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A Message from the Dean

As the Dean of Students, it is my pleasure to be able to assist you in your personal, academic, and professional pursuits! Our staff in the Office of Student Affairs is at your disposal and ready to help you develop and grow both inside and outside of the classroom. This Student Handbook is designed to serve as a resource and guide for a variety of topics and includes information regarding our institutional expectations for appropriate conduct and behavior. All students are expected to be familiar with the rules and regulations of Mount Union—that information is provided herein. Additionally, given the current COVID pandemic, it is imperative that you are aware of the ways that Mount Union has strategically planned to avoid spreading the virus and what is required of all members of the campus community. For your convenience, campus policies and protocols related to COVID can be found here: https://www.mountunion.edu/fall-2020-responsible-reopening.

The Student Handbook is complete and updated at this time—however, it is a dynamic document and changes are sometimes necessary. A current version of the Student Handbook is always available at https://www.mountunion.edu/campus-life/safety-and-parking/student-conduct for your convenience.

Please be sure to visit the Office of Student Affairs if we can provide information or service for you—we are located in the Hoover-Price Campus Center. Best wishes for a wonderful and rewarding year!

Sincerely,

John Frazier
Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students
About Mount Union

Mission Statement

The mission of the University of Mount Union is to prepare students for fulfilling lives, meaningful work, and responsible citizenship.

Undergraduate Learning Goals

To accomplish the mission, the University faculty has established guidelines to help students:

I. Demonstrate Core Abilities
   A. Demonstrate ability to acquire and assess information.
   B. Demonstrate research skills (both quantitative and qualitative).
   C. Develop ability to think critically.
   D. Develop ability to think creatively.
   E. Develop communication skills.

II. Foundational Knowledge and Integration
   A. Acquire knowledge in humanities, arts and sciences.
   B. Demonstrate the use of concepts and methods in humanities, arts, and sciences.
   C. Develop the ability to view the world from multiple disciplinary perspectives.
   D. Integrate knowledge and techniques across multiple disciplines.

III. Preparation for Fulfilling Lives
   A. Acquire the tools for self-development in order to assess and improve physical, social, emotional, intellectual, and spiritual growth and wellness.
   B. Find and cultivate intellectual pursuits.
   C. Find and cultivate pursuits for personal enrichment.

IV. Preparation for Meaningful Work
   A. Acquire discipline specific knowledge and skills needed at a professional level.
   B. Demonstrate use of discipline specific knowledge and skills.
   C. Integrate discipline specific knowledge and abilities with multiple disciplinary perspectives.
   D. Develop ability to collaborate with others to solve problems.

V. Preparation for Responsible Citizenship
   A. Develop knowledge and appreciation of the individual's culture and other cultures in a global context.
   B. Understand and employ ethics within diverse cultural, social, professional, environmental and personal settings.
   C. Demonstrate civic engagement by active involvement in and beyond the classroom.
The University of Mount Union is the outgrowth of a town meeting held by forward-looking citizens of the village of Mount Union on October 4, 1846. At that time, the people gathered to hear Orville Nelson Hartshorn outline the need for a new institution in the area, where men and women could be educated with equal opportunity, where science would parallel the humanities, where laboratory and experimental subjects would receive proper emphasis, and where there would be no distinction due to race, color, sex, or position. On October 20, 1846, this young man organized and taught on the third floor of the “Old Carding Mill” a “select school” of six students.

The school grew rapidly under his inspired leadership and, in 1849, became known as “Mount Union Seminary.”

In 1853 a “normal department” was added for the training of teachers. On January 9, 1858, the institution was chartered and incorporated under the laws of the State of Ohio as “Mount Union College.”

In September 1911, Scio College, located at Scio, Ohio, was united with Mount Union. By the articles of consolidation, the liberal arts alumni of the former institution were made alumni of the latter.

Scio was established in 1857 at Harlem Springs, Ohio, as “The Rural Seminary.” In 1867, the school was moved to New Market, where it was known variously as New Market College, the One-Study University, and finally, Scio College in 1878.

For many years Mount Union has claimed the distinction of being one of the first institutions to have a summer school. Started in 1870, this first summer school was actually a fourth term in the school year. Since that time, summer instruction has been offered each year at the institution.

On August 1, 2010, the institution officially became known as the University of Mount Union. The change to a “university” designation was made in an effort to better describe what Mount Union is today and more effectively communicate all that the institution has to offer. This decision, unanimously approved by the Board of Trustees, came after careful review of data gathered through numerous research efforts and thoughtful consideration and discussion.

University Heritage Statement

The University of Mount Union has roots in two traditions. The first of these is the Christian tradition as expressed in the American Methodist movement of the 19th Century. An important part of this movement was an effort to advance social progress through the establishment of academically rigorous institutions, which were non-sectarian, as well as racially, ethnically, and gender inclusive. This rich, church-related legacy informs the present spirit in which Mount Union maintains a historical and philosophical relationship with the Methodist tradition and foundational beliefs inherent in the Wesleyan ethos.

The University of Mount Union affirms the spiritual center of all persons and acknowledges the deep impact that spiritual and religious experience has on both cultures and individuals. In light of this, the University takes seriously its dual responsibility to foster the academic study of religious experience and to provide resources that nurture and enrich the spiritual life of our students and all members of the Mount Union community. As a university of higher education, we neither advocate a particular spiritual heritage nor proselytize on behalf of any religious or sectarian orthodoxy.

The other significant tradition of the University of Mount Union is rooted in an historic understanding of the liberal arts. A liberal arts education provides students with a broad base of knowledge in addition to training in a specific field of study. At its heart, a liberal arts course of study does not teach a single point of view, but equips and empowers students to form their own conclusions based on critical reasoning. This tradition of learning continues at the University of Mount Union.

These aspects of our heritage reinforce each other in the striving for excellence, concern for the inherent dignity and worth of each individual, and the emphasis on the spiritual as well as the intellectual achievements of humanity. We embrace the global nature of our student body, recognizing that diversity serves as a resource for learning as we develop and prepare our students for “fulfilling lives, meaningful work, and responsible citizenship.”

Alma Mater

Hark! From mountain, hill, and valley,
Rings the music as they rally,
Sons and daughters of Mount Union,
Singing songs of praise.
See! They come unceasing,
Care and toil releasing,
Shouting in a mighty chorus,
More and more increasing.

(Chorus)

Wake the echoes loud with cheering,
Shout again! The day is nearing,
Night is gone without doubt and fearing,
Dear old M.U.C.
Rouse your souls from sloth and slumber,
Gird yourselves and join our number,
Loyal to Mount Union College,
Rally round her now!
On her worth relying,
Keep her colors flying,
Crown the heroes of her battles,
Each with name undying.

(Chorus)

Nobly stands the grand old College,
Home of honor, shrine of knowledge,
Storm and stress and time but prove her,
Constant, brave and true.
Mark! Each new endeavor,
Makes her stronger ever,
Hearts and hands for toil and battle,
May they fail her never!

(Chorus)
Fight Song

On, Mount To Victory!
On Mount to victory,
Onward to the goal.
Cheer for our team today,
Make the echoes roll.

Hail to our colors true,
The Purple and White.
On Mount to vict'ry,
So let's Fight! Fight! Fight!
Quick Resources

Academic Resources

- The Center for Student Success (CSS) provides academic support, search-for-a-major support, accessibility services and many other programs to assist in a students academic career. Located in the Hoover-Price Campus Center; for information, call the Center for Student Success; at (330) 823-8685 or visit https://www.mountunion.edu/academics/student-success.
- Tutoring is coordinated through the CSS. You can access tutoring through http://mywco.com/mount. Step-by-step instructions will be available as you schedule and again in confirmation emails of scheduled appointments. Students can also find the online tutoring schedule on the Academic Support page of iRaider.
- The Digital, Written, and Oral Communication Studio (DWOC) provides a space, technologies, and peer consultations to Mount Union students who are working on writing, oral presentations, and multimedia projects. The DWOC is located in the Mount Union Library, across from the circulation desk. Online consultations are available to graduate and undergraduate students. See the DWOC Studio website for more details.

Alcohol/Drug Resources

- Mount Union offers a comprehensive alcohol and other drug counseling and education program to all students through the Office of Alcohol, Drug, and Wellness Education. Self-referrals, supervisory, and departmental referrals and consultations are welcome. This resource can be accessed at (330) 829-6660 or adwe@mountunion.edu.
- Off Campus Treatment Resources can be found here.
- Support Group information can be found here.
*Resources in this section were compiled by Kelleen Weber, director, Alcohol, Drug, and Wellness Education

Assistance with Food and Other Needs

- Raiders Cove is a resource center focused on helping students with needs including food, hygiene items, clothing, and more. Non-perishable food and hygiene items are available on a weekly points system at no charge to students and clothing is for sale at minimal cost. All current Mount Union students are eligible to become a member of Raiders Cove and can do so by filling out the membership form. Volunteers and donors are also asked to fill out a form. Members receive a key tag and can visit Raiders Cove as often as they like. The membership form, hours, and other details can be found at www.mountunion.edu/raiders-cove
- 2-1-1 can be used for assistance with food, housing, or other needs. This is the fastest way to find out about the services closest to your home address. Dial 2-1-1, text your zip code to 898-211 or visit https://www.uwstark.org/our-work/community-programs/2-1-1/ for other ways to connect. You can watch a guide to 2-1-1 here.
- Additional Community Resources can be found at https://alliancehelporganizations.org/.
- If you need additional assistance, please reach out to Student Affairs at 330-823-2788.
*Resources in this section were compiled by Abby Honaker-Schroeder, director, Regula Center for Public Service and Civic Engagement.
COVID-19 Resources

- If you have questions about the University Response to COVID-19 go [here](#).
- If you need masks or other PPE – please contact Student Affairs at 330-823-2788 or Raiders Cove at [www.mountunion.edu/raiders-cove](http://www.mountunion.edu/raiders-cove).
- If you need soap, hand sanitizer, or other cleaning supplies – please contact Raiders Cove at [www.mountunion.edu/raiders-cove](http://www.mountunion.edu/raiders-cove).
- If you want to know the guidelines in place for safety related to COVID go [here](#).

Counseling Resources

- All enrolled students have access to free and confidential on campus counseling by appointment through the Office of Counseling Services either in person or via telehealth. The aim of counseling at Mount Union is to assist students in becoming socially and emotionally healthy. In the Office of Counseling Services, state licensed counselors help Mount Union students move toward life goals, while teaching the coping skills needed for the future. Face-to-Face and virtual walk-in hours are also available daily. Additionally, consultation services for those students studying abroad and completing clinicals or taking classes remotely. To schedule an appointment, call (330) 823-2886 or email CounselingServices@mountunion.edu.
- After hours emergency resources can be found [here](#).
- Crisis resources can be found here.
  - The Stark County Crisis hotline: 330-452-6000
  - Crisis Text Line: Text 4hope to 741741
  - National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 800-273-TALK (8255) [https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/](https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/)
- Pastoral counseling is offered to people of all faiths or non-faiths and traditions through the Office of the Chaplain. To schedule a time to speak with the chaplain, please call 330-823-2838 or email chapel@mountunion.edu.
- Alcohol and Other Drug Counseling services are offered through the Office of Alcohol Drug, and Wellness Education. Their information can be found [here](#).
*Resources in this section were compiled with the assistance of Dr. Francine Packard, Director, The Office of Counseling Services.

Diversity Resources

- The Office of Diversity and Inclusion has the responsibility to serve as a resource for American minority students in matters of academic, social, cultural, and personal well-being. However, the office also offers its services to all students who are interested in or concerned with issues of diversity. You can contact the office at (330) 823-2138 or diversity@mountunion.edu.
- LGBTQ+ online resources can be found [here](#).
- If you are in crisis, the Trevor Lifeline for LGBTQ Youth can be reached at 1-866-488-7386.
- If you have seen an incident of bias or concern on campus, you can report it [here](#). These reports can be submitted anonymously if you are uncomfortable submitting them with your name.
- White students starting to explore racial diversity issues can find a list of anti-racism resources [here](#).
- Online resources for Diverse and Multicultural Students can be found [here](#).
**Housing Resources**

- The Office of Residence Life provides housing to students on a first come, first-served basis. If students have concerns about their housing assignment, they should reach out to reslife@mountunion.edu or (330) 829-2761.
- If you lose a key, it should be immediately reported to the Office of Residence Life and arrangements will be made to issue a temporary key or have the lock changed on the student’s room door depending on the situation. A student may get a temporary key from the Physical Plant Key Room.
- If you have a residence hall emergency, please contact the RA on Duty or the RD Duty phone at 330-428-3500.
- If you have an emergency that needs additional assistance, please call Campus Security at 330-428-1344.

*Resources in this section were compiled with the assistance of Sara Sherer, Director, The Office of Residence Life.*

**Sexual Assault/Harassment Resources**

- If you or someone you know has experienced any type of sexual misconduct, you can reach out to either Title IX co-coordinator to report and gain assistance:
  
  Michelle Gaffney, associate dean of students & Title IX co-coordinator  
  Hoover Price Campus Center, Office of Student Affairs  
  1972 Clark Avenue, Alliance, OH 44601  
  Phone: (330) 823-2496  
  E-mail: gaffnemi@mountunion.edu

  Marci Craig, director of human resources & Title IX co-coordinator  
  Beeghly Hall, Office of Human Resources  
  1972 Clark Avenue, Alliance, OH 44601  
  Phone: (330) 829-6560  
  E-mail: craigml@mountunion.edu

- For confidential reporting of an experience of sexual misconduct, you can reach out to Counseling Services at counselingservices@mountunion.edu or The Office of Alcohol, Drug, and Wellness Education at weberkj@mountunion.edu.
- Mount Union trains faculty and staff as Sexual Misconduct Responders. These reporters can help a student understand their options, find resources, assist as the student addresses counseling, medical, and legal issues, and help address any other concerns a student may have. The list of Sexual Misconduct Responders can be found here.
- Contact information for counseling resources, including 24-hour hotlines, can be found here.
Campus Facilities Hours of Operation

Dining Services

Kresege Commons

Students must have their Purple Plu$ Cards to use their meal plan in the dining room. Meal plans are not transferable. Weekly menus can be viewed here.

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<td>7 am - 7:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Breakfast</td>
<td>7 am – 9:30 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>10:30 am - 1:30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Light Lunch</td>
<td>1:30 pm – 3:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Closed for Cleaning</td>
<td>3:30 pm – 4:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dinner</td>
<td>4:30 pm - 7:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Late Night Snack</td>
<td>Monday - Thursday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Closed for Cleaning</td>
<td>10 pm - 11:30 pm</td>
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<td>Saturday</td>
<td>8 am - 9 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Breakfast</td>
<td>11:30 am - 1:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>4:30 pm - 6:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>No Breakfast</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<td>Dinner</td>
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<td>Monday - Thursday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>9 am - 2 pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please note that due to Safety Concerns, there may be restrictions on when you can access Kresege Dining Commons or how food must be ordered. Please refer to the Campus Dining - Responsible Reopening website here.

KHIC Start Café

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday - Friday</td>
<td>7 am - 2 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday - Thursday</td>
<td>8 pm – midnight</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Digital, Written, and Oral Communication Studio (DWOC)

Located across from the Circulation Desk in the Kolenbrander-Harter Information Center.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>6 pm - 10 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday-Thursday</td>
<td>9 am - 10 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>9 am - 3 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>Closed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The physical location of the DWOC is closed during the summer, but real-time online appointments are available. Please check www.mountunion.edu/DWOCs for details.
**IT Helpdesk and Computer Labs**

Mount Union offers virtual desktop (VDI) environment, so that lab software can be used on your own device. There are also a variety of departmental computer labs for student use. Students needing general computer assistance can also contact the helpdesk by calling HELP (ext. 4357) from any on-campus phone. The off-campus phone number is (330) 829-8726. Students’ personal computer support is free of charge at the Helpdesk. Antivirus software is required on all student computers and is available at no additional charge by contacting the Helpdesk. Departmental computer labs are subject to the building hours. Department labs consist of (Education - Tech lab, T-H 200, Engineering lab, Bracy Science lab, Art lab, Geology lab and all other specialty labs).

**Computer Lab Hours**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KHIC PC Lab 57</td>
<td>Open 24 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T-H 200 Lab</td>
<td>Open during building hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bracy 304 Lab</td>
<td>Open during building hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department Labs</td>
<td>Check with the individual department</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residence Hall Labs</td>
<td>Open 24 hours (located in various residence halls)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**IT Helpdesk Hours**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday-Thursday</td>
<td>7 am – 9 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>7 am – 5 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>6 pm – 9 pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Summer Hours**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday-Friday</td>
<td>8 am – 5 pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Library**

**Main Library Hours**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday – Thursday</td>
<td>7:00 am – 12:00 midnight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>7:00 am – 5:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>9:00 am - 5:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>12:00 noon – 12:00 midnight</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Main Library remains open until 2:00 a.m. during the finals period. Exact details and times will be posted at the end of the term.

**Sturzjesen Music Library Hours**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday – Thursday</td>
<td>9:00 am – 7:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>9:00 am – 4:30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday – Sunday</td>
<td>Closed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Curriculum Resource Center**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday – Thursday</td>
<td>10:00 am – 5:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>10:00 am – 4:00 pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
McPherson Academic and Athletic Center (MAAC)

Monday - Thursday 6 am – 12 am  
Friday 6 am – 10 pm  
Saturday 9 am – 8 pm  
Sunday 11 am – 11 pm

Pool Hours

Monday - Friday 11:15 am – 1:15 pm  
Monday - Friday 7:30 pm – 10 pm  
Saturday Closed  
Sunday 3 pm – 6 pm

University Store

Monday - Friday 9 am – 5 pm  
Saturday 10 am – 2 pm*  
Sunday Closed  

*During home football games, the University Store will be open from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m.

Hours of Operation during summer and breaks

Monday - Friday 9 am - 4 pm  
Saturday - Sunday Closed  

*Listed hours are subject to change.
Campus Resources

Academic Resources

Center for Student Success

The Center for Student Success (CSS) empowers students in the strategic pursuit of their goals as they relate to personal transition, self-discovery, academic progress and success, and career planning. We strive to provide a variety of programs and services to help students reach these goals, including the following:

Academic Support

Helping students reach their full potential is the primary goal of Academic Support. Through individual meetings, success workshops, the Raider Rise program, academic peer mentoring programs, Structured Study, the tutoring program, and other academic support-related opportunities, Academic Support strives to assist students in developing the skills, habits, and behaviors for success necessary in university-level coursework. All resources and programs come at no additional cost to students, and all students are welcome and encouraged to visit the office for assistance with academic success strategies.

Career Development

Deciding on a career to pursue and having the tools to navigate the job or graduate school search process are critical to all students. This process actually begins much earlier than the senior year, and the Office of Career Development is there to assist all students with this. We help prepare students to research careers, identify and secure experiential learning opportunities (internships), and develop and implement job search strategies, which include creating a resume, networking and interviewing with employers, and targeting job leads. Preparing for graduate school applications and admission tests is also supported by Career Development in addition to the other events we facilitate, including job and internship fairs, graduate and professional school fairs, mock interviews, on-campus recruiting, and a variety of networking events.

First Year Initiatives

The first year of college is a pivotal one, and through intentional programming and services as well as meaningful relationship-building, First Year Initiatives encourages academic excellence through cocurricular learning, fosters the development of the whole student, and provides a supportive community to learn and grow as students make a successful transition from high school to college.

First Year Initiatives’ offerings include the summer Preview and fall and spring Orientation programs as well as the year-long Exceptional Beginnings program. Exceptional Beginnings immerses first year students in a living-learning culture from their first day on campus. As a part of a small Exceptional Beginnings group with an upper-class raider guide mentor, first year students will be provided opportunities to get involved and gain essential skills for learning and success, preparing them for an exceptional beginning and a successful collegiate experience at the University.

Search for a Major Support

Did you know that many students start college not knowing what major they want to pursue and that many change their major at least once during the pursuit of their degree? If you aren’t sure of your major or are considering changing it, the Center for Student Success can help. Come meet with our staff who will help you explore your interests and skills to identify the courses, major(s), and/or minor(s) that might be a good fit for your academic strengths and future career and life goals.
**Sophomore Initiatives**

While starting the second year of college is much different than coming as a first-year student, many students are still finding their way. Our sophomore initiatives provide support throughout that second year of college through individual appointments with the CSS staff as well as the Sophomore Halfway There Fair. The Sophomore Halfway There Fair takes place in the spring semester and is a chance to make sure students are ready to submit their WOC portfolio and are poised to enter their junior year in a position of strength to reach success.

**Student Accessibility Services**

The Office of Student Accessibility Services (SAS) supports Mount Union’s commitment to diversity and student success by providing services and accommodations for qualified persons with disabilities and unique physical or academic challenges. Students who wish to apply for accommodations in academics or housing must complete an application for accommodations and must provide supporting documentation of their unique needs. Requests for accommodation will be determined based upon factors including the nature of the request, the specific needs of the student, and the reasonableness of the requested accommodations. Students are encouraged to make their request for accommodations in a timely manner, allowing time to arrange necessary accommodations, by contacting the office at (330) 823-7372 or by email at studentaccessibility@mountunion.edu.

**Transfer Student Programs**

Once a student completes the transfer admission process, the Center for Student Success, in conjunction with the Integrative Core Office, helps support them as they become a Raider! Some of these support programs include the Transfer Student Seminar, which all transfer students take in their first semester at Mount Union, as well as the Transfer Student Organization, which provides amazing peer support and programming and is advised out of the Center for Student Success. We also provide academic advising, a joint venture with the Integrative Core Office, for new transfer students as they enter their first semester at the University of Mount Union.

The Center for Student Success is in the Hoover-Price Campus Center. For information, call the Center for Student Success, at (330) 823-8685 or visit https://www.mountunion.edu/academics/student-success.

**Digital, Written, and Oral Communication Studio**

The Digital, Written and Oral Communication (DWOC) Studio is located in the Mount Union Library, across from the circulation desk. Its mission is to provide a space, technologies, and peer consultations to Mount Union students who are working on writing, oral presentations, and multimedia projects. Consultants provide help with critical thinking at the beginning stages of a project and with support through the writing, speaking, and production process, and can help with essays, reports, employment and graduate school documents, public speeches, PowerPoints, Prezis, videos, audio projects, ePortfolios, and with the WOC Portfolio required of all second year students as part of the Integrative Core. Online consultations are available to graduate and undergraduate students. See the DWOC Studio website for more details.

**Library**

The Main Library is housed in the Kolenbrander Harter Information Center. Library services are located on the first floor of the south wing. The library service desk is at the top of the main stairs and includes reference assistance, book circulation, interlibrary loans, and class reserves. The library offers a collection of 150,000 books, over 450 study seats, several computer labs, and 17 group study rooms of various sizes. The library web page offers a range of resources including over 200 subject databases, more than 50,000 full-text journal titles,
and over 350,000 electronic books. The Main Library also contains a Curriculum Resource Center, located on the third floor, offering 40,000 books and over 8,000 pieces of realia supporting our elementary and secondary education programs. The Sturgeon Music Library in Cope Hall provides access to music and theater reference collections and reserve materials as well as recordings and current journals supporting these departments.

**Circulation Policies**

Loan policies for the Library are liberal and student centered, ensuring that students will have access to library materials when and where they are needed. Most library materials circulate for a 30 day loan period with renewals available in person or electronically through the “My Account” tab on the library home page (www.mountunion.edu/library). Students have access to library materials across more than 100 academic libraries in Ohio through the OhioLINK system whose resources include more than 34 million volumes. Students are also able to borrow from a network of Ohio public library collections through the Search Ohio system. Our interlibrary loan system also offers access to library resources across the country and the world.

For assistance in accessing these materials contact library staff through the following numbers:

- Circulation Desk: 330-823-3890
- Reference Desk: 330-823-3796
- Reference Cell Phone: 330-257-5742
- Curriculum Resource Center: 330-823-3686
- Sturgeon Music Library: 330-829-6505

**Beyond Ourselves**

**Diversity and Inclusion**

The Office of Diversity & Inclusion falls under the Office of Student Affairs, reporting to the vice president for student affairs/dean of students. The Office of Diversity & Inclusion has the responsibility to serve as a resource for American minority students in matters of academic, social, cultural, and personal well-being. However, the office also offers its services to all students who are interested in or concerned with issues of diversity. The office advocates for sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, race, ethnicity, and disability matters. Mount Union believes that an appreciation of diversity among campus constituencies creates a welcoming campus environment that is crucial to the success of all students. For this reason, the office sponsors a variety of diversity-oriented programs to meet these needs including our Kaleidoscope Orientation Program, Not Another Statistic Diversity Conference, Diversity Tailgate, EXPLORaider Spring Break trip and various other events.

While students’ needs are the primary objective, diversity focused programming, resources, and training are available to the entire Mount Union community during the academic year. The Office of Diversity & Inclusion also oversees the operation of the Diversity Center, located at 243 W. Simpson Ave. To contact the office, call (330) 823-2138.

**Global Education**

The Center for Global Education offers a variety of international opportunities for living and learning abroad. The Center advises students during the study abroad process and assists faculty with travel seminars and visiting professorships.

The Center for Global Education is located in KHIC. For more information, contact Dr. Jennifer Hall, director at the center for global education at halljene@mountunion.edu, or Doug Granger, assistant director at the center for global education at grangedm@mountunion.edu.
International Student Services

The Office of International Student Services, along with the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, assists international students as they adapt to all aspects of campus life, acting as a liaison and an advocate in dealings with the U.S. government, Mount Union, academic departments, and administrative offices. Together, we also conduct orientation upon arrival, plan cultural programs, and organize monthly social activities. The office also coordinates the i-Guide Library Peer program, Raider Pal program, and Community Friend Program which are designed to match international students with current Mount Union students and local families to gain an authentic American cultural perspective. The office also offers services to all students, faculty, and staff who are interested in or concerned with global issues. To contact the office, call (330) 823-2574.

Regula Center for Public Service and Civic Engagement

The Regula Center for Public Service and Civic Engagement in van den Eynden Hall is a center of resources for students interested in learning opportunities revolving around careers in public and community service. The Center coordinates a variety of events and programs providing extracurricular opportunities. These include promotion of voter registration, leadership and mentoring programs, campus-wide community service events and much more. The Center strives to serve as the link between students and the community.

Students who would like more information about the Regula Center can contact the center at (330) 829-8168 or email honakeal@mountunion.edu.

Campus Basics

Business Affairs

Financial Responsibility

Prior to each academic semester the Office of Business Affairs sends a billing letter to each student. Payments for the full-payment plan are due on July 31 for fall semester and January 3 for spring semester. Payments for the monthly payment plan option are due on the 15th of the month. Students must be financially cleared by the Office of Business Affairs to move into campus housing and start classes. Financial clearance means you either paid your outstanding balance or made appropriate arrangements to pay the semester charges by the payment due dates. The Financial Clearance Form is to be completed and electronically submitted by June 30th each academic year. Registration and housing may be withheld, and food service privileges will not be available until satisfactory financial arrangements have been made. Transcripts will not be released until all financial obligations to the University have been met. All questions should be referred to the Office of Business Affairs.

Cashier

The cashier’s window is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday and located on the second floor of Beeghly Hall. Cash or check payments can be made at the window.

Refund Checks

When a student’s account reflects a credit balance from financial aid or loan credits, student refunds will be processed through our partner ECSI beginning the third week of each semester and biweekly thereafter. The student must visit the ECSI website to set up direct deposit information; otherwise a check will be mailed to the permanent home address on file.
Student Employment Forms

All students who will be working at the University must complete the following forms before actual work begins in order to receive a payroll check: Form I-9, Form W-4, and Form IT-4, all obtained from the Payroll Office located in the basement of Beeghly Hall. Additionally, students must bring to the Payroll Office the originals of a photo ID (driver’s license or state ID card) and either their social security card or birth certificate; in lieu of all of these a passport alone will suffice. Finally, a Work Authorization must be completed by the student’s supervisor via the on-line form.

Campus Safety and Security

Mount Union is committed to providing a safe living environment for its students, faculty, staff, and visitors. The University of Mount Union Campus Safety and Security Office is housed at 405 W Simpson St. Our Security Officers are trained professional employees of Mount Union. These officers are not authorized to carry firearms while on duty. When police assistance is needed, they contact the Alliance Police Department for assistance.

The department has three basic purposes. They are, to protect members of the community and their visitors; to protect university property and the property of community members; and to maintain order in the university community. They provide security and patrol services to the University, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 52 weeks a year.

As members of a campus community, each individual shares in the responsibility of helping to preserve a safe and civil community and are expected to cooperate with the department. Students must comply with the Code of Student Conduct when interacting with security officers; including but not limited to providing identification or their Purple Plu$ Card when asked. Each person needs to take preventative measures for their own safety and the safety of others. This includes not allowing others into residence halls without them using their ID to swipe in, locking residence hall doors, locking car doors, and reporting suspicious or concerning activity to Campus Safety and Security. All reports to Campus Safety and Security are given an appropriate response and will be treated in a respectful manner.

If assistance is needed, or in the event of an emergency, students should call Campus Safety and Security at (330) 428-1344 (or by dialing “SAFE” from any campus phone) or the Alliance Police Department at (330) 821-3131 (or 2255 from any campus phone). When calling for assistance, the caller should clearly state the nature of the problem and their location.

In addition, Blue Light Phones are located strategically across campus for emergencies. Students need only to push a button on these phones to alert the Alliance Police Department and Campus Safety and Security of an emergency situation. It is important to speak clearly and state the nature of the problem and location. Please note these phones are only to be used in cases of an actual emergency as they connect directly to the Alliance Police Department.

Facility Scheduling

All facilities on campus must be scheduled through the academic systems coordinator in the Office of the University Registrar, which maintains an accurate schedule of all classes and activities occurring on campus and other events of interest related to Mount Union wherever they may take place. This provides one central location where an event can be scheduled, and details arranged for use of any facility on campus. Faculty or staff can reserve facilities online by creating an EMS account located on the Reserve a Room Feature on iRaider. Once a room is requested, the coordinator will review the request for approval. A confirmation or denial e-
mail will be sent to the faculty or staff member requesting the reservation. Student organizations can reserve facility space on iRaider by following this path: Students>Student Involvement and Leadership>Forms/Register an Event. The calendar of events can be viewed from the Mount Union home page at http://calendar.mountunion.edu/mastercalendar/

Dining Services

Meal Plans

A full-service meal plan is required for any student who lives in the residence halls or campus houses. Block plans do not meet this requirement.

All first-year students at the University who are living on campus are required to be on either the unlimited meal plan or the 16 meals per week plan. The unlimited meal plan allows for unlimited access to the Kresge Dining Commons from 7 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Monday through Friday, as well as for late-night snacks Monday through Thursday from 10:00 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. and designated mealtimes on the weekend. The unlimited meal plan now includes 10 bonus meals per semester that can be used ONLY at the B&B café. The 16 meals per week option provides students with 16 meals of their choosing per week in the dining hall and $100 in dining dollars per semester to use at on-campus dining venues for food and beverage purchases only.

Returning or transfer students living in a residence hall or campus house are required to have a full-service meal plan. They have the option of the above mentioned unlimited meal plan or 16 meals per week with $100 dining dollars per semester, or they can choose an 11 meals per week with $300 in dining dollars per semester, or 7 meals per week with $400 in dining dollars per semester plan.

If a meal plan is not selected for any student living in a residence hall or campus house, the student’s meal plan will default to the unlimited plan. Plans may not be changed during the semester. The last date to make changes to your meal plan selection is the Friday at the end of the first week of class in either semester. If you wish to change your meal plan before that date, you may be able to do that by logging into MyHousing. Otherwise, please contact the Office of Residence Life at (330) 823-7288 or visit the Office of Residence Life in the Hoover- Price Campus Center. There will be forms available at the Information Desk during the first week of classes to complete to add or change a meal plan. Absolutely no meal plan changes will occur after the first week of classes.

All students not living in a residence hall or traditional campus house (apartment or townhouse, fraternity or sorority house, off-campus, or commuter students), have the opportunity of selecting from any of the six meal plans described above or from one of three Block Plan options should they desire to have one; Block 50 – any 50 meals during the semester for $420, Block 50 – 50 breakfast or lunch meals during the semester for $345 or Block 25 – any 25 meals during the semester plus $100 in dining dollars for $420. Meals may also be purchased with the Purple Plu$ Debit Card. If you live in housing that does not require a meal plan and wish to participate in one of the meal plans, you may sign in to MyHousing on IRaider to make a selection. If MyHousing is closed for changes, then please see the Office of Residence Life to complete a paper form for your selection. Block plans may be purchased more than once during a semester by completing a new Block Plan request form and turning it into the Office of Residence Life when you needed.

Dining dollars and unused meals on any of the traditional meal plans as well as the block plans will not carry over between semesters or at year-end and if they are not used before the end of the semester, they are removed.
from the student’s Purple Plu$ card. Students will not be reimbursed for any remaining dining dollars at the end of the semester.

**Other Dining Venues**

The B&B Café in the Hoover-Price Campus Center offers a full breakfast menu as well as a variety of both hot and cold menu options throughout the day which includes, but is not limited to, salads, burgers, sandwiches, wraps, pizzas, and other snack and dessert items as well as a wide array of hot and cold drinks including smoothies and specialty coffee drinks.

The KHIC Café has quick grab-and-go items such as muffins and pastries, wraps, sandwiches, salads, and beverages.

**Purple Plu$ Cards**

A Mount Union Purple Plu$ Card is the official University of Mount Union identification card. All students are required to have their ID card for identification, security, and access to university buildings and services. The card must always be carried on the UMU Campus. The card is valuable and should be treated like cash, a credit card, or a key. In addition to identification, the card provides access to restricted areas (i.e. residence halls or restricted labs or classrooms, etc.), meal plans, library materials, cultural and athletic events and may additionally allow for purchases to be made at locations both on and off-campus from merchants who participate in the Purple Plu$ Plan if funds are made available through the GET app.

You must present your Purple Plu$ Card for identification if requested by a University official. Additional identification or signature may be required for certain purposes.

Access privileges of the Card will be deactivated when student status is terminated. Access privileges will also be deactivated for students who are not registered for courses and not charged tuition and relevant ID card-related fees (i.e. meals or housing).

The Purple Plu$ Card is to be used **only** by the person to whom it is issued. Only the cardholder can present the card for Purple Plu$ or Dining Dollars and other privileges. The card will be confiscated if presented by someone other than the cardholder.

Lost or stolen cards must be reported immediately by visiting the GET app and deactivating it. You are responsible for any loss due to a lost or stolen card. In order to receive a replacement card, you must go to the Information Desk in the Hoover-Price Campus Center during business hours to have a new card printed. A $25 replacement fee applies for all lost cards. Once a new card has been created, your old card will be invalid, and if found can only be reactivated by the Office of Academic Systems. Refunds for new cards already printed, however, will not be issued. Temporary cards are available in the Office of Residence Life for residence hall access for a period of up to 72 hours prior to getting a new card made should you want more time to locate your lost or misplaced card. Temporary cards not returned, however, will also result in a $25 charge.

You must not damage or alter the ID Card in any manner. This includes, but is not limited to, punching holes in or affixing stickers to the card. Keep your card away from computers, cell phones, TVs, stereo or gaming equipment, microwaves, and other magnetic devices. Do not store your card where it may bend or come in direct contact with other magnetized cards. Damage or misuse of the card may render it unusable.
Purple Plu$ Dollars (Declining Balance) or Credit Terms of Use

Utilizing the Purple Plu$ Dollars (declining balance) feature of the ID card is optional. Purple Plu$ declining balance accounts will be activated upon initial deposit by the cardholder.

You must present your own ID card in order to purchase products or services; it must be presented at the time of purchase and shall be the only means of accessing the cardholder’s account. The card can be used at all participating locations both on and off-campus. The Card is the property of the University of Mount Union and is non-transferable. The cardholder may be required to sign a receipt for goods. The card may be deactivated and retained by a University of Mount Union official when presented by any cardholder making inappropriate or illegal use of it. Misuse, alteration, or destruction of the Purple Plu$ Card may result in disciplinary action.

Purple Plu$ Dollars cannot be used to pay for items listed on the student’s University of Mount Union student account invoice (i.e. tuition).

Purple Plu$ Dollars enable you to use your ID Card at all participating locations on and off-campus. Funds on this account are deposited at your discretion. There is no annual fee or minimum balance required. Having Purple Plu$ Dollars on your card is akin to using it as a debit card, thereby providing you with a declining balance; it is not a credit card. There are no limitations on the number of times a card may be used for purchases, as long as the cardholder maintains an adequate balance in the cardholder’s account. Restitution is required for overdrafts on your account resulting from off-line transactions.

Once funds are deposited into your Purple Plu$ account, any remaining balance will carry over from semester to semester and year to year, as long as you are actively affiliated with the University of Mount Union. The University accepts and holds funds prepaid by you for your sole benefit. The University shall apply these funds to any purchase of goods made through the use of Purple Plu$ Dollars. No funds may be transferred from your Purple Plu$ account to the Dining Services Meal Plans or vice versa. Purple Plu$ Dollars may not be used to obtain cash or cash advances under any circumstances. No interest or other earnings will be paid to you or credited by the University. Funds cannot be withdrawn from the account prior to the account being closed.

The Purple Plu$ Plan will be closed at the time when a cardholder ceases to be a University student; for a student that is upon graduation or withdrawal from the University. This occurs automatically, generally about 30 days after separation from the University takes place, so there is no need to apply for or request a refund in these circumstances. However, the participant may request at any time to have their account closed; this request must be made in writing to the Office of Academic Systems. In addition, the Office of Academic Systems reserves the right to close any Purple Plu$ Plan that has been inactive for a period of twelve (12) months. Refunds on closed accounts will be made at the full value of the unused balance; except no refunds will be made for balances of less than $10.00. Refunds for students will be credited to their student billing account and made via the same method as utilized for all other student refunds. All debts on the cardholder’s account must be satisfied prior to a check being processed for refund. Any negative Purple Plu$ Plan balances will be charged to the student’s billing account.

Point-of-sale terminals are equipped to provide a receipt for each transaction. It is your responsibility to ensure that the receipt is correct and secure the receipt. You may view detailed account transactions for the declining balance account activity by visiting the GET App.

Merchandise may be accepted for return, in accordance with the refund policy in effect, at the time of purchase of the product(s) or service(s). Any refund(s) shall be credited to your Purple Plu$ Plan account. No cash refund(s) will be made for any purchases made with the ID card.
If you believe your account has been charged in error, either due to an error on a receipt or activity statement, or if you would like specific transaction information you must contact the Business Office within 30 days of the error, either in person or via email at businessoffice@mountunion.edu. The Business Office will conduct an investigation of the request and provide a written response within 20 business days. If the error is validated, the Business Office will make the necessary adjustments to your Purple Plu$ Plan account.

All cardholders are prohibited from purchasing alcohol, tobacco, firearms, lottery tickets and adult material using Purple Plu$ Dollars. Purple Plu$ Plan merchants that offer these products will not sell them to customers paying with Purple Plu$ Plan Dollars.

University of Mount Union reserves the right to change these Terms and Conditions regulating the use of the Purple Plu$ Card.

**Hoover-Price Campus Center**

**Rules and Regulations**

Mount Union expects that, in consideration of the rights of others, all students will observe reasonable standards of good taste in the matter of dress in all public areas. The following standards should be observed:

- All persons entering the Campus Center will wear clothing to appropriately cover the body, including shoes and shirt.
- Gambling is prohibited in any part of the Campus Center.
- Rollerblades, skateboards, scooters, and bicycles are not permitted inside.
- Furnishings and audio-visual equipment may not be removed from the Campus Center.
- A Purple Plu$ card must be left at the Information Desk before a student can use any game equipment or obtain office keys. Only Mount Union students and employees are permitted to use the game equipment.
- Students are not permitted to use the phone at the Information Desk, except in emergency situations.
- Student organizations can submit online facility requests to reserve rooms in the Hoover-Price Campus Center or elsewhere on campus by using the online form located on I-Raider/Student Life/Student Organizations/Forms.
- Animals (except service animals) are not permitted in the building.

**Posting Policy**

Any department, club, or organization affiliated with Mount Union may post materials in the Campus Center. All signs for clubs or organizations must have received prior approval per the Posting Policy on page 174. In order to ensure that materials are posted appropriately, the following policies must be observed.

- Signs may only be posted on general posting bulletin boards.
- General posting space is on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Materials posted on reserved office or student organization boards that are not affiliated with that office or organization will be removed.
- Signs with no event date will be marked by Campus Center staff and removed after one week.
- The removal or covering of previously posted materials is prohibited unless the event’s date has passed.
• Materials may be posted on bulletin boards with pushpins, thumbtacks, or staples only.
• Materials may not be posted on any of the Campus Center walls, doors, floors, or windows. Wall clocks, fire alarms, fire extinguishers, and electrical outlets are not to be covered. Materials may be posted in the restrooms provided they are limited to one per stall or one above each urinal only.
• Signs placed on bulletin boards or in bathrooms must be smaller than 17” x 22”.
• Banners, limited to four feet in length, may only be hung in designated areas. Banners must be removed by the organization responsible for hanging the banner within two hours after the event. Banner space in the Campus Center must be reserved in advance with the Office of Student Involvement & Leadership. Space is reserved on a first-come, first-served basis.
• Materials must not promote the use of alcohol or tobacco products in any way or display any alcohol/tobacco manufacturer or bar location or name.
• Materials must be consistent with the University policies regarding sexist, racist, and other discriminatory behavior.
• The Campus Center staff will remove all outdated signs and signs in violation of this policy.

Mail Center

The Mail Center of the University of Mount Union is operated out of the Physical Plant Department located at 906 S. Union Ave across from the Glamorgan Castle. During the academic school year, hours are Monday through Friday, 8 am to 4:30 pm.

The Mail Center coordinates the delivery of incoming and outgoing mail, and packages, as well as inter-campus letters, notes, and information from campus organizations, friends, faculty, and staff. The following policies and procedures are established to provide an efficient and effective Mail Center.

Receiving your Mount Union Mailbox

Each incoming student who lives on campus will receive an email with your on-campus mailbox number and combination. The student mailboxes are found in the west hallway of the HPCC. Should you forget your CMB number or combination, you can find it by going to myhousing.mountunion.edu.

1. This box number will be part of your new mailing address. Please use the below mailing address with your box number on all mail and package correspondence while you are attending the University of Mount Union.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Name – CMB 123</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University of Mount Union</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1972 Clark Ave.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alliance, OH 44601</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. You are encouraged to check your mailbox and empty it at least once a week, if not daily.
3. Please tear up and put your discarded mail into the recycling bin.
4. If there is a problem with your mailbox, you can call the Mail Center at (330) 829-6654.

If you no longer live in campus housing and wish to discontinue mail services, you must contact the Mail Center at mailroom@mountunion.edu or (330) 829-6654 with the following information:

* Mail that does not have your box number takes longer to process, which could cause a delay in receiving your mail. *

- Your full name and your box number.
• Your new address where mail can be forwarded.
• A phone number or email where we can contact you if a package should arrive for you.

How to Work the Combination for your Campus Mailbox

Please Follow These 4 Steps:
1) Turn LEFT at least 3 turns, and then stop at the FIRST number of your combination.
2) Turn RIGHT, passing first number of your combination one time, and stopping at the SECOND number of your combination.
3) Turn LEFT, stopping at the THIRD number of your combination.
4) Turn RIGHT until it stops and pull open.

Receiving a Package
1. Please order all packages using your Mount Union mail address with your campus mailbox number.
   Student- CMB 0123
   University of Mount Union
   1972 Clark Ave.
   Alliance, OH 44601
2. You will receive an email once your package has been scanned into the system. All packages no matter how big or small with a barcode, must be scanned and picked up by the addressee at the Physical Plant Mail Center.
3. You must bring your “Purple Plu$” identification card to pick up your package.
4. You are expected to pick up your package within one week of receiving your email notification.
5. It is important to note that after 6 weeks unclaimed packages will be returned to sender.
6. If for some reason you are unable to get your package, you may make arrangements with us to hold your mail and packages. To do so contact us at (330) 829-6654 or by email mailroom@mountunion.edu.
7. Any unclaimed nonreturnable packages or items will be disposed of or donated.

Not Your Mail

If you receive mail in your mailbox that is not yours, please place it in the “Campus Mail” (left side) of the large brown mail receptacle in the HPCC.

Mail for Students over the Summer or Studying Abroad
1. At the end of spring semester or if you will be away for a semester to study abroad, all first-class mail will be forwarded to the permanent home address on file with the University of Mount Union, unless otherwise directed by you. The Mail Room is not able to forward magazines, catalogs, bulk mail, or other similar items.
2. If you are remaining on campus for the summer, please contact the Mail Center so we can keep putting your mail in your mailbox. If not, all your first-class mail and checks will be forwarded to the permanent address you have on file.
3. Contact any magazine subscriptions you may have and change your address with them personally by the end of April.
4. Any package that arrives from UPS or FedEx cannot be forwarded.
5. Inter-campus mail of known origin will be returned to the source.
Sending Mail

1. You can mail your stamped letters by placing them in the right side of the brown campus mail receptacle in HPCC marked “U.S. Mail.”
2. Pre-labeled USPS, UPS, and FedEx packages can be shipped from the Mail Center.
   - USPS: [www.usps.com](http://www.usps.com)  Alliance Post Office (330)-821-3560
   - UPS: [www.ups.com](http://www.ups.com)  UPS Alliance (330) 823-1502
   - UPS Canton (330) 478-0655
   - FedEx: [www.fedex.com](http://www.fedex.com)  FedEx 800-463-3339

Student Conduct

The University of Mount Union community is committed to fostering a campus environment that is conducive to academic inquiry, a productive campus life, and thoughtful study and discourse. The mission of the student conduct program is to educate students, reinforce the values of Mount Union, and to uphold and educationally enforce the Code of Student Conduct. All conduct officers foster the development of the whole student through an educational dialogue reflecting on behavioral choices, academic progress, learning, and ultimately student success. In addition, the conduct process encourages the preparation of students for fulfilling lives, meaningful work, and responsible citizenship.

The Office of Student Conduct is responsible for the Code of Student Conduct and the enforcement of those regulations. Information regarding the Code of Student Conduct and the conduct process can be found on page 43 of this handbook. The Office of Student Conduct is located in the Student Affairs suite in the Hoover-Price Campus Center and can be reached at studentconduct@mountunion.edu or (330) 823-7288.

Campus Living

Esports

Mount Union Esports is the official, university ran competitive video game organization on campus. ‘Varsity’ level teams are currently fielded in three games. Those games are League of Legends, Overwatch and Rocket League. Students participating in esports should expect to gain experience and values afforded by traditional sports, in a non-traditional environment. These values might include, but are not limited to, communication, teamwork, decision-making, and grit.

Eligibility to Compete

1. 2.5 Cumulative GPA and must be in good standing with the University
2. Participation in at least one other campus activity or organization
3. Active participation in practice, film and strategy sessions
4. Must be a full-time student at the University of Mount Union

Mount Union Esports Code of Conduct

1. No ‘toxicity’ of any form is allowed. This includes things such as ‘raging’, ‘flaming’, ‘inting’, or anything equivalent. This behavior will not be tolerated.
2. No cheating whatsoever; play honest, play fair.
3. Harassment based on a person’s identity is prohibited. Treat others as you wish to be treated.
4. See something, say something.

For more information, visit mountunion.edu/esports or contact Derek Spinell, the director of Esports and head coach at spinelde@mountunion.edu or (330)-829-6623.
Residence Life

Over 1,400 students live on the campus of Mount Union in 10 residence halls, 11 apartment/townhouse style buildings, and up to 4 houses making it a largely residential campus. The residence life staff at Mount Union believes that the residential experience can significantly contribute to a student’s overall collegiate experience. Indeed, much of the learning that takes place on any college or university campus takes place outside of the classroom. Therefore, the Office of Residence Life staff strives to create residence hall and house communities that focus on the living and learning process that is at the core of our University mission to prepare students for fulfilling lives, meaningful work, and responsible citizenship. Housing is available to all students on a first come, first-served basis. Campus housing is at a premium and students may be placed on a waiting list until space becomes available.

Residence Life Staff

The Office of Residence Life is a part of the Office of Student Affairs and is located in the Hoover-Price Campus Center. The professional staff consists of the director, an assistant director, and 6 resident directors (RDs), most of whom also serve the University in other collateral roles. These RDs are professional staff members who reside on campus in the residence halls. In most cases, they are working toward or possess master’s degrees in higher education administration or related fields preparing them for residence hall management and providing them an understanding of college student development. In addition to ensuring that the halls meet the physical needs of residential students, they provide programs and activities designed to enrich the total educational experience of Mount Union students. Also on staff is an administrative assistant who is shared among the offices in student affairs.

There is a resident director on call (RD on Duty) 24-hours a day. The RD on Duty is available to assist students with any residence hall emergencies or after-hour situations that may occur. The RD on Duty carries a cellular phone (330-428-3500) to be accessible to students at all times.

The Office of Residence Life also employs approximately 55 student staff members called resident assistants (RAs), assistant resident directors (ARDs), and assistant resident managers (ARMs). Our student staff members are returning students who have distinguished themselves through their leadership abilities and interpersonal skills as well as their desire to assist their fellow students. As peers, these students not only provide a source of basic information, referral help, and a model of successful adjustment to college living, but also serve as sensitive, motivating forces to provide the structure and experience that will promote student development. To that end, staff members participate in an extensive and continuous training program that prepares them for the many different roles and responsibilities they hold: helper, problem-solver, program planner, campus liaison, policy enforcer, mediator, and role model. RAs live on the floors and will work to promote a positive living-learning environment in the halls and campus houses, develop a sense of community amongst their residents, and respond to the various collective and individual needs, issues, or concerns of their community members. Their efforts target the developmental needs and transitional issues of their residents. ARDs are students with prior residence life staff experience who have accepted a leadership role within the staff and work closely with an RD to run a residence hall. ARMs are available to assist students living in our apartment and townhouse style housing as necessary.
Student Involvement and Leadership

The Office of Student Involvement & Leadership prepares Mount Union students for meaningful work, fulfilling lives, and responsible citizenship through engaging and intentional cocurricular activities, programs, services, and partnerships. Through immersed participation, training, practice, and reflection, Mount Union students gain skills that complement their academic endeavors and further enable their success after graduation.

The Office of Student Involvement & Leadership is directly responsible for the coordination of campus programming, advising fraternity and sorority life, coordinating and implementing leadership programs, providing support to student organizations, advising the Mount Union Student Senate, and offering the Student Involvement Record.

Campus Programming

The staff in the Office of Student Involvement & Leadership advise the Raider Programming Board (RPB). RPB is responsible for most of the student-initiated campus entertainment, including events that occur during Week of Welcome, Family Day, Homecoming, Little Sibs Weekend, and Springfest. RPB also sponsors Friday night programs that highlight the talents of our own Mount Union Students through our Coffeehouse series and helps build a fun, welcoming on-campus community.

Week of Welcome

Week of Welcome offers students the chance to kick-off and celebrate a new school year by meeting other students, getting involved in student organizations, and truly finding your place at the University of Mount Union.

Family Day

Family Day provides students, parents, and their families an opportunity to re-connect during the middle of the fall semester. Including a home Raider football game, a dinner, and other entertainment throughout the day. Family Day provides resources for families to continue to support the educational pursuits of their students.

Homecoming

Homecoming is the time of year in which UMU traditions, new and old, come together during one exciting week! Whether it’s the Mx. UMU Pageant, selecting the Homecoming Court, or cheering on our Purple Raiders, there is something for everyone during Homecoming Week. Don’t miss out on the chance to turn new experiences into an old tradition with fellow classmates!

Little Sibs Weekend

Little Sibs Weekend offers the chance for UMU students to host their younger “Sibs” (siblings, cousins, friends) with a multitude of fun activities provided by the Raider Programming Board. From exclusive t-shirts and family-friendly movies to interactive inflatables and delicious dinner buffets, Little Sibs Weekend is fun for all ages!

Springfest

Springfest delivers a weeklong array of fun programs and gives UMU students a chance to unwind before the hectic pace of Finals Week picks up. Including nationally known performers, PotteryPalooza, and other
entertainment throughout the week, Springfest gives all students a reason to get out of their room and break out of the winter funk!

**Fraternity and Sorority Life**

Fraternity and Sorority Life at Mount Union has a long, rich tradition of fostering student involvement and development. Since before 1882, students have chosen to join members of fraternities and sororities at Mount Union because of the advantages these organizations provide, specifically the ideals of leadership, scholarship, community service, and friendship.

Many opportunities compose the experience of what is commonly referred to as “the Greek community.” Leadership training, monetary scholarships, academic assistance, civic engagement, tradition, teambuilding opportunities, networking capabilities, and more await the person who elects to join. Many students feel when they join a fraternity or sorority, they are giving a part of themselves to something greater. They agree to live by the values of not only their selected organization, but the ones which they personally espouse. When deciding if fraternity or sorority membership is for you, we highly encourage you to seek out the one that best fits your personality, outlook, and beliefs!

To join, or “affiliate” with a fraternity or sorority at Mount Union, interested students participate in the process called recruitment. The Office of Student Involvement & Leadership encourages all students to consider membership at any point during their collegiate experience. We strongly encourage you to look at each individual organization for the unique opportunity that it could provide for you. Think of each recruitment event as a way to learn much about the members of each organization, the values and purpose of each chapter, the benefits of joining a fraternity or sorority, and the commitments required for membership.

To join a fraternity or sorority at the University, students must attain the minimum grade point average of the chapter they wish to join, as each one has a different requirement. A student must also be enrolled as a full-time student at the University of Mount Union. First year students may participate in fraternity or sorority recruitment in their first semester on campus, so long as they are signed up with the Office of Student Involvement & Leadership.

**Leadership Programs**

Much of what the office does is viewed through the lens of student leadership development. Our leadership programs provide students, at a variety of abilities and engagement levels, with appropriately designed leadership opportunities to further enhance their learning and engagement on campus. Workshops and seminars are available throughout the year to meet the needs of student leaders and organizations.

**Emerging Leaders**

The Emerging Leadership Program is a series of leadership sessions specifically designed for first year students interested in learning more about themselves as leaders during their freshman year at Mount Union. Open to all who are interested, Emerging Leaders meets weekly throughout the fall semester, and focuses on communication skills, leadership styles, getting involved on campus, and learning more about leadership in the world around them.

**Student Organizations**

In support of the leadership development that takes place in student organizations, the Office of Student Involvement & Leadership serves as a resource center and clearinghouse for the approximately 90 active student organizations on campus. All student organizations are required to register with the Office of Student Involvement & Leadership each semester and maintain current contact information for presidents and advisors.
as well as accurate constitutions. Students interested in starting a new student organization can learn more by contacting the director of student involvement and leadership.

**Raiderfest**

Students can learn about becoming involved in these student organizations by participating in the Raiderfest Student Involvement Fair held during the first week of classes in the fall.

**Student Involvement Record**

The Student Involvement Record (SIR) is a chronological record of a student’s participation in cocurricular activities, intended to complement the University of Mount Union academic transcript. By providing a chronology of the student’s accomplishments while a student at the University, the Student Involvement Record provides a comprehensive attempt to provide data and information regarding student involvement in cocurricular and related non-classroom activities.

The SIR was developed to provide statistical information regarding student involvement, provide useful services to student organizations, and provide students with a chronology of their involvement. The information submitted is kept on file in the Office of Student Involvement & Leadership. Many departments on campus request student involvement information throughout the year for various reasons. This information is often used when students are being considered for academic or leadership honors and awards. Additionally, this information can be used in support of the academic transcript during the job search process.

The Student Involvement Record needs to be updated each semester so that a student’s record is as accurate as possible. Each semester, presidents, advisors, and coaches are asked to update information regarding their organization. Information can be updated at any time by contacting the Office of Student Involvement & Leadership. The Student Involvement Record is requested in the same way academic transcripts are, through the Office of the Registrar, but at no additional cost to students.

**Student Senate**

The Mount Union Student Senate is the chief avenue for students to maintain an effective voice in the affairs of the University by serving as the link between the student body and the administration. Through Student Senate, students can express concerns or make suggestions (either directly or through their representatives) about any issue on campus, be it academics or campus life. In addition, any student or organization may petition Student Senate for funding for extracurricular projects and endeavors.

Student Senate meetings occur each Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. when school is in session. All Student Senate meetings are open to any member of the University Community.

**Wellness**

**Alcohol, Drug and Wellness Education**

The Office of Alcohol, Drug and Wellness Education serves to provide a 3-tiered approach to education, programming, and student growth and development: (1) individuals; (2) student body as a whole; and (3) university and the greater community. Through holistic education, prevention, and counseling, the Office underscores the University’s mission to prepare students for meaningful work, fulfilling lives, and responsible citizenship. By focusing on making healthy choices including responsible drinking, sexual education, drug
prevention, and other addictive behavioral concerns the office works collaboratively with faculty, staff, and students to develop proactive programming, education, and counseling opportunities.

The Office of Alcohol, Drug and Wellness Education provides programming and outreach in the form of campus-wide “awareness” events (e.g., National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week, Great American Smoke Out, and Safe Spring Break), hall and floor programs and individual/group counseling sessions. The office provides education and counseling for students concerned about alcohol, drug and other wellness related issues. Additionally, the Office of Alcohol, Drug and Wellness Education is a campus-wide resource, providing wellness-related information and referrals for students, whether for a class project or personal use.

Two student organizations work in conjunction with the Office of Alcohol, Drug, and Wellness Education: C.H.O.I.C.E.S. (Choosing Healthy Options in Celebration of Educational Success) and GAMMA (Greens Advocating Mature Management of Alcohol). C.H.O.I.C.E.S. provides information and opportunities for students interested in health and wellness issues. C.H.O.I.C.E.S. offers programs on stress management, healthy decision making, responsible alcohol use, sexual responsibility, and many others. GAMMA is composed of and works with students participating in fraternity and sorority life. GAMMA offers programs designed to improve risk-management and promote responsible attitudes toward alcohol use. In addition, a student led committee sponsored by the office of Alcohol, Drug & Wellness Education, YOUng People Matter (YPM), functions to address safe medication practice and safe medication disposal.

The Office of Alcohol, Drug and Wellness Education is located in the Office of Student Affairs behind the Information Desk in the Hoover-Price Campus Center and welcomes any and all visitors.

