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The Student Handbook is a compendium of student policies. Each policy is governed by the applicable University office, department or division which has administrative authority over that policy. The policies contained in the Student Handbook may be amended during the course of the academic year, as deemed appropriate. If so, the full and updated policy takes precedence over this Handbook. Please refer to the most current materials and communication from the applicable University office, department or division, and/or the Villanova Policy Library, for any updates, additions or amendments.

For questions regarding the Student Handbook or the Code of Student Conduct, please contact the Dean of Students Office in Dougherty Hall room 213 or at 610-519-4200.

A Letter from the Vice President for Student Life

Dear Villanovan:

I am pleased to present you with this year's edition of the Villanova University Student Handbook. Historically known as the "Blue Book," it is the official student handbook for Villanova University. We hope it will be a ready reference for information important to you during your time at the University.

By attending Villanova, you become an integral part of an academic community dedicated to the pursuit of truth through peace and justice. These values are inherent in the Judeo-Christian tradition and form the nucleus of the Augustinian philosophy of education which we have highlighted throughout this publication. In order for peace and justice to prevail and truth to be pursued, all members of the University community must know what is expected of them so they may aspire to responsible and constructive membership and be prepared for the obligations and accountability that membership requires. Accordingly, this handbook outlines the regulations for which you will be responsible.

It is a pleasure to welcome you to a new academic year, and it is my prayer that this year and the years ahead will afford you every opportunity to mature intellectually, spiritually, emotionally and socially. The Division of Student Life is eager to facilitate achievement of these goals, and with your help, cooperation, and involvement we will no doubt be successful in that endeavor.

Kathy Byrnes, J.D.
Vice President for Student Life

St. Augustine



FOUNDER OF THE ORDER

*"Late have I loved Thee,
O, Thou Beauty ever ancient, ever new,
Late have I loved Thee."
Saint Augustine of Hippo*

More than sixteen hundred years ago, the great Saint Augustine spoke about the beauty of God in a few words. These words, taken from his Confessions (Book X, 27), have excited the minds and imaginations of millions of people who read or heard them throughout the ages.

The beauty which Augustine knew and loved in all created things – sun and stars, earth and seas, flowers and beasts – old and young – led him to that source of all beauty which Augustine called God.

For many graduates remembering their college days, the Villanova experience may have given them a hint of God's beauty. Friendships begun, joys and sorrows shared, wisdom gained through knowledge – these are all parts of that beauty.

Recognized through the ages for his gigantic intellect, Augustine of Hippo has always been equally celebrated for the strength of his passionate desire for understanding. In mind and in heart, Augustine was well beyond the ordinary.

Augustine's inquiring mind and his burning heart are symbolized on the seal of Villanova University. The seal shows a burning heart pierced by an arrow and resting on a book of sacred Scripture. In his garden at Milan, the command, Tolle Lege, Tolle Lege ("Take and Read, Take and Read"), came to Augustine as a divine message to seek God in the Scriptures, recalling the moment of his conversion. As he read, these words of Scripture pierced his heart with desire for God, the source of all wisdom and beauty. Taken together, his study of Scripture and his heart's desire for its wisdom symbolize Augustine's life-long search to know and love God.

The search for wisdom and beauty continues in the life of Villanova University. It is its own great beauty, ever ancient, ever new. The words of Villanova's motto proclaim this ultimate ideal of a university education: to discover the meaning of life and the beauty of God in the search for Unity, Truth, and Charity.

St. Thomas of Villanova



PATRON OF THE UNIVERSITY

"To give treasure away as Thomas of Villanova did, is the duty of the rich and the privilege of the wise."

Villanova is a word that can stretch its meaning to enfold the unique experience of everyone who knows and loves the university. The name Villanova, meaning "new town" or "new house", symbolizes for its students a new beginning. It is a place where ideas and attitudes greet students each year as they set out on a journey of discovery with new teachers and friends.

Some students may know little about Saint Thomas of Villanova, and many know nothing at all. The typical Villanova student knows that Thomas was the saint who "gave away" his name to the university. Few are aware that he was also a sixteenth-century bishop, Augustinian monk, renowned writer, educator, and scholar.

This ignorance about the patron of Villanova is understandable. It is not important that we know so little about the life and deeds of Saint Thomas of Villanova. What really matters about Saint Thomas is that he was a good and generous man who loved the poor. That spirit of generosity is the same spirit which his name brings to Villanova University.

Pictures of Saint Thomas of Villanova tell that story well. They commonly show the saint of Valencia clutching a bag full of money, treasures, which he holds, not to keep, but to give away. For Thomas of Villanova, wealth had only one purpose. It was something he could share with the poor, with those who were in need.

That is the enduring value of education at Villanova University. Education means gathering the wealth of wisdom and learning, which students possess not for themselves, but to share with one another and, as Saint Thomas of Villanova did, to share with those who need it.

For over 175 years, the Villanova family has shared the adventure of learning. Together, they have gathered a wealth of knowledge-treasures of the mind and golden nuggets of truth.

To give treasure away, as Saint Thomas of Villanova did, is the duty of the rich and the privilege of the wise. Villanovans know that this wealth of learning, like love itself, is a gift which we possess never so much as when we give it away.

Reverend Neil J. McGettigan, O.S.A., D. Min.

University Mission Statement

Mission Statement

Heritage in Perspective

Villanova University is an Augustinian Catholic community of higher education committed to excellence and distinction in the discovery, dissemination, and application of knowledge. Founded and sponsored by the Order of St. Augustine, and inspired by the life and teaching of Jesus Christ, the University seeks to advance a deeper understanding of the relationship between faith and reason—preparing students to think critically, act compassionately, and succeed while serving others. The academic mission is grounded in the wisdom of the Catholic intellectual tradition with particular attention paid to the contribution and influence of St. Augustine.

The University provides a comprehensive education rooted in the liberal arts, a commitment to the Augustinian ideals of *Veritas*, *Unitas* and *Caritas*—Truth, Unity and Love, and a community dedicated to serving the common good. Villanova cultivates an academic environment that is marked by genuine curiosity about different perspectives, ardent receptivity to knowledge generated through intercultural connections, and a genuine sensitivity to the variety of human experiences. The University welcomes and respects members of all faiths, cultures, experiences and abilities who share an enthusiasm for the challenge of responsible and productive citizenship in order to build a just and peaceful world.

Enduring Commitments:

In pursuit of this mission, we commit ourselves to academic excellence, to our values and traditions, and to our students, alumni and the global community.

To foster academic excellence, we:

- Create a community of scholars with varied backgrounds, talents, experiences and beliefs, united and dedicated to the highest academic standards;
- Emphasize the liberal arts and sciences as our foundation and foster in our students active engagement, critical thinking, life-long learning and moral reflection;

- Concern ourselves with developing and nurturing the whole person, allowing students, faculty and staff to grow intellectually, emotionally, spiritually, culturally, socially and physically in an environment that supports individual differences and insists that mutual love and respect should animate every aspect of university life;
- Encourage interdisciplinary research, teaching and scholarship;
- Affirm the intrinsic good of learning, contemplation and the search for truth in undergraduate and graduate education;
- Support a curriculum that encourages both a global perspective and an informed respect for the differences among peoples and cultures.

To honor our values and tradition, we:

- Believe that the dialogue between faith and reason drives the pursuit of knowledge and wisdom, and fosters St. Augustine's vision of learning as a community ethos governed by love;
- Seek to understand, enrich and teach the Catholic intellectual tradition through our curricula, scholarship and activities in ways that engage various religious, intellectual and cultural traditions in a vigorous and respectful pursuit of truth and wisdom in every area of humanity;
- Provide opportunities for students, faculty and staff to seek guidance from the Augustinian intellectual tradition and Catholic Social teaching, while always welcoming people from all faiths, cultures and traditions to contribute their gifts and talents to our mission;
- Mirror the Gospel by fostering a community of different backgrounds and varying perspectives where all are welcomed and valued;
- Treat each other with mutual care and respect, which is fundamental to living and learning in the Augustinian tradition that recognizes that we learn best from and with each other;
- Respect and encourage the freedom proposed by St. Augustine, which makes civil discussion and inquiry possible and productive;
- Look to the Order of St. Augustine to preserve our Augustinian character, by showing appropriate preference to Augustinians in faculty and staff appointments, and by welcoming their presence and influence in our university community.

To serve our students, alumni and global community, we:

- Are a community grounded in the Augustinian values of *Veritas*, *Unitas* and *Caritas* that fosters welcome and belonging to ensure all people are treated with respect, rooted in the belief that each person is created in the image and likeness of God, with particular attention paid to the care of the most vulnerable;
- Encourage students, faculty and staff to engage in service experiences and research, both locally and globally, so they learn from others, provide public service to the community and help create a more sustainable world;
- Commit to the common good, and apply the knowledge and skills of our students and faculty to better the human condition;
- Encourage our students and faculty to pursue virtue by integrating love and knowledge, and by committing themselves to research and education for justice, with a special concern for the poor and compassion for the suffering;
- Respect a worldview that recognizes that all creation is sacred and that fosters responsible stewardship of the environment;
- Include our alumni as an integral part of the Villanova community;
- Value highly our relationship with neighboring communities.

The Crest of the University

The crest of Villanova University is an adaptation of the seal of the Order of St. Augustine. Its design reflects the Catholic heritage of Villanova University, founded by the Friars of Saint Augustine, and dedicated to St. Thomas of Villanova, under the patronage of Our Mother of Good Counsel. The crest displays five elements with historical significance.

The motto of the University, “Veritas, Unitas, Caritas” or truth, unity, and love are the special virtues to which the University aspires and seeks to inculcate through every endeavor.

The book is symbolic of Augustine’s dedication to learning, and the Book of Scriptures through which Augustine began his conversion to Christianity. In *Confessions*, written by Augustine, he recounts hearing a voice which instructed him to take up and read, “Tolle lege, tolle lege.” At this invitation, he took up the Book, opened to the Epistle of St. Paul to the Romans, Chapter 13, and began his search for self-knowledge through a relationship with Christ.



The flaming heart symbolizes love of both God and neighbor which so characterized the life of Saint Augustine. The cross above the Book is symbolic of Augustine’s conversion and commitment to Christianity. The laurel wreath which frames the central elements is symbolic of the victory that can be gained through the pursuit of knowledge in the context of shared community.

The institution was established in 1842. The official school colors are navy blue and white.

Our Community of Respect: A Personal Pledge

My Pledge:

As a member of a Catholic and Augustinian University, each Villanovan is responsible for creating a community, where mutual love and respect for individual differences guide our community life. Therefore, I pledge:

1. I will create a welcoming, safe, and supportive community where the dignity of each person is valued, respected, and celebrated. I will confront and reject all manifestations of discrimination, including those based on perceived race, ethnicity, gender, age, disability, sexual orientation, religious or political beliefs, status within or outside the university.
2. I am committed to an educational environment where teaching and learning are at the center of who I am and what I do inside and outside of the classroom. I will listen for understanding, share ideas, raise questions, and express differences of opinion in a respectful manner and without fear of reprisal, insult, or denigration.
3. I will embrace selfless action in the interest of the common good with integrity, compassion and humility guiding my decisions and behavior.
4. I will not remain silent when someone is disrespectful. I will carefully interrupt when and where appropriate to speak out when disrespectful behavior is displayed.
5. I acknowledge that respect, justice, and love define us as a community and are the standards by which I measure the success of my interactions. I will be attentive to uphold the dignity of others in all my communications, whether verbal, written or digital.
6. I will build Community through active participation in campus life and service to others and through the way in which I live with others in residence halls and apartments.
7. I acknowledge that Villanova University’s Catholic and Augustinian identity calls me to integrate these ideals into my daily life. Each of us has an obligation to the community of which we have chosen to be a part, so I will strive to build a true community of spirit and purpose based on mutual respect and caring.

Resources:

Outreach & Development

Office of Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion

Tolentine Hall, Room 202

610-519-5719

Email: diversity@villanova.edu

<https://www1.villanova.edu/university/diversity-inclusion.html>

The Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (ODEI) addresses issues of justice equity, diversity and inclusion within the Villanova community. ODEI works with appropriate offices across the University to monitor policies, practices and processes to accomplish this goal. Additionally, ODEI offers a variety of workshops, discussions and lectures for faculty, staff or students that encourage self-reflection, understanding and individual growth.

Office of Intercultural Affairs

Dougherty Hall, Room 214

610-519-4550

Email: interculturalaffairs@villanova.edu

<https://www1.villanova.edu/university/student-life/intercultural-affairs.html>

Maintaining these community ideals is the responsibility of every member of the University community. Through their behavior, students, staff, and faculty should reinforce the ideals expressed in this document and should encourage all members of the community to do likewise. In support of this, the Office for Intercultural Affairs assists the community in providing an inclusive educational experience grounded principles. The Center's task is to promote a respectful environment, intercultural awareness, and community outreach.

Office for Mission & Ministry

Corr Hall and St. Rita Hall

Email: missionandministry@villanova.edu <https://www1.villanova.edu/villanova/mission.html>

SafeZone and LGBTQIA+ Resources

VU Pride and OASIS are LGBTQIA+ ally groups on campus where all are welcome. OASIS is a confidential group for the LBGTQ+ student community.

Email: vupride@villanova.edu and oasis@villanova.edu

Safe Zone is a visible presence on campus supporting the LGBTQIA+ community that provides education and training related to LGBTQIA+ topics and issues. Safe Zone trained community members display a Safe Zone logo on their door or backpack showing their support of the LGBTQ community. Faculty, staff, and students across the university are among our Safe Zone members. Additionally, resident assistants, members of VU Pride and Health Promotion's POWER peer educators are known as allies and are Safe Zone-trained.

<https://www1.villanova.edu/content/university/student-life/intercultural-affairs/lgbtqia.html#safezone>

University Counseling Center

Patricia B. and Gary M. Holloway University Counseling Center

Health Services Building

610-519-4050

With a variety of services and resources, the Counseling Center helps students function optimally regarding emotional, academic, social, and psychological issues.

<https://www1.villanova.edu/university/student-life/health-services/counseling-center.html>

Reporting, Accountability and Resolution

When the pledge is not upheld/met, each person in the community is affected and the value of every member is diminished. In situations where adherence to these ideals set forth is in question, the following resources are available and are responsible for resolution of concern and complaints.

Affirmative Action

789 Lancaster Avenue, Suite #260

Villanova, PA 19085

610-519-7900

Email: hr@villanova.edu

Website: <https://www1.villanova.edu/villanova/hr/employment/affirmativeaction.html>

The Affirmative Action Office coordinates the University-wide affirmative action and equal employment opportunity efforts for all administration, faculty, and staff. The Associate Vice President of Human Resources monitors compliance with applicable laws and University policies and practices, works with hiring departments to develop creative recruitment strategies, and provides information and technical assistance to departments in fulfilling their affirmative action responsibilities.

Additional responsibilities of this office include diversity training and workshops, sexual harassment training and preparation of the University's comprehensive Affirmative Action Plan.

Department of Public Safety & Resolution

Garey Hall, intersection of Spring Mill Road and County Line Road

Emergency Number: 610-519-4444

Non-Emergency Number: 610-519-5800

During a phone outage: 610-527-3293

Off-Campus Emergency: 911

The Public Safety Department provides a variety of services to the University community. These include proactive and preventative patrol, investigations, parking enforcement, residence hall protection, building/facility security, fire safety/prevention, crime prevention programs, crime prevention surveys and special event security.

Report Climate Concern

<https://www1.villanova.edu/university/diversity-inclusion/report-climate-concern.html>

Sexual Harassment

Title IX Office

Tolentine Hall, Room 204

610-519-8805

Any student, employee or applicant for employment or admission to the University who believes that they have been discriminated against based on sex, in violation of Title IX, or has been a victim of sexual misconduct under the University's Sexual Misconduct Policy, may file a complaint with the Title IX Coordinator or a Deputy Title IX Coordinator:

Ryan Rost, Title IX Coordinator

Email: ryan.rost@villanova.edu

See also Title IX Notice at: <https://www1.villanova.edu/villanova/studentlife/health/promotion/sexualassault/resources.html>

Villanova University Internal Student Complaint Reporting Process

Villanova University strives to provide an environment in which student concerns are heard, discussed, and resolved in a manner that fosters respect and growth for all individuals involved. The University offers students multiple avenues, both informal and formal, for raising concerns or complaints, depending upon the nature of the concern or complaint.

<https://www1.villanova.edu/content/dam/villanova/president/Villanova%20University%20Student%20Complaint%20Reporting%20Process%2011-02-2017%20.pdf>

Violations of the Code of Student Conduct

Dean of Students Office
Dougherty Hall, Room 213
610-519-4200

The Dean of Students Office is committed to supporting and assisting students in their overall development and as members of the greater Villanova community.

Student Bill of Rights

Villanova University seeks to reflect the spirit of St. Augustine by cultivating an environment “that supports individual differences and insists that mutual love and respect should animate every aspect of University life” (University Mission Statement). Out of our collective pursuit of this ideal, we acknowledge that students at Villanova University have certain inalienable rights. These rights include:

1. Right to reasonable notification of student responsibilities (i)
2. Right to reasonable personal privacy (ii)
3. Right to basic human dignity and to be respected as an individual
4. Right to review one’s own official University records (iii)
5. Right to peaceably assemble (iv)
6. Right to form a student organization within the University guidelines
7. Right to form a student government within the University guidelines
8. Right to reasonable process as set forth in University guidelines
9. Right to representation in the formulation of the University budget (v)
10. Right to amend this Bill of Rights (vi)

Any student who believes their rights have been violated should notify the Office of the Vice President for Student Life or the Student Government Association, who will provide assistance.

i Students are expected to know the information contained in the Student Handbook (Bluebook), publications of their college, and other material made available to them by the University.

ii A student’s personal privacy should be maintained at all times unless the University has reason to suspect that a dangerous situation exists or that violations of University policy have occurred or are occurring. It is acknowledged that prior permission is not required. This right is not intended to conflict with the policies or procedures set forth by the Office for Residence Life.

iii While a student is guaranteed this right to review their own Official University student records in accordance with the Student Records Policy, the student is not guaranteed the right to copy them.

iv In accordance with the University’s regulations for On-Campus Assemblies and Demonstrations.

v Student’s representation exists through the Student Government Association as members or participants on relevant University committees.

vi All amendments to this Bill of Rights must be passed by a 2/3 vote of the Student Life Committee of the Villanova University Senate before being submitted for approval.

Academic Policies

Academic Policies

Students are subject to and must comply with all academic policies. Academic policies may be found in [The University Catalog](#).

Purpose, Jurisdiction and Scope

Purpose

Because Villanova University is an Augustinian Catholic community of higher education, committed to excellence and distinction in the discovery, dissemination and application of knowledge, the institution presumes that all who voluntarily join our scholarly community do so for this primary purpose. Accordingly, rules and regulation governing conduct among community members are designed with the specific intention of enhancing the academic mission of the University.

Because Villanova University is a particularly unique but voluntary community, it depends on its membership to sacrifice, in some instances, individual preferences for the good of the greater whole. Moreover, it depends on its membership to commit itself to a degree of loyalty, a standard of conduct that not only maintains civility, but adheres to the principle that “mutual love and respect should animate every aspect of University life.” Accordingly, Villanova confidently expects that all students will comport themselves in a manner that promotes the continuance and enhancement of the University’s high purpose and its moral and religious traditions.

The Code of Student Conduct exists for three distinct purposes. First, the Code helps to motivate good decision making, create community, and enhance respect for individual differences while emphasizing a commitment to the common good. Secondly, the Code represents limits, a description of conduct that contradict the purpose and nature of Villanova University. Such conduct violates presumptions of membership, and cannot be tolerated in an academic community. Finally, the Code and its implementation recognizes the basic student composition of the community and the corresponding behavioral dynamic. To this end, the Code’s most important purpose is to facilitate personal growth through values education so that members of the student community are made ready to assume public responsibilities beyond the campus and in society. To accomplish these purposes, students who do not uphold the standards of the University, or who violate the provisions of the Code, or who fail to fulfill their obligations as members of this community will be held responsible for their conduct.

The following guidelines have been established as expectations for continued membership in the Villanova community.

Jurisdiction

The Code of Student Conduct applies to all students enrolled at Villanova University, with the exception of students of the Charles Widger School of Law, who are governed by their own policies and procedures. This includes students participating in overseas study or other off-campus academic programs. The University has a vital interest in the character of its students and may regard their conduct as a reflection of a student’s character and fitness to be a member of the student body. Accordingly, the Code of Student Conduct applies to conduct that occurs both on and off the Villanova campus. The University reserves the right to sanction any student or student organization found responsible for violating the Code. Students and student organizations will be afforded the elements of process afforded by the Code. The University may impose sanctions up to and including expulsion, whether or not sanctions are imposed by federal, state, or local authorities.

If a student withdraws or takes a leave of absence from the University with a pending allegation of a violation of the Code of Student Conduct, the University retains jurisdiction and the matter may remain open, at the University’s discretion. If the student seeks readmission and is reenrolled following a withdrawal, all open matters may be adjudicated under the Code of Student Conduct. Students on leave remain subject to the provisions of the Code of Student Conduct and all alleged violations committed while on leave may be adjudicated prior to the student’s return to the University.

Scope

The following guidelines have been established as behavioral expectations for continued membership in the Villanova community. The list of prohibited conduct set forth in the following statements is intended to be illustrative only. The list is not intended to be all-inclusive and other misconduct, including without limitation, violations of published University policies, rules or regulations, or criminal or civil statutes, may be actionable under this Code.

The Code and the Special Procedures Governing Proceedings Involving Allegations of Sexual Misconduct set forth in the University's Sexual Misconduct Policy will serve as the University's grievance procedures under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 ("Title IX") for allegations of sexual assault, sexual harassment, or other sexual misconduct against any Villanova student. Where appropriate in this Code, certain accommodations have been noted to facilitate the use of the Code to resolve such complaints of sexual misconduct in a manner consistent with Title IX.

Violations of these regulations may result in the full range of disciplinary sanctions, as set forth in this Code. Items that violate state or federal law, the provisions of this Code, or other policies or regulations published by the University will be confiscated by appropriate University personnel and not returned.

Community Policies

Community Expectations

Villanova University is committed to "developing and nurturing the whole person, allowing students, faculty and staff to grow intellectually, emotionally, spiritually, culturally, socially and physically in an environment that supports individual differences and insists that mutual love and respect should animate every aspect of university life."

Students are expected to treat others with the utmost compassion, respect and dignity and creation of a safe and peaceful environment where both people and property are respected is the responsibility of every community member. Therefore harassing, threatening, obscene or violent conduct, or conduct which is otherwise disruptive, dangerous or which disregards the rights of members of the community violates the Code whether or not a specific description of such misconduct is set forth.

Violations of this policy may result in the full range of sanctions up to and including suspension or expulsion from the University.

Alcohol Policy

Villanova University strives to develop and sustain a living and learning environment in which the full potential of its members may be realized. Therefore, the University aspires to the highest standards of academic excellence and is committed to the personal health and safety of all individuals. In pursuing these community goals, all students and student organizations are required to comply with applicable state and federal laws and the following University policies regarding alcohol.

1. Any person under the age of 21 in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania may not lawfully possess, consume, purchase, attempt to purchase or transport alcoholic beverages.
2. Furnishing alcohol to any person under the age of 21 or enabling underage alcohol consumption is strictly prohibited. Violations that result in disorderly, disruptive or dangerous conduct, damages, injury, or other criminal activity will be considered more serious.
3. Regardless of age, the abusive or dangerous use of alcohol is prohibited on and off campus, including but not limited to:
 - Intoxication that results in impaired motor skills or balance, slurred speech, disorientation, vomiting, blacking-out, passing-out, or other similar behavior.
 - Disruptive, disorderly, or dangerous conduct related to the consumption of alcohol.

- Driving on or off campus while under the influence of alcohol.
4. Residing on campus and the possession/consumption of alcoholic beverages on campus is a privilege and not a right. Therefore, regardless of age, the following policies apply within University residence halls and/or on University property:
 - The possession, consumption, or furnishing of alcoholic beverages that contain fifteen percent (15%) or higher alcohol by volume (e.g. hard liquor) is prohibited within University residence halls. This regulation applies to all students and their guests.
 - Consumption or possession of alcoholic beverages in open containers is prohibited in common areas of residence halls, including hallways, lounges, lobbies, stairwells, and bathrooms.
 - Alcoholic beverages may not be possessed or consumed in academic, administrative, or public areas of campus without authorization from appropriate University officials.
 - Common source containers of alcoholic beverages, including beer kegs and alcoholic punch (e.g. "jungle juice"), are prohibited in residence halls and on University property without authorization from appropriate University officials.
 - The possession, consumption, or furnishing of alcoholic punch, caffeinated alcohol, powdered alcohol, grain alcohol, or gelatin shots is prohibited within University residence halls and on University property.
 - Participation in drinking games, consuming shots of alcohol, and any type of binge drinking (e.g. chugging, "shot-gunning," etc.) is prohibited in residence halls and on University property. Simulated drinking games (e.g. "water pong") are prohibited regardless of whether or not alcohol is present.
 - Possession or use of binge drinking paraphernalia (e.g. funnels, beer pong tables, etc.) or any instrument of alcohol abuse is prohibited in residence halls and on University property.
 5. For students of legal age, the following policies apply within University residence halls and on University property:
 - Students of legal age may possess and consume alcoholic beverages that contain less than fifteen percent (15%) alcohol by volume (e.g. most beer and wine) within their own University residence hall room/apartment, or within a room/apartment where at least one resident is of legal age and is present. At all times, alcohol use must be consistent with the concept of moderate and responsible consumption*.
 - Students of legal age may transport in common areas of campus or University residence halls an amount of alcoholic beverages that contain less than fifteen percent (15%) alcohol by volume, in closed containers and in suitable packaging, consistent with the concept of moderate and responsible consumption.
 - Students of legal age may possess and consume alcoholic beverages at approved University functions and/or when served at a campus facility/event authorized to provide alcoholic beverages.
 - All student organization sponsored events where alcohol may be served must be approved by the appropriate University official and must follow all University policies and regulations. At all times, alcohol use must be consistent with the concept of moderate and responsible consumption. Furnishing alcohol to any person under the age of 21 or enabling underage alcohol consumption is strictly prohibited for student organizations.

**For purposes of this policy, moderate and responsible consumption is the expectation that using alcohol should always be in a manner that does not harm others and minimizes harm to the user.*

Conversely, using alcohol to the degree that one may endanger themselves or other persons or property, or otherwise disrupt the community is not considered moderate and responsible consumption.

Alcohol Policy Enforcement and Sanctioning

The University reserves the right to sanction students who violate the law and/or the above University alcohol policies (both on and off campus). Violations may result in the full range of sanctions such as warnings, fines, disciplinary probation (plus other disciplinary measures) up to and including suspension or expulsion from the University. Repeated violations, excessive quantities of alcohol, and/or aggravating factors will result in more severe sanctions.

Typically, first-time alcohol violations which do not involve disruptive, disorderly, or dangerous conduct, and which are consistent with the concept of moderate and responsible consumption will result in educational follow-up and/or less severe sanctions. Student organizations that violate the law and/or University alcohol policies are also subject to disciplinary action, up to and including suspension or loss of recognition.

1. While legal aged students are permitted to possess and consume alcoholic beverages with less than fifteen percent (15%) alcohol by volume in campus residence halls, if at any time, and in the discretion of University staff, the possession or consumption exceeds the concept of moderate and responsible use, or if there is disorderly, disruptive, or dangerous conduct, the University reserves the right to take immediate corrective action, including but not limited to, the confiscation of alcoholic beverages and/or the dispersion of guests from a residence hall room/apartment. The University reserves the right to sanction students in cases of excessive, dangerous or abusive alcohol use, or for disorderly or disruptive conduct.
2. When a suspected policy violation is encountered by University staff in a residence hall room or apartment, University staff may enter rooms or apartments to address policy violations, to confiscate containers of alcohol, whether full or empty, and/or to disperse guests, if appropriate. University staff may confiscate all alcohol present at the time of a violation regardless of the type of alcohol or the age of the residents. University staff may also, at the time and location of an alcohol violation and when students are present in the room, open and inspect refrigerator(s) and/or coolers (both personal and University-owned) in order to remove all alcohol from the premises. Students are expected to comply with University staff in their efforts. Failure to comply may result in more severe sanctions. Items found that violate the above policies will be confiscated by appropriate University personnel and not returned.
3. The University reserves the right to sanction all residents of a residence hall room/apartment, whether or not the residents are present at the time of the violation, as well as any students present when an alcohol violation occurs, regardless if the alcohol containers are empty or full, decorative or otherwise.
4. All students found in violation of the alcohol policy must comply with all educational requirements specified by designated University staff members. Staff will inform the Dean of Students Office of attendance, compliance and any other recommendations regarding the student.
5. Fines may be assessed, at the discretion of the Conduct Review Administrator, for violations of the alcohol policy and will vary depending on the quantity and type of alcoholic beverages confiscated, regardless of if full or empty. Violations involving alcoholic beverages that contain fifteen percent (15%) or greater alcohol by volume, or common source alcohol containers may face fines up to \$100 per person, per incident.

Good Samaritan Policy

Compliance with University Directives

1. Students and student organizations suspected of violating the Code of Student Conduct or University Policy are expected to cooperate fully with verbal and/or written directives issued by University officials in their efforts to obtain information, identification, and/or with the confiscation of prohibited items. Any lack of cooperation will be viewed as a serious violation of the Code.
2. Failure to comply with requests from a University official given in the course of their official duties is by itself subject to disciplinary action including a hold on records.
3. Students are expected to comply fully with disciplinary sanctions, outcomes and/or other measures issued by the University in conjunction with a resolution under the Code of Student Conduct.
4. Students are expected to comply fully with non-disciplinary outcomes and/or other measures or restrictions issued by the University, including but not limited to the terms of a no-contact directive or alternative resolution agreement.

Dangerous Practices

1. No student shall engage in any activity which shall endanger the health, safety, well-being, or property of themselves or another member of the University community or the institution. Such conduct will result in sanctions ranging from disciplinary probation plus other disciplinary measures, up to and including suspension.
2. The sale, possession, production, purchase or use of any explosives, fireworks, incendiary devices, firearms, ammunition, BB/pellet guns, paintball guns, weapons or reasonable facsimile thereof on University property are prohibited as are conspiracies or attempted activities of this nature and will result in sanctions ranging from disciplinary probation to expulsion.
3. Throwing objects, including but not limited to bottles, cans, food or trash, etc. constitutes a dangerous practice and will likely result in sanctions ranging from disciplinary probation plus other disciplinary measures, up to and including suspension.
4. Failure to abide by Residence Life regulations regarding dangerous practices including but not limited to those listed in the Residence Life section of this handbook may result in disciplinary probation plus other disciplinary measures, up to and including loss of campus residency and suspension.

Dishonesty

1. Furnishing or conspiring to furnish knowingly false information to the University by forgery, alteration or misuse of, among other things, University documents or records is likely to result in suspension or expulsion.
2. Furnishing or conspiring to furnish to the University or its representatives, including but not limited to the Department of Public Safety, University Administrators, Public Safety Investigators, Conduct Review Administrators or University Conduct Review Board members, a knowingly written or oral false statement is likely to result in suspension.

Disorderly Conduct

Disorderly Conduct includes, but is not limited to unruly gatherings, excessive noise, public drunkenness and other such conduct which is disruptive to the life of the community or which disregard the rights of members of the community. Violations are likely to result in disciplinary probation plus other disciplinary measures, up to and including suspension.

Drug Policy

Villanova University strives to develop and sustain a living and learning environment in which the full potential of its members may be realized. Therefore, the University aspires to the highest standards of academic excellence and is committed to the personal health and safety of all individuals. In pursuing these community goals, all students and student organizations are required to comply with applicable state and federal laws and the following University policies regarding drugs.

The following conduct is prohibited for all students:

1. [The sale, production or distribution of, as well as attempt, intent, or conspiracy to sell, produce, or distribute illegal drugs, prescription medications, or other controlled, dangerous, or addictive substances.](#)
2. The use or possession of drugs deemed illegal on the Federal or State level.
3. The unauthorized possession or the misuse of prescription medications or controlled substances.
4. The use or possession of drug paraphernalia, in any form, while on campus. Drug paraphernalia includes, but is not limited to, pipes, bongs, bowls, rolling papers, hookahs, and grinders.
5. Driving while under the influence of illegal drugs or controlled substances.

Drug Policy Enforcement and Sanctioning

When a suspected drug policy violation is encountered by University staff in a residence hall room or apartment, University staff may enter rooms or apartments to address policy violations, to confiscate items, and/or to disperse guests. Students are expected to comply with University staff in their efforts, as failure to comply may result in more severe sanctions. Items found that violate policy will be confiscated by appropriate University personnel and not returned.

The University reserves the right to sanction students who violate the law and/or the University drug policy whether on or off campus. Violations involving cannabis may result in educational follow-up, warnings, disciplinary probation, or other disciplinary measures, up to and including suspension or expulsion from the University. Repeated violations and/or aggravating factors will result in more severe sanctions. Violations involving other types of drugs likely will result in suspension or expulsion. Violations of Section 1 of the drug policy likely will result in expulsion.

The University reserves the right to sanction all residents of a residence hall room/apartment, whether or not the residents are present at the time of the violation, as well as any students present when a drug violation occurs. Additionally, the University reserves the right to sanction students in cases where indicators of drug use are present, but where no drugs are recovered. These indicators may include, but are not limited to, symptoms of drug intoxication, the odor or residue of illegal drugs, the presence of drug paraphernalia, attempts to mask odors, or other conduct designed to avoid detection.

Students in violation of the drug policy must comply with all educational requirements specified by designated University staff members. Staff will inform the Dean of Students Office of attendance, compliance and any other recommendations regarding the student.

Fines may be assessed, at the discretion of the Conduct Review Administrator, for drug policy violations and will vary depending on aggravating or mitigating factors. For example, violations that result in actual or potential harm or disruption to individuals or the community will result in more severe fines, as well as additional sanctions.

Student organizations that violate the law and/or the University drug policy are also subject to disciplinary action, up to and including suspension or loss of recognition.

Good Samaritan Policy

Fire Safety Policies

1. Tampering with, misuse of, attempt, intent, or conspiracy to misuse or damage firefighting equipment (extinguishers, smoke detectors, alarms, sprinklers, exit signs, etc.) will likely result in disciplinary probation. Violations may also result in loss of campus residency or suspension, plus other disciplinary measures.
2. The intentional misuse of or conspiracy to misuse any fire alarm system will result in suspension, as a minimum.
3. Propping or otherwise tampering with the proper operation of fire doors, or exiting through "emergency exit only" doors in non-emergencies will result in disciplinary action.
4. Students may not disregard a fire alarm or refuse to evacuate a building in which an alarm is sounding, regardless of its nature (drill, false alarm or actual alert). Students who fail to evacuate a building in a voluntary and timely manner will be subject to disciplinary action.

Please refer to the Residence Life policies for additional fire safety regulations concerning on-campus residence halls and apartments.

Gambling and Sports Wagering

Villanova University expects students to abide by federal and state laws prohibiting illegal gambling and by the University's Sports Wagering Restrictions policy. Such activity includes, but is not limited to: illegally betting on, wagering on or selling pools on any athletic event; possessing on one's person or premises any card, book or other device for registering illegal bets; knowingly permitting the use of one's premises or one's telephone, computer or other electronic communications device for illegal gambling; knowingly receiving or delivering a letter, package or parcel related to illegal gambling; offering, soliciting or accepting a bribe to influence the outcome of an athletic event; and illegal involvement in bookmaking or wagering pools with respect to sporting events; and prohibited wagering activities as defined in the University's Sports Wagering Restrictions policy. Students involved in illegal gambling, particularly bookmaking, are subject to suspension or expulsion from the University, and students involved in activities prohibited or restricted by the University's Sports Wagering Restrictions will be subject to disciplinary action as determined by the University.

Please visit the Policy Library for the University's [Sports Wagering Restrictions policy](#) and the [Sports Wagering website](#) for more information

Harm To Others

The following are violations of this Code:

1. Intentionally inflicting or attempting to inflict, or conspiring to inflict bodily harm upon any person or threatening to do the same; or
2. Taking any action for the purpose of inflicting bodily harm; or
3. Taking any reckless, but not accidental, action which results in bodily harm or could result in bodily harm to any person; or
4. Intentionally or recklessly taking any action that would reasonably cause another person to feel threatened, harassed, or otherwise fear for their safety

Actions may include but are not limited to physical gestures, verbal, written or electronic communication, and property damage. Sanctions may range from disciplinary probation plus other disciplinary measures, up to suspension or expulsion from the University.

Hazing

Hazing is absolutely prohibited. For purposes of this Code of Student Conduct, "hazing" is defined as any intentional, knowing, or reckless act, occurring on- or off-campus, by one person or acting with others, for the purpose of initiation, admission into, affiliation with, or continued membership in any organization that causes or creates a substantial risk of causing physical or mental harm, emotional distress, degradation, embarrassment, harassment, or endangers the safety, well-being, or dignity of an individual or group.

This includes, but is not limited to:

- Physical brutality (e.g., whipping, beating, striking, branding, electronic shocking, forced or coerced exercise, or exposure to the elements or harmful substances);
- Mental or emotional harm or humiliation;
- Any activity that induces reasonable fear of bodily harm through the use of threatening words or conduct;
- Forced or coerced consumption of food, alcohol, drugs, or other substances;
- Sleep deprivation or disruption;
- Forced or coerced exclusion from social contact;
- Harm or coercion of a sexual nature;
- Any illegal, indecent, or obscene activity;
- Property damage or destruction;

- Any other conduct prohibited as hazing under applicable law or that otherwise violates the law or any University policy.

Any activity described in this definition shall be presumed to be forced and/or coerced, the willingness of an individual to participate in such activity notwithstanding. Permission or approval by the person being hazed is not a defense. Hazing shall not include reasonable and customary athletic, law enforcement or military training, contests, competitions or events.

