

Policy Manual



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| Title: Student Code of Conduct | Number: 6Hx2-5.02 |
| Legal Authority: Fla. Stat. §§ 1001.64, 1001.65, 1006.60, 1006.63; 18 U.S.C. §§ 245, 249 | Page: Page 1 of 8 |

GENERAL STATEMENT

Upon admission to Broward College (“College”), students agree to act responsibly in all areas of their conduct and to take full responsibility for their actions. Student organizations also agree to act responsibly in all areas of their conduct and take full responsibility for their collective actions. Because learning can only be achieved in an atmosphere free of intimidation and coercion, students must observe local, state, and federal laws as well as the academic and behavioral regulations found in the *Broward College Student Handbook*, the *College Catalog*, other official publications of the College, and the College web site at <http://www.broward.edu>. If there is a conflict with any of the aforementioned sources, this policy shall prevail.

The College maintains partnerships with external institutions, including but not limited to educational institutions, libraries, and health services providers. A student who violates the rules of a College partner is also subject to College Policy, including the College Student Code of Conduct. Additionally, a student who violates the College Student Code of Conduct may also be found to have violated the rules of a College partner.

THE POLICY AND THE STUDENT

The following is a non-exclusive list of behaviors prohibited by students and student organizations at any College location or via any College resource including electronic communication, at any College-sponsored activity, or at any location and/or via any medium (including electronic) if the behavior impacts students, faculty, or staff in the educational environment. Other behaviors not on this list, which adversely impact the College community will be considered on a case-by-case basis and may also be considered violations of the Student Code of Conduct:

1. Abusive Conduct
2. Bribery
3. Bullying, including but not limited to the following behaviors directed at an individual or a group:
 - a. Unwanted teasing
 - b. Threatening or intimidating behaviors
 - c. Stalking
 - d. Public humiliation
 - e. Spreading malicious and derogatory rumors or falsehoods
 - f. Using discriminatory slurs against an individual or group
 - g. Cyberbullying – including, but not limited to the use of communication-based technologies, including telephones, cellular telephones, e-mail, instant messaging, text messaging, social networking, other web-based technologies, or other electronic methods of communication (either

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currently available or available in the future) to engage in deliberate harassment or intimidation of individuals or groups.

4. Discriminatory comments or action and/or retaliatory actions, including, but not limited to remarks or actions against a student, faculty, or staff member of the College
 Complaints against faculty and staff are not covered under this policy. Students should refer to College Policy 6Hx2-3.34 – Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation if they believe they have been the victim of discrimination or retaliation by a College faculty or staff person.
5. Dishonesty, including but not limited to, the following:
 - a. Cheating, plagiarism, or other forms of academic dishonesty
 - b. The use or possession of materials, devices, or technology during academic work, tests, quizzes or other assignments which are not authorized by the person administering the academic work, test, quiz, or other assignment. This includes classrooms, testing centers, or any other Broward College environment, whether physical or virtual. Any such conduct, regardless of intent, will be regarded as academic dishonesty. This standard applies when it has been clearly and unambiguously communicated in writing that such materials, devices, or technology are prohibited
 - c. The acquisition, use, sale, or distribution of teaching or testing materials, including test banks and answer keys, or access to online resources provided by textbook publishers or others, without the express written permission of the instructor
 - d. Furnishing false information, making false accusations, or misrepresentation of oneself or others to any College official, including but not limited to faculty, staff or administrators, representing oneself as an agent of the College, and/or entering into a contract on behalf of the Board of Trustees
 - e. Forgery, alteration, or the misuse of any College document, record, or instrument of identification
 - f. Tampering with the election of any recognized College student organization
 - g. Violation of copyright as defined in College Policy 6Hx2.8.05
6. Disorderly Conduct
7. Disruption of the Educational Environment – including but not limited to:
 - a. To ensure the quality of the educational environment, the use of electronic communication and entertainment devices, such as cell phones, iPods, iPhones, MP3s, etc. by students in the classroom is prohibited unless otherwise explicitly stated by the individual instructor’s syllabus. Therefore, all such devices must be inaudible and placed out of sight during class.
 - b. Classrooms disturbances, including but not limited to: continually leaving and re-entering the classroom without permission, constant interruption of the professor or students, talking loudly to others or self, poor personal hygiene, grandstanding, comments that are antagonistic, openly rude, threatening, or abusive.

