is authorized by the institution to occur on its premises.
22. Intentional obstruction of the free flow of pedestrian or vehicular traffic on CSCU premises or at University or College-sponsored or supervised functions or interference with entry into or exit from CSCU premises or with the free movement of any person.
23. Failure to comply with the directions of CSCU officials or law enforcement officers acting in the performance of their duties and/or failure to identify oneself to these persons when requested to do so.
24. Conduct that violates published BOR/CSCU policies, rules, and regulations, including, but not limited to, residence hall rules and regulations.
25. Conduct prohibited by any federal, state, and/or local law, regulation or ordinance.
26. Unauthorized use of CSCU property or the property of members of the CSCU Community or of CSCU Affiliates.
27. Theft, unauthorized use, or abuse of University or College computers and/or peripheral systems and networks, including, but not limited to:
 - a. Unauthorized access to CSCU computer programs or files;
 - b. Unauthorized alteration, transfer or duplication of CSCU computer programs or files;
 - c. Unauthorized use of another individual's identification and/or password;

- d. Deliberate disruption of the operation of CSCU computer systems and networks;
 - e. Use of the Institution's computing facilities and resources in violation of copyright laws (including unauthorized peer-to-peer file sharing of copyrighted material, including, but not limited to, copyrighted music, movies, and software);
 - f. Use of computing facilities and resources to send obscene messages (which are defined as messages which appeal mainly to a prurient, shameful or morbid interest in nudity, sex, excretion, sadism or masochism, go well beyond customary limits of candor in describing or representing such matters, and are utterly without redeeming social value); and
 - g. Violation of the BOR Policy Statement on Acceptable and responsible use of Information Technology resources and/or any applicable BOR computer use policy.
28. Abuse of the CSCU conduct and disciplinary system, including but not limited to:
- a. Failure to obey the notice from a Hearing Body or CSCU Official to appear for a meeting or hearing as part of the Student Conduct system;
 - b. Falsification, distortion, or intentional misrepresentation of information to a Disciplinary Officer or Conduct Administrator, or before a Hearing Body;
 - c. Initiation of a conduct or disciplinary proceeding knowingly without cause;
 - d. Disruption or interference with the orderly conduct of a disciplinary proceeding;
 - e. Attempting to discourage an individual's proper participation in, or use of, the disciplinary system;
 - f. Attempting to influence the impartiality of a Disciplinary Officer, Conduct Administrator or member of a Hearing Body prior to, and/or during the course of, the disciplinary proceeding;
 - g. Harassment (verbal or physical) and/or intimidation of a Disciplinary Officer, Conduct Administrator, or member of a Hearing Body prior to, and/or during the course of the disciplinary proceeding;
 - h. Failure to comply with the sanction(s) imposed under the Student Code; and
 - i. Influencing or attempting to influence another person to commit an abuse of the disciplinary system.

PART E: HEARING PROCEDURES FOR SEXUAL MISCONDUCT, SEXUAL INTIMATE PARTNER, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE & STALKING REPORTS

In addition to disciplinary procedures applicable to State University students in Section II, Community College students in Section III, and Charter Oak State College Students in Section IV, for any hearing conducted involving allegations of sexual misconduct, including sexual harassment, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, stalking and intimate partner violence the Complainant and the Respondent shall each have the following rights:

1. All complaints of sexual misconduct will be reviewed by the Title IX Coordinator who will determine supportive measures and whether the complaint falls within the scope of Title IX.
2. If the institution's Title IX Coordinator determines that the alleged harassment is
 - (1) so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to an education program or activity; or,
 - (2) implicates an employee of the institution, alleging that the employee conditioned a provision of an aid, benefit, or service upon the complainant's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct; or,
 - (3) alleges "Sexual assault" as defined in 20 U.S.C. 1092(f)(6)(A)(v)¹, "dating violence" as defined in 34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(10)², "domestic violence" as defined in 34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(8)³, or "stalking" as defined in 34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(30)⁴ as defined in 34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(30)⁵

and

 - (4) the alleged harassment occurred within the United States on property owned or controlled by the institution or any building owned or controlled by a student organization officially recognized by the institution; and
 - (5) at the time of the filing the Complainant was participating or attempting to participate in the educational program or activity;

¹ 20 U.S.C. 1092(f)(6)(A)(v), The term "[sexual assault](#)" means an offense classified as a forcible or non-forcible sex offense under the uniform crime reporting system of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

² 34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(10) The term "[dating violence](#)" means violence 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. (iii) The frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.

³ 34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(8) The term "[domestic violence](#)" includes felony or misdemeanor crimes of violence committed by a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim, 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 or intimate partner, by a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction receiving grant monies, 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 jurisdiction.

⁴ 34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(30) (30) The term "[stalking](#)" means engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to - (A) fear for his or her safety or the safety of others; or (B) suffer substantial emotional distress.

⁵ 34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(30) (30) The term “[stalking](#)” means engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to - (A) fear for his or her safety or the safety of others; or (B) suffer substantial emotional distress.

The Title IX coordinator will initiate the Title IX Process.

The Title IX Process and Procedures are available on-line and through the Office of the Title IX Coordinator.

3. If the institution's Title IX Coordinator determines that the alleged harassment does not meet the factors in Section 2 above, but the alleged misconduct violates the Student Code of Conduct, the following procedures apply:
 - a. At any meeting or proceeding, both the Complainant and Respondent (Respondent means the person who has been reported to be the perpetrator of conduct violating the Student Code of Conduct) may be accompanied by an advisor or support person of the student's choice provided the advisor or support person does not cause a scheduled meeting or hearing to be delayed or postponed and provided an advisor or support person may not directly address the Hearing Body, question witnesses, or otherwise actively participate in the hearing process (or other proceeding or pertaining to a report of sexual misconduct);
 - b. Both the Complainant and Respondent are entitled to request that disciplinary proceedings begin promptly;
 - c. Any hearing regarding an accusation of sexual misconduct shall (i) be fair, prompt and impartial; (ii) be conducted by a Hearing Body annually trained in issues relating to sexual misconduct (iii) use the preponderance of evidence (more likely than not) standard; (iv) shall allow both the Complainant and Respondent the opportunity to present evidence and witnesses on their behalf during any disciplinary proceeding; (v) provide both the Complainant and Respondent with equal access to any information that will be used during meetings and hearings; (vi) invoke the standard of "affirmative consent"⁶ in determining whether consent to engage in sexual activity was given by all persons who engaged in sexual activity; (vii) presume that the Respondent is not responsible until the conclusion of the process; and (viii) the hearing will be held live.
 - d. In accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), Complainant and Respondent have the right to keep their identities confidential;
 - e. Complainants and Respondents shall be provided written notice of the decision of the Hearing Body simultaneously, normally within one (1) business day after the conclusion of the Hearing. In accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) the notice to parties to sexual misconduct shall contain only the following: the name of the parties, the violation committed, if any, and any sanction imposed against the Respondent.
 - f. Both parties shall have the same right to request a review of the decision of the Hearing Body (appeal rights) in the same manner and on the same basis; however, if a request for review is determined to be properly made and if the review determines there is sufficient grounds for altering the decision of the Hearing Body, among the other actions that may be taken as set forth above, the sanction of the hearing may be increased or decreased.

⁶ The standard of "Affirmative Consent" is set forth in the BOR Sexual Misconduct Reporting, Support Services and Processes Policy and is incorporated herein by reference.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, in any hearing pertaining to sexual misconduct both the Complainant and Respondent are entitled to be simultaneously provided notice of any change in the results of the hearing prior to the time when the results become final, as well as to be notified when such results become final.

If the institution's Title IX Coordinator determines that the allegations do not constitute a violation of either Title IX or Board policy and can make no finding of responsibility, complainant and respondent will be notified that the matter will be closed.

PART F: CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINARY RECORDS

The written decision resulting from an administrative conference or a hearing under this Code shall become part of the student's educational record and shall be subject to the provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). A student's disciplinary record shall be maintained separately from any other academic or official file maintained by the Institution. Disciplinary records will be maintained for a period of five (5) years from the date of the incident, except that the sanction of expulsion shall be noted permanently.

While student education records are generally protected from disclosure by FERPA, there are a number of exceptions to this rule. Students should be aware that a record concerning his/her behavior while a student at the College or University may be shared with other colleges or universities to which the student may subsequently wish to transfer or be admitted. Similarly, prospective employers may require a student to provide access to his/her education records as part of the employment application process. A record of having been sanctioned for conduct that violates Section I.D. of the Code may disqualify a student for admission to another college or university, and may interfere with his/her selection for employment.

PART G: INTERPRETATION AND REVISION

Questions regarding the interpretation of this Code shall be referred to the University's and Charter Oak State College's Provost or a Community College's Dean of Students or their designees for the administration of the Non-Academic Misconduct portion of the Student Code and to the University's Vice President for Student Affairs, a Community College's Dean of Academic Affairs or Charter Oak State College's Provost or their designees for the administration of the Academic Misconduct portion of the Student Code.

This Code shall be reviewed and revised, if and as necessary, every five (5) years, or as directed by the President of the Board of Regents for Higher Education.

II. CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES APPLICABLE TO STATE UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

Procedures for University students differ from those procedures applicable to either the Community Colleges or Charter Oak State College. This is due to the environmental, cultural, and administrative differences within the types of the institutions comprising CSCU. Procedures for addressing allegations and sanctions regarding academic misconduct (as defined in Section I.D.1) for University Students as set for in this Section II of the Code.

PART A: DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES - ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

1. Instructor's Role:
When the instructor of record or his or her designee believes that an act of academic misconduct has occurred, he or she shall notify the student of the allegation and save any evidence of such misconduct in its original form. (Copies of the Accused Student's work will be provided to the Student upon request.) In addition, the instructor shall not transmit a final grade to the Registrar until such time as the allegation(s) of academic misconduct are finally determined. Each institution shall establish implementation guidelines in accordance with this Code.
2. Information from Person Other than Student's Instructor: Any member of the CSCU Community may provide information which might lead to a complaint against a Student alleging academic misconduct.
3. The Academic Misconduct Hearing Board: There shall be an academic misconduct hearing board convened by the University's Disciplinary Officer to consider allegations of academic misconduct lodged against a Student. The University's disciplinary officer shall be a non-voting member of the board and act as convener.
4. Hearing Process: The Accused Student shall be afforded adequate notice of the allegation, an opportunity to discuss the allegation with the instructor, and adequate time to request and prepare for a hearing. All parties shall have an opportunity to be heard and a record of the proceedings shall be made. The decision of a hearing board shall be communicated in writing.
5. Sanctions: If the academic misconduct hearing board determines that the Accused Student is "Not Responsible," the board shall not impose any sanctions. The board shall so advise the Student's instructor and the instructor shall reevaluate the student's course grade in light of the Board's determination. If the academic misconduct hearing board determines that the Accused Student is "Responsible," the academic sanction set forth in the instructor's course syllabus shall be imposed.