For more information please contact the office of Alcohol, Drug, & Wellness Education at 330.829.6660 or adwe@mountunion.edu.

**Available Services**

**Assessment, Individual and Group Counseling & Education**

Assessment, counseling and education/resources are available in the areas of:

- Alcohol or Drug Misuse/Abuse/Dependency
- Recovery Support
- Tobacco Use/Cessation
- Behavioral Addictions:
  - Gambling
  - Sex/Porn
  - Shopping
  - Gaming/Internet
- Stress Management
- Healthy Relationships
- Body Image/Eating Disorders
- Time Management
- Other Wellness Related Concerns

Students wanting to know more about responsible drinking, smoking cessation, living alcohol/drug free, or other drug and alcohol or wellness issues can schedule an individual appointment by contacting the office of Alcohol, Drug & Wellness Education at (330) 829-6660 or email adwe@mountunion.edu.
Consultation/Referral Service

Often, staff or faculty will be one of the first persons to discover that a student is having personal problems that are interfering with their academic success or daily lives. In these situations, the office of Alcohol, Drug & Wellness Education is available for consultation. The office also can provide referrals for services available in the community.

Consultation is also available by professional staff members for assistance in program planning, and referral questions.

Family members and loved ones of students may also utilize the consultation services of this office.

Outreach

The Office of Alcohol, Drug & Wellness Education responds to students in need of outreach services. In addition to delivering services, the office outreach program has an educational role, and raises the awareness of existing services available to students.

Crisis Response

Alcohol, Drug & Wellness Education offers crisis intervention services to all enrolled students. Crisis response is immediate and short-term psychological care to help students through a crisis situation to restore balance to their life and to minimize the potential for long-term psychological trauma.

Group Education Classes/Support Groups

Groups are designed to help students gain insight and self-awareness regarding their current concerns. Students must meet with an Alcohol, Drug & Wellness Education staff member before enrolling in group or class. Current available groups include:

- Sexual Assault Survivor Support Group
- Recovery Group
- Smoking Cessation Group
- Children of Adult Alcoholics Support Group
- Alcohol Education Group

For programmatic offerings, please contact the office of Alcohol, Drug, & Wellness Education at 330.829.6660 or adwe@mountunion.edu.

Counseling Services

The aim of counseling at Mount Union is to assist students in becoming socially and emotionally healthy. Counseling is a partnership between client and counselor, meant to help students find solutions and possibilities in life. In the Office of Counseling Services, state licensed counselors help Mount Union students move toward life goals, while teaching the coping skills needed for the future. Counseling staff members provide free and confidential counseling by appointment to enrolled students either in-person in the office or via tele-health. Face-to-face and virtual walk-in hours are also available daily. Additionally, consultation services for those students studying abroad and completing clinicals or taking classes remotely are available.

The primary service requested by students is individual counseling. During counseling, students typically discuss relationships, transitioning to college life, managing emotions, academics, career or work decisions, family, sports, and/or balancing school, work, and social life. Other services include presentations, workshops, and consultation with faculty, staff, and student groups.
Students needing long-term, intensive outpatient, or in-patient treatment due to serious emotional, medical, or behavioral problems (including but not limited to suicidal or homicidal thoughts or actions, eating disorders, substance addictions, and disorders which impair the ability to think logically or relate with others constructively) are referred for outside treatment, often with the aid of parents or guardians.

The Department of Counseling Services is located within Suite 200 of the Aultman Alliance Community Hospital Professional Building located at 270 East State Street. To schedule an appointment, call (330) 823-2886 or email CounselingServices@mountunion.edu.

If students need assistance outside of regular office hours, there are a variety of resources both on-campus and in the local area who can aid. The following is a list of resources that may be used in situations in which a more immediate response is needed:

**For After Hours Emergencies:**
- Resident Director on Duty: 330-428-3500
- Campus Security: 330-428-1344
- Alliance Police Department: 330-821-3131 or 911 if emergency services are needed
- Alliance EMS (Fire Dept): 330-821-1212 or 911 if emergency services are needed

**National and Local Crisis Resources:**
- Stark County Crisis Hotline: 330-452-6000
- Crisis Text Line: Text 4hope to 741741
- Trevor Lifeline for LGBTQ Youth: 866-488-7386
- National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 800-273-TALK (8255) [https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/](https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/)
- Alliance Area Rape Crisis Hotline: 330-821- RAPE (7273)
- Alliance Domestic Violence Shelter: 330-823-7223

**Health Services**

**Location and Hours**

The Student Health Center is located within Suite 200 of the Aultman Alliance Community Hospital Professional Office Building located at 270 East State Street. Services are available Monday through Friday with nurses on duty from 8 am until 4 pm during the academic year when classes are in session. The University contracted physician is available for students between 10:45 am and 12:15 pm. A physician assistant or nurse practitioner is available 12 pm – 4 pm. Summer hours are 8 am until noon with nurses on duty. Students must call 330-823-2692 to pre-register prior to arrival. Students will be screened over the phone and may be given a telehealth appointment or a face to face appointment in the Health Center.

**Services**

The Health Center functions as an ambulatory care center. Services include health promotion, health protection, disease prevention, and clinical care. Preliminary diagnostic work, preventative medicine and the care of short-term illness and injuries are services provided. The Health Center staff provides students with opportunities for learning outside the classroom. The staff teaches students about healthy lifestyles, health promotion, disease prevention, safety, and self-care issues. There is no charge to see a nurse or physician, however if a diagnostic test is ordered, the student will be responsible for any amount not covered by their insurance.
Emergency and After Hours

Students who have minor illness or injury after Health Center hours or are experiencing a major medical emergency at any time should go to the nearest stat/urgent care facility or to the emergency room at the nearest hospital as appropriate. In Alliance, these options include:

- Hometown Urgent Care
  1939 W. State Street
  Alliance, OH 44601
  330-238-4455

- Aultman Alliance Community Hospital
  Emergency Room – Open: 24 hours a day, seven days a week
  200 E. State Street
  Alliance, OH 44601
  (330) 596-6100

Students will be liable for expenses incurred unless the care is covered by insurance. Students who need assistance in making arrangements for emergency or after-hours care should contact their Residence Life staff or Campus Safety and Security. Students should contact the Health Center the next day to follow up with the physician and complete any insurance forms if applicable.

Class Absenteeism

A student who misses class for health reasons is required to contact the Health Center for either treatment, release or referral. The medical staff will determine the seriousness of health problems and inform the vice president for student affairs/dean of students when absence is legitimate; however, in all cases, the student is responsible to notify the faculty member and make up missed class work. In cases of prolonged illness or off-campus emergency, the student must notify the vice president for student affairs/dean of students who will verify the circumstances and issue notifications when warranted.

Policy Statement for Follow-Up Care

It is the policy of the Health Center that students who obtain diagnostic tests, medical consultation, or other treatments receive appropriate follow-up care. If a student has an x-ray, diagnostic test, or medical consultation, the results will be provided to the students during his or her follow-up appointment at the Health Center. It is the student’s responsibility to return to the Health Center to receive test results and follow-up care. Unless the x-ray, diagnostic test, or medical consultation indicates a serious and/or emergency medical condition, the staff will make one telephone call to the student to remind him or her of the need to return to the Health Center to follow up with any treatments or other care. If a student is not available when a telephone call is made, the staff will contact the student by e-mail.

Health Requirements Prior to Arrival on Campus

All students are required to have health information on file prior to their arrival. This includes health history, emergency contacts, a tuberculosis screening, and an immunization record. A physical exam is recommended for all students; however, it is mandatory for anyone who plans to participate in athletics at the University of Mount Union. The forms are available on the University website at [www.mountunion.edu/health-center-forms](http://www.mountunion.edu/health-center-forms).

The following immunizations are mandatory: Two doses of MMR (Measles, Mumps and Rubella vaccine) and a Tetanus-Diphtheria or Tdap booster within the past 10 years.
To reduce and eliminate vaccine preventable diseases on campus the Health Center staff supports the recommendations of the American College Health Association Vaccine Preventable Disease Task Force based on guidelines consistent with the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices recommendations. Those recommendations include Varicella, Hepatitis B, Meningococcal, and other vaccines as indicated and when appropriate. Information about vaccine preventable diseases and vaccines can be found on the CDC web page, https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines.

On February 10, 2005, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) issued new meningococcal immunization recommendations. The recommendations state young adolescents at the pre-adolescent visit (11-12 year old), adolescents at high school entry (15 year old), and college freshmen living in dormitories should be immunized against meningococcal meningitis. The ACHA and ACIP’s new recommendations further state that other college students under 25 years of age may choose to receive meningococcal vaccination to reduce their risk for the disease (Source: National Meningitis Association and the ACHA.)

Due to Ohio law, which took effect July 1, 2005, college and university students who apply for on-campus housing must complete a Meningococcal and Hepatitis B Vaccine Status Statement Form to indicate they received, read, and understand information about the diseases and the benefits and risks of being vaccinated to prevent them. In addition, students must disclose to their college or university if they have or if they have not been vaccinated against the diseases. Immunization dates are required for students who have been immunized. Students must sign the required forms, or they will not be permitted to reside on campus.

**Student Accident Insurance**

All full-time undergraduate students will be enrolled in an Accident-Only plan at no cost to the student. The plan provides a maximum benefit of $1,000 per covered injury. This may be used in conjunction with other plans and with the intercollegiate athletic insurance provided by the University of Mount Union. More information on the Accident-Only plan can be obtained by contacting the Health Center.

**Recreation and Wellness**

Campus Recreation contributes to the Mount Union experience by providing quality facilities, programs, and services to all members of the campus community. Throughout the year the recreation staff offers a variety of fitness programs and intramural sport activities. The McPherson Academic Athletic Complex (MAAC) consists of cardio machines, free weights, nautilus equipment, a multipurpose room, pool, and auxiliary gymnasium. The Peterson Field house has a 200-meter track, two basketball courts, four tennis courts, and four volleyball courts. During the academic year students, faculty and staff may participate in intramural sports such as flag football, sand night volleyball, inner tube water polo, basketball, indoor soccer, and many more. Fitness programs such as yoga, turbo kick, and Zumba are offered as well. The wide variety of programs allows members of the Mount Union community to be physically active in a safe and fun environment.

**Spiritual Life**

Spiritual life programming and scheduling is handled through the Office of the Chaplain located in Dewald Chapel. The coordinating body of student spiritual life organizations is Spiritual Life Leadership (SLL), which is advised by the Chaplain. Each of the member organizations of SLL is student-led with a faculty, staff or approved off-campus advisor. SLL sponsors a number of events and activities throughout the academic year. In addition to meetings, the annual calendar includes retreats, bible studies, small groups, vocation workshops, alternative break mission trips, and special holy day services and activities.
Worship and meetings take place in Meyers Sanctuary or in one of three meeting spaces in Dewald Chapel throughout the week. Weekly services include: Catholic Mass on Sundays at 4:00 p.m. and mid-week Chapel on Thursdays from 11:25 a.m. to 12:00 noon. There is also a 24-hour meditation room available on campus adjacent to Meyers Sanctuary. Additionally, there is a Muslim prayer room and a meditation room for other traditions located at 205 W. Simpson St. that is available throughout the week.

The Office of the Chaplain promotes many other activities, small groups, support groups and programs as well as provides spiritual guidance, vocational discernment, and pastoral counseling to people of all faiths or non-faiths and traditions. Students, faculty, and staff are always welcome to be a part of spiritual life activities, worship, or other Chapel sponsored programs and events.

For more information about spiritual life on campus, contact the Office of the Chaplain at (330) 823-2838 or go to [https://www.mountunion.edu/campus-life/spiritual-life](https://www.mountunion.edu/campus-life/spiritual-life).
Code of Student Conduct

Preface

Core Values of Student Conduct at the University of Mount Union
The University of Mount Union’s community obligates each member to a Code of Conduct. Mount Union’s student conduct system supports the University community by providing and maintaining behavioral standards and expectations for students that promote:

- **Integrity:** Mount Union students exemplify honesty, honor, and a respect for the truth in all of their dealings.
- **Community:** Mount Union students build and enhance their community.
- **Social Justice:** Mount Union students are just and equitable in their treatment of all members of the community and act to discourage and/or intervene to prevent unjust and inequitable behaviors.
- **Respect:** Mount Union students show positive regard for each other, for property, and for the community.
- **Responsibility:** Mount Union students are given and accept a high level of responsibility to self, to others, and to the community.

These core values serve to create an environment that allows our students to enhance their academic and social growth by preparing them for fulfilling lives, meaningful work, and responsible citizenship.

Section 1: Philosophy Statement

The Mount Union community is committed to fostering a campus environment that is conducive to academic inquiry, a productive campus life, and thoughtful study and discourse. The student conduct program is committed to an educational and developmental process that balances the interests of individual students with the interests of the University community.

A community exists on the basis of shared values and principles. At Mount Union, student members of the community are expected to uphold and abide by certain standards of conduct that form the basis of the Code of Student Conduct. These standards are embodied within a set of core values that include integrity, social justice, respect, community, and responsibility.

Each member of the University community bears responsibility for their conduct and to assume reasonable responsibility for the behavior of others. When members of the community fail to exemplify these five values by engaging in violation of the rules below, campus conduct proceedings are used to assert and uphold the Code of Student Conduct.

The student conduct process at Mount Union is not intended to punish students; rather, it exists to protect the interests of the community and to challenge those whose behavior is not in accordance with our policies. Sanctions are intended to challenge students’ moral and ethical decision-making and to help them bring their behavior into accord with our community expectations. When a student is unable to conform their behavior to community expectations, the student conduct process may determine that the student should no longer share in the privilege of participating in this community.

Students should be aware that the student conduct process is quite different from criminal and civil court proceedings. Procedures and rights in the student conduct process are conducted with fairness to all, but do not include the same protections of due process afforded by the courts. Due process, as defined within these procedures, assures written notice and a hearing before an objective decision-maker. No student will be found
in violation of University policy without information showing that it is more likely than not that a policy violation occurred and any sanctions will be proportionate to the severity of the violation and to the cumulative conduct history of the student.

Section 2: Jurisdiction

Students at Mount Union are provided a copy of the Code of Student Conduct annually in the form of a link on the University website. Hard copies are available upon request from the Office of Student Conduct. Students are responsible for reading and abiding by the provisions of the Code of Student Conduct.

The Code of Student Conduct and the student conduct process apply to the conduct of individual students, both undergraduate and graduate, and all University-affiliated student organizations. For the purposes of student conduct, the University considers an individual to be a student who has accepted an offer of admission, or who is registered or enrolled for credit or non-credit bearing coursework, and who maintains an ongoing relationship with the University of Mount Union.

Mount Union retains conduct jurisdiction over students who choose to take a leave of absence, withdraw, or who have graduated for any misconduct that occurred prior to the leave, withdrawal, or graduation. If sanctioned, a hold may be placed on the student’s ability to re-enroll and all sanctions must be satisfied prior to re-enrollment eligibility. In the event of serious misconduct committed while still enrolled but reported after the accused student has graduated, the University may invoke these procedures and should the former student be found responsible, the University may revoke that student’s degree.

The Code of Student Conduct applies to behaviors that take place on the campus, at university-sponsored events and may also apply off-campus when the vice president for student affairs/dean of students or designee determines that the off-campus conduct affects a substantial University interest. A substantial University interest is defined to include:

- Any situation where it appears that the student’s conduct may present a danger or threat to the health or safety of themselves or others; and/or
- Any situation that significantly impinges upon the rights, property, or achievements of self or others or significantly breaches the peace and/or causes social disorder; and/or
- Any situation that is detrimental to the educational mission and/or interests of the University.

The Code of Student Conduct may be applied to behavior conducted online, via email, or other electronic medium. Students should also be aware that online postings, including video and photographs, such as blogs, web postings, chats, and social networking sites are in the public sphere and are not private. These postings can subject a student to allegations of conduct violations if evidence of policy violations is posted online. The University does not regularly search for this information but may take action, if and when, such information is brought to the attention of university officials. However, most online speech by students not involving Mount Union networks or technology will be protected as free expression and not subject to the Code of Student Conduct, with two notable exceptions:

- A true threat, defined as “a threat a reasonable person would interpret as a serious expression of intent to inflict bodily harm upon specific individuals”; and
- Speech posted online about the University or its community members that causes a significant on-campus disruption.

The Code of Student Conduct applies to guests of community members whose hosts may be held accountable for the misconduct of their guests. Visitors to and guests of Mount Union may seek resolution of violations of the Code of Student Conduct committed against them by members of the University community.
There is no time limit on reporting violations of the Code of Student Conduct; however, the longer someone waits to report an offense, the harder it becomes for university officials to obtain information and witness statements and to make determinations regarding alleged violations.

Though anonymous complaints are permitted, doing so may limit the University’s ability to investigate and respond to a complaint. Those who are aware of misconduct are encouraged to report it as quickly as possible to the Office of Student Conduct and/or the Office of Campus Safety and Security. Reports can be made online at www.mountunion.edu/campus-life/safety-and-parking/student-conduct.

The student’s assigned Mount Union email is the University’s primary means of communication with students. Students are responsible for all communication delivered to their university email address.

**Section 3: Violations of the Law**

Alleged violations of federal, state, and local laws may be investigated and addressed under the Code of Student Conduct. When an offense occurs over which the University has jurisdiction, the university conduct process will usually go forward notwithstanding any criminal complaint that may arise from the same incident.

The University reserves the right to exercise its authority of interim action upon notification that a student is facing criminal investigation and/or conduct complaint (additional grounds for interim action are outlined here). Interim actions are imposed until a hearing can be held, typically within 10 business days. Within that time, the interimly acted upon student may request an immediate hearing from the director of student conduct or designee to show cause why the interim action should be lifted. This hearing may resolve the allegation or may be held to determine if the interim action should be continued. The interim action may be continued if a danger to the community is posed and the University may be delayed or prevented from conducting its own investigation and resolving the allegation by the pendency of the criminal process. In such cases, the University will only delay its hearing until such time as it can conduct an internal investigation or obtain sufficient information independently or from law enforcement upon which to proceed. This delay will typically be no longer than 10 business days from notice of the incident unless a longer delay is requested in writing by the reporting party to allow the criminal investigation to proceed before the University process.

Students accused of crimes may request to take a leave from the University until the criminal charges are resolved. In such situations, the University procedure for voluntary leaves of absence is subject to the following conditions:

- The responding student must comply with all campus investigative efforts that will not prejudice their defense in the criminal trial; and
- The responding student must comply with all interim actions and/or restrictions imposed during the leave of absence; and
- The responding student must agree that, in order to be reinstated to active student status, they must first be subject to, and fully cooperate with, the campus conduct process and must comply with all sanctions that are imposed.

**Section 4: Core Values and Behavioral Expectations**

Mount Union considers the behavior described in the following sub-sections as inappropriate for the University community and in opposition to the core values set forth in this document. These expectations and rules apply to all students. The University encourages community members to report to University officials all incidents that involve the following actions. Any student found to have committed or to have attempted to commit the following prohibited behaviors are subject to the sanctions outlined in Section 8N: Conduct Sanctions. Any violations of the below policies that violates Title IX as determined by the Title IX
co-coordinator or discrimination will follow the conduct process outlined in the interim policy on Equal Opportunity, Harassment and Nondiscrimination for all Faculty, Students, Employees, and Third-Parties.

**Integrity: University of Mount Union students exemplify honesty, honor, and a respect for the truth in all of their dealings.**

1. **Collusion.** Action or inaction with another or others to violate the Code of Student Conduct;
2. **Election Tampering.** Tampering with the election of any University-recognized student organization (minor election code violations are addressed by the Student Senate);
3. **Falsification.** Knowingly furnishing or possessing false, falsified, or forged materials, documents, accounts, records, identification, or financial instruments;
4. **Invasion of Privacy.** Making, attempting to make, transmitting, or attempting to transmit audio, video, or images of any person(s) or viewing or spying on a person(s) where there is an explicit expectation of privacy (such as in a residence, bathroom, locker room, university employee’s office, etc.) without knowledge and prior consent of all participants;
5. **Taking of Property.** Intentional and unauthorized taking of University property or the property of another, including goods, services, and other valuables;
6. **Trust.** Violations of positions of trust within the community.

**Community: University students build and enhance their community.**

7. **Animals.** Animals, with the exception of animals that provide assistance (e.g. emotional support animals previously approved by the Office of Student Accessibility or service animals), and pets as outlined in the Residence Life Rights and Responsibilities on page 46, are not permitted on campus except as permitted by law;
8. **Disruptive Behavior.** Substantial disruption of University operations including obstruction of teaching, research, administration, other University activities, and/or other authorized non-University activities which occur on campus;
9. **Disturbance.** Causing, inciting, or participating in any disturbance that presents a clear and present danger to self or others, causes physical harm to others, or damage and/or destruction of property;
10. **Damage and Destruction.** Intentional, reckless, and/or unauthorized damage to, or destruction of University property or the personal property of another;
11. **Drones.** Drones, UAVs, and VASs; with the exception of use in approved academic settings or for marketing purposes, may not be flown on or above campus. Drones may only be used in the direct supervision of an authorized user, approved by the provost/vice president for academic affairs. Drones are permitted to be stored on university premises.
12. **Environmental Disrespect.** Excessive noise, amplified sound, music, or any other mechanism that produces noise that disrupts other students. Hosting large open parties, littering, unearthing plants, disturbing the aesthetics of the University, and/or any behavior that causes damage to the University grounds or facilities;
13. **Fire Safety.** Violation of local, state, federal, or campus fire policies including, but not limited to:
   - Intentionally or recklessly causing a fire which damages University or personal property or which causes injury;
   - Failure to evacuate a University-controlled building or to not do so in a timely manner during a fire alarm;
   - Improper use of University fire safety equipment;
   - Tampering with or improperly engaging a fire alarm or fire detection/control equipment while on University property; or
   - Causing, making, or circulating a false report or warning of fire, explosion, or other crisis or emergency;
14. **Gambling.** Gambling as prohibited by the laws of the State of Ohio (Gambling may include raffles, lotteries, sports pools, and online betting activities. For more information, See Student Handbook, Community Standards);
15. **Ineligible Pledging or Association**: Pledging or associating with a student organization without having met eligibility requirements established by the University or acting as an organization or organization member when an organization has not been appropriately approved or has been removed from campus;

16. **IT and Acceptable Use**: Misuse or abuse of any computer, computer system, service, hardware, software, program, data, network, cable television network, or communication network as defined by the Technology Resources Acceptable Use Policy, found on page 97 of the Student Handbook;

17. **Tobacco**: Smoking or tobacco use in any area of campus, including the use of smokeless tobacco, vaporizers and e-cigarettes. For more information, See Student Handbook, “Community Standards”;

18. **Trademark**: Unauthorized use (including misuse) of University or organizational names and images;

19. **Unauthorized Entry**: Misuse of access privileges to University premises or property of any person or business or unauthorized entry to or use of buildings, including trespassing, propping, or unauthorized use of locked or alarmed doors for entry into or exit from a University building;

20. **Weapons**: University of Mount Union prohibits the possession, use, or storage of weapons or dangerous materials of any type or description anywhere on University of Mount Union property. This includes, but is not limited to: firearms, compressed-air guns, pellet guns, BB guns, illegal knives, swords, explosive devices, fireworks, ammunition, tasers, stun guns, brass (or other metal) knuckles, replica weapons, toy (including Nerf and water guns) weapons, or any other dangerous “ordnance” as defined by Ohio law. While state legislation authorizes county sheriffs to issue licenses to carry concealed handguns, these firearms are still prohibited on University property. Exceptions to this policy for educational purposes (e.g. theater productions) must be granted by the vice president for student affairs/dean of students.

21. **Wheeled Devices**: Use of skateboards, roller blades, roller skates, bicycles, scooters, and similar wheeled devices are not permitted inside University buildings, residence halls, or on tennis courts. Skateboards and other wheeled items may not be ridden on railings, curbs, benches, or any such fixtures that may be damaged by these activities. Additionally, hoverboards, self-balancing scooters, battery powered two-wheeled scooters, and other similar devices may not be used, possessed, charged, or stored on campus grounds or any campus building;

22. **Social Justice**: Students recognize that respecting the dignity of every person is essential for creating and sustaining a flourishing university community. They understand and appreciate how their decisions and actions impact others and are just and equitable in their treatment of all members of the community. They act to discourage and challenge those whose actions may be harmful to and/or diminish the worth of others.

23. **Abuse of Conduct Process**: Abuse or interference with, or failure to comply in, University processes including conduct and academic dishonesty hearings including, but not limited to:

- Falsification, distortion, or misrepresentation of information;
- Failure to provide, destroying, or concealing information during an investigation of an alleged policy violation;
- Attempting to discourage an individual’s proper participation in, or use of, the campus conduct system;
- Harassment (verbal or physical) and/or intimidation of a member of a campus conduct body prior to, during, and/or following a campus conduct proceeding;
- Failure to comply with the sanction(s) imposed by the campus conduct system; or
- Influencing, or attempting to influence, another person to commit an abuse of the campus conduct system;

23. **Complicity**:

- Complicity with or failure of any student to appropriately address known or obvious violations of the Code of Student Conduct or law; or
• Complicity with or failure of any organized group to appropriately address known or obvious violations of the Code of Student Conduct or law by its members;

24. **Discrimination:** Any act or failure to act that is based upon an individual or group’s actual or perceived status (sex, gender, gender expression, race, color, age, creed, national or ethnic origin, physical or mental disability, veteran status, pregnancy status, religion, sexual orientation, or other protected status) that is sufficiently severe that it limits or denies the ability to participate in or benefit from the University’s educational program or activities;

25. **Harassment:** Any unwelcome conduct based on actual or perceived status including: sex, gender, gender expression, race, color, age, creed, national or ethnic origin, physical or mental disability, veteran status, pregnancy status, religion, sexual orientation, or other protected status. Any unwelcome conduct should be reported to campus officials, who will act to remedy and resolve reported incidents on behalf of the individual and community.

• **Hostile Environment.** Sanctions can and will be imposed for the creation of a hostile environment only when harassment is sufficiently severe, pervasive (or persistent) and objectively offensive that it unreasonably interferes with, limits, or denies the ability to participate in or benefit from the University’s educational or employment program or activities;

26. **Retaliatory Discrimination or Harassment:** Any intentional, adverse action taken by a responding individual or allied third party, absent legitimate nondiscriminatory purposes, against complainant, a staff member, a participant, or supporter of a participant in a grievance proceeding, a conduct proceeding, or other protected hearing or process;

**Respect:** University of Mount Union students show positive regard for each other and for the community.

27. **Bullying and Cyberbullying:** Repeated and/or severe aggressive behaviors that intimidate or intentionally harm or control another person physically or emotionally, and are not protected by freedom of expression;

28. **Harm to Persons:** Intentionally or recklessly causing mental or physical harm or endangering the health or safety of any person;

29. **Hazing:** An act that endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student, or that destroys or removes public or private property, for the purpose of initiation, admission into, affiliation with, or as a condition for continued membership in a group or organization. Participation or cooperation by the person(s) being hazed does not excuse the violation. Failing to intervene to prevent and/or failing to discourage and/or failing to report those acts may also violate this policy. (See Community Standards page 211 for further information);

30. **Intimate Partner Violence:** Violence or abuse by a person in an intimate relationship with another;

31. **Public Exposure:** Includes deliberately and publicly exposing one’s intimate body parts, public urination, defecation, and public sex acts;

32. **Sexual Misconduct:** Includes, but is not limited to, sexual harassment, non-consensual sexual contact, non-consensual sexual intercourse, and/or sexual exploitation (See Interim Policy on Equal opportunity, Harassment, and Nondiscrimination for further information);

33. **Stalking:** Stalking is a course of conduct that is repetitive and menacing and includes pursuit, following, harassing, and/or interfering with the peace and/or safety of another;

34. **Threatening Behaviors:**

• **Threat.** Written or verbal conduct that causes a reasonable expectation of injury to the health or safety of any person or damage to any property;

• **Intimidation.** Intimidation defined as implied threats or acts that cause a reasonable fear of harm in another;

**Responsibility:** University students are given and accept a high level of responsibility to self, to others, and to the community.
35. **Alcohol**: Use, possession, or distribution of alcoholic beverages or paraphernalia except as expressly permitted by law and the University’s Alcohol Policy (See Community Standards on page 75 for further information);

36. **Drugs**: Use, possession, or distribution of illegal drugs and other controlled substances or drug paraphernalia except as expressly permitted by law and the University’s Drug Policy (See Community Standards page 78 for further information);

37. **Failure to Comply**: Failure to comply with the reasonable directives of University officials (including resident assistants or other students acting on behalf of the university), campus safety and security officers or law enforcement officers during the performance of their duties and/or failure to identify oneself to these persons when requested to do so;

38. **Financial Responsibilities**: Failure to promptly meet financial responsibilities to the institution, including, but not limited to; knowingly passing a worthless check or money order in payment to the institution or to an official of the institution acting in an official capacity;

39. **Guest Responsibility**: Failure to inform guests, student and non-student of university policies. Students assume responsibility for the conduct of their guests on or in university property and at functions sponsored by the University or any recognized student organization;

40. **Health and Safety**: Creation of health and/or safety hazards (dangerous pranks, hanging out of or climbing from/on/in windows, balconies, roofs, etc.);

41. **Prescription Medications**: Abuse, misuse, sale, or distribution of prescription or over-the-counter medications;

42. **Violations of Law**: Evidence of violation of local, state, or federal laws, when substantiated through the University’s conduct process;

43. **Violations of Other Policies**: Violating other published University of Mount Union policies or rules, including all Residence Life policies, and Student Organization policies.

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**Section 5: Residence Life Rights and Responsibilities**

The Office of Residence Life at the University of Mount Union creates inclusive living-learning environments. We strive to create an environment that enhances their academic and social growth to achieve the goals of fulfilling lives, meaningful work, and responsible citizenship.

Although the University has set standards of behavior for all students, some additional guidelines are necessary for those who live in the Residence Halls and university-owned housing. Students residing in residence halls and university-owned housing are responsible for adhering to the policies outlined below and the Code of Student Conduct. Students are responsible for all violations occurring in their residence. If a violation occurs in a common space and a resident knows or should have known about the violation and has not reported to their resident assistant, they will be held accountable for that violation. Violations of University policies will be addressed by the Office of Student Conduct.

The behavior described in the following sub-sections is considered inappropriate for the residence life community. These expectations and rules apply to all students and their guests. Community members are encouraged to report to residence life staff all incidents that involve the following prohibited behaviors. Any student found to have committed or to have attempted to commit the following prohibited behaviors is subject to the sanctions outlined in Section 8N: Conduct Sanctions.

Please note that some of the below policies have been changed due to the COVID-19 Responsible Restart plan. Please review the plan here to ensure you are aware of any changes made to this section regarding health, safety, guests, etc.
1. **Abandoned Property:** Failure to remove all items brought into the space by the resident or someone admitted into the space upon check out. If items are left past check out, they shall be declared abandoned and held for 7 calendar days and then discarded. The University shall not be liable for any damage to or loss of such property that occurs during the course of such removal, storage, delivery, or disposal. There is a fee for removal of and storage of abandoned items that is assessed to a student’s university account. If the items are abandoned due to improper checkout, there will be an improper checkout fee assessed as well.

2. **Alcohol:** Possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages except under circumstances authorized by the Mount Union Alcohol Policy is prohibited in university-owned housing. (See Community Standards on page 75 for further information);

3. **Active Sports:** Engaging in any sports activity in any university-owned housing. This includes, but is not limited to, the use of balls, frisbees, Nerf guns, water guns, and water balloons.

4. **Appliance Usage:** Use or possession of any appliance on the unapproved appliance list. The unapproved appliance list includes, but is not limited to:
   - Air conditioners (installed or free standing)
   - Any appliance with an open heating element
   - Any type of fog or smoke machine
   - Bread makers
   - Ceiling fans
   - Electric frying pans or woks
   - Electric or outdoor grills
   - Halogen lamps
   - Hot dog cooker
   - Hot plates
   - Hot pots
   - Hoverboards
   - Microwaves more than 1,000 watts
   - Oil-based popcorn poppers
   - Refrigerators larger than 4.5 cubic feet and or 36 inches high
   - Rice Cookers*
   - Slow cookers/Crock-Pots*
   - Space heaters
   - Sun lamps
   - Toaster ovens
   - Toasters*

*Items that are allowed in the Kitchens of the Townhouses and Apartments

For additional information please see [https://www.mountunion.edu/housing](https://www.mountunion.edu/housing).

5. **Bed Requirements:** Tampering with or altering the bed provided in the residence without permission from Residence Life. All beds must remain in the room in which they are registered on a Room Condition Report. Should a student want a bed lofted or bunked, they must submit a work order to Physical Plant at [https://portal.mountunion.edu/forms/Pages/Work-Orders.aspx](https://portal.mountunion.edu/forms/Pages/Work-Orders.aspx). Waterbeds are not permitted in university-owned housing.

6. **Bicycles:** Storing a bicycle (for any amount of time) in an entryway, stairwell, or other public area. All bicycles must be kept either outside the buildings (on appropriate racks) or in individual student rooms. Students living in the apartments may request a key to the bicycle storage closet from the Office of Residence Life.

7. **Cleanliness:** Failure to keep residences (individual bedrooms and common spaces) clean and orderly at all times. Other residents should not be impacted by a resident’s level of cleanliness or any smells.
associated with cleanliness. Residence life and/or physical plant staff may conduct periodic room inspections to ensure health and safety standards are adhered to. 24-hours’ notice will be given in advance of inspections, unless staff deems there is an immediate concern. Additionally, inspections may be conducted prior to winter break to ensure closing procedures have been adhered to.

8. **Courtesy Hours:** Exceeding a courteous level of sound at any time, with the following exceptions:

- Students may practice musical instruments or singing, for academic purposes, during the hours of 11:00 am and 12:00 pm and 7:00 pm and 8:00 pm on weekdays and 11am-1pm on weekends. If non-practicing students are disrupted by the volume of the sound, please contact your Resident Director to obtain ear plugs.
- Students who have been scheduled by the Music Department may utilize the Bica Ross classrooms as practice rooms between 10 am and 5 pm during their assigned time only. Residents may not use this room without prior scheduling due to air quality concerns.

Students, even within the above exceptions, are expected to act in a manner that demonstrates respect for the rights of others to sleep and study in their residence.

9. **Decorations:** Permanently altering a room or use or possession of decorations on the prohibited decoration list.

The prohibited decoration list includes:

- Decorations hindering the use or restricting access to hallways, doorways, stairs, corridors, or fire related equipment;
- Cardboard, aluminum foil, flags, signs, bottles, or other items hung or displayed in windows, excluding fire-retardant cloth curtains;
- Displaying alcohol/drug signs, or other related alcohol/drug memorabilia so they are visible from outside a student residence (such as in windows or on doors);
- Attaching items to or tampering with light fixtures, ceiling tiles, fire safety equipment, or exit signs;
- Use of tape, decals, nails, double-sided foam mounting tape, etc. on walls, ceilings, doors, and floors that result in patching or repainting of the room;
- Cut/live evergreen trees, pine roping, garland, cotton batting, straw, vines, leaves, shrubbery, foam plastic, or other flammable items;
- Displaying material that is generally accepted as offensive or that is biased against any person or groups so it is visible from outside a student residence (such as in windows or on doors);
- Decorative hangings and draperies placed over doors or entryways;
- Street signs;
- No more than 50% of the wall/ceiling space may be covered. No paper may be hung within 1 foot of an electrical outlet.

10. **Elevator Operations:** Sounding the elevator alarm bell without cause or interfering with the normal operation of an elevator.

11. **Entrance to Buildings:** Propping, forcing, or attempting to force an exterior building door open. Use of a fire safety door unless authorized by an appropriate residence life or campus safety and security staff member or having appropriate card access.

12. **Guests:**

- No visitors, including overnight guests, are permitted.
- Access to residential spaces is restricted to residents of that building and University staff
- Residents may only enter the residential building to which they are assigned, with the exception of any students who have class in Bica Ross.
- Residents may only have one other building resident as a guest in their assigned room at a time (one guest per room not per resident).
• Maximum occupancy of common spaces (lobbies, restrooms, laundry rooms, elevator) will be posted and must be adhered to.

13. Open Flames: Possession and/or use of candles, candles warmers, oil burners, incense, fireworks (including sparklers), or other open flame apparatus is prohibited within university-operated housing.

14. Mandatory Hall Meetings: Failure to attend floor/building/house meetings that are designated as mandatory by Residence Life staff. Students with scheduling conflicts must make arrangements to meet with appropriate staff members prior to the scheduled meeting.

15. Pet Possession: Possessing animals with the exception of fish and animals registered through the Office of Student Accessibility Services as service animals or emotional support animals (all approvals must be received and paperwork completed for the animal to be in a residence hall). Aquariums are limited to 10 gallons or less. If unregistered animals are found, they may be removed and turned over to the Stark County Humane Society or other appropriate animal rescue organization if an alternate home is not available within 24 hours.

16. Power Strips: Using multiple-outlet connections unless they are a power strip with a built-in circuit breaker that is clearly marked, carries an Underwriter's Laboratory (U.L.) approval, has a maximum load of 15 amps and is plugged directly into a wall electrical outlet. Plug-mounted surge protectors are allowed, but must meet the same requirements as power strips. Extension cords must be heavy duty (no less than 12 gauge) extension cords and used properly. No extension cords or other electrical wire can be run under any carpet or rug.

17. Quiet Hours: Failure to adhere to minimum mandatory quiet hours in and around the residence halls. Quiet hours are 11:00 pm to 11:00 am, seven days a week.

18. Quiet Hours for Finals: Failure to adhere to 24-hour quiet hours during reading day and finals. 24-hour quiet hours begin each semester at 9:00 pm on the last day of normally scheduled classes and ending after the completion of the final University exam period. Students who violate this policy may be immediately removed from University Housing.

19. Removal of University Property: Moving University property from its designated position without prior approval from Residence Life. This includes, but is not limited to, removing furniture from student rooms, lounges, lobbies, or any public space and detaching furniture that is attached to the wall.

20. Solicitation: Soliciting in any Residence Hall or University-owned housing. If a student or recognized student organization wishes to conduct any type of door to door activity, they must receive prior permission from the director of residence life.

21. Syringe Disposal: Residents and guests may only have syringes for medically prescribed usage, such as using injected medication or testing blood. They may not place exposed hypodermic needles and/or lancets directly in trash containers, and must utilize approved sharps containers. Sharps containers may be obtained by placing a work order to https://portal.mountunion.edu/forms/Pages/Work-Orders.aspx. Once a sharps container is 2/3 full or rise to the FULL level marker, Housekeeping or Physical Plant must be contacted for proper disposal.

22. Windows: A screen may not be removed from its window casing. If the screen is missing from a window, students may not use the window for egress or to hang or display items. The plane of the window may not be broken.

Section 6: Overview of the Conduct Process

This overview gives a general idea of how the University’s campus conduct proceedings work, but it should be noted that not all situations are of the same severity or complexity. Thus, these procedures are flexible, and are not exactly the same in every situation, though consistency in similar situations is a priority. The campus conduct process and all applicable timelines commence with notice to an administrator of a potential violation of University rules. In all conduct meetings, the responding student may have an advisor present. Advisors present for any meeting in the conduct process must follow the guidelines on page 60. For conduct issues that
are deemed violations of the Interim Policy on Equal Opportunity, Harassment, and Nondiscrimination, see the resolution process on page 98 in the Student Handbook.

NOTICE. Once notice is received from any source (security, RA, 3rd party, online, etc.), the University may proceed with a preliminary investigation and/or may schedule an initial educational conference with the responding student to explain the conduct process to the responding student and gather information.

A. Step 1: Preliminary Inquiry and/or Educational Conference

The University conducts a preliminary inquiry into the nature of the incident, complaint, or notice, the evidence available, and the parties involved. The preliminary inquiry may lead to:

1. A determination that there is insufficient evidence to pursue the investigation, because the behavior alleged, even if proven, would not violate the Code of Student Conduct, (e.g.: for reasons such as mistaken identity or allegations of behavior that falls outside the code);
2. A more comprehensive investigation, when it is clear more information must be gathered (see detailed procedures in Section E on page 57);
3. A formal complaint of a violation and/or an educational conference with the responding student.

When an initial educational meeting/conference is held, the possible outcomes include:

- A decision not to pursue the allegation based on a lack of or insufficient evidence. The matter should be closed and records should so indicate;
- A decision on the allegation, also known as an “informal” or “administrative” resolution to an uncontested allegation (see immediately below);
- A decision to proceed with additional investigation and/or referral for a “formal” resolution.

If a decision on the allegation is made and the finding is that the responding student is not responsible for violating the Code of Student Conduct, the process will end. If the University’s finding is that the responding student is in violation, and the responding student accepts this finding (the responding student can have up to 48 hours to decide if they accept or reject this finding), the University considers this an “uncontested allegation.” The administrator conducting the initial educational conference will then determine the sanction(s) for the misconduct, which the responding student may accept or reject. If accepted, the process ends.

If the student accepts the findings, but rejects the sanction, the University will schedule a sanction-only hearing, conducted by an administrative hearing officer or the Student Conduct Board. Once the sanction is determined and delivered to the responding student it is subject to appeal (see Appeal Review Procedures in Section 8Q: Appeal Review Procedures). Once the appeal is decided, the process ends.

If the administrator conducting the educational conference determines that it is more likely than not that the responding student is in violation, and the responding student rejects that finding in whole or in part, then it is considered a contested allegation and the process moves to Step 2.

B. Step 2: Formal Hearing

In a contested allegation, additional investigation may then be commenced, and/or a hearing may be held when there is reasonable cause to believe that a rule or rules have been violated. A formal notice of the complaint will be issued, and a hearing will be held before an administrative hearing officer or the Student Conduct Board (as determined by the director of student conduct or designee). A finding will be determined. If the finding is that the responding student is not responsible, the process ends. If the finding is that the responding student is responsible, the hearing officer or body assigns sanctions. Applicable appeal options are described in Section 8Q: Appeal Review Procedures.
Section 7: Student Conduct Authority

A. Authority
The vice president for student affairs/dean of students is vested with the authority over student conduct by the president. The vice president for student affairs/dean of students appoints a director of student conduct to oversee and manage the student conduct process. The vice president for student affairs/dean of students and director of student conduct may appoint administrative hearing and appeals officers as deemed necessary to efficiently and effectively supervise the student conduct process.

The director of student conduct or designee will assume responsibility for the investigation of an allegation of misconduct to determine if the complaint has merit.

B. Gatekeeping
No complaint will be forwarded for a hearing unless there is reasonable cause to believe a policy has been violated. Reasonable cause is defined as some credible information to support each element of the offense, even if that information is merely a credible witness or a reporting party’s statement. A complaint wholly unsupported by any credible information will not be forwarded for a hearing.

C. Conflict Resolution Options
The director of student conduct or designee has discretion to refer a complaint for mediation or other forms of appropriate conflict resolution. All parties must agree to conflict resolution and to be bound by the decision with no review/appeal or the case will be forwarded for formal processing and hearing. Any unsuccessful conflict resolution can be forwarded for formal processing and hearing. The director of student conduct or designee may also suggest that complaints that do not involve a violation of the Code of Student Conduct be referred for mediation or other appropriate conflict resolution.

D. Composition of the Student Conduct Board Hearing Panel
The director of student conduct or designee will be responsible for assembling the Student Conduct Board Hearing Panel according to the following guidelines:

- The Student Conduct Board pool is comprised of a pool of at least 6 students selected through an interview process coordinated by the director of student conduct or designee and 6 faculty appointed by faculty vote and trained by the director of student conduct or designee.
- For each complaint, as appropriate, a Student Conduct Board Hearing Panel will be chosen from the available pool, and is usually comprised of three students, two faculty members, and the director of student conduct or designee. The director of student conduct or designee serves as an advisor to the board and is a non-voting panelist. Availability may determine a different composition for the Student Conduct Board Hearing Panel.

E. Administrative Hearing Officers
Administrative hearing officers (AHO) are chosen from a pool of annually trained administrators or staff members selected by the director of student conduct.

The director of student conduct has responsibility for training the AHOs, conducting preliminary investigations, and ensuring a fair process. Decisions made, and sanctions imposed, by AHOs will be final and implemented, pending the normal appeal process.
F. Student Conduct Board Pool and the Appeal Panel

Student Conduct Board and Appeal Panels are drawn from the Student Conduct Board pool. Those chosen for an appeal panel must not have served on the initial Student Conduct Board Hearing Panel. Appeal Panels review appeal requests submitted by the appeal review officer.

To serve in the Student Conduct Board pool, students must:
1. Undergraduate students must have at least a sophomore standing. Graduate student members must be in at least the second semester of their program.
2. Students must have and maintain a minimum 2.5 GPA, be full-time students, and be making satisfactory academic progress.
3. Students must be and remain in good standing with the University.
4. Student members of the board shall be selected through the following process:
   • An application and interview.
   • The applications will be reviewed by the Office of Student Affairs to verify the applicant’s eligibility.
   • Current members of the board will interview the eligible candidates and make recommendations to the vice president for student affairs/dean of students regarding new student board members.
   • The vice president for student affairs/dean of students will make the final decisions and appointments of the student members to the board. A pool of 6 students will be seen as the desirable minimum number of students to have on the board.

To serve in the Student Conduct Board pool, faculty must:
1. Faculty members must have completed at least one year of service to the University and be full-time faculty members.
2. Faculty members of the board shall be selected through the following process:
   • The general faculty members of the board shall be elected from the general faculty during the spring semester previous to the designated year of service.
   • A pool of 6 faculty members will be seen as a desirable number of faculty members to have on the board. In addition to these 6 general faculty members, one faculty member who teaches in each graduate program will be selected by the faculty of that program to be a member of the Student Conduct Board.

The advisor to the Student Conduct Board is the director of student conduct with responsibility for training the Student Conduct Board, conducting preliminary investigations, and ensuring a fair process. In the event of a resignation from the Student Conduct Board, the director of student conduct will solicit a replacement from the group from which the representative came, if needed to keep minimum numbers. Decisions made, and sanctions imposed, by the Student Conduct Board will be final and implemented, pending the normal appeal process.

G. Interpretation and Revision

The director of student conduct will develop procedural rules for the administration of hearings that are consistent with provisions of the Code of Student Conduct. Material deviation from these rules will, generally, only be made as necessary and will include reasonable advance notice to the parties involved, either by posting online and/or in the form of written communication. The director of student conduct may vary procedures with notice upon determining that changes to law or regulation require policy or procedural alterations not reflected in the Code of Student Conduct. The director of student conduct may make minor modifications to procedure that do not materially jeopardize the fairness owed to any party. Any question of interpretation of the Code of Student Conduct will be referred to the vice president for student affairs/dean of students, whose
interpretation is final. The Code of Student Conduct will be updated annually under the direction of the director of student conduct with a comprehensive revision process being conducted every 3 years.

Section 8: Formal Conduct Procedures

A. University as Convener

The University is the convener of every action under this code. Within that action, there are several roles. The responding student is the person who is alleged to have violated the Code. The reporting party bringing the complaint, who may be a student, employee, visitor, or guest, may choose to participate in the process as a witness, unless the case falls under the Interim Policy on Equal Opportunity, Harassment, and Nondiscrimination (see page 98). Witnesses may offer information regarding the allegation. The University is represented by the director of student conduct or designee in all student conduct board hearings. In administrative hearings, the university may be represented by documentation provided to the AHO and responding party.

B. Group Violations

A student group or organization and its officers and membership may be held collectively and individually responsible when violations of this code by the organization or its member(s):

- Take place at organization-sponsored or co-sponsored events, whether sponsorship is formal or tacit;
- Have received the consent or encouragement of the organization or of the organization’s leaders or officers; or
- Were known or should have been known to the membership or its officers.

The director of student conduct has the discretion to forward an organizational hearing to the appropriate organizational hearing board, based on the circumstances of the violation. When retained in student conduct, hearings for student groups or organizations follow the same general student conduct procedures. In any such action, individual determinations as to responsibility will be made and sanctions may be assigned collectively and individually and will be proportionate to the involvement of each individual and/or the organization.

In all such conduct matters, the president of the student group or organization as documented in the Office of Student Involvement & Leadership will represent the student group or organization. The student group or organization’s president may be accompanied by an advisor as defined through the conduct process on page 60.

C. Amnesty

1. For Reporting Parties: The University provides amnesty to victims who may be hesitant to report to University officials because they fear that they themselves may be accused of minor policy violations, such as underage drinking, at the time of the incident. Educational options will be explored, but no conduct proceedings or conduct record will result.

2. For Those Who Offer Assistance: To encourage students to offer help and assistance to others, Mount Union pursues a policy of amnesty for minor violations when students offer help to others in need. At the discretion of the director of student conduct or designee, amnesty may also be extended on a case-by-case basis to the person receiving assistance. Educational options will be explored, but no conduct proceedings or conduct record will result. In situations where the student needing assistance is at an event being hosted by a student organization, the organization’s efforts to seek medical assistance will likewise be taken into account with regard to this protocol and a similar educational response will result. The organization involved in the incident must agree to take recommended steps to address the concerns that contributed to the situation in order to remain in good standing.
3. **For Those Who Report Serious Violations:** Students who are engaged in minor violations but who choose to bring related serious violations by others to the attention of the University are offered amnesty for their minor violations. Educational options will be explored, but no conduct proceedings or record will result.

4. **Safe Harbor:** The University has a Safe Harbor rule for students. The University believes that students who have a drug and/or addiction problem deserve help. If any University student brings their own use, addiction, or dependency to the attention of University officials outside the threat of drug tests or conduct sanctions and seeks assistance, a conduct complaint will not be pursued. A written action plan may be used to track cooperation with the Safe Harbor program by the student. Failure to follow the action plan will nullify the Safe Harbor protection and campus conduct processes may be initiated.

Abuse of amnesty requests can result in a decision by the director of student conduct or designee not to extend amnesty to the same person repeatedly.

**D. Notice of Alleged Violation**

Any member of the University community, visitor, or guest may allege or report a policy violation(s) by any student for misconduct under this Code via the following URL: [www.mountunion.edu/campus-life/safety-and-parking/student-conduct](http://www.mountunion.edu/campus-life/safety-and-parking/student-conduct).

Notice may also be given to the director of student conduct, the director of campus safety and security, and/or to the Title IX co-coordinator, when appropriate. Additionally, administrators may act on notice of a potential violation whether a formal allegation is made or not. All allegations can be submitted by a victim or a third party and should be submitted as soon as possible after the offending event occurs. The University has the right to pursue an allegation or notice of misconduct on its own behalf and to serve as convener of the subsequent campus conduct process.

The director of student conduct or designee will assume responsibility for the investigation of the alleged violation as described in the sub-section below.

**E. Investigation**

Investigation is referenced in both steps 1 and 2, with detailed investigation procedures described in this sub-section. The director of student conduct or designee will appoint an AHO as an investigator for allegations under this Code. The AHO will take the following steps, if not already completed:

1. Conduct an immediate preliminary investigation to identify an initial list of all policies that may have been violated, to review the history of the parties, the context of the incident(s), any potential patterns and the nature of the complaint;
   - Preliminary investigation usually takes between 1-7 business days to complete;

2. If indicated by the preliminary investigation and authorized by the director of student conduct, conduct a comprehensive investigation to determine if there is reasonable cause to believe that the responding student violated University policy, and to determine what specific policy violations should serve as the basis for the complaint;
   - If there is insufficient evidence through the investigation to support reasonable cause, the allegations will be closed with no further action;
   - A comprehensive investigation usually takes between one day and two weeks.

**F. Findings**

The following options describe how to proceed depending on whether the responding student is found responsible and whether the responding student accepts or rejects the findings and/or the sanctions either in whole or in part during a resolution process.
1. **The Responding Student is Found “Not Responsible.”** Where the responding student is found not responsible for the alleged violation(s), the investigation will be closed.

2. **The Responding Student Accepts a Finding of “Responsible” in an educational conference.**
   - **The Responding Student Accepts a Finding of “Responsible” and Accepts the Recommended Sanctions.** Should the responding student accept the finding that they violated University policy, the AHO will recommend appropriate sanctions for the violation, having consulted with the director of student conduct, as appropriate. If the responding student accepts these recommended sanctions, the sanctions are implemented by the director of student conduct or designee and the process ends. This outcome is not subject to appeal.
   - **The Responding Student Accepts a Finding of “Responsible” and Rejects the Sanctions Recommended.** If the responding student accepts the “responsible” findings, but rejects the recommended sanctions, there will be a formal hearing on the sanction, only. [Formal Hearing procedures](#) are detailed on page 61. An appeal of sanctions may be filed as detailed on page 65.

3. **Responding Student Rejects the Findings Completely or In-part.**
   - **Responding Student Rejects the Findings Completely.** Where the responding student rejects the finding that they violated University policy, a formal hearing will be convened within 7 (seven) business days, barring exigent circumstances. At the hearing, a university representative will present or provide all known information to the AHO or Student Conduct Board Hearing Panel, the AHO or Student Conduct Board Hearing Panel will hear from the parties, and any necessary witnesses. Full hearing procedures are detailed below. If the AHO or Student Conduct Board Hearing Panel finds the responding student not responsible for all violations, the AHO or director of student conduct or designee will inform the responding student in a timely manner of this determination and the rationale for the decision in writing. If the AHO or Student Conduct Board Hearing Panel finds a violation, it will assign a sanction/responsive action. An appeal of the findings and/or sanction(s) may be filed by as [detailed below](#).
   - **Responding Student Accepts the Findings in Part and Rejects in Part.** Where the responding student rejects in part the finding that they violated University policy, there will be a formal hearing solely on the disputed allegations within 7 (seven) days, barring exigent circumstances. For all findings holding a responding student responsible for a violation, the University will follow the sanctioning process detailed in sub-sections [M(7) and M(8)](#), below. If the Student Conduct Board panel finds the responding student “Not Responsible” on any of the contested allegations, the process will move to the Sanctioning Phase on only the uncontested allegations and/or responsible findings, as detailed in sub-sections [M(7) and M(8)](#), below. An appeal of the findings and/or sanction(s) may be filed as [detailed below](#).

**G. Special Hearing Provisions for Title IX Violations, Discrimination, and Other Complaints of a Sensitive Nature**

These investigations, hearings, and appeals follow the process outlined in the [Interim Policy and Process on Equal Opportunity, Harassment, and Nondiscrimination](#) on page 98 of the Student Handbook.

**H. Special Hearing Provisions for Academic Dishonesty Complaints.**

These investigations, hearings and appeals follow the process outlined in the [Academic Honesty Section](#) on page 67 of the Student Handbook.

**I. Notice of Hearing**

Once a determination is made that reasonable cause exists for the director of student conduct or designee to refer a complaint for a hearing, notice will be given to the responding student. Notice will be in writing and
may be delivered by one or more of the following methods: emailed to the student’s University-issued email account (primary form of notification); in person by the director of student conduct or designee; mailed to the Mount Union campus box, local, or permanent address of the student as indicated in official University records; or hand delivered to the student’s university residence. Once emailed, mailed, delivered, and/or received in-person, such notice will be presumptively delivered. The letter of notice will:

1. Include the alleged violation and notification of where to locate the Code of Student Conduct and University procedures for resolution of the complaint; and
2. Direct the responding student to attend a meeting with the director of student conduct or designee or other AHO, if a pre-hearing meeting has not already been held. This meeting will be scheduled based on the student’s class schedule and can be adjusted for academic or health reasons with documentation.

The meeting with the director of student conduct or designee or other AHO will explain the nature of the complaint and the conduct process. At this meeting, the responding student may indicate, either verbally or in writing, whether they admit to or deny the allegations of the complaint. If the student admits to the allegations of the complaint an immediate educational conference may occur.

J. Interim Action

Under the Code of Student Conduct, the vice president for student affairs/dean of students or designee may impose restrictions and/or separate a student from the community pending the scheduling of a campus hearing on alleged violation(s) of the Code of Student Conduct when a student represents a threat of serious harm to others, is facing allegations of serious criminal activity, to preserve the integrity of an investigation, to preserve University property, and/or to prevent disruption of, or interference with, the normal operations of the University. Interim actions can include separation from the institution or restrictions on participation in the community for no more than ten (10) business days pending the scheduling of a campus hearing on alleged violation(s) of the Code of Student Conduct.

During an interim suspension period, the student is banned from university property, functions, events, and activities without prior written approval from the director of student conduct or designee. As determined appropriate by the vice president for student affairs/dean of students or designee, this restriction may include classes and/or all other University activities or privileges for which the student might otherwise be eligible. At the discretion of the vice president for student affairs/dean of students or designee and with the approval of, and in collaboration with, the appropriate dean(s), alternative coursework options may be pursued to ensure as minimal an impact as possible on the responding student.

K. Hearing Options & Preparation

The following sub-sections describe the University’s student conduct hearing processes. Except in a complaint involving failure to comply with the summons of the director of student conduct or designee, no student may be found to have violated the Code of Student Conduct solely as a result of the student’s failure to appear for a hearing. In all such instances, when a student fails to attend, conduct hearings will proceed as scheduled and the information in support of the complaint will be presented/provided to, and considered by, the director of student conduct or designee, AHO or Student Conduct Board Hearing Panel presiding over the hearing.

Where the responding student admits to violating the Code of Student Conduct, the director of student conduct or designee may invoke educational conference procedures to determine and administer appropriate sanctions without a formal hearing. This process is also known as the informal process. In an educational conference, complaints will be heard, and determinations will be made by the AHO, director of student conduct, or designee. Where the responding student denies violating the Code of Student Conduct, a formal hearing will be conducted. Students who deny a violation for which a formal hearing will be held will be given a minimum
of three days to prepare unless all parties wish to proceed more quickly. Preparation for a formal hearing is summarized in the following guidelines:

1. Notice of the time, date, type of hearing (administrative or Student Conduct Board), and location of the hearing will be in writing and may be delivered by one or more of the following methods: emailed to the student’s University-issued email account (primary form of notification); in person by the director of student conduct or designee; mailed to the Mount Union campus box, local, or permanent address of the student as indicated in official University records; or hand delivered to the student’s university residence. Once emailed, mailed, delivered, and/or received in-person, such notice will be presumptively delivered.

