

# Heidelberg University

## Student Handbook

*(This document was published on August 8, 2025, for the academic year of 2025-2026)*

### **Heidelberg University Mission:**

Heidelberg University is a community of learning that promotes and nurtures intellectual, personal and professional development, leading to a life of purpose with distinction.

### **Policies and Procedures:**

Heidelberg University is a residential community engaged in the business of learning. As a member of a community of scholars, there are a number of norms, policies and procedures which guide our actions. All members of the Heidelberg University community are responsible for familiarizing themselves with these expectations and working to uphold them. The following norms, policies and procedures provide a framework within which our community can grow. Overriding all is our common desire to be educational, fair and just. It is through our desire to be fair and just that we learn to understand and come to appreciate the virtue of civility. In any situation the University reserves the right to take action that will most effectively protect the welfare of the members of the community and the interests of the University. These policies, and those also found electronically on Heidelberg University's website, are to be followed by all students at Heidelberg University. If there is doubt as to the interpretation of the community expectations, the Dean of Student Affairs will assist you in understanding.

### **Table of Contents :**

<b>Campus Community Norms, Policies, and Procedures:</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Crisis and Emergency Procedures</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Emergency Code Blue Phones</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Campus Escort Services</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Crime Prevention</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Academic Freedom</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Academic Honesty</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Appeal of Academic Honesty Violation</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Forms Used In Support Of Academic Honesty Policy</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Accessibility Services (Accommodations)</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Housing Accommodations</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Airport Shuttle Service</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Alcohol</b>	<b>11</b>

<b>Athletic/Facility Policy.....</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Board/Meal Plan.....</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Cleaning and Maintenance.....</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Closing of University Housing.....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Cohabitation.....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Common Area Spaces in Residence halls.....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Commuter and Off-Campus Living.....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Consent.....</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Courtesy and Quiet Hours.....</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Damages.....</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Decorations.....</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Disabilities.....</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Dissent and Assembly Policy.....</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Doors.....</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Dress Standards (Dress Code).....</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Drug Free Campus.....</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Electrical Appliances.....</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Emotional Support Animal and Service Animal Policy.....</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Explained Absence.....</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).....</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Fire Safety.....</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Furnishings.....</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Good Samaritan Medical Amnesty.....</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>Grade Appeals.....</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>Guests and Student Visitors.....</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>Harassment.....</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>Health and Safety Inspections.....</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>Health Insurance.....</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>Housing Contract.....</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>Identification Cards (ID Cards).....</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>Incense, Candles and Infusers/Diffusers.....</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>Institutionally Recognized Name.....</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>Keys.....</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>Life Threatening Illness or Serious Infectious Diseases.....</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>Marijuana (Drug Policy).....</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>Missing Student Policy.....</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>Nondiscrimination.....</b>	<b>40</b>

<b>Organizations.....</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>Outside Speaker.....</b>	<b>41</b>
<b>Personal Property.....</b>	<b>41</b>
<b>Personal Web Pages (Berg Apps).....</b>	<b>42</b>
<b>Pets.....</b>	<b>42</b>
<b>Posters, Banners, Fliers, and Signs.....</b>	<b>42</b>
<b>Reporting a Violation.....</b>	<b>43</b>
<b>Residency Requirements.....</b>	<b>44</b>
<b>Room Changes.....</b>	<b>44</b>
<b>Room Condition Reports (RCR).....</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>Room Consolidation.....</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>Room Entry and Inspections (also see Health and Safety Inspections).....</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>Room Selection for Returning Students.....</b>	<b>46</b>
<b>Sex Discrimination (TITLE IX).....</b>	<b>46</b>
<b>Social Media Policy.....</b>	<b>46</b>
<b>Solicitation and On Campus/Off Campus Fundraising.....</b>	<b>49</b>
<b>Sports, Fitness and Recreation.....</b>	<b>50</b>
<b>Storage.....</b>	<b>50</b>
<b>Travel Policy (Driver Eligibility).....</b>	<b>51</b>
<b>Tobacco-Free Campus.....</b>	<b>51</b>
<b>Vehicles.....</b>	<b>52</b>
<b>Weapons.....</b>	<b>56</b>
<b>Withdrawal from the University.....</b>	<b>57</b>
Leave of Absence (Stop Out).....	58
Administrative Withdrawal.....	58
Readmission/Reactivation.....	59
Withdrawal For Medical Reasons.....	59
Withdrawal For Military Deployment.....	60
<b>Heidelberg University Student Code of Conduct.....</b>	<b>63</b>

### **Campus Community Norms, Policies, and Procedures:**

Upon enrollment at Heidelberg University, all students are expected to be aware of and are required to comply with all University policies, procedures and standards. It takes every student's effort to provide everyone in the Heidelberg University community with a positive experience. Lack of awareness of the items contained in this publication or on the Heidelberg University website does not excuse actions or behaviors that violate

norms, policies or procedures. Heidelberg University is a community engaged in the business of learning. As a member of a community of scholars, there are a number of norms, policies and procedures that guide our actions. All members of the Heidelberg University community are responsible for familiarizing themselves with these expectations and working to uphold them.

The following norms, policies and procedures provide a framework within which our community can grow. Overriding all is our common desire to be educational, fair and just. It is through our desire to be fair and just that we learn to understand and come to appreciate the virtue of civility.

If there is doubt as to the interpretation of the community expectations, the Dean of Student Affairs will assist you in understanding. In any situation, the University reserves the right to take action that will most effectively protect the welfare of the members of the community and the interests of the University.

### **Crisis and Emergency Procedures**

The Office of Campus Safety & Security is staffed 24 hours a day 365 days a year. Campus Security can be contacted by dialing (419) 448-2211. To report University conduct violations and incidents occurring either on or off campus, log into [Incident Communication Form](#).

For a complete list of emergency policies, please consult [Emergency Response Procedures](#).

### **Emergency Code Blue Phones**

Heidelberg University has Emergency Code Blue Phones located on campus. Students may call the Tiffin Police (9-1-1) by pressing the red button in an emergency. The red button should only be used in an emergency. Students may call campus security for any non-emergency situation by pressing the black button and dialing 2211.

### **Campus Escort Services**

The Heidelberg University [Safety and Security Department](#) provides safety escorts 24/7 all year round for students, faculty, staff, and guests on campus. A member of the Security staff will walk or drive you to and from your destinations on campus. All Security staff members carry a cell phone, which can be used in case of an emergency. Students with disabilities or temporary disabilities that may include, but are not limited to, injured limbs, surgeries, and short-term illnesses, may also request escort accommodations. Accommodations should be arranged through Stoner Health Center and the Student Accessibility Services Office. Stoner Health Center will notify Security of the necessary accommodations.

What are the boundaries?

Any place on the Heidelberg University campus, including the outlying areas, e.g., the athletic fields, Stadium View Apartments and Townhouses.

What type of escort is available?

A Security staff member will walk with you or drive you to your destination on campus.

How do I arrange an escort?

Call Campus Security at 419-448-2211 and request an escort. No appointment is required. However, if there is an emergency happening on campus, you may have to wait. Wait in a safe place (building or your car) until someone is free to escort you. Escorts are a high priority call. Whenever possible, do not walk alone at night. Call Security for an escort. Dial 911 if you feel you are in danger.

### Crime Prevention

#### TIPS TO REMEMBER WHEN WALKING AND TRAVELING CAMPUS AT NIGHT

- Never travel alone at night. Groups of two or more are preferred.
- If you have a cell phone, talk on it even if no one is on the line.
- Call the Office of Safety and Security for a security escort.
- Avoid interaction with suspicious persons or someone you don't know.
- Avoid dark or secluded places. (i.e. unlit alleys, perimeters of parking lots.)
- Trust your instincts. Your personal intuition is the best defense against an attack.
- Keep your vehicle door locked at all times.

#### TIPS TO REMEMBER TO PREVENT AUTOMOBILE THEFT AND BURGLARY

- Never leave your vehicle running or leave the keys in it unattended.
- Always lock your vehicle.
- If equipped, remember to use your vehicle's alarm at all times.
- Do not ignore a vehicle alarm. Call the campus security office immediately.
- Do not leave valuables (i.e. cell phones, purses, CD's, laptops) in plain view inside your vehicle.
- Keep these items in the trunk or your room.

#### TIPS TO PREVENT LOSS OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

- Be alert! Never leave personal items unattended.
- Never leave a personal item in a public area.
- Never leave your vehicle unlocked when returning to your room.
- Never leave your room unlocked when using the restroom or shower.
- Engrave personal items like appliances and electronics. These are high theft items on campus.
- Lock bicycles at all times with a hard lock. Cable locks can be easily cut with a bolt cutter.

## **ACADEMIC FREEDOM**

Academic freedom protects your right to your own ideas and views.

Academic freedom protects you when you disagree with your instructor or other students in the context of class discussions and assignments.

Academic freedom gives you three specific protections:

1. The protection of freedom of expression in the classroom. Students are free to take “reasoned exception” to concepts and theories presented in their classes and to disagree with opinions they hear from their instructors, even as they continue to be responsible for learning assigned course content
2. The protection against improper academic evaluation. Students are shielded from “prejudiced or capricious” evaluation of their academic performance by instructors
3. The protection against improper disclosure. A student’s “views, beliefs, and political opinions” shared with a professor during professional interactions should be kept confidential and should not be shared by the professor with others

*Things to know about Academic Freedom:*

Heidelberg affirms that academic freedom means that no student should be penalized because of political opinions that differ from a professor’s. Every student should feel comfortable in the right to listen critically and challenge a professor’s opinions.

- Academic freedom is granted to professors (tenured, tenure-track, non-tenure track faculty and instructors), students (undergraduate and graduate), and institutions of higher education like Heidelberg University.

The academic freedom for these groups is not identical; rather, these freedoms are complementary, working together to ensure the academic freedom of the entire university community.

## **ACADEMIC HONESTY**

### **Academic Honesty Policy**

The University values honesty and integrity as fundamental to learning and personal success. All members of the University should respect the integrity of others’ work and recognize the

importance of acknowledging and safeguarding intellectual property. Violations of the Academic Honesty Policy include any dishonest behavior by students that impacts (or potentially impacts) their grade in a course, or assisting another student (intentionally or unintentionally) in such behavior.

Individual course instructors are free to set their own policies regulating the use of generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools in their courses, including allowing or disallowing some or all uses of such tools. Course instructors should set such policies in their course syllabi and clearly communicate such policies to students. Students who are unsure of policies regarding generative AI tools are encouraged to ask their instructors for clarification.

Absent a clear statement from a course instructor, use of or consultation with generative AI shall be treated in the same way as assistance from another person. Any use of AI should be cited. Using generative AI tools to substantially complete an assignment or exam (e.g. by entering exam or assignment questions) is not permitted.

#### SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES IN SUPPORT OF ACADEMIC HONESTY

1. Instructor – Inform students of the Academic Honesty Policy and any specific rules, procedures, and/or expectations pertinent to their particular course.
2. Student – Reach out to instructors when they have a problem distinguishing between acceptable behavior and possible violations of the Academic Honesty Policy.

#### Reporting Academic Honesty Violations

The University expects members of the academic community to complete their work honestly and to report suspected violations of the Academic Honesty Policy. Violations may be reported by faculty, staff, or students. Reports must be filed via the Incident Communication Form via <https://inside.heidelberg.edu> and select the Academic Honesty Incident Report Form for the report type.

#### STEPS FOR REPORTING ACADEMIC HONESTY VIOLATIONS

*For Instructors or Staff reporting a student:* When an instructor or staff discovers a possible violation of the Academic Honesty policy, or is informed of a possible violation, the following steps need to be followed:

1. Within one week of observing the suspected violation or being notified of a suspected violation, the instructor must attempt to meet with the student to discuss the suspected violation, sanctions, and the appeal process.
2. The instructor will present the evidence of the violation (maintaining the privacy of other students when possible) and allow the student to explain their behavior.
3. After meeting with the student(s), if the instructor determines that a violation of academic honesty policy took place, they will file the official Academic Honesty Incident Report Form with recommended sanctions in line with the policy (see below).
4. A designee of the Provost will review the report and consider previous violations in the student's record. After consultation with the instructor, the designee will then determine the tier level of the offense and submit a formal letter establishing the tier of

the offense to: i) the student, ii), the instructor, and iii) if the sanctions include penalties beyond changes to the course grade - to the Provost. This process should be completed within one week of receiving the Academic Honesty Report.

5. Upon receiving this response, the instructor will impose any sanctions in the class consistent with the tier of the offense. The instructor will notify the student via official Heidelberg email of those sanctions. Instructors must also notify students that they have the option of appealing the sanction to the UAPC (for undergraduates) or GSC (for graduates). Appeals must be filed within one calendar week of receiving the instructor's sanction via the Appeal of Academic Honesty Violation form (<https://inside.heidelberg.edu/appeal-academic-honesty-violation>).

Note, that if grades are due at the end of the semester such that there would not be sufficient time for the full process to be followed (as might happen when an academic honesty violation is detected on a final exam), instructors will assign the grade based on their best interpretation of the policy, and then proceed with the normal procedure (starting at Step 1 above). If the final resolution of the academic policy process results in a different grade than one assigned, a change of grade form will be submitted by the instructor.

*For students reporting **another student**:* Students who witness acts of academic dishonesty are encouraged to report this via the Incident Communication Form via <https://inside.heidelberg.edu> and select the Academic Honesty Incident Report Form for the report type. The designee of the Provost will then review the report, and if deemed potentially credible, send the appropriate information to the instructor of record who will proceed at step #2 above by meeting with the accused and filing their own report if the instructor believes there is sufficient evidence of an academic honesty violation.

### **Appeal of an Academic Honesty Violation**

Students wishing to appeal an Academic Honesty Violation decision must submit the Appeal of Academic Honesty Violation form (<https://inside.heidelberg.edu/appeal-academic-honesty-violation>) within one calendar week of the sanction.

Undergraduate student appeals will be reviewed by the Undergraduate Academic Policy Committee, and graduate student appeals will be reviewed by the Graduate Studies Committee. Upon review, the committee may:

1. Choose to uphold the original determination, or
2. Gather more information by interviewing the student, the instructor, the designee of the Provost, and/or witnesses. Upon review of the relevant information, the committee will determine if a fair and just outcome has been reached. If a fair and just outcome has not been reached, the committee can make appropriate changes to the previously applied penalties.

The Chair of the applicable Committee will inform the student, instructor(s), advisor(s), Department Chair/Director, and the Provost of the Committee's decision in writing within 3 calendar weeks of the receipt of the appeal. All Committee decisions are final.



## **Determination of Violations and Sanctions**

The University recognizes that not all violations of the Academic Honesty Policy are committed with the same intent, and the University's response to policy violations should be commensurate with offenses and educate students on the value of academic integrity. For consistency, all parties engaged in determining consequences for documented violations of Academic Honesty will follow the guidelines in the Academic Honesty Policy.

## **Explanation of Violations**

Tier 1 violations are those that result from scholarly negligence or inexperience with academic integrity principles and are the lowest level of violations. Tier 1 violations should be treated as a learning experience for the student. Examples of Tier 1 violations include improper citation (whether from text or generative AI), re-using the student's own assignments across different classes (when unaware that this is a violation), coordinating with another student on an assignment without plagiarism (when such coordination is not allowed by the instructor), sharing an assignment with a student so they can use it as a guide. Tier 1 violations, if repeated, can be upgraded to Tier 2 if a warning was issued for a previous violation.

For a Tier 1 violation, instructors may reduce the student's grade on the assignment in question by up to one letter grade (at the discretion of the instructor).

Tier 2 violations are knowingly dishonest in character and should be treated as serious violations that include some punitive measures as well as opportunities for the student to make amends. Examples of Tier 2 violations include any of the following except when expressly allowed by the instructor: copying from another student during a proctored exam or quiz, giving copies of an assignment to a fellow student (e.g. essay sharing), using notes on a take-home exam, minor incidents of plagiarism (e.g. copying and pasting a paragraph in a paper, whether from text or generative AI), sharing an assignment with a student with the expectation that they will plagiarize it. Tier 2 violations are upgraded to Tier 3 if the student has a previous record of any Tier 2 violation.

For a Tier 2 violation, instructors may impose a penalty up to a 0% for the assignment(s) in question.

Tier 3 violations are those that demonstrate flagrantly dishonest character and involve significant planning and deliberation, or are serious breaches of professional and personal integrity. Tier 3 violations should be treated as serious violations and include punitive measures. Examples of Tier 3 violations could include: sending someone else to take an exam, purchasing essays, turning in a paper that was generated entirely by AI, copying the majority of a paper, stealing or using an exam answer key, using a fraudulent medical excuse, or forging documents.

For Tier 3 violations, instructors may impose any penalty up to and including a failing grade for the course. If the academic honesty violation is so egregious that it should be permanently

marked on the transcript, the faculty may choose to give an FAHV (Failure for Academic Honesty Violation). Note that students who fail due to an academic honesty violation (grade FAHV) will have this on their permanent transcript, whereas students who receive an F will have no permanent record of the academic honesty violation. In addition, the designee of the Provost may recommend that the Provost take further actions such as student suspension, student dismissal, revocation of degree, or other punishments.

## FORMS USED IN SUPPORT OF ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY

### [Academic Honesty Report](#)

### [Appeal of Academic Honesty Violation](#)

## [ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES \(Accommodations\)](#)

Heidelberg University welcomes all of its students, including students with disabilities and other accessibility needs. To help these students meet their unique and individual needs, Heidelberg University operates an Office of Student Accessibility Services. The mission of Student Accessibility Services is to provide the student with disabilities and/or accessibility needs the services and support to achieve equal access while pursuing higher education. Student Accessibility Services also serves the wider campus community as a resource in understanding disability, accessibility, and inclusivity. Students with disabilities and other accessibility needs who require housing, dining, and/or academic accommodations to overcome barriers to their educational experience are encouraged to contact the Director of Student Accessibility Services. The Director will review the student's rights and responsibilities, and guide them through the confidential, interactive process of arranging appropriate accommodations. This process includes an interview with the Director and the student providing documentation. Specific requests are not guaranteed, and the interactive process may reveal alternative accommodations that are more appropriate for each individual student. Unlike primary schools, in colleges and post-secondary education it is the student's responsibility to notify the University and request appropriate accommodations. Accommodations cannot be made retroactively. If you feel you need accommodations, please contact the Office of Student Accessibility Services to start the process. For more information about the rights and responsibilities of students with disabilities in higher education, please review this pamphlet from the [U.S. Department of Education](#). Refer here for more information about [Student Accessibility Services](#).

### **Housing Accommodations:**

1. Student Accessibility Services works closely with Residence Life & Housing to coordinate housing accommodations for students with disabilities, severe environmental allergies, chronic medical conditions, or with other housing-related accessibility needs.

These accommodations include, but are not limited to

- i. Single rooms;
  - ii. Air conditioning;
  - iii. Centralized housing;
  - iv. Private restroom;
  - v. Elevator;
  - vi. Off campus approval;
  - vii. Any need that requires an exception to the established room selection or assignment process.
2. Requests for housing accommodations must be submitted to the Director of Student Accessibility Services by the following dates:
- a. June 15th for Fall semester (incoming, first year students only)
  - b. November 15th for Spring Semester
  - c. January 15th for Fall Semester (returning students) .

The Director will guide students through the process, which includes an interview and documentation. The Director of Residence Life & Housing, or designee, following approval and direction from the Director of Student Accessibility Services, will provide reasonable residential accommodations.

3. For more information and to begin the process, please contact the Office of Student Accessibility Services.

### [Airport Shuttle Service](#)

Heidelberg offers a shuttle to the Columbus, Cleveland and Detroit airports. There is a cost for the shuttle, which is payable at the time the student makes the shuttle reservation. To reserve a seat, students must register on-line by the deadline prior to the shuttle departure. The shuttle deadlines, as well as departure and arrival dates and times are listed on the Airport Shuttle Page on [inside.heidelberg.edu](http://inside.heidelberg.edu). When making reservations for the shuttle, students must provide the flight information as to the arrival and/or departure time and date, airline and flight number, as well as a contact phone number. Students who cannot schedule their air transportation to match the shuttle times will be responsible for arranging their own transportation to the airport.