The academic misconduct hearing board may make a recommendation to change the academic sanction imposed by the instructor on the basis of its hearing of the evidence of academic misconduct. (Should the academic sanction not be changed pursuant to this recommendation, the University reserve the right to change the academic sanction.) Upon

consideration of the Accused Student's record of misconduct and/or the nature of the offense, the academic misconduct hearing board may impose additional non-academic sanctions in proportion to the severity of the misconduct. These sanctions may include the following: warning, written reprimand, discretionary sanctions, suspension and/or expulsion, as described in II.D of this Student Code of Conduct.

6. Appeals: The decision rendered by the academic misconduct hearing board may be appealed to the Provost/Academic Vice President, who shall review the record of the hearing, including any and all documents presented to the academic misconduct hearing board. An appeal shall be in writing and shall be delivered to the Provost/Academic Vice President within three (3) calendar days of receipt of the academic misconduct hearing board's written decision.

An appeal may be brought on any of four grounds: (a) a claim that error in the hearing procedure substantially affected the decision; (b) a claim that new evidence or information material to the case was not known at the time of the hearing; (c) a claim that the non-academic sanction(s) imposed were not appropriate for the violation of the Code for which the accused student was found responsible; and/or (d) a claim that the academic sanction imposed has resulted in a palpable injustice. The Provost/Academic Vice President shall have the right to deny an appeal not brought on any of the foregoing grounds. The decision rendered by the Provost/Academic Vice President shall be final and there shall be no further right of appeal.

PART B: DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES - NONACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

The following procedures shall be followed in addressing allegations of non-academic misconduct.

1. Providing Information leading to a Complaint: Any person may provide information leading to the filing of a complaint against a Student or a Student Organization alleging a violation of the Student Code. A complaint must be made in writing and submitted to the University's Disciplinary Officer or Conduct Administrator.
2. Disciplinary Proceedings Against a Student Charged with a Violation of Law and a Violation of the Code: University proceedings may be instituted against an Accused Student who has been charged with a violation of state or federal law for conduct which also constitutes a potential violation of this Code (that is, if both possible violations result from the same factual situation) without regard to the pendency of civil or criminal litigation in court or criminal arrest and prosecution. Proceedings under this Student Code may be carried out prior to, simultaneously with, or following the institution of civil or criminal court proceedings against the Accused Student. Determinations made or sanctions imposed under this Student Code shall not be subject to change because criminal charges arising out of the same facts giving rise to violation of University rules were dismissed, reduced, or resolved in favor of or against the criminal law defendant.

3. Disciplinary Proceedings Against a Student Charged with Sexual Assault, Sexual, Intimate Partner, Domestic Violence or Other Sex Related Offense: See Section I.E
4. Pre-Hearing Investigation and Administrative Disposition:
 - a. The Disciplinary Officer or Conduct Administrator may conduct an investigation to determine if the charges have merit and/or if they can be disposed of administratively by mutual consent of the Accused Student and the Disciplinary Officer or Conduct Administrator. Such disposition shall be final and there shall be no subsequent proceedings. If the charges are not admitted and/or cannot be disposed of by mutual consent, the Disciplinary Officer or Conduct Administrator may also present the case for the University at any subsequent hearing, but if he or she does, he or she shall not serve as a member of the Hearing Body.
 - b. The Disciplinary Officer or Conduct Administrator may conduct an investigation to determine if there is reason to believe the student has committed a violation of any part of Section I.D. of the Code and, after considering both the possible violation and the prior conduct record of the student, if the Disciplinary Officer or Conduct Administrator determines that a sanction of less than residential hall separation or suspension or expulsion from the University is appropriate, the Disciplinary Officer or Conduct Administrator shall schedule an administrative conference with the student. The student shall be given reasonable notice of the time and place of the conference. At the administrative conference, the student shall have the opportunity to present information for the Disciplinary Officer's or Conduct Administrator's consideration. At the conclusion of the administrative conference, the Disciplinary Officer or Conduct Administrator shall determine whether it is more likely than not that the student has violated the Policy and, if so, impose a sanction less than residential hall separation, or suspension or expulsion from the University. The Disciplinary Officer or Conduct Administrator shall provide the student with a written explanation for the determination. The decision of the Disciplinary Officer or Conduct Administrator shall be final.
5. Hearing Bodies: A Student accused of misconduct has the right to be heard by an impartial Hearing Body. Any concern surrounding the impartiality of the Hearing Body or any member thereof will be referred to the Vice President for Student Affairs or his or her designee, who will review the matter and make a determination. Any Hearing regarding an accusation of sexual assault, sexual misconduct, intimate partner, domestic violence or other sex related offense or intimate partner violence shall be conducted by an impartial Hearing Body trained in issues relating to sexual assault, sexual violence, intimate partner, and domestic violence.
6. Hearing Procedures:
 - a. Notice of Hearing: Normally, a hearing will be conducted within ten (10) calendar days of the Accused Student being notified of the charges. Notice may be provided to the Accused Student by in-hand delivery, by registered mail, with delivery receipt attached or by certified mail, return receipt requested by University email or by overnight delivery with signature of recipient required. Should the

Accused Student refuse to accept in-hand delivery, a written statement of the attempted delivery of the notice signed by the person attempting to make such delivery shall constitute notice. Should the Accused Student refuse to sign for registered or certified mail, the postal document indicating such refusal shall constitute notice.

The notice shall advise the Accused Student of each section of the Student Code alleged to have been violated and, with respect to each such section, a statement of the acts or omissions which are alleged to constitute a violation of the Code, including the approximate time when and the place where such acts or omissions allegedly occurred.

The Accused Student shall be afforded a reasonable period of time to prepare for the hearing, which period of time shall not be less than three (3) Calendar Days. The Accused Student, the Reporting Party and/or any alleged victim may request a delay of the hearing due to extenuating circumstances. Any decision to postpone the hearing shall be made by the Disciplinary Officer or Conduct Administrator or by the Hearing Body, or by the designee of the Vice President for Student Affairs.

- b. Hearing: Hearings shall be closed, but the Hearing Body may, in its discretion, admit any person into the hearing room. The Hearing Body shall have the authority to discharge or to remove any person whose presence is deemed unnecessary or obstructive to the proceedings.

The Accused Student, the Reporting Party and any alleged victim shall have the right to be present at all stages of the hearing process except during the private deliberations of the Hearing Body and the presentation of sanctions. In hearings involving more than one Accused Student, the Hearing Body may determine that, in the interest of fairness, separate hearings should be convened.

In any Hearing alleging sexual assault, sexual, intimate partner, domestic violence or other sex related offense, any alleged victim and the Accused Student are entitled to:

- 1) be accompanied to any meeting or proceeding by an advisor or support person of their choice, provided that the advisor or support person does not cause a scheduled meeting to be delayed or postponed;
- 2) present evidence and witnesses on their behalf;
- 3) in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), to have their identities kept confidential.

In addition, the alleged victim of sexual assault, sexual, intimate partner, domestic violence or other sex related offense is entitled to request that disciplinary proceedings begin promptly.

- c. Record of Hearing: When expulsion or suspension from the University or residence hall separation is a possibility, the University shall make a recording of the hearing. The recording shall be the property of the University. No other recordings shall be made by any person during the hearing. Upon request, the Accused Student may

review the recording in a designated University office in order to prepare for an appeal of the decision rendered by the Hearing Body. Further disclosure of the recording shall be governed by applicable state and federal law.

- d. Opportunity to Present a Defense: The Accused Student shall have the full opportunity to present a defense and information, including the testimony of witnesses, in his or her behalf. The Reporting Party and the Accused Student may question the statements of any person who testifies in a manner deemed appropriate by the Hearing Body. The Reporting Party and the Accused Student may make concluding statements regarding the charges made and the information presented during the hearing. The Hearing Body may question the Accused Student and the Reporting Party, any witness presented by the Accused Student or the Reporting Party, and any other witness(es) the Hearing Body may choose to call to testify.
- e. Accused Student Can Choose Whether or Not to Testify in His or Her Own Defense: The Accused Student who is present at the hearing shall be advised by the Hearing Body that he or she is not required to testify, to answer questions, or to make any statement regarding the complaint or the allegations set forth in the complaint. Refusal to do so shall not be considered by the Hearing Body to constitute evidence of responsibility.
- f. Non-Appearance of Accused Student at Disciplinary Hearing: If an Accused Student does not appear at a disciplinary hearing, the Hearing Body shall enter a plea of “not responsible” on behalf of such student and the hearing shall proceed in the normal manner of hearing evidence, weighing facts, and rendering judgment. The failure of an Accused Student to appear at the disciplinary hearing shall not be considered by the Hearing Body to constitute evidence of responsibility.
- g. Advisors and Support Persons: The Reporting Party, any alleged victim, and the Accused Student shall each have the right to be accompanied by an Advisor and Support Person. The Advisor and the Support Person should be someone whose schedule allows attendance at the scheduled date and time for the disciplinary hearing because delays will not normally be allowed due to the scheduling conflicts of an Advisor or Support Person.
- h. Presentation of Evidence: Only evidence introduced at the hearing itself may be considered by the Hearing Body in determining whether it is more likely than not that the alleged violation was committed by the accused student.
- i. Evidence of Prior Convictions or Disciplinary Actions: Evidence of prior criminal convictions or University disciplinary actions may be presented to the Hearing Body only after a determination of responsibility has been made and only for consideration in connection with determining the sanction.
- j. Accommodation of Witnesses: The Hearing Body may accommodate concerns for the personal safety, well-being, and/or fears of confrontation of the Reporting Party, the Accused Student, and/or other witnesses during the hearing by providing separate facilities, by using a visual screen, and/or by permitting

participation by telephone, videophone, closed circuit television, video conferencing, videotape, audio tape, written statement, or other means, where and as determined in the sole judgment of the Hearing Body to be appropriate.

- k. Written Notice of Decision: The Accused Student shall receive written notice of the decision of the Hearing Body that shall set forth the decision rendered, including a finding of “responsible” or “not responsible,” and the sanctions imposed, if any. The decision of the Hearing Body, as well as the sanction(s) imposed, if any, generally will not be released to third parties without the prior written consent of the Accused Student. However, certain information may be released if and to the extent authorized by state or federal law.

With respect to Hearings alleging sexual assault, sexual, intimate partner, domestic violence or other sex related offense, any alleged victim shall receive written notice of the decision of the Hearing Body at the same time as the Accused Student, normally within one (1) business day after the conclusion of the Hearing.

In accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) the notice to any alleged victim of sexual assault, sexual, intimate partner, domestic violence or other sex related offense shall contain only the following: the name of the student, the violation committed and any sanction imposed against the student.