In the case of individual students, violation of this policy may result in the full range of sanctions under this Code, up to and including suspension or expulsion, as well as removal from the organization, community service, or restitution. In the case of organizations, violations of this policy may result in the full range of sanctions under this Code, up to and including suspension or loss of recognition, as well as community service or restitution. For more information please view the University's full [Anti-Hazing Policy, available in the Villanova Policy Library](#)

Identification

1. In an effort to provide adequate security for the members of the University community, every student must carry an identification card (Wildcard) issued by the University.
2. Upon request, students must provide their I.D. card to authorized personnel, (e.g., Public Safety Officers, Dean of Students Staff, Residence Life Staff, or other University officials). Students must provide accurate information and must comply with the directions of such officials in the performance of their duties. Furnishing false identification to a University official is likely to result in a minimum sanction of disciplinary probation plus other disciplinary measures.
3. Tampering with or falsification of the student I.D. (Wildcard) is a violation of the Code of Student Conduct. Students found responsible for such a violation are subject to disciplinary action. Flagrant violations may result in suspension.
4. Students may not lend their physical or mobile I.D. (Wildcard, driver's license or any other form of I.D.) to other students for purposes of falsely identifying that person, meal exchange, library usage or for another person to gain access into a residence hall or University building, or sporting event. Students found doing so are subject to sanctions listed in this Handbook.
5. Possession of an identification card that falsely identifies a student by name, age, date of birth, or photograph is prohibited and will result in disciplinary action.
6. Producing and/or distributing identification cards that falsely identify a person by age, date of birth, or photograph is prohibited and may result in suspension or expulsion.

Indecent Conduct

Conduct not in keeping with University community standards, including, but not limited to, conduct which is lewd or conduct that a reasonable person would find offensive, affronting, and/or alarming (e.g., streaking, exposing one's private parts, public urination, etc.), or conduct that is a violation of criminal statutes is likely to result in suspension or possible expulsion from the University. Depending on the nature of the incident, indecent conduct may be considered a violation of the University Sexual Misconduct Policy.

Misuse of University Facilities or Property

1. Forcible entry, unauthorized entry, conspiracy or attempt at such entry into any building, student room, structure, facility, vehicle or roof thereof, will most likely result in disciplinary probation or suspension.
2. Unauthorized entry to or use of University grounds is likely to result in disciplinary probation and other disciplinary measures. Outdoor grounds or common areas of campus buildings or residence halls may not be used as overnight sleeping areas without authorization.
3. Unauthorized use, conspiracy or attempt at unauthorized use, distribution, duplication or possession of any key(s), access code(s) or access card(s) issued for any University building, laboratory, facility, room or elevator will result in disciplinary action.

4. Entry or attempted entry of any University residence hall after closing for breaks or after the scheduled visitation hours, except by residents of the hall through appropriately designated doors, will result in loss of campus residency, suspension, or other disciplinary measures.
5. Propping open or otherwise tampering with any door in an attempt to defeat the closing or locking mechanism, or attempts to circumvent the security of doors may result in restitution, fines, and/or disciplinary or housing sanctions, including the loss of campus residency.
6. All community members are expected to use doors designated as “Exit Only” and “Emergency Exit Only” for only these purposes. Opening ‘exit only’ doors to provide access will be considered a violation of the Code.
7. Tampering with, in any way, a Wildcard access reader or supporting equipment, (door latches, wiring, alarms and/or security boxes) will result in disciplinary action up to and including suspension, the loss of campus residency, community service, fines and/or responsibility for restitution.
8. The misuse of bath and/or shower rooms is prohibited.

Non-Discrimination Policy

Villanova University is an equal opportunity employer and educational institution. There shall be no discrimination against any employee, applicant for employment or any student on any basis prohibited by law, including but not limited to, race, color, national origin, ancestry, ethnicity, religion, sex, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, disability, or veteran status. This non-discrimination policy applies to all University educational and living activities and programs and to all terms and conditions of University employment, including student employment, including but not limited to: recruitment, hiring, training, compensation, benefits, promotions, disciplinary actions and termination. All qualified students are accorded fair and equal opportunity to enter and continue in University employment on the basis of eligibility and qualifications.

The full text of the policy can be found at: [Non-Discrimination/Non-Harassment Policy](#)

Questions about reporting violations under this policy or its application may be directed to Ms. Brigitte Strother, the Director of Employee Relations and Human Resources (HR) Compliance, who also serves as the University’s Compliance Coordinator for Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, c/o Office of Human Resources, (610) 519-6935, brigitte.strother@villanova.edu.

Non-Harassment Policy

It is the University’s policy that all employees and students should be able to enjoy and work in an educational environment free from harassment of any nature. Harassment on any basis prohibited by law, including but not limited to, race, color, national origin, ancestry, ethnicity, religion, sex, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, veteran status, disability, or any other protected category, violates this policy. “Harassment” is defined as unwelcome conduct on any such basis prohibited by law, and that is severe or pervasive enough to create an educational or employment environment that a reasonable person would consider intimidating, hostile, or abusive. Harassment includes any such conduct that denigrates or shows hostility or aversion toward an individual or group of individuals, and that has the purpose or effect of creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive employment or educational environment.

Any questions regarding this policy should be directed to the Dean of Students Office or the Director of Employee Relations and Human Resources (HR) Compliance, in the Department of Human Resources.

The full text of the policy can be found at: <https://villanova.policytech.com/docview/?docid=1544&public=true>.

Retaliation against someone for bringing a concern forward or cooperating in the investigation of a complaint under this policy is a violation of this policy.

Off-Campus Expectations

The University prioritizes the holistic education of its students and recognizes that their conduct reflects the character of themselves and the University. Students are expected to understand their responsibilities both as students and as members of the greater community. Accordingly, conduct that occurs both on and off campus is within the [jurisdiction](#) of the Code of Student Conduct.

Therefore, off-campus conduct including but not limited to unruly gatherings, excessive noise, public intoxication, disorderly conduct, trespassing as well as other conduct which is disruptive, or which disregards the rights of members of the community, or which violates University policy, constitutes a violation of the Code of Student Conduct. Additionally, any off-campus violation of local, state or federal laws or ordinances constitutes a violation of the Code of Student Conduct. The University also reserves the right to address off-campus reports or concerns, regardless of the initiation of and/or outcome of legal proceedings. Violations may result in the full range of disciplinary sanctions plus other administrative and disciplinary measures.

Sexual Misconduct

Acts of sexual misconduct are violations of this Code of Student Conduct, and may also constitute Title IX violations and/or crimes. More detailed definitions are set forth in the University [Sexual Misconduct Policy](#) in the Student Handbook, which is incorporated by reference into this Code of Student Conduct. Resources and accommodations are available to individuals who experience sexual misconduct, regardless of whether a formal complaint is filed under this Code.

Sanctions imposed on persons found responsible for acts of sexual misconduct may include the full range of sanctions and measures outlined in the Code of Student Conduct, up to and including expulsion from the University.

Theft

1. Theft of property or services, attempted theft of property or services, possession of stolen property, appropriation or unauthorized taking of property, or conspiracy to steal will result in sanction(s) ranging from suspension up to and including possible expulsion from the University.
2. The appropriation of, attempt to appropriate, or conspiracy to appropriate University property for private use, including but not limited to such items as dining room equipment, laboratory equipment, furniture, signage, or vehicles are likely to result in disciplinary probation plus other disciplinary measures, up to and including suspension.
3. The unauthorized use of or attempted use of a Wildcard, Credit Card, Debit Card, Check, or the like to purchase goods or services or to obtain property will result in sanctions ranging from suspension up to and including expulsion from the University.

Vandalism

Intentionally, recklessly, or negligently, but not accidentally damaging, destroying, defacing or tampering with University property or the property of another are all prohibited, as is the attempt to or conspiracy to damage, destroy, etc. Such conduct is likely to result in disciplinary action up to and including suspension, the loss of campus residency, community service, and/or responsibility for restitution.

Vandalism of University property designed for safety and security purposes (e.g. exit signs) are considered more serious and therefore subject to more severe sanctions, including suspension or loss of campus residency.

Violation of Residence Life Policies

The University believes that the development of a successful residential community depends on the willingness of its members to commit themselves to the common good of all. At times, this may require students to compromise individual preferences to maintain fairness and civility.

In keeping with that belief, students are expected to understand and adhere to the policies, procedures and regulations listed in the [Residence Life Policies](#). Therefore, conduct including but not limited to disruptive noise, possession of prohibited items, dangerous practices (e.g. tampering with a door locking mechanism), displaying signage, decor or other items in windows, as well as other conduct that violates University Residence Life Policies constitutes a violation of the Code of Student Conduct.

Violations may result in the full range of disciplinary sanctions including warnings, fines and/or restitution, loss of on-campus housing, plus other administrative and disciplinary measures. Residence Life Policies may be amended during the course of the academic year as the University deems appropriate.

Implementing the Code of Student Conduct

Administrative Authority

Maintaining and implementing the Code of Student Conduct is the responsibility of every member of the University community. Students, staff and faculty should, through their conduct, reinforce the ideals expressed by the Code, and encourage every student to do likewise. Administratively, the Dean of Students Office, the Office for Residence Life, and the Department of Public Safety are primarily responsible for assuring compliance with the Code. In most instances, Residence Life staff, the Department of Public Safety, or police jurisdictions will report potential violations of the Code to the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office is responsible for overseeing student conduct, educating students to appropriate community standards, and assigning sanctions and outcomes for the purpose of resolving student conduct violations. Students will be treated with care and respect and in a non-discriminatory manner throughout the resolution process.

While an alleged violation is being investigated and at any time during resolution of the matter, the University may, in its sole discretion, put in place appropriate administrative measures to ensure the safety and well-being of individuals and the community, to preserve evidence, and/or to maintain the integrity of the Code of Student Conduct process. Failure to comply with any administrative measure(s) and/or directives (e.g.: no contact directive) will be considered a violation of the Code of Student Conduct and may be subject to disciplinary action.

When a complaint is filed and the investigation complete, the procedures set forth in this Code shall constitute the University's grievance and resolution procedures for alleged violations of the Code of Student Conduct. The Special Procedures Governing Sexual Misconduct are located in the Sexual Misconduct Policy.

Good Samaritan Policy

In keeping with Augustinian values that promote a caring community, the health and safety of students should be of paramount concern for all Villanova community members. As such, Villanova students are expected to exercise active care and concern and contact appropriate authorities in the event of any health or safety emergency, even if violations of the University alcohol or drug policy may have occurred in connection with such an emergency.

Since a student's concern of possible disciplinary action may unnecessarily deter their desire to seek emergency attention for themselves or others, the University has adopted a Good Samaritan Policy to

remove barriers for students seeking emergency attention during alcohol and drug related incidents. This policy is intended to create an environment where students receive necessary care, and those involved are provided an opportunity for educational follow-up.

Expectations

In situations where someone requires emergency attention during an alcohol or drug related incident on or off campus, all students are expected to:

1. Immediately and proactively contact an appropriate authority (e.g. Public Safety, Resident Assistant, 911) to seek emergency attention.
2. Remain with the individual requiring emergency attention until emergency responders arrive and provide any necessary information to responders.

For Students Who Seek Emergency Attention For Another

A student who has sought assistance for another and met the expectations as described above will be exempt from formal disciplinary sanctions for alcohol or drug policy violations related to the incident. The student may still be referred for educational follow-up or other administrative outcomes. Additionally, this policy does not prevent disciplinary action for violations of other University policies and does not prevent action by outside authorities.

For Students Who Require Emergency Attention

A student requiring emergency attention who has received support in accordance with the above expectations may be referred for appropriate follow-up under the Code of Student Conduct for alcohol or drug policy violations related to the incident. However, the student will typically be exempt from a disciplinary process, except as set forth below. Educational follow-up, other educational requirements and/or administrative outcomes may still be imposed. This policy does not prevent disciplinary action for violations of other University policies and does not prevent action by outside authorities.

The Good Samaritan Policy is intended to create an environment where students will be afforded an opportunity to learn from the incident and exercise more responsible decision making in the future. As such, the University reserves the right to sanction students with repeated alcohol or drug related incidents involving the need for emergency attention.

In cases of repeated violations, if applicable, the University will consider whether a student sought assistance for another and may constitute this as a mitigating factor. Therefore, students should always contact an appropriate authority to seek emergency attention.

Responding to Additional Violations

The Good Samaritan Policy does not exempt any student from disciplinary sanctions for violations of other (i.e. non-alcohol or drug) policies related to the incident including, but not limited to, sexual misconduct, physical or mental harm, hazing, disorderly or indecent conduct, failure to comply, theft, dangerous practices, or vandalism. The University reserves the right to sanction students in cases of repeated or egregious violations, or where there may be an ongoing threat to the University community.

Student Clubs and Organizations

Student organizations are expected to act in emergency situations both on and off campus. An organization's compliance with the above expectations may be considered a mitigating factor when determining the University's response to an incident that merits disciplinary sanctions for the

organization. In contrast, a student organization's failure to act in accordance with the above expectations during an emergency, or any attempt to conceal such an incident, will be considered an aggravating factor and will undermine their status as a recognized organization.

Initiating a Complaint

Any person who believes that a student has violated the Code of Student Conduct may file a report with the Dean of Students Office, the Department of Public Safety, or with the Office for Residence Life.

Dean of Students Office

Dougherty Hall
Suite 213
(610) 519-4200

Department of Public Safety

Garey Hall
Ground Floor
(610) 519-6979

Office for Residence Life

Stanford Hall Ground Floor
(610) 519-4154/4155

The individual filing the report is referred to in this Code as the Reporter. The individual who is alleged to have been subjected to the misconduct is referred to as the Complainant. In some cases, the Complainant and the Reporter may be the same person. The University may act, in its sole discretion, as the Complainant through a designated staff member or members. After the report is made, the Department of Public Safety investigates the report, as necessary. If a complaint is filed, and once the investigation is complete, the Dean of Students and/or their designate (Conduct Review Administrator) will review the complaint and determine whether or not, if proven, the allegations would constitute a violation of the Code. If so, the Complainant will meet with the Dean of Students or the Conduct Review Administrator to review the complaint and to discuss the procedural options for resolution. In cases where it is determined the allegations do not constitute a violation of the Code, supportive and/or educational measures may be implemented at the discretion of the Conduct Review Administrator.

This meeting will take place promptly after a complaint is filed.

The individual complainant could:

1. Request the University to pursue resolution under the Code of Student Conduct; and/or
2. Make a report to the police department with jurisdiction; and/or
3. Make a statement for the record with the Dean of Students Office, Department of Public Safety, or the Office of Residence Life.

The individual Complainant will normally have three business days after this meeting to decide whether or not to request the University to pursue the complaint, although exceptions to this timeline may be granted in the discretion of the University. The University and its Conduct Review Administrators reserve the right to exercise discretion on when and how to resolve a complaint, and in taking disciplinary action under the Code of Student Conduct.

Procedural Options for Resolution

After a complaint is filed and the investigation is complete, and if the individual complainant and/or the University elect to pursue the complaint, the following procedural options shall constitute the

University's resolution processes for alleged violations of the Code of Student Conduct. The University and its Conduct Review Administrators reserve the right to exercise discretion on when and how to resolve a complaint and in taking disciplinary action under the Code of Student Conduct.

Alleged violations of the Sexual Misconduct Policy will be resolved under The Special Procedures Governing Sexual Misconduct.

While an alleged violation is being investigated and at any time during resolution of the matter, the University may, in its sole discretion, put in place appropriate administrative measures to ensure the safety and well-being of individuals and the community, to preserve evidence, and/or to maintain the integrity of the Code of Student Conduct process.

In general, the University does not permit observers, relatives, or legal counsel to participate in a resolution process. Additionally, unauthorized recording of any resolution process is strictly prohibited.

In cases involving non-violent offenses, details about findings, sanctions or other disciplinary outcomes will not be shared with the Complainant. However, reasonable and appropriate supportive and/or administrative measures may be provided to address the Complainant's concerns related to the reported incident, in order to mitigate continued impact, if any, on their educational programs and activities at Villanova.

Consistent with federal regulations, for cases involving an alleged crime of violence, the Complainant will be informed of the final results of the disciplinary proceeding with respect to that alleged crime.

Students with documented disabilities may request reasonable accommodations in order to fully and meaningfully participate in a process by contacting the Dean of Students Office. Students should submit accommodation requests in advance to allow adequate time to review, identify and implement any reasonable accommodations.

Non-Disciplinary Resolution Options

Educational Referral

In certain circumstances, the Conduct Review Administrator may refer a student to appropriate University personnel for educational follow-up and resolution of the matter external to the Code of Student Conduct. The Conduct Review Administrator will consider the level of severity and the circumstances surrounding the incident, the prior conduct history of the student(s), and other factors in making this determination. Therefore, no disciplinary sanctions will be imposed. The goal is to educate and deter future violations of the Code of Student Conduct. At a minimum, the educational referral is an opportunity to discuss the short- and long-term impact on the individual and the community, and to promote responsible decision making. Educational Referral includes the Community Standards process. Education Referrals are mandatory and failure to comply may result in a referral back to the Conduct Review Administrator for resolution through the procedural options provided in the Code of Student Conduct.

Alternative Resolution

As Villanova aims to create a culture that addresses and repairs harm, and that promotes well-being and mutual love and respect, the University may elect to resolve certain complaints through alternative resolution options outside of a disciplinary process. Examples of alternative resolution include facilitated dialogue, conflict coaching, mediation, counseling, listening circles, restorative conferences, educational follow-up, and other supportive measures, administrative outcomes, or restorative practices.

The Conduct Review Administrator, in their sole discretion, may utilize alternative resolution for cases deemed appropriate, and involved students are expected to comply with and participate in alternative resolution attempts. The nature of some cases, including but not limited to those involving sexual misconduct, may not be appropriate for alternative resolution.

An alternative resolution process may or may not result in agreement or resolution. At the discretion of the Conduct Review Administrator, if resolution is reached through an alternative resolution process, the matter will be considered resolved. Any outcomes, requirements or agreements reached through alternative resolution will be considered binding and failure to abide may result in disciplinary action. If, after reasonable attempts, the matter is not resolved, the Conduct Review Administrator may elect to resolve the complaint through the other procedural options provided in the Code of Student Conduct.

The Conduct Review Administrator may consult, as needed, with other University officials regarding alternative resolution, and may refer students to appropriate University personnel or third parties to facilitate an alternative resolution process.

Disciplinary Resolution Options

Administrative Response

The University may elect to respond to a violation by administratively sanctioning the student and notifying them in writing. This option is typically reserved for minor violations and does not require the student to meet with a Conduct Review Administrator. Upon receipt of notice of the sanction, the student may request a Conduct Review Meeting if there is any objection to the violation or the imposed sanction.

Conduct Review Meeting

In cases where the University elects to pursue disciplinary action under the Code of Student Conduct, the Conduct Review Administrator will schedule a Conduct Review Meeting with the accused student (hereafter referred to as the “Respondent”). The Conduct Review Administrator will notify the Respondent in writing of the date, time and location of the meeting, the alleged violation(s) in question, the procedural rights and resolution options available, and the potential sanctions for the alleged violation(s).

At the Conduct Review Meeting, the alleged violations of the Code of Student Conduct are discussed, and the Respondent is afforded the opportunity to review the information which forms the basis for the allegation. If a student fails to respond to notice of a meeting with the Conduct Review Administrator, they may find the student responsible in their absence and sanction the student accordingly, and/or place a hold on the student’s record until the meeting takes place.

During the meeting, students who accept responsibility for the alleged violations will be sanctioned accordingly by the Conduct Review Administrator and will receive notice of the sanction(s) imposed. Acceptance of responsibility may be rejected by the Conduct Review Administrator in any case that warrants additional investigation. Students who accept responsibility do not waive their right to appeal for review of sanction as outlined in the Code.

When students deny responsibility for an alleged violation, or the facts of a specific incident are in question, the Conduct Review Administrator will determine responsibility for alleged violations by reviewing the complaint in a manner chosen by the Conduct Review Administrator that will endeavor to ensure fairness to all involved. The Conduct Review Administrator will generally follow similar procedures as outlined for a Conduct Review Board when making their determination. Students found responsible by the Conduct Review Administrator will be sanctioned accordingly and will receive notice of the sanction(s) imposed.

In cases where students deny responsibility, or the facts of a specific incident are in question, or where acceptance of responsibility has been rejected by the Conduct Review Administrator, the Conduct

Review Administrator may at any time determine in their discretion that due to the seriousness of the potential sanctions, or the nature or complexity of the facts of the case, that it would be beneficial to refer the matter to a Conduct Review Board. The Conduct Review Administrator may consult with appropriate University officials in making this determination.

Conduct Review Board

As an institution of higher education, Conduct Review Board proceedings are administrative in nature and designed to determine responsibility for alleged violations. As such, the Board's procedures are governed by University policies, not by processes associated with the criminal justice system. A Conduct Review Board (Board) is generally composed of one student and two faculty/staff members. All Boards will have student body representation on them. All members of the Board shall be impartial with no conflict of interest between the Board member and any party. The Conduct Review Administrator, as assigned by the Dean of Students, will facilitate the administrative and logistic needs of the Board and assure orderly proceedings and fairness is observed.

The Conduct Review Administrator will inform the Complainant and Respondent of the Board's procedures and the date and time of the review. The Complainant and Respondent are expected to cooperate fully with the Board. If either party fails to appear at a scheduled proceeding, the Board may proceed without them.

The Complainant and/or the Respondent may challenge the composition of the Conduct Review Board if they believe that a conflict of interest exists with a Board member. The student making this challenge must submit a written request to the Conduct Review Administrator with specific and verifiable documentation. All objections must be raised within three days of receiving notification of the composition of the Conduct Review Board. The Conduct Review Administrator will make the determination whether to replace the Board member. The Complainant and Respondent may not contact members of the Board, or have third parties contact the Board, prior to the convening of the Board.

All proceedings shall be held in appropriate facilities designated by the Conduct Review Administrator and shall be private. In certain cases, the Conduct Review Administrator may elect to hold the proceedings virtually. The Conduct Review Administrator may accommodate concerns for the personal safety, well-being and/or fears of confrontation of the Complainant, Respondent, and/or other witnesses during the disciplinary proceedings, as determined in the sole judgment of the Conduct Review Administrator to be appropriate.

The University does not permit observers, relatives, or legal counsel for either the Complainant or the Respondent to participate at proceedings or be present during proceedings. Additionally, unauthorized recordings of the proceedings are not permitted.

In Board proceedings involving more than one Respondent, the Conduct Review Administrator, in their sole discretion, may permit the proceedings concerning each student to be conducted either separately or jointly.

The Complainant and the Respondent may present statements concerning the alleged violation and may present relevant witnesses. The witnesses must be identified in advance, and their statements should be included in the investigation conducted by the Department of Public Safety. The Board may consider written statements or other supporting documentation. The Respondent and the Complainant may review all written statements and materials presented to the Board prior to the commencement of the proceedings. During the proceedings, the Respondent, the Complainant and the witness will direct their comments only to the Board. Witnesses will provide information to and answer questions from the Board. Questions may be suggested by the Respondent and/or Complainant to be answered by each other or by other witnesses. In such instances, those questions will be directed to the Board rather than to the witness directly. The Board in its discretion will determine whether or not those questions are appropriate, relevant and not repetitious. This method is used to preserve the educational tone of the proceedings and to avoid creation of an adversarial environment.

Formal rules of evidence shall not apply. In the Board's discretion, evidence, including hearsay, shall be permitted if it is relevant, reliable, not unduly repetitious, and it is the sort of information on which responsible persons are accustomed to rely in the conduct of serious affairs. Evidence of character will not be considered by the Board in making factual determinations.

After all statements and materials have been presented, the Complainant and the Respondent may present final comments to the Board.

Subsequently and in private, the Board will determine by a preponderance of the evidence with a majority vote whether the Respondent has violated the Code of Student Conduct. The Board will make its decision known to the Conduct Review Administrator. The Conduct Review Administrator will convey the Board's decision to the Respondent. In cases where there is a finding of responsibility, the Conduct Review Administrator will then determine the sanction.

The University may maintain such records of the proceedings as the Conduct Review Administrator deems appropriate for the circumstances, which may include findings of fact. If, during the course of the proceedings, further violations of the Code of Student Conduct become apparent, the Board may recommend that such allegations be considered as a separate case.

Student Procedural Rights and Responsibilities

Student Procedural Rights

In cases where the University elects to pursue resolution under the Code of Student Conduct, the Conduct Review Administrator will utilize the Disciplinary Resolution Options provided in the Procedural Options for Resolution section of the Code of Student Conduct. In the case of a Conduct Review Meeting, the Conduct Review Administrator will schedule a meeting with the accused student (hereafter referred to as the "Respondent"), and will notify the Respondent in writing of the date, time and location of the meeting, the alleged violation(s) in question, the procedural rights and resolution options available, and the potential sanctions for the alleged violation(s).

At the Conduct Review Meeting, the alleged violations of the Code of Student Conduct are discussed, and the Respondent is afforded the opportunity to review the information which forms the basis for the allegation. If a student fails to respond to notice of a meeting with the Conduct Review Administrator, they may find the student responsible in their absence and sanction the student accordingly, and/or place a hold on the student's record until the meeting takes place.

Rights of the Respondent

1. The right to choose whether or not to participate in disciplinary proceedings, with the understanding that findings and sanctions may be imposed with or without such participation;
2. The right to notice of the allegation that a violation of the Code has taken place and of the factual allegations which form the basis for the complaint;
3. The right to notification of disciplinary proceedings related to the complaint and of prompt time frames anticipated for major stages of the complaint process;
4. The right to a prompt and impartial response and resolution of complaints;
5. The right to have the University or Complainant bear the burden of proof by a preponderance of the evidence;
6. The right to present relevant statements, materials and witnesses during disciplinary proceedings;
7. The right to the opportunity to review all written statements and materials presented at the proceedings;
8. The right to notification of any finding of responsibility;
9. The right to be free from retaliation for participating in the University's investigation and fact-finding process; and
10. The right of appeal consistent with the provisions of this Code.

Rights of the Complainant

1. The right to choose whether or not to participate in disciplinary proceedings;
2. The right to notice of the factual allegations based on any response by the Respondent;
3. The right to notification of disciplinary proceedings and of prompt time frames anticipated for major stages of the complaint process;
4. The right to a prompt and impartial response and resolution of the complaint;
5. The right to have the University bear the burden of proof by a preponderance of the evidence;
6. The right to present relevant statements, materials and witnesses during the disciplinary proceedings;
7. The right to the opportunity to review all written statements and materials presented at the proceedings;
8. The right to notification of the outcome of the complaint, [as set forth herein](#);
9. The right to be free from retaliation for filing a complaint or participating in the University's investigation and fact-finding process; and
10. The right of appeal consistent with the provisions of this Code.

Student Procedural Responsibilities

1. Students are expected to appear for scheduled disciplinary meetings with the Conduct Review Administrator. If a student fails to respond to notice of a meeting, the Conduct Review Administrator may find the student responsible in their absence and sanction the student accordingly, and/or place a hold on the student's records until the meeting takes place.
2. Students are expected to comply with and carry out all conditions of a disciplinary sanction and other outcomes or measures. Failure to comply with a sanction will be considered a violation of the Code of Student Conduct and may result in a more severe sanction than the one already imposed, and/or a hold on the student's record until the sanction is complete.
3. Students identified as potential witnesses to alleged violations of the Code of Student Conduct are expected to participate fully in the process, as appropriate. Students who fail to comply may be in violation of the provisions of this paragraph and sanctioned appropriately.
4. Persons who participate in the conduct review process in any capacity (i.e., Complainant, Respondent, witness, etc.) should be free from harassment, intimidation, undue pressure or other unfair treatment before, during and after the process. Any conduct that can be reasonably viewed as an attempt to unduly influence the filing of a report, the filing of a complaint, or participation in the conduct review process will not be tolerated. Any adverse treatment of any person that can be reasonably viewed as directly related to their current or prior participation in the conduct review process will not be tolerated and may constitute a violation of the Code of Student Conduct.

Sanctioning

After a finding or acceptance of responsibility, the Conduct Review Administrator will impose sanctions after considering the following:

1. The nature of the violation and the circumstances surrounding it, including the actual or potential impact on the individuals involved and/or the community as a whole;
2. Statements made and/or information presented during the conduct review process;
3. Disciplinary history of the student;
4. Disciplinary precedent;
5. Guidelines in the Code of Student Conduct.

The Conduct Review Administrator, in their discretion, will consider overall severity and any aggravating and/or mitigating factors related to the violation when determining sanctions. In some cases, cooperation during the incident may be considered a mitigating factor. Additionally, and when appropriate, the Conduct Review Administrator may consider level of intent, demonstrated remorse, and the student's understanding of their impact when determining outcomes.

The Conduct Review Administrator may consult with other University officials as they deem appropriate and may, at times, delay or defer the imposition of any of the following sanctions.

Sanctions for Violations of the Code

Sanctions serve to reinforce that students are held responsible and accountable for their conduct. This is accomplished by measures whose purposes are to educate and to deter future misconduct, to acknowledge and repair harm inflicted on the community, to provide accountability for one's conduct, and to promote the health, safety and well-being of the individual and community.

Villanova University reserves the right to notify family/legal guardian(s) regarding the disciplinary violations, status, and/or sanctions or outcomes related to their student, to the extent consistent with the provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.

The following sanctions and measures shall comprise the range of official actions which may be imposed for violations of regulations. Any violation of the Code of Student Conduct may result in the full range of sanctions and/or additional outcomes outlined below, and one or more may be imposed in response to a given situation.

Disciplinary Sanctions

Non-Reportable Disciplinary Sanctions

The following non-reportable disciplinary sanctions are not disclosed by the University to external third-parties, except when required by law, and provide notice to a student that their conduct is in violation of University policies, and therefore unacceptable. Continuation of similar conduct or future violations will result in more severe sanctions, which may impact a student's disciplinary standing at the University.

Violation Notice

A Violation Notice is a written notification to a student that their conduct is in violation of University policy, and that future violations may be cause for additional disciplinary action, including more severe sanctions. This notification typically is delivered via University email and requires no in-person meeting with a Conduct Review Administrator.

Conduct Warning

A Conduct Warning is an official notice to a student that their conduct has violated the standards and expectations of the University and similar conduct or continued non-compliance with University policy likely will result in Housing Probation, Disciplinary Probation and/or more severe sanctions.

Reportable Disciplinary Sanctions

The following reportable disciplinary sanctions are disclosed to authorized external third-parties for a stated period of time, in accordance with the Student Conduct and Concern Records Policy, and typically are the outcome of serious or repeated violations of the Code of Student Conduct. These sanctions impact a student's disciplinary standing at the University, and may include other restrictions and/or conditions of membership. Typically, family/legal guardian(s) are notified when a student is issued a reportable sanction.

Disciplinary Probation

Disciplinary Probation is a defined period of time during which a student is not in good disciplinary standing with the University. This sanction serves as an official notice that a student's continued membership at the University is conditional and dependent upon demonstrated and sustained compliance with University policy. Continued violations of University policy or non-compliance with the conditions of Disciplinary Probation will result in more severe sanctions, including suspension or expulsion from the University. Eligibility for certain academic or extra-curricular organizations or programs may be restricted while a student is on Disciplinary Probation.

Disciplinary Probation with Loss of Privilege

Disciplinary Probation with Loss of Privilege is a defined period of time during which a student is not in good disciplinary standing with the University. This sanction serves as an official notice that a student's continued membership at the University is conditional and dependent upon demonstrated and sustained compliance with University policy. Additionally, for the defined period of time, this sanction excludes a student from all extracurricular University privileges, including, without limitation: membership in student organizations; participation and/or attendance in non-academic activities, programs, and events; representing the University in intercollegiate and athletic teams and clubs; holding any elected or appointed office in a University recognized organization; and selection for extracurricular committees or programs. Eligibility for certain academic programs and campus residency may also be restricted. This sanction permits a student to pursue their academic course work and is the strongest sanction short of suspension. Additional violations of University policy or non-compliance with the conditions of this sanction will result in suspension or expulsion.

Suspension

Suspension is a defined period of time during which a student is excluded from class registration, class attendance, residence on campus, use of University facilities, and the award of any degree. Suspended students are not permitted on the campus without prior approval from the Dean of Students Office. Upon completion of the period of suspension, a student will be considered for readmission if:

1. The student is academically eligible for readmission; and
2. The student has complied with all conditions for readmission placed upon the student by the Dean of Students and/or their designate.

Students who are permitted to return to the University following a period of Suspension will automatically be placed on Disciplinary Probation for a designated period of time. Students may also be subject to additional terms or conditions of Probation, including Loss of Privilege, upon their return.

Expulsion

Expulsion is an action which permanently excludes a student from class registration, class attendance, residence on campus, use of University facilities, and the award of any degree. Expelled students are not permitted on the campus for any reason, and those who enter the campus are subject to arrest.

Housing Sanctions

As living on campus is a privilege and not a right, Housing Sanctions typically are issued in cases where a student's conduct has also impacted the residential community. Housing Sanctions may be issued separately or in conjunction with Disciplinary Sanctions. Housing Sanctions are not reported or disclosed to external third-parties, except when required by law.

Housing Probation

Housing Probation is a defined period of time during which a student's status as an on-campus resident is conditional and dependent upon demonstrated and sustained compliance with University policy. Future violations will result in more severe disciplinary sanctions, including loss of campus residency. Additional housing measures may also be issued as a condition of Housing Probation. Typically, family/legal guardian(s) will be notified when a student is placed on Housing Probation.

Loss of Campus Residency

An action which excludes a student from residence on campus, either on a temporary or permanent basis.

Additional Housing Measures

In addition to the housing sanctions above, students may be subject to one or more of the following.

1. Guest and Visitation Restrictions: An action which restricts guest and visitation privileges, including a student's ability to host guests in their room/apartment and/or visit other rooms/apartments or residence halls. These restrictions may also impact a student's ability to utilize common lounge space or participate in residence hall activities.
2. Residence Hall Room Change: An action which requires a student to vacate their current room/apartment and relocate to another room/apartment and/or residence hall.
3. Restrictions on Housing Selection: An action which may exclude a student from participation in a particular housing lottery, or affect their ranking within a particular lottery, or affect eligibility to live in certain residence halls.
4. Other Administrative Housing Measures, as appropriate.

Additional Outcomes for Violations of the Code of Student Conduct

In addition to or in lieu of the sanctions above, students may be subject to one or more of the following. These outcomes are not disclosed to external third-parties except when required by law.

1. Educational Measures: An action that requires the student to complete an educational activity, project and/or experience as assigned by the Conduct Review Administrator or the Dean of Students. Failure to complete this assignment within a specified period of time may result in additional disciplinary action. These assignments include but are not limited to reflection activities, alcohol and drug education, research and other written assignments, trainings, workshops and other educational programs.
2. Exclusion from University Property, University Buildings, University Events or Programs, Student Organizations, Intramural or Club Sports, and/or Extracurricular Activities for a stated period of time.
3. Fines or Restitution: Payment by the student of reasonable monetary fines to the Bursar's Office. These monetary payments may be for accountability purposes or for purposes of restitution because of damage to persons or property, or misappropriation of property.
4. Community Service: An action that requires a student to give a specific number of hours of uncompensated service to an effort recognized as valuable to the University community. The Conduct Review Administrator will make the particular assignment of duties. The person under whose direction the work is done shall certify to the Conduct Review Administrator when the work has been completed. Failure to complete the service within a specific period of time will result in additional disciplinary action. The Conduct Review Administrator has the discretion to assign work in the community-at-large or on-campus service.
5. Dean of Students Hold on Records: A hold may be placed on the academic records of any student who fails to comply with any requirements imposed following a violation of the Code of Student Conduct. A hold may prevent, among other things, class registration, the release of transcripts, and the award of a diploma. Students who are suspended or expelled from the University are subject to a hold to prevent class registration.
6. No Contact Directive: This is an official notice to a student that they may not communicate or interact with another individual. This directive may prohibit contact of any kind including, but not limited to, in-person, by phone, text message, social media, or any other electronic means. This also includes contact through third-parties.
7. Withholding a Degree: The University may withhold awarding a degree otherwise earned for a stated period or until the completion of the Conduct Review Process set forth in this Code, including the completion of any sanction imposed.
8. Other administrative, supportive, educational and/or restorative measures, as appropriate.

Appeals

The Dean of Students or their designate (hereafter referred to as the "Dean of Students") will review appeals for new disciplinary proceedings or a review of sanction. During the appeal process, students may be subject to certain restrictions impacting such things as: class attendance; on-campus housing; participation and/or membership in organizations, athletic events/teams/clubs, and/or extracurricular

activities; attendance at University events/functions; and access to University buildings. The Dean of Students may consult with other University officials as they deem appropriate. All decisions made by the Dean of Students are final, including whether or not an appeal is procedurally permitted.

A. Appeal for New Disciplinary Proceeding

The Respondent and the Complainant have the right to file a written appeal for a New Disciplinary Proceeding to the Dean of Students. Appeals for a New Disciplinary Proceeding may be filed only for the following reasons:

1. Material procedural defect in the original disciplinary proceeding
2. Presence of new material evidence that was not available through no fault of the appealing party at the time of the original disciplinary proceeding.

The student filing the appeal must submit a typewritten appeal within two business days of notification of the outcome of the disciplinary proceedings stating the specific reason and justification for the appeal. The Dean of Students will review the appeal promptly and notify the student, who has filed the appeal, of the outcome.

B. Appeal for Review of Sanction

The Respondent has the right to file a written appeal to the Dean of Students where the sanction is expulsion, suspension, or permanent loss of campus residency, and the student filing the appeal believes that the sanction is disproportionate to the offense. Other sanctions are not subject to review. Review of the sanction may occur only after the disciplinary proceedings have been completed and a sanction has been imposed. For the purposes of this sanction review, the Dean of Students will accept as binding the previous decision that the Respondent has violated the Code of Student Conduct.

