STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

The President/Superintendent shall establish procedures for the imposition of discipline on students in accordance with the requirements for due process of the state and federal laws and regulations.

The procedures shall clearly define the conduct that is subject to discipline, and shall identify potential disciplinary actions, including but not limited to the removal, suspension, or expulsion of a student.

Due process requires that in all significant disciplinary situations, a student is informed of charges against him/her, is given an opportunity to refute them, and has the opportunity to appeal a decision.

The Board of Trustees shall consider any recommendation from the President/Superintendent for expulsion. The Board of Trustees shall consider an expulsion recommendation in closed session unless the student requests that the matter be considered in a public meeting. Final action by the Board of Trustees on the expulsion shall be taken at a public meeting.

The procedures shall be made widely available to students through the College catalog and other means.

Students enrolling in Cerritos College assume an obligation to abide by all District regulations on District-owned or controlled property or at District-sponsored or supervised functions.

Students who fail to adhere to District regulations are subject to disciplinary actions. In all disciplinary actions, the student shall be informed of the nature of the charges against him/her and given a fair opportunity to refute them. The District shall not be arbitrary in its actions.

The following conduct while on District-owned or controlled property or at District-sponsored or supervised functions shall constitute good cause for discipline, including but not limited to the removal, suspension, or expulsion of a student.

1. Assault, battery, or any threat of force or violence, or causing, attempting to cause, or threatening to cause physical injury to another person.
2. Possession, use, sale, or otherwise furnishing any firearm, knife, explosive, or other dangerous object or chemical, including but not limited to any facsimile firearm, knife, or explosive on District-owned or controlled property or at District-sponsored or supervised functions without the prior authorization of the President/Superintendent or designee.
3. Unlawful possession, use, sale, offer to sell, or furnishing, or being under the influence of, any controlled substance listed in Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 11053) of Division 10 of the California Health and Safety Code, an alcoholic beverage, or an intoxicant of any kind; or unlawful possession of, or offering, arranging, or negotiating the sale of any drug paraphernalia, as defined in California Health and Safety Code, Section 11014.5.
4. Committing or attempting to commit robbery or extortion.
5. Theft, attempted theft of, or willful damage to District property or property in the possession of, or owned by, a member of the college community or knowingly receiving stolen property or private property on District premises.
6. Willful or persistent smoking in any area where smoking has been prohibited by law or by regulation of the District.
7. Committing sexual harassment as defined by law or by District policies and procedures.
8. Engaging in harassing or discriminatory behavior based on race, religious creed, color, national origin, ancestry, physical disability, mental disability, medical condition, marital status, sex, age, sexual orientation, or any other status protected by law.
9. Willful misconduct that results in injury or death to a student or to District personnel or that results in cutting, defacing, or other injury to any real or personal property owned by the District or on campus.
10. Disruptive behavior, continual or willful disobedience and/or persistent defiance of the authority, habitual profanity or vulgarity, or abuse of District personnel or where the presence of the student causes a continuing danger to the physical safety of students or others.
11. Cheating, or engaging in other academic dishonesty including copying from another’s work; discussion prohibited by the instructor; obtaining exam copies without permission; and using notes, other information, or devices that have been prohibited.
12. Misrepresentation and/or impersonation, including arranging for or allowing another individual to impersonate or otherwise misrepresent himself or herself to be a student generally or to be a particular student either in person or in an online environment, and/or impersonating or otherwise misrepresenting oneself to be another person in person or in an online environment.
13. Plagiarism, in individual or group work or in a student publication, including the act of taking the ideas, words or specific substantive material of another and offering them as one’s own without giving credit to the source.
14. Dishonesty; forgery; alteration or misuse of District documents, records, or identification; or knowingly furnishing false information to the District.
15. Unauthorized entry upon, into, or use of District facilities, either in person or in an online environment.
16. Lewd, indecent or obscene conduct on District-owned or controlled property, or at District-sponsored or supervised functions.
17. Engaging in expression that is obscene; libelous or slanderous; or that so incites students as to create a clear and present danger of the commission of unlawful acts on college premises, or the violation of lawful District administrative procedures, or the substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the District.
18. Persistent, serious misconduct where other means of correction have failed to bring about proper conduct.
19. Unauthorized preparation, giving, selling, transfer, distribution, or publication, for any commercial purpose, of any contemporaneous recording of an academic presentation in a classroom or equivalent site of instruction, including but not limited to handwritten or typewritten class notes, except as permitted by any Board policy or administrative procedure.
20. Unauthorized use of audio, video or other listening, recording or transmitting device in any classroom, service area or District activity without prior consent of the instructor, service area manager, or activity advisor except as necessary for reasonable accommodation.
21. Sexual assault and/or battery; rape, including acquaintance rape; or physical abuse of another person.

22. Misrepresentation of oneself or of an organization to be an agent of the District.

23. Continued disruption on or off District property of the District's educational or student services activities, administrative functions and procedures, public service functions, authorized curricular or co-curricular activities, other functions, or prevention of authorized guests from carrying out the purpose for which they are on District property.

24. Abuse of any person or any possession of any person, on District-owned or controlled property.

25. Violation of state or local laws, Board policies, or administrative procedures concerning the registration of student organizations, the use of District facilities, or the time, place, and manner of public expression.

26. Abusive behavior directed toward coercion of, or hazing of a member of the college community.

27. Violation of Board policies or administrative procedures governing the use of student user accounts, computers, and telecommunication resources, including but not limited to the unauthorized entry, opening, or viewing of a file; the unauthorized use of another individual's identification and password; arranging for, allowing, and/or impersonation of one person by another; sending obscene or abusive messages or files; and/or use of computing facilities to interfere with the work of another student or employee of District.