6. Review: An Accused Student may request that the decision of the Hearing Body be reviewed by the Vice President for Student Affairs or his or her designee. A request for review must be made in writing to the Vice President for Student Affairs or his or her designee within three (3) Calendar Days of the Accused Student’s receipt of the written notice of decision. For good cause shown, the Vice President for Student Affairs may extend the three-University Calendar Day limitation on filing a request for a review. An Accused Student may request only one review of each decision rendered by the Hearing Body. A decision reached as a result of an Administrative Disposition may not be reviewed.
- a. Grounds for Review: The Accused Student has the right to request a review of the decision of the Hearing Body on the grounds that: (i) the procedures set forth in this Code were not followed and, as a result, the decision was substantially affected; (ii) the sanction(s) imposed were not appropriate for the violation of the Code for which the Accused Student was found responsible; and/or (iii) new information, sufficient to alter the decision, or other relevant facts were not brought out in the original hearing because such information and/or facts were not known to the Accused Student at the time of the original hearing. The review shall be limited to a review of the record except as required to explain the basis of new information.
- b. Review Procedures: In order to prepare for the review, the Accused Student may review the recording of the original hearing in a designated University office but will not be permitted to remove the recording from that office or make copies. The review will not be heard by anyone involved in the initial hearing. The review shall be considered and a decision rendered within ten (10) Calendar Days of the filing of the request for review.

If a request for review is granted, the matter shall be referred to the original Hearing Body for reconsideration of its original determination or to a newly-constituted Hearing Body for a new hearing, or the sanction imposed may be reduced, as appropriate. If a request is not granted, the matter shall be considered final and binding upon all involved.

- c. Status of Student Pending Review: All sanctions imposed by the Hearing Body shall be and continue in effect pending the outcome of a review. Any request to delay the commencement of sanctions pending a review must be made by the Accused Student, in writing, to the Vice President for Student Affairs or his or her designee.
- d. With respect only to Hearings related to sexual assault, sexual, intimate partner, domestic violence or other sex offense, the alleged victim shall have the same right to request a review in the same manner and on the same basis as shall the Accused Student as set forth above; however, in such cases, if a review by any alleged victim is granted, among the other actions that may be taken as set forth above, the sanction of the Hearing may also be increased.

Upon review, if the decision or sanction of the disciplinary proceeding is changed, any alleged victim must be notified in writing of the change in decision or sanction at the same time that the Accused Student is notified.

PART C: INTERIM SUSPENSIONS AND RESIDENCE HALL SEPARATIONS

In certain circumstances, the Vice President for Student Affairs, or his or her designee, may impose an interim suspension or residence hall separation on an Accused Student prior to the hearing before the Hearing Body.

1. Basis for Imposition of Interim Suspension or Residence Hall Separation: An interim suspension may be imposed upon an Accused Student only: (i) to ensure the safety and well-being of members of the University Community or preservation of University property; (ii) to ensure the Student's own physical or emotional safety and well-being; or (iii) if the student poses an ongoing threat of disruption of, or interference with, the normal operations of the University.

A residence hall separation may be imposed if a Student's continued presence will disrupt the academic and social well-being of the residential community. Residence hall separation is the removal of a student from the University residence hall in which he or she resides. Such separation may include a restriction of access to all or designate University residence halls. During the period of the separation, the removed Student shall not be permitted to enter the designated hall(s) as a guest of another resident.

An interim suspension or residence hall separation is not a sanction and will continue in effect only until such time as a hearing on the alleged violation has been completed.

2. Effect of Interim Suspension or Residence Hall Separation: During the interim suspension or residence hall separation, the removed Student shall be denied access to the residence halls and/or to the campus (including classes) and/or all other University activities or privileges for which the Student might otherwise be eligible, as the Vice President for Student Affairs, or his or her designee, may determine to be appropriate.
3. Procedure: The Accused Student shall be notified, either orally or in writing, of the pending imposition of an interim suspension or residence hall separation. Whenever possible prior to the imposition of the interim suspension or suspension, the affected Student will be afforded an opportunity to meet with the Vice President for Student Affairs, or his or her designee. Otherwise, the meeting will be held on the first Calendar Day that the Student is available.

At that meeting, the Accused Student will be advised of his/her reported behavior and be offered the opportunity to provide information upon which the determination may be based whether or not the Student engaged in conduct warranting an interim suspension or residence hall separation.

Any Student placed on an interim suspension will be given an opportunity to appear at an administrative conference or a formal hearing on the misconduct charges lodged against him or her in accordance with II.B.5 of this Code within ten (10) Calendar Days of being placed on such suspension, or as soon as practical after the Accused Student is prepared to participate in such a hearing.

PART D: DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS

Sanctions which may be imposed for violations of the Student Code are listed below. In determining appropriate sanctions, the Hearing Body may take into consideration any and all prior violations of the Code for which the Accused Student was determined to be responsible. The Hearing Body shall have the authority to defer the imposition of any sanction when deemed appropriate. The University may withhold awarding a degree otherwise earned until the completion of the process set forth in this Student Code, including the completion of all sanctions imposed, if any.

1. **Sanctions Which May Be Imposed for Violations of the Code:** The following sanctions may be imposed, individually or in various combinations, on any student found to have violated the Student Code, and will be entered into the Student's disciplinary records. Notation of disciplinary sanctions shall be on file only in the appropriate office in the Division of Student Affairs and shall not be released without the written consent of the Student except to appropriate University enforcement personnel, University police, staff and administrators, or as required by law.
 - a. Warning: A disciplinary warning is a written notice to a Student advising him or her that specific behavior or activity constitutes a violation of the Code and that the repetition of such behavior will likely result in the commencement of more serious disciplinary action by the University.

- b. Fine: A sanction involving the imposition of a specified dollar amount due and payable by a specified date.
- c. Probation: Disciplinary probation is a designated period of time during which a Student is given the opportunity to modify unacceptable behavior and/or to complete specific assignments in an effort to regain full student privileges within University Community. Disciplinary probation may involve the imposition of certain restrictions and/or conditions upon the Student including, but not limited to, financial restitution, community service, fines, referral for professional services such as counseling, participation in educational programs, parental notification under limited circumstances, and ineligibility to participate in University activities or events. Periodic contact with a designated member of the University Community or non-college professional may be required. If the Student fully complies with the terms and conditions imposed in connection with the disciplinary probation, full student privileges will be restored to the student upon termination of the probationary period. Failure to comply with the terms and conditions of the probation constitutes prohibited conduct that is separate from and in addition to the conduct for which the probation was imposed. A Student accused of violation of probation will be given due notice of the alleged violation and the procedures set forth in this Code shall be followed.
- d. Loss of Privileges: Denial of specified privileges for a designated period.
- e. Restitution: Compensation for loss, damage to real or personal property. This may take the form of appropriate service and/or monetary or material replacement.
- f. Discretionary Sanctions: Work assignments, essays, service to the University, or other related discretionary assignments, referral for professional services such as counseling, participation in educational programs, parental notification under limited circumstances, and ineligibility to participate in University activities or events. Periodic contact with a designated member of the University Community or non-college professional may be required.
- g. Residence Hall Warning: A written notice to a Student advising him or her that specific behavior or activity constitutes a violation of the Code and that the repetition of such behavior will likely result in the commencement of more serious disciplinary action by the University.
- h. Residence Hall Probation: Residence hall probation is a designated period during which an Accused Student is given the opportunity to modify unacceptable behavior and/or to complete specific assignments in an effort to regain full student privileges within the residence hall in which the Student resides. Residence hall probation may include restrictions and/or conditions on the exercise of residence hall activities and privileges. Periodic contact with a designated member of the residence hall staff or professional may be required. If the Accused Student fully complies with the terms and conditions imposed in connection with the residence hall probation,

full residence hall privileges will be restored to the Student upon termination of the probationary period. Failure to comply with the terms and conditions of the probation constitutes prohibited conduct that is separate from and in addition to the conduct for which the probation was imposed. A Student accused of violation of probation will be given due notice and the procedures set forth in this Code shall be followed.

- i. Residence Hall Separation: Separation of the Student from the residence halls for a definite period of time, after which the Student is eligible to return. Conditions for readmission may be specified.
 - j. Residence Hall Expulsion: Permanent separation of the Student from the residence halls.
 - k. Suspension: Suspension is temporary disciplinary separation from all universities among CSCU and the denial of all student privileges. Suspension shall be effective on the date that notice of the suspension is provided to the Accused Student, or later, if so stated in the notice, and shall prescribe the date and conditions upon which the Student may petition for readmission to the University. A Student separated from all universities within CSCU by suspension may under the terms of the suspension be excluded from the premises of all CSCU premises when in the judgment of the suspending authority, the Student's continued presence would constitute a danger to persons or property or a threat to the academic process. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the suspending authority of the suspended Student's home University or his or her designee may authorize a suspended student who has been excluded from all University premises to enter the premises of the student's home University for designated purposes.
 - l. Expulsion: Expulsion is permanent disciplinary separation from all universities within CSCU and the denial of all student privileges. Expulsion shall be effective on the date that notice of expulsion is provided to the Accused Student, or later, if so stated in the notice. A student separated from all universities of CSCU by expulsion may under the terms of the expulsion be excluded from all CSCU Premises when in the judgment of the expelling authority the Student's presence would constitute a danger to persons or property or a threat to the academic process.
2. **Revocation of Admission and/or Degree**: Upon the recommendation of the Hearing Body, admission to or a degree awarded from the University may be revoked by the University, acting through its President (or his or her designee) for fraud, misrepresentation, or other violation of University standards in obtaining admission or the degree.
3. **Consequences of Failure to Comply with a Duly Assigned Sanction**: Failure to comply with sanctions which have been assigned through a formal judicial process may lead to one or more of the following consequences:
- a. Denial of access to certain university services, including, but not limited to housing and parking;

- b. Denial of access to administrative processes, including, but not limited to, course add/drop, pre-registration, registration, and room selection; and/or
- c. Withholding of the privilege of participation in university sponsored activities and/or public ceremonies, or formal disciplinary charges under II.B hereof.

4. Sanctions Which May Be Imposed on Student Organizations

- a. Sanctions: Those sanctions listed in subsections 1.a through f of Section II.D.
- b. Loss of recognition: Loss of recognition for a specified period of time results in the loss of privileges, such as the use of university space, access to student activity fee funding, and/or the privilege of functioning as a student organization. Loss of recognition for more than two (2) semesters shall require that an organization reapply for University recognition. Conditions for future recognition may be imposed by the hearing body.

III. CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES APPLICABLE TO COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENTS

Procedures for Community College students differ from those procedures applicable to either the Universities or Charter Oak State College. This is due to the environmental, cultural and administrative differences within the types of the institutions comprising CSCU. Procedures for addressing allegations and sanctions regarding academic misconduct (as defined in Section I.D.1 above) for Community College Students as set for in this Section III of the Code.