The student filing the appeal must submit a typewritten appeal within two business days of notification of the sanction stating the reason why the sanction is disproportionate to the offense. They must schedule a date and time to discuss the appeal with the Dean of Students within five business days of notification of the sanction. Parents or guardians are permitted to participate in this discussion. The Dean of Students will review the sanction appeal and advise the student filing the appeal of their decision in writing.

Special Procedures Governing Sexual Misconduct Proceedings

STUDENT SPECIAL PROCEDURES GOVERNING PROCEEDINGS INVOLVING ALLEGATIONS OF SEXUAL MISCONDUCT

IMPLEMENTING THE CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT

At the conclusion of the investigation and all applicable steps described in the University's Sexual Misconduct Policy, formal complaints against undergraduate or graduate students will be referred to the Dean of Students Office. The procedures set forth below ("Special Procedures") shall constitute the University's Title IX and Sexual Misconduct grievance procedures for addressing alleged violations of the Sexual Misconduct Policy. The University's full Sexual Misconduct Policy, which outlines the University's reporting, formal complaint and investigative processes, including requests for disability accommodations related to those processes, can be found at: <https://villanova.policytech.com/docview/?docid=199&public=true9>.

1. FORMAL RESOLUTION PROCESS

1. Student procedural rights

1. **Rights of the Respondent**
2. **Rights of the Complainant**

2. **Acceptance of Responsibility**
3. **Formal Resolution Hearing**
 1. **Notice and Participation**
 2. **Consolidation Options**
 3. **Hearing Decision-Maker**
 4. **Hearing Procedures**
 5. **Advisors**
 6. **Presentation of Evidence at the Formal Resolution Hearing**
 7. **Closing Statements and Deliberations**
 8. **Determination Regarding Responsibility**
2. **SANCTIONS**
3. **APPEALS**
 1. **Grounds for an appeal**
 2. **Process to appeal**

1. FORMAL RESOLUTION PROCESS

As outlined in the full Sexual Misconduct Policy, when a formal complaint is made, a written Notice of Allegations will be sent to the Complainant(s) and Respondent(s). Such notice will occur as soon as practicable after Villanova receives a formal complaint, absent extenuating circumstances. An investigation by a trained investigator will commence as set forth in the Sexual Misconduct Policy and the parties will be provided with options for informal resolution as outlined in the Sexual Misconduct Policy and formal resolution as outlined below.

At the conclusion of the investigation, the investigator will share all evidence submitted during the investigation, the Investigative Report, and any responses with the Dean of Students Office. Upon receipt of the Investigative Report, the Dean of Students will designate a Conduct Review Administrator who will serve as the primary point of contact for Complainants, Respondents, and their advisors during the Formal Resolution process. The Conduct Review Administrator will oversee the implementation of the formal resolution procedures and issue sanctions if the Respondent is found responsible or admits responsibility for violations of policy.

The Complainant and Respondent will meet with the Conduct Review Administrator separately to discuss next steps in the formal resolution process and review the Student Procedural Rights. This meeting will take place promptly after the matter has been referred to the Dean of Students.

If a student fails to respond to notice of a meeting with the Conduct Review Administrator, the resolution process may proceed in their absence.

If a Respondent chooses to withdraw from the University subsequent to the filing of a formal complaint, the University may elect to continue with the grievance procedures in their absence and may take appropriate steps to restrict access to campus and/or University programs or place appropriate holds on student records.

If the Complainant and/or the Respondent intend to have their Advisor (as defined below) accompany them to any meetings with the Dean of Students or the Conduct Review Administrator, they must provide the name and contact information of the Advisor to the Dean of Students or the Conduct Review Administrator at least three (3) business days prior to the initial meeting. If the same Advisor accompanies the party to subsequent meetings, additional notification is not required. Any change in Advisor must be communicated in advance of any scheduled meetings.

The University does not permit unauthorized observers, as determined by the University, to attend or participate in any meetings, hearings or other proceedings as part of the resolution process. Additionally, unauthorized recording of any such meetings and/or proceedings is strictly prohibited.

A. Student Procedural Rights

i. Rights of the Respondent

1. The right to choose whether or not to participate in the grievance procedures, with the understanding that findings may be made and sanctions may be imposed with or without such participation;
2. The right to notice of the allegations;
3. The right to notification of the grievance procedures;
4. The right to review all directly related evidence and the investigative report;
5. The right to a prompt and impartial response and resolution of complaints;
6. The right to be presumed not responsible until found otherwise;
7. The right to have the University bear the burden of proof by a preponderance of the evidence;
8. The right to present relevant statements, materials and witnesses during grievance procedures;
9. The right to have an Advisor of choice throughout the process or appointed by the University, free of charge, for the purposes of conducting cross-examination of the other party and witnesses during a conduct hearing;
10. The right to have available at the hearing all relevant evidence and the investigative report;
11. The right to have an Advisor conduct live cross-examination of any witnesses and/or the Complainant;
12. The right to written notification of:
 1. any finding of responsibility
 2. findings of fact supporting the determination
 3. statement of and rationale for the result as to each allegation
 4. any disciplinary sanctions imposed
 5. any remedies provided to the Complainant
13. The right to be free from retaliation regardless of participation in the University's grievance process; and
14. The right of appeal consistent with these Special Procedures.

ii. Rights of the Complainant

1. The right to choose whether or not to participate in grievance procedures, with the understanding that findings may be made with or without such participation
2. The right to notice of the allegations;
3. The right to notification of the grievance procedures;
4. The right to review all directly related evidence and the investigative report;
5. The right to a prompt and impartial response and resolution of the complaint;
6. The right to have the University bear the burden of proof by a preponderance of the evidence
7. The right to present relevant statements, materials and witnesses during the grievance procedures;
8. The right to have an Advisor of choice throughout the process or appointed by the University, free of charge, for the purposes of conducting cross-examination of the other party and witnesses during a conduct hearing
9. The right to have available at the hearing all relevant evidence and the investigative report;
10. The right to have an Advisor conduct live cross-examination on any witnesses and/or the Respondent
11. The right to written notification of:
 1. any finding of responsibility
 2. findings of fact supporting the determination
 3. statement of and rationale for the result as to each allegation
 4. any disciplinary sanctions imposed
 5. any remedies provided
12. The right to be free from retaliation for filing a complaint or participating in the University's grievance process; and
13. The right of appeal consistent with the provisions of these Special Procedures.

B. Acceptance of Responsibility

At any point following a formal complaint, a Respondent has the option to accept responsibility. Following the acceptance of responsibility, the Respondent will be sanctioned accordingly by the Conduct Review Administrator utilizing the sanctioning considerations outlined below. Acceptance of responsibility may be rejected by the Conduct Review Administrator. The Conduct Review Administrator will provide all parties written notice of the sanction(s) imposed. Acceptance of responsibility does not waive the right to appeal as outlined below.

C. Formal Resolution Hearing

Formal Resolution hearings are designed to determine responsibility for alleged violations. As such, the procedures are governed by University policies consistent with federal and state law.

The Conduct Review Administrator, as assigned by the Dean of Students, will facilitate the administrative needs of the hearing and will be present during the hearing to provide assistance.

i. Notice and Participation

The Conduct Review Administrator will provide the Complainant and Respondent with a written notice of the hearing. The notice will include: the specific policy violations that will be the subject of the hearing; the date, time, and location of the hearing; the name of the Hearing Decision-Maker; how to challenge participation by the Hearing Decision-Maker on the basis of conflict of interest or bias; and information regarding procedural steps consistent with these Special Procedures and the Sexual Misconduct Policy.

The Complainant and Respondent are expected to cooperate fully during the hearing. If either party fails to appear at a scheduled hearing, the hearing may proceed without them.

ii. Consolidation Options

In situations involving a formal complaint against multiple Respondents, where the allegations against each Respondent arise from the same set of facts or circumstances, the Conduct Review Administrator, in consultation with appropriate University officials, will determine whether the hearing concerning each Respondent will be conducted either separately or jointly.

In situations involving multiple formal complaints pending against the same Respondent, the University has discretion to consolidate the hearings where the incidents arise out of the same facts or circumstances. The University also has discretion, but not the obligation, to solicit and consider the input of the parties regarding the consolidation of hearings. If, during the course of the hearing, further violations of the Code of Student Conduct become apparent, the decision-maker may recommend that such alleged violations be investigated and resolved as a separate case.

iii. Hearing Decision-Maker

The hearing will be conducted by a fair and impartial Hearing Decision-Maker, who will conduct an objective evaluation of all relevant evidence, including both inculpatory and exculpatory evidence. The Hearing Decision-Maker may be a Villanova University faculty or staff member, or an external professional, as determined by the Conduct Review Administrator.

Any individual serving as a Hearing Decision-Maker will be free from conflicts of interest and bias for or against either party, and trained on the definitions of sexual misconduct, including sexual harassment, the scope of the University's education program or activity, how to conduct a hearing, how to serve impartially, by avoiding prejudgment of the facts at issue, conflicts of interest, and bias; and how to serve as an informed and impartial decision-maker. Training for Hearing Decision-Makers will include training content provided to investigators, as well training on any technology to be used at a live hearing and on issues of relevance of questions and evidence.

The Complainant and/or the Respondent may challenge the Hearing Decision-Maker if they believe that an actual conflict of interest or bias exists. The party making this challenge must submit a written request to the Title IX Coordinator with specific and verifiable information or documentation. All objections must be raised within five (5) business days of receiving notification of the appointed Hearing Decision-Maker. The Title IX Coordinator will make the determination whether to replace the Hearing Decision-Maker. The Complainant and Respondent may not contact the Hearing Decision-Maker or have third parties contact the Hearing Decision-Maker, prior to the hearing.

iv. Hearing Procedures

Hearing Decision-Maker shall ask questions, run the hearing, make determinations on procedural issues, make findings of responsibility, make findings of fact supporting any determination of responsibility, and compile a written Determination Regarding Responsibility including a statement of and rationale for the result as to each allegation.

All hearings shall be held in an appropriate venue as determined by the Conduct Review Administrator and shall be private. The Conduct Review Administrator can provide for the hearing to occur virtually with technology that enables the parties to appear remotely from separate locations. The University does not permit unauthorized observers, as determined by the University, to attend or participate in any meetings, hearings, or other proceedings as part of the resolution process. Additionally, unauthorized recording of any such proceedings is strictly prohibited.

The University will create and maintain a transcript of the hearing which, when complete, will be made available to the parties and their advisors.

Disruptive, threatening, intimidating, or uncivil behavior by the parties or their advisors will not be tolerated. Violations will normally result in a warning being issued by the Hearing Decision-Maker, or the Conduct Review Administrator. Repeated violations may result in offending party being asked to leave the hearing and the hearing may continue in their absence.

v. Advisors

A Complainant, and/or a Respondent participating in a Formal Resolution Hearing must be accompanied by an Advisor. This can be an Advisor of their choosing or, if the party does not have an Advisor or their Advisor is unavailable, a University-appointed Advisor provided free of charge for the sole purpose of facilitating cross-examination of the other party and witnesses. The Advisor may, but need not be, an attorney. If the party's Advisor of choice for the hearing is different from the Advisor attending previous meetings with the Conduct Review Administrator, the party must inform the Conduct Review Administrator of the change. This notification must be in writing, a minimum of five (5) business days in advance of the hearing and include the name and contact information for the Advisor.

A party's Advisor of choice may provide support and advice to their advisee at any meeting and/or hearing. With the exception of the advisor's cross-examination during a hearing, they may not speak on behalf of their advisee or otherwise participate in, or in any manner delay, disrupt, or interfere with meetings and/or hearings. The Advisor will offer no testimonial evidence or answer questions on behalf of their advisee; the Advisor may not conduct direct examination of their advisee; and the advisor may not present opening or closing remarks. The Advisor, and not the Complainant or Respondent, will conduct cross-examination of any witness in compliance with the hearing's procedures and the University's policies and procedures.

Advisors may ask to suspend any meetings, interviews, or hearings briefly to provide consultation; the University retains the discretion to deny such requests if they are excessive, burdensome, or otherwise unreasonable. The University may remove or dismiss advisors who do not abide by the restrictions on their participation or who are otherwise disruptive. An advisor may be asked to meet with the Title IX Coordinator in advance of any meetings or hearings to receive and acknowledge the University's overview of the policy, expectations of the role, privacy considerations, and appropriate decorum.

An advisor should plan to make themselves reasonably available for all meetings and hearings. Villanova will not intentionally schedule meetings or hearings on dates where the advisors for all parties are not available, provided that the advisors act reasonably in providing available dates and work collegially to find dates and times that meet all schedules. Villanova's obligations to investigate and adjudicate in a prompt timeframe applies to matters governed under the University's Sexual Misconduct Policy and the University cannot agree to extensive delays solely to accommodate the schedule of an Advisor. Villanova will not delay a meeting or hearing under the Sexual Misconduct Policy for more than five (5) business days due to the unavailability of an advisor and may offer the opportunity to obtain a different advisor or utilize one provided by Villanova. An advisor is entitled to review all information gathered in the investigation that is directly related to the allegations (as part of evidence review), to access to the investigation report, and to cross-examine the other party and all witnesses during the hearing.

vi. Presentation of Evidence at the Formal Resolution Hearing

The Complainant and the Respondent, may present:

- opening and closing statements concerning the alleged violation(s);
- relevant documentation and other evidence gathered during the investigatory process;
- relevant witnesses identified during the investigatory process.

The Respondent and the Complainant and their advisors may review all evidence and the investigative report provided to the Hearing Decision-Maker prior to the commencement of the hearing and have all evidence and the investigative report available to them during the hearing.

Formal rules of evidence shall not apply. In the Hearing Decision-Maker's discretion, evidence, shall be permitted if it is relevant, reliable, not unduly repetitious, and it is the sort of information on which responsible persons are accustomed to rely in the conduct of serious affairs.

During the hearing, the parties and witnesses will provide information to and answer questions from the Hearing Decision-Maker. Except for cross-examination by the Advisor, the Respondent, the Complainant, the Advisors and the witnesses will direct their comments and/or questions only to the Hearing Decision-Maker. The Hearing Decision-Maker may consider statements of all parties and witnesses, regardless of their participation in the hearing. Before any questions are answered, the Hearing Decision-Maker will determine if the question is relevant. Questions that are determined to be irrelevant, duplicative of those already asked or harassing in nature and tone may be disallowed.

In general, the following types of evidence and questions are not relevant:

- Evidence and questions about the Complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual history unless:
 - Such questions and evidence are offered to prove that someone other than the Respondent committed the conduct alleged by the Complainant, or
 - The questions and evidence concern specific incidents of the Complainant's prior sexual history with respect to the Respondent and are offered to prove consent.
- Evidence and questions that constitute, or seek disclosure of, information protected under a legally-recognized privilege.
- Any party's medical, psychological, and similar mental health records unless the party has given voluntary, written consent.

In addition, credible evidence regarding other reports of, or findings of responsibility for, similar conduct by the Respondent may also be deemed relevant to prove motive, intent, absence of mistake, pattern or another material fact. Similarly, prior or subsequent conduct of a Complainant, even when it involves conduct that may violate University policy, may be considered when relevant.

Any party seeking admission of prior sexual history and/or evidence of other misconduct, or seeking to challenge such evidence, must do so in writing: by advising the investigator during the investigatory process; and/or by advising the Conduct Review Administrator at least 3 business days in advance of the hearing. The written notice shall set forth the evidence the party is seeking to introduce and the relevancy of such information.

The Hearing Decision-Maker will make the determination as to the admissibility of this information or questions and will instruct all parties accordingly regarding any limit in scope or admissibility.

vii. Closing Statements and Deliberations

After all statements and materials have been presented, the Complainant and the Respondent may present final comments to the Hearing Decision-Maker. [Subsequently and in private, the](#) Hearing Decision-Maker will deliberate to determine by a preponderance of the evidence whether the Respondent has violated University policy.

After the Hearing Decision-Maker has reached a determination as to responsibility, the Conduct Review Administrator will determine the appropriate sanction, as outlined below.

viii. Determination Regarding Responsibility

The Conduct Review Administrator will simultaneously provide the written Determination Regarding Responsibility to all parties. The Determination will include:

1. Alleged violations of the Code of Student Conduct;
2. A description of the procedural steps taken from the filing of the formal complaint;
3. Findings of fact supporting the determination;
4. Conclusions regarding which section(s) of the Code of Student Conduct, if any, the Respondent has or has not violated.
5. For each alleged violation:
 1. A statement of, and rationale for, a determination regarding responsibility;
 2. A statement of, and rationale for, any disciplinary sanctions determined by the Conduct Review Administrator (as outlined below) imposed on the Respondent; and
 3. A statement of, and rationale for, whether remedies designed to restore or preserve equal access to Villanova's education program or activity will be provided by the University to the Complainant; and
6. Procedures and the permitted reasons for the parties to appeal as outlined below, including the name of the Appeal-Decision Maker

Appropriate documentation will be maintained as required to allow the University to comply with applicable law.

2. SANCTIONS

After the finding or admission of responsibility, the Conduct Review Administrator will impose sanctions after considering the following:

1. The nature of the violation and the circumstances surrounding it;
2. Impact on the individuals involved and/or the community as a whole;
3. Statements made or evidence presented in the investigative report and/or hearing;
4. Prior disciplinary record of the student;

The Conduct Review Administrator may consult with other University officials as they deem appropriate.

Sanctions serve to reinforce that students are held responsible and accountable for their behavior. This is accomplished by measures to educate, to deter future misconduct and to provide consequences for one's actions.

Villanova University reserves the right to notify parent(s)/legal guardian(s) about the disciplinary status of their student, to the extent consistent with the provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.

Disciplinary sanctions comprise the range of official actions which may be imposed for violations of the Code of Student Conduct. Any violation of the Code of Student Conduct may result in the full range of sanctions outlined in the [Sanctioning](#) section of the Student Handbook, and one or more may be imposed in response to a given situation.

3. APPEALS

Both parties have the right to appeal the final determination of responsibility and/or the resulting sanction. The trained Appeal Decision-Maker, who may be a Villanova faculty or staff member or external professional, as determined by the Dean of Students, will review appeals. The Appeal Decision-Maker's responsibility will be strictly limited to determining the issues on appeal. The Appeal Decision-Maker may consult with other University officials as they deem appropriate and all decisions made by the Appeal Decision-Maker are final, including whether or not an appeal is procedurally permitted.

During the appeal process students who have received a disciplinary sanction may be subject to certain restrictions, impacting such things as: class attendance; on-campus housing; participation and/or membership in organizations, athletic events/teams/clubs, and/or extracurricular activities; attendance at University events/functions; and access to University buildings.

A. Grounds for Appeal

The Respondent and the Complainant may request an appeal based only on one or more of the following grounds:

Appeal of the Determination as to Responsibility:

1. Material Procedural Irregularity that affected the outcome of the matter;
2. New Relevant Evidence that was not reasonably available at the time of determination regarding responsibility or dismissal was made, that could affect the outcome of the matter; or
3. The Title IX Coordinator, investigator(s), or decision-maker(s) had a Conflict of Interest or Bias for or against an individual Complainant or Respondent, or for or against Complainants or Respondents in general, that affected the outcome of the matter. The appeal must specify the basis on which the party believes there is an actual conflict of interest or bias that affected the matter.

Appeal for Review of Sanction:

4. The sanction(s) imposed were disproportionate to the violation(s).

B. Process to Appeal

As part of the written Determination of Responsibility, the Conduct Review Administrator will provide the parties with the name of the Appeal Decision Maker to whom appeals are submitted. The Respondent and the Complainant may request an appeal within seven (7) business days from the time of notification of determination and access to the hearing transcript. Appeals must be submitted to the Appeal Decision-Maker in writing and:

- Be from and signed (physical or electronic) by the Complainant or Respondent;
- Consist of a concise and complete statement no more than eight (8) single spaced pages (including attachments) utilizing 12-point font;

- Set forth one or more appropriate grounds for appeal as listed above.

If the appeal does not articulate appropriate grounds for appeal, it will be denied and both parties notified. If the appeal does articulate appropriate grounds for appeal, the Appeal Decision-Maker will notify both parties of the filing of the appeal. Each party will be given the opportunity to review and respond, in writing, to the other party's appeal. This response must be submitted within five (5) business days of the notice of the filing of an appeal. Any written response to an appeal will also be shared with the other party. No further written submissions will be permitted.

The Appeal Decision-Maker will promptly review the written appeal submissions and responses (if any) and any other materials relevant to the appeal, which may include: the investigative report, hearing transcript, and the Determination of Responsibility, and notify the parties of the outcome.

1. Appeals based on appropriate grounds of a Material Procedural Irregularity, New Relevant Evidence, or Conflict of Interest or Bias, will be resolved, as outlined below, prior to addressing any Appeals for Review of Sanction.
 1. **Material Procedural Irregularity** – if found, and depending on the nature of the procedural error, the matter may be heard by a new Hearing Decision-Maker or the Appeal Decision-Maker may remand the matter to the original Hearing Decision-Maker for further deliberation to remedy the error ;
2.
 1. **New Relevant Evidence** – if found, the matter will be remanded to the original Hearing Decision-Maker for reconsideration in light of the new evidence;
 2. **Conflict of Interest or Bias** – if found, the matter will be remanded for further deliberation consistent with the appellate finding.

Remedies for appeals based on the grounds listed above do not include automatic dismissal of the case or a unilateral determination of responsibility by the Appeal Decision-Maker.

2. Appeals for Review of Sanction will be heard subsequent to the resolution of any Appeals for Material Procedural Irregularity, New Relevant Evidence, or Conflict of Interest or Bias (if submitted). If the appeal is determined to be based on appropriate grounds for Review of Sanction, the Appeal Decision-Maker will accept as final and binding the previous decision that the Respondent has violated the Code of Student Conduct. Each party will be given the opportunity to separately meet and discuss their appeal for review of sanction and/or their response to the other party's appeal with the Appeal Decision-Maker. Each party may be accompanied by an advisor of their choice. The voluntary meeting will normally be scheduled within ten (10) business days of the original appeal being filed.

Within approximately ten (10) business days, the Appeal Decision-Maker will issue a written decision notifying the parties of the result of the appeal and rationale for the result.

SEXUAL MISCONDUCT COMPLAINT PROCEDURES FOR COMPLAINTS AGAINST FACULTY OR STAFF

Complaints of sexual misconduct against faculty or staff governed by special procedures outlined in the University's [Sexual Misconduct Policy](#).

Extraordinary Procedures

In exceptional circumstances, including circumstances which may involve sexual misconduct, the University may have an obligation to act before a disciplinary proceeding can be held, or to postpone its own hearing in favor of some other course of action. In such cases, the following procedures may apply:

A. Hold On Records

At any time after a possible violation of the Code of Student Conduct comes to the attention of the University, the University may place a 'Hold' on the academic records of a student in order to preserve the status quo pending the outcome of proceedings under the Code of Student Conduct. A Hold may prevent, among other things, registration, the release of transcripts, and the award of a diploma.

B. Pending Criminal Or Civil Proceedings

The University may proceed under the Code of Student Conduct regardless of possible or pending civil claims or criminal charges arising out of the same or other events. The University shall determine the appropriate timing for proceeding against a student who also faces related charges in a civil or criminal tribunal. If the University defers proceeding with a case against a student facing related charges in a civil or criminal tribunal, the University may subsequently proceed under the Code of Student Conduct irrespective of any time limitations set forth elsewhere in the Code. In the event a student is suspended in accordance with this Code's interim suspension provisions and the University defers proceeding under the conditions described in this paragraph regarding pending civil claims or criminal charges, the interim suspension may continue in place pending the outcome of the pending civil claims or criminal charges and the University's subsequent proceedings under the Code of Student Conduct.

Students who plead guilty, plead nolo contendere, or who are found guilty of violating State, Federal or Local law, are in violation of this Code, and the University may, in its discretion, impose sanction(s) without an additional disciplinary proceeding. Students retain the right to appeal only the sanction consistent with this Code. Students found not guilty, or cases where criminal charges are dismissed, or cases where students are accepted for the Accelerated Rehabilitative Disposition (ARD) program or similar such programs are still subject to the provisions and procedures of the Code of Student Conduct.

C. Interim Suspension

A student may be suspended on an interim basis when, in the judgment of University officials:

1. An individual poses a threat to themselves or the community; or
2. The student has been charged with a crime of a serious nature; or
3. The University determines there is a reasonable basis to believe the student has committed a serious violation of the Code of Student Conduct.

If an individual has been suspended because they pose a threat to themselves or the community, and if the behavior will not be pursued by the University as a violation of the Code of Student Conduct, the Dean of Students (or their designate) will meet with the individual to determine the appropriateness of returning to the University.

If the behavior will be pursued by the University as a violation of the Code of Student Conduct, then a disciplinary proceeding in accordance with the procedures outlined in the Code of Student Conduct will be held as soon as possible to determine the final outcome of the case, except where the University defers proceeding in light of pending civil claims or criminal charges as described in Section (B) above.

When in the judgment of University officials there is reasonable basis to believe a student may have committed a crime of a serious nature or a student is alleged to have committed a serious violation of the Code of Student Conduct (except for cases involving complaints of sexual assault, sexual harassment and other sexual misconduct), the student may be suspended on an interim basis for a period of up to 90 days in order to await the determination of the Complainant and/or local governmental authorities as to whether criminal charges or Code of Student Conduct charges will be brought against the student Respondent. If criminal charges are not initiated within the 90-day period, the provisions of Section (B) regarding Pending Criminal Proceedings shall apply.

For cases involving complaints of sexual assault, sexual harassment and other sexual misconduct, the University, after considering all the circumstances, shall determine the appropriate timing for placing a student on an interim suspension and proceeding against such student.

Student Organization Procedural Options for Resolution

Students who choose to participate in student organizations are given a special trust as representatives of Villanova. Accordingly, students who choose to represent the University as members of an organization commit to additional standards of accountability. Student organizations, their officers, and their members may be held collectively and/or individually responsible for violations of the Code of Student Conduct and/or the specific regulations governing student organizations.

Additionally, at the University's discretion, an organization may be found responsible for violations committed by one or more individual students under appropriate circumstances including, but not limited to any of the following:

- When the violation reasonably appears related to an activity of the organization, where sponsorship by the student organization was either official or reasonably implied;
- When organizational members (including new and uninitiated members), leaders, and/or alumni enable, endorse, or encourage the conduct that led to the violation, or reasonably should have known that the conduct would occur and fail to take preventive or corrective action;
- When the violation occurs on property leased, rented, owned, or otherwise controlled by the organization and/or members or alumni;
- When organizational funds are used to finance the activity which resulted in the violation, and/or if members or alumni contribute personal funds in lieu of organizational funds;
- When the student organization attempts to conceal or withhold information regarding the misconduct of individual students.

For purposes of this Code of Student Conduct, a student organization is any club, team, chapter, society, committee, or otherwise organized group of students, the organizational purpose and official status with the University notwithstanding.

Student Organization Procedural Resolution for Violations of the Code of Student Conduct

When a student organization is alleged to have violated the Code of Student Conduct, the matter will be reviewed by the Dean of Students Office and the organization will typically be referred to the University office that oversees the organization for administrative resolution of the matter. The overseeing office will generally follow the resolution process outlined in the Co-Curricular Student Organization Policy. Should the circumstances warrant, the overseeing office reserves the right to take appropriate administrative action, up to and including the revocation of recognition. At any time, the organization may be referred to the Dean of Students Office for disciplinary resolution under the Code of Student Conduct. The overseeing office and the Dean of Students Office may consult with other University officials as needed during this process.

For disciplinary resolution under the Code of Student Conduct, the student organization will be represented by the current president of the organization or appropriate designee. The current president or designee will meet with the Conduct Review Administrator who will explain the rights and options available as well as describe potential sanctions for the alleged violation in question. Student organizations suspected of a Code violation that accept responsibility for their conduct as documented will be sanctioned accordingly by the Conduct Review Administrator and receive notice of the sanction(s) imposed. Acceptance of responsibility may be rejected by the Conduct Review Administrator in any case that warrants additional investigation.

Student organizations that accept responsibility do not waive their right to appeal for review of the sanction as outlined in the Code.

When student organizations suspected of a Code violation deny responsibility or the facts of a specific incident are in question, the Conduct Review Administrator will review the matter in a manner chosen by the Conduct Review Administrator that will endeavor to ensure fairness to all involved, and will generally follow the procedural options outlined in the Code of Student Conduct.

The Conduct Review Administrator may determine in their discretion that due to the seriousness of the potential sanctions, or the nature or complexity of the facts of the case, it would be beneficial to have a proceeding before a Conduct Review Board.

Student organizations in violation of University rules and regulations are subject to a maximum sanction of termination of recognition from the University, or any lesser sanction, including but not limited to, restriction or suspension of the privilege to sponsor and/or promote programs/events, the loss of funds allocated by the University, removal of leadership or members, restitution for damages, and loss of facilities use.

Additionally, fraternity and sorority chapters in violation of the University policy are subject to a maximum sanction of termination of recognition from the University or any lesser sanction, including but not limited to, denial of new member recruiting and education privileges, restitution for damage, loss of facilities use, and restriction or suspension of the privilege to sponsor and/or promote programs/events. In all cases where applicable, the national sponsoring organization will be sent a written notification of sanctions imposed.

Student organizations have the right to appeal as outlined in the Code of Student Conduct. The Dean of Students will review appeals in cases where the sanction is termination of recognition or suspension of recognition, and the student organization believes that the sanction is disproportionate to the offense. Other sanctions are not subject to review.

Student Conduct and Concern Records Retention and Disclosure

1. Retention of student conduct and concern records

As a general rule, student conduct and concern records are retained by the University until the end of the academic year that is seven years after the date of the incident, or for the period of time in which a corresponding sanction is disclosable, whichever is longer. The University reserves the right to retain student conduct and concern records for a longer period of time when the University deems necessary or appropriate. For cases resulting in a student's disciplinary separation from the University (i.e. expulsion), the records are kept indefinitely. The University may also keep records of student conduct matters that remain unresolved or pending at the time a student left or withdrew from (or otherwise ceases enrollment with) the University.

2. Disclosure of student conduct and concern records

Disclosure of student conduct and concern records to external third-parties will only be in accordance with applicable laws and regulations and the Student Records Policy (which is included in the Student Handbook). Student conduct and concern records are considered separate from all other University records and are not included on an academic transcript, except in cases where the awarding of a completed degree is withheld or revoked. Disclosure of specific disciplinary action or referral and the corresponding violation(s) will follow the below guidelines, subject to the additional disclosures discussed below:

1. Non-Reportable Disciplinary Sanctions (Violation Notice, Conduct Warning), Housing Sanctions, referrals for educational follow-up, cases where no sanction was imposed and the corresponding violation(s) are not disclosed, except when required by law.

2. Sanctions of Disciplinary Probation and the corresponding violation(s) will be disclosed for one (1) year beginning at the start date of the sanction. If a student's Disciplinary Probation lasts more than one year, the sanction(s) and corresponding violation(s) will be reported until the end of the probationary period. Students may petition the Dean of Students Office to terminate third-party disclosure at graduation in cases where the one-year disclosure period extends beyond the anticipated graduation date. This option is only available for sanctions of Disciplinary Probation and will only be considered within 90 days of the anticipated graduation date.
3. Sanctions of Disciplinary Probation with Loss of Privilege and the corresponding violation(s) will be disclosed for two (2) years beginning at the start date of the sanction. If a student's Disciplinary Probation with Loss of Privilege lasts more than two years, the sanction(s) and corresponding violation(s) will be reported until the end of the probationary period.
4. Sanctions of Suspension and the corresponding violation(s) will be disclosed for five (5) years from the start date of the Suspension.
5. Sanctions of Expulsion and the corresponding violation(s) will be disclosed indefinitely.
6. Additional disciplinary measures are not disclosed, except when required by law. However, the withholding or revocation of a degree pursuant to this Code shall be noted on a student's academic transcript until such time as the degree is awarded.

While the University only discloses sanctions and violations in accordance with these guidelines, students are encouraged to be forthright with a prospective employer, educational institution, or licensing authority regarding the student's conduct while enrolled at the University.

Notwithstanding the disclosure guidelines above, consistent with applicable laws and regulations:

- The University reserves the right to notify parent(s) or legal guardian(s) about (1) the disciplinary status of their student or (2) a health or safety concern related to their student.
- The University may also indefinitely report matters involving allegations of violations of the Code of Student Conduct that are unresolved or pending at the time a student left or withdrew from (or otherwise ceases enrollment with) the University.
- Student conduct and/or concern records may be shared internally with University personnel having a legitimate educational interest, including but not limited to, University Athletics, R.O.T.C., Fraternity and Sorority Life, and the Health Professions Advising Office to be used in the preparation of the Health Professions Advisor Evaluation, and disclosures required pursuant to Title IX.
- For cases involving: (1) a serious or continuing threat, an alleged crime of violence, or sexual offenses, certain information may be disclosed to the community and/or law enforcement and to the complainant, or (2) a Title IX disciplinary process, information regarding the findings and sanctions will be disclosed to both complainant(s) and respondent(s).

Sexual Misconduct Policy

Villanova University

The most up-to-date Sexual Misconduct Policy can be found [here](#).

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Appendix A: Campus and Community Resources

1. INTRODUCTION

Villanova University seeks to foster and maintain a community of mutual respect and concern for all of its members. There can be no greater violation of the terms of that community, or of the essential dignity of any member of it, than an act of sexual assault, sexual harassment, dating violence, domestic violence, stalking or other forms of misconduct described in this Policy (collectively referred to as “sexual misconduct”). These acts constitute the deepest affront to University standards and will not be tolerated in any form. The University expects all members of the Villanova community to conduct themselves in a manner consistent with the Villanova Mission Statement and its Enduring Commitments available at http://www1.villanova.edu/villanova/president/about_university/mission./html and all applicable University policies. This Policy provides the framework for eliminating sexual misconduct from our community, preventing its recurrence, and addressing its effects.

Villanova University prohibits sexual misconduct, as detailed in the definitions below and as further clarified in some instances under Federal and Pennsylvania law. Some acts constitute prohibited conduct under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Act (Clery Act), as amended by the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 (VAWA), and other Federal and State laws. Acts of sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence or stalking may also be violations of the Pennsylvania Criminal Code. Pennsylvania criminal law definitions can be found at <https://www.legis.state.pa.us/WU01/LI/LI/CT/HTM/18/18.HTM>. The University reserves the right to address behavior that violates this Policy regardless of whether the conduct also violates Federal, State and/or municipal civil or criminal law.

Villanova prohibits all forms of sexual misconduct, as defined in Section II of this Policy, and any person, including students, staff, and faculty, found responsible for such conduct will face disciplinary actions up to and including dismissal or expulsion from the University. See Appendix B for the complete Title IX Notice of Non-Discrimination, applicable to matters involving conduct prohibited under Title IX.

Should an incident of sexual misconduct occur, the University has both reporting procedures and support resources in place so that no one needs to face the effects of such an incident alone. The first concern is for the safety, health, and well-being of those affected. Confidential and private options for support and reporting are available both on and off campus (Section IV & Appendix A). The University has also adopted grievance procedures to identify, investigate, adjudicate, and address reports of sexual misconduct.

It is the responsibility of every member of the Villanova community to foster an environment free from sexual misconduct. All members of the community are strongly encouraged to take reasonable and prudent actions to prevent or stop an act of sexual misconduct. This may include direct intervention when safe to do so, enlisting the assistance of others, contacting law enforcement, or seeking assistance from a person in authority. Community members who choose to exercise this positive responsibility will be supported by Villanova University and protected from retaliation.

Anyone making a report, filing a complaint, or participating in the investigation or resolution of an allegation of sexual misconduct is protected by law and this Policy from retaliation. The University will take prompt and responsive action to all reports of retaliation.

The University will respond promptly and equitably to all reports of sexual misconduct to ensure the safety of the reporting person and the Villanova community, and to provide an environment that is free from gender and sex discrimination.

2. SCOPE AND JURISDICTION

This policy protects all members of the Villanova community, including students, staff, faculty, and third parties who are participating or attempting to participate in the University's programs or activities. All community members share the responsibility for creating and maintaining an environment that promotes the safety and dignity of each person.

This policy applies to on-campus conduct as well as any off-campus conduct by a University student, faculty or staff that has an adverse impact on any member of the University community or the University. All conduct outlined below is prohibited under this policy and, in some instances, may also constitute behavior prohibited under Title IX. In order to fall under the scope of Title IX, the conduct must take place during a Villanova University education program or activity in the United States, which includes:

- All of the University's operations
- Any on-campus premises
- Any off-campus premises, events, or circumstances over which Villanova University has substantial control over both the Respondent and the context in which the conduct occurs including any buildings or property owned or controlled by a student organization that is officially recognized by the University
- Activity occurring within computer and internet networks, digital platforms, and computer hardware or software owned or operated by, or used in the operations of, Villanova University's programs and activities over which the University has substantial control over both the Respondent and the context in which the conduct occurs.

Any individual may make a report to the University. A formal complaint may be filed under this Policy by a student, faculty, staff or other individual who is participating in, or attempting to participate in, the University's education program or activity at the time of filing the complaint. Additionally, in certain circumstances, the Title IX Coordinator may file a formal complaint to address the safety of the broader educational community.

The University's ability to respond to a report of prohibited conduct under this policy is based on its disciplinary authority over the Respondent. If the Respondent is not an employee or student, the University's ability to take disciplinary action will be limited and is determined by the context of the prohibited conduct.

3. PROHIBITED CONDUCT AND DEFINITIONS

4. **PROHIBITED CONDUCT**

SEXUAL MISCONDUCT: The term sexual misconduct is a comprehensive term that encompasses any unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature and includes dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, sexual and sex-based harassment and stalking.