28. Engaging in physical or verbal disruption, intimidation, or harassment of such severity or pervasiveness as to have the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with a student's academic performance, or District employee's work performance, or of creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive educational or work environment.

29. Violation of a duly issued restraining order, stalking, and/or a pattern of conduct with intent to follow, alarm, or harass another person, and which causes the person to reasonably fear for his or her safety, and where the pattern of conduct persisted after the person has demanded that the pattern of conduct cease.

30. Failure to identify oneself when requested to do so by District officials acting in the performance of their duties.

31. Any other cause not listed above which is identified as “Good Cause” by the Education Code or that disrupts the college, its mission, or campus life.

STUDENT DISCIPLINE PROCEDURES

Judicial Programs should contribute to the teaching of appropriate individual and group behavior as well as to protecting the campus community from disruption and harm. The Programs should be conducted in ways that will serve to foster the ethical development and personal integrity of students and the promotion of an environment that is in accord with the overall educational goals of the institution.

The Office of Judicial Affairs is responsible for the student conduct and disciplinary procedures of the college. Inquiries should be directed to the Coordinator of Judicial Affairs in the Office of Student Activities.
DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES AND SANCTIONS

Disciplinary Sanctions

Official Reprimand – Defined as an admonishment or warning that becomes part of a student’s file and is considered in the event of future violations.

1. May be initiated by any faculty or College manager and sent in writing to the Office of Judicial Affairs.
2. The Coordinator of Judicial Affairs shall determine if there exists good and sufficient reason to initiate disciplinary action and student should be notified of such actions.

Disciplinary Probation – Defined as disciplinary action that may include, but is not limited to, exclusion of the individual from designated co-curricular activities of the college community.

1. Shall be initiated by the Office of Judicial Affairs.
2. The nature of the misconduct, dates, time and place, and length of probation shall be placed in writing. Written copies shall be sent to the student and copies filed with the Office of Judicial Affairs.

Instructor Removal – Defined as instructor-initiated removal of a student from his or her class when the student has interfered with the instructional process. Duration will be for the day of the removal and the next class meeting.

1. The instructor or Instructional Dean shall immediately report the removal to the Office of Judicial Affairs for appropriate action such as official reprimand, suspension, or recommendation of expulsion.

Immediate Interim Suspension -- The President/Superintendent or designee may order immediate suspension of a student where he or she concludes that immediate suspension is required to protect lives or property and to ensure the maintenance of order. In cases where an interim suspension has been ordered, the time limits contained in these procedures shall not apply, and all hearing rights, including the right to a formal hearing where a long-term suspension or expulsion is recommended, will be afforded to the student within ten instructional days.

Suspension – Defined as exclusion from the College for a specified period of time.

1. Suspensions shall be initiated by the President/Superintendent or designee.
2. The duration of the suspension from one or more classes shall be for a period of up to ten days of instruction, for the remainder of the academic term, or from all classes and activities of the community college for one or more terms.
3. There may be an immediate suspension when necessary to protect lives or property and to insure the maintenance of order pending a hearing within ten instructional days.

Expulsion - Defined as the removal of a student from any and all classes of the College.

1. Only the Board of Trustees may expel students for “Good Cause” or when other means of correction fail to bring about proper conduct of a student.
2. The duration of the expulsion may be indefinitely.
3. The expulsion is noted in the permanent file of the student.
4. Re-admittance after expulsion requires Board approval.
Hearing Board

The suspension or expulsion of a student shall be accompanied by a hearing. A Hearing Board shall be responsible to the President/Superintendent for reviewing and making recommendation to the President/Superintendent. Membership of the Hearing Board shall include the following:

1. Two members of the instructional staff appointed by the Faculty Senate.
2. Two student Court Justices appointed by the ASCC Chief Court Justice or by the Associated Students President, if the Chief Court Justice is a party to the matter.
3. The Coordinator of Student Judicial Affairs or a member of the management staff of the college appointed by the President/Superintendent. The manager shall serve as the Chairperson of the Hearing Board, but will not vote except to break a tie.

Procedures for a Hearing, Disposition, and Imposition of Sanctions

1. Written notice of a hearing shall be mailed or delivered to the student. A hearing must be held within ten instructional days of the suspension if the suspension is immediate. An instructional day is defined as any day Monday through Friday that all normal College business is conducted, both in the classroom and in the administrative offices. All weekend days and College holidays are excluded.
2. Notice shall include date and place of hearing, a statement of all charges, a copy of applicable policies and procedures, the opportunity of the student to appear in person, and the opportunity to present oral and documentary evidence.
3. Hearings shall be conducted in the manner consistent with the orderly conduct of the affairs of the College, and which seems to the Hearing Board to be most conducive to the determination of the truth.
4. All hearings shall be tape recorded. A transcript shall be made available to parties directly involved, at their own expense. Transcripts may be redacted to comply with law, policies, and to protect the privacy and/or safety of individuals.
5. Promptly following the hearing, the Hearing Board shall submit the recommendation to the President/Superintendent. The President/Superintendent and/or designee shall make the final decision on suspensions. A decision of the President/Superintendent to suspend shall be issued to the student in writing. Expulsion requires action by the Board of Trustees. A decision of the Board of Trustees to impose expulsion shall be reached no later than the next regularly scheduled regular Board meeting after the Board receives the recommendation from the President/Superintendent. Notification of the Board’s decision regarding expulsion shall be issued to the student in writing after the action by the Board.

Time Limits - Any times specified in these procedures may be shortened or lengthened if there is mutual concurrence by all parties.

These procedures may change from time to time and may be superseded by current state and federal laws and regulations. Otherwise, the College Catalog, which is updated annually, contains the most recent information regarding student discipline procedures.