PART A: DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES (Academic and Non-Academic Misconduct)

In regard to College Students, the following procedures shall govern the enforcement of the Code:

1. Information that a student may have violated the Code should be submitted to the Dean of Students, Dean of Academic Affairs or other designee of the President (hereinafter referred to as “the Dean”), normally within thirty (30) calendar days of the date of a possible violation or within thirty (30) calendar days of the date that the facts constituting a possible violation were known.
2. Upon receipt of information relating to a possible violation, the Dean may immediately place restrictions on or suspend a student on an interim basis if, in the judgment of the Dean, the continued presence of the student at the College or continued participation in the full range of college activities poses a danger to persons or property or constitutes an ongoing threat of disrupting the academic process.
 - a. “Interim restrictions” are limitations on the Student’s participation in certain College functions and activities, access to certain locations on campus or access to certain persons, that do not prevent the Student from continuing to pursue his/her academic program. A Student upon whom the Dean has placed interim restrictions shall be afforded written reasons for the restrictions, as well as the time period during which the interim restrictions shall apply. The decision of the Dean regarding interim restrictions shall be final.
 - b. “Interim suspension” is the temporary separation of the Student from the College that involves the denial of all privileges, including entrance to College premises. Prior to imposing an interim suspension, the Dean shall make a good faith effort to meet with the Student. At this meeting, the Dean shall inform the Student of the information received and provide the Student an opportunity to present other information for the Dean’s consideration. Based upon the information available at that time, the Dean shall determine whether the Student’s continued presence on campus poses a danger to persons or property or constitutes an ongoing threat of disrupting the academic process. A Student suspended on an interim basis by the Dean shall be provided written reasons for the suspension and shall be entitled to an administrative conference or a hearing as soon as possible, normally within ten (10) calendar days from the date the interim suspension was imposed. The decision of the Dean regarding an interim suspension shall be final.
3. Following the imposition of interim restrictions or interim suspension, if any, the Dean shall promptly investigate the information received by meeting with individuals who may have knowledge of the matter, including the accused Student, and by reviewing all relevant documents.

If upon the conclusion of the Dean's investigation, the Dean determines that there is insufficient reason to believe the Student has committed a violation of any part of Section I.D. of this Policy, the Dean shall dismiss the matter and shall so inform the Student in writing.

4. If upon the conclusion of the Dean's investigation, the Dean determines that there is reason to believe the Student has committed a violation of any part of Section I. D. of this Code and, after considering both the possible violation and the prior conduct record of the Student, that a sanction of less than suspension or expulsion is appropriate, the Dean shall schedule an administrative conference with the Student. The Student shall be given reasonable notice of the time and place of the conference. At the administrative conference, the Student shall have the opportunity to present information for the Dean's consideration. At the conclusion of the administrative conference, the Dean shall determine whether it is more likely than not that the Student has violated the Policy and, if so, impose a sanction less than suspension or expulsion. The Dean shall provide the Student with a written explanation for the determination. The decision of the Dean shall be final.
5. If upon the conclusion of the Dean's investigation, the Dean determines that there is reason to believe the Student has committed a violation of any part of Section I.D. of this Code and, after considering both the violation and the prior conduct record of the Student, that a sanction of suspension or expulsion is appropriate, the Dean shall provide the Student with reasonable written notice of a meeting and shall inform the Student that his/her failure to attend the meeting or to respond to the notice may result in the imposition of the maximum permissible sanction. At the meeting, the Dean shall provide the Student with a written statement that shall include the following:
 - a. a concise statement of the alleged facts;
 - b. the provision(s) of Section I.D. that appear to have been violated;
 - c. the maximum permissible sanction; and
 - d. a statement that the student may resolve the matter by mutual agreement with the Dean, or may request a hearing by notifying the Dean in writing, which must be received by 5:00pm on the following business day.
6. If the Student requests a hearing, he/she is entitled to the following:
 - a. to be heard within five (5) days or as soon as reasonably possible, by an impartial party or panel whose members shall be appointed by the Dean;
 - b. if the Dean appoints an impartial panel, to have a Student on the panel if requested by the Student;
 - c. to appear in person and to have an advisor who not shall attend as a representative of the Student. However, if there is pending at the time of the hearing a criminal matter pertaining to the same incident that is the subject of the hearing, a lawyer may be present for the sole purpose of observing the proceedings and advising the Student concerning the effect of the proceedings on the pending criminal matter;
 - d. to hear and to question the information presented;
 - e. to present information, to present witnesses, and to make a statement on his or her behalf; and
 - f. to receive a written decision following the hearing.
7. As used herein, the term "impartial" shall mean that the individual was not a party to the incident under consideration and has no personal interest in the outcome of the proceedings. Prior to the

commencement of the hearing, the Student who is subject to the hearing may challenge the appointment of an impartial party or panel member on the ground that the person(s) is (are) not impartial. The challenge shall be made in writing to the Dean and shall contain the reasons for the assertion that the person(s) is (are) not impartial. The decision of the Dean shall be final.

8. The written decision of the impartial party or panel shall specify whether, based on the information presented, it is more likely than not that the Student committed the violation(s) reported and shall state the sanction to be imposed, if any. The written decision shall be provided to the Student.
9. Sanctions imposed by an impartial party or panel are effective immediately. The President may, for good cause, suspend imposition of the sanctions imposed by the impartial party or panel to allow the Student time to prepare a written request for review. If a written request is received, the President may continue to suspend imposition of the sanctions until he has reviewed and acted on the Student's request.
10. A written request for review of the decision of the impartial party or panel must be received by the President within three (3) calendar days after the Student is notified of the decision and must clearly identify the grounds for review. The review by the President is limited to the record of the hearing, the written request, and any supporting documentation submitted with the request by the Student. The decision of the impartial party or the panel shall be upheld unless the President finds that:
 - a. a violation of the procedures set forth herein significantly prejudiced the Student; and/or
 - b. the information presented to the impartial party or panel was not substantial enough to justify the decision; and/or,
 - c. the sanction(s) imposed was (were) disproportionate to the seriousness of the violation.
11. Decisions under this procedure shall be made only by the college officials indicated.

PART B: DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS

The prior conduct record of a Student shall be considered in determining the appropriate sanction for a Student who has been found to have violated any part of Section I.D. of this Code. Sanctions shall be progressive in nature; that is, more serious sanctions may be imposed if warranted by the prior conduct record of the Student.

A "sanction" may be any action affecting the status of an individual as a Student taken by the College in response to a violation of this Policy, and for the purposes of this Section III of the Code include but are not limited to the following:

1. "Expulsion" is a permanent separation from the College that involves denial of all Student privileges, including entrance to College premises;
2. "Suspension" is a temporary separation from the College that involves denial of all Student privileges, including entrance to college premises for the duration of the suspension, and may include conditions for reinstatement;

3. "Removal of College Privileges" involves restrictions on Student access to certain locations, functions and/or activities but does not preclude the Student from continuing to pursue his/her academic program;
4. "Probation" is a status that indicates either (a) serious misconduct not warranting expulsion, suspension, or removal of College privileges, or (b) repetition of misconduct after a warning has been imposed;
5. A "Warning" is a written notice to the Student indicating that he or she has engaged in conduct that is in violation of Section I.D. of this Code and that any repetition of such conduct or other conduct that violates this Code is likely to result in more serious sanctions;
6. "Community Restitution" requires a Student to perform a number of hours of service on the campus or in the community at large.

IV. CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES APPLICABLE TO CHARTER OAK STATE COLLEGE STUDENTS

Procedures for Charter Oak State College students differ from those procedures applicable to either the Community Colleges or the Universities. This is due to the environmental, cultural, and administrative differences within the types of the institutions comprising CSCU. Procedures for addressing allegations and sanctions regarding academic misconduct (as defined in Section I.D.1 above) for Charter Oak State College Students as set for in this Section IV of the Code.

PART A: RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF HEARING PARTICIPANTS

Hearing participants may include the accused student(s), a complainant, witnesses, support person(s), and the members of the hearing body.

The complaining party, any alleged victim, and the student who has been charged shall each have the right to:

1. Be notified of all charges.
2. Review any written complaint(s) submitted in support of the charge(s).
3. Be informed of the hearing process.
4. Request a delay of a hearing due to extenuating circumstances.
5. Be accompanied by an advisor or support person during the hearing.
6. Be present at all stages of the hearing process except during the private deliberations of the hearing body.
7. Submit a written statement regarding the incident.
8. Give a personal statement.
9. Question all statements and other information presented at the hearing.
10. Present information and witnesses when deemed appropriate and relevant by the hearing body.
11. Be informed of the finding(s) as well as any sanctions imposed.
12. Present a personal or community impact statement to the hearing body upon a finding of "Violation."

In addition to the above-mentioned rights, a student who has been charged with a violation of the Student Code of Conduct shall have the right to:

1. Be notified of the proposed information to be presented and to know the identity of witnesses who have been called to speak at the hearing when the Chair of the disciplinary hearing knows such information.
2. Request an alternate hearing panel member when there is reasonable cause to believe that the hearing panel will be unable to conduct an impartial hearing.
3. Be presumed not to be in "violation" of the code unless the facts presented at the hearing prove otherwise.
4. Deny or admit violating the Code of Conduct.
5. Decline to give a personal statement.
6. Present Character Witnesses, if appropriate.
7. Receive a written notice of the sanction(s) imposed.

PART B: DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

The Administration and the Faculty of Charter Oak State College believe that all members of the academic community are entitled to expect compliance with Section I.D.1 Prohibited Conduct. Accordingly, any Student or employee of the College may initiate a disciplinary process in the manner specified by this section. Once the process has been initiated, all subsequent decisions concerning possible discipline of a Student or students rest with the appropriate College officials. The President shall designate the Provost or another College official to have responsibility for the disciplinary procedures.

1. A statement of possible violation must be filed in writing with the Provost within thirty (30) business days of the date of the alleged violation or within thirty (30) business days of the date the alleged violation was known. Said statement must specify the Student conduct in question and the part or parts of Section I.D.1 Prohibited Conduct, which it is alleged said conduct violates, if applicable.
2. If the Provost determines that the alleged conduct may violate the provisions of the Code or otherwise threatens the safety or order of the College, the Provost shall, within ten (10) business days of receiving a written statement, provide written notice to the Student of the statement of possible violation(s) and the fact that the allegations will be investigated. The investigation shall be conducted by the Provost and/or his or her designee(s), and may include but not be limited to interviews with witnesses, the complainant(s), and review of any pertinent materials and information, and shall include an interview with the Student suspected in engaging in misconduct conduct unless the Student suspected declines to be interviewed. The investigation shall be completed within thirty (30) business days of the Provost's receipt of the written statement of possible violation. A record of the investigations will be maintained.
3. Following completion of the informal investigation specified above, the Provost will (a) determine that there is insufficient basis in fact and dismiss the matter or (b) conclude that there is a sufficient factual basis for discipline.
4. If the Provost determines there is a sufficient factual basis for moving forward with disciplinary proceedings, he or she shall cause a written statement of charges to be provided to the Student. Said statement shall contain (a) a concise statement of the facts on which the charge is based; (b) a citation of the rule or rules alleged to have been violated; (c) a statement of the maximum penalty sought; (d) a statement that the Student may request a hearing by responding in writing to the Provost within thirty (30) business days requesting such hearing; and (e) a statement that failure to request a hearing may result in imposition of the penalty sought.
5. If the Student requests a formal hearing, the Student is entitled to the following: (a) a hearing be conducted within thirty (30) business days after receipt by Provost of a written request for a hearing; (b) to be heard by an impartial panel chaired by the Dean of the Faculty or his/her designee and composed of no fewer than two members of the Charter Oak State College Faculty, one appointed by the Dean of the Faculty and one Student appointed by the Student Association; (c) to appear in person or through a conference call or other mutually agreed upon electronic means, or to have a representative attend on his/her behalf; (d) be accompanied by a support person during the hearing; (e) to hear and have a reasonable opportunity to question adverse witnesses and to present evidence and testimony in his/her behalf; and (f) to receive a written decision within ten (10) business days following the hearing specifying the panel's

findings and the penalty assessed, if any. The hearing shall be taped and a record shall be maintained of this hearing.