SEXUAL ASSAULT: Having or attempting to have sexual intercourse or sexual contact with another person without consent. This includes sexual intercourse or sexual contact achieved by the use or threat of force or coercion, where a person does not consent to the sexual act, or where a person is incapable of giving consent because of their age or their temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity. Sexual assault includes rape, sexual contact, incest, and statutory sexual assault, defined as follows:

- **Rape - Attempted or Actual Penetration(s):** Causing or attempting to cause non-consensual penetration, no matter how slight, of the vagina or anus with any body part or object, or oral penetration by a sex organ of another person.
- **Sexual Contact (formerly Fondling)**[\[1\]](#) - The intentional touching of the clothed or unclothed body parts without consent of the other person for the purpose of sexual degradation, sexual gratification, or sexual humiliation. The forced touching by the person of the Respondent's clothed or unclothed body parts, without consent of that person for the purpose of sexual degradation,

sexual gratification, or sexual humiliation. This includes instances where the person is incapable of giving consent because of age or incapacity due to temporary or permanent mental or physical impairment or intoxication.

- [1] *This definition reflects the June 23, 2025 revisions to the FBI's National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS), which replaced the offense of "Fondling" with "Criminal Sexual Contact". This Policy incorporates the updated NIBRS definition for "Criminal Sexual Contact", but uses the term "Sexual Contact" for ease of understanding.*
- **Incest** – Incest is sexual intercourse between persons who are related to each other within the degrees wherein marriage is prohibited by law.
- **Statutory Sexual Assault** – Statutory sexual assault is sexual intercourse with a person who is under the statutory age of consent. In Pennsylvania, individuals under 13 years of age can never consent to intercourse; individuals younger than 16 years of age can never consent to intercourse with a partner more than four years their senior.

SEXUAL EXPLOITATION: Sexual exploitation is an act or omission to act that involves taking non-consensual or abusive sexual advantage of another, either for personal advantage or to benefit or advantage anyone other than the Complainant. Examples of sexual exploitation include but are not limited to the following:

- Creating images, photography, video, written, or audio recording of sexual activity, undressing, and/or nudity, or distribution of such without the knowledge and consent of all parties involved
- Engaging in sexual extortion by threatening to distribute real or perceived to be real images, photography, video, written, or audio recordings of sexual activity, undressing, and/or nudity, in exchange for anything of value;
- Voyeuristic behaviors such as observing or facilitating observation of sexual activity, undressing and/or nudity of another person, without the knowledge and consent of that person;
- Engaging in sexual behavior while knowingly exposing another individual to a sexually-transmitted infection (STI) or human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) without full and appropriate disclosure to the other person of all health and safety concerns;
- Engaging in or attempting to engage others in any sexual behavior in exchange for something of value;
- Intentionally, knowingly, or surreptitiously providing drugs or alcohol to a person for the purpose of sexual exploitation; or
- Exposing another person to sexually explicit or lewd material without the person's advanced knowledge and consent.

STALKING: Stalking is a pattern of repeated and unwanted attention, harassment, contact, or any other course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for their safety, or the safety of others, or suffer substantial emotional distress. The course of conduct means two or more instances including but not limited to unwelcome acts in which an individual directly, indirectly or through third parties, by any action, method, device, or means follows, monitors, observes, surveils, threatens, or communicates to or about a person, or interferes with a person's property. This includes cyber-stalking, a particular form of stalking in which electronic media such as the internet, social networks, blogs, cell phones, texts, or other similar devices or forms of contact are used to pursue, harass, or make unwelcome contact with another person. Substantial emotional distress means significant mental suffering or anguish.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT. Sexual harassment is unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature whether verbal, non-verbal, graphic, physical, electronic, or otherwise including but not limited to:

- **Sexual advances**
- **Non-consensual kissing**
- **Requests for sexual favors**
- **Quid pro quo** - employee explicitly or implicitly conditions the provision of an employment or academic aid, benefit, or service of the University on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct.

- **Hostile environment** - unwelcome conduct that a reasonable person would find so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it denies a person equal access to a University education program or activity.

DATING VIOLENCE: Dating violence is an act of violence or the threat of violence committed by a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the Complainant. The existence of such a relationship is determined based upon the length of the relationship, the type of the relationship and the frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship. Includes physically, sexually, and/or psychologically abusive behavior that arises in the form of a direct violent act, or indirectly as acts that expressly or implicitly threaten violence. Dating violence also occurs when one partner attempts to maintain power and control over the other through one or more forms of abuse, including sexual, physical, verbal, financial or emotional abuse.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE: Domestic violence is an act of violence or threat of violence committed by a current or former spouse or intimate partner, or by a person with whom the Complainant shares a child in common. Domestic violence also includes a crime of violence against a person who is cohabitating with or has cohabitated with the Complainant as a spouse or intimate partner, by a person similarly situated to a spouse of the Complainant under domestic or family violence laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, or by any other person against an adult or youth Complainant who is protected from that person's acts under the domestic or family violence laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Includes physically, sexually, and/or psychologically abusive behavior that arises in the form of a direct violent act, or indirectly as acts that expressly or implicitly threaten violence. Domestic violence also occurs when one partner attempts to maintain power and control over the other through one or more forms of abuse, including sexual, physical, verbal, financial or emotional abuse.

RETALIATION: Retaliation includes, but is not limited to, intimidation, threats, coercion, or discrimination against any individual for the purpose of interfering with any right or privilege secured by Title IX or its regulations, or because they have made a report or complaint of sexual misconduct or participated or refused to participate in criminal proceedings or University processes under this policy. Retaliation may be committed by any person or group of people, not just a Respondent or Complainant. It may be committed against the Complainant, Respondent, or person or group of people involved in the investigation and/or resolution of an allegation of sexual misconduct. Retaliation could occur before, during or after an investigation, University proceedings, and/or resolution.

2. **DEFINITIONS OF CONSENT AND OTHER KEY TERMS USED IN THIS POLICY**

CONSENT, FORCE, COERCION, AND INCAPACITATION

CONSENT: Consent is an explicitly communicated, mutual agreement in which all parties are capable of making a decision. Consent is the voluntary, informed, and freely given agreement to participate in agreed-upon sexual acts. Consent can be given by words or actions, as long as those words or actions create mutually understood clear permission regarding agreement to engage in the sexual activity.

Consent cannot be obtained through physical force, intimidation, or coercion; where there is a reasonable belief of the threat of force; by taking advantage of another person's mental or physical incapacitation; or any other factor that would compromise someone's ability to exercise their own free will to choose whether to have sexual contact.

In evaluating whether consent has been freely sought or given, the University will consider the presence of any force, threat of force, or coercion; whether the Complainant had the capacity to give consent; and, whether the communication (through words and/or actions) between the parties would be interpreted by a reasonable person (under similar circumstances and with similar identities) as an agreement to engage in a particular sexual act.

The following further clarifies the meaning of consent:

- Consent to one form of sexual activity does not imply or constitute consent to engage in all or other forms of sexual activity.
- Consent may not be inferred from silence, passivity, lack of resistance or lack of an active response alone. A person who does not physically resist or verbally refuse sexual activity is not necessarily giving consent.
- If at any time it is reasonably apparent that either party is hesitant, confused, or unsure, both parties should stop and discuss what, if any, consent is present before continuing sexual activity.
- Consent on a prior occasion does not constitute consent on a subsequent occasion.
- Consent to an act with one person does not constitute consent to an act with any other person.
- Consent may be withdrawn or modified by either party at any time. Once withdrawal of consent has been clearly expressed through words or actions, sexual activity must cease.
- A person who is physically incapacitated from alcohol or other drug consumption (voluntarily or involuntarily), or is unconscious, unaware, or otherwise physically impaired, is considered unable to give consent. For example, a person who is asleep or passed out cannot give consent.
- Engagement in a previous or current intimate relationship does not automatically give either initial or continued consent to sexual activity. Even in the context of a relationship, there must be mutually understandable communication that clearly indicates consent to engage in sexual activity on every occasion.

FORCE: Force is the use or threat of physical violence or intimidation to overcome a person's freedom of will to decide whether to engage in sexual contact.

COERCION: Coercion includes the use of pressure and/or oppressive behavior, including expressed or implied threats of harm or severe and/or pervasive emotional intimidation, which (a) places a person in fear of immediate or future harm or physical injury of themselves or another person, or (b) causes a person to engage in unwelcome sexual activity in which they would not otherwise choose to engage. When someone makes clear that they do not want to engage in certain sexual activity, that they want to stop, or that they do not want to go past a certain point of sexual interaction, continued pressure beyond that point can be coercive.

INCAPACITATION: Incapacitation is the inability, temporarily or permanently, to give consent, because the person is mentally and/or physically impaired due to: illness; disability; voluntary or involuntary alcohol or other drug consumption; and/or being unconscious, asleep, or otherwise unaware that the sexual activity is occurring. Incapacitation means a person cannot understand the fact, nature, or extent of the sexual activity because they lack the physical and mental capacity to make informed, reasonable judgements about whether or not to engage in sexual activity.

For example, a person may be incapacitated if they demonstrate that they are unaware of where they are, how they got there, or why or how they became engaged in a sexual interaction. Additional indicators of incapacitation may include, but are not limited to, lack of control over physical movements (ie. clumsiness, difficulty walking), poor judgment, difficulty concentrating, slurred speech, vomiting, combativeness, emotional volatility, being unaware of circumstances or surroundings, being passed out, or inability to communicate for any reason.

OTHER KEY TERMS

ADVISOR OF CHOICE: Parties participating as a Complainant or Respondent in this process have equal right to be accompanied by an advisor of choice to any grievance proceeding or related meeting under this Policy. Parties must be accompanied by an advisor to any hearing. If a party does not have an advisor of choice at the time of a hearing, the University will provide an advisor to that party, free of cost, for the purpose of conducting cross-examination. The advisor is not an advocate and any restrictions on advisor participation will be applied equally to both parties.

COMPLAINANT: The person who reports that they have been the subject of sexual misconduct as defined in this policy and/or under Title IX, as applicable.

DEPUTY TITLE IX COORDINATOR: Deputy Title IX Coordinators are appointed employees from various departments to function as a Title IX Coordinator, when needed, including receiving reports of alleged sexual misconduct, discussing with the Complainant and/or Respondent the availability of supportive measures, and providing information regarding the University's policies and procedures. The Deputy Title IX Coordinators are knowledgeable and trained in Federal and State laws that apply to matters of sexual misconduct, as well as University policy and procedure. The list of Deputy Title IX Coordinators can be found in the Title IX Notice of Non-Discrimination in Appendix B.

DISCLOSURE: Disclosure occurs when a person shares with another individual that they have experienced sexual misconduct. Making a disclosure is not the same as filing a formal complaint. (See Section V for more information).

FORMAL COMPLAINT: A document filed by a Complainant or signed by the Title IX Coordinator alleging sexual misconduct against a Respondent and requesting that the University investigate the allegation of sexual misconduct.

PREPONDERANCE OF THE EVIDENCE: The standard of proof used by decision-makers in determining responsibility for reported policy violations. The standard of proof is met when the decision-maker determines that it is more likely than not that the Respondent is responsible for the alleged sexual misconduct.

REPORT: Any notice to the Title IX Coordinator or a Deputy Title IX Coordinator regarding an allegation of sexual misconduct. This includes, but is not limited to, email, telephone, in person or through an online reporting option. A report is not the same as filing a formal complaint. (See Section V for more information).

REPORTING PERSON: The person reporting that they or another person experienced sexual misconduct as defined in this policy. This person may also be the Complainant.

RESPONDENT: The person who is reported to have committed conduct that could constitute sexual misconduct.

RESPONDENT RESOURCE COORDINATOR (RRC) TEAM: The University has designated the RRC team to provide assistance to any student accused of sexual misconduct. The RRC may meet with the Respondent to assist with: accessing emotional support; connecting with on campus and community resources, outlining available supportive measures; and assisting with other questions and concerns to address the matter under this policy. Members of the RRC Team are available 9 am to 5 pm, Monday-Friday and can be reached by emailing respondentresource@villanova.edu or calling 610-519-8807. Members of the RRC Team do not act as legal counsel and do not serve as advisors in University proceedings.

RESPONSIBLE EMPLOYEE: All employees (except for confidential resources listed in Section IV.A) are Responsible Employees, meaning they are required to report any and all incidents of sexual misconduct to the Title IX Coordinator or a Deputy Title IX Coordinator (as outlined in the Title IX Notice contained in Appendix B), regardless of where or when the incident occurred and whether or not the Responsible Employee witnessed the incident or learned of it through the Complainant, Respondent or a third party.

SAFETY ALERT: A Safety Alert is a campus-wide warning intended to provide members of the University community with timely information about certain serious crimes. Safety Alerts are part of the University's compliance responsibilities to issue timely warnings under the Clery Act, a federal campus crime disclosure law. Safety Alerts do not contain identifying information about the reporting person.

SEXUAL ASSAULT RESOURCE COORDINATOR (SARC) TEAM: The University has designated the SARC team to provide assistance to any student who has experienced sexual misconduct. The SARC may meet with the person to assist with: obtaining information about safety; accessing emotional support; connecting with on campus and community resources; outlining available supportive measures; and

assisting with other questions and concerns to address the matter under this policy. Members of the SARC Team are available 9 am to 5 pm, Monday-Friday, and can be reached by emailing SARC@villanova.edu or calling 484-343-6028. [Members of the SARC Team do not act as legal counsel and do not serve as advisors in University proceedings.](#)

SUPPORTIVE MEASURES: Following a report of sexual misconduct, the University will offer the Complainant and/or Respondent non-disciplinary, non-punitive individualized services as appropriate, and as reasonably available to the involved parties, without cost. Supportive measures are designed to restore or preserve equal access to the University's education program or activities, including employment, without unreasonably burdening the other party, including measures designed to protect the safety of all parties and the University's employment and educational environment and/or deter further acts of misconduct. Supportive measures cannot fundamentally alter the University's policies. More information about Supportive Measures can be found below.

TITLE IX CASE MANAGER: The Title IX Case Manager is a University resource who serves as a neutral main point of contact for those involved in sexual misconduct reports. The Title IX Case Manager is responsible for receiving reports from community members and ensuring that all parties receive adequate information, support, and resources. The Title IX Case Manager also serves as a Senior Deputy Title IX Coordinator.

TITLE IX COORDINATOR: The Title IX Coordinator oversees the University's centralized review, investigation, and resolution process for matters arising under this policy and coordinates the University's compliance with Title IX, its implementing regulations, and other applicable federal and state laws. The Title IX Coordinator is a University resource who is responsible for the prompt and equitable resolution of all reports, investigations, and informal and formal resolutions under this policy. The Title IX Coordinator maintains records consistent with applicable law and University policy to track any trends or patterns of sexual misconduct, evaluate the scope of the issue and formulate appropriate campus wide responses. The Title IX Coordinator coordinates supportive measures, ensures that the investigative and resolution processes are neutral and impartial, and acts to assure that employees or external professionals involved in the Title IX processes are free from conflicts of interest and/or potential bias. Concerns of bias or a potential conflict of interest by any other administrator involved in the resolution process should be raised with the Title IX Coordinator.

See Appendix B for the complete Title IX Notice of Non-Discrimination.

TITLE IX INVESTIGATOR: The Title IX Coordinator will assign an experienced and trained investigator to complete an administrative fact-finding investigation of the formal complaint. The investigator may be the designated Title IX Investigator, another University employee, or an external professional, as determined by the Title IX Coordinator.

4. CONFIDENTIALITY AND PRIVACY CONSIDERATIONS

The University is committed to protecting the privacy of all people involved in matters falling under this Policy. All employees who are involved in the University's response to reports of sexual misconduct receive specific training and guidance about safeguarding private information in accordance with state and federal law. It is important to understand that privacy and confidentiality have distinct meanings under this Policy.

Privacy means that information related to a report of sexual misconduct will be shared only with those University officials with a designated interest in order to assist in the assessment, investigation and/or resolution of the matter, unless further disclosure is required by state and federal law or necessary due to a health and/or safety emergency. The University will make reasonable efforts to investigate and address reports of sexual misconduct under this policy, and information may be disclosed to participants in an investigation as necessary to facilitate the thoroughness and integrity of the investigation. In all such proceedings, the University will maintain the privacy of the parties to the extent reasonably possible. Under no circumstances will the University release the name of a Complainant to the general public without the express consent of the Complainant.

Confidentiality refers the level of protection that must be applied to legally protected or privileged relationships, including professional mental health counselors, medical professionals, ordained clergy/pastoral counselors and rape crisis counselors (Confidential Resources). Information shared by an individual with a Confidential Resource, whether on campus or in the community, and which is intended as a confidential communication, cannot be revealed to any other individual without express permission of the individual seeking services, unless there is an imminent threat of harm to self or others, or the conduct involves suspected abuse of a minor. When a report involves suspected abuse of a minor under the age of 18, these Confidential Resources are required by state law to notify child protective services and/or local law enforcement. Similarly, an individual's medical and counseling records are confidential and cannot be released without the individual's written permission or unless permitted or required consistent with any applicable ethical or legal obligations.

1. CONFIDENTIAL RESOURCES

Any community member may seek advice and counseling confidentially, including about sexual misconduct, by speaking to these University employees who are designated as Confidential Resources:

1. Counselors/therapists at the University Counseling Center;
2. Priests acting in a pastoral capacity
3. Faculty Ombuds (for faculty use only)

Additional confidential resources include:

1. Counselors available to students through UWill telehealth counseling
2. Counselors available to employees through the Employee Assistance Program (EAP)

3. Counselors and advocates with Delaware County Victim Assistance Center, Domestic Abuse Project of Delaware County, and other local community resources outlined in Appendix A

B. PRIVATE, NON-CONFIDENTIAL RESOURCES

These resources are not Confidential Resources but are private resources that the University has designated to provide assistance and support to any student who has experienced sexual misconduct. Each resource's unique reporting responsibilities is outlined below:

Nurses and Nurse Practitioners at the Student Health Center

The nurses and nurse practitioners at the Student Health Center are Responsible Employees and Campus Security Authorities (CSAs) required to share disclosures of sexual misconduct with the Title IX Coordinator, including the name of the Respondent (if shared), the name of the reporting person (if they grant permission or their identity is needed to conduct a risk assessment), all details shared regarding the incident, as well as other information needed to assess whether an on-going threat is present in order to evaluate whether a timely warning should be issued.

Sexual Assault Resource Coordinator (SARC) Team

The members of the Sexual Assault Resource Coordinator Team are Responsible Employees and required to share disclosures of sexual misconduct and all known information with the Title IX Coordinator, including the name of the Respondent (if shared), the name of the reporting person, all details shared regarding the incident, as well as other information.

3. ALL OTHER UNIVERSITY EMPLOYEES

As noted in Section IV.C, all employees (except for Confidential Resources listed above) are considered Responsible Employees and are required to share disclosures of sexual misconduct with the Title IX Coordinator or Deputy Title IX Coordinator (as outlined in the Title IX Notice of Non-Discrimination contained in Appendix B), regardless of whether the Responsible Employee witnessed the incident or learned of it through the Complainant, Respondent or a third party. These reports to the Title IX Coordinator will include the name of the reporting person, name of the Respondent (if shared), all details shared regarding the incident, as well as other information needed to assess whether an on-going threat is present to evaluate whether a timely warning should be issued.

Employees are not required to report information disclosed at public awareness events (e.g., "Take Back the Night," candlelight vigils, survivor listening circles, protests, or other public forums in which community members may disclose sexual misconduct); or during an individual's participation as a subject in an Institutional Review Board-approved human subjects research protocol (IRB research). The

University may provide information about Title IX and available campus and community resources and support at public awareness events. In addition, Institutional Review Boards may, in appropriate cases, require researchers to provide such information to all subjects of IRB research.

5. REPORTING AN INCIDENT OF SEXUAL MISCONDUCT

The University is committed to a safe environment for all students and employees. Reports of sexual misconduct provide the University with the opportunity to assess for broader remedial action including increased monitoring of campus locations, additional education and prevention efforts, and climate assessments.

The University will respond to all reports in an integrated, consistent manner that treats each person with dignity and respect and will take prompt responsive action to end any reported sexual misconduct, prevent its recurrence, and address its effects.

Villanova is committed to supporting the rights of a reporting person or Complainant to make an informed choice among options and services available both on and off campus. Complainants have the option to, and are encouraged to, notify law enforcement. This includes the simultaneous filing of both a criminal complaint and a University formal complaint under this policy.

AMNESTY FOR COMPLAINANTS AND WITNESSES

Consistent with the University's Mission and belief that all members have an obligation to promote and protect the health, safety, and welfare of our community, the University strongly encourages community members to report incidents of sexual misconduct so that those affected can receive support and resources. A party who reports such misconduct in good faith, either as a Complainant or a third-party witness, will not be subject to disciplinary action for policy violations such as underage consumption of alcohol or drug use related to the incident. The University may, however, initiate an educational discussion with that individual about the use of alcohol or other drugs and their impact, or pursue other educational remedies. Amnesty may not apply to more serious allegations such as physical abuse or drug distribution.

Submission of a good faith complaint, concern, or report under this Policy will not affect a Complainant's or third-party witness' employment, grades, academic standing, or work assignments. However, a person found to have made a knowingly false complaint or report, or to have knowingly and willingly given false information during an investigation, will be subject to disciplinary action. A good faith complaint that is not substantiated by a grievances process does not constitute a false report.

1. MAKING A REPORT

Any person may report an incident of sexual misconduct and has several reporting options. Complaints may be pursued through the criminal process, through the University grievance process, through both, or through none.

1. REPORTING TO LAW ENFORCEMENT

To initiate a criminal complaint through law enforcement, the location of the incident will determine which police department will investigate. For on-campus incidents, the Villanova University Department of Public Safety is the law enforcement agency with jurisdiction to investigate except in cases where the identity of the suspect is unknown to the Complainant. In those cases, the Radnor Township Police Department conducts the criminal investigation. The Department of Public Safety employs sworn officers who are trained criminal investigators who can collect evidence, conduct an investigation, and initiate a criminal prosecution.

When contacting the Department of Public Safety, a Complainant may seek a criminal investigation, an administrative investigation, or both. A Complainant is not required to consent to a criminal investigation in order to initiate a University formal complaint. In cases involving both criminal and

University investigations, information can be shared between investigators consistent with federal and state law. A Complainant may always choose to participate, or withdraw their participation, from either investigative process at any time.

For off-campus incidents, the University can assist Complainants in identifying and reporting to the appropriate law enforcement agency with jurisdiction. Notifying municipal law enforcement will generally result in the Complainant, and in some cases the Respondent, being contacted by a municipal police officer. The police will determine if a criminal investigation will proceed and if the case will be referred for prosecution. Unless there are compelling circumstances, the University will typically not file an independent police report without the consent of the Complainant.

The following list includes contact information for Villanova University's Department of Public Safety, and the police departments in proximity to the University and/or that have township student-approved housing in their respective jurisdictions:

Law Enforcement 911

Villanova University Department of Public Safety	610-519-5800
Radnor Police Department	610-688-0503
Lower Merion Police Department	610-649-1000
Conshohocken Police Department	610-828-4032/4033
Upper Merion Police Department	610-265-3232
Tredyffrin Police Department	610-647-1440
Philadelphia Police Department	610-685-1158

2. REPORTING TO THE UNIVERSITY

To initiate an administrative investigation into a complaint of sexual misconduct under this University Policy (whether or not the alleged conduct also is prohibited under Title IX, the Code of Student Conduct and/or employment policies), a reporting person should contact the Title IX Coordinator, a Deputy Title IX Coordinator or the Department of Public Safety as follows:

Ms. Ryan Rost, Title IX Coordinator	610-519-8805
207 Tolentine Hall	ryan.rost@villanova.edu
Ms. Shannon Barnett, Title IX Case Manager & Senior Deputy Title IX Coordinator	610-519-8804
207 Tolentine Hall	shannon.barnett@villanova.edu
Ms. Kim Kearney, Title IX Investigator & Deputy Title IX Coordinator	484-343-6926
Garey Hall	kim.kearney@villanova.edu
Sydney Scheiner, Assistant Dean of Students for Conduct Resolution	610-519-4200
213 Dougherty Hall	sydney.scheiner@villanova.edu
Brigitte Strother, Director, Employee Relations & Compliance	610-519-6935
789 Lancaster Avenue	brigitte.strother@villanova.edu
Ms. Lynn Tighe, Senior Associate Athletic Director for Administration & Deputy Title IX Coordinator for Athletics	610-519-4121
Field House	lynn.tighe@villanova.edu
Department of Public Safety	610-519-4444

Garey Hall

(24/7 emergency)

Note: (Reports to the Public Safety emergency number will prompt a police response by on-duty personnel)

610-519-5800

(24/7 non-emergency)

Any person seeking information and options on how to proceed with making a report may also contact:

Sexual Assault Resource Coordinator Team	484-343-6028 (9 am-5 pm, Monday-Friday)
Delaware County Victim Assistance Center	610-566-4342 (24/7, Confidential)
Domestic Abuse Project of Delaware County	610-565-4590 (24/7, Confidential)

3. ANONYMOUS REPORTING

Although the University encourages a Complainant to talk with someone directly, the University does provide an anonymous online reporting option, www.villanova.ethicspoint.com and an anonymous phone reporting option at (855-236-1443). All anonymous reports of sexual misconduct submitted through these options will be referred to the Title IX Coordinator and will prompt an initial investigation. However, the University's ability to respond effectively may be limited by the level of information provided and/or the anonymity of the complaint.

1. MEDICAL TREATMENT AND PRESERVATION OF EVIDENCE

The University encourages people who have experienced sexual misconduct to seek immediate medical treatment and to make a prompt report to law enforcement in order to address immediate safety and health concerns, allow for the preservation of evidence, and initiate a prompt investigative and remedial response.

A medical provider can provide emergency and/or follow-up medical services, and meet three goals: first, to diagnose and treat the full extent of any injury or physical effect, second, to provide preventative health care, and third, to properly collect and preserve evidence. Following an incident of sexual assault, evidence is best preserved for proof of a criminal offense within 96 hours of the assault. In the event of a report immediately following an incident of sexual assault, a Complainant is encouraged to seek medical attention as soon as possible, and even before any showering, bathing, douching, brushing of teeth, drinking, eating, or changing of clothes. Similarly, any clothing, towels or bedding should remain untouched pending collection by law enforcement. Whether or not a person has chosen how to proceed at the time of the medical examination, taking the step to gather evidence will preserve the full range of options to seek resolution through the pursuit of a criminal investigation or the University's complaint processes.

Please note that under Pennsylvania law, a medical provider is required to notify law enforcement of a reported sexual assault under most circumstances. Although the medical provider will provide information to law enforcement, and the University encourages the Complainant to report the incident to law enforcement (it is often easier to relay the incident once to several people than repeatedly to different constituents), the Complainant may always, at any time, decline to speak with a law enforcement officer and decide on the extent of their participation in a criminal prosecution.

Contact information for medical care is as follows and more detailed information can be found in Appendix A of this Policy:

Villanova Student Health Center

610-519-4070

Bryn Mawr Hospital

484- 337-3000

When the incident is reported to a campus resource, the University will help the Complainant get to a safe place and seek immediate medical attention (including transportation).

3. SUPPORTIVE MEASURES

Following a report of sexual misconduct, the University will offer and provide non-disciplinary, non-punitive individualized services as appropriate and as reasonably available to involved parties. Supportive measures are designed to: protect the safety of all parties and campus community; deter further acts of misconduct; and restore or preserve equal access to Villanova's education program or activity without unreasonably burdening the other party. Supportive measures are available to a Complainant or Respondent without fee or charge regardless of whether a formal complaint is filed or a report to the police department is made.

The University may impose (and a person may request) additional supportive measures that can be tailored to achieve the goals of this Policy, even if not specifically listed below, so long as they do not have the effect of fundamentally altering University policies. The range of supportive measures includes, but is not limited to:

1. **No Contact Order:** The Complainant or Respondent may request, or the University may impose, communication and contact restrictions to prevent further potentially harmful interaction. These communication and contact restrictions generally preclude in person, telephone, electronic or third-party communications.

A person may also seek a [protection from abuse/anti-harassment order](#) from the local court of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. This is a civil proceeding independent of the University. If a court order is issued the University will, to the extent possible, assist the protected person in benefitting from the restrictions imposed by the court.

2. **Campus Safety Escort:** The University may provide campus safety escorts to involved parties. The University will endeavor to honor reasonable requests for campus safety escorts.
3. **Academic, Employment, Living or Transportation Arrangements:** Complainants and Respondents may request reasonable changes in their own academic, employment, living or transportation arrangements after a report of sexual misconduct. Upon request, the University will inform the Complainant or Respondent of the options and will grant the request if those changes are reasonably available.

In some instances, the University may initiate changes in a party's academic, employment or living arrangements based on its own determination that such a supportive measure is necessary and will not unreasonably burden the other party.

Note: Supportive measures are distinct from reasonable accommodations for a disability. Students requesting supportive academic or living measures related to Title IX or sexual misconduct matters which involve a disability must register their disability with the University's Learning Support Services Office or Office of Disability Services and request disability accommodations through those offices' established policies and procedures. Similarly, employees requesting supportive measures related to Title IX or sexual misconduct matters which involve a disability must register their disability with Human Resources and request workplace accommodations through that office's established policies and procedures.

4. **Emotional or Mental Health:** The University will assist in providing counseling services through the University Counseling Center (for students), UWill Telehealth Counseling (for students), Health Advocate (for employees), or will assist in providing a referral to off-campus support agencies.

5. **Emergency Removal and Administrative Leave:** To provide for the safety of any person or the broader campus community, or for any other lawful purpose, the University may remove the Respondent from a Villanova education program or activity on an emergency basis. The University will undertake an individualized safety and risk analysis to determine whether an immediate threat to the physical health or safety of any community member or other individual arising from the allegation of sexual misconduct justifies the removal. The University will provide the Respondent with written notice of any removal and an opportunity to challenge the removal. During any challenge, the Respondent will remain off-campus and comply with the notice of removal. The Respondent will have three (3) business days to submit a written challenge to the safety and risk analysis.
- **Undergraduate and Graduate Student Respondents:** Must submit their written challenge to the Dean of Students or their designee
 - **Law Student Respondents:** Must submit their written challenge to Vice Dean or their designee
 - **Non-Student Faculty and Staff Respondents:** Must submit their written challenge to the Associate Vice President for Human Resources or their designee

Following a report of sexual misconduct, the University may place a non-student employee Respondent on administrative leave, with or without pay.

The Title IX Coordinator or Deputy Title IX Coordinator will document each report or request for assistance, including requests for supportive measures, as well as the response to any such report or request. The records will be kept confidential to the extent required or permitted by law.

4. WHAT HAPPENS FOLLOWING A DISCLOSURE OR REPORT
5. **PRELIMINARY INQUIRY AND INTAKE MEETING**

When the Title IX Coordinator receives a report of sexual misconduct from a reporting person or Complainant, the Title IX Coordinator or [designee](#) will engage in a preliminary inquiry to understand the nature of the report and assess whether the alleged conduct falls under this Policy. In most instances, the Title IX Coordinator or designee will contact the Complainant to schedule an intake meeting. During the intake meeting, the Title IX Coordinator or designee will gather supplemental information, offer and discuss the availability of supportive measures, provide information about on- and off-campus resources, and explain the process for filing a formal complaint if the alleged conduct falls under the Sexual Misconduct Policy. Centralized outreach through the Title IX Coordinator or designee ensures that all community members have access to information about the University's resources, policies, and procedural options for resolving the report.

At the conclusion of the preliminary inquiry, the following resolution options are possible:

- No further action under the Sexual Misconduct Policy – which may involve referring the matter to the appropriate office for review under another University policy
- Supportive measures only – regardless of whether a formal complaint is filed
- Formal Resolution – following a formal complaint by the Complainant or Title IX Coordinator
- Informal Resolution – following a formal complaint by the Complainant or Title IX Coordinator

The University will consider the Complainant's wishes with respect to supportive measures and seek to respect a Complainant's autonomy in making the determination regarding how to proceed. Supportive measures are available to a Complainant with or without the filing of a formal complaint.

CLERY ACT COMPLIANCE - TIMELY WARNING NOTICES (SAFETY ALERTS)

The Title IX Coordinator or Deputy Title IX Coordinator will report incidents occurring on or near campus to the University's Department of Public Safety as part of the University's compliance with the Clery Act. The Clery Act requires colleges and universities to gather and share statistics of serious crimes reported on and near campus, including incidents reported under this Policy. Reports to the Department of Public Safety will typically include the general nature of the incident, date, time of day,

and location, as well as other information needed to assess whether an on-going threat is present that would require that the University issue a timely warning (or “Safety Alert” – see below). Incidents reported to the Department of Public Safety are also used to compile crime statistics that are distributed to the University community in the [Annual Security Report](#) as required by the Clery Act.

A Timely Warning or “Safety Alert” is a way for the University to provide timely notification to members of the University community about reports of serious crimes that have occurred on or within the [Clery](#) geography of Villanova University (on campus or non-campus property or public property) where it is determined that the incident may pose a serious or ongoing threat to members of the University community. The determination of alerts for reports of sexual violence, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking are considered on a case-by-case basis and depend on several factors. These factors include: nature of the incident; continuing danger to the campus community; possible risk of compromising law enforcement efforts to investigate; when and where the incident occurred; when the incident was reported; and the amount of information known by the Department of Public Safety. Safety Alerts do not contain any identifying information about the reporting person or Complainant. More information on Safety Alerts can be found on the [Safety Alert](#) page.

2. HOW TO FILE A FORMAL COMPLAINT

Making a report is different from filing a formal complaint. A formal complaint is a written request that the University conduct an investigation into a report of sexual misconduct. A formal complaint can be filed by the Complainant in person, by mail, email or through other reporting means. The Title IX Coordinator can provide assistance in initiating a formal complaint, which must include a written description of the facts alleged requesting the University investigate the matter, and the Complainant’s physical or digital signature. As outlined below, in certain circumstances where a Complainant does not wish to or is unable to file a formal complaint, one may be filed by the Title IX Coordinator to address the safety of the broader educational community. If a formal complaint is filed, an investigation will begin and the parties will be provided with options for informal and formal resolution.

1. NOTICE OF ALLEGATIONS

When a formal complaint is made, a written Notice of Allegations will be sent to the Complainant(s) and Respondent(s). Such notice will occur as soon as practicable after Villanova receives a formal complaint of the allegations, absent extenuating circumstances. Villanova will provide sufficient time for the parties to review the Notice of Allegations and prepare a response before any initial interview.

This written notice will include the following:

- Notice of Villanova’s Grievance Process, including the formal and informal resolution process.
- Notice of the allegations potentially constituting violations of this Policy, and sufficient details to the extent known at the time the Notice is issued, such as the identities of the parties involved in the incident, including the Complainant; the conduct allegedly constituting sexual misconduct; and the date and location of the alleged incident.
- A statement that the Respondent is presumed not responsible for the alleged conduct and that a determination regarding responsibility is made at the conclusion of the grievance process.
- A statement that each party may have an advisor of their choice throughout the process. The advisor may, but is not required to be, an attorney. If the party does not have an advisor at the time of any live hearing, the University will provide an advisor to conduct cross-examination on the party’s behalf.
- A statement about the importance of preserving any potentially relevant evidence.
- A prohibition against making false statements during any formal or informal resolution process.
- A statement that before the conclusion of the investigation, the parties may inspect and review evidence obtained as part of the investigation that is directly related to the allegations raised in the formal complaint, including the evidence upon which the University does and does not intend to rely in reaching a determination regarding responsibility, and evidence that both tends to prove or disprove the allegations, whether obtained from a party or other source.

If the investigation reveals the existence of additional potential policy violations, the University will issue a supplemental Notice of Allegations. This initial notice, and any supplemental notices, will be provided to the parties in advance of any interview or meeting with the investigator to allow the party sufficient time to prepare a response.

3. IF A COMPLAINANT CHOOSES NOT TO FILE A FORMAL COMPLAINT

If a Complainant chooses not to file a formal complaint, supportive measures will remain available to the Complainant. In such cases, the University's ability to meaningfully respond to and address the incident may be limited. The University will consider the Complainant's choice not to file a formal complaint, however, the University must weigh the Complainant's choice against its obligation to provide a safe, non-discriminatory environment for all students and employees, including the Complainant. Although rare, there may be times when the University cannot honor a Complainant's request and the Title IX Coordinator may determine that filing a formal complaint is necessary in order to provide a safe, non-discriminatory environment for all community members.

When weighing such a request by the Complainant, the following range of factors will be considered, including but not limited to, the following:

- The risk that the Respondent will commit additional acts of sexual or other violence, such as:
 - a pattern of alleged sexual misconduct by the same Respondent;
 - whether the Respondent has a history of arrests or records from a prior school indicating a history of sexual and/or physical violence;
 - whether the Respondent threatened further sexual violence or other violence against the Complainant or others;
 - whether the sexual violence was committed by multiple perpetrators;
- whether the Complainant's allegations involved force, use of weapons or similar factors;
- whether the Complainant is a minor;
- whether the University possesses other means to obtain relevant evidence of the alleged sexual violence (e.g., security cameras, eye-witnesses or, physical evidence);
- whether the Complainant's report reveals a pattern of perpetration (e.g., alcohol or drug facilitated sexual violence) at a given location or by a particular group.

If none of these factors is present, the University will likely be able to respect the Complainant's request to not file a formal complaint.

However, the presence of one or more of these factors could lead the Title IX Coordinator to file a formal complaint allowing the University to investigate and, if appropriate, pursue the grievance process and/or involve the law enforcement agency with jurisdiction. In such cases, the University will inform the Complainant and will share the University's reasoning for proceeding with a formal complaint. The Complainant may still decide whether and how much they want to be involved in any next steps. The University will only share information with those needing to know in order to conduct the investigation and facilitate the University's response to the report of sexual misconduct.

4. **CONSOLIDATION OF COMPLAINTS**

The University may consolidate formal complaints alleging sexual misconduct against more than one respondent, or by more than one complainant against one or more respondents, or by one party against the other party, where the allegations of sexual misconduct arise out of the same facts or circumstances.

In addition, where conduct involves the potential violation of both this Policy and another University policy, the University may choose to investigate other potential misconduct under this Policy, provided that it does not unduly delay a prompt or equitable resolution of the report or formal complaint.

