

Any student referred to the Student Conduct Hearing Panel related to allegations of having violated WesternU conduct policies and/or procedures, will be provided the following:

- Written notice of the specific allegation(s) and the date/time of the hearing, including notification of whether dismissal will be considered.
- An opportunity to present evidence on their behalf and ask relevant questions of witnesses.
- Ability to appeal the resulting Student Conduct Hearing Panel's decision in accordance with the student appeal policy.

If you have been notified to appear before a Student Conduct Hearing Panel, familiarize yourself with your rights responsibilities and the WesternU procedural guidelines in advance of your scheduled hearing, which are all detailed in the University catalog in the Student Conduct Procedures section.

CONTACT US

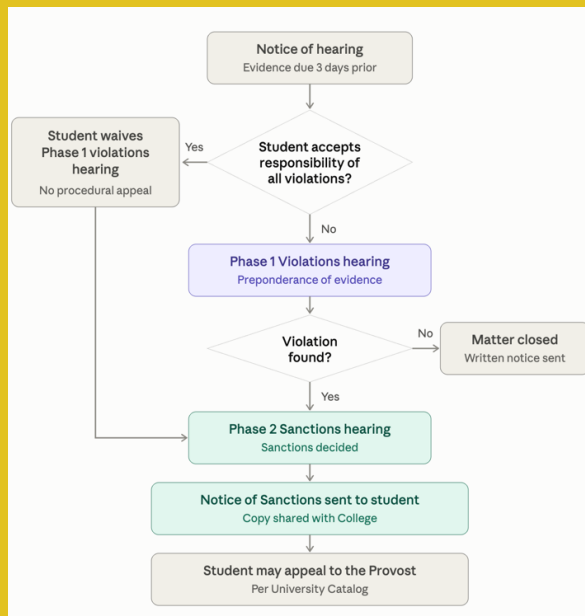
Office of Student Conduct and Professionalism
Email:
OSCP@westernu.edu

Website:
<https://www.westernu.edu/provost/student-standards-resolution/student-conduct-professionalism/>

Student Conduct Hearing Panel Guidance Brochure

**Western University of
Health Sciences**





Students are encouraged to engage in the student conduct process in a meaningful and constructive way. A conduct hearing is designed to obtain factual information related to a potential violation of University and/or College student conduct policies and/or procedures.

Students can best prepare by:

- 1) reviewing the notice and evidence packet thoroughly
- 2) consider choosing a conduct hearing advisor and submit the request to OSCP no later than 3 days before the hearing
- 3) gather the relevant evidence and choose witnesses

The conduct hearing advisor may:

- consult/provide support to the student but may not speak on the student's behalf or participate in the conduct proceedings.
- may not be a witness or individual with relevant information regarding the allegations.

Presenting Your Case

The student will be given an opportunity to present an opening and/or closing statement highlighting the main points of their case. Thereafter, the Panel will conduct questioning of the student and/or any related witnesses, as appropriate. Students are entitled to present their side of the case, including any witnesses and evidence. Students are expected to testify during the hearing and answer any questions posed by the Panel.

Witnesses

A student has a right to present witnesses on their behalf, and to ask relevant questions of witnesses presenting to the Panel. These rights are subject to the reasonable control of the OSCP Director or designee, who may limit witnesses whose testimony is not directly relevant or is cumulative. Adversarial or contentious-style questioning will not be permitted. Students must present a list of witnesses and purposes of their statements to the Chair at least 3 business days in advance of the scheduled student conduct proceeding.

Evidence

The Panel will consider affidavits or other written documentation. Students must submit evidence for consideration at least three (3) business days in advance of the hearing. The Student Conduct Hearing Panel may or may not consider any documents received after the 3 business-day deadline subject to the discretion of the Chair. Students are responsible for presenting all evidence they determine relevant at the scheduled hearing.

Mitigating Evidence

At the sanctions hearing, students may present mitigating evidence, such as character information, for the Panel's consideration.

Appealing the Panel's Decision

A student may appeal the decision of the Student Conduct Hearing Panel to the Provost, in accordance with the Student Appeal Process specified in the University catalog. Catalog.



The student conduct hearing panel process is divided into two distinct phases: (1) Determination of Violation and (2) Sanctions.

At the onset of a conduct matter, and before meeting with the Panel, the accused student will be provided with a Notice of Hearing. This notice contains the summary of allegations, alleged policy violations, supporting evidence, the hearing date, the list of witnesses, the names of Panel members, and other pertinent details.

Upon receipt of a Notice of Hearing, a student may accept responsibility for all alleged violations, waiving the Determination of Violations hearing and advancing directly to the sanctions phase. Students who do so are prohibited from filing an appeal on the basis of procedural error arising from that waiver.

The first hearing is where the Panel considers the evidence presented and makes a determination based on a preponderance of the evidence standard, i.e., whether it is more likely than not, that the student violated the policies and/or procedures detailed in the Notice of Hearing. The student is invited to present evidence and relevant information for the Panel's consideration, and should be prepared to respond to the allegations, including whether they admit to the conduct outlined. Following deliberation, the student will receive written notice of the Student Conduct Hearing Panel's decision.

If and only if the Panel determines a violation occurred, a second hearing is convened to consider appropriate sanction(s). Findings of the Determination of Violation Hearing are presented to the College Dean, who may provide input on recommended sanctions, which will be included in the Notice of Sanctions Hearing packet.

The student may present evidence and information relevant to sanctions. The Panel may consider the totality of the student's record: prior disciplinary history, coaching or counseling, college-level interventions, and any other pertinent information. Students are advised to be prepared to present alternative possibilities and/or sanctions for the Panel's consideration. Following deliberation, the student receives written notice of the Panel's sanctioning decision, and a copy is sent to the College.