

Initiation of University Conduct Proceedings for Student Organizations

DSA.SC.300.045

Summary/Purpose: To inform community members how to initiate the conduct process for behavior involving student organizations.

Any person may submit a report alleging a violation of University policies. Complaints may be submitted, in any form to the Office of Conflict Resolution and Student Conduct. Reports can be submitted anonymously by contacting the Office of Conflict Resolution and Student Conduct.

Upon receipt of a complaint, a representative from the Office of Conflict Resolution and Student Conduct, Office of the Dean of Students, University Police Department, and two designated students identified by the Office of the Dean of Students will meet to review the complaint. After reviewing the complaint, the representatives will make the following recommendations to the Director of Conflict Resolution and Student Conduct:

1. Dismiss the complaint;
2. Forward the complaint to the Student Organizational Advisory Committee or appropriate governing council;
3. Resolve the incident informally with alternative dispute resolution;
4. Initiate an investigation of the allegations in the complaint; or
5. File formal conduct charges against the organization.

If the complaint involves behavior of a serious nature, representatives may recommend to the Director of Conflict Resolution and Student Conduct that the Dean of Students issue an interim measures under DSA.SC.300.030 to limit or suspend the privileges of the student organization.

The Office of Conflict Resolution and Student Conduct will oversee the conduct process for organizational misconduct that involves violations of University policies, or organizational misconduct that may result in an organization no longer being recognized by the University. Depending on the nature of the incident, the Office of Conflict Resolution may forward a case to the Office of the Dean of Students to adjudicate. The decision regarding whether the Office of Conflict Resolution and Student Conduct or the Dean of Students Office will address an incident will be determined by the Director of the Office of Conflict Resolution and Student Conduct. This determination is final and will be made after consulting with the Office of the Dean of Students.

Investigation

Upon receipt of a report alleging that an organization is acting in a manner inconsistent with community values and university policy, the Office of Conflict Resolution and Student Conduct will initiate an investigation. The investigation may include, but is not limited, to the following:

1. Interviewing members, or potential members, of the organization;
2. Requesting and reviewing organizational records and documents; and/or
3. Interviewing individuals who are not affiliated with the organization who have pertinent information relating to the report.

The Office of Conflict Resolution and Student Conduct or the Office of the Dean of Students will schedule an intake meeting, under DSA.SC.300.050 (2), with the president of the organization. The organization has the right to have an advisor present at all meetings and proceedings; however, the advisor cannot directly participate in proceedings, but can advise the organization and help them prepare for meetings and proceedings.

Organizational or Individual Conduct

If an incident involves individual student action that may violate University policy, or local, state, and federal regulations, individual students may be subject to University conduct charges and proceedings under DSA.SC.300.010.

Examples of when a student organization will be subject to conduct charges and proceedings include, but are not limited to, when:

1. One or more of its officers are acting within the scope of their duties and commit a violation;
2. One or more of its members are acting within the scope of their committee assignment and commit a violation;
3. One or more of its members commit a violation as part of an activity or assignment approved or funded by the organization, or an individual acting on the organization's behalf;
4. The violation occurs as the result of an event endorsed, sponsored, or co-sponsored by the organization;
5. A significant number of its members engage in, permit, or encourage the commission of a violation; or
6. The incident took place at an organizational facility and members of the organization knew, or should have known, the conduct was occurring but did not take adequate steps to prevent or report the behavior.