5. **COUNTERCLAIMS**

The University permits the filing of counterclaims. Counterclaims will be processed using the appropriate grievance procedures under this Policy. Depending on the timing of when a counterclaim is filed and the allegations raised, the investigation of such claims may take place at the same time as the underlying complaint, or after resolution of the underlying complaint, at the discretion of the Title IX Coordinator.

Villanova is obligated to ensure that the grievance process is not abused for retaliatory purposes. Counterclaims made solely for retaliatory purposes will not be permitted and may constitute a violation of this Policy. This does not apply to reports made or information provided in good faith, even if the facts alleged in the report are not later substantiated or no policy violation is found to have occurred.

6. DISMISSALS OF FORMAL COMPLAINTS

In cases involving conduct that falls under Title IX, the Title IX Coordinator **must** dismiss a formal complaint brought under this Policy or any specific allegation(s) raised within that formal complaint, at any time during the investigation or hearing if the conduct alleged: (a), even if substantiated, would not constitute prohibited conduct as defined in the Title IX regulations; (b) did not occur within the University's education program or activity; or (c) did not occur against a person in the United States. Conduct that does not constitute prohibited conduct under Title IX as defined in the Federal regulations may still constitute misconduct under this Policy or other University policies, in which case, the University may proceed under those applicable policies and procedures.

The Title IX Coordinator **may** dismiss a formal complaint brought under this Policy or any specific allegation(s) raised within that formal complaint, at any time during the investigation or hearing if: it alleges conduct that does not fall under this Policy; the Complainant notifies the Title IX Coordinator in writing that they would like to withdraw the formal complaint or any allegations raised in the formal complaint; the Respondent is no longer enrolled at or employed by Villanova; or specific circumstances prevent Villanova from gathering evidence sufficient to reach a determination regarding the formal complaint or allegations within the formal complaint.

In such cases, the Title IX Coordinator will provide simultaneous written notification to the parties that the formal complaint or specific allegations within that complaint, are being dismissed under this Policy and provide the basis for that decision. However, if the alleged conduct violates other University policies, or if specific allegations under this Policy remain are not dismissed, information regarding those policies and procedures will be provided to the parties and the investigation may continue on the remaining allegations.

Each party may appeal the dismissal of allegations and/or the formal complaint by submitting a written appeal within five (5) calendar days of being notified of the decision regarding dismissal. If a party appeals, Villanova will as soon as practicable notify the other party in writing of the appeal and provide the non-appealing party access to review the appeal. The non-appealing party will have three (3) calendar days to respond, and a copy of the response will be provided to the appealing party. No further appeal submissions will be accepted unless specifically requested by the decision-maker for the appeal. Appeals of dismissals will be decided as outlined below as determined by the role of the Respondent. The individual designated to hear the appeal will be free of conflict and bias and will not serve as the investigator, Title IX Coordinator, or hearing decision-maker in the same matter. The outcome of the appeal will be provided in writing simultaneously to both parties and include the rationale for the decision.

Role of Respondent

Students (non-Law)

Law Students

Staff members

Faculty members and full-time administrators with faculty appointments

Appeal decided by

Dean of Students or designee

Vice Dean or designee

Associate Vice President for Human Resources or designee

Provost or designee

5. WHAT HAPPENS FOLLOWING A FORMAL COMPLAINT

6. TIME FRAME FOR RESOLUTION

The time frame for resolution begins with the filing of a formal complaint. Generally speaking, the University will complete the administrative investigation and resolution of all formal complaints within a reasonably prompt manner, and no longer than ninety (90) business days after the filing of the formal complaint, absent extenuating circumstances. Periodic updates as to the status of the review or investigation may be provided to both the Complainant and Respondent.

Each case is unique, and the timing of the investigative process will be impacted by factors such as the complexity of the investigation, the scope of the allegation(s) including any supplemental allegations raised during the investigation, the parties' schedules and availability, the number of witnesses or volume of documentary evidence, arranging reasonable accommodations for qualified disabled individuals participating in the process, the academic calendar and any concurrent criminal investigation. Although cooperation with law enforcement may require Villanova to temporarily suspend its administrative investigation, the University will promptly resume its sexual misconduct investigation as soon as it is notified by law enforcement that the agency has completed the evidence gathering process. Villanova will not, however, wait for the conclusion of a criminal proceeding to begin its own investigation and, if needed, will take immediate steps to provide supportive measures for the involved parties. In the event that the investigation and resolution require an extension for good cause, the University will notify all parties of the extension and the reason for the extension and best efforts will be made to complete the process in a timely manner. In no case will these time frames delay University-provided support services, resources, or other measures.

2. ADVISOR OF CHOICE

Parties participating as a Complainant or Respondent in this process have equal rights to be accompanied by an advisor of choice to any grievance proceeding or related meetings under this Policy. The advisor may be any person, including an attorney, but need not be an attorney. The advisor is not an advocate and any restrictions on advisor participation will be applied equally to both parties. An advisor is entitled to review all information gathered in the investigation that is directly related to the allegations (as part of evidence review), to access to the investigation report, and to cross-examine the other party and all witnesses during the hearing.

A party may decline to use an advisor for all stages of the formal or informal resolution process, with the exception of the hearing, where any questioning of the other party must be conducted by the party's advisor. If a party does not have an advisor for the hearing, the University will provide an advisor, free of charge, to the party for the sole purpose of facilitating questioning on the party's behalf of other parties and witnesses.

A party's advisor of choice may provide support and advice to their advisee at any meeting and/or proceeding. With the exception of the advisor's cross-examination during a hearing, advisors may not speak on behalf of their advisee or otherwise participate in, or in any manner delay, disrupt, or interfere with meetings and/or proceedings. The advisor will offer no testimonial evidence or answer questions on behalf of their advisee; the advisor may not conduct direct examination of their advisee; and the advisor may not present opening or closing remarks. The advisor, and not the Complainant or Respondent, will conduct cross-examination of any witness in compliance with the hearing procedures and the University's policies and procedures.

Advisors may ask to briefly suspend any meetings, interviews, or hearings to provide consultation; the University retains the discretion to deny such requests if they are excessive, burdensome, or otherwise unreasonable. The University may remove or dismiss advisors who do not abide by the restrictions on their participation or who are otherwise disruptive. An advisor may be asked to meet with the Title IX Coordinator in advance of any meetings or proceedings to receive and acknowledge the University's overview of the Policy, expectations of the role, privacy considerations, and appropriate decorum.

Advisors should plan to make themselves reasonably available for all meetings and proceedings. Villanova will not intentionally schedule meetings or hearings on dates where the advisors for all parties are not available, provided that the advisors act reasonably in providing available dates and work collegially to find dates and times that meet all schedules. Villanova's obligations to investigate and adjudicate in a prompt timeframe applies to matters governed under this Policy and the University cannot agree to extensive delays solely to accommodate the schedule of an advisor. Villanova will not unreasonably delay a meeting or hearing under this policy due to the unavailability of an advisor and may offer the party the opportunity to obtain a different advisor or utilize one provided by Villanova. An advisor is entitled to review all information gathered in the investigation that is directly related to the allegations during the designated evidence review periods, to access the investigative report during the designated report review period, and to cross-examine the other party and all witnesses during the hearing.

3. INVESTIGATIONS UNDER THIS POLICY

Administrative investigations of all sexual misconduct involving a student: The Title IX Investigator or their designee will typically oversee the administrative investigation of all sexual misconduct reports where the Respondent is a current student.

Administrative investigations of sexual misconduct involving a University employee: Human Resources and/or the Title IX Investigator or their designee will typically oversee the investigation of all reports of sexual misconduct involving a Respondent who is a current University employee (faculty or staff).

For administrative (non-criminal) investigations, the University will provide to a party whose participation is invited or expected, written notice of the date, time, location, known participants and purpose of all hearings, investigative interviews, or other meetings, with reasonably sufficient time for that party to prepare to participate.

Normally, investigations will include live interviews with the parties and witnesses, and collecting relevant documentation, electronic, or other available evidence. Students, faculty and staff deemed relevant to the matter may be asked to participate in an investigation, and when asked, they are expected to find time to meet and share information with the investigator. The investigator may receive any information presented by the parties, but the investigator, not the parties, is responsible for gathering relevant evidence. The parties are encouraged to provide all relevant information as promptly as possible to facilitate prompt resolution. In the event that a party declines to voluntarily provide material information, the University's ability to conduct a prompt, thorough, and equitable investigation may be impacted. Subject to the prohibition on retaliation, the University will not restrict the ability of either party to discuss the allegations under investigation or to gather and present relevant evidence.

Evidence obtained through a criminal investigation, including the collection of physical and/or forensic evidence, could be shared with the administrative investigator and included in the Investigative Report as outlined below.

WITNESSES

The Complainant and Respondent will be asked to identify witnesses and provide other relevant information, such as documents, communications, and other evidence, if available. Witnesses are individuals who may have information relevant to the incident, including individuals who may have observed the acts in question, may be able to provide contextual information, or may have other information related to the incident, the disclosure, or related matters.

Witnesses may also be offered to provide subject matter expert information. If parties wish to provide expert testimony or evidence, they are solely responsible for securing attendance of any expert witness at a hearing, and for paying the costs or fees associated with any expert report or testimony.

Where witnesses are interviewed as part of the investigation, the name of the witness and the information gathered in the interviews will be shared with the parties during the evidence review period and report review period. The investigator has the discretion to determine which of those potential witnesses, or other persons, may have relevant information about the alleged conduct.

OBLIGATION TO PROVIDE TRUTHFUL INFORMATION

All Villanova University community members are expected to provide truthful information in any report or proceeding under the Policy and are further expected to cooperate with the University in any such proceeding. Knowingly submitting or providing false or misleading information in bad faith in connection with an incident of sexual misconduct is prohibited and subject to disciplinary action. This provision does not apply to reports made or information provided in good faith, even if the facts alleged in the report are not later substantiated or no policy violation is found to have occurred.

EVIDENTIARY CONSIDERATIONS

Evidence is relevant if it makes a material fact more or less probable than it would be without the evidence. In general, the investigator and decision-maker have the discretion to determine the relevance and probative value of information proffered or received.

In addition, the investigator and decision-maker have the discretion to evaluate the relevance of the following evidentiary considerations:

Medical or Counseling Records: The investigator will not require, allow, rely upon, or otherwise use questions or evidence that constitute, or seek disclosure of, information protected under a legally recognized privilege, unless the person holding such privilege has waived the privilege. If a person voluntarily shares medical or counseling records with the investigator for consideration in the investigation, they must sign a written consent that acknowledges that relevant information from the medical or counseling records must be shared with the other party and their advisor to ensure the other party has notice of that information and an opportunity to respond.

Prior Sexual History of the Complainant: A Complainant's prior sexual history is generally not relevant, although evidence may be admitted if determined relevant in two circumstances: (1) where the evidence concerns specific incidents of the Complainant's prior sexual behavior with respect to the Respondent and is offered to prove consent (although the mere fact of a current or prior dating or sexual relationship between the parties, by itself, is not sufficient to constitute consent); or (2) to show that someone other than Respondent committed the alleged conduct.

Any party seeking to introduce information about a Complainant's prior sexual history should bring this information to the attention of the investigator at the earliest opportunity. Where a sufficient informational foundation exists, the investigator will assess the relevance of the information and determine if it is appropriate for inclusion in the investigative report.

4. EVIDENCE REVIEW

Prior to the conclusion of the administrative investigation, the parties will have an equal opportunity to inspect and review the evidence obtained through the investigation that is directly related to the allegations raised in a formal complaint, including the evidence upon which the University does not intend to rely in reaching a determination regarding responsibility and inculpatory or exculpatory evidence, whether obtained from a party or other source, so that each party can meaningfully respond to the evidence prior to conclusion of the investigation. Both parties will have the opportunity to meaningfully respond to the evidence. Parties and advisors are not permitted to disseminate any of the evidence subject to inspection and review or use such evidence for any purpose unrelated to the University's grievance process.

Parties are not prohibited from discussing the allegations under investigation with others including with a caregiver, friend, other source of emotional support, an advocacy organization, or their advisor; however, parties may not discuss or disseminate the allegations or information obtained through the evidence review in a manner that constitutes retaliation under this Policy. The parties will have ten (10) business days to inspect and review the evidence and submit a written response by email to the investigator. The investigator will consider the parties' written responses before completing an Investigative Report. In their written responses to the evidence, the parties may offer additional comment or feedback on the facts as gathered, clarify information previously shared, suggest additional witnesses, or identify any other relevant information or evidence to assure the thoroughness, sufficiency, and reliability of the investigation.

5. INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

Following the conclusion of the Evidence Review period, the investigator will produce a written investigative report that fairly summarizes the relevant information that was gathered during the investigation. The report will include both inculpatory and exculpatory information. The investigator will provide the parties access to the Investigative Report at least ten (10) business days prior to any hearing for each party's review and written response. The investigator will share all evidence gathered during the investigation, the Investigative Report, and any written responses from the parties, with the University authorities empowered to act on violations of University policy.

6. INFORMAL RESOLUTION

The informal resolution (IR) process is a voluntary, structured process involving the Complainant and Respondent (and their advisors, as applicable) to resolve the allegations following the filing of a formal complaint and prior to a formal hearing. The University's investigation into the Formal Complaint may continue during the informal resolution process. While the informal resolution process is intended to be flexible and provide a full range of possible outcomes, the University must maintain prompt timeframes for resolution of formal complaints. At any time after the filing of a formal complaint and prior to a formal hearing, either the Complainant or Respondent may provide written notification to the Title IX Coordinator requesting informal resolution in lieu of formal resolution.

The parties are not required to attempt informal resolution, and informal resolution is not appropriate for all types of alleged conduct. Informal resolution is not permitted for any complaint of sexual misconduct made by a student against an employee. In all other cases, the University shall determine if the matter is eligible for informal resolution. Factors that the University may weigh in considering the eligibility of a formal complaint for informal resolution include, but are not limited to: a pattern of alleged sexual misconduct by the same Respondent; whether the Respondent has a history of arrests or records indicating a history of sexual and/or physical violence; whether the allegations involved violence, use of weapons or similar factors, or; whether there is an ongoing threat of harm or safety to the Villanova community. The determination that a matter is not eligible for informal resolution is not subject to appeal.

If the University has determined the matter is eligible for informal resolution, and both parties consent to the process in writing, the matter will be referred to the appropriate University official or third party engaged by the University to facilitate the process. All related communications will go through the facilitator. Both parties and the facilitator will have an opportunity to offer proposals to become part of the final agreement. The informal resolution process does not require the parties to confront each other or be present in the same room. The parties may consult with an advisor before and during the informal resolution process, and the advisor may accompany the Complainant or Respondent to any meetings in connection with the process.

If, at any time prior to signing a written resolution agreement, either party does not agree with the proposed terms, or no longer wishes to continue negotiations, the party may withdraw, without penalty, from the informal resolution process. If either party withdraws from the informal resolution process, the informal resolution process will end, and the matter will proceed to a hearing under the University's formal resolution process. The University reserves the right to discontinue the informal resolution process if: information becomes available which makes the matter ineligible for informal resolution; there are health or safety concerns that have not been adequately addressed; an acceptable resolution cannot be reached between the parties within a reasonably prompt timeframe; the facilitator believes that one or both parties are not operating in good faith; or under other appropriate circumstances. The determination to discontinue the informal resolution process is not subject to appeal. In such cases, the matter will proceed to a hearing under the University's formal resolution process.

The Facilitator and both parties must all agree to the outcome(s) of the informal resolution agreement. The facilitator will draft the agreement based upon the parties' verbal or written agreement to the negotiated outcome(s). Separately, both parties will then be offered the opportunity to sign the informal resolution agreement. If either party refuses to sign this agreement, the IR process will be considered unsuccessful, and the matter will proceed to a hearing under the University's formal resolution process. Once the parties sign the informal resolution agreement, the matter will be considered resolved and will not be eligible for further informal or formal resolution. A signed resolution agreement is binding on both parties and is not subject to appeal. Alleged violations of the terms of the informal resolution agreement, retaliation, or other violations will be considered a new and separate matter and will not reopen the original matter.

Any agreed upon resolution reached by the parties is subject to the University's final approval. This includes any resolution reached by the parties without the University's active participation or involvement.

7. SPECIAL PROCEDURES

At the conclusion of the investigation and all applicable steps described above, the matter will be referred to the specific resolution process as determined by the role of the Respondent, as outlined below:

Role of Respondent

Students (non-Law)

Law Students

Staff members

Faculty members and Faculty Administrators

Link to Special Procedures

[Student Special Procedures Governing Sexual Misconduct Proceedings](#)

[Law Student Special Procedures Governing Sexual Misconduct Proceedings](#)

[Staff Special Procedures Governing Sexual Misconduct Proceedings](#)

[Faculty Special Procedures Governing Sexual Misconduct Proceedings](#)

6. RESOURCES FOR RESPONDENTS

The University has designated the Respondent Resource Coordinator (RRC) team to provide assistance to any student accused of sexual misconduct. A Respondent Resource Coordinator is available to provide information on resources for students accused of sexual misconduct. The RRC will assist a Respondent with: accessing emotional support; connecting with on campus and community resources; outlining available supportive measures; and assisting with other questions and concerns to address the matter under this policy. Members of the RRC Team are available 9 am to 5 pm, Monday-Friday and can be reached by emailing respondentresource@villanova.edu or calling 610-519-8807. Members of the Respondent Resource Coordinator Team do not act as legal counsel and do not serve as advisors in University disciplinary proceedings.

Members of the Respondent Resource Coordinator Team are required to share reports of sexual misconduct with the Title IX Coordinator. Respondents who wish to maintain confidentiality are encouraged to utilize confidential counseling services at the University Counseling Center. Note that confidentiality will be maintained by a counselor or therapist under all circumstances except when there is an immediate threat of serious harm to a person. This means that, in almost all circumstances, these individuals are not required to report any information to anyone without permission. Appointments are available Monday – Friday during normal business hours (9 am-5 pm) and can be scheduled by calling (610) 519-4050 or made in person on the 2nd Floor of the Health Services Building. Priests acting in a pastoral capacity are also available as confidential resources.

Respondents can contact the following resources for information on the University's procedures; rights and responsibilities of the Complainant and Respondent; prohibition on retaliation; and for assistance with obtaining University resources:

Respondent Resource Coordinator Team (610) 519-8807 respondentresource@villanova.edu
ryan.rost@villanova.edu

Title IX Coordinator, Ms. Ryan Rost (610) 519-8805

shannon.barnett@villanova.edu
Title IX Case Manager, Ms. Shannon Barnett (610) 519-8804

deanofstudents@villanova.edu
Dean of Students Office (610) 519-4200

brigitte.strother@villanova.edu
Director, Employee Relations & Compliance (610) 519-4238

7. DISABILITY ACCOMMODATIONS

This policy does not alter Villanova University's obligations under federal disability laws including the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Parties may request reasonable accommodations for documented disabilities to the Title IX Coordinator, investigator(s) and decision-makers at any point before or during the grievance process that do not fundamentally alter the grievance process. The University will not affirmatively provide disability accommodations that have not been specifically requested by a party, even where that party may be receiving accommodations in other institutional programs and activities. Requests should be submitted in advance to allow sufficient time to review, identify and implement any reasonable accommodations to the grievance process.

8. PREVENTION AND EDUCATION PROGRAMS

The University is committed to the prevention of sexual misconduct through regular and ongoing education and awareness programs. Detailed information regarding Villanova's prevention and education efforts can be found at: <https://www1.villanova.edu/content/university/sexual-misconduct/education.html>

Individuals involved in the implementation of this Policy receive training as required by the Clery Act and Title IX.

1. DOCUMENTATION

The University will create and maintain the following records for a period of seven years: records of any actions, including any supportive measures, taken in response to a report or formal complaint; records of investigations, including any determination regarding responsibility and any audio or audiovisual recording or transcript created, any disciplinary sanctions imposed on the Respondent, and any remedies provided to the Complainant; any appeal and the result therefrom; any informal resolution and the result therefrom. These records will be maintained in accordance with the privacy protections set forth in Title IX, the Clery Act, FERPA, and any other applicable federal and state laws regarding the privacy of education and personnel records.

APPENDIX A

Campus and Community Resources

ON-CAMPUS RESOURCES: Please note that Confidential Resources will not provide information to the Title IX Coordinator, Public Safety or law enforcement, but will encourage the reporting person to contact the Title IX Coordinator, Public Safety, or law enforcement to report the incident and pursue an investigation.

RESOURCE	CONTACT Email address @villanova.edu	ROLE	OFFICE LOCATION	CONFIDENTIAL*	AVAILABILITY
Title IX Coordinator Ms. Ryan Rost	610-519-8805 ryan.rost@	Accepts reports; Coordinates supportive measures; Liaison to Public Safety, SARC and/or RRC	207 Tolentine Hall	NO	Normal business hours (Monday- Friday 9 am – 5 pm)
Title IX Case Manager & Senior Deputy Title IX Coordinator Ms. Shannon Barnett	610-519-8804 shannon.barnett@	Oversees Title IX Compliance Accepts reports; Coordinates supportive measures; Liaison to Public Safety, SARC and/or RRC	207 Tolentine Hall	NO	Normal business hours (Monday- Friday 9 am – 5 pm)
Public Safety	610-519-4444 Emergency	Accepts reports; Conducts criminal and/or administrative investigations; Serves as liaison with other law enforcement agencies	Garey Hall, intersection of County Line Road, and Spring Mill Road	NO	24/7
David Tedjeske, Director of Public Safety & Chief of Police	610-519-5800 david.tedjeske@				

RESOURCE	CONTACT	ROLE	OFFICE LOCATION	CONFIDENTIAL*	AVAILABILITY
	Email address @villanova.edu				
	Non-Emergency				
Kim Kearney, Title IX Investigator & Deputy Title IX Coordinator	484-343-6926 kim.kearney@				
Sexual Assault Resource Coordinator(s) [SARC]	484-343-6028 sarc@	Provides information about options and resources; Coordinates accommodations for students	Various	NO – all known information (including name of reporting person or complainant) shared with Title IX Coordinator - see section IV B of policy	Normal Business Hours (Monday-Friday 9 am – 5 pm)
Respondent Resource Coordinator(s)	610-519-8807 respondentresource@	Provides information on resources for respondents; Coordinates accommodations	Various	NO	Normal business hours, (Monday-Friday 9 am – 5 pm)
Student Health Center	610-519-4070	Provides medical care to students; Testing for sexually transmitted infections, pregnancy, and predatory drugs, such as GHB, Rohypnol and Ketamine, is available; Collection of evidence is not available and may be obtained at the local hospitals listed in the Off Campus Community Resources	Health Services Building, 3rd floor	NO – name of reporting person may not need to be shared if requested, see section IV B of policy NOT Confidential if treated by a physician, who is required by law to report sexual violence to the local police authorities	24/7 when classes are in session; 8am-4pm at other times
University Counseling Center	610-519-4050	Provides counseling for students	Health Services Building, 2nd floor	YES	Normal business hours and after hours – contact Student Health Center
UWill Crisis Help &	833-646-1526	Provides counseling for students	https://app.uwill.com/	YES	24/7

RESOURCE	CONTACT Email address @villanova.edu	ROLE	OFFICE LOCATION	CONFIDENTIAL*	AVAILABILITY
Telehealth Counseling Residence Life / Resident Assistants	610-519-4154 or RAs located in each residence hall	Provides support & assists with reporting	Stanford Hall, Ground Floor	NO	24/7 (through RA and professional on-call)
Professional Staff Members		Serves as liaison with Public Safety, SARC, and/or RRC		YES if reporting to a priest in his capacity as pastoral counselor	
Campus Ministry and Clergy Members	610-519-3546 CMCommunication@	Provides support	109 St. Mary's Hall	NO if reporting to employees who are not priests	Normal business hours (Monday- Friday 9 am – 5 pm)
	610-519-4200			NO	
Dean of Students	tom.demarco@		202 Dougherty Hall		
Tom DeMarco, Dean of Students & Associate Vice President for Student Life		Provides information concerning Code of Student Conduct Procedures		NO	
Sydney Scheiner, Assistant Dean of Students for Conduct Resolution and Community Engagement & Deputy Title IX Coordinator	sydney.scheiner@	Coordinates accommodations	213 Dougherty Hall		Normal business hours(Monday – Friday, 9 am – 5 pm)
Rev. Bernie Scianna, OSA, Senior Associate Dean of Students for Student Support		Provides support	213 Dougherty Hall	YES if in capacity as pastoral counselor	
	bernard.scianna@				
Health Promotion Stacy Andes, Director	610-519-7409 stacy.andes@	Facilitates prevention initiatives	Health Services Building, 1st floor	NO	Normal business hours, (Monday- Friday 9 am – 5 pm)
Student Life	610-519-4550	Provides support	202	NO	Normal business hours

RESOURCE	CONTACT Email address @villanova.edu	ROLE	OFFICE LOCATION	CONFIDENTIAL*	AVAILABILITY
Kathy Byrnes, Vice President for Student Life Human Resources	kathleen.byrnes@		Dougherty Hall		(Monday-Friday 9 am – 5 pm)
Raymond Duffy, Vice President for Human Resources and Affirmative Action Officer	610-519-5135 raymond.duffy@	Accepts reports			
Brigitte Strother, Director, Employee Relations & Compliance, and Deputy Title IX Coordinator Athletics	610-519-4238 brigitte.strother@	Accepts reports; Provides information about options and resources; Conducts employment discrimination investigations	789 Lancaster Avenue	NO	Normal business hours (Monday – Friday 9 am – 5 pm)
Lynn Tighe Senior Associate Athletic Director/ Chief Athletics Administrative Officer/SWA& Deputy Title IX Coordinator for Athletics	610-519-4121 lynn.tighe@	Accepts reports; Provides information about options and resources	Field House	NO	Normal business hours (Monday-Friday 9 am – 5 pm)
Office of Education Abroad Liz Campanella, Director	610-519-5443 elizabeth.campanella@	Provides support; Provides information about options and resources; Coordinates accommodations	Garey Hall	NO	Normal business hours, (Monday-Friday 9 am – 5 pm)
Financial Assistance	610-519-4010 finaid@	Provides information about financial assistance	Kennedy Hall, Second Floor	NO	Normal business hours, (Monday-Friday, 9 am – 5 pm)
Visa and Immigration Services	610-519-4095 steve.mcwilliams@	Provides support to international students	Connelly Center, Second Floor	NO	Normal business hours, (Monday-Friday 9 am – 5 pm)
Health Advocate (employee assistance program through Human Resources)	866-799-2728 or www.healthadvocate.com/villanovastaff 1-855-236-1443	Provides information about resources and counseling for employees		YES	24/7
Anonymous Reporting hotline (EthicsPoint)	www.villanova.ethicspoint.com	Accepts reports		YES if reporter so desires	24/7

RESOURCE	CONTACT	ROLE	OFFICE LOCATION	CONFIDENTIAL*	AVAILABILITY
	Email address @villanova.edu				

- **Confidential** means the person will not report the incident to Public Safety or the Title IX Coordinator except, in some cases, as an incident without identifying information (to comply with Clery reporting requirements on crime statistics). Other resources are private, meaning the report and names may be shared but only with University employees who are involved in the investigation or resolution of such incidents or as required by law.

OFF-CAMPUS COMMUNITY RESOURCES

RESOURCE	PHONE CONTACT 911	CONFIDENTIAL
<u>Law Enforcement</u>	610-688-0503	
Radnor Township	610-649-1000	
Lower Merion Township Conshohocken Borough Upper Merion Township Tredyffrin Township	610-828-4032/ 4033 610-265-3232 610-647-1440	NO
<u>Local Hospitals</u>		
(medical treatment and collection of evidence available; testing for predatory drugs may not be available but is available at the Student Health Center)		NO
		Under Pennsylvania law, a hospital medical provider is required to notify law enforcement of a reported sexual assault. The Complainant may decline to speak with a law enforcement officer or participate in a criminal prosecution. The hospital medical provider will not, however, without consent, notify the University.
Bryn Mawr Hospital		
Lankenau Medical Center	484-337-3000	
Paoli Memorial Hospital	484-476-2000	
	484-565-1000	
Philadelphia Sexual Assault Response Center (support, medical treatment, and collection of evidence available)	100 E. Lehigh Street Philadelphia, PA 19125	YES
	215-425-1625	
Delaware County Victim Assistance Center	610-566-4342	YES
24 Hour HOTLINE (24/7)	610-566-4342	YES
Domestic Abuse Project of Delaware County	610-565-6272	
		YES
	610-565-4590	
24 Hour HOTLINE (24/7)		
Delaware County Office of the District Attorney	610-891-4162	NO
Community Legal Services of Philadelphia	215-981-3700	YES
Delaware County Bar Association	610-566-6627	NO
Federal Student Aid Information Center	1-800-433-3243	NO

Visa Services	www.fafsa.gov	
US Department of State www.state.gov		NO
	222 North 17th Street 3rd Floor	
Catholic Social Services of Philadelphia- Immigration Services http://cssphiladelphia.org/css/ community	Philadelphia, PA 19103 267-331-2490	YES if legal services provided

APPENDIX B

Title IX Notice of Nondiscrimination

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (“Title IX”), and its implementing regulations, prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in any federally funded education program or activity. The requirement not to discriminate on the basis of sex in the University’s education program or activity extends to admission and employment. Sexual harassment, which includes sexual assault and other sexual misconduct, is a form of sex discrimination. Under the University Sexual Misconduct Policy, the University prohibits all forms of sexual misconduct including, sexual and sex-based harassment, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, dating violence, domestic violence, stalking and retaliation, some of which may constitute prohibited conduct under Title IX. As a recipient of federal funds, Villanova University complies with Title IX and has appointed Ms. Ryan Rost as its Title IX Coordinator. The Title IX Coordinator is responsible for overall Title IX compliance, including oversight of the University’s centralized review, investigation, and resolution process for matters arising under the University Sexual Misconduct Policy. Ms. Rost can be reached at 207 Tolentine Hall, (610) 519-8805, ryan.rost@villanova.edu. Inquiries about the application of Title IX and its implementing regulations may be referred to the Title IX Coordinator, to the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education’s Office for Civil Rights, or both.

Any student, employee or applicant for employment or admission to the University who believes that they have been discriminated against on the basis of sex, in violation of Title IX, or has been a victim of sexual misconduct under the University’s Sexual Misconduct Policy, may make a report or file a complaint with the Title IX Coordinator or Deputy Title IX Coordinator designated below. The Title IX Coordinator is a University resource who can: discuss with Complainants and Respondents the availability of supportive measures with or without the filing of a formal complaint; consider the Complainant’s and Respondent’s wishes with respect to available supportive measures; explain to the Complainant the process for filing a formal complaint; and explain to the Respondent the process following the filing of a formal complaint. The Title IX Coordinator or Deputy Title IX Coordinator will assist the Complainant in identifying the appropriate University policy (with its grievance procedure) to resolve the complaint in a prompt and equitable manner. The Title IX Coordinator or Deputy Title IX Coordinator may consult with other Villanova administrators, as needed, to resolve the complaint in the most effective manner.

The Title IX Coordinator is supported by several Deputy Title IX Coordinators, all of whom are knowledgeable and trained in state and federal laws that apply to matters of sexual misconduct, as well as University policy and procedure.

Ms. Ryan Rost | Title IX Coordinator
207 Tolentine Hall | (610) 519-8805 | ryan.rost@villanova.edu

Ms. Shannon Barnett | Senior Deputy Title IX Coordinator

Title IX Case Manager

207 Tolentine Hall | (610) 519-8804 | shannon.barnett@villanova.edu

Ms. Brigitte Strother | Deputy Title IX Coordinator

Human Resources

Director, Employee Relations & Compliance

789 Lancaster Avenue | (610) 519-4238 | brigitte.strother@villanova.edu

Ms. Kim Kearney | Deputy Title IX Coordinator

Title IX Investigator

Garey Hall | (484) 343-6926 | kim.kearney@villanova.edu

Sydney Scheiner | Deputy Title IX Coordinator

Assistant Dean of Students for Conduct Resolution

213 Dougherty Hall | (610) 519-4200 | sydney.scheiner@villanova.edu

Ms. Lynn Tighe | Deputy Title IX Coordinator for Athletics

Senior Associate Athletic Director for Administration

Field House, Second Floor | (610) 519-4121 | lynn.tighe@villanova.edu

Concerns about the University's application of Title IX can be made externally to:

Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights

Office for Civil Rights (OCR)

U.S. Department of Education

400 Maryland Avenue, SW

Washington, DC 20202-1100

Customer Service Hotline #: (800) 421-3481

Facsimile: (202) 453-6012

TDD#: (877) 521-2172

Email: OCR@ed.gov

Web: <http://www.ed.gov/ocr>

Special Procedures Governing Sexual Misconduct Proceedings

STUDENT SPECIAL PROCEDURES GOVERNING PROCEEDINGS INVOLVING ALLEGATIONS OF SEXUAL MISCONDUCT

IMPLEMENTING THE CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT

At the conclusion of the investigation and all applicable steps described in the University's Sexual Misconduct Policy, formal complaints against undergraduate or graduate students will be referred to the Dean of Students Office. The procedures set forth below ("Special Procedures") shall constitute the University's Title IX and Sexual Misconduct grievance procedures for addressing alleged violations of the Sexual Misconduct Policy. The University's full Sexual Misconduct Policy, which outlines the University's reporting, formal complaint and investigative processes, including requests for disability accommodations related to those processes, can be found at: <https://villanova.policytech.com/docview/?docid=199&public=true9>.

1. FORMAL RESOLUTION PROCESS

1. **Student procedural rights**
 1. **Rights of the Respondent**
 2. **Rights of the Complainant**
2. **Acceptance of Responsibility**
3. **Formal Resolution Hearing**
 1. **Notice and Participation**
 2. **Consolidation Options**
 3. **Hearing Decision-Maker**
 4. **Hearing Procedures**
 5. **Advisors**
 6. **Presentation of Evidence at the Formal Resolution Hearing**
 7. **Closing Statements and Deliberations**
 8. **Determination Regarding Responsibility**

2. SANCTIONS

3. APPEALS

1. **Grounds for an appeal**
2. **Process to appeal**

1. FORMAL RESOLUTION PROCESS

As outlined in the full Sexual Misconduct Policy, when a formal complaint is made, a written Notice of Allegations will be sent to the Complainant(s) and Respondent(s). Such notice will occur as soon as practicable after Villanova receives a formal complaint, absent extenuating circumstances. An investigation by a trained investigator will commence as set forth in the Sexual Misconduct Policy and the parties will be provided with options for informal resolution as outlined in the Sexual Misconduct Policy and formal resolution as outlined below.

At the conclusion of the investigation, the investigator will share all evidence submitted during the investigation, the Investigative Report, and any responses with the Dean of Students Office. Upon receipt of the Investigative Report, the Dean of Students will designate a Conduct Review Administrator who will serve as the primary point of contact for Complainants, Respondents, and their advisors during

the Formal Resolution process. The Conduct Review Administrator will oversee the implementation of the formal resolution procedures and issue sanctions if the Respondent is found responsible or admits responsibility for violations of policy.

The Complainant and Respondent will meet with the Conduct Review Administrator separately to discuss next steps in the formal resolution process and review the Student Procedural Rights. This meeting will take place promptly after the matter has been referred to the Dean of Students.

If a student fails to respond to notice of a meeting with the Conduct Review Administrator, the resolution process may proceed in their absence.

If a Respondent chooses to withdraw from the University subsequent to the filing of a formal complaint, the University may elect to continue with the grievance procedures in their absence and may take appropriate steps to restrict access to campus and/or University programs or place appropriate holds on student records.

If the Complainant and/or the Respondent intend to have their Advisor (as defined below) accompany them to any meetings with the Dean of Students or the Conduct Review Administrator, they must provide the name and contact information of the Advisor to the Dean of Students or the Conduct Review Administrator at least three (3) business days prior to the initial meeting. If the same Advisor accompanies the party to subsequent meetings, additional notification is not required. Any change in Advisor must be communicated in advance of any scheduled meetings.

The University does not permit unauthorized observers, as determined by the University, to attend or participate in any meetings, hearings or other proceedings as part of the resolution process. Additionally, unauthorized recording of any such meetings and/or proceedings is strictly prohibited.

A. Student Procedural Rights

i. Rights of the Respondent

1. The right to choose whether or not to participate in the grievance procedures, with the understanding that findings may be made and sanctions may be imposed with or without such participation;
2. The right to notice of the allegations;
3. The right to notification of the grievance procedures;
4. The right to review all directly related evidence and the investigative report;
5. The right to a prompt and impartial response and resolution of complaints;
6. The right to be presumed not responsible until found otherwise;
7. The right to have the University bear the burden of proof by a preponderance of the evidence;
8. The right to present relevant statements, materials and witnesses during grievance procedures;
9. The right to have an Advisor of choice throughout the process or appointed by the University, free of charge, for the purposes of conducting cross-examination of the other party and witnesses during a conduct hearing;
10. The right to have available at the hearing all relevant evidence and the investigative report;
11. The right to have an Advisor conduct live cross-examination of any witnesses and/or the Complainant;
12. The right to written notification of:
 1. any finding of responsibility
 2. findings of fact supporting the determination
 3. statement of and rationale for the result as to each allegation
 4. any disciplinary sanctions imposed
 5. any remedies provided to the Complainant
13. The right to be free from retaliation regardless of participation in the University's grievance process; and
14. The right of appeal consistent with these Special Procedures.

ii. Rights of the Complainant

1. The right to choose whether or not to participate in grievance procedures, with the understanding that findings may be made with or without such participation
2. The right to notice of the allegations;
3. The right to notification of the grievance procedures;
4. The right to review all directly related evidence and the investigative report;
5. The right to a prompt and impartial response and resolution of the complaint;
6. The right to have the University bear the burden of proof by a preponderance of the evidence
7. The right to present relevant statements, materials and witnesses during the grievance procedures;
8. The right to have an Advisor of choice throughout the process or appointed by the University, free of charge, for the purposes of conducting cross-examination of the other party and witnesses during a conduct hearing
9. The right to have available at the hearing all relevant evidence and the investigative report;
10. The right to have an Advisor conduct live cross-examination on any witnesses and/or the Respondent
11. The right to written notification of:
 1. any finding of responsibility
 2. findings of fact supporting the determination
 3. statement of and rationale for the result as to each allegation
 4. any disciplinary sanctions imposed
 5. any remedies provided
12. The right to be free from retaliation for filing a complaint or participating in the University's grievance process; and
13. The right of appeal consistent with the provisions of these Special Procedures.