### [Alcohol](#)

The University expects all students to comply with the [Ohio law](#) regarding possession and consumption of alcoholic beverages.

To comply with state and local laws and University policies, the following guidelines are established:

1. The possession of empty alcohol containers in University-owned facilities is prohibited. Prohibiting empty containers supports the enforcement of the University alcohol policy,

combats health and odor issues in University owned housing, and helps to maintain a higher image of Heidelberg University and its students. For the purpose of consistently meeting these goals, all empty containers, including but not limited to alcohol, beer and wine containers, alcohol boxes, or other alcohol paraphernalia, are prohibited, and may not be used as room decorations.

2. No one under the legal drinking age is permitted to possess or consume alcohol on the University campus.
3. Students who are under the legal drinking age may not possess alcohol in their rooms. This includes alcohol brought to the room by any guest or visitor.
4. Students who are under the legal drinking age are not restricted from choosing to live with another student who is of legal drinking age. However, students of legal drinking age will be held responsible for policy violations if they do not take reasonable measures to ensure that underage residents do not gain access to the alcohol.
5. Students who are of legal drinking age may not bring or consume alcohol in another room where a student who is under the legal drinking age resides.
6. Those of legal age may possess only reasonable quantities of beer or wine for their personal use in their rooms. No large quantities (greater than one 12 oz. 6-pack per person) of beer or its equivalent will be permitted on University-owned property. Kegs, party balls, cases, and other large quantities of alcohol are not permitted on University-owned property. No other forms of alcohol (liquor, champagne, etc.) are permitted on campus.
7. No alcohol is permitted to be possessed or consumed in any public area without the express permission of the Dean of Student Affairs or their designee. Public areas are defined as areas, indoors and outdoors, that are used in common by the University community, such as lounges, hallways, parking lots, green spaces, porches, decks, garages, and athletic facilities. In some instances, private spaces, such as residence hall rooms, may become public by action of the occupants.
8. Any student, who appears at a University function or on campus in an intoxicated condition, or who creates a disturbance when it is apparent the student has been consuming alcoholic beverages, will be documented and may be subject to disciplinary action.
9. Under no circumstances is a person of legal drinking age permitted to furnish alcoholic beverages to a minor.
10. Hosts of private social gatherings are responsible for ensuring adherence to state law and University regulations. Hosts are responsible for all guests and their behavior. Hosts may include anyone assigned to the room/apartment/house regardless of presence or absence.
11. No activity shall include any form of alcoholic drinking contest in either its promotion or its program. Drinking games are prohibited. This includes beer pong, beer bongs, or any other activity that promotes drinking.
12. Hosts of overnight and weekend guests assume all responsibility for their guest(s). (See [“Guests & Student Visitors”](#) for further information.)
13. No recognized student organization, club, group, or individual student using the school name, shall obtain an F-1 permit in order to sponsor an off-campus activity at which

alcoholic beverages are served.

14. Any recognized student organization, club, group or individual student sponsoring an on-campus activity at which alcoholic beverages are served shall adhere to the following guidelines:
  - a. Have all alcohol provided and served by the University's food service provider.
  - b. Coordinate with food service providers to check identification of individuals who are being served alcoholic beverages to ensure that alcoholic beverages are not accessible or served to persons under the legal age of consumption.
  - c. Coordinate with the food service provider to ensure that alcoholic beverages are not served to individuals who appear to be intoxicated.
  - d. Provide non-salty snacks and food when alcohol is present.
  - e. The consumption of alcoholic beverages shall occur only within the approved area for the activity.
  - f. Non-alcoholic beverages shall be available at the same place as alcoholic beverages and shall be featured as prominently as alcoholic beverages.
  - g. A reasonable allotment of the budget for an activity shall be designated for the purchase and serving of food.
  - h. No activity shall include any form of alcoholic drinking contest in either its promotion or its program. Drinking games are prohibited.
  - i. Organizations shall not use alcohol as the predominant feature in advertisements or promotions. For example, a picture of alcohol should not be your only or largest graphic and any text detailing alcohol being served should not be your only or largest text. Additionally, no promotions can include the unauthorized use of trademarked images.
15. Any recognized student organization, club, group or individual student that sponsors an off-campus activity at which alcoholic beverages are served under the alcohol permit of another agent (e.g., a hotel, a country club, or a restaurant) shall observe the following guidelines:
  - i. Checking identification of individuals who are being served alcoholic beverages to ensure that alcoholic beverages are not accessible or served to persons under the legal age of consumption.
  - ii. Ensuring that alcoholic beverages are not served to individuals who appear to be intoxicated.
  - iii. Arranging transportation for those individuals who consume alcohol and/or appear to be intoxicated.
  - iv. Arranging for the presence of security personnel at all times during the activity.
  - v. Providing non-salty snacks and food when alcohol is present.
  - vi. No one in the sponsoring organization shall be designated as a server of alcoholic beverages.
  - vii. The consumption of alcoholic beverages shall occur only within the approved area for the activity.
  - viii. Non-alcoholic beverages shall be available at the same place as alcoholic

beverages and shall be featured as prominently as alcoholic beverages.

- ix. A reasonable allotment of the budget for an activity shall be designated for the purchase and serving of food.
  - x. No activity shall include any form of alcoholic drinking contest in either its promotion or its program. Drinking games are prohibited.
  - xi. No advertisements promoting the serving of alcoholic beverages at off-campus activities shall be displayed or distributed on campus.
  - xii. Informational materials (e.g., invitations, memoranda, or advertisement fliers) used by student organizations to announce off-campus activities shall not make reference to the amounts of alcoholic beverages (e.g., the number of kegs of beer) to be served.
16. No recognized student organization shall use alcoholic beverages as a recruitment tool, at new member education events, or at initiation activities.
  17. The only exception to these policies are for religious observances of well established, historically verified, religious institutions that use alcohol during a religious ritual.

### **Athletic/Facility Policy**

Heidelberg offers a variety of programs and spaces to promote and support recreation and wellness. The facilities include Seiberling Gymnasium, Riesen Field, Hoernemann Stadium, Saurwein Health and Wellness Center, and the new Fieldhouse. Saurwein contains a multi-room for fitness classes, a ping-pong lounge space, weight equipment and cardio equipment. For more information, refer to the [Saurwein Health and Wellness Center](#) website.

### **Board/Meal Plan**

All on-campus residential students (those who live in Heidelberg-owned or managed residence halls, houses, and apartments) are required to participate in the meal/board plan provided by the University. Further information on board plans can be obtained from [Campus Dining Services](#).

### **Cleaning and Maintenance**

The following are expectations and responsibilities for all students at Heidelberg University regarding cleaning and maintenance on campus:

1. It is the responsibility of students to clean and maintain their room, apartment, and/or house. Keeping the common spaces clean within one's building is also part of the living experience at Heidelberg.
2. Vacuum cleaners and brooms are provided in each residence building for student use. Damaged or missing vacuums/brooms will be charged to all residents within that community for replacement.
3. All trash must be bagged and carried to the closest dumpster outside of the Residence Halls/Apartments. Outside dumpsters are marked either Trash or

Recycling. Please place discarded items in the appropriate outside dumpsters. Campus Houses have individual disposal bins for trash and recycling that must be taken to the curb each week. Students are responsible for retrieving trash/recycling bins from the curb and returning them next to the house/apartment before the end of the day after pick up.

4. Residents cannot leave personal items or trash outside their room, in hallways, or in common areas (i.e.; lounges, kitchens, laundry rooms, bathrooms) trash bins. It is the responsibility of the student to take personal and/or bagged trash to the outside dumpsters. Community damages may apply to all residents if personal trash cannot be identified.
5. Rooms, apartments and/or houses must be left in a clean condition at the end of the contract period and at holiday and break closings. Hall staff will conduct regular health and safety inspections throughout the year to ensure these areas are in compliance.
6. Hosts of events in residence halls, houses and/or apartments are responsible for cleaning up after their guests.

### Closing of University Housing

The following information outlines the process for closing at Heidelberg University.

#### 1. University Breaks

- a. All University residence halls are closed during fall, Thanksgiving, winter, spring and summer breaks. Closing and reopening hours for residential properties will be specified and published in advance. Students are not permitted to reside in or enter the residence halls during break periods without permission from the Residence Life and Housing Office.
- b. Students may leave personal possessions in their rooms, apartments, and/or houses during specified breaks during the academic year (fall, Thanksgiving, winter and spring breaks). The University will not assume responsibility for lost, stolen, or damaged property.
- c. Students who require housing during University breaks should consult with the Residence Life & Housing Office. Arrangements will be made to assist students in extenuating circumstances only. For students who utilize break housing, an additional cost to stay may be assessed to their student account.

#### 2. End of the Year

- a. Students are required to check out of University housing within 24 hours after their last exam or prior to the specified closing times. Seniors must check out of University housing following the graduation ceremony.
- b. For proper checkout to occur, the room must be completely vacated of personal items, left clean, and a room condition report must be completed with the Residence Life staff. The room should be returned to the same, if

not better, condition as it was when you checked in. Further instructions will be provided by Residence Life and Housing staff regarding appropriate checkout procedures.

- c. Fees are charged directly to the student's account for damage to rooms/houses/common areas and for any unusual cleaning or repair that is required.
- d. Students may be charged a fee for improper check-out if they:
  - i. fail to set-up a check-out time;
  - ii. are not prepared to check-out at their chosen check out time;
  - iii. fail to sign the Room Condition Report and/or return keys/student ID.
- e. All residential students are responsible for any damage found in the room during inspections. Each space will be inspected by the RA, SRA, and full time staff members of Residence Life and Krammes Maintenance. Damages found in the room during inspection will be added to the student's campus account.

## **Cohabitation**

Students assigned to a room, apartment, or house are the only individuals permitted to reside there. If the Residence Life and Housing staff observes evidence or is informed of cohabitation between two or more people other than the assigned person(s) of the room, loss of guest and student visitation privilege, room reassignment, or other university processes may result.

Students may be documented for conduct purposes to determine if a violation occurred. (Please read the [Guest and Visitors policies](#) for further information).

## **Common Area Spaces in Residence halls**

- A. Residence Hall common spaces are primarily intended for the use and accessibility of the building residents assigned to those locations. Common spaces, such as lounges, meeting halls/spaces, computer rooms, study rooms, etc., are not designed for overnight accommodations. Students found sleeping in or using such spaces as not intended will be documented and processed through the conduct system.
- B. Talmage, Miller, Brown, King and Krieg Main Lobbies, France Great Hall and Williard Conference Room may be reserved by University-approved campus organizations (not affiliated with a particular residence hall) with permission from the Residence Life staff of the building. A campus organization interested in reserving common area space in any residence hall or building should initially contact Conferences and Events at 419-448-2193 to see if the space is available. The Residence Life and Housing staff must approve any room reservation that is requested in those locations. Once approved, space reservation processes (Event form, or other approval methods) must be followed.
- C. Floor lounge space cannot be reserved by any group other than the students of the living unit, hall council representative, or Residence Life staff.



- D. Common area space in campus houses and apartments is the responsibility of all residents assigned to that unit.

### **Commuter and Off-Campus Living**

Heidelberg University requires all traditional-aged college students to live on campus. Students may be permitted to live off campus by meeting one of two sets of qualifications listed below. Please note that students must re-apply to continue their status each year.

#### Commuter Status

An application for commuter living is required of all students who wish to travel to school from the primary home of a parent or legal guardian. Students who wish to apply for commuter status must re-apply each year and meet both of these requirements:

- A. Reside with their parent(s) (legal guardian)
- B. Reside within a 35-mile radius of Heidelberg University, determined by Google Maps, from 310 E. Market St., Tiffin, OH 44883

#### Off-Campus Status

Off-campus living is a special privilege granted to a limited number of students enrolled at Heidelberg University. An application/contract for this living arrangement is required of all interested students. A student may apply for off campus housing if they meet one or more of the following requirements:

- A. The student is 23 years of age or older before Aug. 20. Age will be verified with University records.
- B. The student is married. Copy of marriage license must be submitted with off campus request.
- C. Direct care of a legal dependent. A copy of the birth certificate must be submitted with an off-campus request.
- D. Participation in required full time credit-based internship or full time student teaching, and placement is further than 50 miles from campus. Documentation of location of internship and approval to participate in internship must be submitted with off-campus request.

There will be a cap of 60 on the number of students approved to live off campus; therefore, approval to live off campus cannot be guaranteed, even if a student qualifies. Once a student is approved to live off campus by the Residence Life and Housing Office, a landlord agreement form must be submitted. Landlord agreement forms are due by Aug. 1. Room and board charges will be assessed if all documentation is not complete.

## Consent

Consent is any informed and freely given agreement, communicated by clearly understandable words or actions, to participate in each form of sexual activity.

General guidance for consent:

- A. Consent cannot be inferred from silence, passivity, or lack of active resistance.
  - B. A current or previous dating or sexual relationship is not sufficient to constitute consent, and consent to one form of sexual activity does not imply consent to other forms of sexual activity.
  - C. When consent is requested verbally, absence of any explicit verbal response constitutes lack of consent. A verbal “no” constitutes lack of consent, even if it sounds insincere or indecisive.
  - D. By definition, there is no consent when there is a threat of force or violence or any other form of coercion or intimidation, physical or psychological.
  - E. Either person may withdraw consent at any time. Withdrawal of consent should be outwardly demonstrated by words or actions that clearly indicate a desire to end sexual activity. Once withdrawal of consent has been expressed, sexual activity must cease.
  - F. A person who is the object of sexual aggression is not required to physically or otherwise resist the aggressor; the lack of informed, freely given consent to sexual contact constitutes sexual misconduct.
  - G. Intoxication is not an excuse for failure to obtain consent.
  - H. A person incapacitated by alcohol or drug consumption, or who is unconscious or asleep or otherwise physically or mentally impaired, is incapable of giving consent.
  - I. A person who is below the legal age of consent is incapable of giving consent.
- (Refer to [Title IX Sex Discrimination & Gender-Based Misconduct Policy](#).)

## Courtesy and Quiet Hours

### 1. Courtesy Hours

- i. Courtesy Hours are in effect 24 hours a day, 7 days a week both inside and outside the residential buildings. Consideration for others is a primary component of community living and students agree to uphold this expectation when they choose to become residents.
- ii. The volume of stereos/TVs/voices/etc. must be kept at a level that cannot be heard outside the student’s room with the door closed or outside the building.
- iii. Noise level must not deter students who want/need to study or sleep at any time.
  - d. Speakers may not be placed on or played from window sills or doorways.
  - e. Amplified speakers must be appropriate to the student's room size and volume kept at a conversational level of sound.

- iv. Students must comply with any student or staff member's request to be quiet or turn down/off sound equipment. Equipment may be confiscated if a student does not comply.

## 2. Quiet Hours

- i. When quiet hours are in effect, stereo, voice, and television volumes must be kept low and room doors must be closed when there is any noise in the student's room.
- b. Quiet Hours are 10pm to 10am Sunday night through Friday morning, and midnight to 10am Friday night through Sunday morning.
- ii. During finals week, 24-hour quiet is in effect.
- iii. Failure to comply with Courtesy and/or Quiet Hours may result in a conduct documentation where a requirement that sound equipment may be confiscated and stored in a designated area until it can be taken home and/or further sanctions.

## **Damages**

Heidelberg University students are expected to use care in the use of University facilities, furnishings and property. When damage occurs in the residence halls, University-owned apartments, houses, or any other university facility or property, repair and/or replacement costs will be billed to the student(s) responsible. If individual responsibility for damage cannot be determined, the cost is divided among the residents of the room, floor, building, apartment, house, and/or club/organization/group. Charges will be assessed on the student(s) account.

## **Decorations**

Students may decorate their assigned residence hall rooms, apartments and houses with the following guidelines and policies:

- A. Students will be charged for damage caused by adhesives, tacks or nails.
  - a. b. Painting or other alteration of student rooms, facilities or equipment is not permitted.
- B. Decorative lights must be UL-approved and used as intended.
- C. Carpeting must meet DOC-FF specifications. The use of carpet tape, duct tape and foam or rubber-backed carpeting is prohibited.
- D. Nothing should be hanging from or covering the ceiling, sprinkler heads, lights, or any other life safety equipment in the room.
- E. Room doors may be decorated as long as it does not hinder the function of the door. Items placed on the door must be easily removable without causing damage to the door/frame finish.
- F. Any offensive decorations posted in or near a room will be removed.
- G. Room decorations must not be visible from outside through windows or doors.

- i. All empty alcohol containers, including but not limited to alcohol, beer and wine containers, alcohol boxes, or other alcohol paraphernalia, are prohibited, and may not be used as room decorations.

## Disabilities

(see [STUDENT ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES](#))

## Dissent and Assembly Policy

### Policy on Dissent

By its very nature, the University is a place where diversity of thought is embraced, civility is cultivated, and freedom of speech is protected through ideas and opinions being formulated and exchanged. Members of the University have a right to freely express their position and to engage in constructive dialogue with others whether they assent to or dissent from existing situations in the University or society. To ensure that freedom is maintained, expressions of assent or dissent cannot be permitted to infringe on the rights of the members of the University community or the community itself – not only their freedom to express positions, but their freedom to engage in other legitimate activities. Actual or threatened coercion or violence are abhorrent in a University because they can destroy those rights and freedoms that are necessary for the existence of the University.

### All Forms of Assembly

All forms of assembly are permissible forms of freedom of speech for recognized Heidelberg student organizations, groups of Heidelberg students that do not hold official organizational status, or for individual Heidelberg student(s) with the agreed upon understanding that participants create an environment that shows care and consideration for the institution. They must respect those who work at and attend Heidelberg ensuring their ability to pursue their work and/or academic endeavors.

To this end, Heidelberg expects all groups or individuals who assemble to:

1. Gather in such a fashion as to refrain from physically hindering entrances to, exits from, or passageways within any University building or other structure, or hinder the normal flow of pedestrian or vehicular traffic on or through the campus.
2. Manage volume of noise that ensures members of the University can carry on their normal activities.
3. Ensure the physical safety of all members of the campus community and care for campus property.
4. Enter a private office only when invited, and then not in excess of the number designated or invited by the occupant. Passage through reception areas leading to a private office must not be obstructed.
5. Keep to normal closing times for each building unless other arrangements are approved in advance by the Dean of Student Affairs.

6. Individuals who assemble outside the agreed upon policies and understanding articulated above could be subject to the appropriate University judicial process and face possible disciplinary sanction.

### **Doors**

It is a violation of university policy to prop any residence hall exterior, hallway or stairwell door. These doors assist in security and serve to slow the spread of fire. Exiting through a fire door is prohibited unless it is a fire emergency. Fire doors are indicated as such by signs and/or alarms. Students may only prop their room door open when they are in their room. Doors must be shut/locked when students are not in their room.

### **Dress Standards (Dress Code)**

Heidelberg University encourages attire that is clean, neat, and appropriate. Members of Heidelberg University faculty, staff, and administration may prescribe certain forms of dress at any time and/or for any area of campus.

### **Drug Free Campus**

The unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students and employees is prohibited by Heidelberg University. The University adheres to the [Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act](#). Violations (e.g., possession, sale, use, transfer, purchase and/or delivery of illegal drugs or drug paraphernalia) will result in documentation leading to an administrative hearing and/or a hearing before a Conduct body. Refer to the Student Code of Conduct section of this handbook for information on the social conduct system process and the disciplinary sanctions.

In addition to the University's disciplinary sanctions, violators are subject to legal sanctions under local, state, or federal law. The University recognizes drug abuse not only as a likely safety and security problem, but as an illness and major health problem. Consistent with the concern related to all life threatening illnesses and serious diseases, the University offers a range of resources and services as follows:

1. Student education and information, counseling and support services, and referral to agencies and organizations that offer supportive services are available through Stoner Health and Counseling Center, as well as the office of the Dean of Student Affairs.
2. Education programs dealing with controlled substance abuse are sponsored by the Student Affairs staff.

