



University of Colorado  
Colorado Springs

# Student Code of Conduct

Plain Language

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## PURPOSE

The Student Code of Conduct helps keep UCCS students safe.

It explains your rights, responsibilities, and the rules on campus.

Learning how to be a member of the UCCS community will give you skills to use in the world.

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## V. DUTIES AND EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENTS:

All students **MUST** read this code.

If you see a student breaking the Code of Conduct Rules, you **MUST**...

- *Report it*
- *Answer all questions honestly*
- *If you are confused about what to do, talk to an OIS staff member for help.*

You should report anything that breaks the Code Rules, even if you are not sure exactly what happened.

- You will **NOT** get in trouble if you are **honest about what you saw.**
- You **WILL** get in trouble if you lie and report something that you *know did not* happen.

If you do not follow these rules...

- UCCS may say you did not follow the conduct rules, and you may be removed from campus.

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## VI. PROHIBITED STUDENT CONDUCT

The list below tells you what you are **NOT ALLOWED TO DO** as a student. You may ***not*** do any of these things in-person, on the phone, or online.

These things will not be used to take away any rights protected by the United States and/or Colorado laws.

### LIST OF MISCONDUCTS

#### 1. **Physical Misconduct:**

- Physical Misconduct means having physical force on someone *on purpose* that may hurt their body.
- You may NOT...
  - Hit, punch, fight
  - Prevent someone from moving their body
  - Tie someone up, or block their exit from a room
  - Any other type of unwanted physical force

#### 2. **Threats or Endangerment of Humans:**

- You may NOT...
  - Tell a human you are going to hurt them.
  - Put a human's health or safety in danger.

#### 3. **Threats or Endangerment of Animals:**

- You may NOT...
  - Tell an animal you are going to hurt them.
  - Put an animal's health or safety in danger.

#### 4. **Harassment:**

- **Harassment** means bothering, annoying, or scaring another person *on purpose*.
  - Hitting, Shoving, Kicking, or any other type of unwanted touching.
  - Using bad words about someone or making inappropriate motions at them.
  - Following someone around.
  - Talking in-person or messaging a person online to tell them you are going to hurt them, or asking for something inappropriate from them.
  - Calling or texting someone over and over.
  - Contacting someone at an inappropriate time (like late at night).
  - Insulting, teasing, or trying to get someone to react to you violently.

## 5. Abuse:

- **Abuse** means making someone feel a lot of emotional pain.
- *You may NOT...*
  - *Yell at, insult, or scold someone*
  - *Tell someone you are going to hurt them*
  - *Frighten someone on purpose*
  - *Pressure someone into doing something*
  - *Anything else that makes someone feel a lot of emotional pain.*

## 6. Sexual Misconduct:

- **Sexual Misconduct** means doing something sexual to someone without their permission or with someone who can not legally give permission.
- \*You MUST have **consent** before touching or having sex with someone\*.
  - a. **Consent** means the other person gave you their permission to do something.
  - b. You must stop if the person says STOP or becomes unable to communicate, *even if they gave you consent at the beginning.*
- *You may NOT do these things...*
  - a. *Sexual assault:*
    - *Fondling (touching someone's body parts without consent)*
    - *Rape (having sex with someone without consent or if they are unconscious)*
    - *Incest (having sex with a family member)*
    - *Having sex with a minor (under 18 years old)*
  - b. *Dating Violence: Emotionally, physically, or verbally abusing someone you are dating with to get control over them.*
  - c. *Domestic Violence: Emotionally, physically, or verbally abusing someone you are in a relationship with to get control over them.*
  - d. *Convincing someone to have sex with you in any way*
  - e. *Harming someone because they didn't have sex with you.*

## 7. Stalking:

- **Stalking** is following someone in-person or online when you don't know them, or they don't want to be around you.
- *You may NOT...*
  - *Follow someone around*
  - *Watch someone for a long time*
  - *Contact someone's loved ones to try to find them*
  - *Try to contact someone when they do not respond to you*

## 8. Hazing:

- **Hazing** is anything done to introduce a person into a group/club that is dangerous for their health or safety. This is not welcoming behavior; it is abuse.
- *You may NOT...*