B. Acceptance of Responsibility

At any point following a formal complaint, a Respondent has the option to accept responsibility.

Following the acceptance of responsibility, the Respondent will be sanctioned accordingly by the Conduct Review Administrator utilizing the sanctioning considerations outlined below. Acceptance of responsibility may be rejected by the Conduct Review Administrator. The Conduct Review Administrator will provide all parties written notice of the sanction(s) imposed. Acceptance of responsibility does not waive the right to appeal as outlined below.

C. Formal Resolution Hearing

Formal Resolution hearings are designed to determine responsibility for alleged violations. As such, the procedures are governed by University policies consistent with federal and state law.

The Conduct Review Administrator, as assigned by the Dean of Students, will facilitate the administrative needs of the hearing and will be present during the hearing to provide assistance.

i. Notice and Participation

The Conduct Review Administrator will provide the Complainant and Respondent with a written notice of the hearing. The notice will include: the specific policy violations that will be the subject of the hearing; the date, time, and location of the hearing; the name of the Hearing Decision-Maker; how to challenge participation by the Hearing Decision-Maker on the basis of conflict of interest or bias; and information regarding procedural steps consistent with these Special Procedures and the Sexual Misconduct Policy.

The Complainant and Respondent are expected to cooperate fully during the hearing. If either party fails to appear at a scheduled hearing, the hearing may proceed without them.

ii. Consolidation Options

In situations involving a formal complaint against multiple Respondents, where the allegations against each Respondent arise from the same set of facts or circumstances, the Conduct Review Administrator, in consultation with appropriate University officials, will determine whether the hearing concerning each Respondent will be conducted either separately or jointly.

In situations involving multiple formal complaints pending against the same Respondent, the University has discretion to consolidate the hearings where the incidents arise out of the same facts or circumstances. The University also has discretion, but not the obligation, to solicit and consider the input of the parties regarding the consolidation of hearings. If, during the course of the hearing, further violations of the Code of Student Conduct become apparent, the decision-maker may recommend that such alleged violations be investigated and resolved as a separate case.

iii. Hearing Decision-Maker

The hearing will be conducted by a fair and impartial Hearing Decision-Maker, who will conduct an objective evaluation of all relevant evidence, including both inculpatory and exculpatory evidence. The Hearing Decision-Maker may be a Villanova University faculty or staff member, or an external professional, as determined by the Conduct Review Administrator.

Any individual serving as a Hearing Decision-Maker will be free from conflicts of interest and bias for or against either party, and trained on the definitions of sexual misconduct, including sexual harassment, the scope of the University's education program or activity, how to conduct a hearing, how to serve impartially, by avoiding prejudgment of the facts at issue, conflicts of interest, and bias; and how to serve as an informed and impartial decision-maker. Training for Hearing Decision-Makers will include training content provided to investigators, as well training on any technology to be used at a live hearing and on issues of relevance of questions and evidence.

The Complainant and/or the Respondent may challenge the Hearing Decision-Maker if they believe that an actual conflict of interest or bias exists. The party making this challenge must submit a written request to the Title IX Coordinator with specific and verifiable information or documentation. All objections must be raised within five (5) business days of receiving notification of the appointed Hearing Decision-Maker. The Title IX Coordinator will make the determination whether to replace the Hearing Decision-Maker. The Complainant and Respondent may not contact the Hearing Decision-Maker or have third parties contact the Hearing Decision-Maker, prior to the hearing.

iv. Hearing Procedures

Hearing Decision-Maker shall ask questions, run the hearing, make determinations on procedural issues, make findings of responsibility, make findings of fact supporting any determination of responsibility, and compile a written Determination Regarding Responsibility including a statement of and rationale for the result as to each allegation.

All hearings shall be held in an appropriate venue as determined by the Conduct Review Administrator and shall be private. The Conduct Review Administrator can provide for the hearing to occur virtually with technology that enables the parties to appear remotely from separate locations. The University does not permit unauthorized observers, as determined by the University, to attend or participate in any meetings, hearings, or other proceedings as part of the resolution process. Additionally, unauthorized recording of any such proceedings is strictly prohibited.

The University will create and maintain a transcript of the hearing which, when complete, will be made available to the parties and their advisors.

Disruptive, threatening, intimidating, or uncivil behavior by the parties or their advisors will not be tolerated. Violations will normally result in a warning being issued by the Hearing Decision-Maker, or the Conduct Review Administrator. Repeated violations may result in offending party being asked to leave the hearing and the hearing may continue in their absence.

v. Advisors

A Complainant, and/or a Respondent participating in a Formal Resolution Hearing must be accompanied by an Advisor. This can be an Advisor of their choosing or, if the party does not have an Advisor or their Advisor is unavailable, a University-appointed Advisor provided free of charge for the sole purpose of facilitating cross-examination of the other party and witnesses. The Advisor may, but need not be, an attorney. If the party's Advisor of choice for the hearing is different from the Advisor attending previous meetings with the Conduct Review Administrator, the party must inform the Conduct Review Administrator of the change. This notification must be in writing, a minimum of five (5) business days in advance of the hearing and include the name and contact information for the Advisor.

A party's Advisor of choice may provide support and advice to their advisee at any meeting and/or hearing. With the exception of the advisor's cross-examination during a hearing, they may not speak on behalf of their advisee or otherwise participate in, or in any manner delay, disrupt, or interfere with meetings and/or hearings. The Advisor will offer no testimonial evidence or answer questions on behalf of their advisee; the Advisor may not conduct direct examination of their advisee; and the advisor may not present opening or closing remarks. The Advisor, and not the Complainant or Respondent, will conduct cross-examination of any witness in compliance with the hearing's procedures and the University's policies and procedures.

Advisors may ask to suspend any meetings, interviews, or hearings briefly to provide consultation; the University retains the discretion to deny such requests if they are excessive, burdensome, or otherwise unreasonable. The University may remove or dismiss advisors who do not abide by the restrictions on their participation or who are otherwise disruptive. An advisor may be asked to meet with the Title IX Coordinator in advance of any meetings or hearings to receive and acknowledge the University's overview of the policy, expectations of the role, privacy considerations, and appropriate decorum.

An advisor should plan to make themselves reasonably available for all meetings and hearings. Villanova will not intentionally schedule meetings or hearings on dates where the advisors for all parties are not available, provided that the advisors act reasonably in providing available dates and work collegially to find dates and times that meet all schedules. Villanova's obligations to investigate and adjudicate in a prompt timeframe applies to matters governed under the University's Sexual Misconduct Policy and the University cannot agree to extensive delays solely to accommodate the schedule of an Advisor. Villanova will not delay a meeting or hearing under the Sexual Misconduct Policy for more than five (5) business days due to the unavailability of an advisor and may offer the opportunity to obtain a different advisor or utilize one provided by Villanova. An advisor is entitled to review all information gathered in the investigation that is directly related to the allegations (as part of evidence review), to access to the investigation report, and to cross-examine the other party and all witnesses during the hearing.

vi. Presentation of Evidence at the Formal Resolution Hearing

The Complainant and the Respondent, may present:

- opening and closing statements concerning the alleged violation(s);
- relevant documentation and other evidence gathered during the investigatory process;
- relevant witnesses identified during the investigatory process.

The Respondent and the Complainant and their advisors may review all evidence and the investigative report provided to the Hearing Decision-Maker prior to the commencement of the hearing and have all evidence and the investigative report available to them during the hearing.

Formal rules of evidence shall not apply. In the Hearing Decision-Maker's discretion, evidence, shall be permitted if it is relevant, reliable, not unduly repetitious, and it is the sort of information on which responsible persons are accustomed to rely in the conduct of serious affairs.

During the hearing, the parties and witnesses will provide information to and answer questions from the Hearing Decision-Maker. Except for cross-examination by the Advisor, the Respondent, the Complainant, the Advisors and the witnesses will direct their comments and/or questions only to the Hearing Decision-Maker. The Hearing Decision-Maker may consider statements of all parties and witnesses, regardless of their participation in the hearing. Before any questions are answered, the Hearing Decision-Maker will determine if the question is relevant. Questions that are determined to be irrelevant, duplicative of those already asked or harassing in nature and tone may be disallowed.

In general, the following types of evidence and questions are not relevant:

- Evidence and questions about the Complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual history unless:
 - Such questions and evidence are offered to prove that someone other than the Respondent committed the conduct alleged by the Complainant, or
 - The questions and evidence concern specific incidents of the Complainant's prior sexual history with respect to the Respondent and are offered to prove consent.
- Evidence and questions that constitute, or seek disclosure of, information protected under a legally-recognized privilege.
- Any party's medical, psychological, and similar mental health records unless the party has given voluntary, written consent.

In addition, credible evidence regarding other reports of, or findings of responsibility for, similar conduct by the Respondent may also be deemed relevant to prove motive, intent, absence of mistake, pattern or another material fact. Similarly, prior or subsequent conduct of a Complainant, even when it involves conduct that may violate University policy, may be considered when relevant.

Any party seeking admission of prior sexual history and/or evidence of other misconduct, or seeking to challenge such evidence, must do so in writing: by advising the investigator during the investigatory process; and/or by advising the Conduct Review Administrator at least 3 business days in advance of the hearing. The written notice shall set forth the evidence the party is seeking to introduce and the relevancy of such information.

The Hearing Decision-Maker will make the determination as to the admissibility of this information or questions and will instruct all parties accordingly regarding any limit in scope or admissibility.

vii. Closing Statements and Deliberations

After all statements and materials have been presented, the Complainant and the Respondent may present final comments to the Hearing Decision-Maker. [Subsequently and in private, the](#) Hearing Decision-Maker will deliberate to determine by a preponderance of the evidence whether the Respondent has violated University policy.

After the Hearing Decision-Maker has reached a determination as to responsibility, the Conduct Review Administrator will determine the appropriate sanction, as outlined below.

viii. Determination Regarding Responsibility

The Conduct Review Administrator will simultaneously provide the written Determination Regarding Responsibility to all parties. The Determination will include:

1. Alleged violations of the Code of Student Conduct;
2. A description of the procedural steps taken from the filing of the formal complaint;
3. Findings of fact supporting the determination;
4. Conclusions regarding which section(s) of the Code of Student Conduct, if any, the Respondent has or has not violated.
5. For each alleged violation:

1. A statement of, and rationale for, a determination regarding responsibility;
2. A statement of, and rationale for, any disciplinary sanctions determined by the Conduct Review Administrator (as outlined below) imposed on the Respondent; and
3. A statement of, and rationale for, whether remedies designed to restore or preserve equal access to Villanova's education program or activity will be provided by the University to the Complainant; and
6. Procedures and the permitted reasons for the parties to appeal as outlined below, including the name of the Appeal-Decision Maker

Appropriate documentation will be maintained as required to allow the University to comply with applicable law.

2. SANCTIONS

After the finding or admission of responsibility, the Conduct Review Administrator will impose sanctions after considering the following:

1. The nature of the violation and the circumstances surrounding it;
2. Impact on the individuals involved and/or the community as a whole;
3. Statements made or evidence presented in the investigative report and/or hearing;
4. Prior disciplinary record of the student;

The Conduct Review Administrator may consult with other University officials as they deem appropriate.

Sanctions serve to reinforce that students are held responsible and accountable for their behavior. This is accomplished by measures to educate, to deter future misconduct and to provide consequences for one's actions.

Villanova University reserves the right to notify parent(s)/legal guardian(s) about the disciplinary status of their student, to the extent consistent with the provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.

Disciplinary sanctions comprise the range of official actions which may be imposed for violations of the Code of Student Conduct. Any violation of the Code of Student Conduct may result in the full range of sanctions outlined in the [Sanctioning](#) section of the Student Handbook, and one or more may be imposed in response to a given situation.

3. APPEALS

Both parties have the right to appeal the final determination of responsibility and/or the resulting sanction. The trained Appeal Decision-Maker, who may be a Villanova faculty or staff member or external professional, as determined by the Dean of Students, will review appeals. The Appeal Decision-Maker's responsibility will be strictly limited to determining the issues on appeal. The Appeal Decision-Maker may consult with other University officials as they deem appropriate and all decisions made by the Appeal Decision-Maker are final, including whether or not an appeal is procedurally permitted.

During the appeal process students who have received a disciplinary sanction may be subject to certain restrictions, impacting such things as: class attendance; on-campus housing; participation and/or membership in organizations, athletic events/teams/clubs, and/or extracurricular activities; attendance at University events/functions; and access to University buildings.

A. Grounds for Appeal

The Respondent and the Complainant may request an appeal based only on one or more of the following grounds:

Appeal of the Determination as to Responsibility:

1. Material Procedural Irregularity that affected the outcome of the matter;
2. New Relevant Evidence that was not reasonably available at the time of determination regarding responsibility or dismissal was made, that could affect the outcome of the matter; or
3. The Title IX Coordinator, investigator(s), or decision-maker(s) had a Conflict of Interest or Bias for or against an individual Complainant or Respondent, or for or against Complainants or Respondents in general, that affected the outcome of the matter. The appeal must specify the basis on which the party believes there is an actual conflict of interest or bias that affected the matter.

Appeal for Review of Sanction:

4. The sanction(s) imposed were disproportionate to the violation(s).

B. Process to Appeal

As part of the written Determination of Responsibility, the Conduct Review Administrator will provide the parties with the name of the Appeal Decision Maker to whom appeals are submitted. The Respondent and the Complainant may request an appeal within seven (7) business days from the time of notification of determination and access to the hearing transcript. Appeals must be submitted to the Appeal Decision-Maker in writing and:

- Be from and signed (physical or electronic) by the Complainant or Respondent;
- Consist of a concise and complete statement no more than eight (8) single spaced pages (including attachments) utilizing 12-point font;
- Set forth one or more appropriate grounds for appeal as listed above.

If the appeal does not articulate appropriate grounds for appeal, it will be denied and both parties notified. If the appeal does articulate appropriate grounds for appeal, the Appeal Decision-Maker will notify both parties of the filing of the appeal. Each party will be given the opportunity to review and respond, in writing, to the other party's appeal. This response must be submitted within five (5) business days of the notice of the filing of an appeal. Any written response to an appeal will also be shared with the other party. No further written submissions will be permitted.

The Appeal Decision-Maker will promptly review the written appeal submissions and responses (if any) and any other materials relevant to the appeal, which may include: the investigative report, hearing transcript, and the Determination of Responsibility, and notify the parties of the outcome.

1. Appeals based on appropriate grounds of a Material Procedural Irregularity, New Relevant Evidence, or Conflict of Interest or Bias, will be resolved, as outlined below, prior to addressing any Appeals for Review of Sanction.
 1. **Material Procedural Irregularity** – if found, and depending on the nature of the procedural error, the matter may be heard by a new Hearing Decision-Maker or the Appeal Decision-Maker may remand the matter to the original Hearing Decision-Maker for further deliberation to remedy the error ;
2.
 1. **New Relevant Evidence** – if found, the matter will be remanded to the original Hearing Decision-Maker for reconsideration in light of the new evidence;
 2. **Conflict of Interest or Bias** – if found, the matter will be remanded for further deliberation consistent with the appellate finding.

Remedies for appeals based on the grounds listed above do not include automatic dismissal of the case or a unilateral determination of responsibility by the Appeal Decision-Maker.

2. Appeals for Review of Sanction will be heard subsequent to the resolution of any Appeals for Material Procedural Irregularity, New Relevant Evidence, or Conflict of Interest or Bias (if

submitted). If the appeal is determined to be based on appropriate grounds for Review of Sanction, the Appeal Decision-Maker will accept as final and binding the previous decision that the Respondent has violated the Code of Student Conduct. Each party will be given the opportunity to separately meet and discuss their appeal for review of sanction and/or their response to the other party's appeal with the Appeal Decision-Maker. Each party may be accompanied by an advisor of their choice. The voluntary meeting will normally be scheduled within ten (10) business days of the original appeal being filed.

Within approximately ten (10) business days, the Appeal Decision-Maker will issue a written decision notifying the parties of the result of the appeal and rationale for the result.

SEXUAL MISCONDUCT COMPLAINT PROCEDURES FOR COMPLAINTS AGAINST FACULTY OR STAFF

Complaints of sexual misconduct against faculty or staff governed by special procedures outlined in the University's [Sexual Misconduct Policy](#).

Residence Life Policies

Residence Life Policies

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The Office for Residence Life is committed to providing students with a residential experience that enhances and extends the educational mission of the University by promoting positive opportunities for personal development, and facilitating a strong sense of community responsibility among residents. The Office believes that the development of a successful residential community depends on the willingness of its members to commit themselves to the common good of all and to, at times, compromise individual preferences to maintain fairness and civility.

In keeping with that belief, students are expected to familiarize themselves with and adhere to the following policies, procedures and regulations governing residential living at the University. These policies may be amended during the course of the academic year as the University deems appropriate.

In addition to these policies, the provisions of the Code of Student Conduct and all University policies are in effect at all times in the residence halls and students are expected to comport themselves accordingly. Students in violation of these policies, procedures, and regulations may be subject to

action under the Code of Student Conduct. Additionally, the University reserves the right to reassign or temporarily revoke on-campus housing or take other appropriate administrative action as deemed necessary, without a formal hearing, for those students whose conduct is considered disruptive or potentially detrimental to the individual, roommates, and/or others in the residential community.

I. Administrative Policies

A. Compliance with Housing Contract

Violations of the Housing Contract or published rules and regulations for residence halls are subject to disciplinary action. Students for whom those contracts are applicable are responsible for understanding their rights and obligations under those contracts and regulations.

B. Housing Assignments

Housing assignments are the exclusive responsibility of the Office for Residence Life. The Office reserves the right to change or modify housing assignments and fill housing vacancies as necessary. Students may not change assignments without authorization in writing from the Office for Residence Life. Students who change assignments without authorization are subject to a \$100 per day fine. Attempts to fraudulently manipulate the housing assignment process may result in disciplinary action. In order to maintain an assignment, the University housing space must be a student's primary place of residence while classes are in session. Residents who are not living in the space they were assigned or who allow others to occupy the space assigned to them will be subject to disciplinary action and/or termination of their housing contract. Unless otherwise approved, residency in Villanova University on-campus housing is restricted to full-time, undergraduate students taking at least 12 credit hours. The University does not provide family, graduate student or married student housing, except for designated University employees.

C. Move In/Move Out

Move-In and Move-Out dates and times are established and promulgated by the Office for Residence Life. Students must move-in/move-out in accord with these dates and times. Failure to do so may result in a \$100.00 per day fine. The Office for Residence Life does not permit students to access their residence halls/apartments prior to scheduled move-in dates or remain in their housing assignments beyond scheduled move-out dates unless a University staff or faculty member has officially requested their participation in an approved, University-sponsored and supervised activity. All University policies and the provisions of the housing contract are in effect for all students given permission to arrive early or remain late.

D. Personal Property

Students are required to remove all personal property and furnishings (e.g., couches, chairs, rugs, electrical appliances) from their room/apartment prior to check-out at the end of each academic year. Items that remain become the property of the University and will be removed. Residents will be assessed a \$50.00 fine (per resident) and a labor charge for the removal and disposal of all personal items remaining after checkout. The University assumes no legal obligation to pay for loss of, or damage to, items of student's personal property occurring on campus or in its buildings or storage areas. It is highly recommended that students insure their own personal property via their family's homeowners insurance or a renters/tenants insurance policy. Personal property must be stored in residence hall rooms/apartments. Students are not permitted to store personal property in hallways, lounges, bathrooms, stairwells, laundry rooms or other common areas. Additionally, personal property may not be stored in exterior areas adjacent to residence halls. Personal property found in these areas is subject to confiscation and disposal.

E. Residency Requirement and Housing Guarantee

Students admitted to the University as a resident student are required to reside in on-campus housing during the academic year for their first two years of enrollment. First- or second-year students who wish to reside off-campus during the academic year at a residence other than their permanent address must request permission in writing from the Office for Residence Life. To be considered, the request must identify extenuating circumstances. If approved, students will forfeit the three-year housing guarantee and be ineligible to participate in future housing selection processes.

Current residential capacity permits the University to offer students admitted as full-time residents three years of continuous on-campus residency. A fourth year of residency will be provided to those students who were admitted to the University as first-time (non-transfer) students under a special program that guaranteed an additional year of on-campus housing. Other 4th year students may request housing via a lottery process. Students who transfer to the University are not guaranteed on-campus housing, but may be offered residency on a space available basis. If a student withdraws from university housing for any reason and desires to return, they are no longer guaranteed residency and will be housed on a space-available basis.

F. Room Changes

Residents interested in changing their housing assignments must obtain and complete a room change request online. In all cases, changes must be approved by Residence Life. In the event that a request is precipitated by a roommate conflict, room changes will normally only be approved after other methods of resolving the conflict have been attempted. Mediation of conflicts may be sought from the Residence Life staff, but every effort should be made by the residents to resolve issues among themselves. If conflict resolution is unsuccessful, the student initiating the request will be granted a room change, subject to availability. Students changing assignments in the absence of authorization may be subject to a \$100 per day fine, reassignment, disciplinary action and/or termination of their housing contracts.

G. Room Entry

The University reserves the right to enter, search and inspect rooms and all contents of the room without prior permission from residents. Whether the University decides to enter, search and inspect a room will be determined at the sole discretion of University Officials. University Officials include members of the Villanova University Police Department whose presence is requested to assure the safety and welfare of other University Officials entering the room. Situations which may result in the University searching the contents of a room include, but are not limited to: if the University has reason to suspect that an emergency situation exists; if it has reason to suspect a violation of University policy; to determine the well-being of residents; to locate persons or missing property; to complete fire safety inspections; to facilitate maintenance; or to insure that safe and sanitary conditions exist. No community member may install additional locks, latches, or other devices that may impede access by University officials or modify their room locks or combination in any way.

Room inspections will be conducted prior to Fall, Winter and Spring Breaks, and as necessary by University staff or Township personnel or their independent contractors, to ensure that safe and sanitary conditions are being maintained. Students who persist in maintaining unsafe or unsanitary conditions after being asked to correct deficiencies may be subject to disciplinary action and/or loss of their campus residency.

Prohibited or illegal items discovered during these inspections or fire safety inspections will be confiscated, not returned, and turned over to the Villanova Police Department when appropriate.

H. Room Selection and Assignment Process

First-year college students are assigned to rooms and buildings using a variety of criteria. Upper-class students are provided with the opportunity to participate in a class-specific room selection process that utilizes a computerized, randomly generated number to determine the order in which residence hall

rooms and/or apartments are selected for the following academic year. Previous housing assignments, assignment to a “triple”, difficulties with roommates, academic standing, participation in special activities and other factors are not considered when generating selection times. Residence Life reserves the right to override housing selections and address housing concerns, as needed.

The Office for Residence Life normally maintains a waiting list for students who desire on-campus residency, but were admitted to the University as commuters or are not otherwise guaranteed housing. In years where overcrowding is anticipated, a wait list may not be maintained. A housing assignment made via the waiting list is valid only until the end of the academic year in which it was made. Students who receive on-campus residency via the waiting list are considered “temporary residents” and are not eligible for on-campus housing or participation in the housing selection process for the following year.

I. Semester Break Periods

Students are not permitted to remain in the residence halls during semester break periods without authorization from the Office for Residence Life.

Requests must be made in accord with Residence Life procedures and must state the reason for the request. The Office for Residence Life reserves the right to approve or deny requests as necessary. Residents who attempt to remain in the halls without authorization are subject to disciplinary action and a fine of \$100.00 per day.

Depending on the length of the break and the demand for housing, students may be permitted to remain in their current housing assignment or may be asked to consolidate into another hall for reasons of safety and security. The schedule for the opening and closing of residence halls during semester break periods shall be determined by the Office for Residence Life.

All University policies and the provisions of the housing contract remain in effect for all students remaining on campus during break periods and senior week.

J. Terms of Occupancy

In signing a University Housing Contract, students agree to occupy the space they have been assigned on or after the date specified by Residence Life and to vacate their assignment within 24 hours of their last examination for the semester, conclusion of a full-time academic internship, graduation, suspension, withdrawal, leave of absence or other termination of full-time student status. When vacating a residential assignment, students are responsible for returning the space to its original condition.

Housing contracts will terminate automatically in the case of authorized withdrawal, academic or disciplinary suspension, participation in student teaching or other mandatory academic field placement assignment, graduation, and/or in the event of marriage. Generally, students will not be released from housing contracts during the academic year. However, students desiring to be released from contractual obligations for other compelling reasons may submit written requests to the Office for Residence Life, which has discretion to permit or deny the request.

For upper-class residents, a fee of \$500 will be charged for early contract release and/or termination occurring prior to May 15. A fee of \$1,000 will be charged for early contract release and/or termination occurring after May 15. This fee will not be charged in the event of an authorized leave or withdrawal from the University for academic, personal, and/or medical reasons. Upon termination of the housing contract, a partial refund of payments made in advance may be granted in the discretion of the University, in accordance with University policies.

Housing contracts are not transferable. If assigned accommodations are destroyed or made unavailable, and the University does not furnish other accommodations the contract shall terminate. All rights and liabilities of the parties involved shall cease and the University may offer fair and reasonable reimbursements for impacted students as appropriate, with the amount to be determined at the discretion of the University.

II. COMMUNITY POLICIES

A. Conduct Expectations

Residential students are expected to comport themselves in a manner consistent with the provisions of the Code of Student Conduct and all other University policies contained in the Student Handbook. Additionally, living in community requires sensitivity toward and respect for the needs and identities of others. As the primary enterprise of the University is education, conduct considered appropriate in other settings may be inappropriate or insensitive in a residential community that must be supportive of the educational goals of its constituents.

Disruptive Conduct

As residential living is intended to complement a student's academic pursuits, the creation of an "academic atmosphere" in the residence halls is essential to meeting educational goals. Toward that end:

- Conduct which is disruptive to the residential community is prohibited at all times.
- Residents should keep noise in their own rooms, in hallways and in common areas to a minimum and non-intrusive level.
- Residents should maintain the volume of electronic or other devices at a level that does not disturb other residents or any member of the University community. The use of headphones or earphones is encouraged.
- Sound amplification equipment placed in windows for the purpose of directing music into public areas is prohibited. These items may be banned or confiscated if they become cause for complaint or disruption.

To achieve this goal:

- Each residence hall will maintain "Quiet Hours" from 8:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m., Sunday through Thursday and 11 p.m. to 8 a.m. on weekends.
- During those hours, residents are expected to refrain from any activity which is disruptive to the residential community and to remain particularly sensitive to the needs of fellow residents.
- During exam periods residence hall "Quiet Hours" will be extended to include 24 hours of each reading and exam day.
- When "Quiet Hours" are not in effect, consideration and respect for others should continue to guide a resident's conduct and activities. The Office for Residence Life may address concerns related to disruptive and/or intrusive noise at any time of day.

Relational Expectations

Students who choose to reside in the residence halls enter into a voluntary community and, in doing so, are expected to treat one another with "mutual love and respect" in the spirit of St. Augustine. Consistent with the Code of Student Conduct, insensitive, disrespectful, discriminatory, bigoted, racist, harassing, threatening, obscene or violent behavior is considered most offensive, especially among those living together in community. Additionally, as a Catholic and Augustinian University, Villanova University adheres to the Church's teachings with respect to sexual intimacy, specifically, that a genuine and complete expression of love through sexual union requires a commitment to living and sharing of two persons in marriage.

When relational expectations are not met, concerns may be referred to the Office for Residence Life or the Dean of Students Office, particularly in those cases that involve disruption to roommates or the residential community.

B. Health, Safety and Security Expectations

The Office for Residence Life expects all members of the Villanova University community to be active participants in the creation and maintenance of a safe, healthy and secure residential environment.

Dangerous Practices

The following are defined as particularly dangerous conduct in a residential community. Students found engaging in such conduct may be subject to disciplinary action.

- blocking or preventing the use of room doors, hallways, exit doors and stairwells;
- any action which compromises the security of residents including, but not limited to, propping open or otherwise tampering with the locking mechanism of interior or exterior doors;
- constructing any object or modifying the residence hall in any way that may contribute to fire hazard, physical danger or unsafe conditions;
- entering or misusing restricted areas such as roofs, balconies, fire escapes, attics, work rooms or storage areas;
- possession, use or storage of flammable/combustible materials or liquids, or other heat producing materials, combustible liquids, or devices, including outdoor grills;
- individual or group activities that may lead to injury or destruction of property including, but not limited to, ball games and sports played within the hall;
- removal of or damage to exit signs, emergency phones or other safety/security notices or devices;
- tampering or misuse of fire safety equipment such as extinguishers, smoke detectors, alarms and sprinklers;
- projectiles involving gunpowder or other propellants;
- any object or substance thrown with the potential of defacing or damaging personal or University property or causing personal injury or disruption;
- tampering with interior and/or exterior door locks.
- The use of hoverboards is strictly prohibited in the residence halls. Hoverboards may not be used, plugged in or charged in any of our on-campus facilities.

Electrical Appliances

Because of their potential contribution to accidental fires and unsanitary health conditions and in an effort to conserve energy, the following electrical appliances are restricted or prohibited in all University residences. Students found in violation of these policies will be subject to immediate confiscation and disposal of the appliance(s), and referral for disciplinary action.

- Hot plates, induction cooktops, space heaters and any appliance with an open heating element are prohibited.
- Toaster ovens are permitted in the apartments, but are not permitted in the traditional residence halls.
- All lamps and appliances should be UL approved. Halogen lamps are prohibited.
- Since all residence halls are equipped with window units or central air conditioning, personal or supplemental air conditioning units are not permitted in the residence halls.
- Refrigerators are restricted to one 5-cubic foot unit per residence hall room.
- Extension cords and surge protectors must be UL approved. Extension cords/plugs should not be placed under carpets, tacked or stapled. Major appliances should not be plugged into extension cords.
- Plug adapters should be UL approved and not rated less than 125 volts/15 amperes. Residents should employ the prudent use of surge protectors to protect property from unexpected electrical damage.
- Heavy drawing appliances (irons, hair dryers, televisions, refrigerators, microwaves) should be plugged directly into socket outlets and unplugged when not in use.

Fire Safety

Alarms: Students may not disregard a fire alarm or refuse to evacuate a building in which an alarm is sounding, regardless of its nature (drill, false alarm, or actual alert). Residents who fail to evacuate a building in a voluntary and timely manner will be subject to disciplinary action as outlined in the Code of Student Conduct.

Candles/Open Flames: Candles (of any type or form, whether decorative or functional), open flames, potpourri burners and the use of incense, are all prohibited in University residence halls and apartments. The University reserves the right to sanction the residents of a room or apartment where a violation occurs whether or not the residents are present at the time of the violation. Prohibited items will be confiscated and not returned. Violations may result in disciplinary action as outlined in the Code of Student Conduct.

Equipment: Tampering with or misuse of fire safety equipment (extinguishers, fire hoses, smoke detectors, alarms, sprinklers, exit signs) is considered to be exceptionally dangerous conduct in a residential community and represents a serious breach of community safety standards. Students found responsible for tampering with or misusing fire safety equipment will be subject to disciplinary action as outlined in the Code of Student Conduct.

When individuals responsible for activating a false fire alarm or damaging a fire extinguisher fail to claim direct responsibility for that behavior, cannot be identified by Residence Life staff and are not identified by the residents of the building in which the vandalism occurred, the administrative measures and/or fines in question may be assessed against the entire hall.

Decorations: Due to potential fire hazards, the use of decorations must adhere to the University guidelines. Decorative lights must be UL-Approved and may not be placed on the outside of doors, windows or buildings. It is against policy to leave decorative lights on when no one is present in the room to attend to them. Decorative lights may not be hung from ceilings, nor may they obstruct doors or windows. Decorations should be flame retardant and must not be placed on the exterior of room doors; near or over electrical outlets; on or near light fixtures, fire safety equipment, or radiators or heating vents/units. No live trees, wreaths or garland (treated or untreated) are permitted.

Food Preparation/Storage/Trash Disposal

Storage and extensive preparation of food in residence halls frequently contributes to electrical overload as well as fire hazard, sanitary and health concerns. As a result, meal preparation in traditional residence halls should be kept to a minimum and students are expected to use the University meal plan as provided. In the interest of controlling pests, all food items kept in residence hall rooms should be kept in tightly-sealed hard plastic containers and trash should be emptied regularly in designated common trash disposal areas.

Service, Emotional Support and Other Animals

In support of our students, the University has adopted policies that oversee the presence of Service and Emotional Support Animals in the residence halls. The full-text of the policies can be found:

- Service Animal Policy, click [HERE](#)
- Emotional Support Animals in the Residence Halls Policy, click [HERE](#)

For health and safety reasons, animals (including reptiles, fish and birds) that are not approved for service or emotional support are not permitted in the University residence halls or apartments. Residents found in violation of this policy will be subject to a fine of \$50.00 per day and disciplinary action.

Smoking

All residence halls and apartments are smoke free. Smoking, including electronic or tobacco-free cigarettes and vaping are strictly prohibited in all areas (public areas and student rooms) of these buildings. While the use of smokeless tobacco is not prohibited, individuals who use these products are responsible for proper disposal. In accord with University policy, smoking is permitted outside of residence halls, provided the person is 25 feet from an entrance or exit, air intake duct or window.

Unauthorized Recording Equipment

As it is an infringement upon the privacy of others, the use of hidden/unauthorized surveillance equipment (e.g., cameras, video cameras, webcams, tape recorders or other similar recording/monitoring devices) is strictly prohibited in the residence halls.

Water Intrusion and Moisture Control

In order to reduce the possible occurrence of mold, mildew or other fungal growth, it is necessary that you provide appropriate climate control, keep the room/apartment clean and take other measures to prevent the build-up of moisture in your room/apartment.

Residents:

- Should not open windows while heating/cooling units are operating. This can cause condensation and may contribute to mold growth.
- Should not place bed, large boxes, other furniture, or clothes directly in front of the heating/cooling unit to maximize air flow. Headboards are discouraged because they limit air flow which promotes growth of mold.
- Should not place potted plants or any other source of moisture on or around heating/cooling units.
- Should not set thermostats lower than 72 degrees year-round (please refer to instructions posted on the heating/cooling unit).
- Should not leave wet or damp clothes, towels, or shoes in closets, drawers or under beds.
- Should empty trash on a regular basis.
- Should promptly clean up food and drink spills.

If you see or suspect mold or excess moisture in your room, in your ac/heating unit, or in a common area your residence hall, immediately [submit a work request](#) to Facilities Management and/or contact the Office for Residence Life.

Wildcards

Residents are responsible for using Wildcards in a manner that does not jeopardize the safety or security of individuals or property. Residents are expected to carry their Wildcards at all times when outside of their rooms and to keep interior room doors locked as appropriate. Residents who become locked out through failure to carry their Wildcard may be assessed a fine per occurrence. Residents of a room may be held accountable for violations of the Code of Student Conduct that occur in their room whether or not they are physically present at the time of the violation. A lost Wildcard should be reported immediately to Public Safety or the Wildcard Office.

C. Guests and Visitation

The University's policies on guests and visitation are anchored in a concern for residence hall security, the privacy rights of roommates and building residents, and the maintenance of an atmosphere conducive to academic achievement.

The misuse of guest and visitation policies or visitation hours constitutes a violation of the Code of Student Conduct. Such behavior may result in disciplinary action, including reassignment or the revocation of campus residency of all parties involved. The University reserves the right to revoke guest and visitation privileges for individual students and/or rooms/apartments as necessary.

Policies:

1. Guest visits should be of limited duration, regardless of the hour, day or night. For purposes of this policy, a guest is defined as a person who is not the current resident of the room in which they are present. Consideration for roommates and other building residents dictate that visits not infringe on another's rights to privacy, sleep and quiet study space. If the presence of a guest infringes on the rights of the roommate or building residents, then the guest must leave.

2. Roommates must complete and submit to their Resident Assistant a written roommate living agreement that addresses the presence of guests in the room and is consistent with the policies stated above. Failure to comply may result in revocation of guest privileges for residents of the room/apartment.
3. Overnight visits should only occur on a limited and infrequent basis. Overnight visits must be in accord with roommate living agreements and visitation hours and should not exceed two consecutive nights. Visitation to the extent of co-habitation is not permitted and constitutes a violation of the Code of Student Conduct.
4. Residents should accompany non-university visitors, as well as visitors who do not reside in the same residence hall, at all times. Residents may be held personally accountable for damages and/or violations of University policy by their guests.
5. The misuse of bath and shower rooms is strictly prohibited for all residents and guests.
6. For reasons of safety and security, children under the age of sixteen (16) may not be present in University resident hall rooms or common areas for any purpose or period of time unless accompanied by a parent or legal guardian, or as a direct consequence of participation in a recognized University program or activity specifically designed to include children. Children, even those accompanied by a parent or guardian, are not permitted in the residence halls for extended periods of time.

Upper Class Residents: All guests are permitted to visit upper class resident rooms/apartments at all times, provided that the visits are consistent with the roommate living agreement and the policies stated above. Students housed through a special program in the College of Professional Studies are subject to the policies established by the sponsoring program.

First-Year Resident Visitation Hours: The University has instituted a policy of limited visitation for first-year students in its residence halls to assist new students in their transition from living at home to living in a campus residential community. Guests are permitted to visit student rooms provided that the visits are consistent with the roommate living agreement and the policies stated above. Visiting hours for guests of another sex are limited as follows: Weekdays (Sunday to Thursday) - 10:00 a.m. until midnight; Weekends (Friday and Saturday) - 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 a.m. Weekday visitation hours will apply during New Student Orientation, Reading Day, and evenings prior to final examinations. Weekend visitation hours will apply on the Sundays prior to Labor Day and Martin Luther King Day. Students housed through a special program in the College of Professional Studies are subject to the policies established by the sponsoring program.