### **Electrical Appliances**

Heidelberg University may require restrictions on any type of appliance brought onto campus. To ensure the safety and sustainability of resources on campus, Heidelberg allows the following items on campus:

- a. Residents are permitted to have a 4.5 cubic foot or less refrigerator in their residence hall/apartment/house (unless provided by the University). Only one refrigerator per assigned space.
- b. With the exception of air corn poppers, microwaves, and auto-off coffee makers, all other cooking appliances that have a heat source are prohibited.
- c. Multiple taps (plug expanders) and electrical extension cords are prohibited. Only one UL approved power strip with surge protector is acceptable for use (1 per resident only).
- d. All electrical equipment must be UL approved.
- e. Air-conditioning units are not permitted. (For air conditioning required due to medical need, see [Accessibility Services policies](#).)
- f. Space heaters are not permitted in any residential facility, unless specifically issued by Krammes Service Center on an emergency basis.
- g. Halogen bulbs are not permitted in any residential facility, due to the high risk of fire associated with them.
- h. LED light strips are prohibited.

### **Emotional Support Animal and Service Animal Policy**

Heidelberg University recognizes and supports students who require an animal to assist with an accommodation/disability. Approved animals include both Emotional Support Animal (ESA) and Service Animal. Students requiring an animal on campus must coordinate this through the Office of Student Accessibility Services. Students approved to have an animal on campus are required to follow all Student Code of Conduct policies.

#### **Emotional Support Animal (ESA)**

An Emotional Support Animal (ESA) is an animal selected to play an integral part of a person's ongoing treatment process. This is not a Service Animal. The ESA must demonstrate a good temperament and reliable, predictable behavior. An ESA is not a Service Animal. Unlike a service animal, an ESA does not assist a person with a disability with activities of daily living, nor does it accompany a person with a disability at all times. An ESA is incorporated into a treatment process to assist in alleviating the symptoms of that individual's disability. This treatment occurs within the person's residential room and therefore may be considered for access to university housing.

#### **Service Animal**

A Service Animal is an animal individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability. These tasks include but are not limited to: guiding individuals with impaired vision; alerting individuals who are hearing impaired to intruders or sounds; providing minimal protection or rescue work; pulling a wheelchair; or fetching dropped items. (Outlined in [ADA Policies](#))

An Animal (as the term is used in these guidelines) refers to an approved Emotional

Support Animal or Service Animal. A pet is an animal kept for ordinary use and companionship. A pet is not considered a service animal or an ESA, and therefore, it is not covered by these guidelines. Pets are not permitted in University buildings, residence halls, houses, or apartments unless otherwise stated within the student code.

### **Emotional Support Animal Guidelines and Requirements:**

To be allowed to have an ESA reside in campus housing, the student must first contact the Office of Student Accessibility Services and complete the appropriate documentation requirements. The following guidelines and requirements outline the ESA process:

- A. A person may keep an animal in a university residence hall, house, or apartment as a reasonable accommodation if:
  - a. the person has a disability and has provided appropriate documentation to Accessibility Services;
  - b. the Animal is necessary to afford the person with a disability an equal opportunity to use and enjoy a dwelling; and
  - c. there is an identifiable relationship or nexus between the disability and the assistance the Animal provides.
- B. An Animal must be prescribed to an individual with a disability by a psychiatrist and approved by the University Office of Student Accessibilities Services.
- C. Permission for an Animal in residence is granted for an approved Animal provided that its behavior, noise, odor and waste do not exceed reasonable standards for a well behaved animal and that these factors do not create unreasonable disruptions for other residents. If the noise (crying, barking or meowing especially when student is not around) is excessive as judged by Residence Life staff, it may be grounds for the student to lose their accommodation to keep their animal on campus.
- D. The Animal must be contained within the student's room at all times, except when transported outside the private residential area. While student is away from assigned bedroom, the Animal must be contained using appropriate means (i.e. cage, kennel, aquarium, etc.). It may not be taken into hallways, lounges, bathrooms, laundry facilities, or other areas of the residence hall or apartment. It also cannot be taken into classrooms or other buildings on campus. Animals cannot be left alone in the room for extended periods of time, including overnight, school breaks, or other periods of leave. Owner is responsible for making off campus accommodations for Animal during such time. Alternative plans will be documented with the Disability Service Office.

### **Contractual Agreement for Emotional Support Animal**

Once a student has been determined to qualify to have an Animal by Disability Services, the following additional requirements must be met:

- A. The student is responsible for ensuring that all veterinarian-recommended vaccinations

are completed and documented. Proof of vaccination must be provided to Residence Life and Housing before moving the Animal into the residence. Heidelberg University reserves the right to request an updated verification at any time during the Animal's residency. Students with an Animal must adhere to all state, local and municipal statutes, codes and guidelines regarding animal care, vaccination, licensure, leash control, cleanup rules animal health, etc. Any animal found on campus not in compliance may be subject to removal or impounding by Residence Life or Security. Owners and/or handlers may be subject to disciplinary action.

- B. The student is responsible for properly containing and disposing of all animal waste in appropriate outside trash dumpsters. Litter boxes should be placed on mats on tiled or vinyl bathroom floor so that feces and urine are not tracked onto carpeted surfaces. All animal waste must be disposed of immediately into outside trash dumpsters. Animal waste found outside the residential facility where an Animal is living could be grounds for removal or impounding by Residence Life or Security. Owners and/or handlers may be subject to disciplinary action.
- C. The student residence may be inspected for fleas, ticks or other pests as needed by Krammes or Pest Control personnel. Residence Life & Housing staff will schedule the inspection. If fleas, ticks or other pests are detected through inspection, the residence will be treated using approved fumigation methods by a University-approved pest control service. The student will be billed for the expense of any pest treatment. If the problem reoccurs, the student may lose their accommodation to keep their animal on campus.
- D. The student must register the approved Animal with Disability Services and Residence Life by providing all necessary documentation.
- E. The student is responsible for assuring that the Animal does not unduly interfere with the routine activities of the residence or cause difficulties for students who reside there. Sensitivity to residents with allergies and to those who fear animals is important to ensure the peace of the residential community. Disability Services and Residence Life & Housing will work with students in situations where an accommodation for an Animal negatively impacts another student covered by the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Housing relocation may be utilized to resolve such conflicts. The student is responsible for instructing others on appropriate interactions with the animal and setting clear expectations.

- F. The student is financially responsible for the actions of the Animal and for all claims involving bodily injury or property damage. This includes, but is not limited to any replacement of furniture, carpet, window or wall covering as well as cleaning costs considered above the normal cleaning provided for rooms.
- G. The student must notify Residence Life and Accessibilities Services in writing if the Animal is no longer needed as an emotional support animal or is no longer in residence.



To replace one Animal with a different Animal, the student must file a new request.

- H. The student agrees to continue to abide by all other residential policies. An exception to the policy that otherwise would prohibit having an Animal does not constitute an exception to any other policy. Students may be charged with violations to the University Code of Conduct and or Residence Hall Regulations for significant residence hall disruptions caused by an Animal in their care.
- I. Should the Animal be removed from the premises for any reason, the student is expected to fulfill their housing obligations for the remainder of the housing contract.
- J. Residence Life has the authority to relocate a student and the Animal as necessary per current contractual agreements.
- K. Students must meet priority housing deadlines required for all students, and make request with reasonable advance notice to ODS and HU Residence Life & Housing in order for accommodation to occur.
- L. Any violation of the above rules may result in immediate removal of the Animal from Heidelberg University. If this occurs, the student has a right to appeal the decision through Accessibilities Services.

### **Service Animal Policy:**

Heidelberg University understands the importance of supporting students, faculty, staff, and visitors who possess a disability and strives to provide the most accessible environment possible. Therefore, it is the policy of Heidelberg University and in accordance with Federal and State Laws, as well as within the guidance of the Council for the Advancement of Standards in Higher Education to allow Service Animals on campus including, buildings, classrooms, dorm rooms, dining areas, and into campus events. Heidelberg University does distinguish Service Animals from Emotional Support Animals (ESA), as an ESA is prohibited from all areas outside of a student's bedroom. Service Animals may be prohibited from specific areas due to health or safety concerns. These considerations will be made on a case by case basis. Service animals must also meet the requirements of the state of Ohio and Seneca County regarding licensing of a dog.

### **Definition:**

Service Animal – a Service Animal or Assistance Animal under Ohio Law, henceforth referred to as a Service Animal, is a dog individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability, including a physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual, or other mental disability. The work or tasks performed by a service animal must be directly related to the person's disability. Examples of tasks include but are not limited to: guiding individuals with impaired vision; alerting individuals who are hearing impaired to intruders or sounds; providing minimal

protection or rescue work; pulling a wheelchair; or fetching dropped items. Dogs who only provide comfort or emotional support are not considered Service Animals. Other species of animals, whether wild or domestic, trained or untrained, are not considered service animals. Assistance Animals under ORC § 955.011, are defined as a guide dog that has been trained or is in training to assist a person who is blind, deaf or hearing impaired, or who is mobility impaired, including a person diagnosed with autism. The dog must have been trained by a nonprofit special agency and be covered by the liability insurance provided by the nonprofit special agency. In accordance with ADA regulations, a miniature horse, trained to do work or perform tasks for people with disabilities, can also be considered a Service Animal. Miniature horses must range in height from 24 inches to 34 inches, measured to the shoulders, and can weigh between 70 pounds and 100 pounds.

Handler – the individual utilizing the Service Animal for assistance due to a disability.

### **Procedure:**

Individuals requiring the use of a Service Animal on campus should:

1. Contact the Disability Services Office
  - a. Individuals will speak with a Heidelberg University employee. If the need for a Service Animal is not visibly apparent, the individual will be asked two questions:
    - i. Is the Service Animal required due to a disability?
    - ii. What work or task has the animal been trained to perform?
  - b. *\*The individual does not have to disclose the specific disability requiring the use of a Service Animal. Additionally, documentation proving the animal is certified as a Service Animal is not required.*
2. Receive University approved identification for the Service Animal
  - a. Individuals are not required to publicly display the identification
  - b. Individuals can utilize the identification to inform others of the approval to have the Service Animal on campus
3. Check with their insurance provider to determine coverage for potential liability regarding any injuries, fees, or charges due to the Service Animal.
4. Handler must also:
  - a. Maintain control of the Service Animal at all times by using a harness, leash, tether, or through using voice, signal, or other effective controls.
  - b. Maintain up to date shots and vaccinations for the Service Animal, in accordance with the policy identified in the Administrative Provisions of the Seneca County General Health District
  - c. Adhere to all state, local, and municipal statutes, codes, and guidelines regarding animal care

- d. Properly contain and immediately dispose of all animal waste in appropriate outside trash dumpsters. Heidelberg University retains the right to designate a specific area for dogs to be toileted.
  - e. Maintain proper hygiene of the Service Animal. Students are prohibited from cleaning Service Animals in residence hall shared bathrooms. Poor animal hygiene due to weather conditions is understood.
  - f. Assure the Service Animal does not unduly interfere with the routine activities of other residents or cause difficulties for students who reside in or around the Service Animal.
  - g. Instruct others on appropriate interactions with the Service Animal.
  - h. Be financially liable for actions of the Service Animal, involving but not limited to, bodily injury or property damage beyond normal wear or leading to above normal cleaning costs.
5. Student/Individual requesting to live on campus with a Service Animal, in addition to the above steps:
- a. By June 30, prior to the upcoming academic year, submit request for housing, in order to provide the Department of Campus Life ample time to appropriately place the student in a housing assignment. Requests submitted after the deadline are subject to current availability of housing.
  - b. Create a contingency plan for the Service Animal, to be cared for off campus, in case of emergency and/or the handler is unable to care for the Service Animal

#### **Student Rights:**

- 1. Students have the right to take their Service Animal to any locations open to the public, other students, or visitors of the campus that includes dining locations.
- 2. Students have the right to be free from disclosing the nature of their disability as well as free from undue inquiries.
- 3. Students have the right to appeal a decision to remove the Service Animal. This must be done within 7 days of the decision to remove, put in writing and submitted to the Dean of Student Affairs Office.
- 4. Students have the right to receive reasonable accommodations if the Service Animal is removed.

#### **University Responsibilities:**

- 1. Allow the Student/Handler and Service Animal access to all areas of the campus. Some areas may be deemed “off limits” due to health and safety concerns. These will be determined on a case-by-case basis.
- 2. Members of the Heidelberg Community are not to touch, pet, feed and/or view the Service Animal as a pet.
- 3. Questions regarding the Service Animal will be directed to the Disabilities Coordinator in Stoner Health, Counseling & Disabilities Center.

### **Removal of the Service animal from campus:**

Heidelberg University may remove the Service Animal from campus due to the following stipulations:

- A. The Service Animal is out of control and the handler does not take effective action to control it.
- B. The Service Animal is not house broken.
- C. The Service Animal unduly interferes with the routine activities of students, faculty, or staff.

### **Accommodating a miniature horse:**

Heidelberg University will determine the ability to accommodate a miniature horse by assessing:

- A. Whether the miniature horse is housebroken
- B. Whether the miniature horse is under the owner's control
- C. Whether the facility can accommodate the miniature horse's type, size, and weight
- D. Whether the miniature horse's presence will not compromise legitimate safety requirements necessary for safe operation of the facility.

### **Explained Absence**

Individual faculty members may determine the attendance policy for their classes and should have them clearly stated in their syllabi. However, there are some circumstances that warrant special consideration to determine whether an accommodation is possible. These cases are referred to as explained absences.

There are two types of explained absences:

1. Absences due to co-curricular activities and out-of-classroom curricular activities. A co-curricular or out-of-classroom activity is when a student is representing Heidelberg University in a sanctioned event. University sanctioned events are those that are approved by the Provost as contributing to the overall erudition of the student as well as for the benefit of the institution. Examples include, but are not limited to, an athletic contest, a fine arts performance, or an academic field trip. Missing a regularly scheduled class for practice or other non-sanctioned events is not an explained absence.
2. Verified moral obligations or physical conflicts. There are many instances when a student has moral obligations that preclude their attendance of a class session. Examples include, but are not limited to, taking a sick child to the doctor or reporting for duty as required for the military reserve. Also, students may be unable to attend class due to serious illness or medical necessity, or death in the family. In these cases, undergraduate students will present evidence within ten (10) academic days after the absence to the Dean of Student Affairs who will verify the evidence of the moral obligation or physical conflict, and then contact the professors of the student's classes. Graduate students will present evidence to their instructor or director, if necessary. It is important to note that an explanation of

absence does not imply that the student is excused from the obligations of a course or the classwork missed. It is the individual student's responsibility to consult with their instructor as to the effect of explained absences. Professors are expected to do their best to accommodate explained absences. This accommodation should in no way sacrifice academic rigor, and the University recognizes that there are cases for which there is no satisfactory make-up possible.

If prior to the end of the academic term, a student and instructor are in disagreement over accommodations for an explained absence, the student may seek mediation through the Department Chair or Director. Chairs or Directors may request additional mediation through the University Academic Policy Committee. To minimize potential problems, it is advised that the following protocol be observed for scheduled absences due to co-curricular activities and out-of-classroom curricular activities:

- a. Instructors, coaches, and advisors must provide a list of known events that may conflict with the academic day to students during the first week of each term. Documentation should include the dates and times of events, and should instruct students to contact each of their professors to identify any potential conflicts.
- b. Whenever possible, students should identify conflicts with their scheduled classes and notify professors the first week of class.
- c. Professors should identify work that will be missed based on these conflicts and make a sincere attempt to find a solution.
- d. Whenever possible, professors should present the student with a clear decision on the accommodations for missed work by the last day to add classes. Some co-curricular events (notably winter or spring activities and national events, e.g., NCAA tournaments) may not be scheduled prior to the first week of classes. It remains the students' responsibility to approach their instructor with appropriate documentation as soon as the schedule is set to make arrangements regarding missed work. Again, instructors are expected to make a sincere attempt to accommodate for these absences and communicate their decisions in a timely manner.

Similarly, coaches/advisors are expected to accommodate students' academic endeavors and may not deliberately punish students for missing a co-curricular event to attend a class or course-required learning opportunity. If the student and the coach/advisor are in disagreement over accommodations for schedule conflicts, they may seek mediation through the Dean of Student Affairs or their designee.

### **Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)**

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (commonly referred to as FERPA) guarantees a student (1) access to his or her educational record, (2) the right to challenge the accuracy of the record, and (3) the right to limit release of information from the record.

The Educational Record includes all records, files and documents directly related to the student and maintained by Heidelberg University. These records include, but are not limited to, biographical data and address information; the admission application and supporting documents; the academic record including departmental files, class schedules, grade reports, and transcript of record; athletic records; disciplinary records; financial records; placement credentials; public safety records; and residence life records. Not covered under FERPA are medical and counseling records, and security records. Under FERPA, contents of a student's academic record can be distributed on a "need to know" basis within the University. Recipients might include faculty and peer facilitators, department chairpersons, staff and administrators, individuals conducting institutional research, student employees, etc. Directory Information, as designated by Heidelberg University, includes: name, enrollment status, Heidelberg assigned email address, Campus Center mailbox, photo, dates of attendance, class (Gr, Fr, So, Jr, Sr), major field of study, degrees at this institution, date of graduation, and honors and awards. In addition, for athletes, participation on specific teams, height and weight are also released.

NOTE: All items of Directory Information are subject to release without prior written consent unless the student notifies the Office of the Registrar in writing during the first week of the academic year of their objection to release of the information. This objection is good until the student provides in writing the expiration date. The Directory Information list is purposely brief to allow maximum comfort to students, and ease of processing standard inquiries. A student should think carefully about the consequences of requesting that this list not be released. Students should understand that if they are listed as a dependent on a parent(s) most recent income tax return, and if the parent(s) provides a copy of that information to the Registrar, the University is legally able to provide the parent(s) information from the academic record without consent, but is not required to do so. Access to Educational Records is provided under FERPA. Within 45 days of receipt of a written request to the Office of the Registrar, the appropriate University official will make arrangements for access, and will notify the student of the time and place where the record may be viewed (copies are not required by law). If the records are not maintained by the Registrar, the request will be forwarded to the appropriate University official. Depending on the record in question, the request will likely be processed by one of the following individuals: Registrar, Dean of Student Affairs, Provost, VP for Enrollment, Honors Program Director, Athletic Director, or the academic department chair.

FERPA also guarantees the right to request amendment of the student's educational records that the student believes is inaccurate. After inspecting the record, if a student wishes for the University to consider an amendment to their record, they should complete the Request for Record Amendment form available in the Office of the Registrar. This written request should clearly identify the specific part of the record a student wishes to have changed and should specify why it is inaccurate or misleading.

If the University decides not to amend the record as requested, the University will notify the student of the decision and advise the student of his or her right to a hearing regarding

the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the student when notified of the right to a hearing.

Please be aware that if a student objects to any part of the directory information, all will be withheld. This means that the student will be required to provide a signed, written release for each legitimate need for information to be released. This would include standard reporting to loan agencies for deferral of loan payments, reporting to athletic eligibility offices, verification of enrollment for insurance purposes, scholarship and award inquiries, etc. It becomes the responsibility of the student to determine when these requests must be submitted.

Please visit [FERPA](#) or the [U.S. Department of Education](#) for additional resources.

## **Fire Safety**

1. Fire Drills and Alarms - Fire drills are conducted in the Residence Halls one time each semester by Campus Security Staff and the Tiffin Fire & Rescue Division. When a fire alarm sounds, all students, visitors and guests must evacuate the hall and defer to the directions of Residence Life staff, Campus Security Staff, and Tiffin Fire & Rescue Division personnel. Campus Security staff review evacuation procedures and fire safety equipment with all students living in campus houses and apartments during the first 10 days of the fall semester.
2. Fire Equipment - Tampering with fire equipment is a violation of state law and university policy.
3. Smoke Detectors - Krammes staff will check smoke detectors quarterly to ensure fire safety. Tampering with smoke detectors is a violation of university policy.
4. Students who violate fire safety policies will be processed through the conduct system and may face federal, state, or local law enforcement.

## **Furnishings**

Furniture is provided in designated areas of campus for the use as intended. The university will provide some furniture in residence hall rooms, house/apartment locations, lounges, or other inside/outdoor locations. Students may not remove or exchange furniture from common areas of the residence hall (apartment or house) or from any residence hall rooms, lounges, common spaces, etc. Students will be documented for moving/relocating furniture without University personnel permission.