2. If a responding student fails to attend their initial meeting as scheduled by the director of student conduct or designee, the director of student conduct or designee may initiate a complaint against the student for failure to comply with the directives of a university official and give notice of this offense. The director of student conduct or designee will schedule a formal hearing for the student and/or the student may be administratively withdrawn from attending classes or a disciplinary hold may be placed on their university account, deeming them ineligible to register for courses or university housing until such time as the student responds to the initial complaint.

3. At least two (2) days before any scheduled formal hearing, the following will occur:
   - The responding student will deliver (via studentconduct@mountunion.edu) to the director of student conduct or designee a written response to the complaint (failure to deliver this response will not delay a scheduled hearing – it will go forward without the response);
   - The responding student will deliver (via studentconduct@mountunion.edu) to the director of student conduct or designee a written list of all witnesses they will call at the hearing (the student is responsible for ensuring the presence of their witnesses at the hearing);
   - The responding student will deliver (via studentconduct@mountunion.edu) to the director of student conduct or designee a list of all physical evidence the student intends to use or needs to have present at the hearing and if the University has possession of this evidence, the student will indicate that and the director of student conduct or designee will provide the evidence or pictures of the evidence, as appropriate;
   - The responding student will deliver (via studentconduct@mountunion.edu) to the director of student conduct or designee the name of their anticipated advisor, should they choose to have one (this can change up to the start of the hearing).

4. The director of student conduct or designee will ensure that the hearing information and any other available written documentation is available for review upon written request two days before any scheduled hearing. In addition, the responding party will be given a list of the names of the administrative hearing officer or student conduct board hearing panelists in advance. Should the responding party object to the administrative hearing officer or any student conduct board hearing panelist, they must raise all objections, in writing, to the director of student conduct or designee immediately. If the administrative hearing officer the responding party objects to is the director of student conduct, the written objections should be submitted to the associate dean of students. Hearing officers and student conduct board hearing panelists will only be unseated if the director of student conduct or associate dean of students, if appropriate, concludes that their bias precludes an impartial hearing of the complaint. Additionally, any administrative hearing officer or student conduct board hearing panelist who feels they cannot make an objective determination must recuse themselves from the proceedings.

L. Advisors

In all conduct related meetings, students have the right to an advisor of their own choosing. Typically, advisors are members of the campus community, but the student may select whomever they wish to serve as their advisor. A list of trained student advisors can be provided by the director of student conduct or designee, upon
request. The advisor in any conduct meeting serves solely as a support person for the student and does not actively participate. They may confer quietly with their advisee, exchange notes, clarify procedural questions, and suggest questions to their advisee. Should the advisor disrupt the orderly progression of the meeting, they will be given one (1) warning. A second disruption, by the advisor, will result in the removal of the advisor from the meeting or the discontinuation of the meeting.

**M. Formal Hearing Procedures**

The director of student conduct or designee will determine the appropriate type of formal hearing based on the severity of the case, the level of disputed information, and the availability of Student Conduct Board members. When classes are not in session, during finals, and during summer session, cases will generally be heard administratively.

For an administrative hearing, the director of student conduct or designee will appoint an administrative hearing officer to hear a case. For a Student Conduct Board Hearing, the director of student conduct or designee will select the Student Conduct Board panelists from the Student Conduct Board pool and appoint one Student Conduct Board panelist as the Chair for the hearing (generally the most seasoned faculty member). The responding party has the right to be present at the hearing; however, they do not have the right to be present during deliberations. If a student cannot attend the hearing, it is that student's responsibility to notify the director of student conduct or designee no less than two days prior to the scheduled hearing to arrange for another date, time, and location. Generally, Formal Hearings will only be rescheduled for academic or health reasons with documentation. Except in cases of grave or unforeseen circumstances, if the responding student fails to give the requisite minimum two (2) day notice with required documentation, or if the responding student fails to appear, the hearing will proceed as scheduled.

The director of student conduct or designee, the administrative hearing officer or the Student Conduct Board Chair and the Student Conduct Board will conduct formal hearings according to the following guidelines:

1. Hearings will be closed to the public.
2. In hearings involving more than one responding student, the standard procedure will be to hear the complaints jointly; however, the director of student conduct or designee may permit the hearing, pertinent to each responding student, to be conducted separately. In joint hearings, separate determinations of responsibility will be made for each responding student.
3. The responding party has the right to an advisor of their own choosing. Typically, advisors are members of the campus community, but the parties may select whomever they wish to serve as their advisor. A list of trained student advisors can be provided by the director of student conduct or designee, upon request. The advisor may not make a presentation or represent the responding student during the hearing. They may confer quietly with their advisee, exchange notes, clarify procedural questions with the Student Conduct Board Chair or AHO and suggest questions to their advisee. Should the advisor disrupt the orderly progression of the hearing, the AHO, SCB Chair, or director of student conduct or designee will give them one (1) warning. A second disruption, by the advisor, will result in the removal of the advisor from the hearing or the discontinuation of the hearing.
4. The responding student and the AHO or the Student Conduct Board panel members, will have the privilege of questioning all present witnesses and questioning all present parties (directly or through the SCB Chair or AHO, at the discretion of the SCB Chair or AHO). Unduly repetitive witnesses can be limited at the discretion of the AHO or SCB Chair and/or the director of student conduct, or designee.
5. Pertinent records, exhibits, and written statements may be accepted as information for consideration by the AHO or the Student Conduct Board Hearing Panel. Formal rules of evidence are not observed. Character references and expert witnesses will not be accepted for consideration in any conduct proceeding.
6. All procedural questions are subject to the final decision of the director of student conduct or designee.

7. After a hearing:
   a. For an administrative hearing, the AHO will deliberate and determine whether it is more likely than not that the responding student has violated the Code of Student Conduct. The director of student conduct or designee will be available as a resource during all deliberations. Once a finding is determined, if the finding is that of a policy violation, the AHO will determine an appropriate sanction(s). The director of student conduct or designee is responsible for informing the AHO of applicable precedent and any previous conduct violations or other relevant pattern information about the responding student. The AHO will prepare a written deliberation report and deliver it to the director of student conduct or designee, detailing the finding, the information cited in support of its decision, and any information the AHO excluded from consideration and why. This report should conclude with any sanctions. This report should not exceed two pages in length and must be submitted to the director of student conduct or designee at the end of deliberations.
   b. For a Student Conduct Board Hearing, the Student Conduct Board Hearing Panel will deliberate and determine, by majority vote, whether it is more likely than not that the responding student has violated the Code of Student Conduct. The director of student conduct or designee will be present as a resource during all deliberations. Once a finding is determined, if the finding is that of a policy violation, the Student Conduct Board Hearing Panel will determine an appropriate sanction(s). The director of student conduct or designee is responsible for informing the Student Conduct Board Hearing Panel of applicable precedent and any previous conduct violations or other relevant pattern information about the responding student. The Student Conduct Board Hearing Panel Chair will prepare a written deliberation report and deliver it to the director of student conduct or designee, detailing the finding, how each member voted, the information cited by the Student Conduct Board Hearing Panel in support of its decision, and any information the Student Conduct Board Hearing Panel excluded from its consideration and why. This report should conclude with any sanctions. This report should not exceed two pages in length and must be submitted to the director of student conduct or designee at the end of deliberations.

8. The AHO or director of student conduct or designee will inform the responding student of the final determination within five (5) days of the hearing. Notification will be made in writing and may be delivered by one or more of the following methods: emailed to the student’s University-issued email account (primary form of notification); in person by the director of student conduct or designee; mailed to the Mount Union campus box, local, or permanent address of the student as indicated in official University records; or hand delivered to the student’s university residence. Once emailed, mailed, delivered, and/or received in-person, such notice will be presumptively delivered.

9. There will be a single verbatim record, such as an audio recording, for all formal hearings. Deliberations will not be recorded. The record will be the property of the University and maintained by the director of student conduct or designee. Recordings will be erased 60 days after the hearing unless an appeal is still pending. In this case, recordings will be erased thirty days after the final appeal decision.

N. Conduct Sanctions

In cases involving discrimination, recommended sanctions will act to end the discrimination, prevent its recurrence, and remedy its effects on the victim and the University community.
One or more of the following sanctions may be imposed upon any student for any single violation of the Code of Student Conduct:

1. **Warning**: An official written notice that the student or organization has violated the Code of Student Conduct, that such behavior is unacceptable, and that more severe conduct action will result should the student be involved in other violations while the student is enrolled at the University.

2. **Restitution**: Compensation for damage caused to the University or any person’s property. This could also include situations such as failure to return a reserved space to proper condition—labor costs and expenses. This is not a fine but, rather, a repayment for labor costs and/or the value of property destroyed, damaged, consumed, or stolen. This may take the form of appropriate service and/or monetary replacement.

3. **Fines**: Reasonable fines may be imposed.

4. **Community Service Requirements**: For a student or organization to complete a specific supervised university and/or community service.

5. **Loss of Privileges**: The student or organization will be denied specified privileges for a designated period of time.

6. **Confiscation of Prohibited Property**: Items whose presence is in violation of University policy will be confiscated and will generally become the property of the University. Prohibited items may be returned to the owner at the discretion of the appropriate university administrator or designee. For more information see the Confiscation Policy on page 84 of the Student Handbook.

7. **Educational Sanctions**: This includes, but is not limited to, required activities such as seeking counseling or substance abuse screening, writing a letter of apology, etc.

8. **Educational Program**: Requirement to attend, present, and/or participate in a program related to the violation. It may also be a requirement to sponsor or assist with a program for others on campus to aid them in learning about a specific topic or issue related to the violation for which the student or organization was found responsible. Audience may be restricted.

9. **Restriction of Visitation Privileges**: May be imposed on a resident or non-resident student. The parameters of the restriction will be specified.

10. **Housing Probation**: Official notice that, should further violations of Residence Life or University policies occur during a specified probationary period, the student may immediately be removed from University housing. Regular probationary meetings may also be imposed.

11. **Housing Reassignment**: Reassignment to another University housing facility. Residential Life personnel will decide on the reassignment details in collaboration with the director of student conduct or designee. When a student is reassigned within University housing, they are banned from the building or hall they were reassigned from for the rest of the academic year unless otherwise noted in their decision letter.

12. **Housing Suspension**: Removal from University housing for a specified period of time after which the student is eligible to return. Conditions for re-admission to University housing may be specified. Under this sanction, a student is required to vacate University housing within 24 hours of notification of the action, though this deadline may be extended upon application to, and at the discretion of, the director of residence life. This sanction may be enforced with a trespass action if deemed necessary. Prior to reapplication for University housing, the student must gain permission from the director of residence life or designee. When a student is suspended from University housing, they are banned from all housing facilities until they have received permission from the director of residence life to return to University housing.

13. **Housing Expulsion**: The student’s privilege to live in, or visit, any University housing structure is revoked indefinitely. This sanction may be enforced with a trespass action if deemed necessary.

14. **University Probation**: The student is put on official notice that, should further violations of University policies occur during a specified probationary period, the student may face more severe sanctions,
including suspension or expulsion. Regular probationary meetings may also be imposed. A student on University probation is deemed “not in good standing” with the institution.

15. **Suspension**: Separation from the University for a specified minimum period of time, after which the student is eligible to return. Eligibility may be contingent upon satisfaction of specific conditions noted at the time of suspension. The student is required to vacate the campus within 24 hours of notification of the action, though this deadline may be extended upon application to, and at the discretion of, the director of student conduct or designee. During the suspension period, the student is banned from university property, functions, events, and activities without prior written approval from the director of student conduct or designee. This sanction may be enforced with a trespass action as necessary.

16. **Expulsion**: Permanent separation from the University. The student is banned from all university property and the student’s presence at any University-sponsored activity or event is prohibited. This action may be enforced with a trespass action as necessary.

17. **Degree revocation or Withholding**: the termination of a student’s degree based on a violation that the University becomes aware of after a student graduates or the withholding of a degree due to a violation that occurs prior to graduation as the conduct process proceeds and/or until sanctions are completed.

18. **Other Sanctions**: Additional or alternate sanctions may be created and designed as deemed appropriate to the offense with the approval of the director of student conduct or designee.

The following sanctions may be imposed upon groups or organizations found to have violated the Code of Student Conduct:

1. One or more of the sanctions listed above; and/or
2. Deactivation, loss of recognition, and/or loss of all privileges (including status as a University registered group/organization), for a specified period of time.

**N. Parental/Guardian Notification**

The University may notify the parents/guardians of students who are under the age of 21 of alcohol and/or other drug violations when the student is found responsible for an alcohol or other drug related offense and a sanction of university probation or a more severe conduct sanction is imposed. Parental notification may also be utilized discretionarily by administrators when permitted by the Federal Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) or consent of the student. Students who are under 18 are treated, in most cases, no differently than any other student in the conduct process.

**O. Notification of Outcomes**

The outcome of a campus hearing is part of the education record of the responding student and is protected from release under the Federal Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), except under certain conditions. In cases where FERPA allows for release of decisions to reporting parties, the University may release this information as it deems appropriate. Such release of information may only include the responding student’s name, the alleged violation, the rational for the outcome and the sanctions assigned (if applicable).

**P. Failure to Complete Conduct Sanctions**

All students, as members of the University community, are expected to comply with conduct sanctions within the timeframe specified by the director of student conduct or designee, administrative hearing officer, Student Conduct Board Chair or the Appeal Chair/Officer. Failure to follow through on conduct sanctions by the date specified, whether by refusal, neglect, or any other reason, may result in additional sanctions and/or suspension from the University. In such situations, resident students may be required to vacate University housing within 24-hours of notification by the director of student conduct or designee, though this deadline may be extended upon application to, and at the discretion of, the director of residence life and/or the director of student
conduct. A suspension will only be lifted when compliance with conduct sanctions is satisfactorily achieved. This determination will be made by the director of student conduct or designee.

8. Appeal Review Procedures

The responding party may request an appeal of the decision of the Student Conduct Board Hearing Panel/administrative hearing officer by filing a written request to the director of student conduct or designee subject to the procedures outlined below. All sanctions imposed by the original hearing body remain in effect, and the responding party should be informed in a timely manner of the status of requests for appeal, the status of the appeal consideration, and the results of the appeal decision.

Grounds for Appeal Requests

Appeal requests are limited to the following grounds:

- A procedural or substantive error occurred that significantly impacted the outcome of the hearing (e.g. substantiated bias, material deviation from established procedures, etc.);
- To consider new evidence, unavailable during the original hearing or investigation, that could substantially impact the original finding or sanction. A summary of this new evidence and explanation for why it was not available at the time of the original hearing and its potential impact must be included;
- The sanctions imposed are excessive or substantially outside the parameters or guidelines set by the University for this type of offense or the cumulative conduct record of the responding student.

Appeals must be filed from the student’s Mount Union email with the director of student conduct or designee (via studentconduct@mountunion.edu) on the appeal form (obtained on the Student Conduct website or from the director of student conduct) within five (5) business days of the notice of the outcome to the hearing, barring exigent circumstances. Any exceptions are made at the discretion of the associate dean of students.

The director of student conduct or designee will refer the request(s) to the University’s designated appeal review officer, the associate dean of students. The director of student conduct or designee will also draft a response memorandum to the appeal request(s), based on the appeal review officer’s determination that the request(s) will be granted or denied, and why.

The appeal review officer will conduct an initial review to determine if the appeal request meets the limited grounds and is timely. They may consult with the director of student conduct or designee on any procedural or substantive questions that arise.

If the appeal is not timely or substantively eligible, the original finding and sanction will stand, and the decision is final. If the appeal has standing, the appeal review officer determines whether to refer the appeal to the Appeal Panel, the vice president for student affairs/dean of students or to remand it to the original decision-maker(s), typically within 3-5 business days. Efforts should be made to use remand whenever possible, with clear instructions for reconsideration only in light of the granted appeal grounds. Where the original decision-maker may be unduly biased by a procedural or substantive error, a new administrative hearing officer or Student Conduct Board Hearing Panel will be constituted to reconsider the matter, which can in turn be appealed, once. Full re-hearings by the Appeal Panel is not permitted. Where new evidence is presented, or the sanction is challenged, the appeal review officer will determine if the matter should be returned to the original decision-maker for reconsideration or if it should be reviewed by the Appeal Panel or the vice president for student affairs/dean of students or designee with instruction on the parameters regarding institutional consistency and any applicable legal guidelines. In review, the original finding and sanction are presumed to have been decided reasonably and appropriately, thus the burden is on the appealing party to show clear error. The Appeal Panel or the vice president for student affairs/dean of students or designee must limit its review to the challenges presented.
On reconsideration, the Appeal Panel, vice president for student affairs/dean of students or designee, or original decision-maker may affirm or change the findings and/or sanctions of the original hearing body according to the permissible grounds. Procedural or substantive errors should be corrected, new evidence should be considered, and sanctions should be proportionate to the severity of the violation and the student’s cumulative conduct record.

All decisions of the Appeal Panel or vice president for student affairs/dean of students or designee are to be made within five (5) days of submission by the appeal review officer and are final, as are any decisions made by the original hearing body or officer as the result of reconsideration consistent with instructions from the appeal review officer.

The Appeal Panel

Three-member Appeal Panels are made up of the vice president for student affairs/dean of students or designee and a student and faculty member drawn from the Student Conduct Board Hearing pool, with the following requirements to serve:

- they did not serve on the Student Conduct Board Hearing Panel for the initial hearing;
- they were not involved in the investigation in any way;
- they have been properly trained in appeals procedures.

The appeal review officer will have final authority to approve all those serving on the Appeal Panel. The responding party may challenge an appeal panelist(s) on the basis of potential bias, and any appeal panelist who cannot render an impartial decision must recuse themselves. The appeal review officer will make the determination as to the validity of any challenge or need for recusal.

The director of student conduct or designee serves as the non-voting advisor to the Appeal Panel, with responsibility for training the Appeal Panel, conducting preliminary investigations, and ensuring a fair process for the responding student.

The presumptive stance of the University is that all decisions made and sanctions imposed by the original decision-maker are to be implemented during the appellate process. At the discretion of the director of student conduct or designee, implementation of sanctions may be stayed pending review only in extremely exigent circumstances. This does not include proximity to graduation, end of term, or exams. Instead, it refers to an overwhelming likelihood, as determined by the appeal review officer and director of student conduct or designee, in consultation, that the appeal would result in a reversal of the finding and/or substantial modification of the sanctions.

Summary Guidelines for Appeals

- The responding party will be informed of the status of requests for appeal in a timely manner, the status of the appeal consideration, and the results of the appeal decision;
- Every opportunity to return the appeal to the original decision-maker for reconsideration (remand) should be pursued;
- Appeals are not intended to be full re-hearings of the complaint (de novo). In most cases, appeals are confined to a review of the written documentation or record of the original hearing, and pertinent documentation regarding the grounds for appeal. Witnesses may be called if necessary;
- Appeals are not an opportunity for appeal panelists to substitute their judgment for that of the original decision-maker merely because they disagree with the finding and/or sanctions. Appeal decisions are to be deferential to the original decision-maker, making changes to the finding only where there is clear error and to the sanction only if there is a compelling justification to do so.
R. Conduct Records

All conduct records are maintained by the University for seven (7) years from the time of their creation except those that result in separation (suspension or expulsion, including from housing), which are maintained indefinitely.

S. Approval and Implementation

This Code of Student Conduct was approved on August 18, 2017 by the vice president of student affairs/dean of students and implemented on August 21, 2017. It is reviewed and updated yearly, the most recent date being August 21, 2020.

Section 9: Academic Honesty Conduct Process

Policy on Academic Honesty

The University views the moral and ethical education of its students as being equal in importance to their intellectual development. The codes of conduct and ethical habits individuals practice as students are likely to guide them for their entire lives. Consequently, a significant part of the University’s mission is to support in its students a belief in the importance of personal honesty and integrity and a strong commitment to high standards in those areas. In all their academic pursuits, Mount Union students are expected to be responsible members of the academic community.

Community Responsibility for Promoting Academic Honesty

A. Administrative responsibility

All department chairs, supervisors, and deans are expected to make sure that the employees under their supervision understand and carry out the responsibilities for developing, supporting, and maintaining academic honesty in the Mount Union Community.

B. Faculty responsibility

It is the responsibility of all faculty to remind their students about the University’s academic honesty policy, to help their students develop documentation and cooperative learning skills appropriate to the faculty’s disciplines and subject matter. In this effort, all faculty should tell students when it is appropriate for them to collaborate on an assignment and when it is not, carefully explaining the reasons for the distinctions and the penalties for inappropriate cooperation. They should also provide the students with models for documentation that are based upon the newest revision of the chosen style guide and are consistent with current usage within the discipline.

C. Staff Responsibility

All staff persons are responsible for supporting the faculty’s teaching and assessment of academic honesty in student work. Staff should help to explain to students why academic honest is important in academic life and the workplace and should refer students back to their professors or to the DWOC for any additional instruction that the students need.

D. Student Responsibility

It is the students’ responsibility to pay attention to the instruction in class, to learn the principles and mechanics of academic honesty, and to apply that knowledge in all their work across the curriculum and outside the classroom. Students are expected to understand and comply with the limits of collaboration imposed by each faculty member, and to know when to document appropriately in the assigned style for each course. Students who are unclear about the rules and mechanics of documentation are expected to seek clarification for their professors or from the DWOC.
Academic Honesty Violations

Unless clearly documented with citations indicating otherwise, all academic work is expected to be the student's own. Plagiarism and/or any other form of cheating or dishonesty will subject the student involved to sanctions ranging from failure of an assignment to possible suspension or dismissal from the University.

Academic work comprises all activities including, but not limited to, examinations, tests, assignments, group work, projects, and presentations. Academic work also incorporates timeframes of before, during and after an academic activity. Any students found to have committed or attempted to engage in the following misconduct is subject to intervention and conduct action. Below are types of academic misconduct with examples of each. Please note that this list is not exhaustive.

Alteration or attempted alteration of University Documents

- Entering a University building or office for the purpose of obtaining an administered or non-administered test
- Any unauthorized action taken for the purpose of changing a grade or grade record
- Changing, altering, or being an accessory to the changing and/or altering of a grade in a grade book, on a test, a "change of grade" form, or other official academic record of the University that relates to grades
- Forgery of an instructor's signature on a letter of recommendation or any other document
- Submitting an altered transcript of grades to or from another institution or employer
- Putting your name on another person’s exam or assignment
- Altering a previously graded exam or assignment for purposes of a grade appeal or of gaining points in a re-grading process

Cheating

An act or an attempted act of deception by which a student seeks to misrepresent that one has mastered information or a skill on an academic evaluation instrument, such as (by example, not limitation) a test, exam, or quiz, that has not, in fact, been mastered. Below are some examples:

- Copying or attempting to copy from another student’s examination paper or assignment
- Communicating answers with another person during an exam.
- Allowing another student to copy from your examination paper, text, quiz, or similar evaluation instrument
- Unauthorized use of a course textbook or other materials, such as (by example, not limitation) a notebook, to complete an examination or other assignment
- Collaborating on an examination, test, quiz, or other project with any other person(s) without authorization
- Using or processing specifically prepared materials during an examination such as (by example, not limitation) notes, formula lists, notes written on the students clothing, calculators, and/or smart devices, that are not authorized
- Taking an examination for someone else or permitting someone else to take an examination for you
- Submission of the same assignment for more than one course without prior approval of all the instructors involved
- Stealing, buying, or otherwise obtaining all or part of an administered or non-administered examination

Collusion

Action or inaction with another or others to submit academic work as your own that is not solely yours. Below are some examples:
• Unsanctioned collaboration with another person or persons in preparing any academic work offered for credit
• Bribing a person to obtain an administered or non-administered test or any information about the test
• Lending your assignment to another student(s)
• Copying and/or sharing of individual reports among group members associated with group projects (except for instructor-approved assignments)
• Allowing others to copy your work or share your answer to an assessment task
• Allowing someone else to write or edit your work (except for the use of a scribe approved by the Office of Student Accessibility Services or instructor-approved tasks including DWOC and peer review)
• Writing or editing work for another student (except for instructor approved tasks including DWOC and peer review)
• Offering to complete work or seek payment for completing academic work for other students
• Selling or distributing all or part of an administered or non-administered test, including questions and/or answers
• Buying or otherwise acquiring in any way a theme, report, term paper, essay, computer software, other written work, painting, drawing, sculpture, or other scholastic artwork, and submitting it as your own work to fulfill academic requirements
• Selling, distributing, or otherwise supplying in any way a theme, report, term paper, essay, computer software, other written work, painting, drawing, sculpture, or other scholastic artwork to another

Plagiarism
Plagiarism occurs when you represent the work or ideas of another person as your own. Below are some examples:
• Quoting verbatim another person’s words (published or unpublished) without acknowledgement of the source
• Paraphrasing another person’s idea(s), opinions, or theory(ies) without giving sufficient reference
• Including facts, statistics, or other illustrative materials that are not common knowledge without acknowledgement of the source; students are expected to clarify with their instructor appropriate criteria for “common knowledge”
• Submitting another person’s assignment, paper, essay, test answer, computer program, and/or project as one’s own
• The presenting of one’s own previously published work as though it were new, referring to your work from previous classes or assignments without appropriate citation

Sabotage
The unauthorized interference with, modification of, or destruction of the work of others. Below are some examples:
• Acts that deny others access to scholarly resources or deliberately impede the progress of another student or scholar
• Tampering with laboratory experiments or research
• Giving misleading information
• Knowingly deceiving other members of a project team or group
• Disrupting class work
• Making library material unavailable to others
• Altering the computer files of another
Process for Adjudicating Academic Honesty Violations

This overview gives a general idea of how the University’s Academic Conduct proceedings work, but it should be noted that not all situations are of the same severity or complexity. Thus, these procedures are flexible, and are not exactly the same in every situation, though consistency in similar situations is a priority.

A. Step 1: Preliminary Inquiry

The faculty member who becomes aware of the potential violation will conduct a preliminary inquiry into the nature of the incident, complaint, or notice, the evidence available, and the parties involved. This preliminary investigation need not be in depth, but just enough to determine if there is a potential violation. Identification of a potential violation will result in initiation of an Academic Honesty Incident Form and notification of the appropriate assistant dean in academic affairs or their designee.

The assistant dean will determine the academic honesty background of a responding student and whether the incident should be addressed by the faculty member and, in the case of a previous academic honesty violation, referred to the Academic Policy Committee (APC) Chair.

B. Step 2: Educational Conference

When the faculty member deems that a potential violation has occurred, the faculty member will meet with the responding student within a week of determining there is a potential violation. The possible outcomes include:

- A decision on the allegation, also known as an “informal” or “administrative” resolution to an uncontested allegation (see immediately below); or
- A decision to proceed with additional investigation and/or referral for a “formal” resolution.

If the faculty member’s finding is that the responding student is in violation, and the responding student accepts this finding (the responding student can have up to 48 hours to decide if they accept or reject this finding), the University considers this an “uncontested allegation.” The faculty member conducting the initial educational conference will then determine the sanction(s) for the misconduct. The professor will assign course sanctions and forward the Academic Honesty Incident Report to the Assistant dean or their designee in Academic Affairs and the process ends. There is no appeal for the student should they accept responsibility for the violation.

If the responding student rejects that an academic honesty violation has occurred in whole or in part, then it is considered a contested allegation and the process moves to Step 3.

Prior to forwarding the Academic Honesty Incident Report to the APC Chair, the faculty member will assign a grade for the assignment that triggered the Academic Honesty Incident Report. That grade will be the grade of record until the process is complete. The Faculty member always decides the grade given on an assignment or in a course. Sanctions regarding grades are solely recommendations of the APC Hearing Panel or Appeal Panel. Incompletes may not be given or withdraws taken in any class where the responding student has an Academic Honesty Incident Report started.

C. Step 3: Formal Hearing

In a contested allegation, additional investigation may then be commenced, and/or a hearing may be held when there is reasonable cause to believe that a rule or rules have been violated. A formal notice of the complaint will be issued, and a hearing will be held before an APC Hearing Panel. A finding will be determined. If the finding is that the responding student is not responsible, the process ends. Applicable appeal options are described in the Appeal Review Procedures.
**Composition of the APC Hearing Panel**

The APC Chair will be responsible for assembling the APC Hearing Panel according to the following guidelines:

- The APC Hearing Panel pool consists of the members of the Academic Policies Committee, and, when needed, members of the Student Conduct Board.
- For each complaint, the APC Hearing Panel will be chosen from the available pools, and it will comprise of at least one student, two faculty members, and the appropriate academic dean or designee, who serves as a convener with no vote.

**D. Notice of Hearing**

Once a determination is made that severity of the incident or the responding student’s conduct history requires a hearing, notice will be given to the responding student. Notice will be in writing and may be delivered by one or more of the following methods: emailed to the student’s University-issued email account (primary form of notification); in person by the assistant dean or designee; mailed to the Mount Union campus box, local, or permanent address of the student as indicated in official University records; or hand delivered to the student’s university residence. Once emailed, mailed, delivered, and/or received in-person, such notice will be presumptively delivered. The letter of notice will:

- Include the alleged violation and notification of where to locate the Academic Honesty Policy and University procedures for resolution of the complaint;
- Include the time, date, and place of the formal hearing (with at least three business days notice); and
- Include the names of all hearing panel members and directions for the responding student to contest bias.

**E. Formal Hearing Procedures**

For an APC Hearing, the APC Chair will select the APC Hearing Panel from the pool and appoint one APC hearing panelist as the APC Hearing Panel Chair for the hearing (generally the faculty member most experienced with academic hearing procedures). The responding student has the right to be present at the hearing; however, they do not have the right to be present during deliberations. If a student cannot attend the hearing, it is that student’s responsibility to notify the APC Chair no fewer than two business days prior to the scheduled hearing to arrange for another date, time, and location. Generally, APC hearings will only be rescheduled for academic or health reasons with documentation. Except in cases of grave or unforeseen circumstances, if the responding student fails to give the requisite minimum two (2) day notice with required documentation, or if the responding student fails to appear, the hearing will proceed as scheduled.

The APC Hearing Panel will conduct formal hearings according to the following guidelines:

1. Hearings will be closed to the public.
2. In hearings involving more than one responding student, the standard procedure will be to hear the complaints jointly; however, the APC Chair may permit the hearing pertinent to each responding student to be conducted separately. In joint hearings, separate determinations of responsibility will be made for each responding student.
3. The responding student has the right to an advisor/advocate of their own choosing. Typically, advisors are members of the campus community, but the parties may select whomever they wish to serve as their advisor. The advisor may not make a presentation or represent the responding student during the hearing. They may confer quietly with their advisee, exchange notes, clarify procedural questions with the APC Hearing Panel Chair and suggest questions to their advisee. Should the advisor disrupt the orderly progression of the hearing, the APC Hearing Panel Chair or assistant dean or designee will give them one (1) warning. A second disruption, by the advisor, will result in the removal of the advisor from the hearing or the discontinuation of the hearing.
4. The responding student and the APC hearing panel members will have the privilege of questioning all present witnesses and questioning all present parties. Unduly repetitive witnesses can be limited at the discretion of the APC Hearing Panel Chair and/or the assistant dean or designee.

5. Pertinent records, exhibits, and written statements may be accepted as information for consideration by the APC Hearing Panel. Formal rules of evidence are not observed. Character references will not be accepted for consideration.

6. All procedural questions are subject to the final decision of the assistant dean or designee.

7. After an APC Hearing, the APC Hearing Panel will deliberate and determine, by majority vote, whether it is more likely than not that the responding student has violated the Academic Honesty Policy. The assistant dean or designee will be present and/or available as a resource during all deliberations. Once a finding is determined, if the finding is that of a policy violation, the APC Hearing panel will determine appropriate sanction(s). The assistant dean or designee is responsible for informing the APC Hearing Panel of applicable precedent and any previous conduct violations or other relevant pattern information about the responding student. The APC Hearing Panel Chair will prepare a written deliberation report, detailing the recommended finding, how each member voted, the information cited by the APC Hearing Panel in support of its recommendation, and any information the APC Panel excluded from its consideration and why. This report should conclude with sanctions, including grade recommendations. This report should not exceed two pages in length and must be submitted to the assistant dean or designee at the end of deliberations.

8. The assistant dean or designee will inform the responding student of the final determination within five (5) days of the hearing. Notification will be made in writing and may be delivered by one or more of the following methods: emailed to the student’s University-issued email account (primary form of notification); in person by the assistant dean or designee; mailed to the Mount Union campus box, local, or permanent address of the student as indicated in official University records; or hand delivered to the student’s university residence. Once emailed, mailed, delivered, and/or received in-person, such notice will be presumptively delivered.

9. There will be a single verbatim record, such as an audio recording, for all formal hearings. Deliberations will not be recorded. The record will be the property of the University and maintained by the assistant dean or designee. Recordings will be erased sixty (60) days after the hearing unless an appeal is still pending. In this case, recordings will be erased thirty days after the final appeal decision.

F. Grounds for Appeal

Both the faculty member who submitted the Academic Honesty Incident Report and the responding student can appeal the APC Hearing Panel decision.

Student appeal requests are limited to the following grounds:

- A procedural or substantive error occurred that significantly impacted the outcome of the hearing (e.g. substantiated bias, material deviation from established procedures, etc.).
- To consider new evidence, unavailable during the original hearing or investigation, that could substantially impact the original finding or sanction. A summary of this new evidence, an explanation for why it was not available at the time of the original hearing, and its potential impact must be included.
- The sanctions imposed are excessive or substantially outside the parameters or guidelines set by the University for this type of offense or the cumulative conduct record of the responding student.

Faculty appeal requests are limited to the following grounds:

- A procedural or substantive error occurred that significantly impacted the outcome of the hearing (e.g. substantiated bias, material deviation from established procedures, etc.).
• To consider new evidence, unavailable during the original hearing or investigation, that could substantially impact the original finding or sanction. A summary of this new evidence, an explanation for why it was not available at the time of the original hearing, and its potential impact must be included.

Appeals must be filed from the faculty member or responding student’s Mount Union email with the assistant dean or designee on the appeal form (obtained on the Student Conduct website or from the assistant dean) within five (5) business days of the notice of the outcome to the hearing, barring exigent circumstances. Any exceptions are made at the discretion of the assistant dean or designee.

The assistant dean or designee will refer the request(s) to the University’s designated academic appeal review officer, the provost/vice president for academic affairs. The assistant dean or designee will also draft a response memorandum to the appeal request(s), based on the appeal review officer’s determination that the request(s) will be granted or denied, and why.

The appeal review officer will conduct an initial review to determine if the appeal request meets the limited grounds and is timely. They may consult with the assistant dean or designee on any procedural or substantive questions that arise.

If the appeal is not timely or substantively eligible, the original finding and sanction will stand, and the decision is final. If the appeal has standing, the appeal review officer determines whether to refer the appeal to the Appeal Panel or to remand it to the original decision-maker(s), typically within 3-5 business days. Efforts should be made to use remand whenever possible, with clear instructions for reconsideration only in light of the granted appeal grounds. Where the original decision-maker may be unduly biased by a procedural or substantive error, a new APC Hearing Panel will be constituted to reconsider the matter, which can in turn be appealed, once. Full re-hearings by the Appeal Panel are not permitted. Where new evidence is presented or the sanction is challenged, the appeal review officer will determine if the matter should be returned to the original decision-maker for reconsideration or if it should be reviewed by the Appeal Panel with instruction on the parameters regarding institutional consistency and any applicable legal guidelines. In review, the original finding and sanction are presumed to have been decided reasonably and appropriately, thus the burden is on the appealing party to show clear error. The Appeal Panel must limit its review to the challenges presented.

On reconsideration, the Appeal Panel or original decision-maker may affirm or change the findings and/or sanctions of the original hearing panel according to the permissible grounds. Procedural or substantive errors should be corrected, new evidence should be considered, and sanctions should be proportionate to the severity of the violation and the student’s cumulative conduct record.

All decisions of the Appeal Panel are to be made within five (5) days of submission by the appeal review officer and are final, as are any decisions made by the original hearing body as the result of reconsideration consistent with instructions from the appeal review officer.

Decisions made by the Appeal Panel are final.

The Appeal Panel

The Appeal Panel is comprised of the Dean’s Council. Should any member of the Dean’s Council have a bias in a case, they will recuse themselves and appoint an appropriate replacement for the appeal hearing.

The presumptive stance of the University is that all decisions made, and sanctions imposed by the original decision-maker are to be implemented during the appellate process. At the discretion of the assistant dean or designee, implementation of sanctions may be stayed pending review only in extremely exigent circumstances.
This does not include proximity to graduation, end of term, or exams. Instead, it refers to an overwhelming likelihood, as determined by the appeal review officer and assistant dean or designee, in consultation, that the appeal would result in a reversal of the finding and/or substantial modification of the sanctions.

The University of Mount Union Code of Student Conduct is adapted from TNG Model Developmental Code of Student Conduct and is used here with permission. Sections of the Academic Honesty Policy were adapted from the Baldwin Wallace University Academic Honesty Policy and the Capital University Academic Honesty Policy.
University Community Standards

Alcohol and Other Drug Policy

To comply with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 (DFSCA) and subsequent amendments, students and employees of the University of Mount Union are informed that strictly enforced policies are in place which prohibit the possession, use, or distribution of any illicit drugs, including alcohol, on University property or as part of any University-sponsored activity, with the exception of of-age students to consume alcohol moderately as specified below. Students and employees are also subject to all applicable legal sanctions under local, state, and federal law for any offenses involving illicit drugs on University property or at University-sponsored activities.

The University of Mount Union affirms that illegal drug use is unlawful and harmful. The use of illegal drugs and alcohol abuse by students and employees could result in cognitive deficits, loss of productivity, and other health risks. These risks include an increased risk of accidents, which may result in death or permanent injury. Free, confidential counseling for alcohol and other drug misuse and abuse issues is available to students through the Office of Alcohol, Drug, and Wellness Education and Health Services. Other resources and referrals may include assessment, individual counseling, educational programs, materials, and referral and case management through community agencies, all of which might include a fee.

Students exhibiting signs of excessive alcohol consumption will be transported via Emergency Medical Services (EMS) at the student’s expense for medical attention. Refusal to cooperate with EMS personnel may result in arrest by the Alliance Police Department in order to ensure the student’s health and safety and/or a conduct complaint for disruptive behavior and/or failure to comply.

Parental/Guardian Notification

The University of Mount Union is concerned about students who improperly use alcohol and other drugs and the effects such use may have on their health, academic success, interpersonal relationships, and, ultimately, their future.

Mount Union’s alcohol policy expressly forbids possession and/or consumption of alcohol by students, employees, or guests who are under the minimum legal drinking age of 21 years. Possession of drug paraphernalia and the use, manufacture, sale, or distribution of illegal drugs, whether on or off campus, by any student is also prohibited. In accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), the director of student conduct (or designee) reserves the right to notify the parents/guardians of students under 21 years of age of any incident in which the student is found responsible for violating the University Alcohol and Other Drug Policy. While the University may notify the parents/guardians of students under 21 years of age in any alcohol or drug violation, it is generally only done in cases where a student has been found to have violated the University’s Alcohol or Other Drug Policy and are placed on university probation. See page 65 in the Code of Student Conduct for more information.

Alcohol Policy

The following sections describe Mount Union’s policy regarding the sale, service, distribution, and consumption of alcoholic beverages on university property or at university-sponsored events in accordance with federal, state, and local laws.
**Basic Guidelines**

Students who are 21 years of age or older are permitted to possess and consume alcohol only in University housing per the parameters below. Alcohol may not be possessed,* served or consumed in any public place on Mount Union's campus or at any athletic event. Students who are of legal drinking age may not share or provide alcohol to any students, employees, or guests who are under 21 years of age. Those under the minimum legal drinking age of 21 years are not permitted to possess or consume alcohol anywhere on University property or at University-sponsored events. Drinking games and simulated drinking games (e.g. water pong) are prohibited on campus.

Advertisements and promotional materials posted or distributed on campus may not make any direct or implied reference to or depict in any manner alcoholic beverages, alcoholic beverage company logos, or symbols, the consumption of alcoholic beverages, drugs, or drug paraphernalia or the use of illicit drugs. Exceptions to this policy may be made for advertisements for educational programs and events; however, these materials must be approved in advance by the associate dean of students or the director of alcohol, drug, and wellness education. No campus activity may be co-sponsored by a bar, liquor establishment, or other alcoholic beverage manufacturer or distributor. Alcohol may not be sold on the Mount Union Campus.

**Residence Hall/University Owned Housing Alcohol Guidelines**

Persons who are 21 years of age or older may possess* and consume alcoholic beverages in the residence halls, university apartments and campus houses according to the following standards:

a. Students who are 21 or older may possess* or consume alcoholic beverages in the privacy of their individual student rooms or university apartments. Room/apartment doors must be shut when consumption is occurring.

b. An individual who is of legal drinking age may not consume alcohol in the presence of any one under the age of 21, with the exception of their roommate(s)/apartment mate(s).

c. Alcohol may only be consumed in residence hall or campus house individual rooms. No one shall consume or possess* open containers of any alcoholic beverage in any other area of the residence halls or campus houses (e.g., lounges, hallways, restrooms, laundry rooms, etc.). In townhouses and apartments, students are permitted to drink in their living rooms/kitchens provided no one present is under the age of 21.

d. Kegs of beer, taps, beer balls, and beer funnels are not permitted in or on University of Mount Union property or on the property of organizations affiliated with the University. These items will be confiscated by University officials if discovered on campus.

e. Drinking games or contests involving alcoholic beverages may not be played on University of Mount Union property.

* PLEASE NOTE: The presence of alcohol may be interpreted as possession of alcohol. Students encountered in locations where alcohol is present may be considered to be in violation of the Alcohol Policy, even if they do not have alcohol on their person at the time they are encountered.

**Examples of Violations of the University Alcohol Policy**

- Purchasing alcohol by a person under the age of 21;
- Selling or providing alcohol to a person under the age of 21;
- Possessing either full or empty alcohol containers by a person under the age of 21;
- Consuming alcohol by a person under the age of 21;
- Showing physical or mental impairment following or resulting from alcohol use;
- Using or possessing common sources of alcohol including, but not limited to kegs, party balls, punch bowls, wine boxes, etc.;
- Participating in or being present during the occurrence of any drinking game;
- Possessing an open container of alcohol in a common area including, but not limited to bathrooms, hallways, lounges, elevators, lobbies or outdoor spaces;
- Driving under the influence of alcohol.

As stated in Section 4 of the Code of Student Conduct, “failure to comply with the reasonable directives of university officials, campus safety and security officers, or law enforcement officers during the performance of their duties and/or failure to identify oneself to these persons when requested to do so”, is considered unacceptable behavior for a university student. An example of such behavior includes refusing to submit to a breath test when requested by a police officer, whether on or off-campus, which is considered a violation of the University Code of Student Conduct and may result in conduct sanctions.

Sanctions for alcohol violations are dependent upon a number of factors including, but not limited to: hearing officer discretion, the nature and severity of the incident, a student's conduct history, and a student's cooperation throughout the conduct process.

**Illegal Drug Policy**

The following sections describe the University's policy regarding the sale, manufacture, distribution, possession,* and use of illegal drugs on or off University property or at University-sponsored events or programs in accordance with federal, state, and local laws. Examples of violations include:

- Misuse of over-the-counter drugs;
- Misuse or sharing of prescription drugs;
- Possessing, using, being under the influence of, distributing, or manufacturing any form of illegal drug;
- Possessing paraphernalia for intended or implied use of any form of illegal drug;
- Possessing paraphernalia that contains or appears to contain illegal drug residue;
- Purchasing or passing illegal drugs from one person to another;
- Using mail services to purchase, pass, or distribute illegal drugs.

Paraphernalia includes, but is not limited to, bongs, hookahs, water pipes, rolling papers, vapes/vaporizers, and rigs.

This policy provides flexibility for the University in addressing drug-related offenses which occur on- or off-campus. Moreover, it permits the University to address its fundamental mission of holistic education and the development of human potential. While recognizing that there is a need to address violations related to the use or possession of controlled substances, the University must address the education and well-being of all its students and employees. In addition to University imposed sanctions, students and employees are subject to all legal sanctions under federal, state, and local law for any offenses involving illegal drugs on University property or at University activities.

* PLEASE NOTE: The presence of drugs may be interpreted as possession of drugs. Students encountered in locations where drugs are present may be considered to be in violation of the Drug Policy, even if they do not have drugs on their person at the time they are encountered.

**Safe Harbor**

The University has a Safe Harbor option for students. The University believes that students who have a self-identified drug and/or addiction concern or problem deserve help. If any University student brings their own use, addiction, or dependency to the attention of University officials outside the threat of drug tests or imposition of the conduct process and seeks assistance, a conduct complaint will not be pursued. A written action plan may be used to track cooperation with the Safe Harbor program by the student. Failure to follow the action plan will nullify the Safe Harbor protection and the campus conduct process will be initiated. Please see the Code of Student Conduct Section C for more information.
Alcohol and Other Drug Procedures for Student Organizations

All student organizations must abide by the following guidelines:

1. All state, local, and University laws and policies concerning the use of alcohol and other drugs must be observed. In addition, all student organizations must abide by their governing bodies rules and regulations, as well as, policies set forth by their national organizations.

2. In order for alcoholic beverages to be allowed at a student organization event, organizations must comply with the Social Event Risk Management Policies. Compliance with these policies must be coordinated with the Office of Student Involvement & Leadership and approval must be given by this office before the event can occur.

3. If an off-campus activity includes the sale of alcoholic beverages, organizations will be required to use a licensed third-party vendor to manage this sale.

4. Promotional materials (including, but not limited to, advertisements in any form, t-shirts, cups, or any other item to be displayed, given away or sold before, during, or after an event) shall not make any direct or implied reference to or depict in any manner alcoholic beverages, alcoholic beverage company logos, or symbols, the consumption of alcoholic beverages, drugs or drug paraphernalia, or the use of illicit drugs.

5. No activity may be co-sponsored by a bar, liquor establishment, or other alcoholic beverage manufacturer or distributor. Advertisement for such establishments, manufacturers, or distributors may not occur at any activity.

6. No student organization shall allow alcoholic beverages or drugs to be present at its membership recruitment activities or initiation activities.

7. The officers of the student organization sponsoring the activity are responsible for enforcing the above guidelines and for the behavior of the guests at their events.

8. Drinking games or contests involving alcoholic beverages may not be played at any event sponsored by a University of Mount Union student organization.

Alcohol and Drug Policy Sanctions

1. An individual involved in a violation of alcohol or other drug related policies will be referred for conduct action and may receive any of the sanctions outlined in the student conduct process. Please see Section 8:N in the Conduct Process for a full list of sanctions.

2. If a recognized student organization violates the alcohol or other drug policies, the group will be referred for conduct action. The following minimum sanctions will apply:
   a. A two hundred dollar fine and a period of probation for a first offense. Possible conditions of this probation include, but are not limited to, restrictions of activities such as recruitment, sponsoring of social activities, or participation in campus events.
   b. Subsequent offenses may result in suspension of the group from campus.
   c. Other penalties may be assessed depending upon the nature of the violation.

State and Federal Laws Pertaining to Alcohol and Other Drugs

Ohio law prohibits the purchase, consumption, or possession of alcoholic beverages by persons under 21 years of age, with a fine up to $1,000 and/or six months imprisonment for the first offense. Possession or display of a fictitious operator’s license is a first-degree misdemeanor. The offense includes mere possession of a fictitious license or display of someone else’s valid operator’s license. The maximum penalty for this offense is six months imprisonment and/or a $1,000 fine. If the fictitious operator’s license is used to purchase alcohol or enter an establishment that serves alcohol the minimum fine is $250.

A person who furnishes alcohol to an underage person is guilty of a first-degree misdemeanor. The maximum penalty associated with this offense is six months imprisonment and/or a $1,000 fine. Therefore, a social host
risks being fined and imprisoned. It is a minor misdemeanor to possess an open alcoholic container in public. A first conviction for driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs has a penalty of up to $1,075 fine, forfeiture of driving privileges for six months, and a mandatory three days in jail and/or Driving Intervention Program.

Criminal penalties in Ohio for the illicit use of controlled substances (“drugs”) vary with the type of drug and quantity. For example, possession of less than 100 grams of marijuana is a minor misdemeanor; possessing more than 201 grams is a felony. Possessing cocaine even in small amounts such as 5 grams is a felony.

Possession of drugs is illegal without valid authorization (i.e. a valid doctor’s prescription). While penalties for possession are generally not as great as for manufacture and distribution of drugs, possession of a relatively large quantity may be considered distribution. Penalties for conviction of the sale or attempted distribution of drugs vary according to the amount and type of controlled substance in possession. Penalties can range between second degree misdemeanors and first-degree felony. For more information see the Ohio Revised Code 2929.13.

Under both state and federal laws, penalties for possession, manufacture, and distribution are much greater for second and subsequent convictions. Many of these laws dictate mandatory prison terms and require that the full minimum term be served.

In compliance with the Drug Free Schools Act, the University Mount Union does not allow the possession, use, or sale of marijuana or marijuana products, including but not limited to oils, edibles, etc. and, while Ohio has recently approved the use of medical marijuana, it is not permitted on campus.

Sale and possession of drug paraphernalia is illegal in Ohio. Drug paraphernalia can be classified as any equipment, product or material of any kind that is designed, intended or used for producing, processing, preparing, testing, analyzing, packaging, repackaging, storing, containing, concealing, injecting, ingesting, inhaling or otherwise introducing into the human body, a controlled substance in violation of Ohio drug law.

The exact legal wording can be found in the Ohio Revised Code, Sections 4301.63.2, 4301.63.3, 4301.63.4, 4301.69: [http://codes.ohio.gov/orc/4301](http://codes.ohio.gov/orc/4301).

A student who is convicted of any offense under any Federal or State law involving the possession or sale of a controlled substance for conduct that occurred during a period of enrollment for which the student was receiving any federal grant, loan, or work assistance shall not be eligible to receive any federal grant loan or work assistance from the date of that conviction for the period of time specified in the following table:

If convicted of an offense involving the possession of a controlled substance the ineligibility period is:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Offense</th>
<th>Period</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First offense</td>
<td>1 year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second offense</td>
<td>2 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third offense</td>
<td>Indefinite</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If convicted of an offense involving the sale of a controlled substance the ineligibility period is:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Offense</th>
<th>Period</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First offense</td>
<td>2 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second offense</td>
<td>Indefinite</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A student whose eligibility has been suspended may resume eligibility before the end of the ineligibility period if:

1. The student satisfactorily completes a drug rehabilitation program that complies with criteria set by federal regulations and includes two unannounced drug tests.
2. The student successfully passes two unannounced drug tests conducted by a drug rehabilitation program that complies with criteria set by federal regulations.

or

3. The conviction is reversed, set aside, or otherwise rendered nugatory.

Information Regarding the Impact of Alcohol and Other Drug Use

**Alcohol**

Alcohol consumption causes several changes in behavior and physiology. Low doses significantly impair judgment, coordination, and abstract mental functioning. Statistics show that alcohol use is involved in most of violent behaviors on college campuses, including acquaintance rape, vandalism, fights, and incidents of drinking and driving. Continued abuse may lead to dependency, which often causes permanent damage to vital organs and deterioration of a healthy lifestyle.

Possible long-term effects: Bleeding from the intestinal tract, damage to nerves and the brain, psychotic behavior, loss of memory and coordination, damage to the liver often resulting in cirrhosis impotence, severe inflammation of the pancreas, and damage to the bone marrow, heart, testes, ovaries, and muscles.

**Cannabis (Marijuana, Hashish)**

The use of marijuana may impair or reduce short-term memory and comprehension, alter sense of time, and reduce coordination and energy level. Users often have a lowered immune system and an increased risk of lung cancer. The active ingredient in marijuana, THC, is stored in the fatty tissues of the brain and reproductive system for a minimum of 28 – 30 days.

Possible long-term effects: Regular use can lead to physical dependence and withdrawal following discontinuation, as well as mental addiction or dependence.

**Hallucinogens (Lysergic acid /LSD, mescaline, and psilocybin/mushrooms)**

The use of Hallucinogens may cause illusions and hallucinations. The user may experience panic, confusion, suspicion, anxiety, and loss of control. Delayed effects, or flashbacks, can occur even when use has ceased. Phencyclidine (PCP) affects the section of the brain that controls the intellect and keeps instincts in check. Because the drug blocks pain receptors, violent PCP episodes may result in self-inflicted injuries.

Possible long-term effects: Respiratory depression, coma, convulsions, seizures, flashbacks, and death.

**Cocaine/Crack**

Cocaine users often have a stuffy, runny nose and may have a perforated nasal septum. The immediate effects of cocaine use include dilated pupils and elevated blood pressure, heart rate, respiratory rate, and body temperature, followed by depression. Crack, or freebase rock cocaine, is extremely addictive and can cause delirium, hallucinations, blurred vision, severe chest pains, muscle spasms, convulsions and even death.

Possible long-term effects: Agitation, hostility, panic, aggression, and suicidal or homicidal tendencies. Paranoia, sometimes accompanied by both auditory and visual hallucinations.
Amphetamines (Speed, Methamphetamine, and some diet pills)

Amphetamine use can cause a rapid or irregular heartbeat, tremors, and loss of coordination, reduced appetite, irritability, panic and paranoia. Heavy users are prone to violence, and psychotic behavior. Possible long-term effects: Agitation, hostility, panic, aggression, and suicidal or homicidal tendencies. Paranoia, sometimes accompanied by both auditory and visual hallucinations.

Opiates (Codeine, Heroin, Morphine, and other opioid pain relievers)

Opiate use can cause the body to have diminished pain reactions, drowsiness, respiratory depression and arrest, nausea, confusion, constipation, and possibly coma or death. Possible long-term effects: Restlessness, irritability, loss of appetite, nausea, tremors, drug craving, severe depression, vomiting, blood pressure, and chills alternating with increased heart rate, and flushing and excessive sweating.

MDMA (Ecstasy)

Short term use of MDMA can cause increased tactile sensitivity, enhanced self-confidence, energy bursts feelings of peacefulness, acceptance and closeness with others, loss of inhibition, confusion, hallucinations, muscle tension, increased heart rate, increased blood pressure, increased body temperature, dehydration, involuntary teeth clenching, nausea, blurred vision, rapid eye movement, faintness, chills and sweating, impaired memory and learning. While long-term use of MDMA can lead to depression, sleep problems, liver & kidney damage drug cravings, severe anxiety, paranoia, permanently impaired memory and ability to learn. Possible long-term effects: Agitation, hostility, panic, aggression, and suicidal or homicidal tendencies. Paranoia, sometimes accompanied by both auditory and visual hallucinations.

Anabolic Steroids

Steroid users often experience hypertension, cholesterol changes, liver cysts and cancer, kidney cancer, hostility and aggression, acne, premature stoppage of growth and reproductive side effects for both sexes. Possible long-term effects: High cholesterol levels, which may increase the risk of coronary artery disease, strokes, and heart attacks.

The information above should not be used as a substitute for talking with a professional in the field of alcohol and drugs or for consulting a medical professional. Individual differences often influence the body's reaction to a drug and should always be considered. Although every effort is made to keep the information on these pages current, new findings are made frequently, so checking the latest research is recommended. The legal information provided is of a general nature and should not be used in place of speaking with an attorney if the case warrants.

*Resources in this section were compiled by Kelleen Weber, Director, Alcohol, Drug, and Wellness Education
Source: Drugs of Abuse: A DEA resource guide 2020 edition

Alcohol and Other Drug Treatment Options and Referrals

On Campus

Mount Union offers a comprehensive alcohol and other drug counseling and education program to all students. Self-referrals, supervisory, and departmental referrals and consultations are welcome.
Stark County

The following locations offer programs for those with alcohol or drug related concerns. These agencies can provide counseling, treatment, rehabilitation, re-entry and referral for Mount Union faculty, staff, and students.

**Treatment**

Coleman Behavioral Health
Alliance Office: 1410 W. State St., Alliance, OH 44601, (330) 823-6932
Canton Office: 400 W. Tuscarawas St, Suite 200, Canton, OH, 44702, (330) 438-2400
http://www.colemanservices.org/

CommQuest
Main Office: 625 Cleveland Ave NW, Canton, OH 44702, (330) 455-0374
Alliance Office: 1207 West State St., Suite M, Alliance, OH 44601, (330) 821-8407
Massillon Office (Driver Intervention Program): 1660 Nave Road SE, Massillon, OH 44646, (330) 834-1934  http://www.commquest.org

Child and Adolescent Behavioral Health
1207 West State Street, Suite G, Alliance, Ohio 44601, (330) 823-5335
https://www.childandadolescent.org

Stark County TASC  (Only for those with current legal involvement)
624 N. Market St. Canton, OH 44702, 330-479-1912
www.starktasc.org

Summit Psychological Associates
4450 Belden Village St. NW, Suite 701, Canton, OH 44718, 330-493-2554
www.summit-psychological.org

Crisis Intervention and Recovery Center of Stark County
2421 13th Street NW, Canton, OH 44708, (330) 452-6000 (hotline) toll free (800)956-6630
http://www.circstark.org/

Glenbeigh
Intensive outpatient services and support for loved ones.
4661 Belpar St. NW, Canton, OH 44718 , (800) 234-1001
Canton@glenbeigh.com

Phoenix Rising Behavioral Health & Recovery of Alliance
Education, counseling, psychiatry and support for children, adolescents and adults.
1218 W. State St., Alliance, OH 44601, (330) 493-4553
http://www.phoenixrisingbhr.org/alliance/

ReCOR Alliance Community Hospital
Sub-acute detoxification refers to detoxification services provided with twenty-four-hour medical monitoring. Crisis Hotline at 330-452-6000 or contact CommQuest Services 330-837-9411.
Support Groups

Alcoholics Anonymous Intergroup Office
4125 Hills & Dales Rd. NW, Suite 400B Canton, OH 44708, (330) 491-1989 (24/7)
http://www.aaincantonohio.org/

Al-Anon, Ala-Teen
Schedule at 330-438-9511 or www.al-anon.alateen.org

Narcotics Anonymous for Northeast Ohio
Call for meeting times and locations, (888) 438-4673
http://www.naohio.org/ or http://nabuckeye.org/

BeSoBr
Classes meet Friday: 7-8:30 p.m., Deliverance Christian Church, 2130 31st St. NW, Canton; 330-493-LIFE (5433) or www.besobr.com
Stings of Life classes meet Tuesday: 10:00 a.m.-8:30 p.m., Deliverance Christian Church, 2130 31st St. NW, Canton

Cocaine Anonymous
Schedule at 330-284-2344

Dual Recovery Anonymous
(for both chemical dependency and emotional illness)
Tuesday: 6:30 p.m., Crisis Intervention Recovery Center, 832 McKinley Ave. N, Canton; 330-455-6264.
http://www.draonline.org/meetings_dra/usa/ohio.htm

Foundations, A Place for Education & Recovery
Peer Recovery support
800 Market Ave. N, Suite #1500A, Canton, OH 44702, 330-454-2888
www.foundationscanton.org

Gam-Anon
For spouses and families of gamblers. Monday: 7:30-9 p.m.
First Friends Church, Room E115, 5455 Market Avenue North, Canton.
https://www.gam-anon.org/

Gamblers Anonymous
International Service Office
4981 Irwindale Avenue suite 700, Irwindale, CA 91706, (626) 960-3500
http://www.gamblersanonymous.org/ga/

Hope United
Faith-based aftercare & support groups for individuals and families suffering from addiction
P.O. Box 534, Uniontown, Ohio 44685
https://www.hopeunited.life
RU Recovery - Reformer's Unanimous Addictions Program
Friday: 7:00-9:00 p.m., Temple Baptist Church, 1212 Greensburg Rd, Uniontown, OH 44685; 234-281-4320
https://rurecovery.com

Sex Addicts Anonymous
Call 800-477-8191
https://saa-recovery.org/

Solace
Meets the 3rd Monday of each month at: Stark Park's Exploration Gateway, 5714 12th Street NW, Canton 6:30-8:00 p.m.
Contact Dale Batdorff at 330-323-7605 to confirm meetings and for more information.