D. Use of Facilities

Elevator Access

Some residence hall elevators are restricted to business use by University employees. Residents with medical or physical need to use an elevator may obtain access by submitting a request to the Office for Residence Life. Misuse of elevator access privileges may result in disciplinary action.

Furniture and Room Furnishings

Room furnishings provided by the University must remain in rooms and/or apartments at all times. At no time may students remove room furnishings, including but not limited to mattresses and desk chairs, from their rooms.

Temporary removal of furniture is usually not permitted. Requests for exceptions should be submitted in writing to the Office for Residence Life. If exceptions are approved, the resident is responsible for storing and returning the furniture in question.

Lounge Utilization/Furniture

As residential lounges are provided for the use of all building residents, groups are usually not permitted to reserve those spaces for private or restricted activities. Exceptions may be made when the appropriate Area Coordinator for Residence Management determines that an activity is of potential benefit to the residents of a particular building. Lounge and public area furniture may not be moved into rooms or apartments for personal use. Each resident found with lounge or public area furniture in their room or apartment is subject to disciplinary action and/or a fine of \$50.00 for each occurrence.

Room Condition/Damage Assessments

The condition of residence hall rooms and campus apartments are assessed by Residence Life staff prior to student occupancy and documented on a Room Condition Form. Students are provided with the opportunity to review the Room Condition Form and may make necessary adjustments for a period of time following check-in. Students who make no changes during the allotted time period agree to the form in its entirety.

During occupancy, personal construction of any kind (i.e., shelves, lofts, platform beds and similar items) is prohibited. Residents may not drill holes or permanently attach any objects to furniture, walls, floors, ceilings or doors.

Residents are expected to return their rooms/apartments to their original conditions upon departure. Prior to the close of the academic year, students will be provided with detailed information concerning expectations for the condition of their room/apartment and building common areas at the time of departure. After check-out, rooms/apartments will be evaluated against information contained in the Room Condition Form. Occupants will be held individually or jointly responsible for unauthorized changes, damages or missing furniture that were not specified on the original Room Condition Form.

Residents of a building or subsection of a building may be held financially responsible for damages to common areas and equipment (e.g., hallways, lounges, lavatories), when the students responsible for those damages do not claim responsibility and cannot be identified.

Room Decoration

Students are encouraged to display appropriate room decorations, in collaboration with roommates, to create an environment within the room that represents their personality and interests while being mindful of the impact on roommates, community members, and residential facilities. Room decorations may not impede or disrupt an educationally purposeful residential environment, and should align with the University's values of mutual love and respect. No decoration should discriminate, intimidate, threaten, harass, or harm others on the basis of race or ethnicity, gender identity or sexual orientation, religion, national origin, socio-economic status, and/or ability, among other identities and experiences. Room decorations must also be in compliance with all other Residence Life regulations, including the policies on "Fire Safety" and "Windows, Window Screens and Window Displays".

Additionally, room decorations may not be permanently attached to furniture, doors, windows, walls, floors, or ceilings. Decorations should be mounted so as to avoid damaging surfaces when removed. Duct tape, nails, tacks, screws and light strips that adhere directly to surfaces are prohibited, as they cause damage when removed. Residents may not attach stickers to doors, walls, floors, ceilings, furniture or windows and may not affix any items to the exterior of room doors and areas adjacent to room doors, including memo boards. Residents may not paint any area of university housing facilities. Unauthorized painting will result in a fine and attendant charges for repainting of the area.

Failure to comply with the Room Decoration policy may result in the student being asked to remove the decoration(s), confiscation of the decoration(s), fees for room damage or cleaning, and/or a disciplinary referral to the Dean of Students Office

Windows, Window Screens and Window Displays

Windows should not be blocked under any circumstances. Windows should not be used as a method of access or egress, except in case of emergency. Removal or tampering of window screens from rooms or common areas, or the opening or tampering of security screens, is prohibited. Students in violation of this policy may be fined and/or referred for disciplinary action.

Students may not post, hang, or display signage, flags, decorations, decals, lighting or any other items in, on or around residence hall room windows, window coverings or common area windows. No signage, characters, or symbols may be posted or displayed on windowsills. If students violate this policy, Residence Life will typically inform the student(s) that the material must be removed immediately. Failure to comply with this policy or with directions for removal may result in disciplinary action. The University reserves the right to remove and/or confiscate items that violate this policy at any time.

E. Publicity and Sales in the Residence Halls

Publicity

All advertising prepared for distribution or posting in the residence halls must be stamped “Approved for Posting” by the appropriate University department and must be posted in appropriate designated areas within the residence halls.

With the exception of floor/building notifications posted by the resident assistants, advertising or publicity exclusively intended for the residents of an individual building must be approved and stamped for posting by the Coordinator for Residence Management responsible for the area of the campus in which the hall is located.

Advertising or publicity for events open to all residents and/or members of the general campus community must be approved and stamped for posting by the Student Involvement Office.

The University reserves the right to remove all postings that do not comply with this policy.

Sales and Solicitation (also see Non-Solicitation Policy)

Students and student organizations, including Hall Councils, are not permitted to infringe upon the privacy of residents in University residence halls, apartments and common lounge areas for the purpose of raising funds or generating revenues. In accordance with University policy, all fundraising and revenue generating activities in the residence halls/apartments must be approved by the Office for Residence Life. Hall Councils interested in sponsoring fundraising activities are expected to submit proposals through the appropriate Residence Life staff member. Sales of items using residence hall names, depictions of residence halls or other references to residence halls is strictly prohibited without prior approval of the Office for Residence Life.

Additionally, residents may not operate “for profit” or “not for profit” business ventures from their room or apartment. Exceptions may be made for approved projects or assignments as part of an official academic class or program. Any approved activity may not disrupt, exploit, or infringe upon roommates or hallmates, nor otherwise disrupt, exploit, or infringe upon the community or campus operations. Door-to-door or direct in-person or electronic solicitation to students, faculty or staff is prohibited.

Co-Curricular Policy

Villanova University recognizes and supports the right of the community to gather, to organize, and to extend the learning environment of the campus beyond that of the formal classroom. This right, however, is not without corresponding responsibility or limitation.

The expectations which follow are intended to facilitate the integrity, safety and well-being of individuals and groups within our academic community, and the institution. All of the policy statements contained within the Handbook apply to individuals and to recognized student groups. Students and student organizations which are suspected of violating these policies will be referred to their sponsoring office and/or the Office of the Dean of Students. The appropriate procedural options for implementing the Code of Student Conduct will be used to resolve conduct which is inconsistent with policies governing the co-curricular life of the University.

On-Campus Assemblies and Demonstrations

A. Values

Villanova University is a Catholic, Augustinian institution of higher learning that is committed to academic excellence, academic freedom, and intellectual, spiritual, moral, and social growth. Above all, the University seeks to reflect the spirit of St. Augustine by the cultivation of knowledge and the encouragement of freedom of inquiry, by respect for individual differences, and by adherence to the principle that mutual love and respect should animate every aspect of University life.

Respecting the principles and responsibilities of academic freedom, and recognizing the importance of the perceptions of both internal and external communities, the University encourages the open exchange of ideas on a variety of subjects, including those that are controversial. In fact, Villanova officially recognizes the right and even the responsibility, at times, of the University community to express their collective or individual voices for or against a given issue. The fundamental rights of freedom of inquiry, speech, and lawful assembly both ensure and limit this right to demonstrate. Villanova, to be true to its university status, must foster investigation, concern, and the essential elements which make academic freedom a viable reality. Thus, Villanova University students, student groups or student organizations may peacefully assemble or demonstrate to address the full range of intellectual, moral, and social issues. In keeping with the educational mission of the University, the academic character and educational value of all such events is the motive and rationale for their occurrence.

Opportunities to assemble or demonstrate do not imply University approval or endorsement of the positions taken by those assembled or of their previous or subsequent views. To the best of its ability, the University will ensure that all assembled will be able to express their views and that open discussion will take place. This policy presumes that those organizing an assembly or demonstration will exercise sound judgment in establishing the particulars of a given event.

Although this policy assumes that members of the community will exhibit appropriate and respectful demeanor toward each other, it is recognized (a) that some issues may often challenge existing attitudes and beliefs and/or trigger disagreements, and (b) that no policy, no procedures, and no organizer of an assembly or demonstration, can guarantee against the possibility that an expression may offend listeners, that some assembled may unexpectedly deviate from anticipated expression, or that participants in the event or other members of the community might engage in inappropriate behavior.

The following conditions, guidelines and responsibilities govern on-campus assemblies and demonstrations by Villanova University students, student groups and student organizations (also referred to as “Event”). If the assembly or demonstration involves an outside speaker, the provisions of the “Events and Speakers Policy” must also be followed.

B. Conditions

1. The freedom to peacefully assemble and/or demonstrate to express the merits of competing ideas does not mean that individuals may say or do whatever they wish, wherever they wish. The University prohibits expression that violates the law, falsely defames a specific individual,

constitutes a genuine threat, violates the [University's Non-Discrimination and Non-Harassment Policies](#) or other provisions of the Code of Student Conduct, or unjustifiably invades substantial privacy or confidentiality interests.

2. The assembly or demonstration must not involve a substantial risk of disrupting classes or University business; obstructing access to offices, campus areas or facilities; otherwise interfering with other ongoing University events or activities; or creating a seriously intimidating, threatening, scandalizing, and/or uncivil environment. To this end, the University may reasonably regulate the time, place, and manner of expression to ensure that it does not disrupt the ordinary activities of the institution. These regulations are in the sole discretion of the University and may include rescheduling, relocating or altering the format of a proposed or ongoing Event.
3. The property of the University and that of the members of the University community are not to be damaged, destroyed or violated.
4. The assembly or demonstration must not pose a substantial risk to the physical safety of participants, bystanders or other community members.
5. The assembly or demonstration must not place undue burden on the University's finances, facilities or other resources.
6. The assembly or demonstration must have clearly defined start and end times. The University may require an Event to end early if University officials determine that University operations and/or the rights of others have been compromised. This includes staff who may be attempting to close facilities according to established closing hours of buildings.
7. It is understood that some assemblies and demonstrations may support and defend positions that differ from Catholic Church teaching. The expectation is that they will do so in a responsible fashion, be open to questions and challenges from members of the community, and respectfully acknowledge, and not disparage, Church teaching. If, in the judgment of University officials, an assembly or demonstration presents a serious risk of violating these principles, the university may impose provisions and restrictions.

C. Planning and Prior Notification Requirements

In order to maximize the likelihood that the goals of a demonstration or assembly are met and to ensure the safety of all community members, organizers of a demonstration or assembly must adhere to the following - prior to scheduling or advertising an Event.

1. If the Event is organized by a recognized student group(s) and/or organization(s), organizers must meet with the group or organization's advisor to discuss strategies to ensure that the event will adhere to the Values and Conditions sections of this policy. If the Event is not organized by a recognized student group or organization, organizers must meet directly with the Director for Student Involvement or their designate to discuss the proposed Event.
2. Under all circumstances, organizers must meet with the Director of Student Involvement or their designate to review proposed details, logistics and parameters of the proposed event and to review notification requirements to appropriate University partners and constituents. If deemed appropriate, time, place and manner restrictions may be discussed and imposed at this meeting.
3. Organizers must then work in collaboration with appropriate university departments (e.g., The Department of Public Safety, Facilities Management Office) to coordinate logistics of the Event to ensure compliance with the Values and Conditions sections of this policy and to meet the responsibilities outlined in Section D below. If deemed appropriate by these departments, additional time, place and manner restrictions may be imposed.
4. Once parameters of the Event have been approved, organizers may advertise the event consistent with University policies and should communicate the parameters that have been set for the Event by the University to all participants prior to the Event and should take reasonable measures to ensure the safety of participants.
5. When demonstrations or assemblies are scheduled, participants should expect University personnel, including members of the Villanova University Department of Public Safety, to be present for all or part of the Event. This presence is often necessary to ensure organizers' own rights are protected and the University's regular operations and activities are not interrupted.

Accordingly, University representatives may film, photograph or record elements of the event. The presence of University personnel should not be viewed as an effort to deter or otherwise interfere with planned demonstrations or assemblies.

D. Responsibilities

All Villanova University students, student groups and student organizations have the right to peaceful assembly and demonstration (including, but not limited to, rallies, gatherings, and protests) on campus. However, all assemblies and demonstrations must adhere to the Values, Conditions and Responsibilities sections of this policy and must not be unduly disruptive to the life of the University or place any individual in danger. Disruptive or unsafe assemblies or demonstrations are strictly prohibited.

Responsibility to Ensure Safety and Security

The responsibility of maintaining peace and order rests primarily with the individual(s) or group(s) who organized the Event. All demonstrators are expected to comply with University policies and students are additionally expected to act in compliance with the provisions of the Code of Student Conduct. On-campus demonstrations are not open to those outside the university community or the public at large.

During a demonstration, the expression of viewpoints may invite or elicit a response from others, including counter-demonstrators or passersby. In all circumstances the right of others to personal expression must not be denied. Organizers should be aware that other demonstrations may also occur that may include opposing views. Maintaining peace and order is especially important under these circumstances to support a rich campus environment that is accepting of divergent expression. Accordingly, expression that is indecent, obscene or grossly offensive on matters such as race, age, ethnicity, religion, gender, disability, sexual orientation or other legally protected bases is inconsistent with accepted norms of conduct at the University and will not be tolerated.

In order to avoid any misunderstanding of what is a peaceful assembly or demonstration (permitted) and what is a disruptive or unsafe assembly or demonstration (prohibited), the following non-exhaustive list of characteristics is provided.

An assembly or demonstration is disruptive or unsafe if it includes any activity that:

- Places the health or safety of any member of the University community at risk
- Denies or unreasonably interferes with the rights of other students, faculty, or staff of the University, including the rights of others to demonstrate
- Employs force or violence or threatens force or violence against any persons or property
- Violates any ordinance or law
- Creates a volume of noise that prevents members of the University community from carrying on their normal activities
- Results in actual or threatened destruction, damage or defacement of personal property
- Results in actual or threatened destruction, damage or defacement of University property, grounds or facilities
- Congregates or assembles in any University building or on University property in ways that disrupts the University's normal functions
- Takes place overnight and/or involves the establishment of encampments or similar use of tents, walls, barriers, structures or objects on University grounds, property or facilities
- Occurs in a way that blocks entrances, exits, or passageways from or to any University building or vehicle traffic on or to the campus. Corridors, stairways, doorways, and building entrances may not be blocked or obstructed in violation of the regulations of the University or local fire codes.
- Fails to comply with the predetermined parameters of the Event, any University policy or any lawful directive, including a directive to cease the Event.

Disruptive or unsafe assemblies or demonstrations will be suspended or stopped immediately at the direction of the Villanova University Department of Public Safety in consultation with the Vice President for Student Life or the University Provost or their designee. The University may also seek the assistance of local law enforcement to disband disruptive, unlawful or unauthorized events.

Failure to comply with time, place and manner directives, or a directive to alter or cease activity, may be considered a violation of University policy. Students and/or student organizations involved may be subject to disciplinary action under the policies governing student organizations or the Code of Student Conduct.

Responsibility to Conclude the Assembly or Demonstration

At the conclusion of any assembly or demonstration, the organizers are expected to make a reasonable effort to return the grounds/area to the condition it was in before the Event. This includes properly disposing of all garbage. Any unanticipated and accidental property damage should be reported to University administrators immediately. Any property damage related to a demonstration (whether peaceful or disruptive) may result in the assessment of fees for cleaning, repairs, and replacement of property to the organization or individuals involved or both.

Posting Policy

With respect to informing the University community of various lectures and programs by means of posters or flyers, the following criteria have been established. Posters announcing an approved University or student group sponsored event will be approved provided the criteria set forth in this policy are met.

1. All posters must be sponsored by a recognized University office or student group, whose name will appear on the poster.
2. Posters that speak to issues contrary to the teachings of the Church may be posted, if the poster encourages intellectual discussion and unfettered inquiry of the issues.
3. Poster approval does not imply University endorsement. Posters will be stamped by the office responsible for the student group. Campus Mission and Ministry, Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life, Peace & Justice Education, Residence Life and Student Involvement may all stamp posters with their own stamps. Other University departments and offices, as well as non-student group posters will receive approval through the Office of Student Involvement. Approval stamps must include the notation "Approved for Posting - Approval Does Not Imply University Endorsement."
4. Posters will not be approved if any of the following apply:
 - The message asserts or implies official University approval of any viewpoints expressed.
 - The message offends community standards of good taste.
 - The message contains language or symbols which are abusive or demeaning to specific social groups.
 - The message denies respect for the dignity of individuals.
 - The message appears libelous.
 - The message encourages the sale or use of alcohol or promotes establishments selling alcohol.
 - The message promotes or facilitates any aspect of substance abuse.
 - The message encourages or seeks to incite specific illegal acts.
 - The message promotes goods or services sold for personal profit or which are sold by off campus persons or companies who are not sponsored by a University office or recognized student group.
 - The message promotes non-campus related activities of commercial sponsors. Posters promoting activities and events of other non-profit institutions and organizations may be approved in limited numbers provided they do not violate the other criteria listed here.

5. Posters may be placed in designated areas only and never on painted surfaces, walls, glass windows or doors. Chalking including but not limited to the purpose of informing the University community regarding programs, events, or services is prohibited in any area on campus. Posting location guidelines can be found in the Office of Student Involvement in 102 Dougherty Hall.
6. Student organizations or University offices who wish to hang banners on campus must be approved in advance by the respective office, department, or office representing the student organization. Banners can only be hung from Dougherty Hall, the Connelly Center (inside and outside), and between Sullivan and Sheehan Residence Halls. Banner space will be reserved on a first come, first serve basis by visiting the Office of Student Involvement in 102 Dougherty Hall. Groups are responsible to provide all needed supplies. Facilities management will hang banners for up to one week or approved period by Student Involvement. Please visit 102 Dougherty Hall for assistance in submitting facilities requests to hang banners.
7. In the unusual circumstance of an appeal for permission to post, the student group will appeal to the Poster Policy Committee. The committee will be convened by the Vice President for Student Life for deliberation. A recommendation will be made to the Associate Vice President for Student Life for final adjudication. The committee will consist of the Associate Vice President for Student Life, Director of the Center for Peace and Justice Education, Director of Student Involvement, faculty member named by the American Association of University Professors, the Student Government President, and the editor of the Villanovan.

For additional information, also see the University's Speakers Policy.

Publications Policy

The goal of all student publications is to give students the opportunity to develop and polish skills in communication, to express opinions, and to inform, enlighten, and amuse the University community. University support of student publications does not restrict freedom of speech, but does imply honesty, responsibility, and sensitivity in writing and editing.

Under University Guidelines for University-Sponsored Publications, all publications must conform to all applicable state and federal law, may not be inconsistent with their setting in a Catholic University, and must include honest, accurate, and fair reporting.

Purpose

The purpose of this Student Organization Publication Policy is to establish guidelines for publications by student organizations and other student media organization expression.

Central to a university is the conception, sharing and promulgation of ideas and information. Education of this nature flourishes in an environment of free expression where the institutional community dialogues with itself and other parties outside the University. John Paul II's *Ex Corde Ecclesiae* states, "The source of [a Catholic university's] unity springs from a common dedication to the truth, a common vision of dignity of the human person, and ultimately the person and message of Jesus Christ, which gives the institution its distinctive character." In a Catholic university setting, this discourse must always be respectful and charitable. The University expects its publications, broadcast venues, and any other form of student organization medium to approach discourse with mutual respect, intellectual rigor, moral integrity, and accepted standards in journalism. An accurate and honest dialogue must ensue while the parties involved maintain a commitment to the community of Villanova University, its mission and its Catholic heritage.

Discourse of ideas and information is realized in countless forms including, but not limited to, student publications such as articles, radio broadcasts, television, student organization promotional materials, student organization blogs or social media posts, or internet broadcasts that are published by student organizations. Likewise, within each of these media, are countless outlets for further expansion of a particular discourse - advertisements, cartoons, comics, and humor segments. It is the obligation of

each medium to aid the University and its constituents in promoting discourse and advancing the exchange of ideas and information. Each medium allows members of the University the opportunity for self-reflection and criticism, an openness to opposing perspectives, as well as a window for further development. In expanding viewpoints and perspectives rather than limiting them, an environment of free expression with numerous media approaches the institution's goal of the pursuit of truth.

Policy

All publications must conform to the standards articulated in the Preamble and Purpose. All state and federal laws that are applicable to publications or expression by any institutions or by individuals are also applicable to Villanova University. Fraudulent, obscene or libelous publications or expression may expose the University to civil or criminal liability. Accordingly, every possible effort must be made to avoid such expression. Publications or expression that include unlawful activity, or activity that endangers or imminently threatens to endanger the safety of any member of the community or of any of the community's physical facilities, or any activity that disrupts or obstructs the functions of the University or imminently threatens such disruption or obstruction, are unacceptable. Likewise, publications or expression that are indecent, obscene, demeaning, threatening, harassing, or offensive on matters, including but not limited to, race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, gender, disability, age, or sexual orientation, are unacceptable in the Villanova community.

Use of Materials

As members of student organizations, students may be offered and/or provided certain rights or privileges by Villanova, including, without limitation, funding for certain programs and / or access, permission or passes to certain venues, locations, events, programs or interviews. Students shall use any rights or privileges offered or provided by Villanova solely for the benefit of the student organization and solely for the purpose of fulfilling the responsibilities and obligations of their role within their respective student organization.

Student organizations should use content created by Villanova students. Unacceptable content and content that is illegally or improperly obtained as listed in the Policy section is not permitted for publications by student organizations and other student media organization expression. To the extent that student organization members have intellectual property rights in technology or other materials contained in any of the student created content, students grant Villanova non-exclusive license to use such technology or materials in connection with the content. Students may use their own student created content for non-commercial personal use in compliance with applicable law and University policy.

Archive of Publications

Please refer to the University Retention Policy for guidelines. The recommended practice for student organizations is that after a period of 5 years student content such as images, articles, videos, should be taken down from websites.

Complaint Procedures

Any member of the University community may submit a complaint against a student publication, student organization, or individual when the complaining organization or individual reasonably asserts that the terms or spirit of this policy have been violated. Complaints arising under this policy should be submitted to the Director of Student Involvement who will forward complaint(s) to the Vice President for Student Life, or designee. The Vice President for Student Life may convene a Publications Advisory Board to obtain greater clarity on the complaint. The Vice President for Student Life, or designee, will ultimately determine whether this policy has been violated and the outcomes for any such violation.

In the event of convening the Publications Advisory Board (the Board) as defined below, the duty of the Board will be to advise the Vice President, or designee, concerning the allegations made under this policy.

- The Publications Advisory Board may vary, but generally will be comprised of the following:
 - 2 student members
 - 3 faculty / staff members

The Vice President for Student Life, or designee, will designate a Chair of the Board.

- The Board shall meet at its earliest opportunity after being convened, but no later than two weeks after being convened (unless approved by the Vice President for Student Life or designee).
- The Board shall gather information from any relevant sources as appropriate in order to understand fully all of the facts and circumstances surrounding the allegations related to the publication or expression, including but not limited to hearing from both the complaining party as well as the “offending” party or parties. The Board may also consult an expert from the field.
- Upon receiving the recommendations of the Board, the Vice President for Student Life, or designee, shall take this recommendation into consideration and determine the final outcome for the violation in question. The Vice President, or designee, are not required to follow the recommendation of the Board. The Vice President, or designee, in addition to the other conditions that student organizations must comply with, shall take appropriate action, which may include one or more of the following outcomes: educational training, loss or privileges to publish content, removal of content to comply with Purpose section of this Student Organization Publication Policy, Organizational Probation, or Loss of Recognition. At any time, the Dean of Students Office may also issue disciplinary sanctions to individuals or the organization as a whole, as outlined in the Code of Student Conduct.
- After review, the Vice President for Student Life (or designee) will issue a decision which will be final and binding.

Events and Speakers Policy

A. Values

Villanova University is a Catholic, Augustinian institution of higher learning that is committed to academic excellence, academic freedom, and intellectual, spiritual, moral, and social growth. Above all, the University seeks to reflect the spirit of St. Augustine by the cultivation of knowledge and the encouragement of freedom of inquiry, by respect for individual differences, and by adherence to the principle that mutual love and respect should animate every aspect of University life.

Respecting the principles and responsibilities of academic freedom, and recognizing the importance of the perceptions of both internal and external communities, the University encourages the open exchange of ideas on a variety of subjects, including those that are controversial. Thus, University recognized student groups or organizations may invite external speakers to an organizational meeting or to a University event, and may host events open to the campus community (on or off campus), that address the full range of intellectual, moral, and social issues. In keeping with the educational mission of the University, the academic character and educational value of all such events is the motive and rationale for their occurrence.

Invitations to speak, or the hosting of events, do not imply University approval or endorsement of the positions taken by invited speakers or of their previous or subsequent views. To the best of its ability, the University will ensure that all legitimately invited speakers will be able to express their views and that open discussion will take place. This policy presumes that those inviting speakers or hosting events will exercise sound judgment in selecting speakers and in establishing the particulars of a given event.

Although this policy assumes that both speakers and audience will exhibit appropriate and respectful demeanor toward each other, it is recognized (a) that speakers or events may often challenge existing attitudes and beliefs and/or trigger disagreements, and (b) that no policy, no procedures, and no

sponsor of a speech or event, can guarantee against the possibility that a speech may offend listeners, that a speaker may unexpectedly deviate from anticipated content and style, or that members of an audience might engage in inappropriate behavior.

The following standards and procedures govern external speakers and events being proposed by recognized student groups or organizations:

B. Conditions

The following conditions must be met for an external speaker or event to be considered for approval:

1. The speech or event must constitute a legitimate educational experience or otherwise contribute to the university's mission.
2. The speech or event must not pose a substantial risk to the physical safety of speakers or members of the audience, other participants, or bystanders.
3. The speech or event must not involve a substantial risk of disrupting classes, obstructing access to campus facilities, otherwise interfering with other ongoing University events or activities, or creating a seriously intimidating, threatening, scandalizing, and/or uncivil environment at the speech or event that would undermine its educational purposes.
4. The speech or event must not violate the law or the nonprofit status of the University. (Note that federal and state laws may prohibit, condition, or limit speeches by political candidates; accordingly, consultation with the General Counsel's office for guidance should occur in these situations).
5. It is understood that some speakers will hold, offer, and defend positions that differ from Catholic Church teaching. The expectation is that they will do so in an academically responsible fashion, be open to questions and challenges from members of the audience, and respectfully acknowledge, and not disparage, Church teaching. If, in the judgment of University officials, a speech or event presents a serious risk of violating these principles, the group seeking permission for such an event must accept provisions to ensure adherence to standards of freely reasoned academic discussion and debate. Such provisions might include, for example, allowing for an appropriate response at the speech or event or contextualizing the event or speech by means of complementary counter-programming.
6. The speech or event must not place undue burden on the University's finances, facilities or other resources.

C. Procedures

1. A recognized student group or organization wishing to invite an external speaker to an organizational meeting or to a University event, or to an event open to the campus community (on or off campus) must first present a written proposal to its advisor[i]. Prior to submitting the proposal, student groups or organizations must consult with their advisor to ensure that the speech or event adheres to the Values and Conditions sections of this policy.
2. The proposal should include the identity of the speaker, the proposed time and place of the speaker's presentation, the subject matter and purpose of the speaker's presentation and what, if any stipend will be required. The proposal should also include information outlining how the speech or event is consistent with the Values and Conditions sections of this policy.
3. The leaders of the student group or organization together with their advisor will present the written proposal for review to the Director, Department Head or Division Head of the area recognizing the student group or organization. Promotion of the event in written, print, electronic or other form shall not take place until the speech or event and all contracts receive final approval.
4. In reviewing the request, the Director, Department Head or Division Head must ensure that the speech or event is consistent with the Values and Conditions sections outlined in this policy. In reaching this determination, the Director, Department Head or Division Head may consult with appropriate members of the University community and may meet with the advisor and/or leaders of the student group or organization.

5. The Director, Department Head or Division Head may: 1) approve the request; 2) deny the request if inconsistent with any of the provisions outlined in the Values and Conditions sections of this policy; or 3) may impose restrictions or conditions to ensure consistency with the provisions of the Values and Conditions sections of this policy. If the request is denied, the Director, Department Head or Division Head will share the reasons for denial with the advisor and the leaders of the student group or organization.
6. If the proposal is denied, the student group or organization may request that the proposal be reviewed by the Provost, Vice-President or Dean overseeing the area recognizing the student organization or group. The Provost, Vice- President or Dean shall meet with the leaders of the student group or organization and their advisor before rendering a decision.
7. The Provost, Vice-President or Dean, after appropriate consultation with other University officials, shall make the final determination. In exercising this authority, the Provost, Vice-President or Dean shall give due consideration to the information contained in the written proposal, the thoughts expressed during the meeting with the student leaders and the provisions of the Values and Conditions sections of this policy. If the request is denied, the Provost, Vice-President or Dean will share the reasons for denial with the advisor and the leaders of the student group or organization.
8. If there is a contract or fees for any speaker, the advisor or the Director, Department Head or Division Head will submit the contract to the Office of the Vice President and General Counsel for approval. If approved, the contract must be signed by an authorized University official. The sponsoring student group or organization is responsible for payment of all costs associated with a speaker or event, including any costs related to safety and security.
9. The University reserves the right to withdraw any speaker invitation, or to cancel any event, at any time for any reason, but it will not do so for reasons judged to be less than fundamental to the University's values and well-being. If the student group or organization has not followed the procedure outlined in this policy, no formal reason needs to be given for the withdrawal or cancellation. If the student group or organization has followed the procedures outlined in this policy, the Provost, Vice-President or Dean will meet with the student leaders of the group or organization before withdrawing the invitation. However, the final decision rests with the Provost, Vice-President or Dean.

[i] Invitations to bishops or other ecclesiastical authorities are excluded from this policy. Such invitations must only be issued by the Office of the President or the Office for Mission and Ministry.

Student Organization Policies

[Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life Policies](#)

[Office of Student Involvement Policies](#)

[Student Performing Arts Policies](#)

Student Records Policy

For the most current Disclosure of Student Records policy, visit the Villanova Policy Library at <https://villanova.policytech.com/docview/?docid=144&public=true>

Villanova University, in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974, as amended, has adopted this Student Records Policy to address the following issues with respect to education records: (1) disclosure of directory information; (2) confidentiality of personally identifiable information; and (3) student rights to inspect, review and seek amendment of their records. In general, education records are defined as records maintained in any form by the University that are directly related to a student.

I. Disclosure of Directory Information

Information concerning the following items about individual students is designated by the University as directory information and may be released or published without the student's consent: full name; student identification number; address (local, home or electronic mail); telephone number; photograph or video; date and place of birth; major field of study; grade level; enrollment status (e.g., undergraduate or graduate, full-time or part-time); dates of attendance; degrees, honors and awards received (including Dean's List); most recent previous educational institution attended; participation in officially recognized University activities and athletics; and weight and height of members of athletic teams. Students who do not wish to have their directory information to be released or made public must inform the Office of the Registrar in writing.

II. Confidentiality of Personally Identifiable Information

All personally identifiable information contained in student records, other than directory information, is considered confidential information. This information includes, but is not necessarily limited to: academic evaluations; general counseling and advising records; disciplinary records; financial aid records; letters of recommendation; medical or health records; clinical counseling and psychiatric records; transcripts, test scores, and other academic records; and cooperative work records. "Personally identifiable information" means that the information includes: (a) the name of the student; (b) the address of the student; (c) a personal identifier such as social security number; or (d) a list of personal characteristics or other information that would make the student's identity easily traceable.

The University will generally not disclose personally identifiable information to third parties without the written consent of the student. The signed and dated consent should specify the records to be disclosed, the purpose of the disclosure, and to whom the records are to be disclosed. However, personally identifiable information may be disclosed, without the student's consent, to the following individuals or institutions, in accordance with FERPA, including in the following circumstances:

1. To University officials (or office personnel ancillary to the officials) who require access for legitimate educational purposes such as academic, disciplinary, health or safety matters. University officials may include, without limitation, the Board of Trustees, the President, Vice Presidents, Deans, Directors, Department Chairs, Faculty Members, ROTC Commanding Officers, attorneys in the Office of the Vice President and General Counsel, Judicial Officers, Counselors, Resident Advisers, Coaches and Admissions Officers. University officials also include contractors, consultants, volunteers and other outside parties, such as an attorney or auditor providing services on behalf of the University for which the University would otherwise use employees.
2. To the party(ies) who provided or created the record(s) containing the personally identifiable information.
3. To officials of other educational institutions to which the student seeks or intends to enroll or where the student is already enrolled, for purposes related to the student's enrollment or transfer (on condition that the student upon request is entitled to a copy of such records).
4. To appropriate federal, state or local officials or authorities, consistent with federal regulations.
5. To the U.S. Attorney General (or designee) pursuant to an ex parte order under the U.S. Patriot Act in connection with certain investigations or prosecutions.
6. To organizations conducting studies for, or on behalf of, educational agencies or institutions.
7. To accrediting organizations to carry out their accrediting functions.
8. To parents of a dependent student as defined in Section 152 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.
9. To parents of a student under the age of 21, where the information pertains to violations of any federal, state or local law or of any University rule or policy governing the use or possession of alcohol or a controlled substance, and the student has committed a disciplinary violation.
10. In connection with the student's application for, or receipt of financial aid.
11. To comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena (on condition that a reasonable effort is made to notify the student of the order or subpoena, if legally permitted to do so).
12. In case of an emergency, to appropriate parties, including parents, to protect the health or safety of the student or other individuals, where the University determines that there is an articulable and significant threat to the student or other individuals.

13. The disclosure of information concerning registered sex offenders provided under state sex offender registration and campus community notification programs.
14. The outcome of a disciplinary proceeding to a victim of or alleged perpetrator of a crime of violence or non-forcible sex offense.
15. The outcome of a disciplinary proceeding where a student is an alleged perpetrator of a crime of violence or non-forcible sex offense and is determined to have violated the University's rules or policies.

If required under FERPA, the University will inform a party to whom a disclosure of personally identifiable information is made that it is made only on the condition that such party will not disclose the information to any other party without the prior written consent of the student.

III. Non-Education Records

The following are not considered education records, and thus are not protected by FERPA and this policy:

- Employment records of students as University employees.
- Campus law enforcement records created and maintained by the Public Safety Office, in accordance with the requirements of FERPA.
- Records that are made or maintained by a physician, psychiatrist, psychologist, or other recognized professional or paraprofessional acting in his or her professional capacity or assisting in his or her paraprofessional capacity, and that are made, maintained, or used only in connection with treatment of the student and are disclosed only to individuals providing the treatment. These records may be reviewed, however, by a physician or other appropriate professional of the student's choice.
- Records of instructional, supervisory, and administrative personnel and educational personnel ancillary to those persons, that are in the sole possession of the maker of the record and are not accessible or revealed to any other individual except a temporary substitute for the maker.
- Records that only contain information about a person after that person was no longer a student at the University and that are not directly related to the individual's attendance as a student (e.g., information collected by the University pertaining to accomplishments of its alumni).
- Grades on peer-graded papers before they are collected and recorded by a faculty member.

IV. Inspection and Review Rights; Right to a Hearing

A currently or previously enrolled student has the right to inspect and review his or her educational records. This right does not extend to applicants, those denied admission, or those admitted who do not enroll.

Offices may require that requests for access be submitted in writing, and may ask for, but not require, the reason for the request. The University will comply with requests to inspect and review a student's records that it has determined to honor within a reasonable period of time, but in no case more than forty-five (45) days after the request was made.

Records to which students are not entitled to access include:

- Confidential letters and statements of recommendation placed in a student's record before January 1, 1975, or confidential letters and statements of recommendation to which students have waived their rights of access*.
- Financial records of the parents of the student or any information contained in those records.
- Those portions of a student's records that contain information on other students.
- Those records listed in Section III above.

A student who believes that any information contained in his or her educational records is inaccurate or misleading, or otherwise in violation of his or her privacy rights, may request that the University amend the records. The student should first discuss his or her concerns with the individual responsible for the

office where the records are maintained. If the student is not satisfied with the resolution, the student should contact the individual to whom that person reports. If still not satisfied, the student may contact the appropriate vice president or designee. The final level of appeal is a formal hearing. To obtain a hearing, the student should file a written request with the Vice President for Student Life. The hearing will be conducted in accordance with the requirements of FERPA.

The substantive judgment of a faculty member about a student's work (grades or other evaluations of work assigned) is not within the scope of a FERPA hearing. A student may challenge the factual and objective elements of the content of student records, but not the qualitative and subjective elements of grading.

If, as a result of a hearing, the University determines that a student's challenge is without merit, the student will have the right, and will be so informed, to place in his or her records a statement setting forth any reasons for disagreeing with the University's decision.

Students have a right to file complaints concerning alleged failures by the University to comply with the requirements of FERPA and the implementing regulations. Complaints should be addressed to the Student Privacy Policy Office, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, S.W., Washington DC 20202-8520. Students are encouraged to bring any complaints regarding the implementation of this policy to the attention of the Vice President and General Counsel.

* Students may be invited but not required to waive their right of access to confidential letters of recommendation for admission, honors or awards, or employment. Failure to execute a waiver will not affect a student's admission, receipt of financial aid, or other University services. If a student signs a waiver, they may request a list of all persons making confidential recommendations.

Student Conduct and Concern Records Retention and Disclosure

1. Retention of student conduct and concern records

As a general rule, student conduct and concern records are retained by the University until the end of the academic year that is seven years after the date of the incident, or for the period of time in which a corresponding sanction is disclosable, whichever is longer. The University reserves the right to retain student conduct and concern records for a longer period of time when the University deems necessary or appropriate. For cases resulting in a student's disciplinary separation from the University (i.e. expulsion), the records are kept indefinitely. The University may also keep records of student conduct matters that remain unresolved or pending at the time a student left or withdrew from (or otherwise ceases enrollment with) the University.