All bedrooms at Heidelberg should have a bed, mattress, dresser, desk, desk chair, and closet/wardrobe. Some residence halls/apartments/houses may have additional furnishings provided by the university. Please refer to the [What to Bring/What Not to Bring](#) section of the Heidelberg website for further information about furnishings.

Additionally, the following expectations regarding furnishings are expected:

1. Homemade or non-university rented lofts are prohibited in all residential buildings, apartments, or houses. Only beds provided by Heidelberg can be used in residential buildings except when accommodations are approved by the Student Accessibility Service office.
2. Screens are not to be removed from windows. Screens must be down at all times except in emergency situations.
3. Waterbeds are not permitted unless a serious medical condition requires it and permission is received from the Student Accessibility Services office.
4. Furniture, including couches, chairs, tables, and futons, are not permitted outside of campus owned apartments or houses, including porches or patios. Outdoor designed furniture may be approved upon inspection of a Residence Life and Housing staff member. All University furniture must stay in the designated rooms in which it was intended at all times.
5. Damages caused by violating the above policies will be charged to students assigned to such furnishings. Charges for damages will be placed on the student(s) accounts.

### **Good Samaritan Medical Amnesty**

To safeguard students so they receive the help they need without fear of consequences or retribution, the Good Samaritan Medical Amnesty Policy has been adopted. Students who seek emergency medical attention for themselves, or for a student who needs medical assistance, as a consequence of consumption of alcohol, drugs, and/or substances will not be held accountable for violations of the Heidelberg University Code of Student Conduct, providing they do the following:

1. Contact and obtain assistance from Residence Life staff, Campus Security, medical professionals, and/or local law enforcement;
2. Complete an assessment/evaluation with a licensed mental health professional or substance abuse counselor or an approved educational workshop in a timely manner and be responsible for any associated costs;
3. Meet with the Dean of Student Affairs or their designee to discuss the incident. To honor the culture of respect of self and others, this policy is only for those students who initiate the assistance and not for those discovered by the University employees or other emergency personnel or law enforcement.

### **Grade Appeals**

If a student believes that a final course grade has been assigned in an erroneous, capricious, or discriminating manner, the student may appeal the grade. No grade appeal may be initiated until the Registrar has released the official grade to the student. The grade appeal process must be started within the first regular semester following assignment of the final course grade. Grade appeals must move through the following stages until a satisfactory resolution to the problem is reached.

#### **A. Appeal to the Instructor**



The appeal process begins with the instructor who assigned the grade. The student should meet with the instructor and attempt to resolve the dispute informally. Any such resolution of a grade appeal must be approved in writing by the instructor's Department Chair and the Provost.

B. Appeal to the Department Chair

Should an informal resolution of the grade appeal be inconvenient or undesirable to either the student or the instructor, the student shall submit a written letter of appeal to the Department Chair. The student's written appeal shall state the basis (or bases) of the appeal--i.e., error in computation or recording, capriciousness, or discrimination—and provide evidence in support of the appeal. The latter two of these three claims are very serious and should be undertaken only in cases where the student has considerable evidence to substantiate the claims. Appeals must be accompanied by copies of all pertinent graded work, the course syllabus, and any relevant course handouts (such as assignment prompts). The letter(s) of appeal and supporting evidence will comprise the appeal portfolio and will remain in the custody of the Department Chair or the Provost, or a designee, until the dispute is resolved, at which time all materials belonging to the student will be returned. The student should keep a copy of all appeal materials.

Upon receipt of the appeal letter, the Department Chair will notify the instructor and provide the instructor with a copy of the materials from the appeal portfolio. The Department Chair will conduct an investigation, including a review of the student's work included in the appeal portfolio and interviews of the student and the instructor, within 15(fifteen) class days of the receipt of the appeal letter. The Department Chair's ruling shall indicate either that the instructor's grade shall stand or that the instructor's grade shall be changed to a different grade. In the latter case, the Chair will obtain grade change approval from the Provost and then submit a change of grade form to the Registrar, indicating that the grade has been changed on appeal.

C. Appeal to the Provost or the designee

If either the student or the instructor believes that the Department Chair has erred in their decision, the student or the instructor may submit a written appeal of the Department Chair's decision to the Provost or the designee. The letter of appeal must state specifically how the Department Chair erred in their decision and must be accompanied by evidence to substantiate that claim. The Provost or the designee shall investigate the charge of error and respond in writing to the student, the instructor, and the Department Chair, within 15 (fifteen) class days of the receipt of the appeal. The Provost's or the designee's ruling shall indicate either that the instructor's original grade shall stand or that the instructor's grade shall be changed to a different grade. In the latter case, the Provost or the

designee will submit a change of grade form to the Registrar, indicating that the grade has been changed on appeal.

D. Appeal to the Academic Policy Committee or Graduate Studies Committee

If the student or the instructor believes that the Provost or the designee has erred in their decision, the student or instructor may submit a written letter of appeal to the Academic Policy Committee or Graduate Studies Committee. The letter of appeal must state specifically how the Provost or the designee erred in their decision and must be accompanied by evidence to substantiate that claim. The committee shall investigate the charge of error and respond in writing to the student, the instructor, the Department Chair, and the Provost or the designee, within 15 class days of the receipt of the appeal. The committee's ruling shall indicate either that the instructor's original grade shall stand or that the instructor's grade shall be changed to a different grade. In the latter case, the Chair of the committee will submit a change of grade form to the Registrar, indicating that the grade has been changed on appeal. The decision of the committee is final.

Should the Department Chair, Provost or the designee, or a member of the Academic Policy Committee or Graduate Studies Committee be the instructor of record of the course under appeal, the Office of Academic Affairs will name an alternate to hear the appeal, if necessary. The alternate shall be either a faculty member within the department or in a related discipline, or another Department Chair.

E. Absent Faculty

In a case where the instructor is absent from campus or is no longer employed by the university, the appeal shall begin directly with the Chair of the department in which the course was taken. The chair will attempt to notify the instructor of the appeal, in writing, within five class days of the receipt of the appeal. The instructor will have 30 (thirty) calendar days from the date of the Chair's notice to respond. It is the responsibility of the instructor to ensure that the Chair receives the response in 30 days. After 30 days, the Chair will follow the procedure above, if necessary.

F. Working Days Defined

In counting time, "working days" are Monday through Friday when the University is in session during the regular Fall and Spring semesters. The grade appeal process must be started within the first regular semester following assignment of the final course grade.

G. Extensions

Requests for an extension of a deadline shall be made in writing to the Provost or

the designee. Interpretation of this appeal process shall be conducted by the Provost or the designee in consultation with the Academic Policy Committee or Graduate Studies Committee. The Provost's or the designee's decision shall be final in extending deadlines and interpreting this policy.

### **Guests and Student Visitors**

1. **Guests** - A guest is defined as anyone not enrolled at Heidelberg University. Students are permitted to host overnight guests in University-owned housing provided that:
  - a. consent is obtained from the roommate(s) or housemates. The privacy and safety of the roommate(s) or housemates takes priority over the presence and behavior of guests. In all cases, the rights of the residents of the room or house to uninterrupted use of the space take precedence over the privilege of guest visitation.
  - b. the guest is officially registered with the Residence Life and Housing Office. Guest registration can be obtained from the [Residence Life and Housing Office](#) website. Admission visitors will register with the Admission Office. Admission hosts are responsible for their guests.
  - c. Residents are responsible for ensuring that their guest(s) comply with all University policies and procedures. A resident can be held accountable for any policy violations, damage, etc., attributed to a guest that a resident may be hosting.
  - d. Failure to register an overnight guest is a violation of the guest and visitation policy and may result in loss of guest and visitation privileges.
  - e. One room may not exceed two overnight guests per night.
  - f. Overnight guests must carry a picture ID and a copy of the guest registration form at all times.
  - g. Guests must be escorted at all times while in the residential buildings by host.
    - viii. Guests are permitted to stay on campus for no more than a total of four days during a one-month period.
2. **Student Visitors** - A visitor is defined as a student who is enrolled at Heidelberg University who is visiting another student on campus. Residential Visitation hours for students enrolled at Heidelberg are 24 hours per day, 7 days per week under the following conditions:
  - a. consent is obtained from the roommate(s) or housemates. The privacy and safety of the roommate(s) or housemates takes priority over the presence and behavior of a student visitor. In all cases, the rights of the residents of the room or house to uninterrupted use of the space take precedence over the privilege of student visitation.
  - b. Unescorted student visitors are not permitted in residence halls between the hours of 12:00AM (midnight) and 10:00AM Monday through Friday, and between the hours of 2:00AM and 10:00AM Saturday and Sunday. Resident hosts must escort their visitors during these times.

- c. Residents are responsible for ensuring that their visitor(s) comply with all University policies and procedures. A resident can be held accountable for any policy violations, damage, etc., attributed to a student visitor that a resident may be hosting.
- d. Student Visitors are permitted to stay in the resident host's room overnight for no more than a total of 4 (four) days per month.
- e. A Visitor must have approval of all residents prior to using a shared bathroom facility.

## **Harassment**

Heidelberg University does not and will not tolerate harassment of our students on the basis of race, color, sex, sexual orientation, religion, national origin, age or disability. The University recognizes the adverse impact of harassment on academic and residential success, and recognizes that those being harassed may personally suffer adverse effects. All students are entitled to an environment free from all forms of unlawful discrimination and harassment. In order to properly educate the University about harassment and sexual misconduct, programming is offered by the University. This policy demonstrates the University's commitment to addressing this important concern.

Harassment is physical conduct, verbal conduct or other expressive behavior, including written, pictorial, or electronic expression that explicitly demeans any person(s), and 1) interferes with education, employment or other University authorized activity; or 2) creates an intimidating, hostile or demeaning environment for education, University related work, or other University-authorized activity. It is a violation of University policy to engage in harassment, or to retaliate against anyone bringing forth an honestly perceived complaint of harassment.

Verbal harassment includes, but is not limited to, name calling, slurs, and epithets, jokes or other remarks that demean the victim and/or discourage the individual's full participation in the University's community. Physical harassment occurs when a person's body, possessions, or residence are threatened or abused.

In addition to the preceding definition, harassment refers to behavior that is not welcome, which is particularly offensive, which debilitates morale and which therefore interferes with the work, academic effectiveness, or living environment of its victims, their coworkers or peers.

Harassment of students will not be tolerated. Students who have questions about harassment or who wish to discuss a complaint should contact the Dean of Student Affairs Office. Students are also free to contact the Tiffin City Police Department to file appropriate charges. If the case cannot be resolved at this level, the appropriate grievance procedure will be employed. Students charged with harassment will be referred to the appropriate conduct body.

## **Health and Safety Inspections**

Health and Safety Inspections will be conducted by the Residence Life and Housing staff quarterly at a time posted and announced 24 hours in advance. Inspections are intended to insure residents are maintaining safe furniture placement and equipment in accordance with fire code and that the room is a clean and healthy environment free of trash. Residents have 24 hours to rectify any health and safety concerns discovered and communicated by Residence Life and Housing staff. Repeated health and safety violations may result in fines, reassignment or referral to the conduct system.

## **Health Insurance**

Unexpected accidents and illnesses can result in the need for health care that is beyond the scope of the Stoner Health and Counseling Center and results in additional costs to the student. It is because of these unexpected expenses that all Heidelberg University students registered/enrolled for 12 or more semester hours are required to hold current health insurance. For answers to other health care questions, please refer to Health Care.

## **Housing Contract**

All full time (12+ credit hours) students are required to live on campus. Exceptions to this policy can be found in the [Commuter/Off-campus Policy](#). All students residing in University-owned housing must sign and submit to the Residence Life and Housing Office a Housing Contract. Housing contracts may be in written or electronic form. The housing contract must be renewed yearly. Housing Contracts are full academic year contracts only. Students will not be released from a housing contract unless they have officially withdrawn from the University. Students will not have any appeal rights once the housing contract is completed. Any changes initiated by the student may result in additional charges to the student account.

## **Identification Cards (ID Cards)**

The University will issue each employee and student a Heidelberg University identification card. Students are responsible for carrying their University ID card at all times and presenting it, upon request, to any University official. Students should report lost or stolen cards to the Office of Campus Safety & Security. Lost cards will be replaced at a cost of \$35. The Heidelberg University ID card is the property of the University and can be confiscated at any time. Students who leave the University must return their ID cards to the Office of Campus Safety & Security or designated ID Card office. Use of someone else's ID card will result in documentation and charges will be filed through the conduct system.

## **Incense, Candles and Infusers/Diffusers**

All types of incense, candles, heating elements, and open flames are prohibited in the

University-owned houses, apartments, and residence hall rooms. This includes any candle warmers, potpourri heaters, or any type of incense device that plugs into an electrical outlet or contains a heating element.

### **Institutionally Recognized Name**

The University recognizes that any faculty, staff, or student may choose to identify themselves within the University community with a preferred name, Institutionally Recognized Name (IRN), that differs from their legal name. As long as the use of a preferred name is not for the purpose of misrepresentation, the University acknowledges that a preferred name should be used whenever possible in the course of University business and education.

Please note that some records may require the use of legal names only, such as federal and medical documentation. Individuals who are utilizing an IRN should always be prepared to reference their legal name as well as provide their University identification when necessary.

### **Keys**

Keys to residents' assigned house, apartment, or residence hall & room are issued upon the signing of the Room Condition Report. It is the responsibility of residents to return their key(s) to a Residence Life and Housing staff member after moving out of any residence hall, house or apartment. Failure to return keys will result in a minimum charge of \$100 per key. Duplication of any University key is prohibited. Lost or stolen keys must be reported to the RA immediately. A minimum \$100.00 charge for each lost key will be assessed to the student. Residents may not lend their residence hall, house, or apartment keys to anyone. The only individual authorized to use a residence hall, house, or apartment key is the individual to whom it is issued. Keys must be carried with the student at all times. Residents who become "locked-out" of their buildings or rooms may be subject to fines or disciplinary action.

### **Life Threatening Illness or Serious Infectious Diseases**

Heidelberg University recognizes that students with life-threatening illnesses or serious infectious diseases may wish to continue to engage in as many of their normal pursuits as their condition allows, including academic pursuits. As long as these students are able to meet acceptable performance standards, and medical evidence indicates that their condition is not a threat to others, the University will be sensitive to their conditions and ensure that they are treated consistently with other students. In order to help the University ensure the safety and well-being of an individual student and the University community as a whole, students are encouraged to report cases of life-threatening illness or serious infectious diseases to the Stoner Health and Counseling Center (419-448-2041). The Director of Health & Counseling Services will act in accordance with the guidelines of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) in developing a plan of support for the student and ensure that the student's condition

does not present a health or safety threat to others.

### **Marijuana (Drug Policy)**

Marijuana is the most commonly used illicit drug in the nation. It is considered a Schedule I drug in the United States, which means it is illegal under federal law, although some states have legalized its use. Marijuana is also referred to as pot, weed, herb, grass, bud, Mary Jane, ganja, and many other slang terms. It is a greenish-gray mixture of the dried flowers of the plant *Cannabis sativa*. Delta-9- tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) is the main psychoactive chemical found in marijuana that produces intoxicating effects that people seek. Marijuana can be smoked in hand-rolled cigarettes (joint), in pipes, water pipes (bongs), or in blunts (rolled in cigar wraps). Marijuana can also be consumed when mixed with foods such as brownies or cookies (edibles). Although Ohio State law now permits the use of medical marijuana under certain conditions, federal law prohibits all use, possession, and/or cultivation of marijuana at U.S. educational institutions. Federal law also requires any institution of higher education, which receives federal funding to have policies in place and prohibit possession and use of marijuana on campus. Therefore, the use, possession, and/or cultivation of marijuana for medical purposes is not allowed in any Heidelberg University residence hall or on any other Heidelberg University property. No exceptions will be made for any student based on their possession of a medical marijuana certification, registry ID card, or any other proof of medical marijuana eligibility. Students found violating the marijuana policy may risk losing their federal financial aid funding. This policy is in accordance with the following federal and state acts: The Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act, Federal Drug-Free Workplace Act, and The Federal Controlled Substances Act. See the Safe and Drug Free Campus Policy above for further information.

### **Missing Student Policy**

If any member of the Heidelberg University community has reason to believe a Heidelberg University student who resides in on-campus housing has been missing for at least 24 hours, they should promptly contact Campus Security at 419- 448-2211. All students have the option to identify an individual to be contacted by the University within 24 hours after the student is determined to be missing in accordance with this policy. Student contact information will be registered confidentially and only authorized campus officials and law enforcement officers in furtherance of a missing person investigation may have access to this information. Confidential contact information can be registered by the student in OASIS. If Campus Security makes an official determination that a student is missing, the Tiffin Police Department will be notified and emergency contact procedures will be initiated within 24 hours in accordance with the student's designation. In addition, the Dean of Student Affairs will be notified. If a missing student is under 18 years of age and is not emancipated, Heidelberg University is required to notify the missing student's custodial parent or guardian within 24 hours after the student is determined missing, in addition to notifying any additional contact person designated by

the student.

Procedure:

1. Any report of a missing student, from whatever source, should immediately be directed to Campus Security.
2. When a student is reported missing:
  - a. Campus Security will notify the Director of Campus Safety & Security.
  - b. Campus Security will initiate an investigation to determine the validity of the missing person report.
  - c. Campus Security will contact the Dean of Student Affairs if the student cannot be located.
  - d. The Dean of Student Affairs shall notify the individual identified by the missing student as the emergency contact within 24 hours of making a determination that the student is missing.
  - e. If the missing student is under the age of 18, the Dean of Student Affairs will notify the student's custodial parent or guardian as contained in the records of the University within 24 hours of the determination that the student is missing.
  - f. Campus Security will notify the Tiffin City Police within 24 hours after determining that the student is missing.
3. The Dean of Student Affairs will notify the President of the University.
4. The Dean of Student Affairs shall initiate whatever action he deems appropriate, under the circumstances, is in the best interest of the missing student.

### **Nondiscrimination**

The current nationwide emphasis on nondiscrimination, equal employment opportunity, and affirmative action is entirely in keeping with Heidelberg's belief in the dignity of each individual. Throughout its history, Heidelberg University has been a nondiscriminatory institution. Any student or employee who at any time has questions about discrimination or wishes to discuss a complaint should see the appropriate contact person listed below. Every attempt will be made to resolve the problem at the personal level. If that is impossible, the appropriate grievance procedure will be employed.

- For Students, contact the Dean of Student Affairs.
- For Faculty, Contact the Vice President of Academic Affairs/Provost
- For Non-teaching Employees, contact the Office of Human Resources

### **Organizations**

Membership - Student organizations must keep up-to-date membership records in Google Drive and be able to provide them to Student Senate or the Office of Student Engagement upon request. Changes in leadership must be immediately reported to the Student Senate Liaison to Student Organizations.

Starting a New Organization - Undergraduate student organizations must be chartered by



Student Senate in order to be officially recognized by the University. New organizations must be founded on an ideal/premise that is broad enough or attractive enough to recruit members beyond the founding group and not conflict with the policies and core values of Heidelberg, must have at least seven members that are full-time, undergraduate students at the University, and must have a faculty or staff member as an advisor to the organization. Students interested in starting a new organization that meets the parameters above are encouraged to contact the Student Senate Liaison to Student Organizations to start the charter process. In order for student organizations to remain in good standing, they must submit a roster of all members to the Student Senate Liaison to Student Organizations each semester, attend SOLiD annually, and host a minimum of two events and meetings each semester.

Contractual Agreements - Contractual agreements made by a campus organization must be in writing and on file with the Office of Student Engagement. Any contractual agreement over \$100 or which creates a long-term relationship between an outside party and the University or campus organization must be approved by the Office of Student Engagement, the campus organization's student representative, and the campus organization's faculty or staff advisor.

### **Outside Speaker**

Outside speakers scheduled to address a Heidelberg University audience must be invited and sponsored by a campus organization, academic department, or administrative division with advance approval from the group's faculty or staff advisor(s). Guests from outside the University community are expected to adhere to University policy while on campus or otherwise representing Heidelberg University. The sponsoring organization is responsible for making arrangements for publicity of, scheduling of, preparation for, and conduct of the speaking event in a manner appropriate to this campus.