- *Force someone to do too much physical activity*
- *Forced someone to eat, drink, or take drugs*
- *Keep someone from sleeping, eating, or drinking*
- *Embarass or degrade someone*

**9. Interference, Obstruction, Disruption of University Activity:**

- **This** means you can not interrupt or destroy events going on at UCCS.
- *You may NOT...*
  - *Interrupt a class or meeting*
  - *Keep other students from sharing their thoughts or feelings*
  - *Make a scene at UCCS events*
  - *Attend private events you were not invited to*

**10. Interfering with, Obstructing or Disrupting Police or Fire Response:**

- **This** means keeping police or fire officers from doing their jobs.
- You **MUST** always follow directions from police and fire officers.

**11. Damaging University Property:**

- *You may NOT...*
  - *Damage, play with, or change any UCCS property.*
  - *Go anywhere on campus you are not allowed to go.*

**12. Violation of University Policy or Regulation:**

- You may NOT use a UCCS computer to break a law.

**13. Violation of Law:**

- **Violation** means breaking a rule.
- *You may NOT break any other law made by the United States, Colorado, or UCCS.*

**14. Aiding and Abetting:**

- **This** means helping someone break a rule.
- *You may NOT help another student break the rules in this code.*

**15. Academic Misconduct:**

- **Academic Misconduct** means breaking a rule about classwork/homework.
- *You may NOT...*
  - *Cheat on tests or assignments*
  - *Take credit for work that is not yours (plagiarism)*
  - *Make up data that you did not collect (fabrication)*
  - *Change the results from research you found (falsification)*

**16. Theft:**

- **Theft** means stealing.
- *You may NOT...*

- *Take something that belongs to someone else.*
- *Take something without paying for it.*

17. **Illegal Drugs:**

- **Illegal drugs** are any drugs that were not prescribed to you.
- UCCS follows Federal law, so Marijuana is NOT allowed on campus.
  - Marijuana is legal in Colorado, but Federal law still says it is illegal.
- You may NOT...
  - Have, use, or make illegal drugs.
  - Sell or give someone illegal drugs or drugs that were prescribed to *you only*.

18. **Alcohol:**

- *You may NOT...*
  - *Have, use, or sell alcohol on campus*
  - *Drive a car with alcohol or drugs in your body.*
- You MAY drink beer or wine at Clyde's Gastropub only if you are 21 years or older.
- You MAY drink alcohol in the Lookout Apartments if you are 21 years or older.

19. **Weapons Control:**

- **Weapons** are anything that can be used to harm someone.
- *You may NOT have any weapons or guns on campus.*

20. **Providing False Information:**

- **False information** means lying.
- *You may NOT:*
  - *Lie to a UCCS official.*
  - *Lie about your medical history.*
  - *Lie by saying something that happened when you know it didn't happen.*
  - *Pretend to be another person (identity theft).*
  - *Forge or change someone else's signature on a university document.*

21. **Retaliation:**

- **Retaliation** means threatening someone to keep them from doing the right thing.
- *You may NOT do anything to scare someone out of reporting something that happened even if it is about you or your friend.*

22. **Fire Safety:**

- ALWAYS follow the directions of fire officials.
- ONLY pull a fire alarm if you see a *REAL fire*.
- *You may NOT:*
  - *Start a fire on purpose.*
  - *Stay inside a building when you are told to evacuate for a fire.*
  - *Play with or destroy University safety equipment*

- *Pull a fire alarm when there is no fire.*

23. **Riots:**

- A **Riot** means a group of people doing something violent in public.
- *You may NOT start or be part of a riot.*

24. **Student Conduct Process:**

- If you break any of the rules in this Code of Conduct, your behavior may be investigated.
- You **MUST** be a part of your investigation if this happens, and be respectful and honest during the process.

25. **Residence Life and Housing:**

- This does not apply to UCCS Students receiving services from the OIS.

26. **Responsible Conduct:**

- You **MUST** be a **responsible** citizen of UCCS.

27. **Violating University requirements or public health orders:**

- **Public health orders** are to lower the risk of spreading infectious diseases.
- You **MUST**...
  - Follow United States, Colorado, and UCCS public health orders (like masks).
  - See <https://returnto.uccs.edu/> for UCCS health orders.

