



Rowan College of South Jersey

Policy: 8007
 Title: **STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT**
 Area: Student Services
 Approved: 07/01/19, 09/03/19, 07/13/21
 Revised: 09/14/21

The College, as a community dedicated to learning and the advancement of knowledge, expects and requires the behavior of students to be compatible with its high standards of scholarship and conduct. Admission to the College carries with it an obligation to uphold these standards.

Students will be identified as those registered for credited courses, non-credited courses, any other program offered on campus, or who officially participate in dual activities at another educational institution. All students are responsible for being aware of, and are held accountable for, adhering to all policies and procedures at all College owned properties. Those students participating in dual activities will be held accountable for adhering to all policies and procedures at *both* institutions and at all College and dual institution owned properties.

Discipline for violation of College policies and administrative procedure on all campus locations and/or at any College-sponsored or supervised functions may be imposed whether or not such violations are violations of civil or criminal law. In addition, disciplinary action may be imposed for off-campus student conduct that is contrary to the mission and educational goals of the College, thereby protecting the best interests, safety, and well-being of the College community.

The final responsibility for administration of student discipline rests with the President who will have administrative procedures developed to implement a fair, prompt, and appropriate disciplinary process (see administrative procedure, *8007 Student Code of Conduct*).

A student whose conduct may pose a significant risk to the safety of himself/herself or to the campus community due to mental, emotional, medical, or psychological health conditions or other serious concerns may be subject to an Interim Safety Suspension. The Interim Safety Suspension is a preliminary action taken to protect the safety of any student and the campus community and is not a penalty. Refer to administrative procedure, *8007.1 Interim Safety Suspension*.

Students who violate the law may incur penalties prescribed by civil authorities, but College authority is never used merely to duplicate the function of general laws. The special authority of the College will be asserted only where the interest of the College as an academic community is

distinctly and clearly involved. Institutional action should be independent of community pressure.

Violations of Student Conduct

The following is a non-exhaustive list of conduct that does not meet the College's expectations for student conduct. Such misconduct is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct and may result in disciplinary sanctions.

1. Engaging in violating College rules, regulations and policies, whether on or off campus.
2. Engaging in academic dishonesty including, cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, and plagiarism.
3. Furnishing false information to any College official or personnel including forging, altering, or misusing College documents, records, identification cards, or other misuse or abuse of the College's computerized systems (see also administrative procedure and policy, 2019 Acceptable Use of Technological Resources).
4. Engaging in disruptive activity which substantially disrupts or poses a tenable threat of disrupting teaching, administration, disciplinary procedures, or other College-authorized activities, or which substantially interferes with the rights of others, on College-owned or controlled or at College-sponsored or supervised functions.
5. Refusing or failing to comply with a request, directive, or order from a College official acting in the performance of official duties and responsibilities.
6. Theft or obtaining property under false pretenses, knowingly possessing or receiving stolen property, destroying, damaging, or threatening to destroy or damage property of the College, a member of the College community, or any person on the campus.
7. Failure to return College property which was loaned or borrowed.
8. Physical violence (not limited to: assault, fighting, etc.) causing physical harm.
9. Engaging in threats of physical violence, psychological threats, harassment, intimidation, bullying, stalking, coercion, and/or other conduct which threatens or endangers the health or safety of any person. Harassment, intimidation, or bullying include any gesture, any written, verbal or physical act, or any electronic communication, whether it be a single incident or a series of incidents, that is reasonably perceived as being motivated either by any actual or perceived characteristic, such as race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, or a mental, physical, or sensory disability, or by any other distinguishing characteristic, or any other class protected under the New Jersey Law Against Discrimination, N.J.S.A. 10:5-1 et. seq. (see also policy, 7013 Student Sexual Misconduct and the Rights of Victims) that takes place on College property or at any function sponsored by the College that substantially disrupts or interferes with the orderly operation of the College or the rights of other students and that:

- a reasonable person should know, under the circumstances, that will have the effect of physically or emotionally harming a student or damaging the student's property, or placing a student in reasonable fear of physical or emotional harm to person or damage to property;
 - has the effect of insulting or demeaning any student or group of students in such a way as to cause disruption in, or interference with, the orderly operation of the College;
 - creates a hostile educational environment for the student at the College; or
 - infringes on the rights of the student at the College by interfering with a student's education or by severely or pervasively causing physical or emotional harm to the student.
10. Committing any act in violation of the College's policy, 7013 Student Sexual Misconduct and the Rights of Victims.
 11. Behaving in a manner that constitutes an invasion or violation of an individual's rights to privacy. Examples of prohibited behaviors that might be found to violate this provision include, but not limited to, harassing or terroristic threats, stalking, unauthorized surveillance, imposing physical or mental restraints on another person, or engaging in obscene verbal or written communications, or verbally confronting a person using obscenities or fighting words likely to incite immediate physical altercation.
 12. Possessing, consuming, and/or distributing, or attempting to distribute alcoholic beverages in contravention of federal, state or local laws, or College regulations, or knowingly being present at the time of the prohibited conduct.
 13. Possessing, using, manufacturing, distributing, or attempting to distribute narcotics, dangerous drugs, controlled dangerous substances, or drug paraphernalia that are prohibited by federal, state or local laws, or College policies, or knowingly being present at the time of the prohibited conduct.
 14. Possessing or using a firearm, explosive, or any other dangerous weapon in contravention of federal, state or local laws, or College policies and procedures.
 15. Using and/or possessing fireworks, pyrotechnics, explosive or flammable liquids without proper authorization.
 16. Causing noise or a disturbance. Exhibiting disorderly, lewd, indecent, or obscene conduct or exhibitionism in violation of federal or state statutes on College-owned or controlled property or at College-sponsored or supervised functions.
 17. Using the College's name, logo, finances, materials and supplies, or facilities for commercial, personal, or political purposes without College authorization.
 18. Entering into and/or use of College facilities/equipment, including but not limited to, the library, athletic facilities and equipment, classrooms, meeting spaces, or technology equipment without authorization.
 19. Abusing the student discipline system, including but not limited to, noncompliance with a disciplinary sanction, falsification of information, and disruption of a hearing.
 20. Using information and communication technologies including, e-mail, voicemail, telephones, cell phones, text or electronic messaging, web-cameras, or websites to

engage in harassment, intimidation, bullying (as defined in #8 above), stalking (as defined in administrative procedure, 7013 Student Sexual Misconduct and the Rights of Victims), or in any behavior which violates the law, College policies, or the Student Code of Conduct.

21. Violating the terms of any disciplinary sanction, intervention, no contact orders, or mandates imposed, or other behavior related contracts.
22. Excessive campus parking / traffic violations.
23. Possession and/or custody of any animal on campus without prior approval from campus officials, unless the animal is a service animal.
24. Feeding of wildlife on any campus-owned property.
25. Initiating behavior that violates the law, College policies, or the Student Code of Conduct and placing evidence of that behavior on a public website or other public medium.
26. Smoking on campus in any prohibited area. Smoking is only allowed in designated areas. This includes electronic smoking and the use of any tobacco product.
27. Engaging in conduct to cause false public alarm by activating a 9-1-1 emergency button, calling 9-1-1 by phone or other means, activating a fire alarm pull station, circulating a report or warning of fire, explosion, crime, catastrophe, emergency, or any other incident that is knowingly false and baseless.
28. Conduct that creates a false public alarm, causing evacuation, and or causing response from local fire department.
29. Tampering with, misuse or damage to any fire safety equipment not limited to smoke detectors, fire extinguishers, alarm panels, and pull stations.
30. Failing to evacuate a facility or building upon audible fire safety warning device, verbal command by staff members or fire department personnel.
31. Possession of, or use of, any prohibited items in the residential areas or college controlled areas.
32. Guest behavior: Students may be held responsible for acts and/or omissions of their guests on the college campus or at college-sponsored events where such acts and/or omissions constitute a violation of the Student Code of Conduct.

The President will have administrative procedures developed.

References:

Rowan College of South Jersey Administrative Procedure, *8007 Student Code of Conduct and 8007.1 Interim Safety Suspension*

Rowan College of South Jersey Board of Trustees Policy Manual, *7013 Sexual Misconduct and the Rights of Victims*