### **Personal Property**

The University will not accept responsibility for the theft, damage, or loss of property of a student. It is strongly recommended that students secure insurance coverage under their family homeowner's policy or other sources. Personal property that violates Federal, State, Local laws or University policy may be confiscated and disposed of as determined by the University administration.

### **Personal Web Pages (Google Workspace)**

Personal pages are the home pages of any faculty, staff or student and are housed in the Google Workspace suite. However, space in Google Workspace is a privilege, and all users are expected to follow established website policy:

1. Personal pages will carry navigational links to the University's home page, the author's name, how to contact them (either an email address, a telephone number

- or both) and the most recent date of the page's modification.
2. Personal pages will be governed by the Heidelberg University's Acceptable Use Policy and all other applicable policies of the University. (Examples: University policies concerning sexual harassment and hate crimes/incidents). Anyone violating University policy on a Web page will be subject to the appropriate disciplinary actions described in the relevant policy.
  3. Personal Web pages may not violate copyright, libel, obscenity or other local, state or federal laws.
  4. Personal Web pages may not be used for commercial uses, sales or money making ventures except those authorized by the University administration.

## **Pets**

Pets are not permitted to live in student rooms or University-owned housing with the exception of non-carnivorous fish in aquariums of 10 gallons or less capacity. Fish may be kept in private rooms, with the agreement of all roommates/housemates. Students may be assessed a non-negotiable charge for the disinfecting or cleaning of a room or residential area where a pet has lived.

## **Posters, Banners, Fliers, and Signs**

Rules for hanging posters, banners, fliers and signs:

1. Only members of recognized student organizations and departments of the Heidelberg University community are allowed to post fliers and hang signs on the designated bulletin boards and stairwells inside campus buildings.
2. All posters, fliers, signs and other notices must clearly state the name(s) of the sponsoring organization(s), date, time, venue, contact information and if they are open and free to both the Heidelberg and Tiffin communities.
3. Fliers and signs must be approved by the Office of Student Engagement or Office of Student Affairs before they are posted.
4. Fliers must not exceed 8.5 x 11 inches, and they may be push-pinned, thumbtacked or stapled to bulletin boards.
5. Banners must not exceed 4 feet by 8 feet in size.
6. Please be considerate and observe the limit of one poster or flier per bulletin board.
7. Fliers not stamped (i.e. approved) will be removed without warning. Please note that stamping a flier is for posting purposes only and does not in any way reflect approval of content.
8. All fliers, signs and banners may be stamped during the normal office hours of 8 AM to 5 PM.
9. Recognized student groups are responsible for removing their fliers, signs and banners within 24 hours after the event. Fliers, signs and banners that are not removed will be discarded.
10. Do not post fliers, signs or banners on walls, doors, painted surfaces, windows, trees, lampposts, sidewalks, University signage or traffic and street signs. Fliers,

signs or banners found in these locations will be removed immediately.

11. Fliers, signs or banners are not permitted in Hoernemann Refectory, except on the two designated boards provided by Student Senate.
12. Community-based fliers can only be posted on the designated Community Bulletin Boards located by the mailboxes on the lower level of Campus Center.

\* See [\*On Campus Publicity & Fliers\*](#) website for further information.

## **Reporting a Violation**

Students who have first-hand knowledge of any violation should report it to the appropriate entity. Do not assume that someone else will report it. To report any violation of the student code of conduct, local/state/federal law, or any behavior that is concerning, please access the online [Incident Communication Form \(ICF\)](#). This form will provide you with step-by-step instructions. You can also contact the Office of Campus Safety & Security at (419) **448-2211**, or a hall staff member (Resident Assistant or Senior Resident Assistant) to report a violation. If it is a medical or life-threatening issue, please contact 911 immediately.

## **Reporting Violent or Criminal Behavior**

Everyone on campus will be expected to assist in providing a safe environment by being alert to suspicious behavior and promptly reporting the situation to Campus Security at the designated emergency response number. If you are a victim, observe a criminal act, or observe a suspicious person on campus, immediately notify the Tiffin Police Department at **419-447-2323 or 911** for an emergency and then Campus Security **419-448-2211** and report the incident, including the following:

- Your name
- Nature of the incident
- Location, date, and time of incident
- Description of person(s) involved Description of property involved

Assist the officer(s) when they arrive by providing additional information upon request.

Take the following action if you are a victim of a property crime:

- Go to a safe place and notify the Tiffin Police Department then Campus Security
- Do not touch anything.
- Meet with the officer at the location the officer requests.
- Explain to the officer everything you observed, including telling the officer if you did touch or move anything. Follow the officer's instructions.

Take the following action if you are a victim of a violent/personal crime:

- Be observant! The more information you can provide; the better chance the criminal will be apprehended. Remember: *Whatever you decide to do, you must be prepared both mentally and physically. Your safety is the most important thing to remember during any attack.*
- As soon as possible get to a safe place and notify the Tiffin Police Department and then Campus Security at the designated emergency response number. Advise officers of the nature of the incident, location, if medical assistance is needed, and a description of the person(s) involved.
- Meet with the officer. Follow the officer's instructions.

### **Residency Requirements**

Heidelberg University requires all full-time (12+ credit hour) undergraduate students to reside in University-owned housing during their time at Heidelberg. For those in Heidelberg residentially owned housing, students have the right to a residential living environment that is conducive to study, sleep and social interactions.

Students who complete a housing contract are not eligible to apply for off campus or commuter status once the contract has been submitted. If a housing contract is broken, by initiation from the student, additional charges may be applied to the student's account. Students who sign a lease with an off-campus landlord/owner prior to receiving permission to live off campus may be charged room and board charges at the discretion of the University administration.

### **Room Changes**

A room change from an assigned room is permitted only as space or circumstance allow. Room change requests will not be granted during the first two weeks of classes of any semester (referred to as "Room Freeze"). Students may not move to a new residence hall room, apartment, or University-owned house without the prior authorization of the Residence Life and Housing Office. Students who wish to request a room change must first contact their Resident Assistant to start the room change process. Before obtaining approval for a room change, students are required to communicate their intention to change rooms to their building staff, roommate and future roommate. Students, who change rooms or exchange keys without authorization, will be subject to fines and disciplinary action, which may include loss of future room selection privileges. Students will be charged a \$25 administrative fee for any approved room change. Additional protocol for room changes can be obtained by contacting the Residence Life and Housing Office.

### **Room Condition Reports (RCR)**

An RCR is a record of the condition of a room and its furnishings (beds, chairs, walls,

windows, etc.) at the time a student moves into or out of University-owned housing. Review and signature of RCRs is a part of proper check-in and checkout procedures for University-owned housing. Students should review the Room Condition Report thoroughly for accuracy and completeness. RCRs will be used by the Residence Life and Housing Office, in coordination with Krammes Service Center, to assess any damage charges. It is the responsibility of the student to ensure the accuracy of the RCR at check in. Residence Life and Housing, Maintenance, Custodial and Computer Services staff will charge residents for room damages that are discovered during closing procedures.

### **Room Consolidation**

The Residence Life and Housing Office reserves the right to consolidate vacant spaces, assign new resident students, and/or make changes in housing assignments when it deems necessary. Students in a room with a vacant space must be ready to accept a roommate at any time or be prepared to move into another room where a vacancy has occurred.

### **Room Entry and Inspections (also see Health and Safety Inspections)**

The University reserves the right to inspect University-owned housing as a function of its responsibility to protect the safety and health of all residents and to ensure that University property is properly maintained. University officials will inspect each student room, apartment, or house prior to or at the time a resident initially occupies it and will inspect the room prior to a student's departure. The University reserves the right to allow entry by Maintenance, Security, and Residence Life and Housing staff to inspect or make repairs to University-owned housing at any time during the year, with reasonable consideration of the occupants. The University reserves the right to enter and inspect University-owned housing when:

- A staff member has reasonable grounds to believe that some condition exists that constitutes a clear and present danger to the health, safety or security of the occupants of any unit.
- A staff member has reasonable grounds to believe that unauthorized equipment or University property is present.
- There is probable cause to believe that a University housing unit contains contraband items such as drugs, drug paraphernalia, weapons, firearms, and quantities of alcohol, such as kegs, party balls, etc.
- A fire alarm is sounding. Residence Life and Housing staff may enter housing units to ensure that the unit is unoccupied. Closets may be opened. If Residence Life and Housing staff discovers contraband items through ensuring that rooms are vacant during fire alarms or other normal functions, they will confiscate the item(s) and document the violation.
- A quarterly Health and Safety Inspection has been advertised at least 24 hours in advance of the inspection. Residence Life and Housing staff will enter and conduct smoke detector and health and safety inspections quarterly and/or prior to

- any University break period.
- A staff member has reasonable grounds to believe that unauthorized person(s) are living there.
- A staff member has reason to believe a specific violation of University or Residence Life and Housing policies is taking place.

Searches of rooms may be conducted by a University official only with specific authorization from the Dean of Student Affairs or their designee. Prohibited items discovered during a search will be confiscated and documented.

### **Room Selection for Returning Students**

Room Selection for the following academic year will occur during the Spring semester after class registration. For additional information, see [Room Selection Guidelines and Policies](#) website for more information.

### **Sex Discrimination (TITLE IX)**

Heidelberg University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, national origin, age or disability in its education programs or activities. Further, it is our policy to support and abide by all legal requirements assuring nondiscrimination in employment and admission for all qualified persons without regard to race, sex, disability, religion, national origin, color, age, veteran status, sexual orientation, marital status, parental status, socio-economic status, gender identity, and gender expression, or any other characteristic protected by law. The Sex Discrimination policy addresses all forms of sexual discrimination, including sexual misconduct and sexual harassment.

*\* See here for the full [Title IX Sex Discrimination Policy](#).*

Copies may also be obtained in the Dean of Student Affairs Office, Office of Human Resources & Title IX Coordinator, or the Office of Academic Affairs.

### **Social Media Policy**

Social media is an ever-evolving communication tool that has a significant impact on both organizational and professional reputations. Social media blurs the lines between personal and institutional voice, therefore, Heidelberg University has drafted the following policy to define best practices for usage of social media and protect personal and professional reputations.

Social media is the online tool that individuals use to create interactions and share content, profiles, opinions, insights, experiences and perspectives (Brian Solis, FutureWorks PR). Examples of social media sites include, but are not limited to: Facebook, Instagram, Threads, TikTok, YouTube, X, LinkedIn

As with all professional and institutional roles, employees must conduct themselves in

the same manner online as they would in real life. Employees are liable for anything they put on social media sites, therefore, the same laws, guidelines and professional expectations that are applicable for interacting with students, parents, alumni and other University constituents apply to online usage.

### Section 1: Policies for all social media sites

- Protect confidential information: Do not post confidential information about Heidelberg University, students, employees or alumni on social media sites. Employees are required to follow federal requirements for information sharing such as Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, NCAA Regulations, and all University privacy and confidentiality policies. Employees who choose to share confidential information accept the risk of disciplinary action, including termination.
- Respect copyright and fair use: When using social media sites, be aware of the copyright and intellectual property rights of the University and other individuals. For more information, consult Heidelberg University's Computing Policies.
- Don't use Heidelberg University logos for personal pages: Do not use any of the Heidelberg University logos or any other University images on personal social media sites. Do not use any Heidelberg logo to promote a product, cause or political party and/or candidate.
- Respect University time and property: University computers and time are to be used for University related business as approved by supervisors and in accordance with the Heidelberg University Computer, Network and Information Technology Acceptable Use Policy.

### Section 2: Best Practices

The following guidelines are intended for those who will be posting on behalf of Heidelberg University; however, they are also helpful for anyone utilizing social media in any capacity.

- Think twice before posting: There is no privacy within the realm of social media. Anything posted on the Web and/or through a social media site becomes public. Search engines can turn up posts years after they are published. Furthermore, the Library of Congress is archiving posts to keep a record of history. If you wouldn't feel comfortable saying something in a conference or to a member of the media, chances are you should not post it online either. If you are unsure whether or not you should post something, or how you should respond to a comment please contact the social media coordinator.
- Strive for accuracy: Be sure you have all of your facts straight prior to posting something through a social media site. Carefully review all content for spelling, grammatical errors, etc. It reflects very poorly on the institution to have errors in posts.
- Be respectful: Be mindful that content posted on a social media website encourages comments, feedback and discussion. All posted comments should be

considered very carefully in light of the situation and how they will in turn reflect on the institution.

- Remember your audience: Understand that your presence on a social media site is, or easily can be made, available to the public, which includes current and prospective students, employees, colleagues and peers. Consider this prior to posting to ensure that your post will not alienate, harm or provoke any of these groups.
- Personal sites: If you are active on a social media site and maintain the page in a personal capacity, please identify your views as your own. If you identify yourself as a Heidelberg University faculty or staff member online, you must make it clear that the views expressed through the site are your own and not necessarily those of the institution.
- Photography: Photographs posted on social media sites can easily be used by visitors in a manner other than their intended use. In order to protect your images, consider adding a watermark and/or posting images at 72 dpi and a resolution of approximately 800x600. Images posted at this size are not suitable for printing but satisfactory for viewing on the Web. Do not post photographs of children that are not your own.

### Section 3: Institutional Social Media

If you are posting on behalf of Heidelberg University, or any official University unit, you must adhere to the following policies in addition to all of the policies and guidelines listed in Sections 1 and 2.

- Notify the University: Departments or University units that either have a social media page or are interested in starting one should contact the Digital Designer at 419-448-2319 or by email. We aim to ensure that all institutional social media sites coordinate with other Heidelberg University sites and their content. All institutional pages must have a full-time employee appointed to be responsible for the content of the page.
- Acknowledge who you are: If you are representing Heidelberg University on a social media site, acknowledge this.
- Have a plan: Departments and University units who have a presence on social media sites should be mindful of their messages, audiences and goals. It is also imperative to develop a strategy to keep information up to date on all social media sites. Plan to add content at regular intervals.
- Link back to the University: Whenever possible, link back to the Heidelberg University website. Posts on social media sites should be brief, directing visitors to the content contained on the Heidelberg University website. When linking to a news article about Heidelberg, check first to see if there is a news article on the website that will satisfy your need. Heidelberg news articles can be located at [www.heidelberg.edu/news](http://www.heidelberg.edu/news).
- Protect our institutional voice: Anything that is posted on a social media site should protect the institutional voice of Heidelberg University. All posts must be



composed in professional tone and remain in good taste. No individual Heidelberg University entity should create a social media site and represent the University as a whole. When naming pages and accounts, selecting profile pictures and icons, and choosing content, be sure to identify your particular department or unit rather than the University as a whole. If you need graphics or advice on graphics, contact the Digital Designer.

- Be respectful of the University: Again, know you are representing the University at all times when operating accounts or pages with Heidelberg University branding. Any defamation to the University and/or community will not be tolerated.

The technology that drives social media and Web communication is ever changing; therefore, this policy may be adjusted as issues arise to effectively protect and ensure that Heidelberg University's presence on social media sites remains professional and upholds the Heidelberg mission.

#### Section 4: Official Facebook Page Guidelines

Heidelberg University encourages interaction from Facebook users but is not responsible for comments or wall postings made by visitors to the page. Comments posted also do not in any way reflect the opinions or policies of the University. Heidelberg asks that people making comments on the page show respect for their fellow users by ensuring the discussion remains civil, especially since Facebook allows individuals 13 and older to join. Comments are also subject to Facebook's Terms of Use. Remember that your name and photo will be seen next to your comment, visible to all visitors to the page. We reserve the right, but assume no obligation, to remove comments that are racist, sexist, abusive, profane, violent, obscene, inappropriate, spam, that advocate illegal activity, contain falsehoods or are wildly off-topic, or that libel, incite, threaten or make ad hominem attacks on Heidelberg students, employees, guests or other individuals. We also do not permit messages selling products or promoting commercial, political or other ventures. Facebook encourages all users to utilize the "Report" links when they find abusive content. Additional rules apply to posts involving prospective student-athletes. If you have questions about the Heidelberg University Facebook Page, please contact the Digital Designer.

#### Solicitation and On Campus/Off Campus Fundraising

To protect members of the campus community from annoyance, soliciting is not permitted on campus without the written authorization of the Office of Advancement, Marketing, Alumni and Community Relations (AMACR). Solicitation includes any form of business operation where funds and/or services are obtained through services provided. Students may not sell anything on campus without permission from the Office of Advancement, Marketing, Alumni and Community Relations (AMACR) and are prohibited from using any third-party payment platforms e.g. PayPal, Venmo, Eventbrite, Kickstarter, and the Square etc. as a means of collecting donated funds. In general,

solicitation requests involving personal gain or by agencies or individuals from outside the University are not approved. In addition, door-to-door solicitation in residence halls by campus clubs, organizations, or individuals is prohibited. Heidelberg University depends upon the ongoing, increasing and generous financial support it receives each year from alumni, friends, parents, local businesses, corporations, foundations and other donors. All on and off-campus fundraisers must be requested 21 days prior to the proposed Fundraising Activity date by completing and submitting the [Campus Fundraising Activity Form](#) and approved by the Office of Advancement, Marketing, Alumni and Community Relations (AMACR). In spite of the popularity of “crowdsourcing” websites such as gofundme.com, crowdrise and indiegogo.com, the Office of Advancement, Marketing, Alumni and Community Relations (AMACR) does not permit students, faculty or staff to fundraise on these third-party donation-based sites for any Heidelberg projects, events or programs. This does not mean we condone or encourage students to conduct these for individual efforts. Please review the university’s fundraising policy located at <https://inside.heidelberg.edu/sites/default/files/documents/fundraising-policy-2023.pdf>

### **Sports, Fitness and Recreation**

Sports, fitness activities, equipment, and other recreational functions within the residence facilities increases the possibility of personal injury, damage, and/or creates disturbances. Athletic or fitness activities are to be confined to areas designated for such use (i.e., Saurwein, Fieldhouse, or Athletic fields). There are designated areas on campus for softball, baseball, football, weights/weight-lifting/fitness equipment, frisbee, soccer, lacrosse, golf, tennis, volleyball, basketball, catch, etc. The use of University-owned housing and areas directly around the buildings for these activities is prohibited without permission from Residence Life and Housing. Therefore, those activities or items are not permitted for use within the residential areas. Students will be documented for using any sports/fitness equipment within the residential buildings. Security or hall staff may confiscate any sports/fitness equipment found being used within the residential buildings.

Bicycles left in hallways and by doorways or stored in residential rooms pose a fire and safety hazard. Bikes must be stored in designated areas on campus. Bicycles may not be ridden in University-owned housing.

Rollerblades, skates, skateboards, or self-balancing personal scooters may not be used in University buildings.

### **Storage**

Storage is not available on campus. There are several private storage facilities in Tiffin or within the surrounding communities. Heidelberg does not endorse any particular storage facility but recommends students bring home all personal items or utilize an outside storage facility. Any personal items left at the end of the year will be donated or

discarded and charges may be assessed to student's accounts.

### **Travel Policy (Driver Eligibility)**

Heidelberg University is dedicated to providing a practical and effective policy for managing the risks associated with University travel. [The Driver Eligibility and University Travel Policy](#) is designed to promote the safety of Heidelberg University students, faculty, staff, volunteers and guests engaged in University travel. This policy applies to the following University sponsored trips, including but not limited to:

1. Any travel involving a member(s) and/or coaches of an intercollegiate athletic team ("intercollegiate student-athlete") that is directly related to participation in intercollegiate athletics;
2. Any travel involving a member(s) of a sport club team recognized by Saurwein Health and Wellness Center ("sport club participant") that is directly related to participation in the sport club;
3. Any travel involving individual or multiple students associated with an academic class or student conference that directly relates to the university;
4. Any travel involving recognized student organizations and student groups that directly relates to university events;
5. Any travel involving faculty or staff that directly relates to University business. Personal vehicles for the above trips can only be used on a voluntary basis.

The University cannot require any student to drive their own vehicle for a required event. The owners/drivers must provide their own insurance coverage. All travelers choosing to ride in a private automobile do so voluntarily and at their own risk. The University does not insure or accept liability for any damage, loss or injury resulting from use of a private vehicle. An employee who is traveling on University related business and is involved in an accident must report the incident as soon as possible to their direct supervisor and the Chief Human Resources Officer.