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- c. Behaviors which a reasonable person would identify as being suggestive of a potential threat to the wellbeing and safety of others on College campuses, facilities, or at college-sponsored events
- d. Physical or verbal altercations on the College campuses, facilities, or college-sponsored events
- e. Animals, other than medically prescribed and documented service animals, on campus
- f. The usage of skateboards, scooters, or hover-boards on the interior sidewalks of campuses.
- 8. False Report – falsely reporting a bomb or other incendiary device or any other dangerous condition by any medium. Note: These acts are considered acts of terrorism, and the College will use all means available to assist in the identification of students who make such threats.
- 9. Grades and Enrollment Status – If an enrollment status or assignment or course grade is correct, it is a violation of the Code of Conduct to ask a professor or any college official to make changes in order to address the student’s status in various activities and programs, including, but not limited to immigration status, financial aid status or awards, intercollegiate participation, honors institute participation, employment requirements, etc.
- 10. Hazing as defined in section 1006.63, Florida Statutes
- 11. Misbehavior - Any behavior that is inappropriate and detrimental to the mission, goals, and purpose of the institution
- 12. Misuse of College Identification as defined in College Policy 6Hx2.5.24
- 13. Non-Compliance with Directions:
 - a. Non-compliance with the directions of College personnel or law enforcement officers acting in the performance of their duties
 - b. Failure to identify oneself to these persons when properly requested to do so
- 14. Non-Compliance With the Student Discipline System, including but not limited to:
 - a. Failure to appear before the Dean of Students, Hearing Officer, Student Conduct Committee, or other College officials when requested to do so
 - b. Falsification, distortion, or misrepresentation of information before a Student Conduct Committee
 - c. Disruption or interference with the orderly conduct of a Student Conduct Hearing
 - d. Knowingly making false accusations of student misconduct without cause
 - e. Attempting to discourage an individual's proper participation in, or use of, the student discipline system
 - f. Attempting to influence the impartiality of a member of a Student Conduct Committee prior to, and/or during the course of, the Student Conduct Hearing
 - g. Harassment (verbal or physical) and/or intimidation of a member of a Student Conduct Committee prior to, during, and/or after a Student Conduct Hearing
 - h. Failure to comply with the sanction(s) imposed under the Student Code

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- i. Influencing or attempting to influence another person to commit an abuse of the student discipline system
- 15. Obstruction of Pedestrian or Vehicular Movement
- 16. Public Intoxication/Disorderly Behavior
- 17. Smoking and tobacco use in accordance with College Policy 6Hx2-7.21
- 18. Sexual Misconduct as defined in College Policy 6Hx2-5.39
 - a. The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) permits a postsecondary institution to disclose to an alleged victim of any crime of violence or non-forcible sex offense the final results of a disciplinary proceeding conducted by the institution against the alleged perpetrator of that crime, regardless of whether the institution concluded a violation was committed.
 - b. FERPA also permits institutions to disclose to anyone – not just the victim – the final results of a disciplinary proceeding, if the College determines that the student is an alleged perpetrator of a crime of violence or non-forcible sex offense, and with respect to the allegation made against him or her, the student has committed a violation of the institution’s rules or policies.
- 19. Sexual Harassment as defined by College Policy 6Hx2-5.39 by students against any member of the College community

Complaints against faculty and staff are not covered under this policy. Students should refer to College Policy 6Hx2-3.31 – Sexual and Other Workplace Harassment if they believe they have been the victim of sexual or other harassment by a College faculty or staff person.
- 20. Student Organization Misconduct - Student organizations (as well as members and officers individually and collectively) may be held accountable when an alleged offense is committed by one or more members or guests of the organization and any one of the following conditions apply:
 - a. The offense occurred at an event that was sanctioned by an officer of the organization
 - b. Organizational funds are used to finance the activity
 - c. The event where the offense occurred is substantially supported by the organization’s membership
 - d. Members with knowledge of the forthcoming violation did not attempt to prevent the infraction
 - e. The organization fails to report or chooses to protect the individuals(s) alleged to have committed the offense
- 21. Theft or Damage, or Attempted Theft or Damage, to a Person’s or the College’s Property
- 22. Unauthorized Computer Usage as Defined in College Policies 6Hx2-8.01 and 6Hx2-8.03
- 23. Unauthorized Demonstration - participation in a campus demonstration where the student’s behavior (including but not limited to excessive volume, obstruction of movement or access to College facilities or services, harassment of other students, faculty, or staff etc.), disrupts the normal operations of the College and infringes on the rights of other members of the College community through, or leading or inciting

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others to disrupt scheduled and/or normal activities within any campus/center building or area, or intentional obstruction which unreasonably interferes with freedom of movement, either pedestrian or vehicular

24. Unauthorized Possession, Duplication, or Use of Keys to Any College Facility
25. Unauthorized Possession, Use, or Distribution of Controlled Substances or Alcohol as defined in College Policy 6Hx2-5.18
26. Unauthorized Recording - Students may not make an audio or video recording of an instructor or speaker's seminar, lecture, tutorial, or other instructional settings without prior consent from the instructor or speaker. However, if such recording is an accommodation in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, prior notification is required, rather than consent. Students may not make an audio or video recording of persons in conversation without the prior consent of all parties
27. Unauthorized Use of College Property or Facilities
28. Violation of Law and College Policy - Students may be subject to discipline per the Student Code of Conduct for violations of law that occur on College premises or at any College-sponsored activity, and for violations of law that do not occur on College Premises or at College-Sponsored Activities:
 - a. If a student is charged only with an off-campus violation of federal, state, or local laws, but not with any other violation of this Code, disciplinary action may be taken and sanctions imposed for grave misconduct which demonstrates flagrant disregard for the College community and/or which could disrupt the educational mission of the College. Such an off-campus violation must be of a nature wherein the presence of the student at a College campus is reasonably considered to be a danger to persons or property; or disruption to the educational environment.
 - b. College disciplinary proceedings may be instituted against a student charged with violation of a law that is also a violation of this Student Code. Proceedings under this Student Code may be carried out prior to, simultaneously with, or following civil or criminal proceedings off-campus.
 - c. When a student is charged by federal, state or local authorities with a violation of the law, the College will not request or agree to special consideration for that individual because of his or her status as a student. If the alleged offense is also the subject of a proceeding before the Student Conduct Committee under the Student Code, however, the College may advise off-campus authorities of the existence of the Student Code and of how such matters will be handled internally within the College community.
 - d. The College will cooperate fully with law enforcement and other agencies in enforcing the law on campus and in the conditions imposed by a judge in a court-of-law. Individual students and faculty members, acting in their personal capacities, remain free to interact with governmental representatives, as they deem appropriate.