Crisis Numbers
If you or someone you know are in crisis, please immediately contact:
- Call 9-1-1 if emergency services are needed. If requesting law enforcement, you can ask for a CIT-trained officer
- Call (330) 452-6000, the Stark County Crisis Hotline anytime
- Text 4hope to 741 741, the Crisis Text Line anytime
- Call the Domestic Violence Help Line anytime at (330) 453-SAFE (7233)
- Trevor Lifeline for LGBTQ youth 866-488-7386
- Trans Lifeline at 877-565-8860 is available 18 hours a day
- Homeless Hotline at 330-452-4363 for all Stark County homeless housing requests
- Military & Veterans Crisis Line 800-273-8255, press 1 anytime
- Military & Veterans Crisis Text Line 838255 to get help now

Campus Lakes Policy
The campus lakes are for campus beautification only. No one is permitted to be in or on the lakes. Boating, swimming, ice skating, and all other activities taking place in or on the campus lakes are strictly prohibited.

Confiscation Policy
If prohibited items are found in a student’s possession on campus, these items will be confiscated by a University staff member. A list of items prohibited in the residence halls can be found in the Residence Life Rights and Responsibilities section the Student Handbook. In addition to having the item(s) confiscated, students in possession of prohibited items will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for adjudication.

Items confiscated from students will be returned as follows:
- **Alcoholic beverages, containers, and paraphernalia (kegs, taps, beer balls, beer funnels, or bongs, etc.)** – Unless these items are necessary for the conduct process, they will be disposed of immediately. If they are retained pending a conduct hearing, they will be disposed of when the hearing process has been completed. These items will not be returned to the student.
- **Drugs, drug paraphernalia, and items addressed in the Weapons portion of the Code of Student Conduct** – These items will typically be turned over to the Alliance Police Department. Exceptions to this policy will be made only after consultation with the Alliance Police Department and upon completion of the conduct hearing process. These items will not be returned to the student.
• **Animals** – Animals that are not permitted will be removed and turned over to the Stark County Humane Society or other appropriate animal rescue organization if an alternate home is not available within 24 hours.

• **Other prohibited items (appliances, candles, etc.)** – These items will be stored in a secured location. At the end of each semester, residents may make arrangements with the appropriate residence hall director to retrieve confiscated items. Students will have one week after the end of the spring semester to claim their items. After that time, the University will dispose of all remaining confiscated items.

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**Educational Records Policy**

In accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (commonly referred to as FERPA, or the “Buckley Amendment”) the University of Mount Union has adopted the following policies and procedures to protect the privacy of educational records. Students will be notified of their FERPA rights annually by publication in the University of Mount Union Catalogue, the University of Mount Union Student Handbook, and on the University’s website.

**Definitions**

Mount Union uses the following definitions in this policy:

**Student:** any person who attends or has attended the University.

**Education Records:** any records in whatever form (handwritten, taped, film, or other medium) which are maintained by the University and are directly related to a student, with the following exceptions:

1. Personal records kept by a University staff member if the record is not revealed to others and is kept in the sole possession of the staff member;
2. Student employment records that relate exclusively to the student in the capacity of an employee;
3. Records maintained separately from educational records solely for law enforcement agencies of the same jurisdiction;
4. Counseling records maintained by the University chaplain or University counselors;
5. Medical records maintained by the University solely for treatment and made available only to those persons providing treatment; and

**Rights Under FERPA**

A student shall have the right and parents of a dependent student may have the right to do the following:

1. Inspect and review the student’s education records;
2. Request that the student’s educational records be amended to ensure the records are not inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of a student’s privacy or other rights;
3. Consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student’s education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent;
4. File a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning the failure of the University to comply with the requirements of FERPA; and
5. Obtain a copy of the University’s student records policy from the Office of the University Registrar.

**Procedure to Inspect Educational Records**

Students may inspect and review their education records upon request to the appropriate record custodian(s). Students must submit a written request that identifies as precisely as possible the record(s) the student wishes to inspect.
Access will be provided within 45 days of the written request. Information contained in the educational records will be fully explained and interpreted to students by University personnel assigned to, and designated by, the appropriate office. Student records are maintained in the following offices:

1. Admissions and academic records in the Office of the University Registrar;
2. Financial aid records in the Office of Student Financial Services;
3. Financial records in the Office of Business Affairs;
4. Progress and advising records in the departmental offices and faculty offices;
5. Learning disability records in the Office of Academic Affairs;
6. Counseling records in the Office of the Chaplain, the Office of Counseling Services and the Office of Alcohol, Drug, and Wellness Education;
7. Academic dishonesty records in the Office of Academic Affairs; and
8. Disciplinary and student conduct records in the Office of Student Affairs.

**Right of the University to Refuse Access**

The University reserves the right to refuse to permit a student to inspect the following information:

1. The financial statements of the student’s parents;
2. Letters of recommendation for which the student has waived his or her right of access;
3. Records of applicants who were neither admitted to nor attended University of Mount Union;
4. Records containing information about more than one student, in which case the University will permit access only to that part of the record that pertains to the inquiring student; and
5. Records which are excluded from the FERPA definition of education records.

**Right to Challenge Information in Records**

Students have the right to challenge the content of their education records if they consider the information contained therein to be inaccurate, misleading, or inappropriate. This includes the opportunity to amend the records or insert written explanations by the student into such records. The student may not initiate a FERPA challenge of a grade awarded unless it was inaccurately recorded. In such cases the correct grade will be recorded.

**Procedures for Hearings to Challenge Records**

Students wishing to challenge the content of their education records must submit, in writing to the appropriate office, a request for a hearing, which includes the specific information in question and the reasons for the challenge.

Hearings will be conducted by a University official who does not have a direct interest in the outcome of the hearing. Students will be afforded a full and fair opportunity to present evidence relevant to the reasons for the challenge. The hearing officer will render a decision, in writing, within a reasonable period of time, noting the reason and summarizing all evidence presented.

If the hearing results are in favor of the student, the record shall be amended. Should the request be denied, an appeal may be made, in writing, and submitted to the University Registrar within 10 days of the student’s notification by the hearing officer. The appeal shall be heard by an Appeal Panel of three disinterested senior University officials. The Board will render a decision, in writing, within a reasonable period of time.

Should the appeal decision be in favor of the student, the record shall be amended accordingly. Should the appeal be denied, the student may choose to place a statement with the record commenting on the accuracy of the information in the record and/or setting forth any basis for inaccuracy. As long as the student’s record is
maintained by the University, when disclosed to an authorized party the record will always include the student’s statement and the Board’s decision.

**Disclosure of Education Records**

The University will disclose “non-directory” information contained in a student’s educational record only with written consent of the student, with the following exceptions:

1. To school officials, including teachers, who have a legitimate educational interest in the record;
2. To officials of another school in which the student seeks to or intends to enroll;
3. To federal, state, and local agencies and authorities as provided under law;
4. To the parents or legal guardian of an eligible student if the student is claimed as a dependent for income tax purposes;
5. Accrediting organizations;
6. To comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena;
7. Emergencies affecting the health or safety of the student or other persons; and
8. As otherwise permitted by FERPA.

**FERPA Annual Notice to Reflect Possible Federal & State Data Collection and Use**

As of January 3, 2012, the U.S. Department of Education's FERPA regulations expand the circumstances under which your education records and personally identifiable information (PII) contained in such records — including your Social Security Number, grades, or other private information — may be accessed without your consent. First, the U.S. Comptroller General, the U.S. Attorney General, the U.S. Secretary of Education, or state and local education authorities ("Federal and State Authorities") may allow access to your records and PII without your consent to any third party designated by a Federal or State Authority to evaluate a federal- or state-supported education program. The evaluation may relate to any program that is "principally engaged in the provision of education," such as early childhood education and job training, as well as any program that is administered by an education agency or institution. Second, Federal and State Authorities may allow access to your education records and PII without your consent to researchers performing certain types of studies, in certain cases even when we object to or do not request such research. Federal and State Authorities must obtain certain use-restriction and data security promises from the entities that they authorize to receive your PII, but the Authorities need not maintain direct control over such entities. In addition, in connection with Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems, State Authorities may collect, compile, permanently retain, and share without your consent PII from your education records, and they may track your participation in education and other programs by linking such PII to other personal information about you that they obtain from other Federal or State data sources, including workforce development, unemployment insurance, child welfare, juvenile justice, military service, and migrant student records systems.

**Directory Information**

Disclosure of directory information normally may be made without the student’s consent. Directory information includes the student’s name; school and permanent addresses; school, permanent and cellular telephone numbers; school mailbox address; school e-mail address; date and place of birth; majors and minors; dates of attendance; enrollment status; class level; degree(s) received and dates of conferral; honors and awards earned; previous institutions attended; weight and height of athletes; participation in officially recognized activities and sports; and photograph.

A student who wishes to have all directory information withheld must submit an “Authorization to Withhold Directory Information” form to the Office of the University Registrar. The hold will become effective the first day of class in the next regular semester (fall or spring). Once filed this request becomes a permanent part of the student’s record until the student instructs the Office of the University Registrar in writing to have the
request removed. Moreover, this request does not restrict the release of this information to individuals and agencies listed in “Disclosure of Educational Records” above.

Emotional Support Animal Policy

The University of Mount Union recognizes the importance of Emotional Support Animals, as defined by the Fair Housing Act, that provide physical and/or emotional support to individuals with disabilities. Mount Union is committed to allowing student with disabilities an accommodation of an Emotional Support Animal, as necessary to provide individuals with disabilities an opportunity to use and enjoy University housing. This policy explains the specific requirements applicable to a student’s use of an Emotional Support Animal in University housing. Mount Union reserves the right to amend this policy as circumstances require. This policy applies solely to Emotional Support Animals which may be necessary in University housing. It does not apply to Service Animals as defined by the ADAAA. This Policy has been amended in accordance with the 2020 Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Guidance on Emotional Support Animals.

Although it is the policy of the University that students are generally prohibited from having animals in University housing, Mount Union will consider a request by a student with a disability for reasonable accommodation to allow an Emotional Support Animal that is necessary because of a disability and reasonable. However, no Emotional Support Animal may be kept in University housing at any time prior to the student receiving approval as an accommodation pursuant to this policy.

A. Definitions

Disability is defined as a physical, mental or medical condition or impairment that substantially limits one or more of a person’s major life activities, including, but not limited to, caring for oneself, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, breathing, working or learning.

Emotional Support Animals are a category of animals that may provide necessary emotional support to an individual with a mental or psychiatric disability that alleviates one or more identified symptoms of an individual’s disability; but which are not considered Service Animals under the ADAAA or UMU’s Service Animal Policy. Any animal may serve a person with a disability as an Emotional Support Animal, but a dog, cat, small bird, rabbit, hamster, gerbil, other rodent, fish, turtle, or other small, domesticated animal (that is traditionally kept in the home for pleasure rather than for commercial purposes) are identified by HUD as most reasonable for confined residential spaces.

Owner is the individual or student who has requested the accommodation and has received approval to bring an Emotional Support Animal into University housing.

Service Animal, as defined in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act as Amended (ADAAA), is a dog or, in some cases, a miniature horse, that is individually trained to do work or perform specific tasks for the benefit of the person with a disability. The work or task the service animal performs must be directly related to the individual's disability, including, by way of example, assisting individuals who are blind or have low vision with navigating and other tasks, alerting individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing to the presence of people or sounds, pulling a wheelchair, retrieving items such as medicine or the telephone, and providing physical support and assistance with balance and stability to the individuals with mobility disabilities.

Pet is an animal kept for ordinary use and companionship unrelated to a disability and is not considered a Service Animal or an Emotional Support Animal. Pets are not covered by this policy and are not allowed in University buildings, classrooms, residential facilities, meeting rooms, dining areas, recreational facilities, activities, meetings and events.
B. Decision-Making Procedures

Procedures for Requesting Emotional Support Animals in University Housing

A student seeking to keep an Emotional Support Animal in University housing must make a formal request to Student Accessibility Services. To do so, the student must submit an online Housing Accommodation Request Form (available at www.mountunion.edu/accessibility-request). Student Accessibility Services will then provide the student with an ESA Medical Documentation Form, which must also be completed by an appropriately licensed medical professional. It should be noted that medical professionals often take several days to weeks to complete and return their documentation to the University.

The documentation from a licensed medical professional must include (1) verification of the student’s diagnosis, including severity of condition, and impact on major life activities; (2) statement on how the animal serves as an accommodation for the documented disability; and, (3) statement on how the need for the Emotional Support Animal relates to the ability of the student to use and gain benefit from University housing. The documentation should be a comprehensive reflection of the student’s current level of functioning, must be dated within the last 12 months, and must include the date of initial appointment with the mental health professional as well as the date of the most recent visit. The documentation should substantiate that the need for an Emotional Support Animal is part of a comprehensive treatment plan and indicate any wraparound services the student is currently receiving. All information must be submitted on the Medical Documentation form or official letterhead of the licensed medical professional.

University of Mount Union Counseling Services may conduct the necessary assessment to verify if a student would benefit from an Emotional Support Animal. Such an assessment will be made at the discretion of the Director of Counseling Services and may take into account factors such as the treating relationship of the student and the Counseling Services Office. If a student is interested in seeking an evaluation for an Emotional Support Animal, it is recommended the student contact either their treating medical professional, University Counseling Services, or their health insurance provider for a list of eligible medical professionals who may offer this type of evaluation. In general, certificates or letters provided by for-profit websites or medical professionals will not be acceptable forms of documentation, especially when there exists a short history of a treating relationship with the student.

It is the student’s responsibility to make the request for housing accommodations and submit required paperwork in a timely manner. The student is subject to the interactive process in determining if the requested animal is an appropriate accommodation for the student’s documented disability. The student making the request for an Emotional Support Animal should initiate the process as soon as practicably possible and preferably before moving into University housing. Students may also make a request for an Emotional Support Animal at any point during their term of occupancy. If the request for accommodation is made fewer than 30 days before the individual intends to move into University housing, the University of Mount Union cannot guarantee that it will be able to meet the student’s request for an Emotional Support Animal prior to the start of the term of occupancy. Similarly, requests made during the term of occupancy may take significant time before an approval decision can be reached due to the time required for the Medical Documentation to be returned. Housing accommodations are determined on a case-by-case basis and must be requested on an annual basis.

The Emotional Support Animal may not be in residence prior to approval. Students and their roommates who have an unapproved animal in University housing will be asked to remove the animal immediately and will be referred to Student Conduct. The student must also acquire the signature approval of any applicable roommate(s) prior to the move-in of the animal, and fill out a registration form for the animal, including
providing a photo. Students and their roommates will also agree to display University-provided fire safety and awareness stickers to residence space windows and/or doorways upon request.

The University may also require a vaccination record and/or statement of health from a veterinarian before the animal is permitted in University housing. This may vary by species and may be required to be submitted or re-submitted at any point during the term of occupancy as conditions may require.

Criteria for Determining if Presence of the Emotional Support Animal is Reasonable

For all requests for Emotional Support Animals, Student Accessibility Services shall consult with Residence Life in deciding on a case-by-case basis whether the presence of an Emotional Support Animal is reasonable. A request for an Emotional Support Animal is unreasonable if the presence of the animal: (1) imposes an undue financial and/or administrative burden; (2) fundamentally alters University housing policies; and/or (3) poses a direct threat to the health and safety of others or would cause substantial property damage to the property of others, including University property.

The University of Mount Union may consider the following factors, among others, as evidence in determining whether the presence of an Emotional Support Animal is reasonable or in the making of housing assignments for students with disabilities.

1. The size of the animal is too large for available assigned housing space;
2. The animal’s presence would force another individual from assigned housing (severe allergies);
3. The animal’s presence otherwise violates an individual’s right to peace and quiet enjoyment, including roommates and neighbors;
4. The animal is too young to be, or is not yet, housebroken or is unable to live with others in a reasonable manner;
5. The animal’s vaccinations and license are not up-to-date;
6. The animal poses health risks from zoonotic diseases or safety concerns regarding containment that cannot be sufficiently mitigated for inclusion in the communal living setting;
7. The animal is not permitted under local and/or state ordinances;
8. The animal poses or has posed in the past a direct threat to the individual or others such as aggressive behaviors towards or injuring the individual or others;
9. The animal causes or has caused excessive damage to housing beyond reasonable wear and tear; or
10. The animal is not the first Emotional Support Animal requested by the Owner. Generally, students may only request to have one Emotional Support Animal on campus.

Approved Accommodations

Student Accessibility Services and Residence Life will review the Owner’s request, information gathered in the interview, documentation and applicable forms to determine if the request is reasonable and the documentation supports the request. If Student Accessibility Services and Residence Life determine the request for an Emotional Support Animal accommodation is approved:

1. The Owner will be advised in writing of the approval of an Emotional Support Animal.
2. The Owner will complete the Emotional Support Animal Registration Form and submit it to Student Accessibility Services along with any required copies of appropriate vaccination documentation and/or current veterinary health statement and a current photo of the animal.
3. Where applicable, the Owner’s roommate(s) will be required to complete an Emotional Support Animal Roommate Agreement.
4. The Owner will be given any applicable fire and safety stickers to display on residential windows and/or doorways in consultation with Student Accessibility Services.

**Approved Animal and Housing**

If Student Accessibility Services and Residence Life determine requested Emotional Support Animal accommodation is necessary and reasonable:

1. The Resident Director where the Owner/Emotional Support Animal will reside will be notified of the accommodation.
2. Residence Life staff, Campus Security and Physical Plant staff and other University personnel will be notified of the presence of the Emotional Support Animal as an accommodation.
3. Neighbors, where applicable in residence halls, may be notified of the presence of the Emotional Support Animal.
4. Should changes in housing assignments for the Owner or roommates be required, Residence Life will meet with the individuals to discuss room change options.

**Denial of Accommodation/Appeal**

1. If Student Accessibility Services and Residence Life determine the request for an Emotional Support Animal is denied, Student Accessibility Services will contact the student and Residence Life in writing with reasons for the denial.
2. If the Owner is unwilling to accept the denial, they may use the University Grievance Procedure to appeal the decision.
3. All appeals are reviewed by the University of Mount Union’s Dean of Students. If the appeal is denied, the University shall provide written notification of the denial to the student and a written explanation of the reason for denial.

**C. Rights and Responsibilities**

**Conflicting Disabilities**

If a third-party requests that an Emotional Support Animal be removed due to a medical condition, such as a respiratory disease, asthma, or severe allergy, that is affected by the Emotional Support Animal, the University will engage in an individualized assessment of the situation and consider the needs of all parties in meeting its obligation to provide reasonable accommodations. The third-party making such a request may be required to provide medical documentation that will allow determination to be made as to whether the conflicting condition is a disability or only an impairment and if there is a need to provide accommodation to the third party.

**Access to University Facilities by Emotional Support Animals**

An Emotional Support Animal must be contained within the assigned individual University housing (e.g. residence room, suite, apartment, townhouse) except to the extent the Owner is taking the animal out for natural relief. When an Emotional Support Animal is outside the individual University housing, it must be in an animal carrier or controlled by a leash or harness. Emotional Support Animals are not allowed in any University facilities other than the assigned individual’s University housing (e.g. residence halls, apartments, townhouses, fraternity and sorority houses, etc.).
Dominion and Control

The Emotional Support Animal must be properly housed and restrained or otherwise under the dominion or control of the Owner at all times. No Owner shall permit the animal to go loose or run at large. If an animal is found running at large, the animal is subject to capture and confinement and immediate removal from University housing. The Owner is responsible for ensuring that the Emotional Support Animal is contained, as appropriate, when the Owner is not present while attending classes or other activities. The Emotional Support Animal may not be left in the student’s residence during breaks between semesters. Emotional Support Animals may not be left overnight in housing without the presence of the Owner or a roommate who agrees to take responsibility for the animal while the Owner is absent.

Individual’s Responsibilities for Emotional Support Animals

If the University approves an Owner’s request for an accommodation of an Emotional Support Animal, the Owner is solely responsible for the custody and care of the Emotional Support Animal and must meet the following requirements:

1. The Owner must abide by current city, county, and state ordinances, laws and/or regulations pertaining to licensing, vaccination, and other requirements for animals. It is the Owner’s responsibility to know and understand these ordinances, laws, and regulations. The University has the right to require documentation of compliance with such ordinances, laws, and/or regulations, which may include a vaccination certificate. The University reserves the right to request documentation showing that the animal has been licensed.

2. The Owner is required to clean up after and properly dispose of the animal’s waste in a safe and sanitary manner and, when provided, must use a designated animal relief area. In order to ensure proper cleanup, ALL of the Emotional Support Animal’s waste (e.g. urine, excrement, fur, litter, cage shavings, etc.) should be disposed of in a tightly sealed bag before placed into trash receptacles. No loose animal waste may be placed in trash receptacles. The Owner is required to comply with all University policies regarding waste removal and odor within their residential space.

3. The Owner is required to ensure the animal is well cared for at all times. Any evidence of mistreatment, abuse, or poor health may result in immediate removal of the Emotional Support Animal and/or discipline for the Owner.

4. The University of Mount Union will not ask for or require an individual with a disability to pay a fee or surcharge for an approved Emotional Support Animal.

5. The Owner is financially responsible for the Emotional Support Animal, including for any bodily injury or property damage caused by the Emotional Support Animal.

6. The Owner may be charged for any damage caused by their Emotional Support Animal beyond reasonable wear and tear to the same extent that the University charges other individuals for damages beyond reasonable wear and tear. This may include the cost of commercial carpet cleaning services to mitigate lingering animal odor in the residence. Any such damages will be assessed after the Owner and Emotional Support Animal vacate housing. The University shall have the right to bill the Owner’s account for unmet obligations under this provision.

7. An Emotional Support Animal must be clean and well groomed, and measures should be taken at all times for flea, tick, pest and odor control (if applicable to the species). The Owner’s living accommodations may also be inspected for fleas, ticks, or other pests as part of the University’s standard or routine inspections. 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
The Owner will be billed for the expense of any pest treatment above and beyond standard pest management. The University shall have the right to bill the Owner’s account for unmet obligations under this provision.

8. The Owner must fully cooperate with University personnel with regard to meeting the terms of this policy and developing procedures for care of the animal (e.g., cleaning the animal, feeding/watering the animal, designating an outdoor relief area, disposing of feces, proper disposal of deceased animals, etc.).

9. The Owner agrees to abide by all equally applicable residential policies that are unrelated to the Owner’s disability such as assuring that the animal does not unduly interfere with the routine activities of the residence or cause difficulties for individuals who reside there.

10. The Emotional Support Animal is allowed in University housing only as long as it is necessary because of the Owner’s disability. The Owner must notify Student Accessibility Services in writing if the Emotional Support Animal is no longer needed or is no longer in residence. To replace an Emotional Support Animal, the new animal must be necessary because of the Owner’s disability and the Owner must follow procedures in this policy when requesting a different animal.

11. University of Mount Union shall not be required to provide care or food for an Emotional Support Animal including, but not limited to, removing the animal during emergency evacuation for events such as a fire alarm. Emergency personnel will determine whether to remove the animal and may not be held responsible for the care, damage to, or loss of the animal.

12. The Owner is responsible for identifying an Emergency Contact for the Emotional Support Animal and providing Residence Life staff current contact information for that Emergency Contact. It is preferred that the Emergency Contact not reside in University housing or be a student at the University.

13. The Owner provides herein written consent for Student Accessibility Services to disclose information regarding the request for and presence of the Emotional Support Animal to those individuals who may be impacted by the presence of the animal including, but not limited to, Residence Life staff and potential and/or actual roommate(s)/neighbor(s), Campus Security, and Physical Plant, and other University personnel. Such information shall be limited to the information related to the animal being an approved Emotional Support Animal and shall not include information related to the Owner’s disability.

14. The Owner must provide a current photo of the Emotional Support Animal to Student Accessibility Services along with the Emotional Support Animal Registration Form.

**Requirements for the Community**

Members of the University community are required to abide by the following practices:

1. While a Service Animal is allowed to accompany its owner at all times and in all places on campus, except where specifically prohibited, Emotional Support Animals must remain in the assigned residential space.
2. Do not touch or pet a Service or Emotional Support Animal unless invited to do so.
3. Do not feed a Service or Emotional Support Animal.
4. Do not deliberately startle a Service or Emotional Support Animal.
5. Do not inquire for details about a person’s disabilities or ask a person with a qualifying disability to demonstrate the work or task performed by their Service Animal.

**Removal of Emotional Support Animal**
The University may require the Owner to remove the Emotional Support Animal from University housing if:

1. The animal poses a direct threat to the health or safety of others or causes substantial damage to University property or the property of others;
2. The animal’s presence results in a fundamental alteration of University housing policies;
3. The Owner does not comply with the Owner’s Responsibilities set forth above; or
4. The animal or its presence creates an unmanageable disturbance or interference with the University community, including excessive barking or noise.

The University will base such determinations upon the consideration of the behavior of the particular animal at issue, and not on speculation or fear about the harm or damage an animal may cause. Any removal of the animal will be done in consultation with the director of student accessibility services and the director of residence life and may be appealed to the vice president for student affairs/dean of students.

Should the Emotional Support Animal be removed from the premises for any reason, the Owner is expected to fulfill their housing obligations for the remainder of the housing contract. The Owner will be responsible for any fees associated with removal of the animal.

D. Disclaimers

Non-Retaliation Provision

University of Mount Union will not retaliate against any person because that individual has requested or received a reasonable accommodation in University housing, including a request for an Emotional Support Animal.

Hold Harmless Provision

From time to time, the University may use pesticides, pest control devices, de-icing materials, cleaning supplies, and other materials for the maintenance and operation of University housing, sidewalks, roadways, or outdoor areas. The University is not responsible for any harm to Emotional Support Animals or Service Animals caused by such materials.

Formal and Informal Student Complaint Procedures Policy

It is the wish of the University to provide an education and services of high quality to its students and to provide fairness and equity in the application of policies and procedures.

Informal Complaint Procedures

When a student has a complaint, resolution should be sought through informal communication with the appropriate instructor, university dean, staff member or representative, who may be able to help rectify or clarify the situation before a formal written complaint is initiated.
Formal Complaint Procedures

Please note: This Student Complaint Policy does not supersede specific policies and procedures for non-disciplinary academic matters or student conduct matters as described in Handbooks and Catalogues. This process is not intended for grievances regarding sex or gender conduct or violence described in Handbooks and Catalogues. A student who files a student complaint in error will be redirected to those who are better prepared to respond.

Lodging a Formal Student Complaint: A student who wishes to lodge a formal complaint with the University must complete and submit the formal complaint form to the appropriate vice president. (See Administrative Levels for Student Complaints, below.) A complaint form is available in the Office of Academic Affairs and the Office of Student Affairs, as well as online in iRaider under the “Policies” tab.

Administrative Complaint Acknowledgement: Formal student complaints will be forwarded to the director or staff person most immediately responsible for the area to which the complaint pertains. The director or staff person will send a written acknowledgement to the student within five (5) working days of receiving the complaint indicating that (1) the formal complaint has been received, (2) the nature of the complaint, and (3) the student will receive a written response after deliberation within ten (10) working days. Copies of the written student complaint and the acknowledgement letter will be sent to the vice president for that area.

Administrative Deliberation and Response: If the director or staff person to whom the complaint is forwarded determines that the nature of the complaint is beyond his or her area of supervision or expertise, the next level administrator in the area should be consulted and may be requested to respond to the student. Administrative disposition of the complaint will generally consist of investigation into the source of the complaint, previous efforts to resolve the issue, and any contingencies that will aid in deliberation and disposition of the problem. A copy of the deliberation process will be sent to the appropriate vice president. All formal student complaints will be forwarded upon resolution to the President’s Office by each vice president where a log will be kept.

Student Appeal Process: Upon receiving a deliberation response to the written complaint, the student has the right to appeal to successive levels of administrators within the area. This appeal must be made in writing within five (5) days of receiving the response. In each case the student will receive an acknowledgement of the complaint within five (5) working days and a deliberation response within ten (10) working days from the date of the acknowledgement letter.

Administrative Levels for Student Complaints: The appropriate vice president for student complaints will be as follows:

- Vice president for academic affairs and provost of the University (Beeghly Hall)- academic, academic conduct, accommodations, athletics, assessment, accreditation, institutional research, library, registrar issues, and student success services
- Vice president for student affairs and dean of students (HPCC)- alcohol/drug issues, counseling services, international student services, recreation, residence life, security, spiritual life, student activities, student conduct, student organizations, and non-academic student life issues
- Vice president for business affairs (Beeghly Hall)- food services, bookstore, health center, human resources, facilities, student payroll, student accounts, and information technology
- Vice president for enrollment management (Gartner Welcome Center)- admission, international admission, work-study including student employment, and financial aid
- Vice president for marketing (Beeghly Hall)- media issues, publications, public relations, social media, and website
- Vice president for university advancement (Beeghly Hall)- alumni, call center, university events, fundraising

The decision of the vice president regarding a formal student complaint will be final.
**Free Speech Policy**

The University of Mount Union supports every individual’s right to freedom of expression consistent with the forum (area of campus) in which the expression is made. Mount Union also recognizes the importance of fostering a culture of tolerance and civility that is a cornerstone for the accomplishment of its educational goals.

Within the classroom, visual and/or aural demonstrations, depictions, or conduct that may be offensive to an individual will not be restricted when there is a legitimate pedagogical context, such as material having an appropriate connection to course subject matter. Similarly, campus discourse on topics of political, artistic, or social issues that are conducted consistent with the nature of the forum and reasonable institutional limitations (registration to use space, time, place, and manner regulations, etc.) that are clear and unambiguous will be supported.

Expression that is severe, persistent, and objectively offensive, that is directed toward an individual based upon that individual’s protected status (e.g., race, gender, gender identity or expression, sex, sexual orientation, religion, age, color, creed, national or ethnic origin, veteran status, marital or parental status, pregnancy, disability, or genetic information) and has the effect of limiting or denying educational or employment access, benefits or opportunities is not a protected form of speech or expression, and can form the basis of a violation of the campus harassment, bullying or discrimination policies. Other limitations on free speech include: endangering someone or threatening them; inciting violence; using “fighting words” directed at an individual or group that provokes violence; defamation; obscenity; and expression that has a discriminatory effect such that it limits or denies someone’s educational or employment access, benefits, and/or opportunities.

**Association Policy**

Students have the right to exercise their religious convictions and associate with religious, political, or other organizations of their choice provided they do so in a manner that respects the rights of other members of the community and complies with the Code of Student of Conduct. Student organizations have the right to affiliate members who subscribe to organizational tenets, beliefs, and/or principles as long as all recognized organizations also abide by the University’s Non-Discrimination Policy.

**Gambling Policy**

Students are expected to abide by federal laws and the laws of Ohio prohibiting illegal gambling, including online gaming. 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.

**Resources**

Students who have concerns about their gambling habits, or another person’s gambling habits can utilize the following resources.

Office of Alcohol, Drug and Wellness Education  
Hoover-Price Campus Center, 1972 Clark Ave., Alliance, Ohio  
(330) 829-6660  
adwe@mountunion.edu
Hazing Policy

University of Mount Union prohibits hazing by campus groups and/or individuals. Hazing is defined under Ohio Revised Code as “doing any act or coercing another, including the victim, to do any act of initiation into any student or other organization that causes, or creates a substantial risk of causing, mental or physical harm to a person.” Furthermore, the University defines hazing as any action taken or situation created intentionally, whether on or off campus, to produce mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment, or ridicule. All acts of hazing by any organization or any of its members are strictly forbidden.

Hazing includes but is not limited to the following:

- any activity that might reasonably bring embarrassment or emotional harm to the individual;
- any activity that might reasonably bring physical harm to the individual;
- any activity that requires an unreasonable or inordinate amount of the individual’s time or in any manner impairs the individual’s academic efforts;
- any activity that involves the forced consumption of any liquid or solid matter;
- any activity that would degrade or otherwise compromise the dignity of the individual; or
- any requirement that compels an individual to participate in any activity that is illegal, in violation of the rules and regulations of the University, or contrary to the individual’s moral and/or religious beliefs.

If a member of the University community becomes aware of incidents of hazing or suspicious behavior, they should contact the director of student conduct at (330) 823-7288.

Inclement Weather Policy

In the event of severe weather, the decision to totally or partially close the University will be communicated to the campus community by the Administrative Council, via the following steps:

- The vice president for marketing will notify the University’s Information line at (330) 829-2806.
- The vice president for student affairs will notify the Office of Campus Safety and Security.
- The vice president for marketing will make every effort to notify local television and radio stations by 7 a.m. on the day of the closing.
- The vice president of marketing will send a message to the campus community via the emergency alert system.
Interim Equal Opportunity, Harassment, and Nondiscrimination for All Faculty, Students, Employees, and Third-Parties Policy and Procedures

1. Glossary

- **Advisor** means a person chosen by a party or appointed by the institution to accompany the party to meetings related to the resolution process, to advise the party on that process, and to conduct cross-examination for the party at the hearing, if any.

- **Complainant** means an individual who is alleged to be the victim of conduct that could constitute harassment or discrimination based on a protected class; or retaliation for engaging in a protected activity.

- **Complaint (formal)** means a document submitted or signed by a Complainant or signed by the Title IX Co-coordinator alleging harassment or discrimination based on a protected class or retaliation for engaging in a protected activity against a Respondent and requesting that the University of Mount Union investigate the allegation.

- **Confidential Resource** means an employee who is not a Mandated Reporter of notice of harassment, discrimination, and/or retaliation (irrespective of Clery Act Campus Security Authority status).

- **Day** means a business day when the University of Mount Union is in normal operation.

- **Directly Related Evidence** is evidence connected to the complaint, but is neither inculpatory (tending to prove a violation) nor exculpatory (tending to disprove a violation) and will not be relied upon by the investigation report.

- **Education program or activity** means locations, events, or circumstances where The University of Mount Union exercises substantial control over both the Respondent and the context in which the sexual harassment or discrimination occurs and also includes any building owned or controlled by a student organization that is officially recognized by the University of Mount Union.

- **Final Determination**: A conclusion by a preponderance of the evidence that the alleged conduct did or did not violate policy.

- **Finding**: A conclusion by the preponderance of the evidence that the conduct did or did not occur as alleged (as in a “finding of fact”).

- **Formal Grievance Process** means the method of formal resolution designated by the University of Mount Union to address conduct that falls within the policies included below, and which complies with the requirements of the Title IX regulations (34 CFR §106.45).

- **Grievance Process Pool** includes any investigators and Advisors who may perform any or all of these roles (though not at the same time or with respect to the same case).

- **Hearing Decision-maker** refers to those who have decision-making and sanctioning authority within the University of Mount Union’s Formal Grievance process.
- **Investigator** means the person or persons charged by the University of Mount Union with gathering facts about an alleged violation of this Policy, assessing relevance and credibility, synthesizing the evidence, and compiling this information into an investigation report and file of directly related evidence.

- **Mandated Reporter** means an employee of the University of Mount Union who is obligated by policy to share knowledge, notice, and/or reports of harassment, discrimination, and/or retaliation with the Title IX co-coordinator [and/or their supervisor].

- **Notice** means that an employee, student, or third-party informs the Title IX Co-coordinator or other Official with Authority of the alleged occurrence of harassing, discriminatory, and/or retaliatory conduct.

- **Official with Authority (OWA)** means an employee of the University of Mount Union explicitly vested with the responsibility to implement corrective measures for harassment, discrimination, and/or retaliation on behalf of the University of Mount Union.

- **Parties** include the Complainant(s) and Respondent(s), collectively.

- **Process A** means the Formal Grievance Process detailed below and defined above.

- **Process B** means the administrative resolution procedures detailed in Appendix D that apply only when Process A does not, as determined by the Title IX Co-coordinator.

- **University of Mount Union** means a postsecondary education program that is a recipient of federal funding.

- **Relevant Evidence** is evidence that tends to prove or disprove an issue in the complaint.

- **Remedies** are post-finding actions directed to the Complainant and/or the community as mechanisms to address safety, prevent recurrence, and restore access to the University of Mount Union’s educational program.

- **Respondent** means an individual who has been reported to be the perpetrator of conduct that could constitute harassment or discrimination based on a protected class; or retaliation for engaging in a protected activity.

- **Resolution** means the result of an informal or Formal Grievance Process.

- **Sanction** means a consequence imposed by the University of Mount Union on a Respondent who is found to have violated this policy.

- **Sexual Harassment** is the umbrella category including the offenses of sexual harassment, sexual assault, stalking, and dating violence and domestic violence. See Section 17.b, for greater detail.

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1 Not to be confused with those mandated by state law to report child abuse, elder abuse, and/or abuse of individuals with disabilities to appropriate officials, though these responsibilities may overlap with those who have mandated reporting responsibility in this Policy.
• **Student** means any individual who has accepted an offer of admission, or who is registered or enrolled for credit or non-credit bearing coursework, and who maintains an ongoing relationship with the University of Mount Union.

• **Title IX co-coordinator** is one of the two officials designated by the University of Mount Union to ensure compliance with Title IX and the University of Mount Union’s Title IX program. References to the co-coordinator(s) throughout this policy may also encompass a designee of the co-coordinator(s) for specific tasks.

• **Title IX Team** refers to the Title IX co-coordinators, any deputy coordinators, any member of the Grievance Process Pool, and any members of the Decision-Maker pools.

### 2. Rationale for Policy

The University of Mount Union is committed to providing a workplace and educational environment, as well as other benefits, programs, and activities, that are free from discrimination, harassment, and retaliation. To ensure compliance with federal and state civil rights laws and regulations, and to affirm its commitment to promoting the goals of fairness and equity in all aspects of the educational program or activity, University of Mount Union has developed internal policies and procedures that provide a prompt, fair, and impartial process for those involved in an allegation of discrimination or harassment on the basis of protected class status, and for allegations of retaliation. The University of Mount Union values and upholds the equal dignity of all members of its community and strives to balance the rights of the parties in the grievance process during what is often a difficult time for all those involved.

### 3. Applicable Scope

The core purpose of this policy is the prohibition of all forms of discrimination. Sometimes, discrimination involves exclusion from or different treatment in activities, such as admission, athletics, or employment. Other times, discrimination takes the form of harassment or, in the case of sex-based discrimination, can encompass sexual harassment, sexual assault, stalking, sexual exploitation, dating violence or domestic violence. When an alleged violation of this anti-discrimination policy is reported, the allegations are subject to resolution using the University of Mount Union’s “Process A” or “Process B,” as determined by the appropriate Title IX co-coordinator, and as detailed below.

When the Respondent is a member of the University of Mount Union community, a grievance process may be available regardless of the status of the Complainant, who may or may not be a member of the University of Mount Union community. This community includes, but is not limited to, students, student organizations, faculty, administrators, staff, and third parties such as guests, visitors, volunteers, invitees, and campers. The procedures below may be applied to incidents, to patterns, and/or to the campus climate, all of which may be addressed and investigated in accordance with this policy.

### 4. Title IX Co-coordinators

The Associate Dean of Students and Director of Human Resources serve as the Title IX co-coordinators and oversee implementation of the University of Mount Unions’ Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity plan and the University of Mount Union’s interim policy on equal opportunity, harassment, and nondiscrimination. The Title IX co-coordinators have the primary responsibility for coordinating the University of Mount Union’s

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2 For the purpose of this policy, the University of Mount Union defines “student” as any individual who has accepted an offer of admission, or who is registered or enrolled for credit or non-credit bearing coursework, and who maintains an ongoing relationship with the University of Mount Union.
efforts related to the intake, investigation, resolution, and implementation of supportive measures to stop, remediate, and prevent discrimination, harassment, and retaliation prohibited under this policy.

5. Independence and Conflict-of-Interest

The Title IX co-coordinators jointly manage the Title IX Team and act with independence and authority free from bias and conflicts of interest. The Title IX co-coordinators oversee all resolutions under this policy and these procedures. The members of the Title IX Team are vetted and trained to ensure they are not biased for or against any party in a specific case, or for or against Complainants and/or Respondents, generally.

To raise any concern involving bias or conflict of interest by a Title IX co-coordinator, contact the non-involved Title IX co-coordinator. Concerns of bias or a potential conflict of interest by any other Title IX Team member should be raised with the appropriate Title IX co-coordinator.

Reports of misconduct or discrimination committed by either Title IX co-coordinator should be reported to the University of Mount Union President, Dr. Thomas Botzman at botzmatj@mountunion.edu or 330-823-6050. Reports of misconduct or discrimination committed by any other Title IX Team member should be reported to either Title IX co-coordinator.

6. Administrative Contact Information

Complaints or notice of alleged policy violations, or inquiries about or concerns regarding this policy and procedures, may be made internally to:

Michelle Gaffney, associate dean of students & Title IX co-coordinator
Hoover Price Campus Center, Office of Student Affairs
Phone: (330) 823-2496
E-mail: gaffnemi@mountunion.edu

Marci Craig, director of human resources & Title IX co-coordinator
Beeghly Hall, Office of Human Resources
Phone: (330) 829-6560
E-mail: craigml@mountunion.edu

The University of Mount Union Title IX website can be found at https://www.mountunion.edu/campus-life/safety-and-parking/sexual-misconduct/title-ix


The University of Mount Union Title IX Grievance pool, which is composed of a pool of trained faculty and staff who may be assigned to serve in the role of either investigator or advisor as needed includes:

- Shehla Arif - Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering
- Bryan Boatright – Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs-Academic Systems and University Registrar
- Andrew Boothe - Manager of Payroll and Compensation Analytics
- Laura Good - Assistant Director of Human Resources and Benefits Systems Manager
- Marci Muckleroy - Assistant Director of the Center for Student Success
- Matt Parnell - Director of Recreation and Wellness Services
Additional Title IX Pool members are added as training allows. Please find the most recent list online at https://www.mountunion.edu/campus-life/safety-and-parking/sexual-misconduct/title-ix.

Title IX Decision-Makers include:
- Patience Bartunek – Director of Student Conduct
- Sara Sherer – Director of Residence Life
- Brian Boatright - Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs-Academic Systems
- Jesse Cunion, Assistant Dean for Student Success
- Dr. Kristine Still – Founding Dean of the College of Applied and Social Sciences
- Dr. Heather Duda – Founding Dean of the College of Arts and Humanities
- Dr. Sandra Madar – Founding Dean of the College of Natural and Health Sciences

Title IX Appeal Decision-Makers include:
- John Frazier – Vice President for Student Affairs & Dean of Students
- Lindajean Western – Vice President of Enrollment Management
- Pat Heddleston, Vice President of Business Affairs and Treasurer
- Melissa Gardner, Vice President for Marketing
- Dr. Jeff Breese, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

The University of Mount Union has classified most employees as Mandated Reporters of any knowledge they have that a member of the community is experiencing harassment, discrimination, and/or retaliation. The section below on Mandated Reporting details which employees have this responsibility and their duties, accordingly.

Inquiries may be made externally to:

Office for Civil Rights (OCR)
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20202-1100
Customer Service Hotline #: (800) 421-3481
Facsimile: (202) 453-6012
TDD#: (877) 521-2172
Email: OCR@ed.gov
Web: http://www.ed.gov/ocr

The Ohio Office of Civil Rights can be found at:

Cleveland Office
U.S. Department of Education
1350 Euclid Avenue
Suite 325
Cleveland, OH 44115
Telephone: (216) 522-4970
Facsimile: (216) 522-2573
Email: OCR.Cleveland@ed.gov
For complaints involving employees: Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC)

7. Notice/Complaints of Discrimination, Harassment, and/or Retaliation

Notice or complaints of discrimination, harassment, and/or retaliation may be made using any of the following options:

1. File a complaint with, or give verbal notice to, the Title IX co-coordinators at:

   Michelle Gaffney, associate dean of students & Title IX co-coordinator
   Hoover Price Campus Center, Office of Student Affairs
   1972 Clark Ave., Alliance, OH 44601
   Phone: (330) 823-2496
   E-mail: gaffnemi@mountunion.edu

   Marci Craig, director of human resources & Title IX co-coordinator
   Beeghly Hall, Office of Human Resources
   1972 Clark Ave., Alliance, OH 44601
   Phone: (330) 829-6560
   E-mail: craigml@mountunion.edu


Such a report may be made at any time (including during non-business hours) by using the telephone number or email address, or by mail to the office address, listed for the Title IX co-coordinator or any other official listed.


Anonymous reports are accepted but can give rise to a need to investigate. The University of Mount Union tries to provide supportive measures to all Complainants, which is impossible with an anonymous report. Because reporting carries no obligation to initiate a formal response, and as the University of Mount Union respects Complainant requests to dismiss complaints unless there is a compelling threat to health and/or safety, the Complainant is largely in control and should not fear a loss of privacy by making a report that allows the University of Mount Union to discuss and/or provide supportive measures.

A Formal Complaint means a document submitted or signed by the Complainant or signed by a Title IX co-coordinator alleging a policy violation by a Respondent and requesting that the University of Mount Union investigate the allegation(s). A complaint may be filed with a Title IX co-coordinator in person, by mail, or by electronic mail, by using the contact information in the section immediately above, or as described in this section. As used in this paragraph, the phrase “document filed by a Complainant” means a document or electronic submission (such as by electronic mail or through an online portal provided for this purpose by the University of Mount Union) that contains the Complainant’s physical or digital signature, or otherwise indicates that the Complainant is the person filing the complaint, and requests that the University of Mount Union investigate the allegations.

If notice is submitted in a form that does not meet this standard, the Title IX co-coordinator will contact the Complainant to ensure that it is filed correctly.
8. Supportive Measures

The University of Mount Union will offer and implement appropriate and reasonable supportive measures to the parties upon notice of alleged harassment, discrimination, and/or retaliation.

Supportive measures are non-disciplinary, non-punitive individualized services offered as appropriate, as reasonably available, and without fee or charge to the parties to restore or preserve access to the University of Mount Union’s education program or activity, including measures designed to protect the safety of all parties or the University of Mount Union’s educational environment, and/or deter harassment, discrimination, and/or retaliation.

The Title IX co-coordinator promptly makes supportive measures available to the parties upon receiving notice or a complaint. At the time that supportive measures are offered, the University of Mount Union will inform the Complainant, in writing, that they may file a formal complaint with the University of Mount Union either at that time or in the future, if they have not done so already. The Title IX co-coordinator works with the Complainant to ensure that their wishes are taken into account with respect to the supportive measures that are planned and implemented.

The University of Mount Union will maintain the privacy of the supportive measures, provided that privacy does not impair the University of Mount Union’s ability to provide the supportive measures. The University of Mount Union will act to ensure as minimal an academic/occupational impact on the parties as possible. The University of Mount Union will implement measures in a way that does not unreasonably burden the other party.

These actions may include, but are not limited to:

- Referral to [counseling](#), [medical](#), and/or other healthcare services
- Referral to the [Employee Assistance Program](#) (Impact Solutions)
- Referral to community-based service providers
- Visa and immigration assistance
- [Student financial aid counseling](#)
- Education to the institutional community or community subgroup(s)
- [Altering campus housing assignment(s)](#)
- Altering work arrangements for employees or student-employees
- Safety planning
- [Providing campus safety escorts](#)
- Providing transportation accommodations
- Implementing contact limitations (no contact orders) between the parties
- [Academic support, extensions of deadlines, or other course/program-related adjustments](#)
- Persona Non Grata (PNG) orders
- [Timely warnings](#)
- Class schedule modifications, withdrawals, or leaves of absence
- [Increased security and monitoring of certain areas of the campus](#)
- Any other actions deemed appropriate by the Title IX Co-coordinator(s)

Violations of no contact orders will be referred to appropriate student or employee conduct processes for enforcement.
9. **Emergency Removal**

The University of Mount Union can act to remove a student Respondent entirely or partially from its education program or activities on an emergency basis when an individualized safety and risk analysis has determined that an immediate threat to the physical health or safety of any student or other individual justifies removal. This risk analysis is performed by the appropriate Title IX co-coordinator in conjunction with the CARE (Concern – Assess – Respond – Engage) Team using its standard objective violence risk assessment procedures.

In all cases in which an emergency removal is imposed, the student will be given notice of the action and the option to meet with the appropriate Title IX co-coordinator prior to such action/removal being imposed, or as soon thereafter as reasonably possible, to show cause why the action/removal should not be implemented or should be modified.

This meeting is not a hearing on the merits of the allegation(s), but rather an administrative process intended to determine solely whether the emergency removal is appropriate. When this meeting is not requested in a timely manner, objections to the emergency removal will be deemed waived. A Complainant and their Advisor may be permitted to participate in this meeting if the Title IX co-coordinator determines it is equitable to do so. This section also applies to any restrictions that a coach or athletic administrator may place on a student-athlete arising from allegations related to Title IX. There is no appeal process for emergency removal decisions.

A Respondent may be accompanied by an Advisor of their choice when meeting with the Title IX co-coordinator for the show cause meeting. The Respondent will be given access to a written summary of the basis for the emergency removal prior to the meeting to allow for adequate preparation.

The Title IX co-coordinator has sole discretion under this policy to implement or stay an emergency removal and to determine the conditions and duration. Violation of an emergency removal under this policy will be grounds for discipline, which may include expulsion.

The University of Mount Union will implement the least restrictive emergency actions possible in light of the circumstances and safety concerns. As determined by the Title IX co-coordinator, these actions could include, but are not limited to: removing a student from a residence hall, temporarily re-assigning an employee, restricting a student’s or employee’s access to or use of facilities or equipment, allowing a student to withdraw or take grades of incomplete without financial penalty, authorizing an administrative leave, and suspending a student’s participation in extracurricular activities, student employment, student organizational leadership, or intercollegiate/intramural athletics.

At the discretion of the Title IX co-coordinator, alternative coursework options may be pursued to ensure as minimal an academic impact as possible on the parties.

Where the Respondent is an employee, existing provisions for interim action are applicable.

10. **Promptness**

All allegations are acted upon promptly by University of Mount Union once it has received notice or a formal complaint. Complaints can take 60-90 business days to resolve, typically. There are always exceptions and extenuating circumstances that can cause a resolution to take longer, but the University of Mount Union will avoid all undue delays within its control.

Any time the general timeframes for resolution outlined in the University of Mount Union’s procedures will be delayed, the University of Mount Union will provide written notice to the parties of the delay, the cause of the delay, and an estimate of the anticipated additional time that will be needed as a result of the delay.
11. Privacy

Every effort is made by the University of Mount Union to preserve the privacy of reports. The University of Mount Union will not share the identity of any individual who has made a report or complaint of harassment, discrimination, or retaliation; any Complainant, any individual who has been reported to be the perpetrator of sex discrimination, any Respondent, or any witness, except as permitted by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), 20 U.S.C. 1232g; FERPA regulations, 34 CFR part 99; or as required by law; or to carry out the purposes of 34 CFR Part 106, including the conducting of any investigation, hearing, or grievance proceeding arising under these policies and procedures.

The University of Mount Union reserves the right to determine which University of Mount Union officials have a legitimate educational interest in being informed about incidents that fall within this policy, pursuant to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

Only a small group of officials who need to know will typically be told about the complaint, including but not limited to: The Office of Human Resources, the Division of Student Affairs, Campus Safety and Security, the CARE Team, and College Deans and Vice Presidents. Information will be shared as necessary with Investigators, Decision-Makers, witnesses, and the parties. The circle of people with this knowledge will be kept as tight as possible to preserve the parties’ rights and privacy.

The University of Mount Union may contact parents/guardians to inform them of situations in which there is a significant and articulable health and/or safety risk but will usually consult with the student first before doing so. Minors will be treated the same as any student throughout this process.

Confidentiality and mandated reporting are addressed more specifically below.

12. Jurisdiction of the University of Mount Union

This policy applies to the education program and activities of the University of Mount Union, to conduct that takes place on the campus or on property owned or controlled by the University of Mount Union, at University of Mount Union-sponsored events, or in buildings owned or controlled by University of Mount Union’s

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3 For the purpose of this policy, privacy and confidentiality have distinct meanings. Privacy means that information related to a complaint will be shared with a limited number of the University of Mount Union employees who “need to know” in order to assist in the assessment, investigation, and resolution of the report. All employees who are involved in the University of Mount Union’s response to notice under this policy receive specific training and guidance about sharing and safeguarding private information in accordance with state and federal law. The privacy of student education records will be protected in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (“FERPA”), as outlined in the University of Mount Union’s Student Records Policy. The privacy of employee records will be protected in accordance with Human Resources policies. Confidentiality exists in the context of laws that protect certain relationships, including those who provide services related to medical and clinical care, mental health providers, counselors, and ordained clergy. The law creates a privilege between certain health care providers, mental health care providers, attorneys, clergy, spouses, and others, with their patients, clients, parishioners, and spouses. The University of Mount Union has designated individuals who have the ability to have privileged communications as Confidential Resources. For more information about Confidential Resources, see page 117. When information is shared by a Complainant with a Confidential Resource, the Confidential Resource cannot reveal the information to any third party except when an applicable law or a court order requires or permits disclosure of such information. For example, information may be disclosed when: (i) the individual gives written consent for its disclosure; (ii) there is a concern that the individual will likely cause serious physical harm to self or others; or (iii) the information concerns conduct involving suspected abuse or neglect of a minor under the age of 18, elders, or individuals with disabilities. Non-identifiable information may be shared by Confidential Resources for statistical tracking purposes as required by the federal Clery Act. Other information may be shared as required by law.
recognized student organizations. The Respondent must be a member of University of Mount Union’s community in order for its policies to apply.

This policy can also be applicable to the effects of off-campus misconduct that effectively deprive someone of access to the University of Mount Union’s educational program. The University of Mount Union may also extend jurisdiction to off-campus and/or to online conduct when the Title IX co-coordinator determines that the conduct affects a substantial University of Mount Union interest.

Regardless of where the conduct occurred, the University of Mount Union will address notice/complaints to determine whether the conduct occurred in the context of its employment or educational program or activity and/or has continuing effects on campus or in an off-campus sponsored program or activity. A substantial University of Mount Union interest includes:

a. Any action that constitutes a criminal offense as defined by law. This includes, but is not limited to, single or repeat violations of any local, state, or federal law;
b. Any situation in which it is determined that the Respondent poses an immediate threat to the physical health or safety of any student or other individual;
c. Any situation that significantly impinges upon the rights, property, or achievements of oneself or others or significantly breaches the peace and/or causes social disorder; and/or
d. Any situation that is detrimental to the educational interests or mission of the University of Mount Union.

If the Respondent is unknown or is not a member of the University of Mount Union community, the Title IX co-coordinator will assist the Complainant in identifying appropriate campus and local resources and support options and/or, when criminal conduct is alleged, in contacting local or campus law enforcement if the individual would like to file a police report.

Further, even when the Respondent is not a member of the University of Mount Union’s community, supportive measures, remedies, and resources may be accessible to the Complainant by contacting the appropriate Title IX co-coordinator.

In addition, the University of Mount Union may take other actions as appropriate to protect the Complainant against third parties, such as barring individuals from University of Mount Union property and/or events.

All vendors serving the University of Mount Union through third-party contracts are subject to the policies and procedures of their employers or to these policies and procedures to which their employer has agreed to be bound by their contracts.

When the Respondent is enrolled in or employed by another institution, the Title IX co-coordinator can assist the Complainant in liaising with the appropriate individual at that institution, as it may be possible to allege violations through that institution’s policies.

Similarly, the Title IX co-coordinator may be able to assist and support a student or employee Complainant who experiences discrimination in an externship, study abroad program, or other environment external to the where sexual harassment or nondiscrimination policies and procedures of the facilitating or host organization may give recourse to the Complainant.

13. Time Limits on Reporting

There is no time limitation on providing notice/complaints to a Title IX co-coordinator. However, if the Respondent is no longer subject to the University of Mount Union’s jurisdiction and/or significant time has passed, the ability to investigate, respond, and provide remedies may be more limited or impossible.
Acting on notice/complaints significantly impacted by the passage of time (including, but not limited to, the rescission or revision of policy) is at the discretion of the Title IX co-coordinator, who may document allegations for future reference, offer supportive measures and/or remedies, and/or engage in informal or formal action, as appropriate.

When notice/complaint is affected by significant time delay, the University of Mount Union will typically apply the policy in place at the time of the alleged misconduct and the procedures in place at the time of notice/complaint.

14. Online Harassment and Misconduct

The policies of University of Mount Union are written and interpreted broadly to include online manifestations of any of the behaviors prohibited below, when those behaviors occur in or have an effect on the University of Mount Union’s education program and activities or use University of Mount Union networks, technology, or equipment.

