

**WAC 106-125-040 Disciplinary action—Initiation.** (1) The student conduct officer will initiate disciplinary action by serving the student respondent with written notice of an initial disciplinary meeting. The notice shall briefly describe the factual allegations or the issues involved, the specific conduct code provision(s) the respondent is alleged to have violated, and the range of possible sanctions for such violations(s).

(2) At the disciplinary meeting, the student conduct officer will review the allegations with the respondent and will afford the respondent an opportunity to respond. If the respondent fails to attend or participate in the meeting, the conduct officer may take disciplinary action based on the available information.

(3) In a proceeding involving allegations of sexual misconduct or discriminatory harassment, the student conduct officer prior to taking disciplinary action will afford the complainant an opportunity to discuss the results of any investigation and the possible sanctions and/or conditions that could be imposed for the complainant's protection if the sexual misconduct or discriminatory harassment allegations are found to be substantiated.

(4) The student conduct officer may take any of the following disciplinary actions:

(a) The conduct officer may dismiss the proceeding upon finding the allegations to be unsubstantiated and after providing any appropriate counseling or warnings. Such action shall be final and not subject to appeal or further review, except as provided in proceedings involving allegations of sexual misconduct or discriminatory harassment.

(b) If the allegations are found to be substantiated, the conduct officer may impose any of the disciplinary sanctions authorized under WAC 106-125-030. Such sanction(s) shall be subject to review on appeal as provided in this student code.

(c) The conduct officer may refer the matter for disciplinary action by the student conduct council. Such referral shall be in writing, to the attention of the dean of student success, with a copy served on the respondent (and any complainant in a proceeding involving allegations of sexual misconduct or discriminatory harassment). The decision to refer shall not be subject to appeal or further review.

(5) Within 10 days of the initial disciplinary meeting, the conduct officer will serve the respondent (and any complainant in a proceeding involving sexual misconduct or discriminatory harassment allegations) with a written decision either dismissing or referring the matter or imposing disciplinary sanctions. If sanctions are imposed, the written decision will specify the conduct code provision(s) found to have been violated, will describe the facts and conclusions supporting the sanction(s), and will provide notice of any appeal rights.

(6) In a proceeding involving sexual misconduct or discriminatory harassment allegations, the decision will state whether such allegations were substantiated and will describe any sanctions or conditions imposed for the complainant's protection. The copy of the decision provided to a complainant will be redacted as needed to exclude any confidential student information not relating to the sexual misconduct or discriminatory harassment allegations.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.35.120. WSR 22-06-018, § 106-125-040, filed 2/22/22, effective 3/25/22. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.35.120

and chapter 34.05 RCW. WSR 15-24-054, § 106-125-040, filed 11/23/15, effective 12/24/15.]