2. Disclosure of student conduct and concern records

Disclosure of student conduct and concern records to external third-parties will only be in accordance with applicable laws and regulations and the Student Records Policy (which is included in the Student Handbook). Student conduct and concern records are considered separate from all other University records and are not included on an academic transcript, except in cases where the awarding of a completed degree is withheld or revoked. Disclosure of specific disciplinary action or referral and the corresponding violation(s) will follow the below guidelines, subject to the additional disclosures discussed below:

1. Non-Reportable Disciplinary Sanctions (Violation Notice, Conduct Warning), Housing Sanctions, referrals for educational follow-up, cases where no sanction was imposed and the corresponding violation(s) are not disclosed, except when required by law.
2. Sanctions of Disciplinary Probation and the corresponding violation(s) will be disclosed for one (1) year beginning at the start date of the sanction. If a student's Disciplinary Probation lasts more

than one year, the sanction(s) and corresponding violation(s) will be reported until the end of the probationary period. Students may petition the Dean of Students Office to terminate third-party disclosure at graduation in cases where the one-year disclosure period extends beyond the anticipated graduation date. This option is only available for sanctions of Disciplinary Probation and will only be considered within 90 days of the anticipated graduation date.

3. Sanctions of Disciplinary Probation with Loss of Privilege and the corresponding violation(s) will be disclosed for two (2) years beginning at the start date of the sanction. If a student's Disciplinary Probation with Loss of Privilege lasts more than two years, the sanction(s) and corresponding violation(s) will be reported until the end of the probationary period.
4. Sanctions of Suspension and the corresponding violation(s) will be disclosed for five (5) years from the start date of the Suspension.
5. Sanctions of Expulsion and the corresponding violation(s) will be disclosed indefinitely.
6. Additional disciplinary measures are not disclosed, except when required by law. However, the withholding or revocation of a degree pursuant to this Code shall be noted on a student's academic transcript until such time as the degree is awarded.

While the University only discloses sanctions and violations in accordance with these guidelines, students are encouraged to be forthright with a prospective employer, educational institution, or licensing authority regarding the student's conduct while enrolled at the University.

Notwithstanding the disclosure guidelines above, consistent with applicable laws and regulations:

- The University reserves the right to notify parent(s) or legal guardian(s) about (1) the disciplinary status of their student or (2) a health or safety concern related to their student.
- The University may also indefinitely report matters involving allegations of violations of the Code of Student Conduct that are unresolved or pending at the time a student left or withdrew from (or otherwise ceases enrollment with) the University.
- Student conduct and/or concern records may be shared internally with University personnel having a legitimate educational interest, including but not limited to, University Athletics, R.O.T.C., Fraternity and Sorority Life, and the Health Professions Advising Office to be used in the preparation of the Health Professions Advisor Evaluation, and disclosures required pursuant to Title IX.
- For cases involving: (1) a serious or continuing threat, an alleged crime of violence, or sexual offenses, certain information may be disclosed to the community and/or law enforcement and to the complainant, or (2) a Title IX disciplinary process, information regarding the findings and sanctions will be disclosed to both complainant(s) and respondent(s).

Health Records

Villanova University requires that students maintain an official health record at the Health Center. Students who fail to submit a completed health record will have a registration hold placed on their student accounts. Health records are subject to Pennsylvania state law (specifically 35 P.S. Section 10101) which states that any minor who is eighteen years of age or older, or has graduated from high school, or has married, or has been pregnant, may give effective consent to medical, dental and health services for themselves, and the consent of no other person shall be necessary.

Information contained in this record will only be released to the student or an attending physician if consent to release the information to another person is provided by the student or otherwise as required by law.

Additional University Policies

Compliance with University Policy

Students enrolled at Villanova University must comply with the regulations promulgated in the Villanova University Student Handbook, the [Villanova Policy Library](#), and other official documents, policies or regulations published by the University as a condition for successful completion of the program of studies at the University.

Assessment of Administrative Fines

A variety of offices may assess fines as part of regular management practices. These include, but are not limited to, parking fines, damage assessments in residence halls, book return penalties in the library, and service charges for returned checks in the bookstore. Assessment of these types are governed by departmental or University policy, and are outside the purview of the Code of Student Conduct. Questions concerning the assessment of such fines should be addressed directly to the department of origin.

Background Checks

Students seeking to participate in certain activities involving minors or activities involving export controlled items may be required to complete and submit certain background checks. The applicable policies may be found at:

[Minors in Villanova University Programs Policy](#)

[Background Screening Policy](#)

Child Abuse Reporting Policy

Any student of Villanova University who has responsibility for a child as an integral part of a program, activity or service sponsored by the University or comes into direct contact with a child as part of their employment with Villanova, and has reason to believe that the child has been subjected to child abuse, must report the information to the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services (“DHS”) toll-free ChildLine at (800) 932-0313. A child is any individual under age 18. Proof that abuse or neglect occurred is not required, and any uncertainty about whether to report suspected abuse or neglect should be resolved in favor of making a report. Within 48 hours of making a verbal report, the student must follow up with a written report to DHS or the county agency assigned to the case, and provide a copy of the report submitted to DHS to the University’s Associate Vice President of Public Safety and Chief of Police (via phone at 610-519-6982, or via email at david.tedjeske@villanova.edu), or to the University Ethics and Compliance Officer (via phone at 610-519-3800, or via email at paul.flanagan@villanova.edu). For additional information regarding what is meant by “child abuse”, the obligation to report child abuse, and reporting options, see the University’s [Child Abuse Reporting Policy](#) or contact the University’s Associate Vice President of Public Safety and Chief of Police (610-519-6982; david.tedjeske@villanova.edu).

Compliance with Health and Safety Directives

As it is every member’s responsibility to contribute to the creation of a healthy and safe community, students are required to comply with University health and safety directives, guidelines, rules, regulations and protocols in times of emergency and/or public health concern, both on and off the campus. Violations may be referred for action under the [Code of Student Conduct](#). Non-compliance with University mandated regulations may also result in other administrative action including but not limited to revocation of class registration, loss of campus residency, and/or a hold on records.

In cases where, in the University's sole discretion, there may be an immediate health and safety concern, students and student organizations may be subject to interim administrative measures, including but not limited to, removal from campus, interim suspension, or other restrictions until such time the University can collect more information and determine an appropriate course of action.

Dining Services

Meal plans are required of all students living in traditional residence halls. first- and second-year students residing on campus are required to purchase a meal plan. Meal plans are accepted at both the Villanova and Cabrini campuses, and all meal plan policies and regulations apply throughout the University. Meals eaten in residence dining halls are offered on an unlimited basis; therefore meal privileges are not transferable. Residence dining halls (Donahue, Dougherty, and St. Mary's) are considered "All You Care to Eat" if you choose the dine-in option. A takeout option is also available, but there are limits on food taken out of these facilities. Please refer to the Dining Services website for more details: diningservices.villanova.edu

Failure to abide by dining regulations, including, but not limited to, disruptive or disrespectful behavior, transferring meal cards, removal of service ware, and abusing the limits of takeout options will result in a range of sanctions involving suspension of dining privileges up to and including suspension from the University.

A Chef Nutritionist is available to students to discuss nutritional needs, food allergies, and other special dietary requirements. Vegetarian, vegan, and gluten-free options are available in all dining locations. Stop by the Meal Plan Office in Dougherty Hall, Room 106, or call 610-519-4170 with any questions.

Drug Free Schools

The Policy on Drug Free Schools and Drug Free Workplace is the University's response to federal legislation, the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Amendments of 1989. It is distributed at least annually to all students, faculty and staff in an effort to educate our community about the continuing commitment to achieve a drug-free environment and to provide effective resources for our community.

For further information or for additional copies of the policy, see the University's [Higher Education Act Information webpage](#) or contact the Department of Human Resources or the Dean of Students office.

Emergency Situations and Other Serious Concerns

Villanova is a caring community where the well-being of each member is sensitively supported, and where the creation of a safe and peaceful environment is essential to fulfilling the mission and values of the University. The University strives to balance the concerns for the health and safety of the individual student with those of the larger campus community. In situations in which the University considers a student's behavior to pose a threat to themselves or others, or judges that a student is unable to cope with life or college-related issues, or when a student causes disruption within the University's community environment (as determined in the judgment of the University) that is not addressed in the Code of Student Conduct, the University has an obligation to intervene and a compelling interest to help a student resolve those issues.

In such cases, the Dean of Students or their designee ("the Dean") will consult with appropriate members of the University community to determine which course or courses of action to pursue. After consultation, the Dean will consider all relevant factors will to determine if a student (1) may remain in attendance without conditions or restrictions or (2) may require a reasonable accommodation or

accommodations in order to continue in attendance, or (3) may not continue in attendance or participate in educational programs and activities, use University services, be present on campus or continue to reside on campus.

In appropriate situations, particularly those involving harm or threats of harm to self, the Dean may require that the student be evaluated by the University Counseling Center as well as require the student to authorize the University Counseling Center to share the results and recommendations of their evaluation with the Dean. If a student refuses to participate in the evaluation or to authorize the release of the evaluation results, the Dean may restrict the student's access to educational programs and activities, University services, and entry to the campus.

The Dean may meet with the student and, if needed in their judgment, the student's parent(s)/legal guardian(s), to discuss any accommodations, conditions or restrictions necessary for the student to remain enrolled at the University. Failure to comply with these conditions/restrictions may result in the student being asked or required to leave the University.

In cases the University determines are severe, the University may separate the student from the University through an Involuntary Leave of Absence. In this event, a hearing will be held between the Dean and the student, and the student's parent(s)/legal guardian(s) may attend. If a student is separated from the University with an Involuntary Leave of Absence, the student will be required to undergo a thorough, off-campus, psychological assessment at the student's expense should the student seek return. The student will not be considered for readmission to the University unless and until a report of the assessment (which supports readmission) is provided to the Dean. The Dean may require a written acknowledgement from the student's parent(s) or legal guardian(s), confirming that the student is approved by the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) to return to the campus. The Dean of Students will consult with appropriate University officials in determining if the student should be reinstated.

This policy is not intended to be punitive. Rather, it is intended to confirm that every reasonable effort is made to ensure that each student is physically and emotionally healthy enough to benefit from their attendance at the University and to be a contributing member of the University community.

Equal Opportunity Policy

Villanova University is an Equal Opportunity Employer and encourages the recruitment of qualified candidates for student and employment positions, without regard to race, color, national origin, ancestry, ethnicity, religion, sex, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, veteran status, disability, or any other protected category.

Inquiries concerning equal opportunity policies may be referred to Mr. Raymond Duffy, the University's Vice President of Human Resources, c/o Office of Human Resources, (610) 519-5135, raymond.duffy@villanova.edu.

See also [Non-Discrimination Policy](#) in the Student Handbook.

EthicsPoint Hotline

Ethics Point is a contracted service that community members should use to report potential illegal or fraudulent conduct, waste of funds, abuse of property, or non-emergency criminal activity, or other violations of law or regulation. **Ethics Point** also provides a mechanism to report any concerns anonymously. More information may be accessed at <https://www.villanova.edu/villanova/generalcounsel/uco/hotline.html>

Illegal, Dishonest, or Fraudulent Conduct

Villanova University is committed to upholding the highest standards of honest behavior, ethical conduct and fiduciary responsibility with respect to University funds, resources and property. The

University also expects members of the University community to comply with all state, local and federal statutes, rules and regulations when conducting University business. To that end, the University prohibits and does not tolerate illegal, dishonest or fraudulent conduct of any nature. All members of the University community are expected to uphold this policy.

Violation of this Policy by students will result in appropriate disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion.

A complete copy of the Policy Prohibiting Illegal Dishonest or Fraudulent Conduct can be found [here](#).

Complaint Procedure, Investigation and Corrective Action

The University encourages any person who believes that an incident of illegal, dishonest or fraudulent conduct has been committed to report the incident immediately in accordance with the Complaint Procedure outlined in the Policy.

The University has also established a Hotline for reporting concerns on an anonymous basis at any time. The Hotline is provided through EthicsPoint, a third-party provider, and can be accessed at: <https://secure.ethicspoint.com/domain/media/en/gui/35905/index.html>

Retaliation Prohibited

The University prohibits and does not tolerate retaliation against any individual who files a complaint of illegal, dishonest or fraudulent conduct; is involved as a witness or participant in the complaint or investigation process; or refuses to engage in illegal, dishonest or fraudulent conduct.

Intellectual Property

In the interest of advancing the scholarly activity of our community, promoting academic integrity, and supporting both individual and institutional interests, the University has established intellectual property policies which govern the recognition, disclosure, ownership, publication, and distribution of discoveries made in the normal course of activities at the University. Students, staff, and faculty are both protected and bound by these policies. The applicable policies on intellectual property may be found at:

Intellectual Property Policy

<https://villanova.policytech.com/docview/?docid=50&public=true>

Copyright & Coursepacks

[Faculty Handbook](#)

Copyright Infringement and Illegal File Sharing

<https://villanova.policytech.com/docview/?docid=143&public=true>

Students must comply with all laws and University policy applicable to intellectual property. Intellectual property includes copyrights, patents and trademarks, which are further described in the policies at the links above and the following section titled "Use of Name and Trademark".

Non-Discrimination Policy

Villanova University is an equal opportunity employer and educational institution. There shall be no discrimination against any employee, applicant for employment or any student on any basis prohibited by law, including but not limited to, race, color, national origin, ancestry, ethnicity, religion, sex, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, disability, or veteran status. This non-discrimination policy applies to all University educational and living activities and programs and to all terms and conditions of University employment, including student employment, including but not

limited to: recruitment, hiring, training, compensation, benefits, promotions, disciplinary actions and termination. All qualified students are accorded fair and equal opportunity to enter and continue in University employment on the basis of eligibility and qualifications.

The full text of the policy can be found at: [Non-Discrimination/Non-Harassment Policy](#)

Questions about reporting violations under this policy or its application may be directed to Ms. Brigitte Strother, the Director of Employee Relations and Human Resources (HR) Compliance, who also serves as the University's Compliance Coordinator for Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, c/o Office of Human Resources, (610) 519-6935, brigitte.strother@villanova.edu.

Non-Harassment Policy

It is the University's policy that all employees and students should be able to enjoy and work in an educational environment free from harassment of any nature. Harassment on any basis prohibited by law, including but not limited to, race, color, national origin, ancestry, ethnicity, religion, sex, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, veteran status, disability, or any other protected category, violates this policy. "Harassment" is defined as unwelcome conduct on any such basis prohibited by law, and that is severe or pervasive enough to create an educational or employment environment that a reasonable person would consider intimidating, hostile, or abusive. Harassment includes any such conduct that denigrates or shows hostility or aversion toward an individual or group of individuals, and that has the purpose or effect of creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive employment or educational environment.

Any questions regarding this policy should be directed to the Dean of Students Office or the Director of Employee Relations and Human Resources (HR) Compliance, in the Department of Human Resources.

The full text of the policy can be found at: <https://villanova.policytech.com/docview/?docid=1544&public=true>.

Retaliation against someone for bringing a concern forward or cooperating in the investigation of a complaint under this policy is a violation of this policy.

Non-Payment of Amounts Due

In the event that, in the University's judgment, a student has failed to pay tuition, room and board, fees, fines or other amounts or charges due to the University by the date due, the University may, in its discretion, refuse to permit registration for classes or for space in the residence halls, and the University may withhold transcripts and the award of the University's degree and diploma.

Non-Solicitation Policy

To avoid disruption of business operations or disturbance of faculty, staff, visitors, and students, the University has implemented a Non-Solicitation Policy prohibiting Solicitation or Commercial Solicitation, except under limited circumstances with prior written approval from the appropriate University official. Solicitation includes canvassing, soliciting or seeking to obtain membership in or support for any organization, requesting contributions, and posting or distributing handbills, pamphlets, petitions, and the like of any kind on University property or using University resources (including without limitation bulletin boards, computers, mail, e-mail and telecommunication systems, domain names, photocopiers, telephone lists and databases). Commercial Solicitation means peddling or otherwise selling, purchasing or offering goods and services for sale or purchase, distributing advertising materials, circulars or product samples, or engaging in any other conduct relating to any outside business interests or for profit or personal economic benefit, on University property or using University resources. Solicitation and Commercial Solicitation performed through verbal, written, or electronic means are covered by the

Non-Solicitation Policy. Items to be distributed or offered for sale, which contain University trademarks, names (including building names) or design elements (T-shirts, posters, etc.), must be approved by the Office of University Communication and Marketing.

Any Solicitation or Commercial Solicitation undertaken by a student, registered student club, or student organization, whether it be charitable, academic-related or for other purposes, must be approved by the Office of Student Involvement, conducted in compliance with the Student Handbook and procedures established by the Office of Student Life, and comply with all applicable laws and University policies, including, without limitation, laws related to copyright, trademark and other intellectual property, games of chance, safety and product liability. Solicitation by vendors, students or student organizations that relate to the promotion or consumption of alcoholic beverages or tobacco, or products that are contrary to the policies or mission of the University, are prohibited. Individual students or groups of students may not engage in solicitation for personal profit. Residence Halls are restricted areas and generally are not to be used for solicitation unless pre-approved by the Office of Residence Life.

Solicitation for the Office for Mission and Ministry service activities must be pre-approved by the Office for Mission and Ministry.

Solicitation for the Center for Peace and Justice activities must be pre-approved by the Center for Peace and Justice.

Any Solicitation or Commercial Solicitation undertaken by a student or student organization at a University athletic event or facility must be approved by the Athletic Department, and must be conducted in compliance with the Athletics Department's Solicitation at Athletic Events departmental procedures.

Student violators of the Non-Solicitation Policy and/or procedures are subject to disciplinary action under the Code of Student Conduct.

Inquiries regarding the Non-Solicitation Policy should be directed to the Office of Student Involvement.

The University recognizes the value of charitable organizations and encourages students to be active participants in organizations that support or contribute to the mission of the University. With the exception of University authorized charitable giving campaigns such as the United Way, any charitable organization that wishes to solicit funds for a charitable donation must be sponsored by a recognized student organization, and obtain the approval of the Office of Auxiliary Services. The organization will be provided with a stamp or certification of approval. In addition, any Solicitation or Commercial Solicitation by a charitable organization at a University athletic event or facility requires the prior approval of the Athletic Department, and must be conducted in compliance with the Solicitation at Athletic Events policy established by that department.

Non-Stereotypical Communications

All written and oral communication of administrators, faculty, staff, and students are to be consistent with the belief that all persons are sacred. Language used should respect the dignity and inherent worth of every individual regardless of age, ethnic or racial identification, gender, mental or physical ability, religious persuasion, sexual orientation, and social class. To be encouraged is language which does not perpetuate stereotypes or unfairly characterize any individual on the basis of group identification.

Parking Policies

All students must comply with all [Parking Regulations](#). All students must contact the Parking Office at 610-519-6989 on behalf of themselves with questions during office hours or email parking@villanova.edu

Parking Registration

All permit registration must be completed on the [Parking Portal](#). The Parking Department utilizes License Plate Recognition (LPR) Technology in all lots for permit validation and enforcement. License plate information must be entered accurately, and the vehicle must be parked with the license plate facing the drive lane.

The permit charge is a processing fee and is not reflective of usage. The charge is billed to the student account through the Bursar. Returns must be made within 7 days of purchase or when ordered ahead of the semester by the end of the first week of the semester. Any return credit is issued to the student account through the Bursar.

The I-1 Garage gate system utilizes a permit decal which must be permanently affixed to the vehicle. After ordering, I-1 Commuter or I-1 Resident Permits will be available for pickup inside the Ithan garage. Registration details including sales dates and pickup instructions will be updated on the [Student Parking Registration](#) page.

Parking is very limited, and availability is based on peak operating hours including allotting space for visitors. **Ineligible resident students should not bring their vehicles to campus.** Eligible students are not allowed to park without a permit. **Students cannot use the visitor pay as you go system, in the I-1 Garage as a substitute for getting a permit or in addition to a permit for another lot.**

Resident Students

It is the policy of Villanova University that only junior and senior resident students are eligible to register for a parking permit and park their vehicle in the assigned University parking lot. Using the [Parking Portal](#), students must register their own vehicle, or a vehicle owned by a member of their household. Proof of Ownership is required during registration. Eligible students cannot register the vehicle of an ineligible student. This is considered fraud and a violation. Both the eligible student and the ineligible student violating this policy will receive a fine, lose parking privileges, and be reported to the Dean of Students.

Ineligible students are not to bring their vehicles to campus, use the visitor pay as you go system in the I-1 Garage, or park in residential neighborhoods or at local businesses surrounding Villanova University. This practice causes difficulties for local homeowners and local township police. Students are encouraged to visit the [Parking and Transportation page](#) for information on utilizing alternative transportation methods in order to reduce traffic congestion. Exceptions to this policy must be reviewed by the Parking Director. Medical or approved credit bearing Internship Exception Applications must be accompanied with documentation confirming the location and schedule. Please review the [Parking Exception Application](#) for details. Important: **DO NOT bring a vehicle to campus prior to learning the outcome of the application.**

Students are responsible for ensuring their guests and visitors observe all University regulations. All students guest visiting the campus are required to park and pay in the I-1 Garage during 7am-7pm Monday through Friday. From 7pm to 7am and weekends, the following lots are considered 'open' lots: I-2, L-2, and S-5. Although a pass or permit is not required, all other Parking Regulations must be observed including Fire Zones, blocking dumpsters or traffic ways. Guests are financially responsible for any violation fees, however, students with guests that continue to violate Parking Regulations will be reported to the Dean of Students.

Commuter Students

All Commuting students are eligible to register for a parking permit. Certain undergraduates will be offered different parking lots based on their major course classroom locations. Most commuters will be offered the I-1 Garage; however, availability in all lots is limited, and alternative lots will be offered once the maximum number of permits has been sold for a lot. We encourage you to add yourself to a waitlist as soon as possible. Spaces are released on a first-come, first-served basis as they become available.

Commuter students are offered all day permits which are valid for day, evening, and weekend scheduled classes. Evening students who only take classes starting after 5pm on weekday can register for the Evening permit. Due to the reduced volume of parking after 5pm on weekdays, this permit is valid for an inner campus lot. The Evening permit is also valid on the weekends.

Commuter student vehicles cannot be left overnight or stored on campus. For University approved trips, please have the department sponsoring the trip contact the Parking Department if extended parking is needed.

Please remember to check the Campus Map before registering on the [Parking Portal](#) and register early while your desired lot is still available.

Electric Vehicles

All Commuter's with Electric Vehicles can now use the ChargePoint Charging Stations with a valid permit for the I-1 or S-4 Garage. You will need a ChargePoint account to pay for usage. [ChargePoint](#) usage and details are on the [Electric Charging Vehicles](#) page.

All Resident's with Electric Vehicles can now use the ChargePoint Charging Stations in the I-1 or S-4 Garage. Please contact the Parking Office prior to ordering a permit.

Motorcycles and Motorbikes

Only those students eligible to purchase a parking permit for a vehicle may register a motorcycle instead. The motorcycle will be registered for their assigned permitted lot. Parking a motorcycle in another lot is permissible, so long as, it is not using a parking space and is not in violation, such as a Fire Zone, blocking a dumpster or sidewalks. No motorcycle or motorbike may be parked inside a building. Violations will result in towing at the owner's expense, in addition to a fine. Miniature electric or gas-powered motorcycles are not permitted on the campus. Please contact the Parking Office for additional information.

ADA Parking

All Villanova Parking Lots provide ADA spaces for individuals with ADA documentation. Valid State issued placards or plates must be displayed to park in ADA spaces. Additionally, the mobility shuttle is available for students with disabilities or injuries that prevent them from using the On-Campus Shuttle. Please contact the Parking Office to discuss using these services or for necessary accommodation.

Citations and Appeals

Villanova University Parking Lots are private. Use of the Parking Lots, permitted or not permitted, subjects you to the [Parking Regulations](#) and the enforcement of those regulations. Enforcement can include any of the following: citations, escalations fees, damages, immobilization, towing, revoking parking privileges, and/or reported to the Dean of Students. Please review the [Violations and Penalties](#) page for more details.

Students are responsible for any violation fees incurred including damage resulting from vehicle operations. Payments and Appeals can be made through the [Parking Portal](#) within 10 business days of the citation issue date. The Appeals Committee is a volunteer group and more details about the process is available on the [Parking Appeals](#) page. All appeals must be submitted through the [Parking Portal](#). Once a decision has been made, students will be emailed, and all decisions are final. Citations unpaid and not appealed through the parking portal will transfer to the student account through Bursar. Use the Bursar [Payment Methods](#) to avoid holds, service fees, or other escalations.

In addition to fines, the Parking Director can revoke privileges and/or report a student to the Dean of Students for the following, but not limited to fraudulent registration, excessive number of citations, damages, or confrontation with an enforcement officer or attendant.

Immobilization (Booting) and Towing

Any motor vehicle operated or parked on campus which is in violation of parking regulations may be immobilized. The owner of the vehicle must report to Public Safety to fill out the Boot Removal Form and make payment arrangements. Vehicles of ineligible students or non-affiliated individuals must be removed from the Villanova campus immediately or by assigned date approved by the Parking Director. Vehicles immobilized pursuant to these regulations will be charged \$100.00 as well as \$15.00 per day for each 24-hour period the booting device is left on the vehicle. Operators of vehicles that have been immobilized should not attempt to move their vehicle, since this may cause damage to the vehicle. Vehicles that have been immobilized may also be removed from campus at the discretion of the Parking Office.

For a towed vehicle, the owner of the vehicle must contact Public Safety. The owner will be provided the tow company information. The owner is responsible for all tow fees. The vehicle is not to return to campus without prior authorization from the Parking Director.

Shuttle and Transportation Services

For your convenience the Department of Public Safety offers several free shuttle services. The On-Campus Shuttle stops are designated by signage at various locations throughout campus. After the On-Campus Shuttle stops running, the Nova Van on Demand service is offered for late night safety transports. This is a student run program and will start later in the semester. The Off-Campus Shuttles are available for resident students to access local shops, restaurants, and entertainment locations as well as for commuting students to travel to and from campus. Early and late express stops are available for the commuter students residing at The Villa's in Bryn Mawr. The Mobility Shuttle is available to students with disabilities or injuries preventing them from using the On-Campus Shuttle. For further information on shuttles services or schedules, please review the [Shuttle Information](#) page.

Villanova University is conveniently located along multiple public transportation routes serviced by SEPTA. Passes for SEPTA can be purchased at Paoli/Thorndale station. SEPTA Airport line is approximately 25-minute ride from campus. Resident Freshman and Sophomores are expected to utilize the campus shuttle service, car share (Zipcar) program, ride shares, and/or public transportation for any off-campus appointments, errands, and activities. Please review the [Transportations Options](#) page for more details.

Personal Property, Insurance, and Personal Risk

Personal Property and Insurance

Villanova University assumes no responsibility for the loss, damage or theft of students' personal possessions at any time, including those times when students are attending or absent from the University. Students are encouraged to inventory their personal possessions periodically, engrave their names on all personal possessions, record the serial numbers of personal possessions, and keep them in a safe place. Moreover, students are encouraged to obtain personal property insurance for their personal possessions. Students should understand that Villanova University's insurance program covers only University property and does not extend to the personal property of students, even if the student resides on campus.

Likewise, the University's automobile insurance applies only to vehicles owned, leased, or rented by the University. Damage to students' personal vehicles while parked or driven on campus, should be covered by the vehicle owner's personal automobile insurance policy.

Personal Risk

Students participating in University athletic or other activities do so at their own risk. The University assumes no responsibility for accident, loss, injury, or death resulting from such activities.

Personal Relationships Policy

For the full Personal Relationships Policy, please visit the University's [Policy Library](#).

POLICY STATEMENT

Villanova seeks to maintain an educational atmosphere wherein students, staff, and faculty members connect and interact in appropriate professional and pedagogic ways. In keeping with this goal, employee-student relationships are strongly discouraged, and in most cases prohibited. Employees are not permitted to have romantic or sexual relationships with Villanova undergraduate students. In addition, faculty members are not permitted to have romantic or sexual relationships with graduate students who are enrolled in their classes; who are majors, minors, or concentrators in their departments or programs; who work as their research or teaching assistants; or over whom they exercise any other type of supervision or academic and/or professional judgment. Staff members and coaches are similarly not permitted to have romantic or sexual relationships with graduate students over whom they may exercise any type of supervision or academic and/or professional judgment.

In addition to the potential for abuse of power in such relationships, sexual and romantic relationships between employees and students place the employee in an unethical and unprofessional conflict of interest and hence are unacceptable. Although it is recognized that the student may be a full and willing participant in such a relationship, both the responsibility for adhering to this policy and the consequences for violating it fall upon the employee rather than the student in such situations.

Student assistants are not permitted to have sexual or romantic relations with students who are enrolled in their classes or over whom they exercise any other type of supervision or judgment. The prohibition against romantic or sexual relationships with other students who are graduate students, majors, minors, or concentrators in their department or program does not apply unless the student assistants have some supervisory relationship to those students. Otherwise, the same principles apply to student assistants as apply to faculty members.

Certain relationships may arise in the work environment that have the potential for compromising or appearing to compromise the fairness and objectivity of a supervisor, in relation to subordinates, and which may result in a conflict of interest. The University recognizes that all individuals are entitled to freely choose their personal associations and relationships. However, when a faculty or staff member enters into a romantic and/or sexual relationship with an employee whom they supervise, a power differential may exist which can compromise an individual's exercise of such choice in personal relationships. Others may also perceive such a relationship as one of preferential treatment that may be detrimental to themselves or others. Thus, romantic and/or sexual relationships between faculty/staff members and employees under their supervision – even though consensual – are strongly discouraged. If such relationships are entered into, they should be approached in a sensitive manner, with an understanding of how they may be perceived by others, and comply with the reporting procedure described below.

Similarly, relationships among individuals on the same level, even where there is no component of supervisory authority or influence, may be misinterpreted by others and should be approached in a sensitive manner.

Employees are not permitted to use social media applications (e.g. Grindr, Tinder, Facebook) to pursue romantic or sexual relationships with Villanova undergraduate students or any Villanova students under their supervision.

PROCEDURE

Employees engaged in a romantic or sexual relationship with an undergraduate student or other student they may supervise are required to report the relationship immediately. For faculty members, the relationship should be reported to their department chairs (or to the Dean in the College of Nursing

or College of Professional Studies). The chair should also notify the appropriate dean and the University's Sexual Harassment Officer. For staff members, including coaches and student assistants, the relationship should be reported to their immediate supervisor and the Office of Human Resources. The individual to whom the relationship is reported is charged with taking appropriate action, in consultation with other appropriate University officials, to eliminate both the substance and appearance of conflict of interest or abuse of power. Department chairs, Office of Human Resources staff and other officials who deal with these situations are expected to do so in ways that do not penalize or stigmatize the student, and, when possible, are expected to keep these matters confidential.

If a faculty or staff member is engaged in a romantic and/or sexual relationship with a subordinate employee, any such faculty member is required to notify their department chair (or Dean in the College of Nursing or College of Professional Studies) and any such staff member is required to notify their immediate supervisor and the Office of Human Resources, and to make alternative arrangements for supervision of the subordinate employee, especially any decision making regarding any employment action or benefit pertaining to the subordinate employee.

Employees and student assistants who have pre-existing relationships with students that could potentially violate this policy should promptly report the relationship to the appropriate contact. Exceptions to this policy will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Full-time employees who are also part-time students may also be eligible for an exception in certain circumstances.

The sanction imposed for violation of this policy will necessarily depend on the facts and circumstances of the case, including whether the employee or student assistant voluntarily reported the relationship, and may range from a reprimand to termination of employment.

Photography and Video Appearances

Students attend many events on campus and off campus, including educational, athletic and social events at which photographs or video recordings may be taken either by or on behalf of University personnel or by other students or unaffiliated third parties. Attendance at such an event is deemed to constitute consent by and on behalf of the student to the recording and use of the student's image, voice or likeness in any live or recorded transmission or photographic reproduction of such event in any media, for any purpose whatsoever, including the commercial purposes of the University, its sponsors, licensees, advertisers and broadcasters.

Powered Personal Transportation Devices

Please visit the University's Policy Library for the full [Powered Personal Transportation Devices policy](#).

Smoking Policy

All University buildings and residence halls have been designated as smoke and vape free. Smoking and vaping are prohibited in all areas of these buildings. Smoking and vaping are also prohibited in shuttle buses, vans, and University-owned small carts and vehicles.

Smoking and vaping are permitted outside campus buildings provided the person is at least 25 feet from an entrance or exit, air intake duct, or window. Appropriate waste receptacles are provided for proper disposal of cigarettes, ashes, etc.

All visitors shall be informed by the Villanova staff person or student responsible for the visitor(s) of the Smoking Policy, if applicable.

Student Crime Reporting

The University encourages students to report criminal activity immediately to the Department of Public Safety. Public Safety officers are on-duty 24 hours a day, seven days a week to respond to reports of crimes on campus. There are several ways to contact Public Safety to report a crime:

- By phone, by calling (610) 519-4444;
- In person, by visiting the Public Safety Department in Garey Hall;
- By activating a campus emergency phone;
- Through the University's safety app, [Nova Safe](#);
- Through the [Department of Public Safety website](#).

Student Leave of Absence Policy

Student Leave of Absence policies may be found in the [University Catalog](#).

Title IX Notice

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 ("Title IX") prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in any federally funded education program or activity.

Sexual harassment, which includes sexual assault and other sexual misconduct, is a form of sex discrimination. Under the University Sexual Misconduct Policy, the University prohibits sexual harassment, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, stalking and retaliation. Title IX and the University's Policy also applies to acts of domestic or dating violence, also known as intimate partner violence. As a recipient of federal funds, Villanova University complies with Title IX and has appointed Ryan Rost as its Title IX Coordinator with overall responsibility for Title IX compliance. Ryan can be reached at 204 Tolentine Hall, (610) 519-8805, ryan.rost@villanova.edu.

Any student, employee or applicant for employment or admission to the University who believes that he or she has been discriminated against on the basis of sex, in violation of Title IX, or has been a victim of sexual assault, sexual harassment or other sexual misconduct, may file a complaint with the Title IX Coordinator or Deputy Coordinator designated below. The Title IX Coordinator or Deputy Coordinator will assist the complainant in identifying the appropriate University policy (with its grievance procedure) to resolve the complaint in a prompt and equitable manner. The Title IX Coordinator or Deputy Coordinator may consult with other Villanova administrators, as needed, to resolve the complaint in the most effective manner.

The Title IX Coordinator is supported by several Deputy Title IX Coordinators, all of whom are knowledgeable and trained in state and federal laws that apply to matters of sexual assault, sexual harassment or other sexual misconduct, as well as University policy and procedure.

Deputy Title IX Coordinators

Shannon Barnett (she/her)
Senior Deputy Title IX Coordinator/Title IX Case Manager
207 Tolentine Hall
Ph: 610-519-8804
shannon.barnett@villanova.edu

Brigitte Strother (she/her)
Human Resources / Director, Employee Relations & Compliance
789 Lancaster Avenue
Ph: 610-519-6935
brigitte.strother@villanova.edu

Kim Kearney (she/her)
Title IX Investigator
Garey Hall
Ph: 484-343-6926
kim.kearney@villanova.edu

Sydney Scheiner (she/her)
Asst. Dean of Students for Conduct Resolution & Community Engagement
213 Dougherty Hall
Ph: 610-519-4200
sydney.scheiner@villanova.edu

Lynn Tighe (she/her)
Senior Associate Athletic Director for Administration
Jake Nevin Field House
Ph: (610) 519-4121
lynn.tighe@villanova.edu

University Technology Services

[University Technology Services \(UTS\)](#) maintains a variety of policies governing the use of University computing and communication resources. Every member of the University community is bound by these policies and is expected to be thoroughly familiar with them. Persons found in violation of these policies will be subject to the full range of disciplinary sanctions, up to and including expulsion. In order to retain necessary flexibility in administration of policies, the University reserves the right to interpret, revise, or delete any of the provisions of these policies, as the University deems appropriate in its discretion. All changes in policy are approved by appropriate governing bodies of the University prior to publication.

Complete copies of all University Technology Services policies are available in the [Villanova Policy Library](#) and include, but is not limited to: copyright infringement and illegal file sharing, email policy, and acceptable use.

1. Misuse of IT systems may include but is not limited to:
 - Unauthorized entry into a voice/email mailbox.
 - Unauthorized use of another individual's username or password.
 - Sharing of University-provided username or password with other faculty, staff, students or individuals.
 - Use of University telephone/email/Internet to send abusive, harassing or obscene messages.
 - Use of browsers, programs, or extensions to hide or change your network address in an attempt to create privacy while connected to the University network or resource.
 - Use of personal routers (wired or wireless).
 - Probing or scanning the University network or services or attempting to cause a denial of service.
 - Consumption of a disproportionate amount of network bandwidth.
 - Attempting to connect to systems or using data from systems where access or usage has not been authorized.
 - Accessing personal information of others without authorization.
2. Students are responsible for maintaining the security of their personal computing devices including updating the device with security patches, enabling the default protections on the device such as antivirus or firewall, and updating installed software to mitigate vulnerabilities.

If you have any technology questions or concerns, [submit a help request](#), or contact the University Technology Services team through the Service Desk at support@villanova.edu or 610-519-7777, or stop by the [TechZone](#) for assistance.

Use of Name and Trademark

A trademark is a word, phrase, symbol or design (or a combination of them) that identifies and distinguishes the source of the goods or services of one party from those of others. The University has registered with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office trademarks for a variety of the names (and nicknames) of the University as well as its logos, brands, seal, emblem and insignia. Students may not use their University status or the University's name, trademarks, seal, emblem, insignia, trademarks or facilities in any print, video or electronic announcement, advertising or promotional material, publication, correspondence or commercial, which could in any fashion be construed as implying University endorsement of any product, project, service or activity. Exceptions to the general prohibition may be granted for students at the discretion of the Vice President for Student Life in consultation with the Vice President for University Communication and Marketing and the University's Vice President and General Counsel.