### **Tobacco-Free Campus**

Heidelberg University remains committed to the health and wellness of its employees, students and the broader campus community. Among the efforts to be implemented by the University are efforts to promote and assist health awareness, wellness, and smoking/tobacco cessation and to enhance air quality and concern for the health and wellness of others throughout campus. Though possession is not a violation, smoking, the use of smokeless tobacco products, and the use of electronic smoking devices is prohibited in all facilities owned or leased by Heidelberg University and on the grounds of any property owned or leased by the University. This means all buildings owned or controlled by Heidelberg University, including shelters, indoor and outdoor athletic facilities, walkways, sidewalks, residence halls, and parking lots. Smoking, the use of smokeless tobacco products, and the use of electronic smoking devices is prohibited on

sidewalks that adjoin University property. Smoking, the use of smokeless tobacco products, and the use of electronic smoking devices is also prohibited in any vehicle or equipment owned, leased or operated by Heidelberg University. Students, faculty, and staff violating this policy may be subject to University action. Visitors who violate this policy may be denied access to Heidelberg University campus and may be subject to prosecution for trespass. Smoking is defined as inhaling, exhaling, burning of any lighted cigar, cigarette, shisha pipe, pipe, water pipe (hookahs) or other lighted smoking device for burning tobacco or any other plant. Smokeless tobacco includes, but is not limited to, chew, snus, snuff, sticks, strips and orbs.

Electronic smoking devices, commonly referred to as electronic cigarettes or e-cigarettes, are battery operated devices and closely resemble cigarettes. For the purpose of enforcement, the presence of smoking devices, smokeless tobacco or electronic smoking devices in a residence facility may be reasonable grounds for Residence Life and Housing staff or Security to question and/or document an alleged violation. As such, students are cautioned to use good judgment within this setting.

## **Vehicles**

All Heidelberg University students are eligible to have one (1) vehicle on campus. All Heidelberg University students must register their vehicle annually within the first five (5) days of their first class or five (5) days following the acquisition of a new vehicle. There is a registration fee for students living on campus, and a registration fee for students who commute. Failure to register a vehicle will result in a fine for each ticket issued. Faculty and staff must register all vehicles driven to campus within the first five (5) days of their date of hire. To register your vehicle, log onto OASIS, and click on "Personal Information." Once your registration is complete, you may pick up your parking hanger by presenting your student ID at the Business Office. Vehicle Registration fees are billed to the student's account. The issued parking hanger must be hung on the inside rearview mirror so the numbers are visible from the outside of the vehicle. Purchasing a parking permit does not guarantee that a parking space will be provided. Students who choose to bring vehicles to campus must follow these guidelines:

According to Ohio law, all motor vehicles must carry personal and property liability insurance. The University has no liability, and assumes none, for a student driving or riding in a private car, nor does the University assume any responsibility for the loss or damage to motorized vehicles brought to campus or for liability whatsoever related to the ownership or use of student vehicles.

The owner and/or operator of a motor vehicle is responsible for any fines and costs incurred by the user of the vehicle.

Any fines incurred must be paid at the Business Office five (5) days from the date of issue. Fines not paid within five days will be posted to the student's account.

Abandoned Vehicles - No person shall willfully leave an abandoned vehicle on

University property for more than 72 hours when classes are not in session without permission of the Office of Campus Safety & Security. The driver of any inoperable vehicle must notify Campus Security of the location of the vehicle, the nature of the problem and when the vehicle will be moved.

Any abandoned vehicle remaining on University property more than 72 hours without permission from the Office of Campus Safety & Security will be towed at the owner's expense. The University will make reasonable attempts to contact the owner or driver of the vehicle through the University's vehicle registration system. Vehicles not listed in the registration system will be reported to the Tiffin police department.

An abandoned vehicle as defined by the Ohio Revised Code (Section 4513.64) is a motor vehicle that has been so left without permission or notification.

Temporary Parking Permit for Visitors - Visitors are not charged for temporary visitor permits. A temporary visitor permit can be obtained from the Office of Campus Safety & Security in the Campus Center, Office 129 or by email at [campus-security@heidelberg.edu](mailto:campus-security@heidelberg.edu). The temporary visitor permit must be displayed on the dashboard of the visitor's vehicle.

Visitors to the Admissions Office are welcome to use Parking Lot A. A temporary parking permit will be provided to you by the Admissions Office. Visitors conducting business with offices in University Hall or Founders Hall are welcome to use the 15 minute parking spaces in Parking Lot A. Visitors using Parking Lot A for longer than 15 minutes must obtain a temporary parking permit from campus security.

Visitors to the Athletic Department between the hours of 7:00 AM and 5:00 AM on Monday-Friday are welcome to use Parking Lots F and G. A temporary parking permit will be provided to you by the Athletic Department or you can contact the Office of Campus Safety & Security. Visitors for Athletic Events in Seiberling Gymnasium or Hoernemann Stadium should use Parking Lots F and G or the Lots at Peaceful Valley for Baseball and Softball or Hidden Valley for Soccer. NO parking permit is required for Athletic Events.

Overnight visitors must park in Lot G and obtain a temporary parking permit from Campus Security. All other visitors must use Parking Lots F and G and obtain a temporary parking permit from Campus Security.

Restricted Parking Areas/No Overnight Parking - Several parking spaces on campus are restricted for specific use. Parking spaces marked 'Handicapped' 'Service Vehicle' or 'University Vehicle' are restricted at all times. The following lots are restricted for the use noted. Restrictions apply from 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM Monday through Friday. Overnight parking in these lots is not permitted. Campus Security will ticket any vehicle parked in these lots after 2:00 AM.

- Lot A - University Hall lot – President, Provost, Admissions visitors and guests of

#### Heidelberg University

- Lot B - Founders lot – Faculty and staff
- Lot D - Berg Bistro 1850 guest dining only
- Lot E - Faculty/Staff area next to the education building directly behind France Residence Hall is Faculty/Staff only
- Lot F - Gillmor lot – Faculty, staff, commuters and visitors
- Lot J - Aigler lot – Faculty, staff and commuters
- Lot K - Brenneman lot – Faculty and staff

Berg Bistro 1850 - Community guests dining at the Berg Bistro 1850 and Parkhurst business partners and vendors are welcome to park in Lot D. Faculty, staff, and students are not permitted to park in Lot D at any time, even when dining in the Bistro.

24-Hour Parking - Vehicles registered to residential students may park in these lots 24/7.

- Lot C - Lot on north side of tennis courts next to railroad tracks
- Lot E - Lot behind Brown Hall and France Hall
- Lot G - Large lot beside Rock Creek on Rebecca Street
- Lot H - King Hall East lot
- Lot I - Krieg Hall lot

#### **Ticket Fines**

Any vehicle that is operated without due regard for safety within the campus area will be ticketed. [Parking Fine Information](#)

#### **Billing Process**

An email will be sent explaining the reason for the ticket, the fine and the appeal process. Parking fines will be billed to the student or employee account. Fines are to be paid in the business office.

#### **Appealing Your Ticket**

If you receive a ticket you have five (5) class days to appeal the ticket. If the ticket is not waived or appealed, the fine will be billed to your student or employee account. All appeals for a violation must be submitted via email to the Director of Campus Safety & Security at [jmcgraw@heidelberg.edu](mailto:jmcgraw@heidelberg.edu) within five (5) class days. The responsibility of finding a designated parking space rests with the vehicle owner/operator. Lack of space is not considered a valid excuse for violating parking regulations. Other unacceptable reasons for appealing a ticket include but are not limited to:

1. I only parked illegally for a few minutes
2. I was late for a class or event
3. I did not know the parking regulations
4. I parked there before and did not receive a ticket

5. Bad weather, train, etc.

### **Parking in the Community**

Heidelberg University will work with its neighbors to address issues that arise from inappropriate parking in the surrounding neighborhoods. It is inappropriate to park across a private resident's driveway, to park longer than 48 hours on public streets, or in the National Machinery parking lots (which are east of France Hall and Williard Hall). Violators are subject to potential tickets and or fines, and towing (at the owner/operator's expense) by the Tiffin City Police Department.

### **Towing**

The Office of Campus Safety & Security will contact the Tiffin City Police Department to have vehicles towed at the vehicle owner/operator's expense for the following reasons:

1. emergency situations
2. blocking other vehicles
3. creating a safety hazard
4. abandoned/disabled vehicles
5. any other situation determined necessary

The owner/operator of the vehicle will be responsible for all towing expenses and/or ticket fines. Any damages incurred as a result of the vehicle being towed will be the responsibility of the owner/operator. On campus parking privileges will be suspended until all ticket fines and registration fees are paid.

### **Special Needs Parking**

Special needs parking will be coordinated and managed by the Office of Campus Safety & Security and should be requested by contacting Campus Safety & Security at [campus-security@heidelberg.edu](mailto:campus-security@heidelberg.edu). Reserved spaces are not guaranteed and will be approved based on need and availability.

### **Weapons**

The Heidelberg University Board of Trustees mandates the following ban on all weapons. Additionally, the Board gives the administration the authority to enforce this policy. The possession, manufacture, transfer, sale, or use of weapons by anyone on University property, which includes personal vehicles, or at any University event, without the written authorization of Heidelberg University, is expressly prohibited. Likewise, the possession, manufacture, transfer, sale, or use of weapons is prohibited while conducting University business, whether or not on University property, or at a University sponsored event. This prohibition exists whether or not a federal or state license to possess a weapon has been issued to the possessor. Weapons are defined as any device or substance that is

designed, used, or likely to be used to cause bodily harm, or property damage. Included are firearms, which are defined as any gun, rifle, pistol, handgun or device designed to fire bullets, BBs, pellets, or shots (including paintballs), or other projectiles, regardless of the propellant used. Other weapons include but are not limited to Taser/stun guns, knives with fixed blades, switchblades, spring-loaded knives, pocket knives, kitchen utensils not used for their intended purpose, martial arts weapons, bow and arrows of any type, swords, brass knuckles, sling shots, explosives, or incendiary devices. This prohibition includes other items deemed by the Office of Campus Safety and Security to be dangerous, including but not limited to hazardous chemical or biological material of any sort, displays or collections of the weapons, ornamental weapons and ornamental ammunition. Prohibited items are subject to the immediate removal of the weapon from University property or at the University event.

Any member of the University community who observes an individual possessing, manufacturing, transferring, selling, or using a weapon and who reasonably believes that the individual is doing so without the consent of Heidelberg University should immediately report this to the Office of Campus Safety and Security. Likewise, any member of the community who observes unattended items they reasonably believe to be weapons should also immediately contact the Office of Campus Safety and Security with a description and location of these items.

The only exceptions to this policy are:

1. Authorized law enforcement officers or authorized military personnel, acting on behalf of and within the scope of their official duties, and to the extent they are legally permitted to possess weapons in the State of Ohio.
2. Persons legally permitted to possess weapons in the State of Ohio, to the extent that such possession is necessary as a part of an academic, research, or work related activity. Such use must have received prior written approval by the Director of Campus Safety and Security.
3. A State of Ohio Concealed Handgun licensee, who is transporting a handgun and where the handgun and all of the ammunition remains inside the person's privately owned motor vehicle while the person is physically present, or each handgun and all the ammunition is locked within the trunk, glove box or enclosed compartment or container within or on the person's privately-owned motor vehicle and the vehicle is in a location where vehicles are permitted.

### **Withdrawal from the University**

A withdrawal from the University occurs when a student wishes to drop all of their courses within a semester or does not plan to return for a semester following their current enrolled semester. Students who wish to withdraw should complete the on-line withdrawal form in their OASIS account. (Please go to your OASIS account and login. Select the Student tab, and then select Registration. There you will find a link to Online Withdrawal Form. To begin the form choose Tiffin Campus and Select Term (which is



the last term that you attended classes). Next, Start a new online withdrawal form. After completing the form, students must meet with the Dean of Student Affairs, or a designee, for an exit interview to determine their withdrawal date. The Dean of Student Affairs Office will assign a withdrawal date based on the criteria below:

1. The student's withdrawal date will be determined by the date the student submits an official intent to withdraw notice to the Dean of Student Affairs Office. Typically, this notice is submitted through the student's OASIS account.
2. If records show that a student attended classes later than the date submitted to the Dean of Student Affairs office, then the last date recorded by a class instructor will be used as the date of withdrawal.
3. If records show that, at a date later than any date cited above, the student met with an advisor, participated in a study group or academic support activity, completed assignments in Moodle, or had some other documented academic interaction with university personnel, then a determination shall be made by the Dean of Student Affairs Office as to whether the date of the activity will serve as the effective date of withdrawal.
4. If the Dean of Student Affairs office determines that the student, through no fault of their own, was unable to submit a timely, official withdrawal notice to the Dean of Student Affairs Office, then the Dean of Student Affairs Office may determine a withdrawal date earlier than the official notice date based on class attendance, completed assignments in Canvas, attendance at a meeting with an advisor, attendance at a study group, or any other academic interaction with university personnel.
5. Finally, if the last date of attendance cannot be determined, then the last date of final exams may be used. A student may rescind an official notification to withdraw by submitting a written statement to the Dean of Student Affairs Office that they are continuing to participate in academic activities and intend to complete the enrollment period. The rescind notice must be submitted prior to the end of the enrollment period in which the student was withdrawn.

#### Leave of Absence (Stop Out)

Students are expected to enroll in consecutive Fall and Spring terms until their degree is complete. If a student chooses to take time away from Heidelberg University for any reason, they can request a Leave of Absence. Students requesting a Leave of Absence should complete the Withdrawal Form located in OASIS. After completing the form, the student must meet with the Dean of Student Affairs as soon as possible for final approval.

Eligibility Requirements - To be eligible for a Leave of Absence, students must be eligible to register for classes and meet the following criteria:

1. Be a degree-seeking student.
2. Be registered during the semester immediately prior to the beginning of the Leave of Absence,
3. Students who were admitted as new first semester freshmen or transfer students but did not attend any classes are not eligible for a Leave of Absence. Instead, they

should contact the Office of Admissions.

4. Be in good academic standing, on academic watch or probation.
5. Have no hold (e.g., conduct, financial, etc.) which would normally restrict registration.

Students are permitted a Leave of Absence for no more than two semesters. Students on a Leave of Absence and ready to return must contact the Office of Admissions to reactivate their account. Students on a Leave of Absence are not considered enrolled at the University and do not have access to any amenities that are associated with full time enrollment.

### Administrative Withdrawal

Students are expected to be properly registered for courses prior to the initial drop/add date as outlined in the University catalog. Additionally, students are expected to regularly attend all courses in which they are enrolled. A student may be administratively withdrawn from one or more of their courses, or from the University when:

1. The student is not registered for classes prior to the semester drop/add date.
2. The student has not attended courses for which they are registered prior to the semester drop/add date.
3. The student's attendance and work for over half of those courses is erratic.
4. The student is on academic probation and is not following through with expectations for academic recovery.

Undergraduate students are administratively withdrawn the semester immediately following the last date of attendance. Graduate students are administratively withdrawn one year following the last semester attended.

### Readmission/Reactivation

Students who have withdrawn, taken a leave of absence, or were administratively withdrawn but wish to return to the University will follow the readmission policy with the Admission Office.

### Withdrawal For Medical Reasons

Appropriate action may be implemented when there is clear and convincing evidence that certain physical, psychological, or emotional health conditions interfere with the student's ability to function effectively in the academic environment, i.e.:

1. The student's state of health poses a substantial danger to the health or wellbeing of other members of the University community; or
2. The student is suffering from a mental disorder and as a result of that disorder engages or threatens to engage in behavior which:
  - a. Poses a substantial danger or risk of causing harm to self or to others;
  - b. Poses a substantial danger or risk to University property, or to the property of another member of the University community; or

- c. Results in conduct which substantially impedes or disrupts the authorized activities of other members of the University.

When the health of a student is alleged to be as defined above, the Dean of Student Affairs, or designee, shall consult with the student about the student's health status. If the Dean of Student Affairs decides it is necessary, the student may be required to submit to examination(s) deemed sufficient by the University health service, or other person/agency deemed by the Dean of Student Affairs, to evaluate such condition. The office of the Dean of Student Affairs will then review the case, including any medical evidence or opinion available, and determine appropriate University action. If the student fails to submit to an examination, or fails to furnish relevant health condition information, or if the review by the Dean of Student Affairs discloses the existence of an immediate danger to the University community as described above, the student may be subject to one or more of the following measures:

- conduct action:
- an immediate involuntary order to leave the campus;
- conditions appropriate to protect the University community may be placed upon continued enrollment; or immediate involuntary withdrawal from the University with an order to leave the campus.

In arriving at appropriate action, the Dean of Student Affairs will take into account reasonable action on the part of the University to accommodate the student's condition. Involuntary withdrawal will be used as a last resort.

If a student has been ordered to leave the campus, withdraw, or otherwise experienced modification of enrollment status by reason of health conditions enumerated described above, the student may petition for revision of that status through the office of the Dean of Student Affairs. Such request must be accompanied by supporting documentation that the conditions for revision of enrollment status have been fulfilled, and/or that the health condition has changed sufficiently to make such revision appropriate. Upon receipt of such request, the Dean of Student Affairs will evaluate the evidence, or consult with appropriate University health service and administrative officials for that purpose, and decide to:

- a. Revise the status, without condition;
- b. Revise the status, with specified conditions of continuation, such as medical treatment or disciplinary action; or
- c. Not revise the status.

The student must, in addition, meet all normal and appropriate standards for admission or enrollment set by the academic requirements of the University.

### Withdrawal For Military Deployment

This policy applies to all Heidelberg University students who are members of any of the branches of the US Armed Forces or National Guard (including Reservists). Heidelberg University students under this policy may have military obligations including active duty, disaster relief efforts, or training that require withdrawal from classes. Heidelberg has set the following policy to accommodate such students.

#### **Application for Military Absence**

Students may request a military absence by completing the online withdrawal form found in Oasis. In addition, such students will provide a copy of their military orders or alternate documentation to the Dean of Students. Upon approval, the Dean of Students Office will inform the Registrar's Office for processing. If the student is given orders that do not allow time for the student to notify the appropriate office, an individual tasked with managing the service member's responsibilities while gone (spouse, family member, etc.) may notify the campus and the campus will determine what further actions are appropriate. The student should make the request for military absence within one week of official notification by the military service.

#### **Management of Military Absence**

The Career and Military Services Office is the primary contact for the deployed student. A student military absence begins with the academic term in which the student received orders to active duty and ends with the start of the academic term immediately following their release from active duty. If the release from active duty was fewer than 30 calendar days before the start of the next term, the student may request an extension of one academic term, to be approved by the Career and Military Services Office. A student military absence can last up to five years.

#### **Options for Withdrawal from Courses**

Any qualified student applying for military absence may choose from the following options. Decisions can be made on a course-by-course basis, and all options may occur anytime during the semester through the end of final examinations.

Students withdrawing prior to completing 60% of the coursework will be withdrawn from all courses and receive a 100% refund of tuition and fees.

Students withdrawing after completing 60% of coursework may, in conjunction with individual instructors, determine whether to withdraw from the course, receive an

incomplete and work to complete coursework within one year, or receive a grade based on their current work in the course.

### **Financial Considerations**

1. Students receive a full tuition refund for those courses that will not be completed due to military obligation. Tuition will be recalculated to include only continued courses.
2. If a student has on-campus housing and/or a meal plan, they will be charged a prorated housing assessment to cover expenses already incurred for room and board and the housing balance and unused meal points will be refunded.
3. Students will maintain their university access account/email at no cost to the student.
4. Students will be guaranteed the ability to return under original term of enrollment with no reenrollment or other additional fees.
5. Students will be advised by the Financial Aid Office of actions required to defer loan(s) repayments based on active military duty obligations.

Students receiving financial aid will be subject to the refund policies as provided for by the agencies sponsoring the aid. Many programs through the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Department of Defense, and the Ohio National Guard have rules that could financially affect the feasibility of various options.

### **Transcripts**

The transcript for students who withdraw for military leave include a notation for that academic term or session that reads: “Withdrew due to military obligation.”