Although University of Mount Union may not control websites, social media, and other venues in which harassing communications are made, when such communications are reported to University of Mount Union, it will engage in a variety of means to address and mitigate the effects.

Members of the community are encouraged to be good digital citizens and to refrain from online misconduct, such as feeding anonymous gossip sites, sharing inappropriate content via social media, unwelcome sexual or sex-based messaging, distributing or threatening to distribute revenge pornography, breaches of privacy, or otherwise using the ease of transmission and/or anonymity of the Internet or other technology to harm another member of the University of Mount Union community.

Otherwise, such communications are considered speech protected by the First Amendment. Unless the poster is a student and their post violates the Code of Student Conduct.

Off-campus harassing speech by employees, whether online or in person, may be regulated by the University of Mount Union when such speech is made in an employee’s official or work-related capacity or impacts the employee’s ability to work within the university community.

Supportive measures for Complainants will be provided, but protected speech cannot legally be subjected to discipline.

15. Policy on Nondiscrimination

The University of Mount Union adheres to all federal and state civil rights laws and regulations prohibiting discrimination in private institutions of higher education.

The University of Mount Union does not discriminate against any employee, applicant for employment, student, or applicant for admission on the basis of:

- Race
- Gender
- Gender identity or expression
- Sex
- Sexual orientation
- Religion
- Age
- Color
- Creed
This policy covers nondiscrimination in both employment and access to educational opportunities. Therefore, any member of the University of Mount Union community whose acts deny, deprive, or limit the educational or employment or residential and/or social access, benefits, and/or opportunities of any member of the University of Mount Union community, guest, or visitor on the basis of that person’s actual or perceived membership in the protected classes listed above is in violation of the University of Mount Union’s policy on nondiscrimination.

When brought to the attention of the University of Mount Union, any such discrimination will be promptly and fairly addressed and remedied by the University of Mount Union according to the appropriate grievance process described below.

16. Policy on Disability Discrimination and Accommodation

The University of Mount Union is committed to full compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), as amended, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, which prohibit discrimination against qualified persons with disabilities, as well as other federal and state laws and regulations pertaining to individuals with disabilities.

Under the ADA and its amendments, a person has a disability if they have a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.

The ADA also protects individuals who have a record of a substantially limiting impairment or who are regarded as disabled by the University of Mount Union, regardless of whether they currently have a disability. A substantial impairment is one that significantly limits or restricts a major life activity such as hearing, seeing, speaking, breathing, performing manual tasks, walking, or caring for oneself.

The director of human resources has been designated as University of Mount Union’s ADA/504 Coordinator responsible for overseeing efforts to comply with these disability laws, including responding to grievances and conducting investigations of any allegation of noncompliance or discrimination based on disability.

Grievances related to disability status and/or accommodations will be addressed using the procedures below. For concerns relating to disability accommodations in the University of Mount Union’s resolution process, please contact the appropriate Title IX co-coordinator.
a. Students with Disabilities

The University of Mount Union is committed to providing qualified students with disabilities with reasonable accommodations and support needed to ensure equal access to the academic programs, facilities, and activities of the University of Mount Union.

All accommodations are made on an individualized basis. A student requesting any accommodation should first contact the director of student accessibility services, who coordinates services for students with disabilities.

The director of student accessibility services reviews documentation provided by the student and, in consultation with the student, determines which accommodations are appropriate for the student’s particular needs and academic program(s) in accordance with University of Mount Union’s applicable policies.

b. Employees with Disabilities

Pursuant to the ADA, University of Mount Union will provide reasonable accommodation(s) to all qualified employees with known disabilities when their disability affects the performance of their essential job functions, except when doing so would be unduly disruptive or would result in undue hardship to the University of Mount Union.

An employee with a disability is responsible for submitting a request for an accommodation to the ADA/504 Coordinator and providing necessary documentation. The ADA/504 Coordinator will work with the employee’s supervisor to identify which essential functions of the position are affected by the employee’s disability and what reasonable accommodations could enable the employee to perform those duties in accordance with University of Mount Union’s applicable policies.

17. Policy on Discriminatory Harassment

Students, staff, administrators, and faculty are entitled to an employment and educational environment that is free of discriminatory harassment. The University of Mount Union’s harassment policy is not meant to inhibit or prohibit educational content or discussions inside or outside of the classroom that include germane but controversial or sensitive subject matters protected by academic freedom.

The sections below describe the specific forms of legally prohibited harassment that are also prohibited under University of Mount Union policy. When speech or conduct is protected by academic freedom, it will not be considered a violation of University of Mount Union policy, though supportive measures will be offered to those impacted. All policies encompass actual and/or attempted offenses.

a. Discriminatory Harassment

Discriminatory harassment constitutes a form of discrimination that is prohibited by University of Mount Union policy. Discriminatory harassment is defined as unwelcome conduct by any member or group of the community on the basis of actual or perceived membership in a class protected by policy or law.

The University of Mount Union does not tolerate discriminatory harassment of any employee, student, visitor, or guest. The University of Mount Union will act to remedy all forms of harassment when reported, whether or not the harassment rises to the level of creating a “hostile environment.”

A hostile environment is one that unreasonably interferes with, limits, or effectively denies an individual’s educational or employment access, benefits, or opportunities. This discriminatory effect results from harassing verbal, written, graphic, or physical conduct that is severe or pervasive and objectively offensive.
When discriminatory harassment rises to the level of creating a hostile environment, the University of Mount Union may also impose sanctions on the Respondent through application of the appropriate grievance process below.

The University of Mount Union reserves the right to address offensive conduct and/or harassment that 1) does not rise to the level of creating a hostile environment, or 2) that is of a generic nature and not based on a protected status. Addressing such conduct will not result in the imposition of discipline under University of Mount Union policy, but may be addressed through respectful conversation, remedial actions, education, effective Alternate Resolution, and/or other informal resolution mechanisms.

For assistance with Alternate Resolution and other informal resolution techniques and approaches, employees should contact the Director of Human Resources, and students should contact the Director of Student Conduct.

b. Sexual Harassment

The Department of Education’s Office for Civil Rights (OCR), the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), and the state of Ohio regard Sexual Harassment, a specific form of discriminatory harassment, as an unlawful discriminatory practice.

The University of Mount Union has adopted the following definition of Sexual Harassment in order to address the unique environment of an academic community.

Acts of sexual harassment may be committed by any person upon any other person, regardless of the sex, sexual orientation, and/or gender identity of those involved.

Sexual Harassment, as an umbrella category, includes the offenses of sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking, and is defined as:

Conduct on the basis of sex/gender or that is sexual that satisfies one or more of the following:

1) Quid Pro Quo:
   a. an employee of the University of Mount Union,
   b. conditions\(^4\) the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of the University of Mount Union,
   c. on an individual’s participation in unwelcome sexual conduct.

2) Sexual Harassment:
   a. unwelcome conduct,
   b. determined by a reasonable person,
   c. to be so severe, and
   d. pervasive, and,
   e. objectively offensive,
   f. that it effectively denies a person equal access to the University of Mount Union’s education program or activity.\(^5\)

\(^4\) Implicitly or explicitly.

\(^5\) Unwelcomeness is subjective and determined by the Complainant (except when the Complainant is younger than the age of consent). Severity, pervasive, and objective offensiveness are evaluated based on the totality of the circumstances from the perspective of a reasonable person in the same or similar circumstances (“in the shoes of the Complainant”), including the context in which the alleged incident occurred and any similar, previous patterns that may be evidenced.
3) Sexual assault, defined as:
   a) Sex Offenses, Forcible:
      ○ Any sexual act\(^6\) directed against another person\(^7\),
      ○ without the consent of the Complainant,
      ○ including instances in which the Complainant is incapable of giving consent.
   b) Sex Offenses, Non-forcible:
      ○ Incest:
         1) Non-forcible sexual intercourse,
         2) between persons who are related to each other,
         3) within the degrees wherein marriage is prohibited by Ohio law.
      ○ Statutory Rape:
         1) Non-forcible sexual intercourse,
         2) with a person who is under the statutory age of consent of 16

4) Dating Violence, defined as:
   a. violence,
   b. on the basis of sex,
   c. committed by a person,
   d. who is in or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the Complainant.
      i. The existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on the Complainant's statement and with consideration of the length of the relationship, the type of

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\(^6\) A ‘sexual act” is specifically defined by federal regulations to include one or more of the following:

Forcible Rape:
   ○ Penetration,
   ○ no matter how slight,
   ○ of the vagina or anus with any body part or object, or
   ○ oral penetration by a sex organ of another person,
   ○ without the consent of the Complainant.

Forcible Sodomy:
   ○ Oral or anal sexual intercourse with another person,
   ○ forcibly,
   ○ and/or against that person’s will (non-consensually), or
   ○ not forcibly or against the person’s will in instances in which the Complainant is incapable of giving consent because of age or because of temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.

Sexual Assault with an Object:
   ○ The use of an object or instrument to penetrate,
   ○ however slightly,
   ○ the genital or anal opening of the body of another person,
   ○ forcibly,
   ○ and/or against that person’s will (non-consensually),
   ○ or not forcibly or against the person’s will in instances in which the Complainant is incapable of giving consent because of age or because of temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.

Forcible Fondling:
   ○ The touching of the private body parts of another person (buttocks, groin, breasts),
   ○ for the purpose of sexual gratification,
   ○ forcibly,
   ○ and/or against that person’s will (non-consensually),
   ○ or not forcibly or against the person’s will in instances in which the Complainant is incapable of giving consent because of age or because of temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.

\(^7\) This would include having another person touch you sexually, forcibly, or without their consent.
relationship, and the frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship. For the purposes of this definition—

ii. Dating violence includes, but is not limited to, sexual or physical abuse or the threat of such abuse.

iii. Dating violence does not include acts covered under the definition of domestic violence.

5) Domestic Violence, defined as:
   a. violence,
   b. on the basis of sex,
   c. committed by a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the Complainant,
   d. by a person with whom the Complainant shares a child in common, or
   e. by a person who is cohabitating with, or has cohabited with, the Complainant as a spouse or intimate partner, or
   f. by a person similarly situated to a spouse of the Complainant under the domestic or family violence laws of Ohio, or
   g. by any other person against an adult or youth Complainant who is protected from that person’s acts under the domestic or family violence laws of Ohio.

   *To categorize an incident as Domestic Violence, the relationship between the Respondent and the Complainant must be more than just two people living together as roommates. The people cohabitating must be current or former spouses or have an intimate relationship.

6) Stalking, defined as:
   a. engaging in a course of conduct,
   b. on the basis of sex,
   c. directed at a specific person, that
      i. would cause a reasonable person to fear for the person’s safety, or
      ii. the safety of others; or
      iii. Suffer substantial emotional distress.

   For the purposes of this definition—
   (i) Course of conduct means two or more acts, including, but not limited to, acts in which the Respondent directly, indirectly, or through third parties, by any action, method, device, or means, follows, monitors, observes, surveils, threatens, or communicates to or about a person, or interferes with a person’s property.
   (ii) Reasonable person means a reasonable person under similar circumstances and with similar identities to the Complainant.
   (iii) Substantial emotional distress means significant mental suffering or anguish that may but does not necessarily require medical or other professional treatment or counseling.

**Code of Ethical Behavior Policy Statement**

Faculty and staff members exercise power over students, whether in evaluating them, writing recommendations for them, supervising their work, or serving on University committees. Professionalism is diminished when those in positions of authority abuse or appear to abuse their power. Codes of ethics for most professions forbid such professional-client relationships, including sexual relationships. In the view of the University, the faculty/staff-student relationship is one of professional and client. The University will view it as professionally unethical if faculty or staff members engage in sexual relationships with Mount Union students, or personal relationships in which the faculty or staff member misuses their power over a student of the University, even when both parties have consented to the relationship.

If any personal or familial relationship exists prior to one of the parties entering the University, the faculty or staff member should discuss the situation with their supervisor and arrangements should be made so that, if
possible, the faculty or staff member would not be directly involved in an evaluative relationship with the student.

The University of Mount Union reserves the right to impose any level of sanction, ranging from a reprimand up to and including suspension or expulsion/termination, for any offense under this policy.

c. Force, Coercion, Consent, and Incapacitation

As used in the offenses above, the following definitions and understandings apply:

**Force:** Force is the use of physical violence and/or physical imposition to gain sexual access. Force also includes threats, intimidation (implied threats), and coercion that is intended to overcome resistance or produce consent (e.g., “Have sex with me or I'll hit you,” “Okay, don’t hit me, I'll do what you want.”).

Sexual activity that is forced is, by definition, non-consensual, but non-consensual sexual activity is not necessarily forced. Silence or the absence of resistance alone is not consent. Consent is not demonstrated by the absence of resistance. While resistance is not required or necessary, it is a clear demonstration of non-consent.

**Coercion:** Coercion is unreasonable pressure for sexual activity. Coercive conduct differs from seductive conduct based on factors such as the type and/or extent of the pressure used to obtain consent. When someone makes clear that they do not want to engage in certain sexual activity, that they want to stop, or that they do not want to go past a certain point of sexual interaction, continued pressure beyond that point can be coercive.

**Consent is:**
- knowing, and
- voluntary, and
- clear permission
- by word or action
- to engage in sexual activity.

Individuals may experience the same interaction in different ways. Therefore, it is the responsibility of each party to determine that the other has consented before engaging in the activity.

If consent is not clearly provided prior to engaging in the activity, consent may be ratified by word or action at some point during the interaction or thereafter, but clear communication from the outset is strongly encouraged.

For consent to be valid, there must be a clear expression in words or actions that the other individual consented to that specific sexual conduct. Reasonable reciprocation can be implied. For example, if someone kisses you, you can kiss them back (if you want to) without the need to explicitly obtain their consent to being kissed back.

Consent can also be withdrawn once given, as long as the withdrawal is reasonably and clearly communicated. If consent is withdrawn, that sexual activity should cease within a reasonable time.

Consent to some sexual contact (such as kissing or fondling) cannot be presumed to be consent for other sexual activity (such as intercourse). A current or previous intimate relationship is not sufficient to constitute consent.

Proof of consent or non-consent is not a burden placed on either party involved in an incident. Instead, the burden remains on the University of Mount Union to determine whether its policy has been violated. The existence of consent is based on the totality of the circumstances evaluated from the perspective of a reasonable
person in the same or similar circumstances, including the context in which the alleged incident occurred and any similar, previous patterns that may be evidenced.

Consent in relationships must also be considered in context. When parties consent to BDSM or other forms of kink, non-consent may be shown by the use of a safe word. Resistance, force, violence, or even saying “no” may be part of the kink and thus consensual, so the University of Mount Union’s evaluation of communication in kink situations should be guided by reasonableness, rather than strict adherence to policy that assumes non-kink relationships as a default.

**Incapacitation:** A person cannot consent if they are unable to understand what is happening or is disoriented, helpless, asleep, or unconscious, for any reason, including by alcohol or other drugs. As stated above, a Respondent violates this policy if they engage in sexual activity with someone who is incapable of giving consent.

It is a defense to a sexual assault policy violation that the Respondent neither knew nor should have known the Complainant to be physically or mentally incapacitated. “Should have known” is an objective, reasonable person standard that assumes that a reasonable person is both sober and exercising sound judgment.

Incapacitation occurs when someone cannot make rational, reasonable decisions because they lack the capacity to give knowing/informed consent (e.g., to understand the “who, what, when, where, why, or how” of their sexual interaction).

Incapacitation is determined through consideration of all relevant indicators of an individual’s state and is not synonymous with intoxication, impairment, blackout, and/or being drunk.

This policy also covers a person whose incapacity results from a temporary or permanent physical or mental health condition, involuntary physical restraint, and/or the consumption of incapacitating drugs.

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### d. Other Civil Rights Offenses

In addition to the forms of sexual harassment described above, which are covered by Title IX, the University of Mount Union additionally prohibits the following offenses as forms of discrimination that may be within or outside of Title IX when the act is based upon the Complainant’s actual or perceived membership in a protected class.

- **Sexual Exploitation**, defined as: taking non-consensual or abusive sexual advantage of another for their own benefit or for the benefit of anyone other than the person being exploited, and that conduct does not otherwise constitute sexual harassment under this policy. Examples of Sexual Exploitation include, but are not limited to:
  - Sexual voyeurism (such as observing or allowing others to observe a person undressing or using the bathroom or engaging in sexual acts, without the consent of the person being observed)
  - Invasion of sexual privacy
  - Taking pictures, video, or audio recording of another in a sexual act, or in any other sexually-related activity when there is a reasonable expectation of privacy during the activity, without the consent of all involved in the activity, or exceeding the boundaries of consent (such as allowing another person to hide in a closet and observe sexual activity, or disseminating sexual pictures without the photographed person’s consent), including the making or posting of revenge pornography
  - Prostituting another person

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8 Bondage, discipline/dominance, submission/sadism, and masochism.
Engaging in sexual activity with another person while knowingly infected with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) or a sexually-transmitted disease (STD) or infection (STI), without informing the other person of the infection

Caus ing or attempting to cause the incapacitation of another person (through alcohol, drugs, or any other means) for the purpose of compromising that person’s ability to give consent to sexual activity, or for the purpose of making that person vulnerable to non-consensual sexual activity

Misappropriation of another person’s identity on apps, websites, or other venues designed for dating or sexual connections

Forcing a person to take an action against that person’s will by threatening to show, post, or share information, video, audio, or an image that depicts the person’s nudity or sexual activity

Knowingly soliciting a minor for sexual activity

Engaging in sex trafficking

Creation, possession, or dissemination of child pornography

Threatening or causing physical harm, extreme verbal, emotional, or psychological abuse, or other conduct which threatens or endangers the health or safety of any person;

Discrimination, defined as actions that deprive, limit, or deny other members of the community of educational or employment access, benefits, or opportunities;

Intimidation, defined as implied threats or acts that cause an unreasonable fear of harm in another;

Hazing, defined as acts likely to cause physical or psychological harm or social ostracism to any person within the University of Mount Union community, when related to the admission, initiation, pledging, joining, or any other group-affiliation activity (as defined further in the Hazing Policy and statement found on page 98);

Bullying, defined as:
- Repeated and/or severe
- Aggressive behavior
- Likely to intimidate or intentionally hurt, control, or diminish another person, physically and/or mentally
- That is not speech or conduct otherwise protected by the First Amendment.

Violation of any other University of Mount Union policies may constitute a Civil Rights Offense when a violation is motivated by actual or perceived membership in a protected class, and the result is a discriminatory limitation or denial of employment or educational access, benefits, or opportunities.

Sanctions for the above-listed Civil Rights Offenses range from reprimand through expulsion/termination.

18. Retaliation

Protected activity under this policy includes reporting an incident that may implicate this policy, participating in the grievance process, supporting a Complainant or Respondent, assisting in providing information relevant to an investigation, and/or acting in good faith to oppose conduct that constitutes a violation of this Policy.

Acts of alleged retaliation should be reported immediately to the appropriate Title IX Co-coordinator and will be promptly investigated. The University of Mount Union will take all appropriate and available steps to protect individuals who fear that they may be subjected to retaliation.
The University of Mount Union and any member of the University of Mount Union’s community are prohibited from taking or attempting to take materially adverse action by intimidating, threatening, coercing, harassing, or discriminating against any individual for the purpose of interfering with any right or privilege secured by law or policy, or because the individual has made a report or complaint, testified, assisted, or participated or refused to participate in any manner in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing under this policy and procedure.

Filing a complaint within Process B could be considered retaliatory if those charges could be applicable under Process A, when the Process B charges are made for the purpose of interfering with or circumventing any right or privilege provided afforded within Process A that is not provided by Process B. Therefore, the University of Mount Union vets all complaints carefully to ensure this does not happen, and to assure that complaints are tracked to the appropriate process.

The exercise of rights protected under the First Amendment does not constitute retaliation.

Charging an individual with a code of conduct violation for making a materially false statement in bad faith in the course of a grievance proceeding under this policy and procedure does not constitute retaliation, provided that a determination regarding responsibility, alone, is not sufficient to conclude that any party has made a materially false statement in bad faith.

19. Mandated Reporting
All University of Mount Union employees (faculty, staff, administrators) are expected to report actual or suspected discrimination or harassment to appropriate officials immediately, though there are some limited exceptions.

In order to make informed choices, it is important to be aware of confidentiality and mandatory reporting requirements when consulting campus resources. On campus, some resources may maintain confidentiality and are not required to report actual or suspected discrimination or harassment. They may offer options and resources without any obligation to inform an outside agency or campus official unless a Complainant has requested the information be shared.

If a Complainant expects formal action in response to their allegations, reporting to any Mandated Reporter can connect them with resources to report crimes and/or policy violations, and these employees will immediately pass reports to the appropriate Title IX co-coordinator (and/or police, if desired by the Complainant), who will take action when an incident is reported to them.

The following sections describe the reporting options at University of Mount Union for a Complainant or third-party (including parents/guardians when appropriate):

a. Confidential Resources
If a Complainant would like the details of an incident to be kept confidential, the Complainant may speak with:

- On-campus licensed professional counselors and staff
- On-campus health service providers and staff
- On-campus members of the clergy/chaplains working within the scope of their licensure or ordination
- Off-campus (non-employees):
  - Licensed professional counselors and other medical providers
  - Local rape crisis counselors
  - Domestic violence resources
  - Local or state assistance agencies
All of the above-listed individuals will maintain confidentiality when acting under the scope of their licensure, professional ethics, and/or professional credentials, except in extreme cases of immediacy of threat or danger or abuse of a minor/elder/individual with a disability, or when required to disclose by law or court order.

University counselors (for students) or the Employee Assistance Program (for faculty or staff) are available to help free of charge and may be consulted on an emergency basis during normal business hours or after hours via on-call procedures outlined on their websites.

Employees who are confidential and who receive reports within the scope of their confidential roles will timely submit anonymous statistical information for Clery Act purposes unless they believe it would be harmful to their client, patient, or parishioner.

b. Anonymous Notice to Mandated Reporters

At the request of a Complainant, notice may be given by a Mandated Reporter to the Title IX Co-coordinator anonymously, without identification of the Complainant. The Mandated Reporter cannot remain anonymous themselves.

If a Complainant has requested that a Mandated Reporter maintain the Complainant’s anonymity, the Mandated Reporter may do so unless it is reasonable to believe that a compelling threat to health or safety could exist. The Mandated Reporter can consult with the Title IX co-coordinator on that assessment without revealing personally identifiable information.

Anonymous notice will be investigated by the University of Mount Union to the extent possible, both to assess the underlying allegation(s) and to determine if supportive measures or remedies can be provided.

However, anonymous notice typically limits the University of Mount Union’s ability to investigate, respond, and provide remedies, depending on what information is shared.

When a Complainant has made a request for anonymity, the Complainant’s personally identifiable information may be withheld by a Mandated Reporter, but all other details must be shared with the Title IX co-coordinator. Mandated reporters may not be able to maintain requests for anonymity for Complainants who are minors, elderly, and/or disabled, due to Ohio mandated reporter requirements.

c. Mandated Reporters and Formal Notice/Complaints

All employees of the University of Mount Union (including student employees), with the exception of those who are designated as Confidential Resources, are Mandated Reporters and must promptly share with the Title IX co-coordinator all known details of a report made to them in the course of their employment.

Employees must also promptly share all details of behaviors under this policy that they observe or have knowledge of, even if not reported to them by a Complainant or third-party.

Complainants may want to carefully consider whether they share personally identifiable details with non-confidential Mandated Reporters, as those details must be shared with the appropriate Title IX co-coordinator.
Generally, disclosures in climate surveys, classroom writing assignments or discussions, human subjects research, or at events such as “Take Back the Night” marches or speak-outs do not provide notice that must be reported to the co-coordinator by employees, unless the Complainant clearly indicates that they desire a report to be made or a seek a specific response from the University of Mount Union.

Supportive measures may be offered as the result of such disclosures without formal University of Mount Union action.

Failure of a Mandated Reporter, as described above in this section, to report an incident of harassment or discrimination of which they become aware is a violation of University of Mount Union policy and can be subject to disciplinary action for failure to comply.

Though this may seem obvious, when a Mandated Reporter is engaged in harassment or other violations of this policy, they still have a duty to report their own misconduct, though the University of Mount Union is technically not on notice when a harasser is also a Mandated Reporter unless the harasser does in fact report themselves.

Finally, it is important to clarify that a Mandated Reporter who is themselves a target of harassment or other misconduct under this policy is not required to report their own experience, though they are, of course, encouraged to do so.

20. When a Complainant Does Not Wish to Proceed

If a Complainant does not wish for their name to be shared, does not wish for an investigation to take place, or does not want a formal complaint to be pursued, they may make such a request to the Title IX co-coordinator, who will evaluate that request in light of the duty to ensure the safety of the campus and to comply with state or federal law.

The Title IX co-coordinator has ultimate discretion over whether the University of Mount Union proceeds when the Complainant does not wish to do so, and the Title IX co-coordinator may sign a formal complaint to initiate a grievance process upon completion of an appropriate violence risk assessment.

The Title IX co-coordinator’s decision should be based on results of the violence risk assessment that shows a compelling risk to health and/or safety that requires the University of Mount Union to pursue formal action to protect the community.

A compelling risk to health and/or safety may result from evidence of patterns of misconduct, predatory conduct, threats, abuse of minors, use of weapons, and/or violence. The University of Mount Union may be compelled to act on alleged employee misconduct irrespective of a Complainant’s wishes.

The Title IX co-coordinator must also consider the effect that non-participation by the Complainant may have on the availability of evidence and the University of Mount Union’s ability to pursue a Formal Grievance Process fairly and effectively.

When the Title IX co-coordinator executes the written complaint, they do not become the Complainant. The Complainant is the individual who is alleged to be the victim of conduct that could constitute a violation of this policy.

When the University of Mount Union proceeds, the Complainant (or their Advisor) may have as much or as little involvement in the process as they wish. The Complainant retains all rights of a Complainant under this Policy irrespective of their level of participation. Typically, when the Complainant chooses not to participate,
the Advisor may be appointed as proxy for the Complainant throughout the process, acting to ensure and protect the rights of the Complainant, though this does not extend to the provision of evidence or testimony.

Note that the University of Mount Union’s ability to remedy and respond to notice may be limited if the Complainant does not want the University of Mount Union to proceed with an investigation and/or grievance process. The goal is to provide the Complainant with as much control over the process as possible, while balancing the University of Mount Union’s obligation to protect its community.

In cases in which the Complainant requests confidentiality/no formal action and the circumstances allow the University of Mount Union to honor that request, the University of Mount Union will offer informal resolution options (see below), supportive measures, and remedies to the Complainant and the community, but will not otherwise pursue formal action.

If the Complainant elects to take no action, they can change that decision if they decide to pursue a formal complaint at a later date. Upon making a formal complaint, a Complainant has the right, and can expect, to have allegations taken seriously by the University of Mount Union, and to have the incidents investigated and properly resolved through these procedures. Please consider that delays may cause limitations on access to evidence, or present issues with respect to the status of the parties.

21. Federal Timely Warning Obligations

Parties reporting sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and/or stalking should be aware that under the Clery Act, the University of Mount Union must issue timely warnings for incidents reported to them that pose a serious or continuing threat of bodily harm or danger to members of the campus community.

The University of Mount Union will ensure that a Complainant's name and other identifying information is not disclosed, while still providing enough information for community members to make safety decisions in light of the potential danger.

22. False Allegations and Evidence

Deliberately false and/or malicious accusations under this policy are a serious offense and will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action. This does not include allegations that are made in good faith but are ultimately shown to be erroneous or do not result in a policy violation determination.

Additionally, witnesses and parties knowingly providing false evidence, tampering with or destroying evidence, or deliberately misleading an official conducting an investigation can be subject to discipline under University of Mount Union policy.

23. Amnesty for Complainants and Witnesses

The University of Mount Union community encourages the reporting of misconduct and crimes by Complainants and witnesses. Sometimes, Complainants or witnesses are hesitant to report to University of Mount Union officials or participate in grievance processes because they fear that they themselves may be in violation of certain policies, such as underage drinking or use of illicit drugs at the time of the incident. Respondents may hesitate to be forthcoming during the process for the same reasons.

It is in the best interests of the University of Mount Union community that Complainants choose to report misconduct to University of Mount Union officials, that witnesses come forward to share what they know, and that all parties be forthcoming during the process.
**Students:** Sometimes, students are hesitant to assist others for fear that they may get in trouble themselves (for example, an underage student who has been drinking or using marijuana might hesitate to help take an individual who has experienced sexual assault to their resident assistant or resident director).

The University of Mount Union maintains a policy of amnesty for students who offer help to others in need or are engaged in minor violations but who choose to bring related serious violations by others to the attention of the University. Although policy violations cannot be overlooked, the University of Mount Union may provide purely educational options with no official conduct finding, rather than punitive sanctions, to those who offer their assistance to others in need. The full amnesty policy for students can be found on page 56.

**Employees:** Sometimes, employees are hesitant to report harassment or discrimination they have experienced for fear that they may get in trouble themselves. For example, an employee who has violated the code of behavioral policy and is then assaulted in the course of that relationship might hesitate to report the incident to University of Mount Union officials.

The University of Mount Union may, at its discretion, offer employee Complainants amnesty from such policy violations (typically more minor policy violations) related to the incident. Amnesty may also be granted to Respondents and witnesses on a case-by-case basis.

Amnesty does not apply to more serious allegations such as physical abuse of another or illicit drug distribution. The decision not to offer amnesty is based on neither sex nor gender, but on the fact that collateral misconduct is typically addressed for all students within a progressive discipline system, and the rational for amnesty – the incentive to report serious misconduct – is rarely applicable to the Respondent with respect to a Complainant.

### 24. Federal Statistical Reporting Obligations

Certain campus officials – those deemed Campus Security Authorities – have a duty to report the following for federal statistical reporting purposes (Clery Act):

a) All “primary crimes,” which include homicide, sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, motor vehicle theft, and arson;

b) Hate crimes, which include any bias-motivated primary crime as well as any bias motivated larceny or theft, simple assault, intimidation, or destruction/damage/vandalism of property;

c) VAWA-based crimes, which include sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking; and

d) Arrests and referrals for disciplinary action for weapons-related law violations, liquor-related law violations, and drug abuse-related law violations.

All personally identifiable information is kept private, but statistical information must be shared with Campus Security or the Office of Student Conduct regarding the type of incident and its general location (on or off-campus or in the surrounding area, but no addresses are given) for publication in the Annual Security Report and daily campus crime log.

Campus Security Authorities include: all university non-student employees except those exceptions to the Mandatory Reporter status as well as those student employees who serve as residence life staff members, raider or preview guides or learning assistants.

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9 VAWA is the Violence Against Women Act, enacted in 1994 codified in part at 42 U.S.C. sections 13701 through 14040.
25. Preservation of Evidence

The preservation of evidence in incidents of sexual assault is critical to potential criminal prosecution and to obtaining restraining orders, and particularly time-sensitive. The University of Mount Union will inform the Complainant of the importance of preserving evidence by taking the following actions:

1. Seek forensic medical assistance at the Aultman Alliance Community Hospital, ideally within 120 hours of the incident (sooner is better).
2. Avoid showering, bathing, washing hands or face, or douching, if possible, although evidence may still be collected even if you do.
3. Try not to urinate.
4. If oral sexual contact took place, refrain from smoking, eating, drinking, or brushing teeth.
5. If clothes are changed, place soiled clothes in a paper bag (plastic destroys evidence). If you do not have a paper bag, Campus Safety and Security can provide one for you.
6. Seeking medical treatment can be essential even if it is not for the purposes of collecting forensic evidence.

During the initial meeting between the Complainant and the Title IX co-coordinator, the importance of taking these actions will be reiterated, if timely.

Interim Resolution Process for Alleged Violations of the Policy on Equal Opportunity, Harassment, and Nondiscrimination (Known as Process "A")

1. Overview

University of Mount Union will act on any formal or informal notice/complaint of violation of the interim policy on Equal Opportunity, Harassment, and Nondiscrimination ("the Policy") that is received by the Title IX co-coordinator or any other Official with Authority by applying these procedures, known as “Process A.”

The procedures below apply to all allegations of harassment or discrimination on the basis of protected class status involving students, staff, administrators, or faculty members. A set of technical dismissal requirements within the Title IX regulations may apply as described below, but when a technical dismissal under the Title IX allegations is required, any remaining allegations will proceed using these same grievance procedures, clarifying which policies above are applicable. Although the effect of the Title IX regulations can be confusing, these grievance procedures apply to all policies above.

If other policies are invoked, such as policies on protected class harassment or discrimination above, please see Appendix D for a description of the procedures applicable to the resolution of such offenses, known as “Process B.”

Process B can also apply to sexual harassment (including sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking, as defined above) when jurisdiction does not fall within Process A, as determined by the Title IX co-coordinator.

The procedures below may be used to address collateral misconduct arising from the investigation of or occurring in conjunction with reported misconduct (e.g., vandalism, physical abuse of another). All other allegations of misconduct unrelated to incidents covered by the Policy will be addressed through procedures described in the student, employment policies for faculty, and administrative staff, and hourly staff handbooks.
2. Notice/Complaint

Upon receipt of a complaint or notice to the Title IX co-coordinator of an alleged violation of the Policy, the Title IX co-coordinator initiates a prompt initial assessment to determine the next steps the University of Mount Union needs to take.

The Title IX co-coordinator will initiate at least one of three responses:
1) Offering supportive measures because the Complainant does not want to file a formal complaint; and/or
2) An informal resolution (upon submission of a formal complaint); and/or
3) A Formal Grievance Process including an investigation and a hearing (upon submission of a formal complaint).

The University of Mount Union uses the Formal Grievance Process to determine whether or not the Policy has been violated. If so, the University of Mount Union will promptly implement effective remedies designed to ensure that it is not deliberately indifferent to harassment or discrimination, their potential recurrence, or their effects.

3. Initial Assessment

Following receipt of notice or a complaint of an alleged violation of this Policy, the Title IX co-coordinator engages in an initial assessment, typically within one to five business days. The steps in an initial assessment can include:

- If notice is given, the Title IX co-coordinator seeks to determine if the person impacted wishes to make a formal complaint, and will assist them to do so, if desired.
  - If they do not wish to do so, the Title IX co-coordinator determines whether to initiate a complaint because a violence risk assessment indicates a compelling threat to health and/or safety.
- If a formal complaint is received, the Title IX co-coordinator assesses its sufficiency and works with the Complainant to make sure it is correctly completed.
- The Title IX co-coordinator reaches out to the Complainant to offer supportive measures.
- The Title IX co-coordinator works with the Complainant to ensure they are aware of the right to have an Advisor.
- The Title IX co-coordinator works with the Complainant to determine whether the Complainant prefers a supportive and remedial response, an informal resolution option, or a formal investigation and grievance process.
  - If a supportive and remedial response is preferred, the Title IX co-coordinator works with the Complainant to identify their wishes, assesses the request, and implements accordingly. No Formal Grievance Process is initiated, though the Complainant can elect to initiate one later, if desired.
  - If an informal resolution option is preferred, the Title IX co-coordinator assesses whether the complaint is suitable for informal resolution, which informal mechanism may serve the situation best or is available and may seek to determine if the Respondent is also willing to engage in informal resolution.
  - If a Formal Grievance Process is preferred, the Title IX co-coordinator determines if the misconduct alleged falls within the scope of Title IX:

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10 If circumstances require, the President or Title IX co-coordinator will designate another person to oversee the process below should an allegation be made about the co-coordinator or the co-coordinator be otherwise unavailable or unable to fulfill their duties.
If it does, the Title IX co-coordinator will initiate the formal investigation and grievance process, directing the investigation to address:

- an incident, and/or
- a pattern of alleged misconduct, and/or
- a culture/climate issue, based on the nature of the complaint.

If it does not, the Title IX co-coordinator determines that Title IX does not apply (and will “dismiss” that aspect of the complaint, if any), assesses which policies may apply, which resolution process is applicable, and will refer the matter accordingly for resolution utilizing Process B. Please note that dismissing a complaint under Title IX is solely a procedural requirement under Title IX, and does not limit the University of Mount Union’s authority to address a complaint with an appropriate process and remedies.

### a. Violence Risk Assessment

In many cases, the Title IX co-coordinator may determine that a Violence Risk Assessment (VRA) should be conducted by the CARE Team as part of the initial assessment. A VRA can aid in ten critical and/or required determinations, including:

- Emergency removal of a Respondent on the basis of immediate threat to physical health/safety;
- Whether the Title IX co-coordinator should pursue/sign a formal complaint absent a willing/able Complainant;
- Whether to put the investigation on the footing of incident and/or pattern and/or climate;
- To help identify potential predatory conduct;
- To help assess/identify grooming behaviors;
- Whether it is reasonable to try to resolve a complaint through informal resolution, and what modality may be most successful;
- Whether to permit a voluntary withdrawal by the Respondent;
- Whether to communicate with a transfer institution about a Respondent;
- Assessment of appropriate sanctions/remedies (to be applied post-hearing); and/or
- Whether a Clery Act Timely Warning/Persona-non-grata is needed.

Threat assessment is the process of evaluating the actionability of violence by an individual against another person or group following the issuance of a direct or conditional threat. A VRA is a broader term used to assess any potential violence or danger, regardless of the presence of a vague, conditional, or direct threat. VRAs require specific training and are typically conducted by psychologists, clinical counselors, social workers, case managers, law enforcement officers, student conduct officers, or other CARE team members. A VRA authorized by the Title IX co-coordinator should occur in collaboration with the CARE team. Where a VRA is required by the Title IX co-coordinator, a Respondent refusing to cooperate may result in a charge of failure to comply within the appropriate student or employee conduct process.

A VRA is not an evaluation for an involuntary behavioral health hospitalization (e.g. Ohio Revised Code Chapter 5122: Hospitalization of Mentally Ill), nor is it a psychological or mental health assessment. A VRA assesses the risk of actionable violence, often with a focus on targeted/predatory escalations, and is supported by research from the fields of law enforcement, criminology, human resources, and psychology.

More about the University of Mount Union’s process for VRA can be found below in Appendix C.
b. Dismissal (Mandatory and Discretionary)

The University of Mount Union must dismiss a formal complaint or any allegations therein if, at any time during the investigation or hearing, it is determined that:

1) The conduct alleged in the formal complaint would not constitute sexual harassment as defined above, even if proved; and/or

2) The conduct did not occur in an educational program or activity controlled by the University of Mount Union (including buildings or property controlled by recognized student organizations), and/or the University of Mount Union does not have control of the Respondent; and/or

3) The conduct did not occur against a person in the United States; and/or

4) At the time of filing a formal complaint, a complainant is not participating in or attempting to participate in the education program or activity of the University of Mount Union.

The University of Mount Union may dismiss a formal complaint or any allegations therein if, at any time during the investigation or hearing:

1) A Complainant notifies the Title IX co-coordinator in writing that the Complainant would like to withdraw the formal complaint or any allegations therein; or

2) The Respondent is no longer enrolled in or employed by the University of Mount Union; or

3) Specific circumstances prevent the University of Mount Union from gathering evidence sufficient to reach a determination as to the formal complaint or allegations therein.

Upon any dismissal, the University of Mount Union will promptly send written notice of the dismissal and the rationale for doing so simultaneously to the parties.

This dismissal decision is appealable by any party under the procedures for appeal below. The decision not to dismiss is also appealable by any party claiming that a dismissal is required or appropriate. A Complainant who decides to withdraw a complaint may later request to reinstate it or refile it.

4. Counterclaims

The University of Mount Union is obligated to ensure that the grievance process is not abused for retaliatory purposes. The University of Mount Union permits the filing of counterclaims but uses an initial assessment, described above, to assess whether the allegations in the counterclaim are made in good faith. Counterclaims by a Respondent may be made in good faith, but are, on occasion, made for purposes of retaliation, instead. Counterclaims made with retaliatory intent will not be permitted.

Counterclaims determined to have been reported in good faith will be processed using the grievance procedures below. Investigation of such claims may take place after resolution of the underlying initial allegation, in which case a delay may occur.

Counterclaims may also be resolved through the same investigation as the underlying allegation, at the discretion of the Title IX co-coordinator. When counterclaims are not made in good faith, they will be considered retaliatory and may constitute a violation of this policy.

11 These dismissal requirements are mandated by the 2020 Title IX Regulations, 34 CFR §106.45.
12 Such a Complainant is still entitled to supportive measures, but the formal grievance process is not applicable.
5. Right to an Advisor

The parties may each have an Advisor of their choice present with them for all meetings, interviews, and hearings within the resolution process, if they so choose. The parties may select whoever they wish to serve as their Advisor as long as the Advisor is eligible and available.\(^\text{13}\)

Choosing an Advisor who is also a witness in the process creates potential for bias and conflict-of-interest. A party who chooses an Advisor who is also a witness can anticipate that issues of potential bias will be explored by the hearing Decision-Maker.

a. Who Can Serve as an Advisor

The Advisor may be a friend, mentor, family member, attorney, or any other individual a party chooses to advise, support, and/or consult with them throughout the resolution process. The parties may choose Advisors from inside or outside of the University of Mount Union community.

The Title IX co-coordinator will also offer to assign a trained Advisor for any party if the party so chooses. If the parties choose an Advisor from the pool available from the University of Mount Union, the Advisor will be trained by the University of Mount Union and be familiar with the University of Mount Union’s resolution process.

If the parties choose an Advisor from outside the pool of those identified by the University of Mount Union, the Advisor may not have been trained by the University of Mount Union and may not be familiar with University of Mount Union policies and procedures.

Parties also have the right to choose not to have an Advisor in the initial stages of the resolution process, prior to a hearing.

b. Advisor’s Role in Meetings and Interviews

The parties may be accompanied by their Advisor in all meetings and interviews at which the party is entitled to be present, including intake and interviews. Advisors should help the parties prepare for each meeting and are expected to advise ethically, with integrity, and in good faith.

The University of Mount Union cannot guarantee equal Advisory rights, meaning that if one party selects an Advisor who is an attorney, but the other party does not or cannot afford an attorney, the University of Mount Union is not obligated to provide an attorney.

c. Advisors in Hearings/University of Mount Union-Appointed Advisor

Under U.S. Department of Education regulations under Title IX, a form of indirect questioning is required during the hearing, but must be conducted by the parties’ Advisors. The parties are not permitted to directly question each other or any witnesses. If a party does not have an Advisor for a hearing, the University of Mount Union will appoint a trained Advisor for the limited purpose of conducting any questioning of the other party and witnesses.

A party may reject this appointment and choose their own Advisor, but they may not proceed without an Advisor. If the party’s Advisor will not conduct questioning, the University of Mount Union will appoint an Advisor who is trained by the University of Mount Union.

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\(^\text{13}\) “Available” means the party cannot insist on an Advisor who simply doesn’t have inclination, time, or availability. Also, the Advisor cannot have institutionally conflicting roles, such as being a Title IX administrator who has an active role in the matter, or a supervisor who must monitor and implement sanctions.
Advisor who will do so thoroughly, regardless of the participation or non-participation of the advised party in the hearing itself. Extensive questioning of the parties and witnesses will also be conducted by the Decision-Maker during the hearing.

3. Advisor’s Role in Meetings and Interviews

The parties may be accompanied by their Advisor in all meetings and interviews at which the party is entitled to be present, including intake and interviews. Advisors should help the parties prepare for each meeting and are expected to advise ethically, with integrity, and in good faith.

The University of Mount Union cannot guarantee equal Advisory rights, meaning that if one party selects an Advisor who is an attorney, but the other party does not or cannot afford an attorney, the University of Mount Union is not obligated to provide an attorney.

e. Pre-Interview Meetings

Advisors may request to meet with the administrative officials conducting interviews/meetings in advance of these interviews or meetings. This pre-meeting allows Advisors to clarify and understand their role and University of Mount Union’s policies and procedures.

f. Advisor Violations of University of Mount Union Policy

All Advisors are subject to the same University of Mount Union policies and procedures, whether they are attorneys or not. Advisors are expected to advise their advisees without disrupting proceedings. Advisors should not address University of Mount Union officials in a meeting or interview unless invited to (e.g., asking procedural questions). The Advisor may not make a presentation or represent their advisee during any meeting or proceeding and may not speak on behalf of the advisee to the Investigators or Decision-Maker except during a hearing proceeding, during cross-examination.

The parties are expected to ask and respond to questions on their own behalf throughout the investigation phase of the resolution process. Although the Advisor generally may not speak on behalf of their advisee, the Advisor may consult with their advisee, either privately as needed, or by conferring or passing notes during any resolution process meeting or interview. For longer or more involved discussions, the parties and their Advisors should ask for breaks to allow for private consultation.

Any Advisor who oversteps their role as defined by this policy will be warned only once. If the Advisor continues to disrupt or otherwise fails to respect the limits of the Advisor role, the meeting will be ended, or other appropriate measures implemented. Subsequently, the Title IX co-coordinator will determine how to address the Advisor’s non-compliance and future role.

g. Sharing Information with the Advisor

The University of Mount Union expects that the parties may wish to have the University of Mount Union share documentation and evidence related to the allegations with their Advisors. Parties may share this information directly with their Advisor or other individuals if they wish. Doing so may help the parties participate more meaningfully in the resolution process.

The University of Mount Union also provides a consent form that authorizes the University of Mount Union to share such information directly with their Advisor. The parties must either complete and submit this form to the Title IX co-coordinator or provide similar documentation demonstrating consent to a release of information to the Advisor before University of Mount Union is able to share records with an Advisor.
If a party requests that all communication be made through their attorney Advisor, the University of Mount Union may comply with that request at the discretion of the Title IX co-coordinator in unique cases, however, generally all communication will be made to the party.

h. Privacy of Records Shared with Advisor

Advisors are expected to maintain the privacy of the records shared with them. These records may not be shared with third parties, disclosed publicly, or used for purposes not explicitly authorized by University of Mount Union. The University of Mount Union may seek to restrict the role of any Advisor who does not respect the sensitive nature of the process or who fails to abide by the University of Mount Union’s privacy expectations.

i. Expectations of an Advisor

The University of Mount Union generally expects an Advisor to adjust their schedule to allow them to attend University of Mount Union meetings when planned, but may change scheduled meetings to accommodate an Advisor’s inability to attend, if doing so does not cause an unreasonable delay.

The University of Mount Union may also make reasonable provisions to allow an Advisor who cannot attend in person to attend a meeting by telephone, video conferencing, or other similar technologies as may be convenient and available.

j. Expectations of the Parties with Respect to Advisors

A party may elect to change Advisors during the process and is not obligated to use the same Advisor throughout. The parties are expected to inform the Investigator(s) of the identity of their Advisor at least two (2) business days before the date of their first meeting with Investigators (or as soon as possible if a more expeditious meeting is necessary or desired).

The parties are expected to provide timely notice to the Title IX co-coordinator if they change Advisors at any time. It is assumed that if a party changes Advisors, consent to share information with the previous Advisor is terminated, and a release for the new Advisor must be secured. Parties are expected to inform the Title IX co-coordinator of the identity of their hearing Advisor at least two (2) business days before the hearing.

k. Assistance in Securing an Advisor

University of Mount Union does not provides attorneys, law faculty, or law students as Advisors in the resolution process. However, the Grievance Pool members are also trained as advisors and that list can be found at https://www.mountunion.edu/campus-life/safety-and-parking/sexual-misconduct/title-ix.

For representation, Respondents may wish to contact organizations such as:

- FACE (http://www.facecampusequality.org)
- SAVE (http://www.saveservices.org).

Complainants may wish to contact organizations such as:

- The Victim Rights Law Center (http://www.victimrights.org),
- The Time’s Up Legal Defense Fund: https://nwlc.org/times-up-legal-defense-fund/
6. Resolution Processes

Resolution proceedings are private. All persons present at any time during the resolution process are expected to maintain the privacy of the proceedings in accordance with University of Mount Union policy. Although there is an expectation of privacy around what Investigators share with parties during interviews, the parties have discretion to share their own knowledge and evidence with others if they so choose, with the exception of information the parties agree not to disclose related to Informal Resolution, discussed below. University of Mount Union encourages parties to discuss any sharing of information with their Advisors before doing so.

a. Informal Resolution

Informal Resolution can include three different approaches:

- When the Title IX co-coordinator can resolve the matter informally by providing supportive measures (only) to remedy the situation.
- When the parties agree to resolve the matter through an alternate resolution mechanism as described below, including mediation, restorative practices, etc., usually before a formal investigation takes place; see discussion in b., below.
- When the Respondent accepts responsibility for violating policy, and desires to accept a sanction and end the resolution process (similar to above, but usually occurs post-investigation); see discussion in c., below.

To initiate Informal Resolution, a Complainant needs to submit a formal complaint, as defined above. A Respondent who wishes to initiate Informal Resolution should contact the Title IX co-coordinator.

It is not necessary to pursue Informal Resolution first in order to pursue a Formal Grievance Process, and any party participating in Informal Resolution can stop the process at any time and begin or resume the Formal Grievance Process.

Prior to implementing Informal Resolution, the University of Mount Union will provide the parties with written notice of the reported misconduct and any sanctions or measures that may result from participating in such a process, including information regarding any records that will be maintained or shared by the University of Mount Union.

The University of Mount Union will obtain voluntary, written confirmation that all parties wish to resolve the matter through Informal Resolution before proceeding and will not pressure the parties to participate in Informal Resolution.

b. Alternate Resolution Mechanism

Alternate Resolution is an informal mechanism, including mediation or restorative practices, etc. by which the parties reach a mutually agreed upon resolution of an allegation. All parties must consent to the use of an Alternate Resolution mechanism.

The Title IX co-coordinator may look to the following factors to assess whether Alternate Resolution is appropriate, or which form of Alternate Resolution may be most successful for the parties:

- The parties’ amenability to Alternate Resolution;
- Likelihood of potential resolution, taking into account any power dynamics between the parties;
- The parties’ motivation to participate;
- Civility of the parties;
- Results of a violence risk assessment/ongoing risk analysis;
• Disciplinary history;
• Whether an emergency removal is needed;
• Skill of the Alternate Resolution facilitator with this type of allegation;
• Complaint complexity;
• Emotional investment/capability of the parties;
• Rationality of the parties;
• Goals of the parties;
• Adequate resources to invest in Alternate Resolution (time, staff, etc.)

The ultimate determination of whether Alternate Resolution is available or successful is to be made by the Title IX co-coordinator. The Title IX co-coordinator maintains records of any resolution that is reached, and failure to abide by the resolution agreement may result in appropriate responsive/disciplinary actions. Results of complaints resolved by Informal Resolution or Alternate Resolution are not appealable.

c. Respondent Accepts Responsibility for Alleged Violations

The Respondent may accept responsibility for all or part of the alleged policy violations at any point during the resolution process. If the Respondent indicates an intent to accept responsibility for all of the alleged misconduct, the formal process will be paused, and the Title IX co-coordinator will determine whether Informal Resolution can be used according to the criteria above.

If Informal Resolution is applicable, the Title IX co-coordinator will determine whether all parties and the University of Mount Union are able to agree on responsibility, sanctions, and/or remedies. If so, the Title IX co-coordinator implements the accepted finding that the Respondent is in violation of University of Mount Union policy and implements agreed-upon sanctions and/or remedies, in coordination with other appropriate administrator(s), as necessary.

This result is not subject to appeal once all parties indicate their written assent to all agreed upon terms of resolution. When the parties cannot agree on all terms of resolution, the Formal Grievance Process will resume at the same point where it was paused.

When a resolution is accomplished, the appropriate sanction or responsive actions are promptly implemented in order to effectively stop the harassment or discrimination, prevent its recurrence, and remedy the effects of the discriminatory conduct, both on the Complainant and the community.

d. Negotiated Resolution

The Title IX co-coordinator, with the consent of the parties, may negotiate and implement an agreement to resolve the allegations that satisfies all parties and the University of Mount Union. Negotiated Resolutions are not appealable.

7. Grievance Process Pool

The Formal Grievance Process relies on a pool of administrators (“the Pool”) to carry out the process. Members of the Pool are announced in an annual distribution of this policy to all students, parents/guardians of students, employees, prospective students, and prospective employees.

The list of Pool members and a description of the Pool can be found here.
a. Pool Member Roles

Members of the Pool are trained annually, and can serve in in the following roles, at the direction of the Title IX co-coordinator:

- To provide appropriate intake of and initial guidance pertaining to complaints
- To act as an Advisor to the parties
- To serve in a facilitation role in Informal Resolution or Alternate Resolution if appropriately trained in appropriate resolution modalities (e.g., mediation, restorative practices)
- To perform or assist with initial assessment
- To investigate complaints
- To serve as a hearing facilitator (process administrator, no decision-making role)

Members of the Decision-Maker Pool and the Appeal Decision-Maker Pool are trained annually and serve in the roles specific to the Pool to which they are appointed.

b. Pool Member Appointment

The Title IX co-coordinators, in consultation with the President, appoints the Pool, which acts with independence and impartiality. Although members of the Pool are typically trained in a variety of skill sets and can rotate amongst the different roles listed above in different cases, the University of Mount Union can also designate permanent roles for individuals in the Pool, using others as substitutes or to provide greater depth of experience when necessary. This process of role assignment may be the result of particular skills, aptitudes, or talents identified in members of the Pool that make them best suited to particular roles.

c. Pool Member Training

The Pool members receive annual training. This training includes, but is not limited to:

- The scope of the University of Mount Union’s interim policy on Equal Opportunity, Harassment and Nondiscrimination and Procedures
- How to conduct investigations and hearings that protect the safety of Complainants and Respondents, and promote accountability
- Implicit bias
- Disparate treatment and impact
- Reporting, confidentiality, and privacy requirements
- Applicable laws, regulations, and federal regulatory guidance
- How to implement appropriate and situation-specific remedies
- How to investigate in a thorough, reliable, and impartial manner
- How to uphold fairness, equity, and due process
- How to weigh evidence
- How to conduct questioning
- How to assess credibility
- Impartiality and objectivity
- How to render findings and generate clear, concise, evidence-based rationales
- The definitions of all offenses
- How to apply definitions used by the University of Mount Union with respect to consent (or the absence or negation of consent) consistently, impartially, and in accordance with policy
- How to conduct an investigation and grievance process including hearings, appeals, and informal resolution processes
● How to serve impartially by avoiding prejudgment of the facts at issue, conflicts of interest, and bias
● Any technology to be used at a live hearing
● Issues of relevance of questions and evidence
● Issues of relevance to create an investigation report that fairly summarizes relevant evidence
● How to determine appropriate sanctions in reference to all forms of harassment, discrimination, and/or retaliation allegations
● Recordkeeping

Specific training is also provided for Appeal Decision-Makers, intake personnel, Advisors (who are University of Mount Union employees), and Decision-Makers. All Pool members are required to attend these trainings annually. The materials used to train all members of the Pool are publicly posted here.

2. Pool Membership

The Pool includes:
● 2 or more Decision-Makers: one representative from HR and one from Student Affairs, etc., who are members and who make decisions regarding student and employee Respondents
● 3 or more members of the Academic Affairs administration and/or faculty
● 4 or more members of the administration/staff
● 2 representatives from Human Resources
● 1 or more representative from Athletics

Pool members are usually appointed to an indefinite term and serve at the discretion of the Title IX co-coordinators and as the individual’s supervisor/department chair is amenable. Individuals who are interested in serving in the Pool are encouraged to contact the Title IX co-coordinator.


The Title IX co-coordinator will provide written notice of the investigation and allegations (the “NOIA”) to the Respondent upon commencement of the Formal Grievance Process. This facilitates the Respondent’s ability to prepare for the interview and to identify and choose an Advisor to accompany them. The NOIA is also copied to the Complainant, who is to be given advance notice of when the NOIA will be delivered to the Respondent.

The NOIA will include:
● A meaningful summary of all of allegations,
● The identity of the involved parties (if known),
● The precise misconduct being alleged,
● The date and location of the alleged incident(s) (if known),
● The specific policies implicated,
● A description of the applicable procedures,
● A statement of the potential sanctions/responsive actions that could result,
● A statement that the University of Mount Union presumes the Respondent is not responsible for the reported misconduct unless and until the evidence supports a different determination,
● A statement that determinations of responsibility are made at the conclusion of the process and that the parties will be given an opportunity to inspect and review all directly related and/or relevant evidence obtained during the review and comment period,
● A statement about the University of Mount Union’s policy on retaliation,
● Information about the privacy of the process,
- Information on the need for each party to have an Advisor of their choosing and suggestions for ways to identify an Advisor,
- A statement informing the parties that the University of Mount Union’s Policy prohibits knowingly making false statements, including knowingly submitting false information during the resolution process,
- Detail on how the party may request disability accommodations during the interview process,
- A link to the University of Mount Union’s VAWA Brochure,
- The name(s) of the Investigator(s), along with a process to identify, in advance of the interview process, to the Title IX co-coordinator any conflict of interest that the Investigator(s) may have, and
- An instruction to preserve any evidence that is directly related to the allegations.

Amendments and updates to the NOIA may be made as the investigation progresses and more information becomes available regarding the addition or dismissal of various charges.

Notice will be made in writing and may be delivered by one or more of the following methods: in person, mailed to the local or permanent address(es) of the parties as indicated in the official Mount Union records, or emailed to the parties' University of Mount Union-issued email or designated accounts. Once mailed, emailed, and/or received in-person, notice will be presumptively delivered.

9. Resolution Timeline

The University of Mount Union will make a good faith effort to complete the resolution process within a sixty-to-ninety (60-90) business day time period, including appeal, which can be extended as necessary for appropriate cause by the Title IX co-coordinator, who will provide notice and rationale for any extensions or delays to the parties as appropriate, as well as an estimate of how much additional time will be needed to complete the process.

10. Appointment of Investigators

Once the decision to commence a formal investigation is made, the Title IX co-coordinator appoints Pool members to conduct the investigation, typically using a team of two Investigators, usually within five (5) business days of determining that an investigation should proceed.

11. Ensuring Impartiality

Any individual materially involved in the administration of the resolution process including the Title IX co-coordinators, Investigators, and Decision-maker may neither have nor demonstrate a conflict of interest or bias for a party generally, or for a specific Complainant or Respondent.