6. Hearing: A hearing shall be conducted following the guidelines specified below:

On-site:

- a. A hearing shall be conducted in private.
- b. Admission of any person into the hearing room shall be at the discretion of the chair of the hearing body. The chair, who is the Dean of the Faculty or his/her designee, shall have the authority to discharge or to remove any person whose presence is deemed unnecessary or obstructive to the proceeding.
- c. Except as directed by the chair, support persons shall limit their role in a hearing to that of a consultant to the accused, to the complainant or to the victim.
- d. The complainant and the accused are responsible for presenting their respective witnesses, any additional information, and any concluding statements regarding the charges and the information.
- e. In a manner deemed appropriate by the chair, the complainant and/or the accused may question the statements of any person who testifies.
- f. The hearing panel may question any witness presented by the accused and the complainant, including the complainant and the accused as well as any other witnesses the chair may choose to call.
- g. Pertinent records, exhibits, and written statements may be accepted as information for consideration by the Hearing Body at the discretion of the chair.
- h. All procedural questions are subject to the final decision of the chair or the Provost.
- i. After the hearing has concluded, the hearing panel, in private, will decide whether the Student charged with misconduct is in violation of the Student Code of Conduct. The Dean of the Faculty or his/her designee may participate in the discussion, but is a non-voting member. Only evidence introduced at the hearing shall be considered in the determination of the decision. Each decision shall be made on the basis of whether or not the information presented at the hearing substantiates the charges in a more likely than not manner.
- j. If the panel finds that the student violated the Student Conduct Code, the panel, in private, shall review the Student's academic transcript and disciplinary record, hear a character witness, if appropriate, and impose the appropriate sanction (s). The decision of the panel will be provided in writing to the Provost. The decision and sanction will be sent to the student in writing by the Provost.
- k. A taped record of the hearing will be maintained. The record shall be the property of the College.

Via the Phone:

- a. For the accused or complainant who cannot attend in person, Charter Oak State College will set up a conference call.
- b. Twenty-one (21) business days before the hearing, the Provost must receive all materials to be presented by the accused and by the complainant, including the names and relationships of the character witnesses and support persons. The Provost will send copies of the materials to the hearing panel, the accused, and

the complainant at least seven (7) business days before the hearing. The Provost will arrange for the conference call.

- c. The procedures outlined in the "on- site" section will be followed, unless they specifically apply only to the on-site hearing.
- d. Within ten (10) business days of the conclusion of the formal hearing, a Student may appeal the decision, in writing, to the President. An appeal shall be limited to a consideration of the verbatim record of the hearing and supporting documents for one or more of the following: a.) the process set forth in the guidelines was not followed and resulted in prejudice to the Student; b.) the evidence presented was insufficient to justify the decision; and c.) sanction(s) imposed was/were disproportionate to the gravity of the offense. The President may accept the decision of the hearing panel, overturn their decision, return the matter to the original hearing panel, or appoint a new hearing panel. The decision of the original hearing panel or the new hearing panel or the President will be sent to the Student in writing by the President and will be final.
- e. During any appeal period, any sanctions will remain in place and the Student will not be allowed to participate in a graduation ceremony nor graduate until the review process has been completed and a final decision rendered.

PART C: INTERIM ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION

The President or his/her designee may impose an interim "College Suspension" and/or other necessary restrictions on a Student prior to a hearing on the Student's alleged violation. Such action may be taken when, in the professional judgment of the President or his/her designee, a threat of imminent harm to persons or property exists.

Interim Administrative Action is not a sanction. Rather, it is an action to protect the safety and well-being of an accused Student, or other members of the College community, or greater community or to protect property. Such action is in effect only until a hearing is completed.

PART D: DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS

Disciplinary penalty shall mean any action affecting the status of an individual as a Student taken by the College in response to a Student's misconduct in violation of Section I.D.1 Prohibited Conduct above, which penalties shall include but not be limited to:

1. Warning - A written notice that the Student has violated College Policy and a warning that another violation will likely result in a more severe sanction.
2. Restitution - Compensation for loss of or damage to property.
3. Academic Sanctions
4. Suspension - Suspension is a temporary disciplinary separation from the College involving denial of all Student privileges, including entrance to College premises. A notation of "suspension" will be placed in the Student database but will not be placed on the Student transcript. Charter Oak State College will not accept credits earned at another institution or through any other means during a period of suspension. Suspensions shall range from one semester to two years.
5. Students who are suspended will receive no refund of tuition or fees.
6. A Student who has been suspended must apply for re-matriculation if he/she plans to return.
7. Expulsion - Expulsion is mandatory separation from the College involving denial of all Student privileges, including entrance to college premises for a minimum of 5 years.

After the length of the term for expulsion has expired, the Student may request in writing directed to the Provost permission to re-matriculate. That permission must indicate why Charter Oak State College should allow the Student to return.

8. Charter Oak State College will not accept credits earned at another institution or through any other means during a period of expulsion. A permanent notation of "Dismissed" shall be placed on the Student's transcript.

Failure to comply with requirements of Restitution or Academic Sanctions above will result in dismissal from the institution. The Student must complete the requirements of the sanction before he/she would be allowed to apply for readmission and/or graduate.

**WRITTEN
NOTIFICATION
ON**

Section 46a-68-78: POLICY STATEMENT

Our strong commitment to Affirmative Action is explicitly stated in the document titled the Affirmative Action Policy Statement of the CT State Community College Shoreline West Region, signed by President Thomas G. Coley, Ph.D.

Also attached is the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities (CSCU)'s Affirmative Action/Equal Employment Opportunity Policy Statement adopted by the Board of Regents for Higher Education. Since the merging of Connecticut State University and Community College systems, the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities (CSCU) has a Policy Statement that provides a system-wide framework of affirmative action/equal employment opportunity that was approved by the Board of Regents. The CSCU System Office's Policy Statement was signed by the CSCU President Terence Cheng on November 15, 2021.

Affirmative Action Policy Statement: CSCC Shoreline-West Region

As the appointing authority for the CSCC Shoreline-West Region, I am fully committed to the achievement of the affirmative action goals and timetables set forth in this Affirmative Action Plan and urge all parts of the college community to assist us in achieving our goals. As a Region, we acknowledge that affirmative action is an immediate and necessary college objective.

The goal of affirmative action is equal opportunity. It is the need and purpose of affirmative action to overcome the present effects of past practices or policies that may have created barriers to equal employment opportunity for all current and future employees. A policy of nondiscrimination was consistently applied without regard for age, ancestry, color, national origin, gender identity or expression, genetic information, learning disability, marital status, intellectual disability, physical disability (including but not limited to blindness), present or past history of mental disability, prior criminal record, race, religious creed, sex (including pregnancy and sexual harassment), sexual orientation, retaliation for previously opposed discrimination or coercion, veteran status, members of the CT Civil Air Patrol, and workplace hazards to reproductive systems. Unless the provisions of Section 46a-80(b) or 46a-81(b) of the Connecticut General Statutes are controlling or there are bona fide occupational qualifications excluding persons in one of the above protected groups.

We are fully committed to the principles and practices of affirmative action and equal opportunity in employment and provide our services in a fair and impartial manner. We continually examine the practices and promotion of employees with the express purpose of achieving our goal of a full representative workforce. The Region recognizes the hiring difficulties experienced by individuals with disabilities and by many older persons and will set program goals to address any problem areas identified.

Considering the dual role of affirmative action to provide an environment for the application of equal opportunity principles and to monitor the employment process to prevent instances of illegal discrimination from arising or existing, the following procedures are operative within the Region:

1. Every effort is made to recruit and hire protected group members reflective of their availability in the job market. An employment process is in place at the CSCC, which addresses the role affirmative action plays at each stage. A summary of Hiring Goals and Program Goals is included in the plan shall be posted with the College's Affirmative Action Policy Statement on all official bulletin boards.
2. Opportunities are made available to all employees for training, development, and advancement consistent with individual ability and performance.
3. Principles of equal opportunity and affirmative action will undergird decisions on promotions as a result of the institution strictly imposing only those requirements valid to the process.
4. Personnel decisions regarding transfer, reassignment, separation, and termination encompasses the principles of equal opportunity and affirmative action to assure that members of any protected class will not be adversely impacted.

5. All educational programs and student support services are administered in a manner which do not adversely impact students because of age, ancestry, color, national origin, gender identity or expression (including transsexualism), genetic information, learning disability, marital status, intellectual disability, physical disability (including but not limited to blindness), present or past history of mental disability, prior criminal record, race, religious creed, sex (including pregnancy and sexual harassment), sexual orientation, retaliation for previously opposed discrimination or coercion, veteran status, and workplace hazards to reproductive systems, or any other protected group recognized by local, state or federal laws and regulations.

Kimberly Carolina, Manager of Equal Employment Opportunity, serves as the CSCC Shoreline- West Region's Equal Employment Opportunity Officer. Her office is located at Gateway Community College, 20 Church St, New Haven, CT 06510 in the Human Resources Suite N324/ room N324C. I have delegated to her the lead responsibility for all matters within the CSCC Shoreline-West Region related to affirmative action and equal employment opportunity. The CSCU System Office has an internal discrimination complaint process for employees who believe that they have been discriminated against. For further information regarding this process, please contact Ms. Carolina at 860-723-0642 or KCarolina@commnet.edu or via MS TEAMS.

The Affirmative Action Policy Statement will be posted throughout the four campuses within the Region and distributed to all employees in accordance with statutory mandates.



1/28/2022

Thomas G. Coley, Ph.D.
Regional President
CSCC Shoreline-West Region

Date

Continuing Notice of Non- Discrimination

Norwalk Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religious creed, age, sex, national origin, marital status, ancestry, present or past history of mental disorder, learning disability or physical disability, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression or genetic information in its programs and activities. In addition, the College does not discriminate in employment on the basis of veteran status or criminal record.

The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

Norwalk Community College no discrimina ninguna raza, color, religión, edad, sexo, nacionalidad, estado civil, ascendencia, antecedentes de trastornos mentales, problemas de aprendizaje o discapacidad física, orientación sexual, Identidad y expresión de género o información general en sus programas y actividades. Además, Norwalk Community College no discrimina por condición de veteranos o antecedentes penales.