## THE “GOOD SAMARITAN” RULE

UCCS cares about students' health and safety.

- Sometimes, students have ***medical emergencies from alcohol or drug use***.
- If you are around one of *these* emergencies, you **MUST**:
  1. Call 911 for emergency medical help for the sick student.

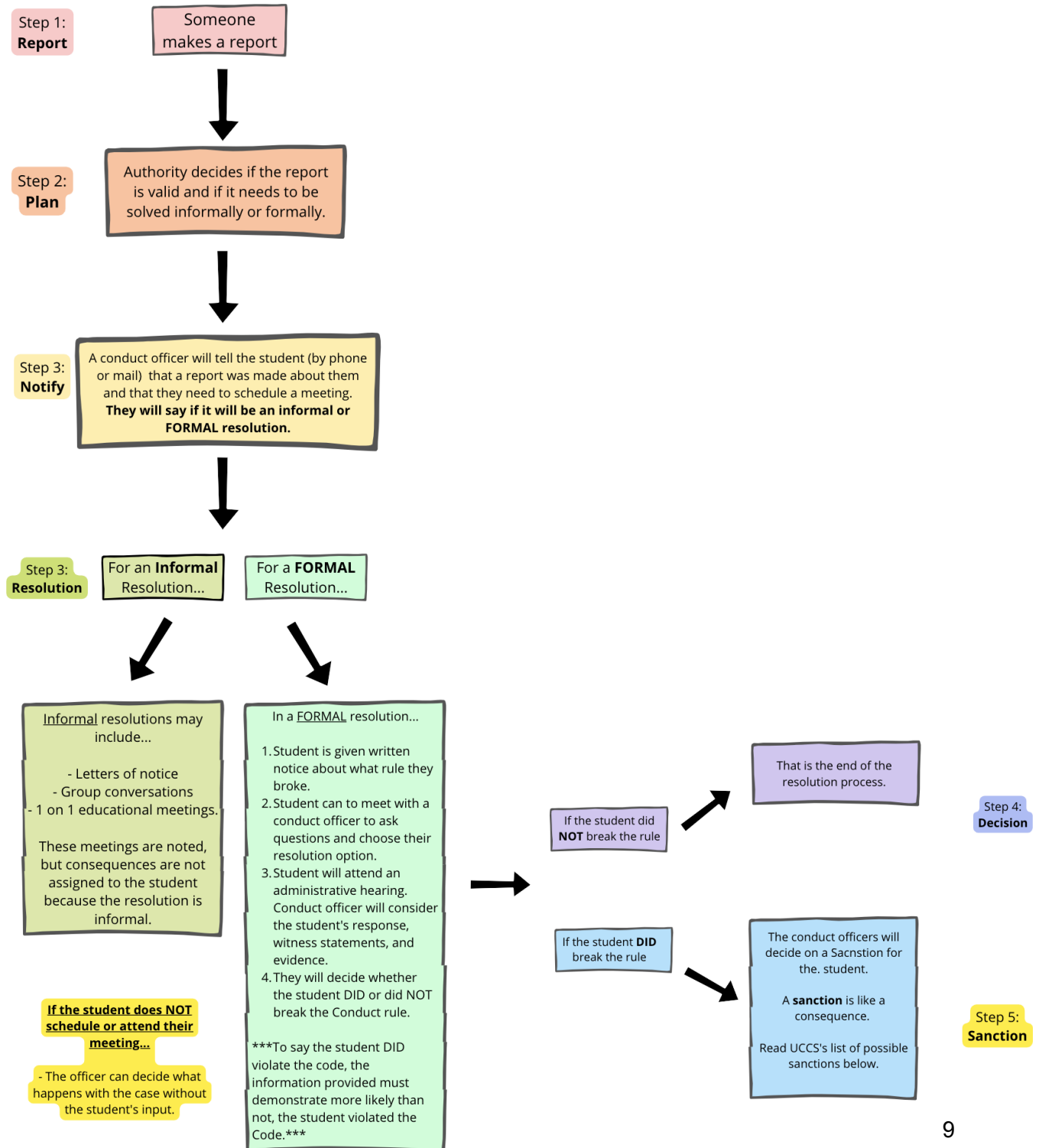
Because of this “Good Samaritan” Rule...