The Title IX co-coordinator will vet the assigned Investigators to ensure impartiality by ensuring there are no actual or apparent conflicts of interest or disqualifying biases. The parties may, at any time during the resolution process, raise a concern regarding bias or conflict of interest, and the Title IX co-coordinator will determine whether the concern is reasonable and supportable. If so, another Pool member will be assigned and the impact of the bias or conflict, if any, will be remedied. If the source of the conflict of interest or bias is the Title IX co-coordinator, concerns should be raised with non-involved Title IX co-coordinator.

The Formal Grievance Process involves an objective evaluation of all relevant evidence obtained, including evidence that supports that the Respondent engaged in a policy violation and evidence that supports that the Respondent did not engage in a policy violation. Credibility determinations may not be based solely on an individual’s status or participation as a Complainant, Respondent, or witness.
The University of Mount Union operates with the presumption that the Respondent is not responsible for the reported misconduct unless and until the Respondent is determined to be responsible for a policy violation by the applicable standard of proof.

12. Investigation Timeline

Investigations are completed expeditiously, normally within thirty (30) business days, though some investigations may take weeks or even months, depending on the nature, extent, and complexity of the allegations, availability of witnesses, police involvement, etc.

The University of Mount Union will make a good faith effort to complete investigations as promptly as circumstances permit and will communicate regularly with the parties to update them on the progress and timing of the investigation.

13. Delays in the Investigation Process and Interactions with Law Enforcement

The University of Mount Union may undertake a short delay in its investigation (several days to a few weeks) if circumstances require. Such circumstances include, but are not limited to: a request from law enforcement to temporarily delay the investigation, the need for language assistance, the absence of parties and/or witnesses, and/or accommodations for disabilities or health conditions.

The University of Mount Union will communicate in writing the anticipated duration of the delay and reason to the parties, and provide the parties with status updates if necessary. The University of Mount Union will promptly resume its investigation and resolution process as soon as feasible. During such a delay, University of Mount Union will implement supportive measures as deemed appropriate.

The University of Mount Union action(s) or processes are not typically altered or precluded on the grounds that civil or criminal charges involving the underlying incident(s) have been filed or that criminal charges have been dismissed or reduced.

14. Steps in the Investigation Process

All investigations are thorough, reliable, impartial, prompt, and fair. Investigations involve interviews with all relevant parties and witnesses; obtaining available, relevant evidence; and identifying sources of expert information, as necessary.

All parties have a full and fair opportunity, through the investigation process, to suggest witnesses and questions, to provide evidence and expert witnesses, and to fully review and respond to all evidence on the record.

The Investigators typically take(s) the following steps, if not already completed (not necessarily in this order):

- Determine the identity and contact information of the Complainant
- In coordination with campus partners (e.g., the Title IX co-coordinator), initiate or assist with any necessary supportive measures
- Identify all policies implicated by the alleged misconduct and notify the Complainant and Respondent of all of the specific policies implicated
- Assist the Title IX co-coordinator with conducting a prompt initial assessment to determine if the allegations indicate a potential policy violation
Commence a thorough, reliable, and impartial investigation by identifying issues and developing a strategic investigation plan, including a witness list, evidence list, intended investigation timeframe, and order of interviews for all witnesses and the parties.

Meet with the Complainant to finalize their interview/statement, if necessary.

Prepare the initial Notice of Investigation and Allegation (NOIA). The NOIA may be amended with any additional or dismissed allegations.
  - Notice should inform the parties of their right to have the assistance of an Advisor, who could be a member of the Pool or an Advisor of their choosing present for all meetings attended by the party.

Provide each interviewed party and witness an opportunity to review and verify the Investigator’s summary notes (or transcript) of the relevant evidence/testimony from their respective interviews and meetings.

Make good faith efforts to notify the parties of any meeting or interview involving the other party, in advance when possible.

When participation of a party is expected, provide that party with written notice of the date, time, and location of the meeting, as well as the expected participants and purpose.

Interview all available, relevant witnesses and conduct follow-up interviews as necessary.

Allow each party the opportunity to suggest witnesses and questions they wish the Investigators to ask of the other party and witnesses, and document in the report which questions were asked, with a rationale for any changes or omissions.

Complete the investigation promptly and without unreasonable deviation from the intended timeline.

Provide regular status updates to the parties throughout the investigation.

Prior to the conclusion of the investigation, provide the parties and their respective Advisors (if so desired by the parties) with a list of witnesses whose information will be used to render a finding.

Write a comprehensive investigation report fully summarizing the investigation, all witness interviews, and addressing all relevant evidence. Appendices including relevant physical or documentary evidence will be included.

The Investigators gather, assess, and synthesize evidence, but make no conclusions, engage in no policy analysis, and render no recommendations as part of their report.

Prior to the conclusion of the investigation, provide the parties and their respective Advisors (if so desired by the parties) a secured electronic or hard copy of the draft investigation report as well as an opportunity to inspect and review all of the evidence obtained as part of the investigation that is directly related to the reported misconduct, including evidence upon which the University of Mount Union does not intend to rely in reaching a determination, for a ten (10) business day review and comment period so that each party may meaningfully respond to the evidence. The parties may elect to waive the full ten days. Each copy of the materials shared will be watermarked on each page with the role of the person receiving it (e.g., Complainant, Respondent, Complainant’s Advisor, Respondent’s Advisor).

The Investigators may elect to respond in writing in the investigation report to the parties’ submitted responses and/or to share the responses between the parties for additional responses.

The Investigators will incorporate relevant elements of the parties’ written responses into the final investigation report, include any additional relevant evidence, make any necessary revisions, and finalize the report. The Investigators should document all rationales for any changes made after the review and comment period.

The Investigators shares the report with the Title IX co-coordinator and/or legal counsel for their review and feedback.

The Investigators will incorporate any relevant feedback, and the final report is then shared with all parties and their Advisors through secure electronic transmission or hard copy at least ten (10)
business days prior to a hearing. The parties are also provided with a file of any directly related evidence that was not included in the report.

15. Role and Participation of Witnesses in the Investigation

Witnesses (as distinguished from the parties) who are employees of the University of Mount Union are expected to cooperate with and participate in the University of Mount Union’s investigation and resolution process. Failure of such witnesses to cooperate with and/or participate in the investigation or resolution process constitutes a violation of policy and may warrant discipline.

Although in-person interviews for parties and all potential witnesses are ideal, circumstances (e.g., study abroad, summer break) may require individuals to be interviewed remotely. Skype, Zoom, FaceTime, WebEx, or similar technologies may be used for interviews if the Investigators determine that timeliness or efficiency dictate a need for remote interviewing. The University of Mount Union will take appropriate steps to reasonably ensure the security/privacy of remote interviews.

Witnesses may also provide written statements in lieu of interviews or choose to respond to written questions, if deemed appropriate by the Investigators, though not preferred. If a witness submits a written statement but does not intend to be and is not present for cross examination at a hearing, their written statement may not be used as evidence.

16. Recording of Interviews

No unauthorized audio or video recording of any kind is permitted during investigation meetings. If Investigators elect to audio and/or video record interviews, all involved parties must be made aware of audio and/or video recording.

17. Evidentiary Considerations in the Investigation

The investigation does not consider: 1) incidents not directly related to the possible violation, unless they evidence a pattern; 2) the character of the parties; or 3) questions and evidence about the Complainant’s sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior, unless such questions and evidence about the Complainant’s prior sexual behavior are offered to prove that someone other than the Respondent committed the conduct alleged by the Complainant, or if the questions and evidence concern specific incidents of the Complainant’s prior sexual behavior with respect to the Respondent and are offered to prove consent.

18. Referral for Hearing

Provided that the complaint is not resolved through Informal Resolution, once the final investigation report is shared with the parties, the Title IX co-coordinator will refer the matter for a hearing.

The hearing cannot be less than ten (10) business days from the conclusion of the investigation—when the final investigation report is transmitted to the parties and the Decision-Maker—unless all parties and the Decision-Maker agree to an expedited timeline.

The Title IX co-coordinator will select an appropriate Decision-Maker from the Pool depending on whether the Respondent is an employee or a student. Allegations involving student-employees in the context of their employment will be directed to the appropriate Decision-Maker depending on the context and nature of the alleged misconduct.
19. **Hearing Decision-maker Composition**

The University of Mount Union will designate a single Decision-Maker. The single Decision-Maker will also Chair the hearing. The Decision-Maker will not have had any previous involvement with the investigation. The Title IX co-coordinator may elect to have an alternate from the Pool sit in throughout the hearing process in the event that a substitute is needed for any reason.

Those who have served as Investigators will be witnesses in the hearing and therefore may not serve as the Decision-Maker. Those who are serving as Advisors for any party may not serve as the Decision-Maker in that matter.

The Title IX co-coordinator may not serve as a Decision-Maker in the matter but may serve as an administrative facilitator of the hearing if their previous role(s) in the matter do not create a conflict of interest. Otherwise, a designee may fulfill this role. The hearing will convene at a time determined by the Decision-Maker.

20. **Evidentiary Considerations in the Hearing**

Any evidence that the Decision-Maker determines is relevant and credible may be considered. The hearing does not consider: 1) incidents not directly related to the possible violation, unless they evidence a pattern; 2) the character of the parties; or 3) questions and evidence about the Complainant’s sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior, unless such questions and evidence about the Complainant’s prior sexual behavior are offered to prove that someone other than the Respondent committed the conduct alleged by the Complainant, or if the questions and evidence concern specific incidents of the Complainant’s prior sexual behavior with respect to the Respondent and are offered to prove consent.

Previous disciplinary action of any kind involving the Respondent may be considered in determining an appropriate sanction upon a determination of responsibility, as the University of Mount Union uses a progressive discipline system. This information is only considered at the sanction stage of the process, and is not shared until then.

The parties may each submit a written impact statement prior to the hearing for the consideration of the Decision-Maker at the sanction stage of the process when a determination of responsibility is reached.

After post-hearing deliberation, the Decision-Maker renders a determination based on the preponderance of the evidence; if it is more likely than not that the Respondent violated the Policy as alleged.

21. **Notice of Hearing**

No less than ten (10) business days prior to the hearing, the Title IX co-coordinator or the Decision-Maker will send notice of the hearing to the parties. Once mailed, emailed, and/or received in-person, notice will be presumptively delivered.

The notice will contain:
- A description of the alleged violation(s), a list of all policies allegedly violated, a description of the applicable procedures, and a statement of the potential sanctions/responsive actions that could result.
- The time, date, and location of the hearing and a reminder that attendance is mandatory, superseding all other campus activities.
- Any technology that will be used to facilitate the hearing.
- Information about the option for the live hearing to occur with the parties located in separate rooms using technology that enables the Decision-Maker and parties to see and hear a party or witness.
answering questions. Such a request must be raised with the Title IX co-coordinator at least five (5) business days prior to the hearing.

- A list of all those who will attend the hearing, along with an invitation to object to the Decision-Maker on the basis of demonstrated bias. This must be raised with the Title IX co-coordinator at least three (3) business days prior to the hearing.
- Information on how the hearing will be recorded and on access to the recording for the parties after the hearing.
- A statement that if any party or witness does not appear at the scheduled hearing, the hearing may be held in their absence, and the party’s or witness’s testimony and any statements given prior to the hearing will not be considered by the Decision-Maker. For compelling reasons, the Decision-Maker may reschedule the hearing.
- Notification that the parties may have the assistance of an Advisor of their choosing at the hearing and will be required to have one present for any questions they may desire to ask. The party must notify the Title IX co-coordinator if they do not have an Advisor, and the University of Mount Union will appoint one. Each party must have an Advisor present. There are no exceptions.
- A copy of all the materials provided to the Decision-Maker about the matter, unless they have been provided already.\(^{14}\)
- An invitation to each party to submit to the Decision-Maker an impact statement pre-hearing that the Decision-Maker will review during any sanction determination.
- An invitation to contact the Title IX co-coordinator to arrange any disability accommodations, language assistance, and/or interpretation services that may be needed at the hearing, at least seven (7) business days prior to the hearing.
- Notification that parties cannot bring mobile phones/devices into the hearing.

Hearings for possible violations that occur near or after the end of an academic term (assuming the Respondent is still subject to this Policy) and are unable to be resolved prior to the end of term will typically be held immediately after the end of the term or during the summer, as needed, to meet the resolution timeline followed by the University of Mount Union and remain within the 60-90 business day goal for resolution.

In these cases, if the Respondent is a graduating student, a hold may be placed on graduation and/or official transcripts until the matter is fully resolved (including any appeal). A student facing charges under this Policy is not in good standing to graduate.

### 22. Alternative Hearing Participation Options

If a party or parties prefer not to attend or cannot attend the hearing in person, the party should request alternative arrangements from the Title IX co-coordinator or the Decision-Maker at least five (5) business days prior to the hearing.

The Title IX co-coordinator or the Decision-Maker can arrange to use technology to allow remote testimony without compromising the fairness of the hearing. Remote options may also be needed for witnesses who cannot appear in person. Any witness who cannot attend in person should let the Title IX co-coordinator or the Decision-Maker know at least five (5) business days prior to the hearing so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

\(^{14}\) The final investigation report may be shared using electronic means that preclude downloading, forwarding, or otherwise sharing.
23. Pre-Hearing Preparation

The Decision-Maker or hearing facilitator, after any necessary consultation with the parties, Investigators and/or Title IX co-coordinator, will provide the names of persons who will be participating in the hearing, all pertinent documentary evidence, and the final investigation report to the parties at least ten (10) business days prior to the hearing.

Any witness scheduled to participate in the hearing must have been first interviewed by the Investigators or have proffered a written statement or answered written questions, unless all parties and the Decision-Maker assent to the witness’s participation in the hearing. The same holds for any evidence that is first offered at the hearing. If the parties and Decision-Maker do not assent to the admission of evidence newly offered at the hearing, the Decision-Maker may delay the hearing and instruct that the investigation needs to be re-opened to consider that evidence.

The parties will be given the name of the Decision-Maker at least five (5) business days in advance of the hearing. All objections to the Decision-Maker must be raised in writing, detailing the rationale for the objection, and must be submitted to the Title IX co-coordinator as soon as possible and no later than three (3) days prior to the hearing. Decision-Makers will only be removed if the Title IX co-coordinator concludes that their bias or conflict of interest precludes an impartial hearing of the allegation(s).

The Title IX co-coordinator will give the Decision-Maker a list of the names of all parties, witnesses, and Advisors at least five (5) business days in advance of the hearing. Any Decision-Maker who cannot make an objective determination must recuse themselves from the proceedings when notified of the identity of the parties, witnesses, and Advisors in advance of the hearing. If a Decision-Maker is unsure of whether a bias or conflict of interest exists, they must raise the concern to the Title IX Co-coordinator as soon as possible.

During the ten (10) business day period prior to the hearing, the parties have the opportunity for continued review and comment on the final investigation report and available evidence. That review and comment can be shared with the Decision-Maker at the pre-hearing meeting or at the hearing and will be exchanged between each party by the Decision-Maker.

24. Pre-Hearing Meetings

The Decision-Maker may convene a pre-hearing meeting(s) with the parties and their Advisors, if requested to invite them to submit the questions or topics they (the parties and their Advisors) wish to ask or discuss at the hearing, so that the Decision-Maker can rule on their relevance ahead of time to avoid any improper evidentiary introduction in the hearing or provide recommendations for more appropriate phrasing. However, this advance review opportunity does not preclude the Advisors from asking a question for the first time at the hearing or from asking for a reconsideration based on any new information or testimony offered at the hearing. The Decision-Maker must document and share with each party their rationale for any exclusion or inclusion at a pre-hearing meeting.

The Decision-Maker, only with full agreement of the parties, may decide in advance of the hearing that certain witnesses do not need to be present if their testimony can be adequately summarized by the Investigators in the investigation report or during the hearing.

At each pre-hearing meeting with a party and their Advisor, the Decision-Maker will consider arguments that evidence identified in the final investigation report as relevant is, in fact, not relevant. Similarly, evidence identified as directly related but not relevant by the Investigators may be argued to be relevant. The Decision-Maker may rule on these arguments pre-hearing and will exchange those rulings between the parties prior to the hearing to assist in preparation for the hearing. The Decision-Maker may consult with legal counsel and/or the Title IX co-coordinator, or ask either or both to attend pre-hearing meetings.
The pre-hearing meeting(s) will not be recorded.

25. Hearing Procedures

At the hearing, the Decision-Maker has the authority to hear and make determinations on all allegations of discrimination, harassment, and/or retaliation and may also hear and make determinations on any additional alleged policy violations that have occurred in concert with the discrimination, harassment, and/or retaliation, even though those collateral allegations may not specifically fall within the interim policy on Equal Opportunity, Harassment, and Nondiscrimination.

Participants at the hearing will include the Decision-Maker, the hearing facilitator, the Investigator(s) who conducted the investigation, the parties, Advisors to the parties, any called witnesses, and anyone providing authorized accommodations or assistive services. The Title IX co-coordinator may attend at the request of the Decision-Maker.

The Decision-Maker will answer all questions of procedure. Anyone appearing at the hearing to provide information will respond to questions on their own behalf.

The Decision-Maker will allow witnesses who have relevant information to appear at a portion of the hearing in order to respond to specific questions from the Decision-Maker and the parties and the witnesses will then be excused.

26. Joint Hearings

In hearings involving more than one Respondent or in which two (2) or more Complainants have accused the same individual of substantially similar conduct, the default procedure will be to hear the allegations jointly.

However, the Title IX co-coordinator may permit the investigation and/or hearings pertinent to each Respondent to be conducted separately if there is a compelling reason to do so. In joint hearings, separate determinations of responsibility will be made for each Respondent with respect to each alleged policy violation.

27. The Order of the Hearing – Introductions and Explanation of Procedure

The Decision-Maker explains the procedures and introduces the participants. This may include a final opportunity for challenge or recusal of the Decision-Maker on the basis of bias or conflict of interest. The Title IX co-coordinator will review and decide any challenge of the Decision-Maker.

The Decision-Maker and/or hearing facilitator then conducts the hearing according to the hearing script. At the hearing, recording, witness logistics, party logistics, curation of documents, separation of the parties, and other administrative elements of the hearing process are managed by a non-voting hearing facilitator appointed by the Title IX co-coordinator. The Title IX co-coordinator may serve in this position. The hearing facilitator may attend to: logistics of rooms for various parties/witnesses as they wait; flow of parties/witnesses in and out of the hearing space; ensuring recording and/or virtual conferencing technology is working as intended; copying and distributing materials to participants, as appropriate, etc.

28. Investigator Presents the Final Investigation Report

The Investigators will then present a summary of the final investigation report, including items that are contested and those that are not, and will be subject to questioning by the Decision-Maker and the parties (through their Advisors). The Investigators will be present during the entire hearing process, but not during
Neither the parties nor the Decision-Maker should ask the Investigators their opinions on credibility, recommended findings, or determinations, and the Investigators, Advisors, and parties will refrain from discussion of or questions about these assessments. If such information is introduced, the Decision-Maker will disregard it.

29. Testimony and Questioning

Once the Investigators present their report and are questioned, the parties and witnesses may provide relevant information in turn, beginning with the Complainant, and then in the order determined by the Decision-Maker. The parties/witnesses will submit to questioning by the Decision-Maker and then by the parties through their Advisors (“cross-examination”).

All questions are subject to a relevance determination by the Decision-Maker. The Advisor, who will remain seated during questioning, will pose the proposed question orally, electronically, or in writing (orally is the default, but other means of submission may be permitted by the Decision-Maker upon request if agreed to by all parties and the Decision-Maker), the proceeding will pause to allow the Decision-Maker to consider it (and state it if it has not been stated aloud), and the Decision-Maker will determine whether the question will be permitted, disallowed, or rephrased.

The Decision-Maker may invite explanations or persuasive statements regarding relevance with the Advisors, if the Decision-Maker so chooses. The Decision-Maker will then state their decision on the question for the record and advise the party/witness to whom the question was directed, accordingly. The Decision-Maker will explain any decision to exclude a question as not relevant, or to reframe it for relevance.

The Decision-Maker will limit or disallow questions on the basis that they are irrelevant, unduly repetitious (and thus irrelevant), or abusive. The Decision-Maker has final say on all questions and determinations of relevance. The Decision-Maker may consult with legal counsel on any questions of admissibility. The Decision-Maker may ask Advisors to frame why a question is or is not relevant from their perspective but will not entertain argument from the Advisors on relevance once the Decision-Maker has ruled on a question.

If the parties raise an issue of bias or conflict of interest of an Investigator or Decision-Maker at the hearing, the Decision-Maker may elect to address those issues, consult with legal counsel, and/or refer them to the Title IX co-coordinator, and/or preserve them for appeal. If bias is not in issue at the hearing, the Decision-Maker should not permit irrelevant questions that probe for bias.

30. Refusal to Submit to Cross-Examination and Inferences

If a party or witness chooses not to submit to cross-examination at the hearing, either because they do not attend the meeting, or they attend but refuse to participate in questioning, then the Decision-Maker may not rely on any prior statement made by that party or witness at the hearing (including those contained in the investigation report) in the ultimate determination of responsibility. The Decision-Maker must disregard that statement. Evidence provided that is something other than a statement by the party or witness may be considered.

If the party or witness attends the hearing and answers some cross-examination questions, only statements related to the cross-examination questions they refuse to answer cannot be relied upon. However, if the statements of the party who is refusing to submit to cross-examination or refuses to attend the hearing are the subject of the allegation itself (e.g., the case is about verbal harassment or a quid pro quo offer), then those
 statements are not precluded from admission. Similarly, statements can be relied upon when questions are posed by the Decision-Makers, as distinguished from questions posed by Advisors through cross-examination.

The Decision-Maker may not draw any inference solely from a party’s or witness’s absence from the hearing or refusal to answer cross-examination or other questions.

If charges of policy violations other than sexual harassment are considered at the same hearing, the Decision-Maker may consider all evidence they deem relevant, may rely on any relevant statement as long as the opportunity for cross-examination is afforded to all parties through their Advisors, and may draw reasonable inferences from any decision by any party or witness not to participate or respond to questions.

If a party’s Advisor of choice refuses to comply with the University of Mount Union’s established rules of decorum for the hearing, the University of Mount Union may require the party to use a different Advisor. If a University of Mount Union-provided Advisor refuses to comply with the rules of decorum, the University of Mount Union may provide that party with a different Advisor to conduct cross-examination on behalf of that party.

31. Recording Hearings

Hearings (but not deliberations) are recorded by the University of Mount Union for purposes of review in the event of an appeal. The parties may not record the proceedings and no other unauthorized recordings are permitted.

The Decision-Maker, the parties, their Advisors, and appropriate administrators of the University of Mount Union will be permitted to listen to the recording in a controlled environment determined by the Title IX co-coordinator. No person will be given or be allowed to make a copy of the recording without permission of the Title IX co-coordinator.

32. Deliberation, Decision-making and Standard of Proof

The Decision-Maker will deliberate in closed session to determine whether the Respondent is responsible or not responsible for the policy violation(s) in question. The preponderance of the evidence standard of proof is used. The hearing facilitator may be invited to attend the deliberation by the Decision-Maker, but is there only to facilitate procedurally, not to address the substance of the allegations.

When there is a finding of responsibility on one or more of the allegations, the Decision-Maker may then consider the previously submitted party impact statements in determining appropriate sanction(s).

The Decision-Maker will ensure that each of the parties has an opportunity to review any impact statement submitted by the other party(ies). The Decision-Maker may – at their discretion – consider the statements, but they are not binding.

The Decision-Maker will review the statements and any pertinent conduct history provided by the hearing facilitator and will recommend the appropriate sanction(s) in consultation with other appropriate administrators, as required.

The Decision-Maker will then prepare a written deliberation statement and deliver it to the Title IX co-coordinator, detailing the determination, rationale, the evidence used in support of its determination, the evidence not relied upon in its determination, credibility assessments, and any sanctions.

This report is typically three (3) to five (5) pages in length and must be submitted to the Title IX co-coordinator within two (2) business days of the end of deliberations, unless the Title IX co-coordinator grants an extension. If an extension is granted, the Title IX co-coordinator will notify the parties.
33. **Notice of Outcome**

Using the deliberation statement, the Title IX co-coordinator will work with the Decision-Maker to prepare a Notice of Outcome. The Notice of Outcome may then be reviewed by legal counsel. The Title IX co-coordinator will then share the letter, including the final determination, rationale, and any applicable sanction(s) with the parties and their Advisors within five (5) business days of receiving the Decision-Maker’s deliberation statement.

The Notice of Outcome will then be shared with the parties simultaneously. Notification will be made in writing and may be delivered by one or more of the following methods: in person, mailed to the local or permanent address of the parties as indicated in official University of Mount Union records, or emailed to the parties’ University of Mount Union-issued email or otherwise approved account. Once mailed, emailed, and/or received in-person, notice will be presumptively delivered.

The Notice of Outcome will articulate the specific policy(ies) reported to have been violated, including the relevant policy section, and will contain a description of the procedural steps taken by the University of Mount Union from the receipt of the misconduct report to the determination, including any and all notifications to the parties, interviews with parties and witnesses, site visits, methods used to obtain evidence, and hearings held.

The Notice of Outcome will specify the finding on each alleged policy violation; the findings of fact that support the determination; conclusions regarding the application of the relevant policy to the facts at issue; a statement of, and rationale for, the result of each allegation to the extent the University of Mount Union is permitted to share such information under state or federal law; any sanctions issued which the University of Mount Union is permitted to share according to state or federal law; and any remedies provided to the Complainant designed to ensure access to the University of Mount Union’s educational or employment program or activity, to the extent the University of Mount Union is permitted to share such information under state or federal law (this detail is not typically shared with the Respondent unless the remedy directly relates to the Respondent).

The Notice of Outcome will also include information on when the results are considered by the University of Mount Union to be final, any changes that occur prior to finalization, and the relevant procedures and bases for any available appeal options.

34. **Statement of the Rights of the Parties**

[see Appendix B]

35. **Sanctions**

Factors considered when determining a sanction/responsive action may include, but are not limited to:

- The nature, severity of, and circumstances surrounding the violation(s)
- The Respondent’s disciplinary history
- Previous allegations or allegations involving similar conduct
- The need for sanctions/responsive actions to bring an end to the discrimination, harassment, and/or retaliation
- The need for sanctions/responsive actions to prevent the future recurrence of discrimination, harassment, and/or retaliation
- The need to remedy the effects of the discrimination, harassment, and/or retaliation on the Complainant and the community
- The impact on the parties
- Any other information deemed relevant by the Decision-Maker
The sanctions will be implemented as soon as is feasible, either upon the outcome of any appeal or the expiration of the window to appeal without an appeal being requested.

The sanctions described in this policy are not exclusive of, and may be in addition to, other actions taken or sanctions imposed by external authorities.

a. Student Sanctions

The following are the usual sanctions that may be imposed upon students or organizations singly or in combination:

- **Warning**: An official written notice that the student or organization has violated the Code of Student Conduct, that such behavior is unacceptable, and that more severe conduct action will result should the student be involved in other violations while the student is enrolled at the University.

- **Community Service Requirements**: For a student or organization to complete a specific supervised university and/or community service.

- **Loss of Privileges**: The student or organization will be denied specified privileges for a designated period of time.

- **Educational Sanctions**: This includes, but is not limited to, required activities such as seeking counseling or substance abuse screening, writing a letter of apology, etc.

- **Educational Program**: Requirement to attend, present, and/or participate in a program related to the violation. It may also be a requirement to sponsor or assist with a program for others on campus to aid them in learning about a specific topic or issue related to the violation for which the student or organization was found responsible. Audience may be restricted.

- **Restriction of Visitation Privileges**: May be imposed on a resident or non-resident student. The parameters of the restriction will be specified.

- **Housing Probation**: Official notice that, should further violations of Residence Life or University policies occur during a specified probationary period, the student may immediately be removed from University housing. Regular probationary meetings may also be imposed.

- **Housing Reassignment**: Reassignment to another University housing facility. Residential Life personnel will decide on the reassignment details in collaboration with the director of student conduct or designee. When a student is reassigned within University housing, they are banned from the building or hall they were reassigned from for the rest of the academic year unless otherwise noted in their decision letter.

- **Housing Suspension**: Removal from University housing for a specified period of time after which the student is eligible to return. Conditions for re-admission to University housing may be specified. Under this sanction, a student is required to vacate University housing within 24 hours of notification of the action, though this deadline may be extended upon application to, and at the discretion of, the director of residence life. This sanction may be enforced with a trespass action if deemed necessary. Prior to reapplication for University housing, the student must gain permission from the director of residence life or designee. When a student is suspended from University housing, they are banned from all housing facilities until they have received permission from the director of residence life to return to University housing.

- **Housing Expulsion**: The student’s privilege to live in, or visit, any University housing structure is revoked indefinitely. This sanction may be enforced with a trespass action if deemed necessary.

- **University Probation**: The student is put on official notice that, should further violations of University policies occur during a specified probationary period, the student may face more severe sanctions, including suspension or expulsion. Regular probationary meetings may also be imposed. A student on University probation is deemed “not in good standing” with the institution.
• **Suspension:** Separation from the University for a specified minimum period of time, after which the student is eligible to return. Eligibility may be contingent upon satisfaction of specific conditions noted at the time of suspension. The student is required to vacate the campus within 24 hours of notification of the action, though this deadline may be extended upon application to, and at the discretion of, the director of student conduct or designee. During the suspension period, the student is banned from university property, functions, events, and activities without prior written approval from the director of student conduct or designee. This sanction may be enforced with a trespass action as necessary.

• **Expulsion:** Permanent separation from the University. The student is banned from all university property and the student’s presence at any University-sponsored activity or event is prohibited. This action may be enforced with a trespass action as necessary.

• **Degree revocation or Withholding:** the termination of a student’s degree based on a violation that the University becomes aware of after a student graduates or the withholding of a degree due to a violation that occurs prior to graduation as the conduct process proceeds and/or until sanctions are completed.

• **Organizational Sanctions:** Deactivation, loss of recognition, loss of some or all privileges (including University of Mount Union registration) for a specified period of time.

• **Other Sanctions:** Additional or alternate sanctions may be created and designed as deemed appropriate to the offense with the approval of the Title IX Co-coordinator or designee.

6. **Employee Sanctions/Responsive Actions**

Responsive actions for an employee who has engaged in harassment, discrimination, and/or retaliation include:

- Warning – Verbal or Written
- Performance Improvement Plan/Management Process
- Enhanced supervision, observation, or review
- Required Counseling
- Required Training or Education
- Probation
- Denial of Pay Increase/Pay Grade
- Loss of Oversight or Supervisory Responsibility
- Demotion
- Transfer
- Reassignment
- Delay of tenure track progress
- Assignment to new supervisor
- Restriction of stipends, research, and/or professional development resources
- Suspension with pay
- Suspension without pay
- Termination
- **Other Actions:** In addition to or in place of the above sanctions/responsive actions, the University of Mount Union may assign any other responsive actions as deemed appropriate.

36. **Withdrawal or Resignation While Charges Pending**

a. **Students**

If a student has an allegation pending for violation of the interim Policy on Equal Opportunity, Harassment, and Nondiscrimination, the University of Mount Union may place a hold on a student’s ability to graduate and/or to receive an official transcript/diploma.
Should a student decide to not participate in the resolution process, the process proceeds absent their participation to a reasonable resolution. Should a student Respondent permanently withdraw from the University of Mount Union, the resolution process ends, as the University of Mount Union no longer has disciplinary jurisdiction over the withdrawn student.

However, the University of Mount Union will continue to address and remedy any systemic issues, variables that may have contributed to the alleged violation(s), and any ongoing effects of the alleged harassment, discrimination, and/or retaliation. The student who withdraws or leaves while the process is pending may not return to the University of Mount Union. A hold will be placed on their ability to be readmitted. They may also be barred from University of Mount Union property and/or events.

If the student Respondent only withdraws or takes a leave for a specified period of time (e.g., one semester or term), the resolution process may continue remotely and that student is not permitted to return to University of Mount Union unless and until all sanctions have been satisfied.

b. Employees

Should an employee Respondent resign with unresolved allegations pending, the resolution process ends, as the University of Mount Union no longer has disciplinary jurisdiction over the resigned employee.

However, the University of Mount Union will continue to address and remedy any systemic issues, variables that contributed to the alleged violation(s), and any ongoing effects of the alleged harassment or discrimination.

The employee who resigns with unresolved allegations pending is not eligible for rehire with the University of Mount Union, and the records retained by the Title IX co-coordinator will reflect that status.

All University of Mount Union responses to future inquiries regarding employment references for that individual will include that the former employee resigned during a pending disciplinary matter.

37. Appeals

Any party may file a request for appeal (“Request for Appeal”), but it must be submitted in writing to the Title IX co-coordinator within five (5) days of the delivery of the Notice of Outcome.

A single Appeal Decision-Maker will Chair the appeal. The Appeal Decision-Maker will not have been involved in the process previously, including any dismissal appeal that may have been heard earlier in the process.

The Request for Appeal will be forwarded to an Appeal Decision-Maker (who will not hear the Appeal) for consideration to determine if the request meets the grounds for appeal (a Review for Standing).

This review is not a review of the merits of the appeal, but solely a determination as to whether the request meets the grounds and is timely filed.

a. Grounds for Appeal

Appeals are limited to the following grounds:

Procedural irregularity that affected the outcome of the matter;

a) New evidence that was not reasonably available at the time the determination regarding responsibility or dismissal was made, that could affect the outcome of the matter; and
b) The Title IX co-coordinator, Investigators, or Decision-Maker had a conflict of interest or bias for or against Complainants or Respondents generally or the specific Complainant or Respondent that affected the outcome of the matter.

If any of the grounds in the Request for Appeal do not meet the grounds in this Policy, that request will be denied by the Appeal Decision-Maker and the parties and their Advisors will be notified in writing of the denial and the rationale.

If any of the grounds in the Request for Appeal meet the grounds in this Policy, then the Appeal Decision-Maker will notify the other party(ies) and their Advisors, the Title IX co-coordinator, and, when appropriate, the Investigators and the original Decision-Maker.

The other party(ies) and their Advisors, the Title IX co-coordinator, and, when appropriate, the Investigators and/or the original Decision-Maker will be mailed, emailed, and/or provided a hard copy of the request with the approved grounds and then be given five (5) business days to submit a response to the portion of the appeal that was approved and involves them. All responses will be forwarded by the Appeal Decision-Maker to all parties for review and comment.

The non-appealing party (if any) may also choose to raise a new ground for appeal at this time. If so, that will be reviewed to determine if it meets the grounds in this Policy by the Appeal Decision-Maker and either denied or approved. If approved, it will be forwarded to the party who initially requested an appeal, the Investigators and/or original Decision-Maker, as necessary, who will submit their responses in five (5) business days, which will be circulated for review and comment by all parties.

Neither party may submit any new requests for appeal after this time period. The Appeal Decision-Maker will collect any additional information needed and all documentation regarding the approved grounds and the subsequent responses and the Appeal Decision-Maker will render a decision in no more than five (5) business days, barring exigent circumstances. All decisions apply the preponderance of the evidence standard.

A Notice of Appeal Outcome will be sent to all parties simultaneously including the decision on each approved ground and rationale for each decision. The Notice of Appeal Outcome will specify the finding on each ground for appeal, any specific instructions for remand or reconsideration, any sanctions that may result which the University of Mount Union is permitted to share according to state or federal law, and the rationale supporting the essential findings to the extent the University of Mount Union is permitted to share under state or federal law.

Notification will be made in writing and may be delivered by one or more of the following methods: in person, mailed to the local or permanent address of the parties as indicated in official institutional records, or emailed to the parties’ University of Mount Union-issued email or otherwise approved account. Once mailed, emailed and/or received in-person, notice will be presumptively delivered.

6. Sanctions Status During the Appeal

Any sanctions imposed as a result of the hearing are stayed during the appeal process. Supportive measures may be reinstated, subject to the same supportive measure procedures above.

If any of the sanctions are to be implemented immediately post-hearing, but pre-appeal, then emergency removal procedures (detailed above) for a hearing on the justification for doing so must be permitted within 48 hours of implementation.

The University of Mount Union may still place holds on official transcripts, diplomas, graduations, and course registration pending the outcome of an appeal when the original sanctions included separation.
c. Appeal Considerations

- Decisions on appeal are to be deferential to the original decision, making changes to the finding only when there is clear error and to the sanction(s)/responsive action(s) only if there is a compelling justification to do so.
- Appeals are not intended to provide for a full re-hearing (de novo) of the allegation(s). In most cases, appeals are confined to a review of the written documentation or record of the original hearing and pertinent documentation regarding the specific grounds for appeal.
- An appeal is not an opportunity for an Appeal Decision-maker to substitute their judgment for that of the original Decision-Maker merely because they disagree with the finding and/or sanction(s).
- The Appeal Decision-Maker may consult with the Title IX co-coordinator on questions of procedure or rationale, for clarification, if needed. Documentation of all such consultation will be maintained.
- Appeals granted based on new evidence should normally be remanded to the original Investigators and/or Decision-Maker for reconsideration. Other appeals may be remanded at the discretion of the Title IX co-coordinator or, in limited circumstances, decided on appeal.
- Once an appeal is decided, the outcome is final: further appeals are not permitted, even if a decision or sanction is changed on remand (except in the case of a new hearing). When appeals result in no change to the finding or sanction, that decision is final. When an appeal results in a new finding or sanction, that finding or sanction can be appealed one final time on the grounds listed above and in accordance with these procedures.
- In rare cases where a procedural or substantive error cannot be cured by the original Decision-Maker (as in cases of bias), the appeal may order a new hearing with a new Decision-Maker.
- The results of a remand to a Decision-Maker cannot be appealed. The results of a new hearing can be appealed, once, on any of the three available appeal grounds.
- In cases in which the appeal results in reinstatement to the University of Mount Union or resumption of privileges, all reasonable attempts will be made to restore the Respondent to their prior status, recognizing that some opportunities lost may be irreparable in the short term.

38. Long-Term Remedies/Other Actions

Following the conclusion of the resolution process, and in addition to any sanctions implemented, the Title IX co-coordinator may implement additional long-term remedies or actions with respect to the parties and/or the campus community that are intended to stop the harassment, discrimination, and/or retaliation, remedy the effects, and prevent reoccurrence.

These remedies/actions may include, but are not limited to:

- Referral to counseling and health services
- Referral to the Employee Assistance Program
- Education to the individual and/or the community
- Permanent alteration of housing assignments
- Permanent alteration of work arrangements for employees
- Provision of campus safety escorts
- Climate surveys
- Policy modification and/or training
- Provision of transportation accommodations
- Implementation of long-term contact limitations between the parties
- Implementation of adjustments to academic deadlines, course schedules, etc.
At the discretion of the Title IX co-coordinator, certain long-term support or measures may also be provided to the parties even if no policy violation is found.

When no policy violation is found, the Title IX co-coordinator will address any remedies owed by the University of Mount Union to the Respondent to ensure no effective denial of educational access.

The University of Mount Union will maintain the privacy of any long-term remedies/actions/measures, provided privacy does not impair the University of Mount Union's ability to provide these services.

39. Failure to Comply with Sanctions and/or Interim and Long-term Remedies and/or Responsive Actions

All Respondents are expected to comply with the assigned sanctions, responsive actions, and/or corrective actions within the timeframe specified by the final Decision-Maker (including the Appeal Decision-Maker).

Failure to abide by the sanction(s)/action(s) imposed by the date specified, whether by refusal, neglect, or any other reason, may result in additional sanction(s)/action(s), including suspension, expulsion, and/or termination from the University of Mount Union.

A suspension will only be lifted when compliance is achieved to the satisfaction of the Title IX co-coordinator.

40. Recordkeeping

University of Mount Union will maintain for a period of at least seven years records of:

1. Each sexual harassment investigation including any determination regarding responsibility and any audio or audiovisual recording or transcript required under federal regulation;
2. Any disciplinary sanctions imposed on the Respondent;
3. Any remedies provided to the Complainant designed to restore or preserve equal access to the University of Mount Union’s education program or activity;
4. Any appeal and the result therefrom;
5. Any Informal Resolution and the result therefrom;
6. All materials used to train Title IX co-coordinators, Investigators, Decision-Makers, and any person who facilitates an Informal Resolution process. University of Mount Union will make these training materials publicly available on University of Mount Union’s website; and
7. Any actions, including any supportive measures, taken in response to a report or formal complaint of sexual harassment, including:
   a. The basis for all conclusions that the response was not deliberately indifferent;
   b. Any measures designed to restore or preserve equal access to the University of Mount Union’s education program or activity; and
   c. If no supportive measures were provided to the Complainant, document the reasons why such a response was not clearly unreasonable in light of the known circumstances.

University of Mount Union will also maintain any and all records in accordance with state and federal laws.

41. Disabilities Accommodations in the Resolution Process

The University of Mount Union is committed to providing reasonable accommodations and support to qualified students, employees, or others with disabilities to ensure equal access to the University of Mount Union’s resolution process.
Anyone needing such accommodations or support should contact the director of student accessibility services or the Director of Human Resources or designee, who will review the request and, in consultation with the person requesting the accommodation and the Title IX co-coordinator, determine which accommodations are appropriate and necessary for full participation in the process.

42. Revision of this Policy and Procedures

This Policy and procedures supersede any previous policy(ies) addressing harassment, sexual misconduct, discrimination, and/or retaliation under Title IX and will be reviewed and updated annually by the Title IX co-coordinators. The University of Mount Union reserves the right to make changes to this document as necessary, and once those changes are posted online, they are in effect.

During the resolution process, the Title IX co-coordinators may make minor modifications to procedures that do not materially jeopardize the fairness owed to any party, such as to accommodate summer schedules. The Title IX co-coordinators may also vary procedures materially with notice (on the institutional website, with the appropriate effective date identified) upon determining that changes to law or regulation require policy or procedural alterations not reflected in this Policy and procedures.

If government laws or regulations change – or court decisions alter – the requirements in a way that impacts this document, this document will be construed to comply with the most recent government regulations or holdings.

This document does not create legally enforceable protections beyond the protection of the background state and federal laws which frame such policies and codes, generally.

This Policy and procedures are effective August 14, 2020.

Appendix A: Policy Examples

Some examples of possible sexual harassment include:

- A professor offers for a student to have sex or go on a date with them in exchange for a good grade. This constitutes sexual harassment regardless of whether the student accedes to the request and irrespective of whether a good grade is promised or a bad grade is threatened.

- A student repeatedly sends graphic, sexually-oriented jokes and pictures around campus via social media to hundreds of other students. Many don’t find it funny and ask them to stop, but they do not. Because of these jokes, one student avoids the sender on campus and in the residence hall in which they both live, eventually asking to move to a different building and dropping a class they had together.

- A professor engages students in class in discussions about the students’ past sexual experiences, yet the conversations are not in any way germane to the subject matter of the class. The professor inquires about explicit details and demands that students answer them, though the students are clearly uncomfortable and hesitant.

- An ex-partner widely spreads false stories about their sex life with their former partner to the clear discomfort and frustration of the former partner, turning the former partner into a social pariah on campus.

- Chris has recently transitioned from male to non-binary, but primarily expresses as a female. Since their transition, Chris has noticed that their African Studies professor, Dr. Mukembo, pays them a lot more attention. Chris is sexually attracted to Professor Mukembo and believes the attraction is mutual. Chris decides to act on the attraction. One day, Chris visits Dr. Mukembo during office
hours, and after a long conversation about being non-binary, Chris kisses Dr. Mukembo. Dr. Mukembo is taken aback, stops the kiss, and tells Chris not to do that. Dr. Mukembo explains to Chris that they are not interested in Chris sexually or romantically. Chris takes it hard, crying to Dr. Mukembo about how hard it is to find someone who is interested in them now based on their identity. Dr. Mukembo feels sorry for Chris and softens the blow by telling them that no matter whether they like Chris or not, faculty-student relationships are prohibited by the university. Chris takes this as encouragement. One night, Chris goes to a gay bar some distance from campus and sees Dr. Mukembo at the bar. Chris tries to buy Dr. Mukembo a drink and, again, tries to kiss Dr. Mukembo. Dr. Mukembo leaves the bar abruptly. The next day, Chris makes several online posts that out Dr. Mukembo as gay and raise questions about whether they are sexually involved with students. Dr. Mukembo contacts the Title IX Office and alleges that Chris is sexually harassing him.

Examples of Stalking

- Students A and B were “friends with benefits.” Student A wanted a more serious relationship, which caused student B to break it off. Student A could not let go, and pursued student B relentlessly. Student B obtained a campus no-contact order. Subsequently, Student B discovered their social media accounts were being accessed, and things were being posted and messaged as if they were from them, but they were not. Whoever accessed their account posted a picture of a penis, making it look as if they had sent out a picture of themselves, though it was not their penis. This caused them considerable embarrassment and social anxiety. They changed their passwords, only to have it happen again. Seeking help from the Title IX Co-coordinator, Student B met with the IT department, which discovered an app on their phone and a keystroke recorder on their laptop, both of which were being used to transmit their data to a third party.

- A graduate student working as an on-campus tutor received flowers and gifts delivered to their office. After learning the gifts were from a student they recently tutored, the graduate student thanked the student and stated that it was not necessary and would appreciate it if the gift deliveries stopped. The student then started leaving notes of love and gratitude on the tutor’s car, both on-campus and at home. Asked again to stop, the student stated by email, “You can ask me to stop, but I’m not giving up. We are meant to be together, and I’ll do anything to make you have the feelings for me that I have for you.” When the tutor did not respond, the student emailed again, “You cannot escape me. I will track you to the ends of the earth. If I can’t have you, no one will.”

Examples of Sexual Assault:

- Amanda and Bill meet at a party. They spend the evening dancing and getting to know each other. Bill convinces Amanda to come up to his room. From 11:00 p.m. until 3:00 a.m., Bill uses every line he can think of to convince Amanda to have sex with him, but she adamantly refuses. Despite her clear communications that she is not interested in doing anything sexual with him, Bill keeps at her, questions her religious convictions, and accuses her of being “a prude.” He brings up several rumors that he has heard about how she performed oral sex on a number of other guys. Finally, it seems to Bill that her resolve is weakening, and he convinces her to “jerk him off” (hand to genital contact). Amanda would have never done it but for Bill’s incessant advances. He feels that he successfully seduced her and that she wanted to do it all along but was playing shy and hard to get. Why else would she have come up to his room alone after the party? If she really didn't want it, she could have left.

- Jiang is a junior. Beth is a sophomore. Jiang comes to Beth’s residence hall room with some mutual friends to watch a movie. Jiang and Beth, who have never met before, are attracted to each other. After the movie, everyone leaves, and Jiang and Beth are alone. They hit it off, soon become more intimate, and start to make out. Jiang verbally expresses his desire to have sex with Beth. Beth, who was abused by a babysitter at the age of five and avoids sexual relations as a result, is shocked at how quickly things are progressing. As Jiang takes her by the wrist over to the bed, lays her down,
undresses, and begins to have intercourse with Beth. Beth has a severe flashback to her childhood trauma. She wants to tell Jiang to stop but cannot. Beth is stiff and unresponsive during the intercourse.

- Kevin and John are at a party. Kevin is not sure how much John has been drinking, but he is pretty sure it’s a lot. After the party, he walks John to his apartment, and John comes on to Kevin, initiating sexual activity. Kevin asks John if he is really up to this, and John says yes. They remove each other’s clothes, and they end up in John’s bed. Suddenly, John runs for the bathroom. When he returns, his face is pale, and Kevin thinks he may have thrown up. John gets back into bed, and they begin to have sexual intercourse. Kevin is having a good time, though he can’t help but notice that John seems pretty groggy and passive, and he thinks John may have even passed out briefly during the sex, but he came to again. When Kevin runs into John the next day, he thanks him for the great night. John remembers nothing and decides to make a report to the Dean.

Examples of Retaliation:
- Student-athlete A alleges sexual harassment by a coach; the coach subsequently cuts the student-athlete’s playing time without a legitimate justification.
- A faculty member alleges gender inequity in pay within her department; the Department Chair then revokes his approval for her to attend a national conference, citing the faculty member’s tendency to “ruffle feathers.”
- A student from Organization A participates in a sexual harassment investigation as a witness whose testimony is damaging to the Respondent, who is also a member of Organization A; the student is subsequently removed as a member of Organization A because of their participation in the investigation.

Appendix B: Statement of Rights of the Parties
- The right to an equitable investigation and resolution of all credible allegations of prohibited harassment or discrimination made in good faith to University of Mount Union officials.
- The right to timely written notice of all alleged violations, including the identity of the parties involved (if known), the precise misconduct being alleged, the date and location of the alleged misconduct (if known), the implicated policies and procedures, and possible sanctions.
- The right to timely written notice of any material adjustments to the allegations (e.g., additional incidents or allegations, additional Complainants, unsubstantiated allegations) and any attendant adjustments needed to clarify potentially implicated policy violations.
- The right to be informed in advance of any public release of information regarding the allegation(s) or underlying incident(s), whenever possible.
- The right not to have any personally identifiable information released to the public without consent provided, except to the extent permitted by law.
- The right to be treated with respect by University of Mount Union officials.
- The right to have University of Mount Union policies and procedures followed without material deviation.
- The right not to be pressured to mediate or otherwise informally resolve any reported misconduct involving violence, including sexual violence.
The right not to be discouraged by University of Mount Union officials from reporting sexual harassment, discrimination, and/or retaliation to both on-campus and off-campus authorities.

The right to be informed by University of Mount Union officials of options to notify proper law enforcement authorities, including local police, and the option(s) to be assisted by University of Mount Union authorities in notifying such authorities, if the party so chooses. This also includes the right not to be pressured to report, as well, except as required by Ohio law.

The right to have allegations of violations of this Policy responded to promptly and with sensitivity by University of Mount Union Campus Safety and Security and/or other University of Mount Union officials.

The right to be informed of available interim actions and supportive measures, such as counseling; advocacy; health care; student financial aid, visa, and immigration assistance; or other services, both on campus and in the community.

The right to a University of Mount Union-implemented no-contact order [or a no-trespass order against a non-affiliated third party] when a person has engaged in or threatens to engage in stalking, threatening, harassing, or other improper conduct.

The right to be informed of available assistance in changing academic, living, and/or working situations after an alleged incident of discrimination, harassment, and/or retaliation, if such changes are reasonably available. No formal report, or investigation, either campus or criminal, needs to occur before this option is available. Such actions may include, but are not limited to:
- Relocating an on-campus student’s housing to a different on-campus location
- Assistance from University of Mount Union staff in completing the relocation
- Changing an employee’s work environment (e.g., reporting structure, office/workspace relocation)
- Transportation accommodations
- Visa/immigration assistance
- Arranging to dissolve a housing contract and a pro-rated refund
- Exam, paper, and/or assignment rescheduling or adjustment
- Receiving an incomplete in, or a withdrawal from, a class (may be retroactive)
- Transferring class sections
- Temporary withdrawal/leave of absence (may be retroactive)
- Campus safety escorts
- Alternative course completion options.

The right to have the University of Mount Union maintain such actions for as long as necessary and for supportive measures to remain private, provided privacy does not impair the University of Mount Union’s ability to provide the supportive measures.

The right to receive sufficiently advanced, written notice of any meeting or interview involving the other party, when possible.

The right to ask the Investigators and Decision-Maker to identify and question relevant witnesses, including expert witnesses.

The right to provide the Investigators/Decision-Maker with a list of questions that, if deemed relevant by the Investigators/Decision-Maker, may be asked of any party or witness.
● The right not to have irrelevant prior sexual history or character admitted as evidence.

● The right to know the relevant and directly related evidence obtained and to respond to that evidence.

● The right to a fair opportunity to provide the Investigators with their account of the alleged misconduct and have that account be on the record.

● The right to receive a copy of the investigation report, including all factual, policy, and/or credibility analyses performed, and all relevant and directly related evidence available and used to produce the investigation report, subject to the privacy limitations imposed by state and federal law, prior to the hearing, and the right to have at least ten (10) business days to review the report prior to the hearing.

● The right to respond to the investigation report, including comments providing any additional relevant evidence after the opportunity to review the investigation report, and to have that response on the record.

● The right to be informed of the names of all witnesses whose information will be used to make a finding, in advance of that finding, when relevant.

● The right to regular updates on the status of the investigation and/or resolution.

● The right to have reports of alleged Policy violations addressed by Investigators, Title IX co-coordinators, and Decision-Makers who have received at least eight hours of relevant annual training.

● The right to preservation of privacy, to the extent possible and permitted by law.

● The right to meetings, interviews, and/or hearings that are closed to the public.

● The right to petition that any University of Mount Union representative in the process be recused on the basis of disqualifying bias and/or conflict of interest.

● The right to have an Advisor of their choice to accompany and assist the party in all meetings and/or interviews associated with the resolution process.

● The right to have the University of Mount Union compel the participation of faculty and staff witnesses.

● The right to the use of the appropriate standard of evidence, preponderance of the evidence to make a finding after an objective evaluation of all relevant evidence.

● The right to be present, including presence via remote technology, during all testimony given and evidence presented during any formal grievance hearing.

● The right to have an impact statement considered by the Decision-Maker following a determination of responsibility for any allegation, but prior to sanctioning.

● The right to be promptly informed in a written Notice of Outcome letter of the finding(s) and sanction(s) of the resolution process and a detailed rationale of the decision (including an explanation of how credibility was assessed), delivered simultaneously (without undue delay) to the parties.
• The right to be informed in writing of when a decision by the University of Mount Union is considered final and any changes to the sanction(s) that occur before the decision is finalized.

• The right to be informed of the opportunity to appeal the finding(s) and sanction(s) of the resolution process, and the procedures for doing so in accordance with the standards for appeal established by the University of Mount Union.

• The right to a fundamentally fair resolution as defined in these procedures.

Appendix C: Violence Risk Assessment (VRA)

Threat assessment is the process of assessing the actionability of violence by an individual against another person or group following the issuance of a direct or conditional threat. A Violence Risk Assessment (VRA) is a broader term used to assess any potential violence or danger, regardless of the presence of a vague, conditional, or direct threat.

The implementation of VRAs require specific training and are typically conducted by psychologists, clinical counselors, social workers, case managers, law enforcement officers, student conduct officers, and/or CARE team members.

A VRA occurs in collaboration with the CARE Team, and must be understood as an on-going process, rather than a singular evaluation or meeting. A VRA is not an evaluation for an involuntary behavioral health hospitalization (e.g., Ohio Revised Code Chapter 5122: Hospitalization of Mentally Ill), nor is it a psychological or mental health assessment.

A VRA assesses the risk of actionable violence, often with a focus on targeted/predatory escalations, and is supported by research from the fields of law enforcement, criminology, human resources, and psychology.

When conducting a VRA, the assessor(s) use an evidence-based process consisting of:

1. an appraisal of risk factors that escalate the potential for violence;
2. a determination of stabilizing influences that reduce the risk of violence;
3. a contextual analysis of violence risk by considering environmental circumstances, hopelessness, and suicidality; catalyst events; nature and actionability of threat; fixation and focus on target; grievance collection; and action and time imperative for violence; and
4. the application of intervention and management approaches to reduce the risk of violence.

To assess an individual’s level of violence risk, the Title IX Co-coordinator will initiate the violence risk assessment process through the CARE Team. The CARE Team will assign a trained individual(s) to perform the assessment, according to the specific nature of the Title IX case.

The assessor will follow the process for conducting a violence risk in accordance with their professional guidelines and will rely on a consistent, research-based, reliable system that allows the for the operationalization of the risk levels.

Some examples of formalized approaches to the VRA process include: The NaBITA Risk Rubric,15 The Structured Interview for Violence Risk Assessment (SIVRA-35),16 The Extremist Risk Intervention Scale

15 www.nabita.org/tools
16 www.nabita.org/resources/assessment-tools/sivra-35/
The VRA is conducted independently from the Title IX process, free from outcome pressure, but is informed by it. The individual(s) conducting the assessment will be trained to mitigate any bias and provide the analysis and findings in a fair and equitable manner.

The CARE Team conducts a VRA process and makes a recommendation to the Title IX Co-coordinator as to whether the VRA indicates there is a substantial, compelling, and/or immediate risk to health and/or safety of an individual or the community.

Appendix D: Process B

- Process B is applicable when the Title IX co-coordinator determines Process A is inapplicable, or offenses subject to Process A have been dismissed.
- If Process A is applicable, Process A must be applied in lieu of Process B.
- The University of Mount Union can substitute any alternative process instead of Process B, if desired.
- VAWA Section 304 requirements apply to Process B or any alternative process for reports that fall under VAWA.
- Title IX requirements outside of Section 106.30 (based on the original 1975 regulations, the 2001 Revised Guidance, etc.) may also be applicable to Process B.

Interim Resolution Process for Alleged Violations of the Interim Policy on Equal Opportunity, Harassment, and Nondiscrimination

The University of Mount Union will act on any formal or informal allegation or notice of violation of the interim policy on Equal Opportunity, Harassment and Nondiscrimination that is received by the Title IX co-coordinator or a member of the administration, faculty, or other employee, with the exception of confidential resources, as articulated in the Policy above.

The procedures described below apply to all allegations of harassment or discrimination on the basis of protected class status involving students, staff, faculty members, or third parties.

These procedures may also be used to address collateral misconduct arising from the investigation of or occurring in conjunction with harassing or discriminatory conduct (e.g., vandalism, physical abuse of another). All other allegations of misconduct unrelated to incidents covered by this policy will be addressed through the procedures elaborated in the respective student, employment policies for faculty, and administrative staff, and hourly staff handbooks.