### **Return from leave**

Students returning from leave will contact the Career and Military Services Office and submit a Readmission Form without additional application fees within one term of the “release from active duty” date on military orders. Students returning from military leave will maintain the same academic status they had upon the leave being granted (e.g. good standing, academic probation) and financial eligibility if they meet eligibility requirements.

Readmission rights are terminated if the student has been dishonorably discharged from military service, court-martialed, or been convicted of a federal or state crime while on leave.

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## **HEIDELBERG UNIVERSITY STUDENT CODE**

### **INTRODUCTION**

By enrolling as a student into Heidelberg University and its community, students recognize their individual and collective responsibilities toward the development of a fair, just, mature, and diverse living and learning environment. Students are expected to uphold all rights and responsibilities of an adult, as outlined in the Student Code. Within the context of protecting the integrity and welfare of the University community, the student conduct process is centered on developing the student holistically. The conduct process stresses personal integrity and a behavior that positively reflects oneself and the University community.

### **ARTICLE I: DEFINITIONS**

1. The term “Administrative Hearing” is the opportunity for the Reporting/Responding Party to meet with the Dean of Student Affairs, Hearing Officer, Conduct Board, or any other designee assigned by the Dean of Student Affairs to administer the prescribed conduct process. The hearing process may or may not be recorded; however, determination from this process will be left to the discretion of the Dean of Student Affairs, or designee as listed above.
2. The term “Administrative Request to Meet” is the official communication sent from a Hearing Officer to an individual, who is believed to have first-hand knowledge of a potential policy violation. Meeting requests may occur through email, letter, or online platform. Failure to comply with this notice may result in a Charge Letter.
3. The term “Advisor” is any person affiliated or not affiliated with the Heidelberg University community that serves as a consultant to the Reporting Party or Responding Party during the duration of the conduct process, excluding Title IX processes. The Advisor may only communicate directly with the student and not actively participate in the conduct hearing. The Advisor can be removed at any time of the conduct process if the University official has determined the Advisor has violated the conduct process.
4. The term “Alumni” includes any and all people who have successfully completed course work toward graduation from the University.
5. The term “Appeals Board” means any person(s) authorized by the Dean of Student Affairs to consider an appeal from a student to determine if a decision from a Hearing Officer or Conduct Board was appropriate. The Appeals Board will make recommendations regarding the appeal status to the Dean of Student Affairs.
6. The term “Authority” is the scope and reach of the University to take appropriate actions

that will most effectively protect, preserve, and restore the welfare of the students and the interest of the University. All actions associated through this authority may take place in conjunction with or prior to all criminal and/or civil proceedings.

7. The term “Charge Letter” is the official notice of communication to a Reporting Party outlining the hearing process of the alleged violation of the Student Code that contains details of who, when, where, and why the Reporting Party is meeting with a Hearing Officer or Conduct Board.
8. The term “Clubs or Organizations” means any persons who have complied with the formal requirements for University recognition.
9. The term “Consent” means informed, freely given agreement, communicated by clearly understandable words or actions, to participate in each form of activity. Refer to Title IX Sex Discrimination & Gender-Based Misconduct Policy for additional information.
10. The term “Conduct Board” means any person(s) authorized by the Dean of Student Affairs, or a designee, to determine whether a student has violated the Student Code, offers the opportunity for the student(s) to be heard, and to impose sanctions when a policy violation has been committed. Conduct Board hearings are recorded for appeal purposes.
11. The “Dean of Student Affairs” is the person designated by the President as the Conduct Administrator overseeing a fair and equal process for students. The Dean of Students may identify other designees to serve as the Conduct Administrator.
12. The term “Guest” is any person visiting the University that is not enrolled in coursework or employed at the University. These individuals may not have the right to the same privileges as those enrolled or employed at the University unless authorized by the Dean of Student Affairs, or a designee.
13. The term “Hearing Officer” means any person who is authorized by the Dean of Student Affairs, or a designee, to facilitate the Student Conduct process. The Hearing Officer has the right to investigate any and all potential violations of the Student Code and impose sanctions when a policy violation has been committed.
14. The term “Impact Statement” refers to any statement regarding the impact of the events.
15. The term “May” is used in the permissive sense.
16. The term “Mediation” means a resolution can be disposed of administratively by mutual consent of the parties involved. Mediation is a problem solving process guided by a neutral third party who assists in understanding the issues and exploring options, with the goal of resolving the dispute without processing the issue through the conduct system. All parties have the opportunity to express their concerns. The mediator will not choose sides and will not attempt to determine who is telling the truth or who is lying.
17. The term “Policy” means the written regulations of the University as found in, but not



limited to, the Student Code, the Heidelberg University Student Handbook, the Heidelberg University Catalog, or on the Heidelberg University website.

18. The term “Reporting Party” means any person or university entity that reports a violation of the Student Code or federal/state/county/city law.
19. The term “Responding Party” means any person accused of violating the University policy, Student Code or federal/state/county/city law.
20. The term “Sanction Letter” is the official communication a Reporting Party will receive outlining the Hearing Officer’s or Conduct Board’s decision. This document will include the finding of the Hearing Officer or Conduct Board, listed sanctions imposed, and due dates for sanctions. This letter may include supplemental materials that further explain the imposed sanctions. The appeal process will follow at the end of this letter.
21. The term “Shall” is used in the imperative sense.
22. The term “Student” includes a person taking courses at the University, either full-time or part-time, pursuing undergraduate, graduate, or professional studies.
23. The term “University” means Heidelberg University.
24. The term “University Official” includes any person employed by the University, performing assigned administrative or professional responsibilities. This includes any person who is classified as faculty or staff or who is otherwise considered by the University to be an employed member.
25. The term “University Premises” includes all land, buildings, facilities, and other property in the possession of or owned, used, or controlled by the University (including adjacent streets and sidewalks).
26. The term “Witness” is any person identified with first-hand knowledge of an alleged policy violation in accordance with the Student Code.

## **ARTICLE II: STUDENT RIGHTS**

### **A. Rights of the Reporting Party (Victim)**

1. The right to receive notification of the section(s) of the Student Code allegedly violated, which includes the date, time, and place of any hearing on the alleged violation.
2. The right to challenge the objectivity or fairness of any person(s) serving on a Conduct Board or as a Hearing Officer. The decision to uphold any challenge rests with the Dean of Student Affairs, or designee. \
3. The right in disciplinary proceedings to have the presence of an Advisor. The Advisor may consult with the student, but may not address the Hearing Officer or Conduct Board or participate directly in the hearing. This Advisor may be any

person, including attorney, at the student's expense.

4. Upon request, the right to review a copy of each document pertinent to the alleged violation.
5. Upon request, the right to notification of the name of each person expected to testify at any hearing.
6. The right to introduce documents, to call witnesses, and present other evidence. The right to call witnesses is accompanied by the obligation to provide the name of each witness, in writing, two (2) class days in advance of a hearing to the Hearing Officer, Dean of Student Affairs, or a designee.
7. The right to be present at Conduct or Administrative Hearings regarding the alleged violation and to make or refrain from making statements unless violations occur within seven (7) days of the final examination schedule. Violations that occur during or after the above timeframe will be processed at the discretion of the Administrative Hearing Officer, Conduct Board or designee. (This right is not applicable to appeal hearings with the Dean of Student Affairs, or a designee, unless requested to appear).
8. The right to ask questions of any person participating in or providing information at a hearing. All questions asked by the Reporting Party are to be directed toward the Chair of the Conduct Board. In certain circumstances, questioning may be done outside the physical presence of those participating in the hearing.
9. The right to request to answer questions posed by the Responding Party outside of the physical presence of the accused. The Dean of Student Affairs, or a designee, will determine if such a request will be granted.
10. The right to submit, in writing, an impact statement to any conduct body. Impact statements are considered only after a decision is made that a violation occurred.
11. The right to receive timely written notification of any decision made.
12. The right to be granted, if reasonably available, a change in living assignment, academic arrangement, no contact order, or other steps necessary to prevent unnecessary or unwanted contact.
13. The right to request postponement of a hearing for good cause shown. In most cases, a postponement will only be granted due to an academically related commitment. The decision to postpone a hearing rests with the Hearing Officer, the Dean of Student Affairs, or a designee.
14. The right to appeal the decision of a hearing in accordance with University procedures.
15. The right to review the student's own record that exists of any hearing in

accordance with all state laws and the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act.

**B. Rights of Responding Party (Accused)**

1. The right to receive notification of the section(s) of the Student Code allegedly violated, which includes the date, time, and place of any hearing on the alleged violation.
2. The right to challenge the objectivity or fairness of any person(s) serving on a Conduct Board or as a Hearing Officer. The decision to uphold any challenge made rests with the Dean of Student Affairs, or designee.
3. The right in all disciplinary proceedings to have the presence of an Advisor. The Advisor may consult with the student, but may not address the Hearing Officer or Conduct Board or participate directly in the hearing. This Advisor may be any person, including attorney, at the student's expense.
4. Upon request, the right to review a copy of each document pertinent to the alleged violation.
5. Upon request, the right to notification of the name of each person expected to testify at any hearing.
6. The right to introduce documents, to call witnesses, and present other evidence. The right to call witnesses is accompanied by the obligation to provide the name of each witness, in writing, two (2) class days in advance of a hearing to the Hearing Officer, Dean of Student Affairs, or a designee.
7. The right to be present at Administrative Hearings on the alleged violation and to make or refrain from making statements unless violations occur within seven (7) days of the final examination schedule. Violations that occur during or after the above timeframe will be processed at the discretion of the Administrative Hearing Officer, Conduct Board or designee. (This right is not applicable to appeal hearings with the Dean of Student Affairs, or a designee, unless requested to appear).
8. The right to ask questions of any person participating in or providing information at a hearing. All questions asked by the Responding Party are to be directed toward the Chair of the Conduct Board. In certain circumstances, questioning may be done outside the physical presence of those participating in the hearing.
9. The right to request to answer questions posed by the Reporting Party outside of the physical presence of the accused. The Dean of Student Affairs, or a designee, will determine if such a request will be granted.
10. The right to submit, in writing, an impact statement to any conduct body. Impact statements are considered only after a decision is made that a violation occurred.

11. The right to receive timely written notification of any decision made.
12. The right to be granted, if reasonably available, a change in living assignment, academic arrangement, no contact order, or other steps necessary to prevent unnecessary or unwanted contact.
13. The right to request postponement of a hearing for good cause shown. In most cases, a postponement will only be granted due to an academically related commitment. The decision to postpone a hearing rests with the Hearing Officer, the Dean of Student Affairs, or a designee.
14. The right to appeal the decision of a hearing in accordance with University procedures.
15. The right to review the student's own record that exists of any hearing in accordance with all state laws and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.

### **ARTICLE III: PROSCRIBED CONDUCT**

#### **A. Jurisdiction of the Heidelberg University Student Code:**

The University Student Code shall apply to conduct, which occurs on University premises, at University sponsored activities, and to off-campus conduct, that adversely affects the University community and/or the pursuit of its objectives. Students shall be responsible for their conduct from the time of application for admission through the actual awarding of a degree, even though conduct may occur before classes begin or after classes end, as well as during the academic year and during periods between terms of actual enrollment (and even if their conduct is not discovered until after a degree is awarded). The Student Code shall apply to a student's conduct even if the student withdraws from the University while a disciplinary matter is pending. Violations of University policy which occur off campus are subject to University discipline. A degree awarded from the University may be revoked in accordance with Article IV(B)(2)(m). Any violation of student code that occurs seven days (7) prior to the final examination period and past the conclusion of the academic semester will be processed at the discretion of the Dean of Student Affairs, Hearing Officer, Conduct Board, or any other designee assigned by the Dean of Student Affairs to administer the prescribed conduct process.

#### **B. Conduct - Rules, Regulations, and Expected Community Norms**

Any student found to have committed or to have attempted to commit the following misconduct is subject to the disciplinary process and sanctions outlined in Article IV:

1. Abuse: Any kind of physical abuse, sexual misconduct, verbal or nonverbal abuse, threats, intimidation, harassment, coercion, and/or other conduct which threatens or

endangers the health or safety of any person.

2. Abuse of the Student Conduct System, including but not limited to:

- a. Failure to obey the notice from a Conduct Board or University official to appear for a meeting or hearing as part of the Student Conduct System.
- b. Falsification, distortion, or misrepresentation of information before a Conduct Board.
- c. Disruption or interference with the orderly conduct of a Conduct Board proceeding.
- d. Institution of a student conduct code proceeding in bad faith.
- e. Attempting to discourage an individual's proper participation in, or use of, the student conduct system.
- f. Attempting to influence the impartiality of a member of a Conduct Board prior to, and/or during the course of, the Conduct Board proceeding.
- g. Harassment (verbal or physical) and/or intimidation of a member of a Conduct Board prior to, during and/or after a student conduct code proceeding.
- h. Failure to comply with the sanction(s) imposed under the Student Code
- i. Influencing or attempting to influence another person to commit an abuse of the student conduct code system.

3. Accommodation Violation: a student who violates any accommodation will be processed through the conduct system for failure to comply and/or other violations.

4. Alcohol Violation:

- a. Use or possession of alcoholic beverages except as expressly permitted by University regulations as well as under federal and state laws.
- b. Manufacturing of alcoholic beverages except as expressly permitted by University regulations.
- c. Public Intoxication
- d. Underage possession or consumption by any person under twenty-one (21) years of age.
- e. Distribution of alcohol to any person under twenty-one (21) years of age.
- f. Complicity. (See complicity policy below).

5. Assault: is an unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury.

6. Behavior Unbecoming: Behavior unbecoming of a Heidelberg University student or behavior which reflects poorly upon the Heidelberg University community.

7. Bias: Bias is the prejudice in favor of or against one thing, person, or group compared with another, usually in a way considered to be unfair. The categories of bias include the victim's actual or perceived race, religion, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, ethnicity, national origin, and disability

8. Breaking and Entering: No person by force, stealth, or deception, shall trespass in an unoccupied structure with purpose to commit therein any theft offense.

9. Bullying: Bullying includes any intentional electronic, written, verbal, or physical act or a series of acts directed at another person or persons on the basis of sex, gender, or sexual orientation, that is severe, persistent, or pervasive and that has the intended effect of doing any of the following:

- substantially interfering with a person's education or work;
- creating a threatening environment; or
- substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the University.

10. Burglary: is the unlawful entry of a structure with the intent to commit a felony or theft. For reporting purposes this definition includes unlawful entry with the content to commit larceny or felony; breaking and entering with the intent to commit a larceny; housebreaking; safecracking; and all attempts to commit the aforementioned.

11. Community Standards Violation: Students are required to engage in responsible social conduct that reflects credit upon the University community and to model good citizenship in any community.

12. Complicity: Complicity is condoning, supporting, or encouraging any violation of the Student Code. Students who anticipate or observe any violation of the Student Code or local/state/federal law are expected to remove themselves from association or participation in any such inappropriate behavior and report such violation(s) to the proper authority. Failing to remove self from or report violation to appropriate authority is ample reason to associate violation to the student(s) involved.

13. Computer Policy Violations: Theft or other abuse of computer facilities and resources, including but not limited to:

- a. Unauthorized entry into an account to use, read, or change the content(s), or for any other purpose.
- b. Unauthorized transfer of a file.

- c. Use of another individual's identification and/or password.
- d. Use of computing facilities and resources to interfere with the work of another student, faculty member or University official.
- e. Use of computing facilities and resources to send obscene or abusive messages.
- f. Use of computing facilities and resources to interfere with normal operation of the University computing systems.
- g. Use of computing facilities and resources in violation of copyright laws, or any local, state, federal, or international laws..
- h. Any violation of the University's Information Technology Use and Security Policy.

14. Dating Violence: "Dating violence" means violence committed by a person:

- a. Who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim; and
- b. Where the existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on a consideration of the following factors:
  - i. The length of the relationship;
  - ii. The type of relationship;
  - iii. The frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.

15. Destruction of Property: Destruction of property is the attempt or actual damage to, and/or threat to property of the University, property of a member of the University community, or other personal or public property, on or off campus.

16. Discrimination - It is the policy of Heidelberg University not to engage in discrimination or harassment against any person because of race, color, national and ethnic origin, age, political affiliation, socioeconomic status, sex, veteran status, or disability in the administration of its admissions policies, educational policies and programs, financial aid programs, employment practices, and athletic and other school administered programs and activities and to comply with all federal and state non discrimination, equal opportunity, and affirmative action laws, orders, and regulations, including remaining complaint and consistent with the Civil Rights Act; the Americans with Disabilities Act; the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. This policy on non-discrimination applies to admissions, enrollment scholarships and financial aid, participation in University activities, employment and access to, participation in, and treatment in all University centers, programs and activities.

17. Dishonesty: Acts of dishonesty, including but not limited to the following:

- a. Furnishing false information to any University official, faculty member, office, or affiliate.

- b. Forgery, alteration or misuse of any University document, record, or instrument of identification.

18. Disruption: Disruption or obstruction of teaching, research, administration, disciplinary proceedings, or other University activities, including its public service functions on or off campus or of other authorized non-University activities, when the conduct occurs on University premises.

19. Domestic Violence: “Domestic violence,” which is defined to include felony or misdemeanor crimes of violence committed:

- a. by a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim,
- b. by a person with whom the victim shares a child in common,
- c. by a person who is cohabitating with or has cohabitated with the victim as a spouse or intimate partner,
- d. by a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction, or
- e. by any other person against an adult or youth victim who is protected from that person’s acts under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction.

20. Drug Violation: A drug violation may occur when:

- a. Use or possession of marijuana, heroin, narcotics, or other controlled substances except as expressly permitted by law.
- b. Manufacturing or distribution of marijuana, heroin, narcotics, or other controlled substances except as expressly permitted by law.
- c. Improper use, distribution, or manufacturing of prescription drugs. d.

Complicity (See complicity policy above).

21. Email Violation: Failure to regularly check campus mail and Heidelberg issued email accounts for important University information.

22. Failure to Comply: Failure to comply with directions of University officials or law enforcement officers acting in the performance of their duties and/or failure to identify oneself to these persons when requested to do so.

23. Gambling: Gambling for money or other things of value on campus or at University sponsored activities is prohibited except as permitted by law. Such prohibited activity includes, but is not limited to, betting on, wagering on, or selling pools on any University athletic event; possessing on one’s person or premises (e.g., room, residence unit, car) any card, book, or other device for registering bets; knowingly permitting the use of one’s



premises or one's phone or other electronic communications device for illegal gambling; knowingly receiving or delivering a letter, package or parcel related to illegal gambling; offering, soliciting, or accepting a bribe to influence the outcome of an athletic event; and involvement in bookmaking or wagering pools with respect to athletic events.

24. Harassment: Harassment is any unwelcome advance, request, or other unwanted verbal or physical conduct when one or more of the following conditions are present:

- a. Submission to or rejection of such conduct is an explicit or implicit condition of an individual's employment, evaluation of academic work, or any aspect of a University program or activity;
- b. Submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for decisions affecting the individual; or
- c. Such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work or academic performance, i.e. it is sufficiently severe, pervasive, or persistent as to create an intimidating, hostile, humiliating, demeaning, or offensive working, academic, residential, or social environment under both an objective and subjective standard.

25. Harmful Behavior: Harmful behavior is discrimination or unwelcome conduct, including but not limited to, verbal, written or electronic communication against another individual that is based upon an individual's protected category as defined by local/state/federal law that is so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it substantially interferes with the ability to work, learn, live, or participate in, or benefit from services or activities or privileges provided by the University. Harmful Behavior can also be conduct that is disorderly, lewd, or indecent.

26. Hazing: Hazing is defined as an act which endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student, or which destroys or removes public or private property for the purpose of initiation to, admission into, affiliation with, or as a condition for continued membership in a group or organization. The express or implied consent of the victim will not be a defense. Apathy or acquiescence in the presence of hazing are not neutral acts; they are violations of this rule.

27. Intimidation: Intimidation is any verbal, written, or electronic threats of violence or other threatening behavior directed toward another person or group on the basis of sex, gender, or sexual orientation that reasonably leads the person(s) in the group to fear for her/his physical well-being.