Si tiene alguna consulta o inquietud acerca de las políticas de no discriminación, contacte las siguientes personas:

Cheryl Devonish

Chief Executive Officer

203.857.7016

CDevonish@norwalk.edu

Fran Apfel

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Coordinator

203.857.7192

fapfel@norwalk.edu

**SEXUAL
VIOLENCE
STATISTICS
AND DATA**

EXPLANATION OF REPORTABLE SEXUAL VIOLENCE STATISTICS AND DATA

During the reporting period, NCC received (0) reports of sexual harassment and or violence.

**PUBLIC AWARENESS,
PREVENTION, AND RISK
REDUCTION
INFORMATION**

Connecticut State Colleges and Universities

Title IX Related Training Provided by Norwalk Community College / **Dean of Students Office**

January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021

Domestic Violence (DoV), Dating Violence (DaV), Sexual Assault (SA), Stalking (S) **Primary= new employees/students ***Ongoing= throughout the year

DEPARTMENT	DATE	NAME OF PROGRAM	Location	PRESENTER	AUDIENCE	NUMBER IN AUDIENCE	TITLE IX RELATED	WHICH PROHIBITED BEHAVIOR WAS COVERED?*	PRIMARY ONGOING?***	STUDENTS OR EMPLOYEES	LEARNING OBJECTIVES	DOCUMENTS
Counseling	22-Feb	Rowan roundTable	WebEx	The Rowan Center	Students	3		healthy / unhealthy relationships	primary	STUDENTS	open forum to talk about navigating unhealthy relationship issues, how to communicate boundaries with loved ones	
Counseling	Mar 1, 8, 29, 26, 2021	Meditation Mondays	WebEx	NCC Counseling Services	Students	4			primary	STUDENTS	Teach basic meditation techniques in an open friendly environment. Learn about the benefits of meditation and how to use your breath to bring your attention to the present	
Counseling	4-May-21	Courage to speak Drug Prevention Presentation	WebEx	Courage to speak foundation	students and staff	68		Drug use and stress	primary	STUDENTS OR EMPLOYEES	understanding signs of drug use, effective communication, prevention an dtervention, helping cope with stress, Marijuana's influence on opiod abuse	
Counseling	Sep 8, 9, 13, 16, 21, 24, 2021	National Suicide Prevention Month	Zoom	Behavioral Health Action Organization of south west CT		14		signs of suicide	primary	STUDENTS OR EMPLOYEES	understanding signs of suicide and how to prevent it	
Counseling	14-Oct-21	Fresh Check Day	NCC West Campus Cafeteria	NCC staff, community vendors	students and staff	110		Mental Health	ongoing	STUDENTS OR EMPLOYEES	How to deal and maintain mental health through various activities	
Counseling	13-Dec-21	Come Meet Remi the pet therapy dog		Wendy Mendes	students and staff	60		stress relief	ongoing	STUDENTS OR EMPLOYEES	how therapy dogs help people combat and handle stress alongside pass trauma	



The Rowan Center

A Sexual Assault Resource Agency

Empower. Educate. Eliminate.

ROWAN ROUNDTABLE

Looking for an open forum/safe space to talk about navigating healthy/unhealthy relationships? Rowan Roundtable is for anyone interested in talking about relationship issues, how to communicate boundaries with loved ones, etc.



February 22, March 22, April 19th and May 3 from 6-7 PM
(You are welcome to attend 1 or all of these sessions)



NORWALK COMMUNITY COLLEGE
COUNSELING SERVICES PRESENTS
MEDITATION MONDAYS

**JOIN US TO LEARN BASIC MEDITATION TECHNIQUES IN AN
OPEN AND FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT. LEARN ABOUT THE
BENEFITS OF MEDITATION AND HOW TO USE YOUR BREATH
TO BRING YOUR ATTENTION TO THE PRESENT MOMENT.**

*This 45-minute weekly drop-in meditation group
meets 7PM on Cisco Webex*

MARCH 1ST
MARCH 8TH
MARCH 29TH
APRIL 26TH
MAY 3RD

Meeting link:

<https://ctedu.webex.com/ctedu/j.php?>

MTID=m1bb67807a21c9e695ed6f41b0aa659f5

Meeting number:120 970 9630

Password:Breathing123

Questions? Contact Rachel Hara: rhara@ncc.commnet.edu

Courage to Speak® Drug Prevention Presentation



A Workshop for College Students and Staff

Covering Topics Such As:

- Understanding Signs of Drug Use
- Effective Communication Strategies
- Prevention and Intervention Strategies



Part 1 Featuring the Courage to Speak® Presentation presented by Ginger Katz, CEO, Founder of The Courage to Speak Foundation shares

- a mother story about her son's losing battle with drugs
- Understanding Signs of Drug Use
- Helping Cope Effectively with Stress and Emotions
- Marijuana's influence on Opioid Abuse and much more!

Part 2 Facilitated by Carlos Reinoso Jr MSMOL, BHCC trained in substance use disorder and addiction presenting the "Navigating through the opioid crisis and beyond" part 2 of the presentation.



Norwalk Community College



Date: Tuesday, May 4th, 2021
Time: 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

WebEx Information:

Meeting number: 120 027 8258

Password: Courage123

Link:

<https://ctedu.webex.com/ctedu/j.php?MTID=m0e792fdd916d52768b63129472dd32c5>

For more information, Please contact Wendy Mendes @ Wmendes@norwalk.edu



www.couragetospeak.org

**Come Meet Remi the Pet
Therapy Dog, in East Cafe,
on
12/13/2021
from 11:30am-1:30pm**

For more information Contact
Wendy Mendes @
Wmendes@norwalk.edu



STRESS LESS FOR FINALEXAMWEEK

DECEMBER 8TH: COPING SKILLS BINGO

Prizes VISA Gift cards: 1st Place is \$150, 2nd Place is \$100, 3rd Place is \$50

2:30pm-3:30pm and 3:30pm-4:30pm

East Campus Room 213



SAVE THE DATE FRESH CHECK DAY 10/14/2021 11AM-2:30PM

JOIN US FOR NORWALK COMMUNITY COLLEGE'S
FRESH CHECK DAY, A FUN EVENT WITH VIRTUAL
BOOTH, AND AWESOME PRIZES!

#FRESHCHECKDAYNORWALK

**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING
PLEASE CONTACT
WENDY MENDES AT WMENDES@NORWALK.EDU**



CONNECTICUT
HEALTHY
CAMPUS
INITIATIVE



STRESS LESS FOR FINAL EXAM WEEK

DECEMBER 13TH: KICK OFF DAY TWO EVENTS

EVENT 1 : Yoga Stretch with Ally (yoga mats will be provided)

Three session: (11:00am-11:30am) (12:30pm-1:00pm) (2:00pm- 2:30pm)

East campus Art Gallery

EVENT 2 : HALT and Check in with yourself and Get some Snacks from the pop-up Pantry

11:00am-2:00pm

East Campus Café

**OTHER
SUPPLEMENTAL
INFORMATION**

[Home](#) / Counseling Services

Counseling Services

Support on Campus

Life can be overwhelming. We're here to help.

The NCC counseling staff works with you to offer support & direction with your educational, personal and professional goals. Here at NCC we have two counselors available on campus Wendy Mendes LPC and Andrea Arnold LCSW.

Wendy Mendes is our Full-time Holistic Counselor at NCC, Holistic counseling is an approach which helps students to heal by taking the entire human being and their life experiences into consideration for assessment and treatment purposes.

Andrea is our partner from Family and Children's Agency. In collaboration with Norwalk Community College, FCA is providing us with part-time short-term counselor for NCC students who are experiencing challenges in their lives.

Whether you are an incoming freshman or a returning student, you may find some of these services helpful to you during your time at NCC.

There are many opportunities for emotional growth here, because not everyone makes it through college without experiencing some challenges along the way.

**BOOK
APPOINTMENT
ONLINE**

Contact Us

[nk-
counselingservices@n
orwalk.edu](mailto:nk-counselingservices@norwalk.edu)
[203.857.6870](tel:203.857.6870)

Mon + Tues
9:00am 5:00pm

Wed + Thur
9:00am 5:30pm

Friday
9:00am 2:00pm

Internal

Resources

For emergency please call 911. For after hours please contact the community mental health resources call 211.

Confidentiality

All of our counseling sessions are provided in a supportive, caring, and confidential manner.

You will work to establish short-term objectives as well as long-term goals with your counselor. Your commitment to the counseling process is key.

Each counselor believes that our role is to empower students to resolve their present problems and issues with our support and guidance.

- The counselor is legally and ethically bound to disclose confidential information in order to prevent clear and imminent danger to the client or to others.
- When clients disclose that they have a disease commonly known to be both communicable and life threatening, counselors may be justified in disclosing information to identifiable third parties, if the parties are known to be at serious and foreseeable risk of contracting the disease. Prior to making a disclosure, counselors assess the intent of clients to inform the third parties about their disease or to engage in any behaviors that may be harmful to an identifiable third party. Counselors adhere to relevant state laws concerning disclosure about disease status.
- When a court orders confidential information to be disclosed without the signed consent of the client, the counselor must follow legal and ethical guidelines outlined by their respective licensing bodies.
- Counselors are ethically permitted to discuss a client case in supervision or treatment teams.
- With group counseling there is less control over confidentiality than in traditional individual counseling relationships. While there is great therapeutic opportunity within group work, one must consider the risks pertaining to confidentiality.

Firs Step is Up to You

- Appointments may be made by calling Counseling Services at 203-857-

- [Academic Counseling Center](#)
- [Student AccessAbility Services](#)
- [Student of Concern](#)
- [Title IX](#)
- [Behavioral Intervention Team \(BIT\)](#)

External Resources Treatment Options

POSITIVE DIRECTIONS

www.positivedirections.org

(203) 227-7644

CT COUNSELING

CENTERS, INC.

www.ctcounseling.org

(203) 838-6508

CT RENAISSANCE

www.ctrenaissance.com

(203) 866-2541

FAMILY CENTERS INC.

www.familycenters.org

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6870 or by coming in-person to the Counseling Office located on the East campus in room E-322 or using the Yellow Booking button above.

- Appointments will be scheduled as soon after the initial request as possible, depending on the urgency of the situation and staff availability.
- In most cases, we can offer appointments within a week of the initial request, although it may be longer during periods of high demand (midterms to finals).

What the frs session will look like

Your first appointment is called a “screening”. You will fill out some intake forms and then briefly meet with a counselor to discuss your needs. At this time, the screening counselor will determine the most appropriate level of care for you. Levels of care could involve varying length or frequency of appointments and/or different delivery modalities (individual, group, etc.). Also, your screening counselor may determine that you need more intensive care and/or long-term care than the Counselor can provide. At that point, you will be given a list of local, outside referrals.

TimelyMD @ NCC

In response to the unprecedented challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Connecticut State Community Colleges has partnered with TimelyMD to make mental telehealth counseling free and available to all students, Timely will help supplement our current on campus Mental Health services.