17 www.nabita.org/resources/assessment-tools/eris/
18 www.nabita.org/looking-glass
19 www.wavr21.com
20 hcr-20.com
21 www.mosaicmethod.com
22 All references herein to a Title IX Co-coordinator also include a designee of the Title IX Co-coordinator.
1. Initial Assessment

Following intake, receipt of notice, or a complaint of an alleged violation of the University of Mount Union’s nondiscrimination Policy, the Title IX co-coordinator engages in an initial assessment, which is typically one to five business days in duration. The steps in an initial assessment can include:

- The Title IX co-coordinator reaches out to the Complainant to offer supportive measures.
- The Title IX co-coordinator works with the Complainant to ensure they have an Advisor.
- The Title IX co-coordinator works with the Complainant to determine whether the Complainant prefers a supportive response or an Administrative Resolution.
  - If a supportive and remedial response is preferred, the Title IX co-coordinator works with the Complainant to identify their wishes and then seeks to facilitate implementation. The Administrative Resolution process is not initiated, though the Complainant can elect to initiate it later, if desired.
  - If an Informal Resolution option is preferred, the Title IX co-coordinator assesses whether the complaint is suitable for informal resolution, which informal mechanism may serve the situation best or is available, and may seek to determine if the Respondent is also willing to engage in Informal Resolution.
  - If Administrative Resolution is preferred, the Title IX co-coordinator initiates the investigation process and determines whether the scope of the investigation will address:
    - Incident, and/or
    - A potential pattern of misconduct, and/or
    - A culture/climate issue.
- In many cases, the Title IX co-coordinator may determine that a Violence Risk Assessment (VRA) should be conducted by the CARE Team as part of the initial assessment. A VRA can aid in ten critical and/or required determinations, including:
  - Interim suspension of a Respondent who is a threat to health/safety;
  - Whether the Title IX co-coordinator should pursue Administrative Resolution absent a willing/able Complainant;
  - Whether to put the investigation on the footing of incident and/or pattern and/or climate;
  - To help identify potentially predatory conduct;
  - To help assess/identify grooming behaviors;
  - Whether a Complaint is amenable to Informal Resolution, and what modality may be most successful;
  - Whether to permit a voluntary withdrawal by the Respondent;
  - Whether to impose transcript notation or communicate with a transfer Institution about a Respondent;
  - Assessment of appropriate sanctions/remedies;
  - Whether a Clery Act Timely Warning or Persona-non-grata is needed.

More about the University of Mount Union’s process for VRA can be found in Appendix C.

Based on the initial assessment, the University of Mount Union will initiate one of two responses:

- Informal Resolution – typically used for less serious offenses and only when all parties agree to Alternate Resolution, or when the Respondent is willing to accept responsibility for violating policy. This can also include a remedies-only response.

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23 If circumstances require, the President or Title IX co-coordinator will designate another person to oversee the process below should an allegation be made about the co-coordinator or the co-coordinator be otherwise unavailable or unable to fulfill their duties.
• Administrative Resolution – investigation of policy violation(s) and recommended finding, subject to a determination by the Title IX co-coordinator or decision-maker and the opportunity to appeal to an Appeal Decision-Maker.

The investigation and the subsequent Administrative Resolution determine whether the nondiscrimination policy has been violated. If so, the University of Mount Union will promptly implement effective remedies designed to end the discrimination, prevent recurrence, and address the effects.

The process followed considers the preference of the parties but is ultimately determined at the discretion of the Title IX co-coordinator. At any point during the initial assessment or formal investigation, if the Title IX co-coordinator determines that reasonable cause does not support the conclusion that policy has been violated, the process will end, and the parties will be notified.

The Complainant may request that the Title IX co-coordinator review the reasonable cause determination and/or re-open the investigation. This decision lies in the sole discretion of the Title IX co-coordinator, but the request is usually only granted in extraordinary circumstances.

2. Resolution Process Pool

The resolution processes rely on a pool of officials (“Pool”) to carry out the process. Members of the Pool are announced in an annual distribution of this Policy to all students and their parents/guardians, employees, prospective students, and prospective employees.

The list of members and a description of the Pool can be found at https://www.mountunion.edu/campus-life/safety-and-parking/sexual-misconduct/title-ix.

Members of the Pool are trained annually in all aspects of the resolution process and can serve in any of the following roles, at the direction of the Title IX co-coordinator:

• To provide sensitive intake for and initial advice pertaining to the allegations
• To act as optional process Advisors to the parties
• To facilitate Informal Resolution
• To investigate allegations

Members of the Decision-Maker Pool and the Appeal Decision-Maker Pool are trained annually and serve in the roles specific to the Pool to which they are appointed.

The Title IX co-coordinators, in consultation with the President, carefully vets Pool members for potential conflicts of interest or disqualifying biases and appoints the Pool, which acts with independence and impartiality.

Pool members receive annual training organized by the Title IX co-coordinators, including a review of University of Mount Union’s policies and procedures as well as applicable federal and state laws and regulations so that they are able to appropriately address allegations, provide accurate information to members of the community, protect safety, and promote accountability.

The Pool members receive annual training, jointly and/or specific to their role. This training includes, but is not limited to:

• The scope of the University of Mount Union’s interim policy on Equal Opportunity, Harassment and Nondiscrimination and Procedures
• How to conduct investigations and hearings that protect the safety of Complainants and Respondents and promote accountability
• Implicit bias
Disparate treatment and impact
- Reporting, confidentiality, and privacy requirements
- Applicable laws, regulations, and federal regulatory guidance
- How to implement appropriate and situation-specific remedies
- How to investigate in a thorough, reliable, and impartial manner
- How to uphold fairness, equity, and due process
- How to weigh evidence
- How to conduct questioning
- How to assess credibility
- Impartiality and objectivity
- Types of evidence
- Deliberation
- How to render findings and generate clear, concise, evidence-based rationales
- The definitions of all offenses
- How to apply definitions used by the University of Mount Union with respect to consent (or the absence or negation of consent) consistently, impartially, and in accordance with policy
- How to conduct an investigation and grievance process including hearings, appeals, and informal resolution processes
- How to serve impartially, by avoiding prejudgment of the facts at issue, conflicts of interest, and bias
- Any technology to be used
- Issues of relevance of questions and evidence
- Issues of relevance to create an investigation report that fairly summarizes relevant evidence
- How to determine appropriate sanctions in reference to all forms of harassment and discrimination allegations

Specific training is also provided for Appeal Decision-Makers.

All Pool members are required to attend annual training.

The Resolution Process Pool includes
- 2 or more Decision-Makers: one representative from HR and one from Student Affairs, etc., who are members and who make decisions regarding student and employee Respondents
- 3 or more members of the Academic Affairs administration and/or faculty
- 4 or more members of the administration/staff
- 2 representatives from Human Resources
- 1 or more representative from Athletics

Pool members are usually appointed by the Title IX co-coordinators and approved by the President. Individuals who are interested in serving in the Pool are encouraged to contact a Title IX co-coordinator.

3. Counterclaims

Counterclaims by the Respondent may be made in good faith but are also sometimes made for purposes of retaliation. The University of Mount Union is obligated to ensure that any process is not abused for retaliatory purposes.

The University of Mount Union permits the filing of counterclaims, but uses the initial assessment, described above in the Policy section, to assess whether the allegations are made in good faith. If they are, the allegations will be processed using the resolution procedures below, typically after resolution of the underlying allegation.
A delay in the processing of counterclaims is permitted, accordingly. Occasionally, allegations and counterclaims can be resolved through the same investigation, at the discretion of the Title IX co-coordinator. When counterclaims are not made in good faith, they will be considered retaliatory, and may constitute a violation of this Policy.

4. Advisors

a. Expectations of an Advisor

The University of Mount Union generally expects an Advisor to adjust their schedule to allow them to attend University of Mount Union meetings when planned, but University of Mount Union may change scheduled meetings to accommodate an Advisor’s inability to attend, if doing so does not cause an unreasonable delay.

The University of Mount Union may also make reasonable provisions to allow an Advisor who cannot attend in person to attend a meeting by telephone, video conferencing, or other similar technologies as may be convenient and available.

Parties whose Advisors are disruptive or who do not abide by University of Mount Union policies and procedures may face the loss of that Advisor and/or possible Policy violations.

Advisors are expected to consult with their advisees without disrupting University of Mount Union meetings or interviews. Advisors do not represent parties in the process; their role is only to advise.

b. Expectations of the Parties with Respect to Advisors

Each party may choose an Advisor who is eligible and available to accompany them throughout the process. The Advisor can be anyone, including an attorney, but should not be someone who is also a witness in the process. A party may elect to change Advisors during the process and is not obligated to use the same Advisor throughout.

The parties are expected to inform the Investigators of the identity of their Advisor at least two (2) business days before the date of their first meeting with the Investigator(s) (or as soon as possible if a more expeditious meeting is necessary or desired). The parties are expected to provide timely notice to the Investigators and/or the Title IX co-coordinator if they change Advisors at any time.

Upon written request of a party, the University of Mount Union will copy the Advisor on all communications between the University of Mount Union and the party. The Advisor may be asked to sign a non-disclosure agreement (NDA) regarding private, sensitive records.

c. Assistance in Securing an Advisor

Members of the Grievance Pool have been trained as advisors, and if not otherwise involved in the resolution process may be utilized as advisors by the involved parties.

For representation, Respondents may wish to contact organizations such as:

24 This could include an attorney, advocate, or support person. Witnesses are not entitled to Advisors within the process, though they can be advised externally.
25 “Available” means the party cannot insist on an Advisor who simply doesn’t have inclination, time, or availability. Also, the Advisor cannot have institutionally conflicting roles, such as being a Title IX administrator who has an active role in the matter, or a supervisor who must monitor and implement sanctions.
Complainants may wish to contact organizations such as:

- The Victim Rights Law Center (http://www.victimrights.org)
- The National Center for Victims of Crime (http://www.victimsofcrime.org), which maintains the Crime Victim’s Bar Association
- The Time’s Up Legal Defense Fund: https://nwlc.org/times-up-legal-defense-fund/

5. Resolution Options

Proceedings are private. All persons present at any time during the resolution process are expected to maintain the privacy of the proceedings in accord with University of Mount Union Policy.

While there is an expectation of privacy around what is discussed during interviews, the parties have discretion to share their own experiences with others if they so choose, but are encouraged to discuss with their Advisors first before doing so.

a. Informal Resolution

Informal Resolution is applicable when the parties voluntarily agree to resolve the matter through Alternate Resolution, mediation, restorative practices, etc., or when the Respondent accepts responsibility for violating Policy, or when the Title IX co-coordinator can resolve the matter informally by providing remedies to resolve the situation.

It is not necessary to pursue Informal Resolution first in order to pursue Administrative Resolution, and any party participating in Informal Resolution can stop the process at any time and request the Administrative Resolution process. Further, if an Informal Resolution fails after the fact, Administrative Resolution may be pursued.

i. Alternate Resolution

Alternate Resolution is an informal process, such as mediation or restorative practices, by which the parties mutually agree to resolve an allegation. It may be used for less serious, yet inappropriate, behaviors and is encouraged as an alternative to the Administrative Resolution process (described below) to resolve conflicts. The parties must consent to the use of Alternate Resolution.

The appropriate Title IX co-coordinator determines if Alternate Resolution is appropriate, based on the willingness of the parties, the nature of the conduct at issue, and the susceptibility of the conduct to Alternate Resolution.

In an Alternate Resolution meeting, a trained administrator facilitates a dialogue with the parties to an effective resolution, if possible. Institutionally-imposed sanctions are not possible as the result of an Alternate Resolution process, though the parties may agree to accept sanctions and/or appropriate remedies.

The Title IX co-coordinators maintains records of any resolution that is reached, and failure to abide by the resolution can result in appropriate enforcement actions.

Alternate Resolution is not typically the primary resolution mechanism used to address reports of violent behavior of any kind or in other cases of serious violations of policy, though it may be made available after the Administrative Resolution process is completed should the parties and the Title IX co-coordinator believe it
could be beneficial. The results of Alternate Resolution are not appealable.

**ii. Respondent Accepts Responsibility for Alleged Violations**

The Respondent may accept responsibility for all or part of the alleged policy violations at any point during the resolution process. If the Respondent accepts responsibility, the Title IX co-coordinator makes a determination that the individual is in violation of University of Mount Union Policy.

The Title IX co-coordinator then determines appropriate sanction(s) or responsive actions, which are promptly implemented in order to effectively stop the harassment, discrimination, and/or retaliation; prevent its recurrence; and remedy the effects of the conduct, both on the Complainant and the community.

If the Respondent accepts responsibility for all of the alleged policy violations and the Title IX co-coordinator or designee has determined appropriate sanction(s) or responsive actions, which are promptly implemented, the process is over. The Complainant will be informed of this outcome.

If the Respondent accepts responsibility for some of the alleged policy violations and the Title IX co-coordinator has determined appropriate sanction(s) or responsive actions, which are promptly implemented, for those violations, then the remaining allegations will continue to be investigated and resolved. The Complainant will be informed of this outcome. The parties are still able to seek Alternate Resolution on the remaining allegations, subject to the stipulations above.

**iii. Negotiated Resolution**

The Title IX co-coordinator, with the consent of the parties, may negotiate and implement any agreement to resolve the allegations that satisfies all parties and the University of Mount Union.

**a. Administrative Resolution**

Administrative Resolution can be pursued for any behavior for which the Respondent has not accepted responsibility that constitutes conduct covered by the interim Equal Opportunity, Harassment, and Nondiscrimination Policy at any time during the process. Administrative Resolution starts with a thorough, reliable, and impartial investigation.

If Administrative Resolution is initiated, the Title IX co-coordinator will provide written notification of the investigation to the parties at an appropriate time during the investigation. Typically, notice is given (at least 48 hours) in advance of an interview. Advanced notice facilitates the parties’ ability to identify and choose an Advisor, if any, to accompany them to the interview.

Notification will include a meaningful summary of the allegations, will be made in writing, and may be delivered by one or more of the following methods: in person, mailed to the local or permanent address of the parties as indicated in official University of Mount Union records, or emailed to the parties’ University of Mount Union-issued or designated email account.

Once mailed, emailed, and/or received in-person, notice will be presumptively delivered. The notification should include the policies allegedly violated, if known at the time. Alternatively, the policies allegedly violated can be provided at a later date, in writing, as the investigation progresses, and details become clearer.

The University of Mount Union aims to complete all investigations within a sixty (60) business day time period, which can be extended as necessary for appropriate cause by the Title IX co-coordinator, with notice to the parties as appropriate.

Once the decision is made to commence an investigation, the Title IX co-coordinator appoints Pool members
to conduct the investigation, typically using a team of two Investigators, usually within five (5) days of determining that an investigation should proceed.

The appropriate Title IX co-coordinator will vet the assigned Investigator(s) to ensure impartiality by ensuring there are no conflicts of interest or disqualifying bias.

The parties may, at any time during the resolution process, raise a concern regarding bias or conflict of interest, and the Title IX co-coordinator will determine whether the concern is reasonable and supportable. If so, another Investigator will be assigned and the impact of the bias or conflict, if any, will be remedied. If the bias or conflict relates to the Title IX co-coordinator, concerns should be raised with the non-involved Title IX co-coordinator.

Investigations are completed expeditiously, normally within 20 business days, though some investigations take weeks or even months, depending on the nature, extent, and complexity of the allegations, availability of witnesses, police involvement, etc.

The University of Mount Union will make a good faith effort to complete investigations as promptly as circumstances permit and will communicate regularly with the parties to update them on the progress and timing of the investigation.

The University of Mount Union may undertake a short delay in its investigation (several days to weeks, to allow evidence collection) when criminal charges based on the same behaviors that invoke the University of Mount Union’s resolution process are being investigated by law enforcement. The University of Mount Union will promptly resume its investigation and resolution process once notified by law enforcement that the initial evidence collection process is complete.

University of Mount Union action(s) are not typically altered or precluded on the grounds that civil or criminal charges involving the underlying incident(s) have been filed or that criminal charges have been dismissed or reduced.

Investigations involve interviews with all relevant parties and witnesses, obtaining available, relevant evidence, and identifying sources of expert information, as necessary.

All parties have a full and fair opportunity, though the investigation process, to suggest witnesses and questions, to provide evidence, and to fully review and respond to all evidence, on the record.

6. Investigation

The Investigators typically take the following steps, if not already completed (not necessarily in this order):

- Determine the identity and contact information of the Complainant
- In coordination with campus partners (e.g., the Title IX co-coordinator), initiate or assist with any necessary supportive measures
- Identify all policies implicated by the alleged misconduct
- Assist the Title IX co-coordinator with conducting an initial assessment to determine if there is reasonable cause to believe the Respondent has violated policy
- If there is insufficient evidence to support reasonable cause, the process is closed with no further action
- Commence a thorough, reliable, and impartial investigation by developing a strategic investigation plan, including a witness list, evidence list, intended investigation timeframe, and order of interviews for all parties and witnesses
- Meet with the Complainant to finalize their statement, if necessary
• Prepare the initial Notice of Investigation and Allegation (NOIA) on the basis of the initial assessment. Notice may be one step or multiple steps, depending on how the investigation unfolds, and potential policy violations may be added or dropped as more is learned. Investigators will update the NOIA accordingly and provide it to the parties.

• Notice should inform the parties of their right to have the assistance of a Pool member as a process Advisor appointed by the University of Mount Union or other Advisor of their choosing present for all meetings attended by the advisee.

• When formal notice is being given, it should provide the parties with a written description of the alleged violation(s), a list of all policies allegedly violated, a description of the applicable procedures, and a statement of the potential sanctions/responsive actions that could result.

• Give an instruction to the parties to preserve any evidence that is directly related to the allegations.

• Provide the parties and witnesses with an opportunity to review and verify the Investigator’s summary notes from interviews and meetings with that specific party or witness.

• Make good faith efforts to notify the parties of any meeting or interview involving the other party, in advance when possible.

• Interview all relevant individuals and conduct follow-up interviews as necessary.

• Allow each party the opportunity to suggest questions they wish the Investigator(s) to ask of the other party and witnesses.

• Complete the investigation promptly and without unreasonable deviation from the intended timeline.

• Provide regular status updates to the parties throughout the investigation.

• Prior to the conclusion of the investigation, summarize for the parties the list of witnesses whose information will be used to render a finding.

• Write a comprehensive investigation report fully summarizing the investigation and all evidence.

• Provide parties with a copy of the draft investigation report when it is completed, including all relevant evidence, analysis, credibility assessments, and recommended finding(s).

• Provide each party with a full and fair opportunity to respond to the report in writing within 5 days and incorporate that response into the report.

• Investigators may choose to respond in writing in the report to the responses of the parties, and/or to share the responses between the parties for their responses, while also ensuring that they do not create a never-ending feedback loop.

• Share the report with the Title IX co-coordinator and/or legal counsel for review and feedback.

• Provide the final report to the Title IX co-coordinator with one of two options:
  ○ Gather, assess, and synthesize evidence without making a finding, conclusion, determination or recommendation.

• Provide the final report to the Title IX co-coordinator. Recommend to the Title IX co-coordinator a finding, based on a preponderance of the evidence (whether a policy violation is more likely than not).

7. Determination

Within two to three days of receiving the Investigator’s recommendation, the Title IX co-coordinator or a trained, designated Decision-maker from the Decision-Maker Pool26 reviews the report and all responses, and then makes the final determination on the basis of the preponderance of the evidence.

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26 When the Title IX co-coordinator is the Investigator or has been heavily involved in the process prior to determination, a Decision-maker should be designated from the Decision-Maker Pool to ensure there is no conflict of interest.
If the record is incomplete, the Title IX co-coordinator or Decision-Maker may direct a re-opening of the investigation, or may direct or conduct any additional inquiry necessary, including informally meeting with the parties or any witnesses, if needed.

The recommendation of the investigation should be strongly considered but is not binding on the Title IX co-coordinator/Decision-Maker. The Title IX co-coordinator or Decision-Maker may invite and consider impact statements from the parties if and when determining appropriate sanction(s), if any.

The Title IX co-coordinator then timely provides the parties with a written Notice of Outcome to include findings, any sanction(s), and a detailed rationale, delivered simultaneously (without undue delay) to the parties.

8. Additional Details of the Investigation Process

a. Witness responsibilities

Witnesses (as distinguished from the parties) who are faculty or staff of the University of Mount Union are expected to cooperate with and participate in the University of Mount Union’s investigation and resolution process. Failure of a witness to cooperate with and/or participate in the investigation or resolution process constitutes a violation of Policy and may be subject to discipline.

b. Remote processes

Parties and witnesses may be interviewed remotely by phone, video conferencing, or similar technologies if the Investigators or Decision-Maker determine that timeliness or efficiency dictates a need for remote interviewing. Witnesses may also provide written statements in lieu of interviews, or respond to questions in writing, if deemed appropriate by the Investigators, though this approach is not ideal. Where remote technologies are used, the University of Mount Union makes reasonable efforts to ensure privacy, and that any technology does not work to the detriment of any party or subject them to unfairness.

c. Recording

No unauthorized audio or video recording of any kind is permitted during the resolution process. If Investigators elect to audio and/or video record interviews, all involved parties must be made aware of audio and/or video recording.

d. Evidence

Any evidence that is relevant and credible may be considered, including an individual’s prior misconduct history as well as evidence indicating a pattern of misconduct. The process should exclude irrelevant or immaterial evidence and may disregard evidence lacking in credibility or that is improperly prejudicial.

e. Sexual history/patterns

Unless the Title IX co-coordinator determines it is appropriate, the investigation and the finding do not consider: (1) incidents not directly related to the possible violation, unless they evidence a pattern; (2) the sexual history of the parties (though there may be a limited exception made with regard to the sexual history between the parties); or (3) the character of the parties.

f. Previous allegations/violations

While previous conduct violations by the Respondent are not generally admissible as information supporting
the current allegation, the Investigators may supply the Title IX co-coordinator with information about previous
good faith allegations and/or findings, when that information suggests potential pattern and/or predatory
conduct.

Previous disciplinary action of any kind involving the Respondent may be considered in determining the
appropriate sanctions, as the University of Mount Union uses a progressive discipline system.

5 Character witnesses

Neither the Title IX co-coordinator nor the Investigators meet with character witnesses, but the Investigators
may accept up to two (2) letters supporting the character of each of the parties. Such letters must be provided
to the Investigators prior to the report being finalized; otherwise, the parties have waived their right to provide
such letters.

6. Notification of outcome

If the Respondent admits to the violation(s), or is found in violation, the Title IX co-coordinator or designee,
in consultation with other administrators as appropriate, determines sanction(s) and/or responsive actions,
which are promptly implemented in order to effectively to stop the harassment, discrimination, and/or
retaliation; prevent its recurrence; and remedy the effects of the discriminatory conduct, both on the
Complainant and the community.

The Title IX co-coordinator informs the parties of the determination within two to three business days of the
resolution, ideally simultaneously, but without significant time delay between notifications. Notifications are
made in writing and may be delivered by one or more of the following methods: in person; mailed to the local
or permanent address of the parties as indicated in official University of Mount Union records; or emailed to
the parties’ University of Mount Union -issued or designated email account. Once mailed, emailed, and/or
received in-person, notice is presumptively delivered.

The Notification of Outcome specifies the finding for each alleged policy violation, any sanction(s) that may
result which the University of Mount Union is permitted to share pursuant to state or federal law, and the
rationale supporting the essential findings to the extent the University of Mount Union is permitted to share
under state or federal law.

The notice will detail when the determination is considered final and will detail any changes that are made prior
to finalization.

Unless based on an acceptance of violation by the Respondent, the determination may be appealed by either
party. The Notification of Outcome also includes the grounds on which the parties may appeal and the steps
the parties may take to request an appeal of the findings. More information about the appeal procedures can
be found below.

9. Sanctions

Factors considered when determining any sanction(s)/responsive action(s) may include, but are not limited to:

● The nature, severity of, and circumstances surrounding the violation
● An individual’s disciplinary history
● Previous allegations or allegations involving similar conduct
● The need for sanctions/responsive actions to bring an end to the discrimination, harassment, and/or
  retaliation
● The need for sanctions/responsive actions to prevent the future recurrence of discrimination,
harassment, and/or retaliation
- The need to remedy the effects of the discrimination, harassment, and/or retaliation on the Complainant and the community
- The impact on the parties
- Any other information deemed relevant by the Title IX Co-coordinator

The sanction(s) will be implemented as soon as is feasible. The sanctions described in this policy are not exclusive of, and may be in addition to, other actions taken, or sanctions imposed by outside authorities.

a. Student Sanctions

The following are the sanctions that may be imposed upon students or student organizations singly or in combination:
- **Warning**: An official written notice that the student or organization has violated the Code of Student Conduct, that such behavior is unacceptable, and that more severe conduct action will result should the student be involved in other violations while the student is enrolled at the University.
- **Community Service Requirements**: For a student or organization to complete a specific supervised university and/or community service.
- **Loss of Privileges**: The student or organization will be denied specified privileges for a designated period of time.
- **Educational Sanctions**: This includes, but is not limited to, required activities such as seeking counseling or substance abuse screening, writing a letter of apology, etc.
- **Educational Program**: Requirement to attend, present, and/or participate in a program related to the violation. It may also be a requirement to sponsor or assist with a program for others on campus to aid them in learning about a specific topic or issue related to the violation for which the student or organization was found responsible. Audience may be restricted.
- **Restriction of Visitation Privileges**: May be imposed on a resident or non-resident student. The parameters of the restriction will be specified.
- **Housing Probation**: Official notice that, should further violations of Residence Life or University policies occur during a specified probationary period, the student may immediately be removed from University housing. Regular probationary meetings may also be imposed.
- **Housing Reassignment**: Reassignment to another University housing facility. Residential Life personnel will decide on the reassignment details in collaboration with the director of student conduct or designee. When a student is reassigned within University housing, they are banned from the building or hall they were reassigned from for the rest of the academic year unless otherwise noted in their decision letter.
- **Housing Suspension**: Removal from University housing for a specified period of time after which the student is eligible to return. Conditions for re-admission to University housing may be specified. Under this sanction, a student is required to vacate University housing within 24 hours of notification of the action, though this deadline may be extended upon application to, and at the discretion of, the director of residence life. This sanction may be enforced with a trespass action if deemed necessary. Prior to reapplication for University housing, the student must gain permission from the director of residence life or designee. When a student is suspended from University housing, they are banned from all housing facilities until they have received permission from the director of residence life to return to University housing.
- **Housing Expulsion**: The student’s privilege to live in, or visit, any University housing structure is revoked indefinitely. This sanction may be enforced with a trespass action if deemed necessary.
- **University Probation**: The student is put on official notice that, should further violations of University policies occur during a specified probationary period, the student may face more severe sanctions,
including suspension or expulsion. Regular probationary meetings may also be imposed. A student on University probation is deemed “not in good standing” with the institution.

- **Suspension**: Separation from the University for a specified minimum period of time, after which the student is eligible to return. Eligibility may be contingent upon satisfaction of specific conditions noted at the time of suspension. The student is required to vacate the campus within 24 hours of notification of the action, though this deadline may be extended upon application to, and at the discretion of, the director of student conduct or designee. During the suspension period, the student is banned from university property, functions, events, and activities without prior written approval from the director of student conduct or designee. This sanction may be enforced with a trespass action as necessary.

- **Expulsion**: Permanent separation from the University. The student is banned from all university property and the student’s presence at any University-sponsored activity or event is prohibited. This action may be enforced with a trespass action as necessary.

- **Degree revocation or Withholding**: the termination of a student’s degree based on a violation that the University becomes aware of after a student graduates or the withholding of a degree due to a violation that occurs prior to graduation as the conduct process proceeds and/or until sanctions are completed.

- **Organizational Sanctions**: Deactivation, loss of recognition, loss of some or all privileges (including University of Mount Union registration) for a specified period of time.

- **Other Sanctions**: Additional or alternate sanctions may be created and designed as deemed appropriate to the offense with the approval of the Title IX Co-coordinator or designee.

### b. Employee Sanctions

Responsive actions for an employee who has engaged in harassment, discrimination, and/or retaliation include:

- **Warning – Verbal or Written**
- **Performance Improvement/Management Process**
- **Required Counseling**
- **Required Training or Education**
- **Probation**
- **Loss of Annual Pay Increase**
- **Loss of Oversight or Supervisory Responsibility**
- **Demotion**
- **Suspension with pay**
- **Suspension without pay**
- **Termination**

- **Other Actions**: In addition to or in place of the above sanctions, the University of Mount Union may assign any other sanctions as deemed appropriate.

### 10. Withdrawal or Resignation While Charges are Pending

#### a. Students

The University of Mount Union does not permit a student to withdraw if that student has an allegation pending for violation of the policy on interim Equal Opportunity, Harassment, and Nondiscrimination. The University of Mount Union may place a hold, bar access to an official transcript, and/or prohibit graduation as necessary to permit the resolution process to be completed.

#### b. Employees

Should an employee resign with unresolved allegations pending, the records of the Title IX Co-coordinator
will reflect that status, and any University of Mount Union responses to future inquiries regarding employment references for that individual will include the former employee’s unresolved status.

II. Appeals

All requests for appeal consideration must be submitted in writing to the Title IX co-coordinator within 5 business days of the delivery of the written finding of the Title IX co-coordinator or Decision-Maker. Any party may appeal the findings only under the grounds described below.

An Appeal Decision-Maker chosen from the Pool will be designated by the Title IX co-coordinator from those who have not been involved in the process previously. Any party may appeal, but appeals are limited to the following grounds:

- A procedural error or omission occurred that significantly impacted the outcome of the hearing (e.g., substantiated bias, material deviation from established procedures, failure to correctly apply the evidentiary standard).
- To consider new evidence, unknown or unavailable during the investigation, that could substantially impact the original finding or sanction. A summary of this new evidence and its potential impact must be included.
- The sanctions imposed fall outside the range of sanctions the University of Mount Union has designated for this offense and the cumulative record of the Respondent.

When any party requests an appeal, the Title IX co-coordinator will share the appeal request with the other party(ies) or other appropriate persons such as the Investigators, who may file a response within three (3) business days. The other party may also bring their own appeal on separate grounds.

If new grounds are raised, the original appealing party will be permitted to submit a written response to these new grounds within 5 business days. These responses or appeal requests will be shared with each party. The Appeal Decision-Maker will review the appeal request(s) within 5 business days of completing the pre-appeal exchange of materials. If grounds are not sufficient for an appeal, or the appeal is not timely, the Appeal Decision-Maker dismisses the appeal.

When the Appeal Decision-Maker finds that at least one of the grounds is met by at least one party, additional principles governing the review of appeals include the following:

- Decisions by the Appeal Decision-Maker are to be deferential to the original decision, making changes to the finding only when there is clear error and to the sanction(s)/responsive action(s) only if there is compelling justification to do so.
- Appeals are not intended to be full re-hearings (de novo) of the allegation(s). In most cases, appeals are confined to a review of the written documentation or record of the investigation and pertinent documentation regarding the grounds for appeal.
- An appeal is not an opportunity for the Appeal Decision-Maker to substitute their judgment for that of the original Investigators or Title IX co-coordinator/Decision-Maker merely because they disagree with the finding and/or sanction(s).
- Appeals granted based on new evidence should normally be remanded to the Investigator(s) for reconsideration. Other appeals should be remanded at the discretion of the Appeal Decision-Maker.
- Sanctions imposed as the result of Administrative Resolution are implemented immediately unless the Title IX co-coordinator stays their implementation in extraordinary circumstances, pending the outcome of the appeal.
  - For students: Graduation, study abroad, internships/externships, etc., do NOT in and of themselves constitute exigent circumstances, and students may not be able to participate in those activities during their appeal.
- All parties will be informed in writing within 5 business days of the outcome of the appeal without
significant time delay between notifications, and in accordance with the standards for Notice of Outcome as defined above.

- Once an appeal is decided, the outcome is final; further appeals are not permitted, even if a decision or sanction is changed on remand. When appeals result in no change to the finding or sanction, that decision is final. When an appeal results in a new finding or sanction, that finding or sanction can be appealed one final time on the grounds listed above, and in accordance with these procedures.
- In rare cases when a procedural or substantive error cannot be cured by the original Investigators and/or Title IX co-coordinator/Decision-Maker (as in cases of bias), the Appeal Decision-Maker may recommend a new investigation and/or Administrative Resolution process, including a new resolution administrator.
- The results of a new Administrative Resolution process can be appealed once, on any of the three applicable grounds for appeals.
- In cases in which the appeal results in Respondent’s reinstatement to the University of Mount Union or resumption of privileges, all reasonable attempts will be made to restore the Respondent to their prior status, recognizing that some opportunities lost may be irreparable in the short term.

12. Long-Term Remedies/Actions

Following the conclusion of the resolution process, and in addition to any sanctions implemented, the Title IX co-coordinator may implement long-term remedies or actions with respect to the parties and/or the campus community to stop the harassment, discrimination, and/or retaliation; remedy its effects; and prevent its reoccurrence.

These remedies/actions may include, but are not limited to:

- Referral to counseling and health services
- Referral to the Employee Assistance Program
- Education to the community
- Permanent alteration of housing assignments
- Permanent alteration of work arrangements for employees
- Provision of campus safety escorts
- Climate surveys
- Policy modification
- Provision of transportation accommodations
- Implementation of long-term contact limitations between the parties
- Implementation of adjustments to academic deadlines, course schedules, etc.

At the discretion of the Title IX co-coordinator, long-term remedies may also be provided to the Complainant even if no policy violation is found.

When no policy violation is found, the Title IX co-coordinator will address any remedial requirements owed by the University of Mount Union to the Respondent.

13. Failure to Complete Sanctions/Comply with Interim and Long-term Remedies/Responsive Actions

All Respondents are expected to comply with conduct sanctions, responsive actions, and corrective actions within the timeframe specified by the Title IX co-coordinator.

Failure to abide by the sanction(s)/action(s) imposed by the date specified, whether by refusal, neglect, or any
other reason, may result in additional sanction(s)/responsive/corrective action(s), including suspension, expulsion, and/or termination from the University of Mount Union.

A suspension will only be lifted when compliance is achieved to the satisfaction of the Title IX Co-coordinator.

14. Recordkeeping

In implementing this policy, records of all allegations, investigations, resolutions, and hearings will be kept indefinitely, or as required by state or federal law or institutional policy, by the Title IX Co-coordinator in the Title IX case database.

15. Statement of the Rights of the Parties

see Appendix B

16. Disabilities Accommodation in the Resolution Process

The University of Mount Union is committed to providing reasonable accommodations and support to qualified students, employees, or others with disabilities to ensure equal access to the resolution process at University of Mount Union. Anyone needing such accommodations or support should contact the director of student accessibility services or the director of human resources or designee, as appropriate, who will review the request and, in consultation with the person requesting the accommodation, and the Title IX co-coordinator, determine which accommodations are appropriate and necessary for full participation in the process.

17. Revision

These policies and procedures will be reviewed and updated annually by the Title IX co-coordinators. The University of Mount Union reserves the right to make changes to this document as necessary and once those changes are posted online, they are in effect.

The Title IX co-coordinators may make minor modifications to these procedures that do not materially jeopardize the fairness owed to any party, such as to accommodate summer schedules.

The Title IX co-coordinators may also vary procedures materially with notice (on the University of Mount Union website, with the appropriate effective date identified) upon determining that changes to law or regulation require policy or procedural alterations not reflected in this policy and procedure.

Procedures in effect at the time of the resolution will apply to resolution of incidents, regardless of when the incident occurred.

Policy in effect at the time of the offense will apply even if the policy is changed subsequently but prior to resolution, unless the parties consent to be bound by the current policy.

If government regulations change in a way that impacts this document, this document will be construed to comply with the most recent government regulations.

This document does not create legally enforceable protections beyond the protection of the background state and federal laws which frame such policies and codes, generally.
This policy and procedure was implemented on August 14, 2020.

Non-Discrimination Statement

The University of Mount Union prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, gender, gender identity or expression, sex, sexual orientation, religion, age, color, creed, national or ethnic origin, veteran status, marital or parental status, pregnancy, disability, or genetic information, in student admissions, financial aid, educational or athletic programs, or employment as now, or may hereafter be, required by university policy and federal or state law. Inquiries regarding compliance may be directed to Marci Craig, director of human resources, Beeghly Hall, (330) 829-6560, craigml@mountunion.edu.

Statement Regarding Acts of Intolerance and Harassment

As an educational community, Mount Union has made a commitment to work toward a campus that is free from discrimination and that celebrates the diversity of its various community members. The University will not tolerate behavior that in any way undermines the emotional, physical, or ethical integrity of any member of its community. Mount Union seeks to protect and enhance the personal safety, dignity, and self-respect of each member of the campus community. Moreover, the University will use its influence to encourage the entire community to treat its students, faculty, staff, and affiliated visitors in a manner consistent with the principles of this statement. Academic freedom can only exist when all are free to pursue ideas in a non-threatening, non-coercive atmosphere of mutual respect.

It is imperative that campus community members report acts of intolerance. If these acts go unreported, then the opportunity for assistance and education is lost. Silence perpetuates the idea that there are no problems stemming from intolerant behavior at Mount Union. Any incident of discrimination or harassment that includes race, gender, gender identity or expression, sex, sexual orientation, religion, age, color, creed, national or ethnic origin, veteran status, marital or parental status, pregnancy, disability, or genetic information should be reported.

Nothing in this document shall be construed to limit an individual’s rights to freedom of political or artistic expression, or other expressions of an academic nature. In particular, the expression of political opinions about issues both on campus and in the wider national and international community explicitly does not constitute harassment. Works of art created or presented by students, faculty, and other members of the community are similarly protected.

Parking Policies

All drivers will be assigned a particular parking area based upon their status (residential, graduate, commuter, faculty/staff). Faculty and staff spaces are reserved from 10 p.m. on Sunday until 6 p.m. on Friday. Detailed information on parking areas can be found in the parking policies handout that is distributed to all individuals who register a vehicle and is also available at the Office of Campus Safety and Security or on its webpage.
Mount Union assumes no responsibility or liability for a motor vehicle or its contents while parked or operated on the property of the University.

**Registration**

1. All student, faculty, and staff vehicles at the University of Mount Union must be registered and identified with a parking permit obtained from the Office of Campus Safety and Security. There is a $100 fee for any graduate or undergraduate student parking permit. Vehicle must be registered online through ‘MyParking’ or on iRaider under Forms→Vehicles→MyParking. The information needed is the license plate number, make, model, year, color, and owner of the vehicle.
2. Student permits will be assigned based upon student status (resident, graduate, or commuter). If student status changes at any point during the academic year, the student is responsible for contacting the Office of Campus Safety and Security to obtain a new parking permit.
3. Student parking registrations remain in place unless the student changes status or when a student ceases to be enrolled with Mount Union. Registration also terminates when ownership of the registered vehicle is transferred.

**Permits**

1. Acceptance of a Mount Union parking permit is an acknowledgement by the registrant that these parking policies have been read and understood and constitutes an agreement by the registrant to abide by the parking policies.
2. The permit must be placed on the rearview mirror of the vehicle and must be completely visible from the outside at all times.
3. If a new vehicle is purchased (even if the vehicle still has 30-day tags) or any vehicle information should change, a new permit must be obtained from the Office of Campus Safety and Security.
4. Theft, vandalism, or trading of permits is strictly prohibited and will result in referral to the Office of Student Conduct for adjudication.
5. Issuance of a parking permit does not assure the driver of an open parking space. Lack of a space is not considered a valid excuse for violation of the policies.

**Schedule of Fines**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First ticket</th>
<th>$50</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Second ticket</td>
<td>$100 and the vehicle will be immobilized ($50 for towing service to remove)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third ticket</td>
<td>$200 and the vehicle will be towed and the parking permit is revoked (charges from towing service may vary)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Failure to register the vehicle will result in a $100 fine.

An exception to this schedule of fines is when a vehicle is inappropriately parked in a handicapped parking space. In this instance, the owner of the vehicle will be issued a $50 parking ticket and the vehicle will be towed immediately. Parking fines will also be assessed to faculty, staff, and all students for parking violations in dedicated Visitor spaces.

If a vehicle has been booted, a towing service must be contacted to remove the restraint from the vehicle. If the restraint is not removed within 24 hours, the vehicle will be towed at the owner’s expense. Excessive parking violations may also result in a referral to the Office of Student Conduct for adjudication.
Ticket fines will be billed to the student or employee’s account and must be paid in a timely manner at the Business Office.

**Violations**

All parking lots are patrolled daily and fines will be assessed for a variety of violations; including but not limited to:

- parking in an area for which you are not designated
- unregistered vehicle
- parking in yellow-painted areas
- blocking driveway or access
- parking on a sidewalk or grass
- parking in a handicap space without appropriate permit
- parking in a visitor’s space

The registrant is responsible for all violations regardless of who is operating the vehicle at the time the violation occurs. Having four-way flashers on does not make it acceptable to park in a restricted area (service vehicle, fire lane, handicap, etc.). Every attempt is made to maintain parking signs, but vehicle operators are expected to park appropriately, even in the absence of signs.

**Appeals**

If the recipient of a ticket believes that it was issued in error, the recipient can file an appeal to have the ticket voided. Appeals must be filed within seven calendar days of the infraction date. Appeal forms are available on iRaider under Forms→Vehicles. They are also available in the Office of Campus Safety and Security lobby. Appeals filed after seven (7) calendar days will not be accepted, and the fine must be paid at the Office of Business Affairs.

**Visitors**

Visitor parking is available at designated areas across campus. Visitor spaces are reserved 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

**Handicapped Parking Spaces**

Anyone parking in a handicapped parking space without a valid state issued handicap pass or a valid Mount Union issued temporary handicap pass will be charged $50 (it increases with each violation) and their vehicle may be towed immediately.

**Special Passes**

Temporary parking passes are available upon request from the director of campus safety and security for the following conditions:

- **Temporary Pass**: Available for one to five days for students who will temporarily have a different car on campus.
- **Temporary Handicap Pass**: Available to students who have been injured or have a condition that makes walking difficult. A written doctor’s excuse may be required.
- **Visitor Pass** – available for departmental use for special guests, speakers, etc.
- Street parking is available as permitted by the City of Alliance.
Posting

The University supports the freedom to publicize activities and distribute materials by internal or external entities relating to functions on- and off-campus that benefit the University community and are consistent with the University’s values.

General Posting Policy

Approval must be obtained prior to making use of the residence halls or campus facilities for the sale, promotion, posting, or distribution of any type of material. All material must have a sponsor responsible for the material stated directly on each piece and adhere to all policies that apply. All printed materials posted or distributed on campus by students and guests must receive approval from the director of student involvement & leadership or designee. Printed materials include flyers, posters, banners, announcements, and advertisements. Bring one sample to the Office of Student Affairs for marked approval and make copies from that sample. Allow 24 hours turnaround time for approval. Review and approval of postings will be based on the time, place, and manner of posting, not the posting’s content.

Additional Approvals

The director of career development must also approve announcements advertising employment opportunities for students.

The promoting group must obtain permission of the appropriate department to post on bulletin boards in Academic/Administrative areas for non-departmental ads.

Literature Distribution

Literature distribution must be supervised by a student member of the sponsoring registered student organization. Non-students may not distribute literature on campus without specific approval of the associate dean of students.

Each sponsoring organization will be held responsible for the conduct of the distribution activity, including the behavior of any non-student participant.

On Campus: The distribution must be made only in designated areas. Using non-courteous sound and/or harassing people to facilitate the distribution of literature is not permitted.

Off Campus: Posting or distribution of materials at an off-campus location requires permission of the proprietor.

Posting Guidelines

A maximum of 50 posters, 150 flyers or announcements, and up to four banners are permitted per event, excluding advertisements for residence halls. Requests for more advertisements can be made to the director of student involvement & leadership.

Masking tape or push pins (in bulletin boards only) are suitable for posting. Posting of print materials, other than by the University administration, is not permitted on glass windows or doors. You may get permission to paint the KHIC windows by contacting the Library Office prior to painting. Persons posting are responsible for providing all materials and any physical damage done by the posting.
Materials may remain posted for a maximum of 30 days or until the day after the announced event, whichever is sooner. The sponsoring group is responsible for removal. Groups may be fined if materials are not removed the day after an event.

Absolutely no printed materials may be placed on automobiles parked on University property.

**Posting Violations**

- Posting materials without proper approval(s).
- Posters that do not comply with the alcohol policy.
- Use of two-sided, electrical or duct tape.
- Covering another announcement or impairing an individual’s line of sight.
- Posting on glass doors or windows.
- Posting on painted, or varnished surfaces.
- Distribution on cars parked on campus.

Failure to adhere to this policy may result in losing the privilege to distribute or post printed materials on campus for a period of time to be specified by the director of the Office of Student Involvement & Leadership.

**Residence Life Policies and Procedures**

**Room Assignment and Change Policies**

All full-time students are required to live on campus for two years unless commuting from home or a University of Mount Union Petition for Off-Campus Residency is submitted via MyHousing to and approved by the Office of Residence Life. Exceptions will be made for the following reasons:

1. Live with parent/guardian: Students who are living exclusively in the permanent, primary residence of parent(s)/guardian(s) within 60 driving miles of Mount Union.
2. Lived on campus for four semesters but lack the requisite 60 hours for junior standing
3. Married, divorced, widowed, or custodial parent (documentation required)
4. Will be 22 years of age or older, prior to the first day of classes for that academic term
5. Possession of a baccalaureate degree from an accredited four-year college or university (documentation required)
6. Served and honorably discharged from the Armed Forces (documentation required)
7. Extraordinary medical, mental/emotional, or financial hardship (explanation required)

Permission to live off campus is only valid as long as the reason for the exemption exists. The University reserves the right to revoke permission granted for off-campus residency when the University deems it necessary or appropriate. The student's local address and phone number must be maintained through the Office of the University Registrar in order for off-campus approval to remain valid. Any student who does not provide an accurate address and phone number by July 1 may be charged for room.

Any student supplying false information on a request for off-campus/commuter residency or failing to immediately notify the Office of Residence Life upon a change in exemption status, with intent to deceive, will be charged for the semester’s or year’s room and be subject to conduct action. In addition, no refunds for room will be issued after the student has checked into the residence hall. Students are reminded that they are responsible for the rules, regulations, and policies of Mount Union whether living on or off campus.
Any requests submitted for medical or mental/emotional reasons must be approved through the Office of Student Accessibility Services, Office of Health Services, and/or Office of Counseling Services. The appropriate verification from one of these offices should be submitted along with the request form.

In addition, all students living in campus housing (with the exception of the townhouses and apartments) are required to be on the full-service meal plans (please see the meal plans section under Facility Scheduling).

The Office of Residence Life assigns new students to rooms. Each new student submits a housing form indicating their personal interests, living habits, and hall preference. Mutual roommate preference requests are honored whenever possible. An attempt is made to assign students to a roommate who has similar living habits and common interests. The assignment of roommates is a very difficult task and the success of the pairings varies. Consideration for others and the ability to adjust to new situations are two important requirements for a successful room situation. These qualities are difficult to determine from housing forms, but patience, effort, communication, and understanding usually resolve any initial difficulties after students live together for a short time. Room and roommate assignments are completed without regard to race, gender, gender identity or expression, sex, sexual orientation, religion, age, color, creed, national or ethnic origin, veteran status, marital or parental status, pregnancy, disability, or genetic information.

Returning students select their own roommates and rooms during spring semester for the coming academic year. This process is referred to as “room lottery.” Once a student signs up for a room for the next academic year, they have until April 1 in apartments or townhouses and June 1 in halls and houses to cancel their housing contract for the fall semester in writing. Students canceling their housing contract for the spring semester must do so by December 1 in writing. After those dates, students who cancel their housing will be assessed a $150 late cancellation fee.

**Overbooking and Temporary Assignments**

Every semester a number of students assigned to rooms in the residence facilities do not report to their campus housing assignments. In anticipation of a certain number of these “no shows” and attrition, and in order to accommodate as many students as possible, it is the University’s practice to assign some students to temporary living spaces when necessary. There can be no guarantee as to specifically when during the academic year a permanent space will be identified for each student assigned to an overbooked space. Students temporarily assigned to overbooked rooms or lounges are required to relocate to a permanent space when one becomes available.

**Administrative Room Reassignments or Removals**

The University reserves the right to make changes in room and residence hall/house assignments whenever it deems necessary. This includes consolidating persons in rooms where the occupancy is less than the designated capacity and closing campus houses or particular floors if enrollment decreases to an extent where such a move would be in the best interest of the University. In addition, an administrative move or removal may occur when there is strong evidence to suggest that a student has been or may be a danger to themself, to other residents, or to the facility.
Room Change Policy and Procedures

Once a student has been assigned to a room, the student may not move to another room in any residential facility without first meeting with their resident director, completing a room change request form, and receiving approval from the Office of Residence Life. The Room Change Request form is available in MyHousing. Filling out this online request will prompt an email from reslife@mountunion.edu telling students how to proceed and describing the current open spaces in the various housing options. There is a “room freeze” during the first two weeks of each semester during which room changes are not permitted. Approval for room changes requires the signatures of both current and prospective roommates, as well as residence hall staff in the current and prospective housing.

All changes must be properly approved by the Office of Residence Life prior to any move taking place. Once a move has been approved, the student will have three days (72 hours) to meet with a residence hall staff member to complete the Room Condition Report of their old room and new room, move into their new room, and return the key to their old room to the Office of Residence Life in the HPCC. Failure to complete a Room Condition Report of the old and new room will result in the student being assessed a charge of $25 for improper check-out. Failure to return the key to the student’s old room will result in the student being assessed a charge of $60 to cover the cost of changing the locks on the student’s former room. Any student making an unauthorized move at any time during the semester will be required to move back to their original room assignment and face disciplinary action.

The University reserves the right to reassign individuals to different rooms at any time (including emergencies or temporary assignments pending conduct action) if such reassignment is deemed necessary.

Room Consolidation Policy

A student living alone in a standard double room may be offered the opportunity to buy out that room as a “super single.” If that opportunity is either not made available (due to space constraints) or that student does not want to pay the additional price for a single room, they may either be moved into a double room with another student who does not want to pay the additional cost or may have another student moved in with them.

Students living in the townhouses and apartments will be asked to consolidate should spaces become available in their units. If there are students on a waiting list to get into the apartments or townhouses, the office will work to fill those vacancies. The Office of Residence Life reserves the right to move any student on the waiting list for the townhouses and apartments into a vacant space within a unit. Apartment and townhouse residents will first be asked to choose a student off the waiting list, however, should no one be chosen to move into the vacancy, the Office of Residence Life will choose for the unit and fill the open space. The Office of Residence Life may also ask residents in the apartments or townhouses to move to another unit to consolidate. Should three spaces become available in one unit of an apartment or townhouse the only remaining resident will be asked to move to another unit. They cannot bring in three other students to that unit. Students living in the apartments or townhouses on campus may be offered the opportunity to buy out a room in their unit if no other student is available to move into that space. Apartment and townhouse residents can only buy out a room in their unit if there are no students on a waiting list for the units. All students must be eligible to live in the apartments or townhouses in order to be on the waiting list. Eligibility is based on junior status of four full semesters (either at the University of Mount Union or at another accredited institution – documentation required), minimum of 60 earned credit hours or 22 years of age or older.
Check-In/Check-Out and Room Condition Report Procedures

Traditional Housing and Campus Houses

Upon checking into a room, all occupants of the room must review and sign a Room Condition Report (RCR) for their room verifying that the information on the RCR regarding the condition of their room and its furnishings at the time of check-in is accurate. The Room Condition Report is a very important document for both the student and the Office of Residence Life. It is a record of the inventory and condition of the room. It is each resident’s responsibility to make sure their RCR is accurate at the time they check-in. If pre-existing damages are not noted on the RCR at check-in, the occupant will not be able to dispute the charges for that damage at the end of the year. After any discrepancies are noted and the RCR is signed by both the occupant and a residence life staff member, it will be kept on file in the hall until check-out.

Should a student complete a room change or move out of the residence halls at any point during the academic year, it is their responsibility to have the room inspected by a staff member, using the same RCR completed during check-in. All residents are required to participate in this procedure during check-out at the end of the academic year. After checking the condition of the room against the RCR, any changes in condition are noted on the form. Both the resident and the residence life staff member sign the form, and the student is given a copy of the RCR and the original is turned in to the Office of Residence Life.

The Mount Union Physical Plant or a designated contractor will make all repairs. Students should not attempt to repair broken items as those attempts often result in further damage. If an individual fails to complete a proper check-out with a residence life staff member, they will be assessed a $25 improper check-out fee and may forfeit their right to appeal assessed damage charges. Failure to return any house or hall keys at the time of check-out will result in a minimum $60 per key charge. Entrance keys to campus houses and apartments will be assessed at a higher rate.

Upon checking out of a room, the occupants of the room should leave the room in the same good order and condition as when they checked in, reasonable wear and tear excepted. If it is determined that a room has been damaged beyond normal wear, the resident(s) of that room will be billed for the damage. Final inspections of the rooms, as well as all common areas in the halls and houses, will be conducted by the professional hall staff and members of the physical plant staff after all of the residents have checked out at the end of spring semester.

Residents will be charged whenever their use of tape, adhesive holders, nails, thumb tacks, decals, glow-in-the-dark solutions, etc. causes damage to walls, ceilings, floors, windows, and other surfaces in student rooms and common areas. In addition, if a room is not returned to its original clean condition, an excessive cleaning fee of no less than $25 will be assessed. In suite-style residence halls, students may be charged an additional $25 for excessive cleaning required in the connecting bathroom.

Removal of furniture, lofts, carpets, or any other large items from a student room or hallway will also result in a $25 per item removal fee. If students have questions about where to dispose of these items, they should inquire of their resident director. Dumpsters are available in a variety of campus locations at the end of the year.

Students are required to leave the residence halls and houses within 24 hours after their last final exam is completed in both the fall and spring semesters. Students wishing to remain in their halls or houses beyond
that 24-hour time period must obtain written permission from the Office of Residence Life by the deadline indicated in the Hall Closing Memo that is sent to each resident prior to the end of the semester. A substantial reason must be given for an extension to be granted. All students must leave the hall by the announced closing time, even if 24 hours have not passed since their last final. Students who do not leave by the announced hall closing time will be billed an improper check-out fee of $25 and may be billed at a daily rate of $25 or the weekly summer housing rate if the unauthorized stay exceeds four days.

Residence halls and houses do not officially close during fall break, Thanksgiving break, or spring break; however, there is no food service available during those periods. Halls and houses are closed over winter break. Notification of hall closing dates and times, as well as when the halls will reopen, will be communicated to all residents in the Hall Closing Memo that will be distributed to all students at least one week prior to the start of final exams. Only residents granted permission by the Office of Residence Life will be permitted to remain in campus housing during winter break. Students who are given permission will be required to sign a winter break housing contract and may be required to pay for winter break housing.

**Apartment/Townhouses**

Upon checking into a room and unit in the apartments and townhouses, all residents of the room and unit must review and sign a Facility Condition Form (FCF) for their room and unit verifying that the information on the FCF regarding the condition of their room, unit, and its furnishings at the time of check-in is accurate. The FCF is a very important document for both the students and the Office of Residence Life. It is a record of the inventory and condition of the room and unit. It is each resident’s responsibility to make sure their FCF is accurate at the time they check-in with their residence life staff member. A residence life staff member will meet with each unit (all four residents must be present for check-in meeting) within the first two weeks of fall semester to discuss the FCF and pre-existing damages in the unit upon move-in. If pre-existing damages are not noted on the FCF at check-in, the occupant will not be able to dispute the charges for that damage at the end of the year. After any discrepancies are noted and the FCF is signed by both the occupants and a residence life staff member, it will be kept on file in the Office of Residence Life until check-out.

Should a student complete a room change or move out of the apartment or townhouse unit at any point during the academic year, it is their responsibility to have the room inspected by a staff member, using the same FCF completed during check-in. All residents are required to participate in this procedure during check-out at the end of the academic year. After checking the condition of the room against the FCF, any changes in condition are noted on the form. Both the residents and the residence life staff member sign the form, and the student is given a copy of the FCF and the original is turned in to the Office of Residence Life.

If an individual fails to complete a proper check-out with a residence life staff member, they will be assessed a $25 improper check-out fee and may forfeit their right to appeal assessed damage charges. Keys must be returned in drop boxes. Failure to return keys at the time of check-out will result in a minimum $60 per key charge. Entrance keys to townhouses and apartments will be assessed at a higher rate.

Upon checking out of a room, the occupants of the room and unit should leave the room and unit in the same good order and condition as when they checked in, reasonable wear and tear excepted. If it is determined that a room and/or unit has been damaged beyond normal wear, the resident(s) of that room and/or unit will be billed for the damage. Final inspections of the rooms and units, as well as all common areas in the unit, will be conducted by the professional hall staff and members of the physical plant staff after all of the residents have checked out at the end of spring semester.
Residents will be charged whenever their use of tape, adhesive holders, nails, thumb tacks, decals, glow-in-the-dark solutions, etc. causes damage to walls, ceilings, floors, windows, and other surfaces in student rooms and common areas in the units. In addition, if a room or unit is not returned to its original clean condition, an excessive cleaning fee of no less than $25 will be assessed. In the apartments and townhouses, students may be charged an additional $25 for excessive cleaning required in each of the bathrooms, kitchen, living room, closets, stairway, entryway and laundry facilities.

Removal of furniture, lofts, carpets, trash, or any other large items from a room or unit will also result in a $25 per item removal fee. If students have questions about where to dispose of these items, they should inquire with the resident director. Dumpsters are available in a variety of campus locations at the end of each year.

When residents of the apartments and townhouses are preparing for leaving their unit, they need to meet with a Residence Life staff member designated for their area prior to check-out. This “pre-departure meeting” will occur at the end of spring semester will all four residents present. During this meeting, the Residence Life staff member will discuss the Facility Condition Form addressing the condition of the unit at check-in and comparing it to the condition of the unit at that time. The Residence Life staff member will also discuss proper check-out procedures and other important closing information. If a student is leaving mid-semester or mid-year from an apartment or townhouse unit, it is their responsibility for contacting the Residence Life staff member in their area to set up a “pre-departure meeting” separately prior to their departure.

Students are required to leave the apartments and townhouses by the Sunday after finals in the spring semester. If a resident is leaving at the end of fall semester and not returning, they should be checked out by the Sunday after finals have been completed in December. Students wishing to remain in their unit beyond this time period must obtain written permission from the Office of Residence Life by the deadline indicated in the Campus Villages Closing Memo that is sent to each resident prior to the end of the spring semester. Substantial reason must be given for an extension to be granted. All students must leave their unit by the announced closing time. Students who do not leave by the announced closing time will be billed an improper check-out fee of $25 and may be billed at the weekly summer housing rate if the unauthorized stay exceeds two days.