28. Parking Violation - Any violation of the parking policies listed above or on the Heidelberg website.

29. Physical Assault: Physical assault is a purposeful action meant to hurt another person. Examples include, but are not limited to, kicking, punching, hitting with or throwing an

object, or biting, when these acts occur in the context of intimate-partner violence or when the behavior is perpetrated on the basis of sex, gender, or sexual orientation.

**30. Sexual Assault:** Sexual Assault is a forcible or non-forcible sex offense as classified under the Uniform Crime Reporting system of the FBI to include:

- a. Rape – The carnal knowledge of a person, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her age or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity. Carnal knowledge is defined as the slightest penetration of the sexual organ of the female (vagina) by the sexual organ of the male (penis). Attempts or assaults to commit rape are considered rape under this Policy.
- b. Sodomy – Oral or anal sexual intercourse with another person, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her age or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.
- c. Sexual Assault With An Object – To use an object or instrument to unlawfully penetrate, however slightly, the genital or anal opening of the body of another person, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her age or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity. An object or instrument is anything used by the offender other than the offender's genitalia, e.g., a finger, bottle, handgun, stick.
- d. Fondling – The touching of the private body parts of another person for the purpose of sexual gratification, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her age or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.
- e. Incest – Sexual intercourse between persons who are related to each other within the degrees wherein marriage is prohibited by law.
- f. Statutory Rape – Sexual intercourse with a person who is under the statutory age of consent. In Ohio, no person may have sex with a child under the age of thirteen, nor may a person over the age of eighteen have sex with a child under the age of sixteen.

**31. Sexual Exploitation:** Sexual exploitation is an act or acts committed through non consensual abuse or exploitation of another person's sexuality for the purpose of sexual gratification, financial gain, personal benefit or advantage, or any other non-legitimate purpose. The act or acts of sexual exploitation are prohibited even though the behavior does not constitute one of the other sexual misconduct offenses.

Examples of sexual exploitation include:

- observing another individual's nudity or sexual activity or allowing another to observe consensual sexual activity without the knowledge and consent of all parties involved;
- non-consensual streaming of images, photography, video, or audio recording of sexual activity or nudity, or distribution of such without the knowledge and consent of all parties involved;
- prostituting another individual;
- exposing one's genitals in non-consensual circumstances;
- knowingly exposing another individual to a sexually transmitted disease or virus without that individual's knowledge; and
- inducing incapacitation for the purpose of making another person vulnerable to non-consensual sexual activity for the purpose of making another person vulnerable to non-consensual sexual activity

32. Sexual Harassment: Conduct on the basis of sex that satisfies one or more of the following:

- (1) An employee of the recipient conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of the recipient on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct;
- (2) Unwelcome conduct determined by a reasonable person to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the recipient's education program or activity; or
- (3) Sexual assault
- (4) Dating violence
- (5) Domestic violence
- (6) Stalking

33. Sexual Misconduct: Sexual misconduct is a type of violence that uses power, control, and/or intimidation to harm another. It includes sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. It occurs when there is an absence of consent. Consent is a free and clearly given yes, not the absence of a no, and cannot be received when a person is incapacitated by alcohol or drugs.

34. Stalking: "Stalking" means engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to:

- a. Fear for his or her safety or the safety of others; or
- b. Suffer substantial emotional distress.

35. Theft: Attempted or actual theft of, damage to, and/or threat to property of the University or property of a member of the University community or other personal or

public property, on or off campus.

36. Unauthorized Entry or Use: Unauthorized possession, duplication or use of keys or student identification at any University function/sponsored event, or unauthorized entry to or use of University premises. Permission to enter a premise or use alternate identification can only be approved by the Dean of Student Affairs, or a designee.

37. Federal, State, Local Law or University policy, rule, or regulation published in hard copy or available electronically on the University website or on federal, state or local community law websites. (The electronically available policies, rules and regulations are the most current and active version of the Student Code for Heidelberg University.)

38. Dissent and Assembly Policy: Please see Dissent and Assembly Policy above.

39. Privacy: Violation of privacy is the making, attempting to make, transmitting, or attempting to transmit audio, video, or images of any person(s), or viewing or spying on any person(s) where there is an explicit expectation of privacy (such as a dwelling, bathroom, locker room, University employee's office, etc.) without knowledge and prior consent of all participants.

40. Weapons: Illegal or unauthorized possession of firearms, pellet guns, explosives, other weapons, or dangerous chemicals on University premises or use of any such item, even if legally possessed, in a manner that harms, threatens or causes fear to others.

41. Hate Crime: Crimes reported to local police agencies or to a campus security authority that manifests evidence that the victim was intentionally selected because of the perpetrator's bias against the victim.

#### C. Violation of Law and/or University Discipline:

1. University disciplinary proceedings may be instituted against a student charged with conduct that potentially violates both the criminal law and this Student Code (that is, if both possible violations result from the same factual situation) without regard to the pendency of a civil or criminal litigation in court or criminal arrest and prosecution. Proceedings under this Student Code may be carried out prior to, simultaneously with, or following civil or criminal proceedings off campus at the discretion of the Dean of Student Affairs. Determinations made or sanctions imposed under the Student Code shall not be subject to change because criminal charges arising out of the same facts giving rise to violation of University rules were dismissed, reduced, or resolved in favor of or against the criminal law defendant.

2. When a student is charged by federal, state or local authorities with a violation of law, the University will not request or agree to special consideration for that individual because of their status as a student. If the alleged offense is also being processed under the Student Code, the University may advise off-campus authorities of the existence of the Student Code and of how such matters are

typically handled within the University community. The University will attempt to cooperate with law enforcement and other agencies in the enforcement of criminal law on campus and in the conditions imposed by criminal courts for the rehabilitation of student violators (provided that the conditions do not conflict with campus rules or sanctions). Individual students, and other members of the University community, acting in their personal capacities, remain free to interact with governmental representatives as they deem appropriate.

## **ARTICLE IV: STUDENT CONDUCT CODE PROCEDURES**

### **A. Charges and Administrative Hearing**

1. Any person may file charges against a student for violations of the Student Code. A charge shall be prepared in writing and directed to the Conduct Administrator, or through an on-line Incident Communication Form (ICF). Any charge should be submitted as soon as possible after the event takes place, preferably within twenty-eight (28) class days of the date of the incident. However, the University has the right to process any charge filed regardless of when the incident occurred.
2. The Hearing Officer or Conduct Administrator, or a designee, may conduct an investigation to determine if the charges have merit and/or if they can be disposed of by an administrative hearing by mutual consent of the parties involved through mediation or arbitration on a basis acceptable to the Hearing Officer/Conduct Administrator. Such disposition/mediation/arbitration shall be final and there shall be no subsequent proceedings. If the charges are not admitted and/or cannot be disposed of by mutual consent, the Hearing Officer/Conduct Administrator may later serve in the same matter as the Conduct Board or a member thereof. If the student admits violating institutional rules, but sanctions are not agreed to, subsequent process, including a hearing, if necessary, shall be limited to determining the appropriate sanction(s).
3. All charges shall be presented to the Responding Party in written form. A time shall be set for an Administrative or Conduct Board Hearing, not less than two (2) class days but no more than fifteen (15) class days after the student has been notified (exceptions may be made if holiday or break schedules are . Maximum time limits for scheduling of Administrative or Conduct Board Hearings may be extended at the discretion of the Conduct Administrator.
4. Administrative Hearings shall be conducted by a Conduct Board or Hearing Officer according to the following guidelines except as provided by Article IV(A)(7) below:
  - a. Administrative Hearings normally shall be conducted in private.
  - b. The Responding Party, Reporting Party and their advisors, if any, shall

be allowed to attend the entire portion of the Administrative Hearing at which information is received (excluding deliberations). Admission of any other person to the Administrative Hearing shall be at the discretion of the Conduct Board and/or Hearing Officer.

c. In Administrative Hearings involving more than one Reporting Party, the Conduct Board or Hearing Officer, to their discretion, may permit the Administrative Hearing concerning each student to be conducted either separately or jointly.

d. The Responding Party and the Reporting Party have the right to be assisted by an advisor they choose. The Responding Party and/or the Reporting Party is responsible for presenting their own information and, therefore, advisors are not permitted to speak or to participate directly in any Administrative Hearing before a Conduct Board or Hearing Officer. A student should select as an advisor a person whose schedule allows attendance at the scheduled date and time for the Administrative Hearing because delays will not normally be allowed due to the scheduling conflicts of an advisor unless extenuating circumstances are approved by the Dean of Student Affairs, or a designee.

e. The Responding Party, the Reporting Party, and the Conduct Board or Hearing Officer may arrange for witnesses to present pertinent information to the Conduct Board or Hearing Officer. The University will try to arrange the attendance of possible witnesses who are members of the University community, if reasonably possible, and who are identified by the Responding Party and/or Reporting Party at least two class days prior to the Administrative Hearing. Witnesses will provide information to and answer questions from the Conduct Board or Hearing Officer. Questions must be directed to the Conduct Board Chair or Hearing Officer. Responding Party(s) or Reporting Party(s) may not ask direct questions to one another. This method is used to preserve the educational tone of the hearing and to avoid creation of an adversarial environment. Questions of whether potential information will be received shall be resolved at the discretion of the Conduct Board Chair or Hearing Officer.

f. Pertinent records, exhibits and written statements (including absent witness reports) may be accepted as information for consideration by a Conduct Board or Hearing Officer at the discretion of the chair or Hearing Officer.

g. All procedural questions are subject to the final decision of the Conduct Board Chair or Hearing Officer.

h. After the portion of the Administrative Hearing concludes in which all

pertinent information has been received, the Conduct Board or Hearing Officer shall determine (by majority vote if the Conduct Board consists of more than one person) whether the Reporting Party has violated each section of the Student Code for which they have been charged with violating.

i. The Conduct Board's or Hearing Officer's determination shall be made on the basis of whether it is more likely than not (a preponderance of evidence) that the Reporting Party violated the Student Code.

j. Formal rules of process, procedure, and/or technical rules of evidence, such as are applied in criminal or civil court, are not used in Student Code proceedings.

k. There shall be a single verbatim record, such as a tape recording of all Conduct Hearings before a Conduct Board (not including deliberations). Deliberations shall not be recorded. Minutes of Administrative Hearings may be taken by a University administrative assistant. The record shall be the property of the University. Only Conduct Board hearings are tape recorded. Administrative hearings may be recorded at the discretion of the Hearing Officer.

l. If a Reporting Party, with notice, does not appear before an Administrative/Conduct Board Hearing, the information in support of the charges shall be presented and considered even if the Reporting Party is not present. Ample attempts of contact to the Reporting Party or Responding Party will be made prior to a scheduled hearing.

m. The Conduct Board or Hearing Officer may accommodate medical or physical disabilities, as well as concerns for the personal safety, wellbeing, and/or fears of confrontation of the Responding Party, Reporting Party, and/or other witness(es) during the Administrative Hearing by providing separate facilities, by using a visual screen, and/or by permitting participation by telephone, videophone, closed circuit television, video conferencing, videotape, audio tape, written statement, or other means, where and as determined in the sole judgment of the Dean of Student Affairs, or a designee, to be appropriate.

## B. Sanctions

The Dean of Student Affairs, or a designee when appropriate, reserves the right to notify parent(s) or guardian(s), faculty, or staff of any or all levels of disciplinary sanctions. The following sanctions may be imposed upon any student found to have violated the Student Code:

a. Deferred Suspension – This sanction is a suspension that is delayed pending specified behavioral performance. A definite period of observation and review occurs during deferred suspension. If a student is found responsible of violating the Student Code again, the suspension will take place immediately without appeal.

b. Discretionary Sanctions – Sanctions that work to restore, repair, or reverse the damage(s) done by a Student Code violation or other related discretionary assignments.

c. Educational Measures – Work assignments, essays, workshops, class(es), service to the University, or other related educational assignments.

d. Expulsion - Permanent separation of the student, group, or organization from the University.

e. Fines - Previously established and published fines may be imposed.

f. Housing Reassignment - Required move from housing unit to another on campus.

g. Interim Suspension - In certain circumstances, the Dean of Student Affairs, or a designee, may impose a University or residence hall suspension prior to the Administrative Hearing. Interim suspension may be imposed only:

- i. to ensure the safety and well-being of members of the University community or preservation of University property;
- ii. to ensure the student's own physical or emotional safety and wellbeing;  
or
- iii. if the student poses an ongoing threat of disruption of, or interference with, the normal operations of the University. During the interim suspension, a student may be denied access to the residence halls and/or to the campus (including classes) and/or all other University activities or privileges for which the student might otherwise be eligible, as the Dean of Student Affairs, or a designee, may determine to be appropriate. The interim suspension does not replace the regular process, which shall proceed on the normal schedule, up to and through an Administrative Hearing, if required.

h. Loss of Privileges - Denial of specified privileges for a designated period of time.

i. Notifications – A written notification to parent, guardian, coach, advisor and/or University officials regarding Student Code violation(s).



j. Probation - A written reprimand for violation of specified regulations. Probation is for a designated period of time and includes the probability of more severe disciplinary sanctions if the student is found to violate any institutional regulation(s) during the probationary period.

k. Restitution - Compensation for loss, damage or injury. This may take the form of appropriate service and/or monetary or material replacement.

l. Revocation of Degree – A degree awarded from the University may be revoked for violation of University standards in obtaining the degree, or for other serious violations committed by a student prior to graduation.

m. Suspension - Separation of the student/group/organization from the University for a definite period of time, after which the student, group, or organization is eligible to return. Conditions for readmission or reinstatement may be specified.

n. Warning - A notice in writing to the student that the student is violating or has violated institutional regulations.

o. Withholding Degree – The University may withhold awarding a degree otherwise earned until the completion of the process set forth in the Student Conduct Code, including the completion of all sanctions imposed, if any.

More than one of the sanctions listed above may be imposed for any single violation.

Failure to complete a sanction to the expectations of the assigning Hearing Officer may result in a conduct hold being placed on the student's account until the sanction is completed as outlined.

Other than University expulsion or revocation or withholding of a degree, disciplinary sanctions shall not be made part of the student's permanent academic record, but shall become part of the student's disciplinary record with the Dean of Student Affairs Office. Upon graduation, the student's disciplinary record may be expunged of disciplinary actions (other than University Suspension, University expulsion, or revocation or withholding of a degree), upon application to the Dean of Student Affairs, or a designee. Cases involving the imposition of sanctions other than University Suspension, University expulsion, or revocation or withholding of a degree shall be expunged from the student's confidential record seven years after the student leaves the University. In situations involving both a Reporting Party (or group or organization) and a student claiming to be the victim of another student's conduct, the records of the process and of the sanctions imposed, if any, shall be considered to be the education records of both the Reporting Party and the student claiming to be the victim, because the educational career and chances of success in the academic community of each may be impacted.

All recognized student groups, clubs, and organizations are subject to all sanctions listed

in the Student Handbook. In each case, in which a Conduct Board or Hearing Officer determines that a student group, club, or organization has violated the Student Code, the sanction(s) shall be determined and imposed by the Conduct Administrator, or a designee. In cases where persons other than, or in addition to, the Conduct Administrator have been authorized to serve as a member of the Conduct Board, the recommendation of the Conduct Board shall be considered by the Conduct Administrator, or a designee, in determining and imposing sanctions. The Conduct Administrator, or designee, is not limited to sanctions recommended by members of the Conduct Board. Following an Administrative Hearing, the Conduct Board and the Conduct Administrator, or a designee, shall advise the Reporting Party, group, club, or organization (and Responding students who believe they were the victim(s) of another student's conduct) in writing of its determination and of the sanction(s) imposed, if any.

### C. Appeals

A decision reached by the Conduct Board and/or Hearing Officer, may be appealed by the Reporting Party(s) or Responding Party(s) to the Dean of Student Affairs, or a designee, within five (5) class days of the decision. Such appeals shall be in writing and shall be delivered to the Dean of Student Affairs, or a designee, or the Appeals Board.

Except as required to explain the basis of new information, an appeal shall be limited to the following purposes:

- a. To determine whether the Administrative or Conduct Board Hearing was conducted fairly in light of the charges and information presented, and in conformity with prescribed procedures giving the Responding party a reasonable opportunity to prepare and to present information that the Student Code was violated, and giving the Reporting Party a reasonable opportunity to prepare and to present a response to those allegations. Deviations from designated procedures will not be a basis for sustaining an appeal unless significant prejudice results.
- b. To determine whether the decision reached regarding the Responding/Reporting Party was based on preponderance of information, that is, whether there were facts in the case that, if believed by the fact finder, were sufficient to establish that a violation of the Student Code occurred.
- c. To determine whether the sanction(s) imposed were appropriate for the violation of the Student Code that the student was found to have committed.
- d. To consider new information, sufficient to alter a decision, or other relevant facts not brought out in the original Administrative Hearing, because such information and/or facts were not known to the person appealing at the time of the original Administrative Hearing.

If the Dean of Student Affairs or the Appeals Board upholds the appeal, one of the following will happen:

- a. If the Reporting Party(s) or Responding Party(s) alleges that the sanction was inappropriate and the Dean of Student Affairs, or a designee, or the Appeals Board finds the sanction to be inappropriate, the Dean of Student Affairs, or a designee, or the Appeals Board may reduce the sanction.
- b. If the Reporting Party(s) or Responding Party(s) alleges that there was a defect in procedure or new information is presented and the Dean of Student Affairs, or a designee, or the Appeals Board finds that there was a defect in procedure or new information was presented, which was sufficiently substantial to have affected the outcome, the Dean of Student Affairs, or a designee, or the Appeals Board will order a new hearing.

If an appeal is not upheld, the matter shall be considered final and binding upon all involved.

#### D. Fines

Fines are penalty fees payable to the University for violation of certain regulations within the Student Code of Conduct. Fines are designed to provide deterrents to prospective violators and to assign accountability to actual violators. The violations in the list below represent behaviors that contradict the Mission of the University and often result in damage to University property, reputation, or hazards to individual safety. Fines are in addition to other university sanctions and will be placed on the student(s) account upon completion of sanctioning. This list is not exhaustive, and may be amended at the discretion of the Dean of Student Affairs:

1. Student Conduct Fee: \$25 for sanctions processed for any university policy violations.
2. Alcohol policy: \$50 (Includes the costs for university educational programming).
3. False fire alarm: \$750, plus restitution for all costs associated with the false alarm, including, but not limited to, costs of any municipal and/or county fire responses. The student may be subject to additional fines in the criminal process.
4. Defacing University property (e.g. painting on walls, etc.): Costs for cleanup, repair, and/or replacement.
5. Drug possession, use (misuse), sale, or distribution: \$100 (Includes the costs for university educational programming).
6. Failure to attend a student conduct meeting or hearing: \$25
7. Failure to complete a sanction by the established deadline: \$25
8. Tampering with any life safety related system (i.e. fire extinguishers, fire suppression system, sprinkler heads, smoke detectors, carbon

monoxide detectors, etc.): \$750, plus restitution for all costs associated with the false alarm, including, but not limited to, costs of any municipal and/or county fire responses. The student may be subject to additional fines in the criminal process.

9. Fire extinguisher tampering: \$750, plus costs for clean up, repair, replacement, and/or refill.

10. Pets or animals violation: \$35 (per day of violation), plus costs for clean up, repair, replacement, infestation treatment, and/or other restitution. Use of ESA or assistance animals shall be reviewed by appropriate University officials. Failure to ensure proper behavior of any assistance animal, including, but not limited to, damage caused by the ESA or assistance animal, interference with the orderly and safe operation of the University, infestation and clean-up, may result in the assistance animal being banned from campus.

11. Restitution for lost, stolen, or damaged property: \$50 plus the cost of replacement

12. Tobacco Policy violation: \$50 (Smoking or use of tobacco, vaping, or burning of incense, candles or other incendiary devices in a residence hall or inside any university facility or on property)

13. Violation of the weapons policy: \$150

14. Second violation of the same policy: Charge Doubled and additional sanctions

15. Third violation of the same policy: Charge Tripled and additional sanctions

## **ARTICLE V: INTERPRETATION AND REVISION**

Any question of interpretation or application of the Student Code shall be referred to the Dean of Student Affairs, or a designee, for final determination. The Student Code shall be reviewed at least every three (3) years under the direction of the Dean of Student Affairs.

*-Revised 08/2023*

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