Go to www.timelycare.com/ctstate to create an account with your .edu email address or Students can sign-up/register an account by downloading the TimelyCare mobile app and can begin seeing providers.

TimelyMD will provide four key services to our community: Free services available to students 24/7 from anywhere in the U.S.

- Medical: scheduled and on-demand support for common health issues

(203) 655-0547

LIBERATION ROGRAMS

www.liberationprogrms.org

(203) 851-2077

[NORWALK HOSPITAL](#)

(203) 852-2000 ST.

ST. VINCENT'S

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

www.stvincents.org/medical-services/behavioral-health

(203) 227-1251

SILVER HILL HOSPITAL

www.silverhillhospital.org

(203) 966-3561

FAMILY AND

CHILDREN'S

AGENCY

www.familyandchildrensagency.org

(203) 523-5700

(cold, flu, etc.)

- Health Coaching: work on improving healthy lifestyle behaviors (body

Prevention/Men

image, meal planning, sleep issues, etc.)

- TalkNow: 24/7, on-demand mental health support to talk about anything
- Scheduled Counseling: choose a time and date to meet with a licensed

counselor



[Free Mental Health Screening Available](#)

tal Health Supports

THE HUB:

Behavioral Health
Action Organization
for Southwestern CT
(203) 840-1187
DEPARTMENT OF

Student of Concern

The [Student of Concern Form](#) is used to report students who are exhibiting issues or behavior causing some concern. This includes Emotional/ Behavioral Concerns, Academic Concerns, personal needs such as food/clothing/transportation/housing , as well as Reports of Sexual Assault, Stalking or Intimate Partner Violence.

All reports are taken seriously, therefore it is essential to provide as much information as possible. Your name will remain confidential, however, the appropriate party may need to contact you for additional information.

Veteran Crisis Line

The Veterans Crisis Line connects Veterans in crisis and their families and friends with qualified, caring Department of Veterans Affairs responders through a confidential toll-free hotline, online chat, or text. Veterans and their loved ones can

- Call 1.800.273.8255 + Press 1
- Text 838255

Receive confidential support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Support for deaf and hard of hearing individuals is available.

MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION SERVICES

CONNECTICUT
PREVENTION NETWORK
www.ctprevention.org

GOVERNOR'S

PREVENTION PARTNERSHIP
www.preventionwork.sct.org

CONNECTICUT

ASSOCIATION OF PREVENTION PRACTITIONERS
www.cappct.org

CONNECTICUT

CLEARINGHOUSE

www.ctclearinghouse.org
Triangle Community Center

Reasons to Seek Help

- Personal growth
- Low self-esteem

Counselors also offer help for

- Substance/Alcohol abuse concerns

Resources and Mental Health Information

- [American](#)

- | | | |
|------------------------------------|---|--|
| □ Time management | □ Family issues | Association |
| □ Social & relationship concerns | □ Problematic eating patterns | □ <u>American Psychological Association</u> |
| □ Anxiety, grief & loss | □ Gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgender issues | □ <u>Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance</u> |
| □ Feelings of depression | □ Parenting | □ <u>International Foundation for Research and Education on Depression</u> |
| □ Military & combat-related stress | □ Sexual assault/rape | □ <u>Mental Health Research Association</u> |
| □ Suicidality | | □ <u>National Alliance on Mental Illness</u> |
| □ Academic challenges | | □ <u>National Institute of Mental Health</u> |
| | | □ <u>National Mental Health Association</u> |
| | | □ <u>National Self-Help Clearinghouse</u> |
| | | □ <u>Screening For Mental Health, Inc.</u> |

(203) 853-0600

<http://www.ctpridecenter.org/>

TURNING POINT CT

www.turningpointct.org

SMART RECOVERY

Help In Crisis Situations

CT Mobile

Psychiatric Crisis

Adult- Available

8am- 4:30pm

800-586-9903

Youth under age 18-

Available 24/7

Call 211, press 1

National Suicide

Prevention

Lifeline 800-273-

TALK (8255)

Crisis Text Line

Send text to 741741

Kids in Crisis

203-327-KIDS

Center for

Sexual Assault

Hotline 888-999-

5545

Domestic Violence

Crisis Center

hotline 888-774-2900

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Student Conduct Institute
Informal Resolution Procedure
August 14, 2020

What is the purpose of this Procedure?

On May 19, 2020, the U.S. Department of Education issued a Final Rule governing the Title IX grievance process, effective August 14, 2020. The Final Rule requires that all colleges and universities hold a live hearing before making any determination regarding responsibility for covered reports of Title IX sexual harassment, including sexual violence. This hearing must provide for live cross-examination by the parties' advisors.

However, under § 106.45(b)(9) of the Final Rule, colleges and universities may offer and facilitate informal resolution processes, as long as each party voluntarily agrees to the process through an informed, written consent. This option is a change from long-standing Departmental guidance discouraging the use of informal procedures to address sexual harassment and prohibiting the use of mediation to address sexual assault. In the Preamble to the Final Rule, the Department states that it views informal resolutions as a way to resolve sexual harassment allegations in a less adversarial manner than the investigation and adjudication procedures that comprise the § 106.45 grievance process.

No college or university is required to adopt an informal procedure for addressing Title IX-covered sexual assault, nor is there any obligation to create or put in place such a policy by the August 14, 2020 implementation date. Institutions should use caution in pursuing an informal resolution process to ensure that facilitators have significant training in the chosen methodology.

This Procedure, in turn, provides guidance regarding the contents of a Title IX-compliant process and the types of informal resolution procedures you may consider adopting.

Elements of an Informal Resolution Process

Procedures for Entering and Exiting Informal Resolution Process

Parties who do not wish to proceed with an investigation and live hearing, and instead seek Norwalk Community College's (NCC) assistance to resolve allegations of Title IX-covered misconduct, may elect to enter the informal resolution process. Generally speaking, these resolution options are less time intensive than an investigation and live hearing, while still

affording students an opportunity to actively participate in a process led by NCC for resolution of their complaints.

The Parties may elect to enter NCC's informal resolution process at any time after the filing of the Formal Complaint through an informed written consent. This informed written consent will include all terms of the elected informal process, including a statement that any agreement reached through the process is binding on the Parties.

No Party may be required to participate in informal resolution, and NCC may never condition enrollment, employment, or enjoyment of any other right or privilege upon agreeing to informal resolution.

The Parties may elect to leave the informal resolution process at any point until the informal resolution process is concluded. If a Party elects to leave the informal resolution process, the formal resolution process recommences. In participating in the informal resolution process, the Parties understand that the timeframes governing the formal process temporarily cease, and only recommence upon reentry into the formal process.

Determination to Approve Entry into Informal Resolution Process

Even where the Parties agree to submit a matter to informal resolution, the Title IX Coordinator or other designated official may approve the decision to move the matter to the informal resolution process and may determine that informal resolution is not appropriate under the circumstances.

Factors that the Title IX Coordinator or other designated official may weigh in considering the appropriateness of the informal resolution process include, but are not limited to, the gravity of the allegations, whether there is an ongoing threat of harm or safety to the campus, whether the respondent is a repeat offender, and whether the Parties are participating in good faith. This determination is not subject to appeal.

Informal resolution processes may never be applied where the allegations include sexual violence.

Informal resolution is only permitted to address allegations of student-on-student sexual harassment, and is never allowed as an option to resolve allegations that an employee sexually harassed a student.

At any time after the commencement of the informal resolution process, the Title IX Coordinator or other designated official may determine that the informal resolution process is not an appropriate method for resolving the matter, and may require that the matter be resolved through the formal process. This determination is not subject to appeal.

Role of the Facilitator

Informal resolution processes are managed by facilitators, who may not have a conflict of interest or bias in favor of or against complainants or respondents generally or regarding the specific Parties in the matter. The Title IX Coordinator may serve as the facilitator, subject to these restrictions.

All facilitators must have training in the definition of sexual harassment under 34 C.F.R. § 106.30(a), the scope of the institution's education program or activity, how to conduct informal resolution processes, and how to serve impartially, including by avoiding prejudgment of the facts at issue, conflicts of interest, or bias.

Confidentiality

In entering the informal resolution process, the Parties agree that any testimony and evidence (including admissions of responsibility) they share or receive during the informal resolution process concerning the allegations of the Formal Complaint is confidential while the parties are participating in the informal resolution process. No evidence concerning the allegations obtained within the informal resolution process may be disseminated to any person, provided that any Party to the informal resolution process may generally discuss the allegations under investigation with a parent, friend, advisor, or other source of emotional support, or with an advocacy organization. Should the Parties withdraw from the informal resolution process, information disclosed or obtained for purposes of the informal resolution process may be incorporated into the formal investigation and live hearing, provided that this information is disclosed and reviewed by the Parties under the investigatory and hearing procedures described in the Title IX Grievance Process.

Informal Resolution Options

NCC offers the following informal resolution procedure for addressing Formal Complaints of sexual harassment covered under this Procedure:

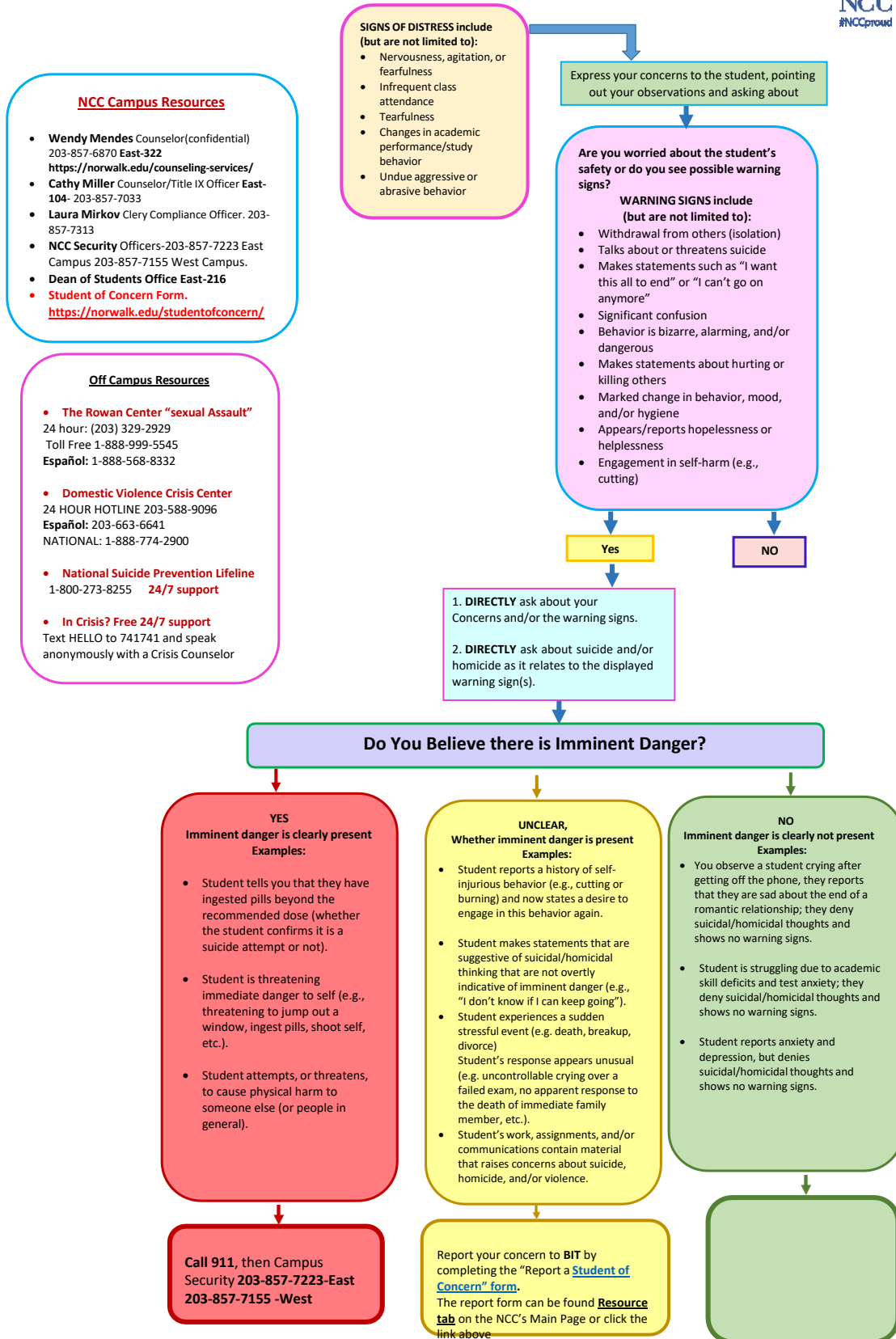
Administrative Resolution

Should the Parties mutually determine to enter the informal resolution process, and the respondent elects to accept responsibility for the allegations of the Formal Complaint at any point during the informal resolution process, the institution may administratively resolve the Formal Complaint.

Where the respondent admits responsibility, the Parties will receive simultaneous written notification of the acceptance of responsibility, and {a decision-maker(s)} will convene to

determine the respondent's sanction and other remedies, as appropriate and consistent with institutional policy. The Parties will be given an opportunity to be heard at the sanctions hearing, including but not limited to the submission of impact statements, and the Parties may be accompanied by their Advisor, but questioning of Parties or witnesses will not be permitted. The Parties will receive simultaneous written notification of the decision regarding sanctions and remedies, which may be appealed according to the process described within the Title IX Grievance Procedures.

Decision Making Guide for Assisting Distressed Students



NCC Campus Resources

- Wendy Mendes Counselor (confidential)
203-857-6870 East-322
<https://norwalk.edu/counseling-services/>
- Cathy Miller Counselor/Title IX Officer East-104- 203-857-7033
- Laura Mirkov Clery Compliance Officer. 203-857-7313
- NCC Security Officers-203-857-7223 East Campus 203-857-7155 West Campus.
- Dean of Students Office East-216
- Student of Concern Form.
<https://norwalk.edu/studentofconcern/>

Off Campus Resources

- The Rowan Center "sexual Assault"**
24 hour: (203) 329-2929
Toll Free 1-888-999-5545
Español: 1-888-568-8332
- Domestic Violence Crisis Center**
24 HOUR HOTLINE 203-588-9096
Español: 203-663-6641
NATIONAL: 1-888-774-2900
- National Suicide Prevention Lifeline**
1-800-273-8255 **24/7 support**
- In Crisis? Free 24/7 support**
Text HELLO to 741741 and speak anonymously with a Crisis Counselor



Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 is a federal law that prohibits sex discrimination by any educational institution or program.

Plainly stated “No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance...” — 20 U.S.C. § 1681

The protections provided under Title IX, extends to programs and activities such as admission to academic programs, financial aid, course offering, and employment decisions. The Office of Civil Rights of the US Department of Education is responsible for enforcing Title IX.

To view the current representative(s) responsible for ensuring that NCC is in compliance with Title IX, [click here](#). Compliance includes publishing a [Notice of non discrimination](#), and having procedures in place to report and investigate sex based harassment and/or violence.

NCC is committed to maintaining an environment free from unlawful harassment and discrimination. Accordingly, all NCC employees (except: NCC's Mental Health Counselor) are mandated reporters. All reports or disclosures of conduct that may constitute sexual misconduct, including allegations of sexual assault, sexual harassment sexual violence, domestic/dating violence and stalking, should be directed to the attention of the current [Title IX Coordinator\(s\)](#).

Our [NCC Security Protocol Plan](#) provides an overview of existing college safety and security policies and programs.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is Title IX?

Title IX applies to all educational institutions, both public and private, that receive federal funds, and applies to every single aspect of education, including course offerings, counseling and counseling materials, financial assistance, student health and insurance benefits and/or other services, housing, marital and parental status of students, physical education and athletics, education programs and activities, and employment.

Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 is a federal law that states: "No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance."

What is the purpose of Title IX as it relates to sexual misconduct?

Under Title IX, federally funded educational programs and institutions are required to respond to reports of sexual harassment, sexual assault, rape, gender-based stalking, intimate partner violence, retaliation, and bullying/hazing.

What are some examples of sexual misconduct and harassment?

Inappropriate behavior may include:

- Sexual jokes, innuendoes, gestures
- Unwanted flirtation, advances, or propositions
- Pressure for sex
- Leering
- Display of sexually suggestive objects/visuals
- Display/transmission of sexually suggestive electronic content
- Any unnecessary, unwanted physical contact
- Sexual assault (if this occurs, contact Campus Security or Norwalk Police at 911 immediately and maintain evidence)

What should I do if I feel I have been sexually harassed?

You may contact our [Title IX Coordinator\(s\)](#) or submit a [Title IX Complaint](#).

Are all employees at NCC required to report incidents of sexual misconduct to the Title IX office?

Title IX requires most employees to report, but not all. Some employees have legally-recognized confidentiality protections and will not share information without the consent of the victim/survivor. The on-campus confidential resource includes NCC's Campus Mental Health Counselor. Students can also access community resources for confidential assistance (including The Center for Sexual Assault Crisis Counseling and Education).

Faculty, staff, and others who are concerned about a student's behavior are encouraged to report the concern through the online [student of concern form](#). This includes emotional/behavioral concerns, disruptive behaviors, threatening words or actions, academic concerns, personal needs, as well as reports of sexual assault, stalking, and intimate partner violence. All reports are taken seriously, therefore, it is essential to provide as much information as possible. Your name will remain confidential, however, the appropriate party may need to contact you for additional information.

What about retaliation?

Retaliation against anyone for filing a complaint in good faith is prohibited. Any acts of reprisal, intimidation, discrimination or harassment for coming forward with a complaint could be considered retaliation. If you believe that you have been subjected to retaliation as a result of a Title IX complaint, report your concerns to our [Title IX Coordinator\(s\)](#).

Can a complaint be kept confidential?

As a public institution, NCC cannot promise complete confidentiality. Each situation is resolved as discreetly as possible, maintaining confidentiality to the extent allowed under state and federal laws. Complaints about faculty and staff may be subject to public records requests. In addition, there may be situations that mandate reporting, such as child or elder abuse.

Coordinators

CSCU Title IX Coordinator

Mr. Angelo Simoni

[860-723-0165](tel:860-723-0165)

Simonia@ct.edu

- [Title IX Resolution Procedure](#)
- [Additional CSCU Policies](#)



Online BIT Report

* indicates a required field

"If you see or hear something, say something..."

If this is an emergency that requires medical, psychological, or police services, call 911. Do not use this reporting form if an immediate response is required.

If a member of the College community observes any behavior that may involve threats to the safety and security of the College community, individuals may report the behavior by using the online reporting form below. You have the option to fill in your contact information or submit the report anonymously. Once a report is submitted it will be reviewed by the College Behavioral Intervention Team (BIT) for appropriate action.

If this report involves Title IX, sexual misconduct, interpersonal/domestic violence, or stalking, please click [here to submit the concern](#)

If you are a current faculty member and wish to submit an academic alert for one of the students in your class, please follow the link to access your class roster and submit a faculty alert, [click here](#)

"NOTE: The College cannot guarantee every report will remain confidential. Federal and state law determines confidentiality.

We thank you in advance for taking the time to fill out this report to ensure the safety of our campus community

Your Name *

Please provide your full name.

Your Email *

Please provide your email address so that we can contact you if we have follow up questions about this report.

Your Phone *

Please provide your phone number so that we can contact you if we have follow up questions about this report.



Substitute Senate Bill No. 954

Public Act No. 21-184

**AN ACT REQUIRING THE REPORTING OF ACCIDENTS THAT RESULTED IN
SERIOUS PHYSICAL INJURIES OR DEATH AT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER
EDUCATION.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. Subsections (a) and (b) of section 10a-55a of the general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) [On or before October 1, 1991, and annually thereafter, each] Each institution of higher education shall annually prepare [in such manner as the president of the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities shall prescribe] a uniform campus crime and safety incident report concerning crimes committed and accidents occurring in the immediately preceding calendar year within the geographical limits of the property owned or under the control of such institution. [Such] The portions of such report concerning criminal offenses shall be in accordance with the uniform crime reporting system pursuant to section 29-1c, provided such report is limited to those offenses included in part I of the most recently published edition of the Uniform Crime Reports for the United States as authorized by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the United States Department of Justice, sexual assault under section 53a-70b of the general statutes, revision of 1958, revised

Substitute Senate Bill No. 954

to January 1, 2019, or sections 53a-70, 53a-70a, 53a-71, 53a-72a, 53a-72b and 53a-73a, stalking under sections 53a-181c, 53a-181d and 53a-181e and family violence as designated under section 46b-38h. The state police, local police departments and special police forces established pursuant to section 10a-156b shall cooperate with institutions of higher education in preparing such reports. Institutions with more than one campus shall prepare such reports for each campus.

(b) Each annual report prepared pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall include (1) the number of full-time equivalent students, (2) the number of full-time equivalent employees, (3) the number of students and employees residing in campus housing, [and] (4) for any accident that occurred during the immediately preceding calendar year within the geographical limits of the property owned or under the control of an institution of higher education, including, but not limited to, campuses or dormitories in another country owned or under the control of an institution of higher education for the purposes of an international studies or international exchange program, (A) the number of such accidents that resulted in serious physical injury, as defined in section 53a-3, and (B) the number of such accidents that resulted in death, and (5) for each category of criminal offense, the number of incidents reported and the crime rate. The crime rate shall be equal to the number of incidents reported divided by the total number of full-time equivalent students and employees.

Approved July 12, 2021

Public Act No. 21-184

EXPLANATION OF THE REPORTING OF ACCIDENTS THAT RESULTED IN SERIOUS PHYSICAL INJURIES OR DEATH AT THE INSTITUTION

During the reporting period, NCC had (0) reports of accidents that resulted in serious physical injuries or death at the institution.