- You will **not** get in trouble with UCCS if they find out YOU were also using alcohol or drugs, **because** you were able to get medical help for a sick student.
- However, If you also broke **other rules** while using alcohol or drugs, you may get in trouble for those actions.



# VII. CONDUCT PROCESS PROCEDURES

If a complaint or report is made about a student's behavior relating to the Code of Conduct, the following process will happen.



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## VIII. SANCTIONS

- Sanctions are based upon all the circumstances in the case.
- One or more of the sanctions below may be imposed.
- The conduct officer(s) will use their own judgment to decide on the best sanction for a case.
- All decisions about responsibility and sanctions will be given to the student in writing.

### POSSIBLE SANCTIONS

#### 1. Educational Sanctions:

- This could look like...
  - Community service
  - A reflection or research paper
  - Attend a class, workshop, program, or lecture
  - Understanding how one's behavior may have impacted others.

#### 2. Letter of Notice:

- A reminder of the Code of Conduct Policy

#### 3. Written Warning:

- A written statement warning that more serious things will happen if the behavior happens again.

#### 4. Formal Reprimand:

- Same as the written warning above, but more serious.

#### 5. Disciplinary Probation:

- A period of time where the student may be restricted from doing certain things.
  - a. This means they are not in "good standing" with UCCS.
  - b. The student would NOT be allowed to...
    - Represent the UCCS through official events
    - Study Abroad
    - Serve in a leadership position or on a UCCS committee

#### 6. Residence Hall Reassignment:

- The student moves to a different residence hall on campus.

7. Residence Hall Termination:

- The student moves OFF campus.
- They *may* not be allowed to go inside residence halls anymore.
- They still have to pay for their original housing bill for the rest of the year.

8. Restriction or Denial of University Services:

- The student is not allowed to use some UCCS services or participate in UCCS activities.

9. Suspension:

- The student has to leave the UCCS campus for a specific period of time.
- This goes on the student's transcript but can be taken off after that time is over.
- The student has to apply for readmission to UCCS after the suspension is over.

10. Expulsion:

- The student is required to permanently leave the University.
- This goes on the student's transcript in the Office of the Dean of Students.
- The student may not ever return to UCCS, CU Boulder, or CU Denver campus.

11. Exclusion:

- The student is not allowed to go to all or some parts of campus.
- The UCCS Police Department and Dean of Students help with this decision.
- Should the student enter University property without permission, the student is subject to action taken by law enforcement for criminal trespass.

12. Delayed Conferral of Degree:

- The issuance of a student's diploma is delayed for a specific period of time.

13. Recommendation for Revocation of Degree:

- The conduct officer(s) may recommend to the Regents of the University of Colorado that they take back a degree a student earned.

14. Additional Sanctions:

- These may include...
  - Requiring the student to pay a victim for theft or damage
  - Counseling assessment or referral
  - Community service

15. Alcohol and Drug Sanctions:

- Any student who breaks a drug or alcohol rule from the Code of Conduct could be suspended for at least one semester.
- First and second offenses may include the following:
  - Parental notification (when the student is under the age of 21)
  - Probation for one semester; or
  - Attending a UCCS alcohol awareness class.
- These consequences may be more severe if there was also...

- public intoxication
- giving alcohol/drugs to minors
- driving after using alcohol/drugs,
- damage to property and
- obstruction of a peace officer or failure to cooperate with a University official.
- other Code of Conduct rules being broken.

## YOUR RIGHTS

If *you* are the Student accused of breaking a Rule in the Code of Conduct, these are your rights:

UCCS must allow you to...

1. Get a written notice of the report made about you.
2. Have an advisor during any conduct meeting or hearing.
3. Ask for statements from any witness during a formal resolution.
4. Get a written notice of any discipline that was decided after the resolution.
5. Ask for another resolution (appeal) by the Conduct Appeal Board (CAB) when criteria has been met (see Article VII. Appeals).
6. Look at the contents of your disciplinary file. (If you want to see police reports, you have to get them directly from the police).
7. Keep all of this information confidential.

(See Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, and in the Campus Security Act as Amended by the Higher Education Amendments of 1992.)