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- 29. Violation of Published College Policies/Procedures, Rule, or Regulation.
- 30. Violence Against Women Act prohibitions against dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking, as defined by College Policy 6Hx2-5.39.
- 31. Weapons and Dangerous Materials – Refer to Weapons on College Property, College Policy 6Hx2-5.38.

THE POLICY AND THE FACULTY AND STAFF

Faculty and staff are responsible for notifying the Dean of Students on the campus about possible violations of the Student Code of Conduct.

Per FERPA regulations, faculty and staff may disclose personally identifiable information from an educational record to appropriate parties, including parents of an eligible student in connection with an emergency if knowledge of the information is necessary to protect the health and safety of the student or other individuals.

IMPLEMENTATION AND OVERSIGHT

The President has the authority to establish procedures to implement this policy. The Dean of Students on the campus/center where the infraction is alleged to have occurred, in consultation with the Associate Vice Provost for Student Life & Ombudsperson, is responsible for the implementation of this policy. The Vice Provost for Student Services is responsible for policy oversight. Students wishing to grieve a decision may appeal in accordance with the provisions of the Student Code of Conduct Procedure, College Procedure A6Hx2-5.02.

VIOLATION OF POLICY

The College retains the right to discipline students and student organizations up to dismissal from the College for violation of this policy.

DEFINITIONS

Abusive Conduct - physical abuse, verbal abuse, threats, intimidation, harassment, coercion and/or other conduct which threatens or endangers the physical or emotional health or safety of any person

Bias-Motivated Conduct (commonly referred to as “Hate Crimes”) – occurs when a perpetrator targets a victim because of his or her actual or perceived membership in a certain social group, usually defined by race, color, ancestry, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, homeless status, mental or physical disability, gender, gender identity, political affiliation, etc. Hate crimes differ from conventional crimes because they are not directed simply at an individual, but cause fear and intimidation in an entire class of people.

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Bribery - offering, soliciting, receiving, or giving money or any item or service to a College employee for the purpose of attempting to obtain assistance, priority consideration, or any benefit that would not have otherwise been provided.

Bullying - behavior that inflicts physical or psychological abuse on one or more members of the College community. Such behavior may occur in-person or via electronic communication.

Cheating - includes but is not limited to, copying homework assignments from another student; working together with another individual on a take-home test or homework when specifically prohibited from doing so by the instructor; and looking at text, notes or another student's paper during an examination when not permitted to do so. Cheating also includes the giving of work or information to another student to be copied and/or used as his or her own. Including, but not limited to, giving a student answers to exam questions either when the exam is being given or after having taken an exam; informing another student of specific questions that appear or have appeared on an exam in the same academic term; giving or selling a term paper, report, project or other restricted written materials to another student.

Code of Conduct - a set of conventional principles and expectations that are considered binding on any student at the College.

Controlled Substance - all illegal drugs and prescription drugs taken without a physician's order.

Discrimination - treating any student, officer, employee or agent of the College differently than others are treated based upon race, color, sex, national origin, religion, age, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, veteran status, or any other legally protected classification.

Disorderly Conduct - conduct which is disorderly, lewd, or indecent; breach of peace; or aiding, abetting, or procuring another person to breach the peace on College premises or at functions sponsored by, or participated in by the College.

Disruption - disruption or obstruction of teaching, research, administration, disciplinary proceedings, other College activities, including its public-service functions on or off campus, or other authorized non-College activities.

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Harassment - any verbal or physical conduct based on race, color, sex, national origin, religion, age, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, veteran status, or retaliation, and that has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with the individual's education by creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive environment.

Plagiarism - includes but is not limited to, an attempt by a student to claim the work of another as the product of his or her own thoughts, regardless of whether that work has been published; quoting improperly or paraphrasing text or other written materials without proper citation on an exam, term paper, homework, or other written material submitted to an instructor as one's own work; and handing in a paper to an instructor that was purchased from a term paper service or downloaded from the Internet and presenting another person's academic work as one's own. Individual academic departments may provide additional examples in writing of what does and do not constitute plagiarism, provided that such examples do not conflict with this policy.

Retaliatory Action - any materially adverse action taken against the person who makes or supports a complaint of discrimination, or creating a hostile or threatening environment against such persons.

Student Organization - a student group that has registered with a campus/center student life office in accordance with the provisions of this policy and procedure.

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