

UC Irvine Student Conduct process on COVID-19 compliance

This document is intended to provide guidance on addressing health and safety compliance for students and registered campus organizations related to COVID-19. The University's approach is fundamentally grounded in educating students on their behavior and the impacts of the behavior to the campus community. For students and registered campus organizations who violate university policies or campus directives, the Office of Academic Integrity & Student Conduct (OAISC) will use the [Policies Applying to Campus Activities, Organizations and Students \(PACAOS\)](#) to address COVID-related violations. Some of those policies include, but are not limited to:

102.07 Violation of Housing Policies

102.13 Obstruction or disruption of teaching, research, administration, disciplinary procedures, or other University activities

102.14 Disorderly or lewd conduct

102.16 Failure to Comply

UCI COVID-19 Executive Directives <https://uci.edu/coronavirus/executive-directives/index.php>

Incidents should be reported via OAISC's regular conduct public report form. This can be accessed here: https://uci-advocate.symplicity.com/public_report/

OAISC will take appropriate action depending on the seriousness of the violation and whether the student or registered campus organization has had prior conduct-related issues (COVID or non-COVID related), regardless of where they occur(ed) on campus, which includes Student Housing and American Campus Communities properties. As noted in [Policies Applying to Campus Activities, Organizations and Students \(PACAOS\)](#), these standards of conduct and this process may apply to conduct that occurs off campus and that would violate student conduct and discipline policies or regulations if the conduct occurred on campus. Depending on the conduct, the behavior may be alleged to violate one or more current policy. More egregious violations will be treated separately. OAISC also has the discretion to recommend interim measures, including interim suspension (105.08) in cases requiring immediate intervention.

Once an incident report is submitted, OAISC will review the report received and determine if the student or registered campus organization is alleged to have violated university policy. If a meeting with the student or registered campus organization is not necessary, OAISC will issue an Advisory letter explaining the nature of the behaviors reported as well as the University's expectations for their behavior. The language in the letter will also include potential outcomes if there are future violations of policy. This Advisory letter will be kept on file in case of future incidents. If a meeting with the student or registered campus organization is necessary, OAISC will assign a meeting date and time to expedite the process.

Under standard circumstances, OAISC will use the following framework as guidance in addressing these issues depending on the context and severity of the case. **Note this is not necessarily a linear process, and OAISC has discretion to assign level and sanctions as appropriate:**

1. Advisory letter – This response is appropriate if the student or registered campus organization was notified of the possible policy violation(s) and complied with the policy, including an executive directive.
Examples:
 - Student/resident was not wearing a face covering on a UCI controlled property but complies when reminded
 - Student/resident does not comply with Daily Symptom Check instructions
2. Level 1: This response is appropriate for either non-compliance for a first-time violation, or for a student or registered campus organization who already has an Advisory letter on file.
 - a. Typical Sanctions:
 - i. Warning
 - ii. Educational componentExamples:
 - Student/resident is on UCI controlled property without a mask but puts one on when asked or provided with one
 - Student/resident has not complied with Daily Symptom Check after an Advisory letter
 - Student/resident is not adhering to physical distancing guidelines but complies when reminded
3. Level 2: This response is appropriate for a student or registered campus organization who already has an advisory letter on file and has a second more serious non-compliance, or for a first-time violation, or for a second-time violation where the student or registered campus organization has already received a Level 1 sanction.
 - a. Typical Sanctions:
 - i. Disciplinary Probation (duration is dependent on severity)
 - ii. Loss of privileges or restrictions from areas of campus will be considered (e.g. not allowed to go to specific places on campus or not allowed on campus). If violated, this would be non-compliance.
 - iii. Reflection Paper (or educational component)Examples:
 - Student/resident has not completed Healthy Practices Training after reminder from OVCSA
 - Student/resident has not completed required testing after reminder
 - Repeated violation of any other Executive Directive
4. Level 3: This response is appropriate for a student or registered campus organization who already has 2 prior incidents with standard circumstances or an egregious and deliberate violation of the policy or executive directive.
 - a. Typical Sanction:
 - i. Suspension (duration dependent on severity)Examples:
 - Student/resident is disregarding an Executive Directive or refuses to comply

- Student/resident intentionally and/or willfully boards an Anteater Express Shuttle without a face covering after being instructed to wear one
 - Student's/resident's behavior is blatantly threatening the health and/or safety of other community members
 - Continued repeated violation of any other Executive Directive
5. Level 4: This response is appropriate for a student or registered campus organization who already has 3 prior incidents with standard circumstances or an egregious and deliberate violation of the policy or executive directive.
- a. Typical Sanction:
 - i. Dismissal
- Examples:
- Student/resident is disregarding an Executive Directive or refuses to comply
 - Student's/resident's behavior is blatantly threatening the health and/or safety of other community members
 - Student/resident intentionally coughing or or engaging in behavior to intimidate someone with the threat of potentially spreading illness
 - Going to campus/attending campus events with a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19
 - Continued repeated violation of any other Executive Directive

This is not a change in policy, but an addition to OAISC processes to accommodate issues regarding COVID-19. These guidelines and considerations are subject to change at any time, without notice, as new data and practices emerge regarding Executive Directives from the campus or other state mandates. The guidance may be updated periodically on this website, but OAISC reserves the right to change this process without notice or publication when needed during extraordinary circumstances. Additionally, the guidelines and considerations do not reflect the full scope of issues or processes that may need to be addressed.

As stated in the *UC Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment Policy* (III. E. 1., page 10) and *UCI Guidelines on Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment* (D.5.a.), to encourage reporting, the University will not discipline Complainants or witnesses for student conduct policy violations that occur around the time of alleged Prohibited Conduct unless the University determines the violation was egregious. Complainants may be particularly afraid to report Prohibited Conduct when alcohol, drugs, or other intoxicants were involved. This amnesty provision applies to alcohol- and drug-related student violations. Further, students may be afraid to report Prohibited Conduct if they were at a gathering in violation of current COVID-19 related University health directives or in any other way violated University Executive Directive related to COVID-19. Thus, the UCI Office of Academic Integrity and Student Conduct (OAISC) will provide amnesty to students who participate as a Complainant or witness in an investigation under the *UC Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment Policy* or the *UCI Guidelines on Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment* of SVSH, and they will not be subject to disciplinary sanctions for violations of University Executive Directives related to COVID-19, at or near the time of the incident, unless OAISC determines the violation was egregious, including, but not limited to, an action that intentionally placed the health and/or safety of other persons at risk (e.g. a student knowingly tested positive for COVID-19 and then exposed others).