When residents of the apartments and townhouses are checking-out, a Residence Life staff member will not be available to meet with them. They will be required to complete the following steps:

1. Ensure their room, bathroom, kitchen, living room, and any other room that was lived in are empty of belongings.
2. Take any trash to the trash room or dumpster located in the designated areas.
3. Turn out all lights in unit. Do not leave any lights on.
4. Lock and close the entrance door.
5. Call (330) 829-8935 and leave a voicemail with their full name, unit address, room number, date, and time of check-out and a number where they can be reached should the office need to reach them.
   (example: My name is Jane Doe. I am checking out of 1401 S. Union, Unit A, Room 1. It is May 05, 2018 around 3 p.m. You can reach me at (555)555-5555).
6. Place keys in a drop box.

Apartments and townhouses do not officially close during fall break, Thanksgiving break, winter break, or spring break; however, there is no food service available during those periods if residents have purchased a meal plan or block plan. Notification of closing dates and times, as well as when the units will reopen, will be
communicated to all residents in the Campus Villages Closing Memo that will be distributed to all students at least one week prior to the start of final exams. Only residents granted permission by the Office of Residence Life will be permitted to remain in the apartments and townhouses during summer break. Students who are given permission will be required to sign a summer break housing contract and will be required to pay for summer break housing. If students wish to remain in the apartments and townhouses during summer break, they will need to apply through the Office of Residence Life by the designated date. (See Housing for Official Breaks.)

**Damage Assessment Policy**

Residents will be billed for damages, lost or stolen university property, or unnecessary service or maintenance costs caused by residents and/or their guests within the residence halls or campus houses. The University retains the right to determine whether repair or replacement of the damaged item is necessary, the amount of the damage charge, and the amount of the conduct fine, if any. Failure to pay assessed fees may result in a hold on the student’s registration, graduation, or issuance of a transcript. The Mount Union Physical Plant or a designated contractor will make all repairs. Students should not attempt to repair broken items as those attempts often result in further damage. Notification of damage billing will be emailed to the student’s Mount Union email account. Students will have 30 days from notification of damage charges in which to appeal those charges. Appeals must be made in writing and must be submitted via e-mail as a reply to the notification email.

**Individual Damage Charges**

The method outlined above under check-out procedures will be utilized in assessing individual room damages. Rooms will be checked by professional residence life and physical plant staff after students have checked out. Therefore, damage charges may be assessed that were not noted by the student staff member on the Room Condition Report or Facility Condition Form at the time of check-out. In cases where two or more students occupy the same room and the residents of the room do not report the name of the person responsible for the damage, the charges will be divided and assessed equally between the residents of the room. Students may also be assessed individual damage charges in situations where their actions or involvement were determined by the University to be the cause of property damage or necessary cleaning elsewhere on campus.

**Common Area Damage Charges**

Residents of a floor, residence hall, campus house, townhouse, or apartment may be required to share the expense of repair or replacement of any property in areas commonly used by residents and their guests, if the individual(s) responsible for the damage cannot be determined. The common areas include all public areas, such as hallways, restrooms, lounges, stairwells, kitchens, living rooms, etc. in a specific building, apartment, or townhouse. Charges for damages and/or cleaning will be assessed against residents at the conclusion of the academic year. Determination of the amount of such loss or damage will be made at the sole discretion of the University. Students are responsible for damages done to common areas even if they are not present at the time of the damage.

**Personal Property**

Mount Union assumes no financial responsibility for the loss of personal property by theft, fire, flood, or other causes. Students should check their parents’ homeowners’ or tenants’ insurance policy to ensure adequate
coverage of their personal belongings. Keeping track of the room key and securing the room door are two of the easiest ways to safeguard property.

**Lost Keys and Lockouts**

Lost keys should be reported to the Office of Residence Life as soon as possible and arrangements will be made to issue a temporary key or have the lock changed on the student’s room door depending on the situation. A student may get a temporary key from the Physical Plant Key Room. They have three days (or 72 hours) to find their lost keys. If the key(s) is not found in those three days the lock will be re-cored and the student will be charged a $60 re-core charge. This charge will not be removed if the student finds the key after the three days or the re-core has already been completed. Entrance keys to campus houses and apartments will be assessed at a higher rate.

Lost ID cards should be replaced as soon as possible at the Office of Camps and Conference in HPCC. The charge to replace a lost ID card is $25. There is a variable fee for broken/damaged cards. Replacement for the first broken/damaged card is $5, the second card is $10, and the third card is $15. Replacement of broken/damaged cards requires that the recognizable pieces be presented to the Office of Camps and Conferences. If the pieces are not recognizable, a $25 fee will be charged for the replacement. In order to protect personal funds and maintain residence hall security, students should deactivate their cards on the GET app under settings or online at [https://www.mountunion.edu/purple-plu-card](https://www.mountunion.edu/purple-plu-card) in the event the Office of Camps and Conferences is closed when the ID card is discovered to be missing.

If a student is locked out of their room (but has not lost their keys), they will need to contact Campus Safety and Security to be keyed into their rooms. Fees will be assessed for repeated lockouts during an academic year. The first-time security has to let a student in a room will be free, the second and third time will cost $2 and additional key-ins will cost $5 each. Please note that this is a privilege that is not to be abused in order to avoid paying for a new room key. The offending student may be charged $25 if they cannot produce their key upon request.

**Lofting Policy**

Students have the option of choosing to leave their beds on the floor, to bunk their beds (in doubles,) or to loft their beds at the standard lofting height. There may be other lofting heights available with the different types of beds provided; however, Mount Union will not honor lofting requests for these intermediate heights. Mount Union will not be responsible for injury to persons or property with the use of either standard or non-standard lofting heights.

Ladders are provided in each room for use with bunked beds or a standard loft. These ladders are not designed for safe use at intermediate heights. If these heights are used, the end of the bed will serve as the ladder. Ladders must remain in the room whether utilized or not.

It is the goal of Mount Union to complete room set-up requests on-campus before the arrival of students in the fall semester. All beds will be in the lofted position upon arrival to campus unless otherwise requested by the residents of the room. Bed Configuration requests are made through the MyHousing software. New Students will make that request as they complete the New Student Housing application and returning students make their requests during the Room Lottery Registration process. Students who choose to bunk or loft their beds in their residence hall/house rooms must follow the Mount Union Lofting Policy.
General Lofting Guidelines

- Furnishings provided in each room must remain in the room. No existing University furniture may be stored outside of the assigned room and may not be removed from the University premises. Occupants will be responsible for complete replacement costs of items missing from their rooms at check-out. Furniture found abandoned in hallways, basements, lounges, etc. will be removed and full replacement costs will be charged to students at check-out.
- Due to varied ceiling heights, campus house ceilings may not allow for the proper installation of a standard loft. In this case, please contact the Office of Residence Life to discuss lofting options.
- Lofts must be positioned in a manner that will not hamper proper exit from the room. Due to fire regulations, lofts may not obstruct access to any room window, heating unit, or doors. Two feet of clearance/access is preferred between loft and window. Room entry doors must be able to swing fully open.
- In order to loft beds in Elliott, Miller, Hoiles-Peterson, McCreary, King, McMaster Halls, as well as all of the apartments/townhouses, students must contact the Mount Union Physical Plant and submit a work order.
- In Bica Ross, Cunningham, Ketcham, Shields Halls, and the campus houses, students are permitted to loft their own beds. Students are responsible for structurally safe lofts. Regardless how a loft is assembled, students are fully responsible for any injury that occurs as a result of lofting their beds.

Rock Painting Policy

Painting the rock (located outside of the HPCC), is limited to the rock only. The painting of trees, grass, buildings, sidewalks, etc. is a violation of the damage to property policy found in the Code of Student Conduct and subjects the painter and/or their organization to restitution for any damages. A 24-hour courtesy rule is requested to allow for adequate time to share the rock painting before repainting occurs. All policies regarding harassment, discrimination, etc. should be followed when painting the rock. Any violation of these policies will result in the rock being repainted and be an exception to the 24-hour courtesy rule.

Sales and Solicitation

Mount Union believes that its students while on University property, should be free from attempts to solicit the sale or distribution of products or other materials to them, and that they should not be repeatedly approached for donations to charitable causes.

Likewise, the University does not wish to have its supplies or services used for unrelated commercial activities or for fund-raising efforts it has not specifically approved. On the other hand, since the University is a large organization and open to the public, solicitations for charity, and the offering of goods or other materials for sale to our students may be acceptable at proper times and places. In an effort to balance these interests, the University has established the following guidelines.

Policy

For University Students

1. No individual student of the University may engage in the organized sale of products or services at the University except through the means open to other vendors and as approved by the appropriate vice president. University stationery, campus mail, or other University materials or supplies may not be used to promote the sale of such products or services. Only
the approved general announcement bulletin boards or the University announcement process (UMU Today) may be used for advertising such products or services.

2. All students must receive approval from the appropriate vice president and the vice president for University Advancement to solicit donations for a charitable cause or distribute products or materials to other students, faculty, or staff members at the University. Unless specifically approved, no University materials, funds, or services may be used to accomplish such solicitations and/or distributions.

By Registered Student or University-Sponsored Organizations

1. University-sponsored organizations and registered student organizations that have active status with the University may solicit donations or conduct sales or raffles to support their operations or to make donations to charitable causes, provided that the solicitation, sale, or raffle is conducted in accordance with all other University policies.

Solicitation of Area Businesses

1. Advertisements and Event Sponsorships
   A request of a local business to purchase an advertisement in a campus or campus-related publication or to sponsor an event is not considered the same as an outright request for funding. The Office of Marketing should clear all requests for advertisements.

2. Outright gift
   A request of a local business to make an outright gift of cash, merchandise, product or service to a campus organization should be cleared by the Office of University Advancement. Many local businesses support the University’s Annual Fund and some also provide other forms of support. Regardless, the Office of University Advancement maintains responsibility for overseeing the overall charitable relationship between the University and local businesses.

Conclusion

Any approval of solicitations and/or distributions referred to in this policy may be conditioned by limitations on the time, place, and manner of such solicitations, sales promotions, and distributions. The University reserves the right to deny any and all solicitations, sales promotions or distributions on the campus and to remove advertisements, notices, or other signs if they are deemed to be inappropriate or offensive. Exceptions to any portion of this policy must be approved by the vice president for business affairs, the vice president for student affairs, or director of human resources, or their designee, as appropriate.

Service Animals

The Americans with Disabilities Act as Amended (ADAAA, 2008) defines Service Animals as “dogs that are individually trained to do work or perform tasks for people with disabilities.” Examples of such work or tasks include guiding people who are blind, alerting people who are deaf, pulling a wheelchair, calming a person with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) during an anxiety attack, or performing other duties. If a dog meets this definition, it is considered a Service Animal regardless of whether it has been licensed or certified by a state or local government or a training program. Species of animals other than dogs, whether wild or domestic, trained or untrained, are not Service Animals. Service Animals are working animals, not pets.

The University of Mount Union, under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the ADA Amendments Act of 2008 (ADAAA) allows Service Animals accompanying persons with disabilities to be on the campus. A Service Animal must be permitted to accompany a person with a disability everywhere on campus except in situations where safety may be compromised or where the Service Animal may interfere with the fundamental nature of the activities being conducted. Allergies or fear of dogs does not limit access of a Service Animal to facilities.
A Service Animal can be any breed or size of dogs. It might wear specialized equipment, such as a backpack, harness, or special collar or leash, but this is not a legal requirement. Federal law pertaining to Service Animals (ADAAA) overrides any conflicting regulations in the Ohio Revised Code.

The person a Service Animal assists is referred to as a Partner. The Partner’s disability may not be visible. If an individual is not sure whether a dog is a pet or a Service Animal, they may ask two questions: (1) is the dog a Service Animal required because of a disability, and (2) what work or task has the dog been trained to perform. Others, including faculty and staff, cannot ask about the Partner’s disability, require medical documentation, require a special identification card or training documentation for the dog, or ask that the dog demonstrate its ability to perform the work or task.

Non-residential students, faculty, staff, or visitors on campus with Service Animals are not required to register the animal on campus.

Students who require a Service Animal on-campus are requested, but not required, to self-identify as a person with a disability to the Office of Student Accessibility Services (SAS) as soon as possible after deciding to enroll at the University. This will allow the SAS and the student to initiate a conversation about the Service Animal and other accommodations.

The following are requirements of Service Animals and their partners:

1. The Service Animal cannot pose a direct threat to the health and safety of persons on the University campus.
2. Local ordinances regarding animals apply to Service Animals, including requirements for immunization, licensing, noise, restraint, at-large animals, and dangerous animals. Dogs must wear a license tag and a current rabies vaccination tag.
3. The partner must be in full control of the Service Animal at all times. Service Animals must be harnessed, leashed, or tethered, unless these devices interfere with the Service Animal’s work or the partner’s disability prevents using these devices. In that case, the partner must maintain control of the Service Animal through voice, signal, or other effective controls.
4. The partner is responsible for cleaning up the dog’s waste. The partner should always carry equipment and bags sufficient to clean up and properly dispose of the dog’s waste. Partners who are not physically able to pick up and dispose of waste are responsible for making all necessary arrangements for assistance. The University is not responsible for these services.
5. In keeping with appropriate University policies and procedures, the partner may be charged for damage caused by the partner or the Service Animal.

Faculty, staff, and students should follow these guidelines for partners and Service Animals:

1. Allow a Service Animal to accompany the partner at all times and everywhere on campus, except where Service Animals are specifically prohibited. The courts have upheld the rights of Service Animal Partners to take Service Animals into food service locations.
2. Speak to the Partner first. The Service Animal and Partner are a service team. Remember the Service Animal is working, and the Partner’s life could depend on the Service Animal staying focused on the job.
3. Treat the Partner with respect and sensitivity. Assume the service team can handle themselves. Do not ask personal questions about the Partner’s disability or the Service Animal.
4. Do not pet a Service Animal without asking the Partner first.
5. Do not assume a sleeping Service Animal is off duty.
6. Do not deliberately startle a Service Animal.
7. Do not feed a Service Animal. Food is the ultimate distraction for a working Service Animal.
8. Do not separate or attempt to separate a Partner from their Service Animal.
9. In case of an emergency, every effort should be made to keep the Service Animal with its partner.
10. Keep your distance from a Service Animal if you happen to have a dog with you when you encounter the service team.
11. Inform the partner if a Service Animal approaches you to sniff or nudge, as this is not appropriate working behavior.

**Service Animals in University Housing**

Students with disabilities who require a Service Animal on campus and plan to live in University housing are requested to self-identify to the director of student accessibility services (SAS), as soon as possible after deciding to enroll at the University. Providing as much advance notice as possible prior to the desired move-in date assures that the University can best accommodate the student and the Service Animal in the residential setting.

Prior to moving into University housing, the student with a Service Animal is required to meet with the SAS director and will be provided information on expectations for the Service Animal and student partner.

The University of Mount Union will not limit room assignments for individuals with Service Animals to any particular building or buildings because the individual needs a Service Animal or because of disability.

Questions or concerns pertaining to Service Animals should be directed to the Office of Student Accessibility Services at studentaccessibility@mountunion.edu.

**Sex/Gender Discrimination Statement**

The University of Mount Union is committed to creating an environment free of discrimination, harassment and sexual misconduct as well as complying with all requirements as set forth by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX) and the rule promulgated on May 19, 2020 by the U.S. Department of Education and entitled Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities Receiving Federal Financial Assistance. Discrimination on the basis of sex or gender will not be tolerated by any of the University’s education programs or activities. This includes, but is not limited to sexual harassment; sexual violence; sex or gender-based bullying; hazing; stalking; relationship violence (including domestic violence and dating violence) as well as failure to provide equal opportunity in admissions, activities, employment, or athletics. Sex and gender violations will be addressed by our Civil Rights Equity complaint protocols which are jointly coordinated by the Offices of Human Resources and Student Affairs.

University of Mount Union’s Interim Equal Opportunity, Harassment, and Nondiscrimination for All Faculty, Student, Employees, and Third-Parties Policy is available at [https://www.mountunion.edu/campus-life/safety-and-parking/sexual-misconduct/title-ix](https://www.mountunion.edu/campus-life/safety-and-parking/sexual-misconduct/title-ix), and includes how to report or file a formal complaint of sex discrimination, harassment or misconduct (including sexual orientation, gender identity or expression), how the University will respond to reports and formal complaints and the University’s grievance process and procedures. The University Title IX co-coordinators will be informed of, and oversee, all complaints of discrimination and any questions regarding the University’s Title IX policies or procedures may be directed to them.

Any person may report or file a formal complaint of sex discrimination, harassment or misconduct at any time, including during non-business hours, by contacting one of the Title IX co-coordinators by telephone, email or U.S. mail utilizing the contact information listed below, or by utilizing the reporting function on the University’s Title IX webpage.
Michelle Gaffney, associate dean of students & Title IX co-coordinator  
Hoover Price Campus Center, Office of Student Affairs  
1972 Clark Avenue, Alliance, OH 44601  
Phone: (330) 823-2496  
E-mail: gaffnemi@mountunion.edu

Marci Craig, director of human resources & Title IX co-coordinator  
Beeghly Hall, Office of Human Resources  
1972 Clark Avenue, Alliance, OH 44601  
Phone: (330) 829-6560  
E-mail: craigml@mountunion.edu

Inquires may be made externally to:  
Office of Civil Rights (OCR)  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, SW  
Washington DC 20202-1100  
Customer Service Hotline: (800) 421-3481  
Fax: (202) 453-6012  
TDD: (877) 521-2172  
Email: OCR@ed.gov  
Web: http://www.ed.gov/ocr

To read more about Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, please visit:  
https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/tix_dis.html.

Non-Discrimination Regarding Disability

For questions and complaints involving discrimination on the basis of physical or mental disability, you should contact:

Marci Craig, director of human resources & Title IX co-coordinator  
Beeghly Hall, Office of Human Resources  
1972 Clark Avenue, Alliance, OH 44601  
Phone: (330) 829-6560  
E-mail: craigml@mountunion.edu

Other Non-Discrimination Reporting Options

For questions and complaints involving all forms of discrimination you may contact either of the following:

Marci Craig, director of human resources & Title IX co-coordinator  
Beeghly Hall, Office of Human Resources  
1972 Clark Avenue, Alliance, OH 44601  
Phone: (330) 829-6560  
E-mail: craigml@mountunion.edu
Sexual Misconduct Responder Program

Often when people hear about sexual misconduct or sexual violence, they automatically think about rape. However, sexual misconduct occurs on a continuum. Sexual misconduct could include verbal harassment, unwanted touching, stalking or other predatory behaviors, interpersonal violence, as well as non-consensual sex. If both individuals do not freely give consent to engage in specific sexual activities or if an individual is tricked, coerced, or pressured into the behavior, it is sexual misconduct. It is also sexual misconduct when sexual behavior occurs when a person is incapacitated due to being under the influence of alcohol or other drugs and therefore unable to give consent.

There are many decisions a person must make during their recovery after experiencing any type of sexual misconduct/violence. University of Mount Union provides services that can assist the student with this process. The Sexual Misconduct Responder Program is designed for this purpose.

What is a sexual misconduct responder?

Sexual misconduct responders are Mount Union faculty and staff members who are trained to help a student who has experienced sexual misconduct understand their options. The sexual misconduct responder will not make decisions for the person, but will provide them with the knowledge they need to make decisions. The responder who is contacted either goes to the person who calls or makes arrangements to meet them. The responder assists the person as they address the need for counseling, medical and legal issues, and helps with any other concerns the person may have. The most up-to-date list of responders can be found on iRaider at https://www.mountunion.edu/campus-life/safety-and-parking/sexual-misconduct/title-ix.

Why should someone who has experienced sexual misconduct/violence call a Sexual Misconduct Responder?

By contacting a responder, the person can gain valuable assistance and information to help them make the many decisions ahead. They will also have someone to support them during this challenging time. The responder will provide written materials to the student that explains their many options. It is important to note that if a member of the Mount Union community informs a responder about an act of sexual misconduct, the sexual misconduct responder may be required, depending on the specifics of the situation, by University policy and by law to report the act to the police and to the Title IX co-coordinator in the Office of Student Affairs. This report does not mean that the student has to make a statement or pursue prosecution; just that the police will be informed of what happened. If the student is unwilling to make a statement, they will need to tell the
police this directly. The student should be aware that they will not be able to control the progress or outcome of a legal investigation, but that their wishes will be given serious consideration.

**What if someone who has experienced sexual misconduct doesn’t want to call a responder?**

There are decisions that the person needs to make with or without a responder. The person should give serious consideration to getting assistance from a responder or other trained sexual assault advocate. In case the student who has experienced sexual misconduct decides to work through this process without the benefit of a responder’s assistance, there is additional information below that focuses on the major issues the person will need to address during their recovery from this experience.

**Who else can someone call for help?**

Whether or not the person contacts a responder, in cases of sexual assault or sexual violence, it is strongly recommended that they call a *Rape Crisis Hotline*. Workers at such a hotline can answer their questions and provide support, hospital advocacy and counseling, as well as, referral to longer-term treatment and help with health, legal, and financial issues.

**Why should someone who has experienced sexual misconduct/violence seek counseling?**

It is important for someone in this circumstance to speak to a counselor, not because there is something wrong with them, but because they have been hurt. Having someone who can listen and help the student sort through their feelings is an important step toward regaining control of their life.

One way to receive this kind of counseling is through a *Rape Crisis Hotline*. Their counseling services are free and can be long-term, if necessary. There are also usually support groups available through these organizations which can be very beneficial for someone who has been through such an experience.

The Office of Counseling Services is also an excellent way for a student to receive free, confidential assistance. The Office of Counseling Services has counselors who can talk with the student and help in the process of emotional healing. If long-term counseling is needed they will help the student get additional assistance.

Additionally, the Office of Alcohol, Drug & Wellness Education, which is another free and confidential resource for individual counseling, also provides an on-going support group for those individuals who have experienced any kind of trauma related to sexual misconduct.

The Office of the Chaplain is another option for emotional support. The chaplain can offer spiritual guidance during this challenging time.

Contact Information for the counseling resources described above are:

- **Alliance Area Rape Crisis Hotline** (330)821-RAPE (7273)
- **Alliance Area Domestic Violence Shelter (24-Hour Hotline)** (330) 823-7223
- **COMPASS Rape Crisis Services of Stark County (24-Hr Hotline)** (330) 452-1111
- **CommQuest Services of Stark County** (330) 821-8407
  1207 W. State Street, Suite M, Alliance
- **Domestic Violence Project (24-Hr Hotline)** (330) 453-SAFE (7233)
Should someone who has experienced sexual violence seek medical care?

Receiving medical care as soon as possible following a sexual assault or attempted sexual assault is extremely important for two reasons. First, the victim/survivor may have suffered injuries of which they are unaware or unable to determine. Testing, treatment and information regarding sexually transmitted diseases or pregnancy may also be needed.

Second, if the victim/survivor thinks that there may be any possibility that they will wish to pursue prosecuting the offender, a medical/legal examination for the collection of evidence is vital. Having evidence collected does not mean prosecution. The forensic evidence will be stored until there has been an investigation. While certain medical assistance can be received from a number of locations, the only locations where evidence necessary for medical and forensic evaluation can be collected by a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (S.A.N.E. program) and secured for legal purposes are at a hospital emergency room. Until recently the only locations where that was possible were both in Canton; at either Aultman Hospital or Mercy Medical Center. However, S.A.N.E. services are now available at the Aultman Alliance Community Hospital here in town.

For physical evidence to be present and useful, it is best collected as soon after the assault as possible; preferably within 12-24 hours and no later than 48-72 hours. It is best if the sexual assault victim/survivor does not shower, bathe, douche, brush their teeth, eat or drink, or change clothing prior to going to the Emergency Room. Doing so will destroy important physical evidence. If the person does take any of the above actions, it does not mean they should not go to the hospital. However, evidence collection may not be as productive. If the person changed clothes, they should take all articles of clothing worn at the time of the assault to the hospital. These items will need to be retained as evidence.

Since the crime of rape/sexual assault is a felony offense, hospital personnel are required by law to report the assault to a law enforcement officer. If the victim/survivor has not already spoken to a law enforcement officer, hospital personnel will notify the police that an assault has occurred. A law enforcement officer will come to the hospital to speak with the victim/survivor. It is always the victim/survivor’s right to decide whether or not to talk to law enforcement, but the police officer will want to hear directly from the victim/survivor if they are unwilling to make a report.

There is no charge for the examination at the hospital if the victim/survivor cooperates with evidence collection. The victim/survivor does not have to request prosecution in order to have the exam for free. If too much time has passed for a hospital exam to be useful, the victim/survivor can also go to their own doctor or the Mount Union Student Health Center for an exam and testing for STDs and pregnancy. In addition, STD testing can be conducted at the Alliance City Health Department or Planned Parenthood of Stark County in Canton; Planned Parenthood also conducts pregnancy tests. The cost of tests at these facilities is based on a sliding scale. Most college students can expect free or extremely reduced costs.

S.A.N.E. (Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner) Services available at the following 3 locations:
- Aultman Alliance Community Hospital
  200 E State Street, Alliance, OH 44601
  (330) 596-6000
- Aultman Hospital
  2600 6th Street SW, Canton, OH 44710
  (330) 363-6203
Should someone who has been sexually violated report the assault?

Mount Union encourages those that have experienced sexual misconduct/violence to file a report about the incident. By providing the Alliance Police Department and the Office of Student Affairs Title IX co-coordinator with information, the student may be able to prevent future such acts against themselves and others. It is vital that a report is made as soon as possible, particularly if it was a stranger assault. The potential danger to the victim/survivor and the community is higher with stranger assaults. Reporting is not the same as prosecuting. While the investigation and charges placed are not under the control of the victim/survivor, they have the opportunity to make their wishes regarding prosecution known.

In order to report to the police, the student can call the police department and an officer will meet them to take a statement. If the student would rather not have the officer come to them, the student can also go to the police department to make a report. If the student goes to the hospital for an examination, hospital personnel will contact the police and they can make a report there.

Some students may be reluctant to make a report if they were drinking at the time of the assault, particularly if they are under the legal age for alcohol consumption. Please be aware that University of Mount Union and the Alliance Police Department are more concerned about sexual misconduct than underage drinking.

If someone experienced an act of sexual misconduct by a Mount Union student, on or off campus, the accused student may be charged under the Mount Union Code of Student Conduct. Details of this process can be discussed with the director of student conduct, the vice president for student affairs/dean of students, or associate dean of students/Title IX co-coordinator. The decision to place charges is made by the director of student conduct, but the reporting student’s wishes are given serious consideration. The University conduct process is an administrative process, not a legal one; therefore, situations that the city prosecutor chooses not to pursue may be able to be addressed through the conduct process. Additionally, remedial and supportive actions can be provided regardless of whether the student chooses to pursue conduct action. For more information regarding campus policies and protocols, go to [http://www.mountunion.edu/title-ix](http://www.mountunion.edu/title-ix) or for assistance contact one of the following:

Associate Dean of Students & Title IX Co-Coordinator, Michelle Gaffney (330) 823-2496
Director of Student Conduct, Patience Bartunek (330) 823-7288
**Who are the Sexual Misconduct Responders and how do I contact one?**

Faculty and staff are asked each year if they would like to volunteer to serve in this role. Those that volunteer for the upcoming year are required to attend an annual training to be on the list as an active responder. Therefore, that list changes from year to year based on who has volunteered and been able to complete the required training. A current list of responders and their contact information can be found [here](#).

**Student Health Care Privacy Statement**

During the academic year, a student may be treated at the Student Health Center operated by Alliance Community Hospital or, if appropriate, in the Department of Human Performance and Sport Management. Other students may receive counselling by the Office of Counseling Services or the Office of Alcohol, Drug and Wellness Education. On occasion, a student may also be seen at a local hospital or by a private physician for tests, x-rays, or treatment. In those cases, the hospital or physician generally sends a copy of those test results or medical records to the University, which maintains them in the student’s health record.

The confidentiality of a student’s health care information is important to the University. Students should know what laws apply and how the University and Aultman Alliance Community Hospital protect the privacy of student health information. The two main laws governing the confidentiality of student health information are the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

**HIPAA**

Hospitals, and private physicians must comply with HIPAA, which controls the use and disclosure of a patient’s protected health information. If a student goes to the hospital or a private physician’s office, it will not be necessary, under HIPAA, for the student (or parent, if the student is a minor) to sign an authorization in order for the hospital or doctor to send a copy of that student’s test results or medical record to a nurse, physician, or other health care provider at the University if the University is treating the student at issue.

It also will not be necessary for the student (or parent) to sign an authorization for the hospital or physician to submit a claim for payment to the student’s or parent’s health insurance plan. HIPAA defers to Ohio law in dealing with the rights of parents and children. A student, who has reached the age of 18, may request the hospital or private physician not to disclose medical information to their parents. That decision is strictly between the student and physician in private practice and said physician in private practice is not connected with the University of Mount Union.

**FERPA**

The Department of Human Performance and Sport Management, Office of Counseling Services, and Office of Alcohol, Drug, and Wellness Education, though they may provide treatment and health-related services, are not covered by HIPAA. Records that are created when the student receives treatment at the Department of Human Performance and Sport Management, Office of Counseling Services, or Office of Alcohol, Drug, and Wellness Education are considered “Treatment Records,” which are protected by FERPA. The Department of Human Performance and Sport Management, Office of Counseling Services, and the Office of Alcohol, Drug and Wellness Education may disclose needed treatment records to appropriate medical or health professionals involved in treating the student without requiring the student to sign a FERPA Release form.
If the student wishes to allow another party to examine, inspect, know the content, or receive a copy of, their records as maintained by the Department of Human Performance and Sports Management, Office of Counseling Services, or Office of Alcohol, Drug, and Wellness Education, then the student must first sign a FERPA Release Form.

If students or parents have questions about the application of these privacy laws as regarding healthcare, please call the director of human resources at (330) 829-6560.

**Student Organization Policies**

**Advertising on Campus**

General guidelines for publicity and distribution of flyers, leaflets, and similar materials:

1. Common bulletin board space is available in variety of locations across campus. Please contact the Office of Student Involvement & Leadership for a list of appropriate posting locations.
2. Be sure to remove all publicity materials after advertised event. Do not cover materials for events other than the student organization. Please be sure to clean up and dispose of handouts left on tables throughout the campus once the advertised event has passed. Do not tape any advertisements on any walls, glass doors, or windows in any buildings. Only use pushpins on the bulletin board spaces.
3. Paint may only be used on the rock in the quad. Do not paint the sidewalk or grass area. Please clean up and dispose of paint cans properly.
4. Chalk may be used on sidewalks only provided the area is accessible to rain. Do not chalk on building walls, steps, or under overhangs.
5. Items should not be placed on or in fire escapes, fire extinguishers, fire alarms, smoke detectors, exit signs, entrance/exit doors, trees, vehicles, or any painted surfaces.

Reserving bulletin board space in the Hoover-Price Campus Center

1. All recognized student organizations may request assignable bulletin board space, each semester.
2. Space is allotted on a first-come, first-serve basis, and is allocated on an academic-year basis. Please email bulletin board requests to the director of student involvement & leadership. If space is granted, a board is assigned at the discretion of the Office of Student Involvement & Leadership.
3. Bulletin boards must be routinely updated with information, and information displayed must relate to the mission of the student organization. Any use other than for that purpose can result in revocation of the assigned bulletin board.

Publicity to be placed in student mailboxes

1. The Office of Student Involvement & Leadership must approve all requests to distribute materials through student mailboxes by student organizations.
2. In order to distribute publicity in student mailboxes, the student organization should email a copy of publicity to the director of student involvement & leadership.
3. When distributing items through campus mail, all items, when taken to the mail room, must be in mailbox order or it will be returned to the student group.
4. All mailed items include the organization’s name, student’s name and a campus mailbox number. Unless it is going to every student, then it just needs the organization’s name.
5. Inform the Mail Room of student organization’s bulk mailing request by calling (330) 829-6654. Student organizations must provide the Mail Room a minimum of five (5) days’ notice of upcoming on-campus bulk mailing.
6. Provide the Mail Room with the following details:
   a. How many items are to be put in campus mail boxes, for example: every campus mailbox, a specific campus organization, a special event, or fund raiser mailing
   b. Date student organization will be delivering this mailer to the Mail Room
   c. Date mail should go into mailboxes

Table Tents
1. Table Tents may be utilized by all student organizations to publicize a student organization event, activity, or University related information.
2. Table Tents must be approved by the director of student involvement & leadership.
3. Please obtain the permission of the director of AVI in order to place table tents in Kresge Court Dining Hall and the B & B Café.

Events Policy
The following steps must be taken into consideration when planning an event on campus. Student Organizations sponsoring events bear full responsibility for both the conduct of participants at the event, as well as the care and safe use of the facilities and any University property/equipment utilized for the event. Student Organizations are billed for damage to facilities and/or equipment. Failure to comply with any of the guidelines in this policy and/or any other University Policy may result in disciplinary action taken against the organization including, but not limited to, possible suspension of registration, events and/or use of facilities.

The key to having a successful event is in the planning. This guide is intended to aid the process of planning events and give some helpful hints to ensure that the event is a successful one!

When to start planning events
1. For large-scale events, begin planning at least three to four months in advance
2. For small scale events, begin planning at least six weeks in advance
3. For meetings, a minimum of 2-3 days in advance

Develop a Timeline
Identify the following for the student organization’s event:
- Person in charge of the event
- Name of the event
- Date for the event
- Theme of the event
- Purpose of the event
- Target Audience
- Location of the event, including a rain location if outdoors
- Budget for the event
- Food/Catering for the event
- Contractual agreements (often necessary with speakers, presenters, live music, inflatables, or other goods/services)
- Logistical needs (accommodations for speakers, set ups for the venue, gifts for presenters, decorations, etc.)
- Special accommodations for those with inability to navigate the venue or access the event
- Public relations needs (press releases, banners, fliers, mailers, posters, emails, table tents, social media schedule, etc.)

Organization meeting/event time
In support of the University’s mission, student organization activities may occur only during the dates of each semester where classes are in session. The final date each semester on which student organization events, activities, meetings, etc. may occur is the official last day of classes taken from the Official University Academic Calendar.

Check the University’s calendar to see what is already planned. It is recommended that each time your organization is seeking to plan an event and/or meeting, to check the University’s calendar, found here to determine what else is occurring on campus in order to avoid over planning or double booking.

Reserve space on campus
Events and meetings held on campus must also have the appropriate room(s) reserved. This includes the fraternity and sorority facilities, as well as outdoor facilities such as the Quad or the Campus Grounds patio.

The full policy on reserving space on campus is included in this handbook in the section titled facility scheduling, and all reservations must be submitted electronically no later than 72 hours in advance of the event, on the online Student Organization Calendar Submission Form, found here.

Please note that student organizations should not actively plan on campus events until an appropriate room has been approved for use. Approvals are granted by email with a corresponding room reservation from the Office of the Registrar. Please contact them at (330) 823-6018 with questions or concerns.

In this reservation, do not forget to include any set up needs, including how you’d like chairs and tables set up, whether or not you need technology, and if you need catering, microphones, etc. You are not provided anything unless you ask, so please make sure to include that in your reservation.

Student organization room reservations are placed on the University Calendar so that all individuals are aware of the event/meeting. Reservation information is also shared with the Office of Campus Security and AVI for their reference as well.

Policies for reserving and using campus facilities
1. University departments, divisions of the University, University-affiliated groups, and recognized and registered student organizations are granted use of facilities for educational, cultural, developmental, and social programs and activities within the guidelines of this policy. Departments and divisions of the University shall have priority in the use of University facilities. Recognized and registered student organizations and student-led philanthropy projects and University-affiliated groups shall have priority in use over non-University organizations.

2. Recognized and registered student organizations and student-led philanthropy projects must use the Student Organization Calendar Submission Form to register for space.

3. Any special arrangements regarding room set up or audio-visual equipment should be indicated on the Student Organization Calendar Submission Form.

4. The Office of Student Involvement & Leadership reviews all requests for facilities and will report all requests to the Office of the Registrar.

5. The Office of the Registrar will determine if the facilities request can be honored based on the criteria and priorities for facility usage. The Office of the Registrar will then notify the student organization directly about the facilities registration.
6. Room reservations should be made at least 72 hours in advance of the event. Should a change in facility be necessary, or there is a need to reserve additional space, call (330) 823-6018.

7. The reserved facility is available to the student organization or student-led philanthropy only during the times scheduled. If additional time is necessary for set up before and clean up afterward, please be sure to schedule extra time on the Student Organization Calendar Submission Form.

8. Room cancellations should be made with the Office of the Registrar at least two (2) days in advance of the meeting.

9. Reserved facilities must be cleaned of all trash at the close of the event. This involves using the trash bags in the room(s) and ensuring all garbage can be readily disposed of by the housekeeping staff.

10. All participants at events must adhere to the Tobacco Free Policy.

11. All furniture that is moved must be returned to its original position at the end of the meeting. No furniture may be moved into the hallways.

12. The individual who registers for the facility on behalf of the student organization or student-led philanthropy project will be held responsible for all activities and any individuals in the facility.

13. Costs and damages incurred because of the use of a facility shall be assumed by the student organization or student-led philanthropic project. In some cases, as a condition of use, the student organization may be required to provide satisfactory assurance of financial responsibility to the University (i.e., proof of insurance).

14. Any misconduct or misuse of the facility by anyone will result in loss of privileges for use of University facilities and restoration cost, if necessary. It is suggested that all individuals involved in the event be made aware of the regulations concerning the use of on campus facilities and spaces. Complaints from housekeeping staff, physical plant, or office personnel concerning any individual not complying with these rules may result in disciplinary action, including the inability to use campus facilities.

Adherence to these regulations will make the process of room scheduling run smoother for everyone concerned. If you have any questions, call the academic systems coordinator in the Office of the Registrar at 330-823-6018.

Food or Refreshments (if necessary)
The University of Mount Union has a contract with AVI: Fresh as our exclusive catering provider for all scheduled food-related activities on campus, in particular, the Hoover-Price Campus Center. In their “risk management” role, AVI has responsibility to ensure a reasonable approach to safe food handling. Please note that if you are holding an event at which you would like to have food in the HPCC you will need to plan to use AVI catering, however, those events occurring at other locations on campus may be exempted from having to use the catering option with AVI.

Catering must be ordered well in advance, and student organizations must provide an account number for payment at the time the order is placed. If the student organization is a member of Student Senate, please
contact the Student Senate Treasurer for the account number. If the student organization is not a member of Student Senate, please contact the director of student involvement & leadership for the account number.

Fundraisers (if applicable)
Events or activities that also serve as a fundraiser must be registered with the Office of Student Involvement and Leadership prior to making any room reservation. Campus facilities for student organization fundraising activities will not be approved until the fundraisers are registered and approved by this office.

Room reservations are still necessary to reserve tables for ticket sales, so please complete the online Student Organization Calendar Submission Form.

Student Organizations must follow all policies related to the University of Mount Union Solicitation Policy, found within this Student Handbook.

Student Organizations who are members of Student Senate may not use Student Senate funds to donate to any fundraising, collection, or benefit.

Contracts for Outside Services and Events
Any event where a student organization “hires” the services of any performer/lecturer or reserves an off-campus banquet facility or a bus for a trip, etc., will necessitate the issuance (usually by the person or firm you are booking services with) of a contract. Organizations and advisors are not authorized to sign any contracts. Contracts must be immediately forwarded to the director of student involvement and leadership for review. Please allow a minimum of four weeks to process a contract.

Please note that the simple act of verbally requesting these contracts from a company constitutes a verbal commitment to the service, etc., in question and that commitment can be potentially legally binding. It is, therefore, very important, as part of a sound and thorough event planning process, to register your event, secure all of the funding, and reserve a room/venue for your event prior to requesting a contract. The University cannot process a contract without being able to verify that all the funds are in place to satisfy the financial requirements of the contract.

A final executed copy will then be returned to your organization (once all necessary paperwork is received including those mentioned above) from the Office of Student Involvement and Leadership so that group members may use it to fill out the necessary check requests for payment. Please allow enough extra lead time for the review process so you have enough time to get a check cut in a timely manner.

Liability & Insurance
Furthermore, the University requires proof of General Liability Insurance in the amount of a minimum of $1,000,000 aggregate coverage for any contracted service or performer. Proof of insurance must be obtained from the company or artist prior to processing of payment.

In some instances, the company or artist may not carry this insurance or in the minimum amount required. In these cases, we have a special waiver form called the Assumption of Risk in Lieu of Liability Insurance form to provide the company or artist.

In order to generate payment, the Office of Business Affairs must have one of the above-mentioned items first. It also means that the company or artist cannot provide the services in the contract without one of these above items.
In other words, events are subject to cancellation if one of these two items are not on file with OSIL. For risk management matters, this will be strictly enforced.

This policy was adapted from Lycoming College Student Involvement Policies.

**Guest Speakers Policy**

It is the policy of the campus to foster a spirit of free inquiry and to encourage the timely discussion of the broad range of issues that concern our community, provided that the views expressed are stated openly and are subject to critical evaluation.

**Student Organization Responsibilities**

A registered student organization, may invite guest speakers to the campus, subject to the following provisions:

1. Sponsorship must be by a registered student organization.
2. Proper arrangements for the use of University facilities must be made, consistent with institutional policy.
3. It must be clear that the student organization, not the University, is extending the invitation and that any views the speaker may express are their own and not those of the University.
4. The student organization must take whatever steps are necessary to ensure that the meeting is conducted in an orderly manner. This may necessitate consultation with the Office of Campus Safety and Security and/or hiring of outside security.
5. The student organization must comply with any and all conditions for the orderly and scholarly conduct of the meeting.

**Screening Films on Campus**

Any screening of a movie outside the privacy of one’s own home setting is “public performance.” Therefore, screening or showing a movie on campus, in a classroom, or in a larger venue (e.g., Brush Theatre, or on the Quad) requires a license. This is regardless if any admission cost is charged or not. Movies rented from the local video store, purchased at a retailer, available from an online streaming service are not permitted to be shown in a public performance without a license. To show a film at Mount Union, the organization will need to obtain such a license.

If your organization is looking to show a film for members only, or looking to show a film to a group of friends, simply invite members or friends by means of person-to-person communication and not announcements to the University community. If posters or an ad would help draw members to the event, specify that the screening is for members only. If the organization wants to have a public film screening of an academic, educational, or documentary nature film consider asking for assistance through our library system, and/or related faculty members. If you want to show a “feature film”, box office favorite or the like, consider talking with the Office of Student Involvement & Leadership.

**Public vs. Private Showings**

- Student rents a movie and shows it in his or her residence hall room/apartment – private
- Student rents a movie and shows it to friends in the lounge and does not advertise – private
- Student rents a movie, shows it in the lounge, and does not advertise and collects money to pay for cost of rental and snacks, but not for profit – private
- Student rents a movie, shows it in the lounge. Advertises in the campus newspaper and puts up posters on campus -- public (Because it is advertised; a substantial number of people who are not family members or friends can attend. Therefore, you will need a license for this event.)
- Student rents movie to show at their next club meeting and advertises this screening in the campus (not community wide) newspaper. However, the advertisement specifies that this showing is
‘members only’ - private

- Student rents a movie and advertises it as a screening for (i.e.) ‘Trekkies’ – public (Because this group of people might just have a common interest and not be ‘friends’. Therefore, you will need a license for this event.)

In order to show a film at Mount Union, the organization will need to obtain such a license. This can be done by contacting the licensor:

Swank Motion Pictures, Inc. ®
(800) 876-5577
www.swank.com

For questions involving invoices and payments, please contact the Customer Service Department in St. Louis, Missouri toll-free at 800-876-5445.

Please mail payments directly to:
Swank Motion Pictures, Inc.
2844 Paysphere Circle
Chicago, IL 60674

If you have additional questions, contact professional staff in the Office of Student Involvement & Leadership.

**T-Shirt Design Policy**

Student organizations may sell or give away products such as t-shirts or other items for any events, however the director of student involvement & leadership must approve all product designs before items are ordered or sold. All designs must meet the standards set by Mount Union policies, including but not limited to those concerning alcohol and harassment. In addition, all designs must adhere to copyright, trademark, and/or fair use laws, as well as, any national/international headquarters guidelines (if applicable).

Please send all t-shirt designs to carnelke@mountunion.edu before any orders are placed. This is required of all student organization, regardless of the t-shirt’s purpose or funder.

**Use of the University Name & Trademark**

The Mount Union Identity Program provides a link between the public’s image of Mount Union and the reality of the institution’s impact on the community – both on campus and in Alliance as a whole – and promotes Mount Union’s mission, vision, and strategic plan through cohesiveness and consistency among Mount Union’s marketing efforts.

The Office of Marketing requires that an approved logo be used on all print, video, and electronic materials representing the University. The name or logo should also appear on promotional materials for events and efforts sponsored by the University. This will ensure that the image of Mount Union remains consistent and cohesive throughout various messaging efforts viewed by a potential stakeholder.

Student organizations may use the University of Mount Union name, logo, and insignia as outlined in the style guidelines published and maintained by the Office of Marketing. Violations of this policy may result in the removal of recognized student organization status. The Mount Union name and logo may not be altered in any way and may not be used without expressed consent of the Office of Marketing.

Logos must be reproduced from approved files obtained from the Office of Marketing. Please contact the Office of Marketing with any questions at (330) 823-6094, or marketing@mountunion.edu.
**Campus Security Act of 1990**

The Student Right to Know and Campus Security Act of 1990 (now known as the Clery Act) is a federal mandate which requires that all current students and employees be provided with information on policies and procedures involving campus security, the reporting of criminal action or other emergencies, and the enforcement authority of security personnel. This information must also include descriptions of programs for students and employees about campus security and crime prevention, as well as statistics on the occurrence of specific crimes. Notification of the annual security report is made by the University’s director of student conduct and the full report is posted on the University website annually, by the first of October at https://www.mountunion.edu/consumer-information. Hard copies are available from the director of student conduct upon request.

**Student Social Media Policy**

As responsible members of the Mount Union community, students are expected to use all forms of social media lawfully and with respect for others. The same standards will be applied to communication utilizing social media as are applied to other methods of interaction (verbal, written, etc.). The University will not regularly monitor the language or actions of students using social media; however, students will be held accountable for policy violations related to their use of social media, as well as, other violations learned of through information posted on social media sites and brought to the institution’s attention. University policies applicable to social media use include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Code of Student Conduct - The Code of Student Conduct outlines prohibited conduct, which includes behavior that occurs within the framework of social media. The prohibited conduct stated in the Code of Student Conduct that is most closely related to the use of social media includes Bullying and Cyberbullying, Harassment, and Misuse of Technology as found in the Code of Student Conduct.
2. Technology Resources Acceptable Use Policy - Students are required to meet the expectations set forth in the Technology Resources Acceptable Use Policy.
3. Federal, State, and Local Laws - Students are required to adhere to all federal, state, and local laws.

**Technology Resources Acceptable Use Policy**

**Policy Overview**

Mount Union makes available technological resources that may be used by University students, faculty, and staff. These resources may include administrative software applications, file and print services, VPN, wireless access, network resources, e-mail, library resources, ID card system, multi-media resources, desktop applications, and computer resources. These resources are intended to be used primarily for educational purposes, communications, and to carry out the legitimate business of the University. Appropriate use of the resources includes instruction, independent study and research, and the official work of the offices and recognized student organizations. The privilege of using computer and network resources extended by the University to specific individuals and organizations is not transferable.

The responsible, considerate, and ethical behavior expected by Mount Union in all aspects of the community extends to cover the use of campus computer and network resources and the use of networks throughout the world to which Mount Union provides computer access. The University’s guidelines for appropriate use are not meant to be an exhaustive list of what may or may not be done with the University’s computer or network resources.

Those who make use of the network and computing resources must always conform to the policies contained herein, as well as the regulations and guidelines of the University as specified in the Student Handbook and the various employee handbooks. These policies exist to safeguard the security and functionality of the campus network and all components therein.
The Technology Resource Acceptable Use Policy is comprised of several components described below including Unacceptable Use, Technology User Code of Conduct, Network Use Policy, E-mail Policy, Hardware & Software Support Policy and Data Security.

**Unacceptable Use**

Unacceptable use of the University’s computer and network resources are described below.

**Misuse of Service**

Any action that renders facilities unusable to those who rely on them or that interferes with another’s use of facilities constitutes misuse. Examples are failure to respect the priorities posted at a public machine, overuse of resources, damage to software or hardware, sending repeated unwanted electronic mail, neglect or damage of software or hardware, and failure to report known problems.

**Breach of Security**

Any attempt to circumvent the protection that Mount Union has in place to prevent unauthorized access or any action that reduces the security of the University’s computer and network resources is unacceptable use. Examples are attempts to misappropriate passwords, attempts to gain unauthorized access or sharing your password with others, and violating federal, state, and local laws related to privacy.

**Illegal Use**

Any use of computer or network resources in the commission of an illegal act is unacceptable. Examples are violation of licensing agreements, attempting to break into a computer, or sending harassing or threatening electronic mail. There are federal, state, and local laws that govern certain aspects of computer and telecommunications use. All laws pertaining to tangible documents or instruments apply equally to electronic files. This includes student records. Members of the University community are expected to respect these laws. Any use, even if not specifically prohibited, which falls within these broad categories should be considered inappropriate. If you are unsure of the propriety of an action, contact the Office of Information Technology (IT) for clarification.

Much like laws that govern print and recorded media, U.S. Copyright law protects copyright owners from unauthorized reproduction, adaptation, or distribution of digital media. While users in educational settings enjoy limited permission to use copyrighted works under the “fair use” provisions of the copyright law, students who are engaged in developing web pages and other electronic media are advised to read further what the law allows under these circumstances. A very useful text, *Commonsense Copyright: A Guide for Educators and Librarians* by R. S. Talab, is available in our Library. Some points include:

- Excerpts must be brief and confined to a campus network.
- Students may show multimedia projects developed in University classes for interview and potential employment as long as they have followed fair use practices.

Additional information on Copyright law can be found at [http://www.copyright.gov/title17/](http://www.copyright.gov/title17/).

**Peer-to-Peer File Sharing**

Peer-to-peer file sharing is prohibited. The Office of Information Technology monitors traffic patterns in order to guarantee acceptable network performance for all users. If IT becomes aware of policy violations or illegal activities in the course of investigating network congestion or problem determination, IT will further investigate by inspecting content stored or shared on its network.
A minimum response to violators of copyright laws, as well as those impeding network performances, will be a warning to cease and desist. In certain circumstances, including those involving repeat offenders, violators will have their access blocked and be turned over to the University conduct process. If contacted by the RIAA (The Recording Industry Association of America), DMCA (Digital Millennium Copyright Act) or by the courts and asked to identify those who are sharing or downloading based on IP addresses, Mount Union will comply with the law.

Unauthorized distribution of copyrighted material, including peer-to-peer file sharing, may subject a student to civil and criminal liabilities. Copyright infringement is the act of exercising, without permission or legal authority, one or more of the exclusive rights granted to the copyright owner under section 106 of the Copyright Act 9 Title 17 of the United States Code. These rights include the right to reproduce or distribute a copyrighted work. In the file-sharing context, downloading or uploading substantial parts of a copyrighted work without authority constitutes an infringement. Penalties for copyright infringement include civil and criminal penalties. In general, anyone found liable for civil copyright infringement may be ordered to pay either actual damages or “statutory” damages affixed at not less than $750 and not more than $30,000 per work infringed. For “willful” infringement, a court may award up to $150,000 per work infringed. A court can, in its discretion, also assess costs and attorneys’ fees. Wilful copyright Infringement can also result in criminal penalties, including imprisonment of up to five years and fines of up to $250,000 per offense. For more information visit the Web site of the U.S. Copyright Office at www.copyright.gov, especially their FAQ’s at http://www.copyright.gov/help/faq.

Systematic Monitoring and Access and Disclosure without Consent

Mount Union is not obligated to monitor the content of e-mail or file space. The Office of Information Technology, however, maintains the rights to monitor, trace, intercept, or block any network traffic for security or management purposes. Mount Union will, as a courtesy, normally try to inform users prior to any inspection, monitoring, or disclosure of e-mail or electronic files, except when such notification would be detrimental to an investigation of possible violation of law or University policy. Users are required to comply with University requests for access to and copies of e-mail records and electronic files when access or disclosure is required or allowed by applicable law or policy, regardless whether such records reside on a computer housed or owned by the University. Failure to comply with such requests can lead to conduct or legal action pursuant to applicable law or policy, including, but not limited to, appropriate University personnel policies or codes of conduct. In summary, Mount Union shall only permit the individual monitoring, inspection or disclosure of electronic mail, electronic files, or network traffic:

• When prior consent has been obtained in writing from the student. Consent is given when an individual registers for classes. Any student who refuses consent may be denied access to the Internet and electronic mail;
• When required by and consistent with law;
• When there is probable cause or substantiated reason to believe that violations of federal or state law or of Mount Union policies have taken place;
• When it is for a valid business purpose and there are compelling circumstances; and/or
• Under time-dependent, critical operational circumstances.

Remedial Action and Sanctions for Violations of Technology Policies

Final technical authority for the Mount Union computer network rests with the Office of Information Technology, who may issue training notices, alerts, or warnings for any minor or inadvertent misuse of service or breach of security. Any illegal activity will be reported immediately to the appropriate University official. Final conduct authority for misconduct or misuse by members of the Mount Union community rests with the appropriate authorities outlined in the Student Handbook.
Access to Mount Union’s e-mail, network, and Internet services are a privilege that may be wholly or partially restricted by the University without prior notice and without the consent of the user. This may occur when there is probable cause or a substantiated reason to believe that violations of policy or law have taken place or in exceptional cases when required to meet time-dependent, critical operational needs. Any student who abuses the privilege of University facilitated access to the Internet and e-mail may be subject to conduct action up to and including termination or expulsion. If necessary, the University also reserves the right to advise appropriate legal officials of any violations and institute legal proceedings against violators of this policy. Any policy violations should be reported to helpdesk@mountunion.edu. Acts of retaliation for reporting instances of misuse are prohibited, both by the University and under state and federal law. Reports of misuse cannot be made anonymously, due to the ability of the system to track the originator of any electronic communications.

Automatic voice and video services devices such as Amazon Alexa, Echo, Apple Homepod, Google Home, Portal from Facebook, etc. are not permitted to be used on campus within faculty, staff offices, conference spaces, etc. where conversations can be in violation of FERPA and inadvertently recorded on those devices.

Users should also familiarize themselves with the Technology User Code of Conduct, Network Use Policy, E-mail Policy, Hardware and Software Support Policy that follow this policy overview.

**Technology User Code of Conduct**

The following Code of Conduct is intended to instruct technology users in acceptable behavior regarding their use of Mount Union technological resources. This document is not intended to be exhaustive of all possible behaviors that may be deemed inappropriate. Users are expected to adhere to all policies set forth by the University regarding the use of technology resources. Failure to follow the expectations set forth in this Code of Conduct or any other policy of the University regarding use of technology may result in sanctions against the user, including, but not limited to, loss of access to technology resources and/or conduct action.

1. Users are responsible for how their accounts are used; therefore, every effort must be made to protect against unauthorized access to accounts. Users must have a password which will protect their accounts from unauthorized use and which will not be guessed easily. If a user discovers that someone has made unauthorized use of their account, they should change the password and report the intrusion to the Office of Information Technology. Users are required to change their password every 90 days.

2. Users may not intentionally seek information about, browse or obtain copies of, or modify files or passwords belonging to other people, whether at Mount Union or elsewhere, unless specifically authorized to do so by those individuals. Also, users may not attempt to intercept, capture, alter, or interfere in any way with information on campus or global network paths.

3. Users must not attempt to decrypt or translate encrypted material or obtain system privileges to which they are not entitled. Attempts to do any of the above will be considered serious violations.

4. If users encounter or observe a gap in system or network security, they must report the gap to the Office of Information Technology. Users must refrain from exploiting any such gaps in security.

5. Users must refrain from any action that interferes with the supervisory or accounting functions of the system or that is likely to have such effects.

6. Users must be sensitive to the public nature of shared facilities and take care not to display sounds or messages that could create an atmosphere of discomfort or harassment for others.

7. Users must avoid tying up computing resources for game playing or other trivial applications, sending frivolous or excessive mail or messages locally or over an affiliated network, or printing excessive copies of documents, files, images, or data. Users should be sensitive to special needs for software and services available in only one location and cede place to those whose work requires the special items.
8. Users may not prevent others from using shared resources by running unattended processes or placing signs on devices to “reserve” them without authorization.

9. Users may not copy, cross-assemble, or reverse-compile any software or data that the University has obtained under a contract or license that prohibits such actions. If it is unclear if it is permissible to take such actions, users should assume that they may not do so.

10. Software may not be copied or used illegally. Website materials must be cited appropriately, and permission obtained for the publishing, performing, or distribution of copyrighted material.

11. Messages, sentiments, and declarations sent as electronic mail or sent as electronic postings must meet the same standards for distribution or display as if they were tangible documents or instruments. Users are free to publish their opinions, but they must be clearly and accurately identified as coming from the particular user or, if a user is acting as the authorized agent of a group recognized by the University, as coming from the group they are authorized to represent. Attempts to alter the “From” line or other attribution of origin in electronic mail, messages, or postings will be considered violations of University policies.

12. Users may not take any action that damages Mount Union technology resources in any way, including technology found in classrooms, public computing labs, departmental labs, residence halls, and University houses, or any other campus location.

13. Users may not establish any computer to function as a server without the knowledge and approval of the Office of Information Technology.

14. Users are required to utilize anti-virus software on their computers. Anti-virus software must be updated regularly.

15. Users may not deploy any network electronic equipment or install wireless access points without express permission from the Office of Information Technology.

16. Users who utilize the Mount Union e-mail system are required to comply with state and federal law, University policies, and normal standards of professional and personal courtesy and conduct.

17. Student employees should never store Mount Union data on unsanctioned storage devices, including cloud storage sites (i.e. Dropbox), thumb drives, and home computers.

Network Use Policy

The Mount Union network is provided for the academic use, as well as to the University administration for conducting official University business. Academic use is determined to be any legitimate use of the network for the purpose of assisting in the conduct of the University’s academic mission. The official conduct of University business is limited to efforts on behalf of the management and administration of the University. The network provides access to the Internet from all offices, residence hall rooms, and computer labs, in addition to public access stations in the library. Students living in on-campus housing are accorded the privilege of using the network for personal use, as long as such use is in keeping with all applicable policies of the University and state and federal laws and is not excessive (resulting in diminished service to fellow students).

User access to the network is governed by the acceptable use policy of the University, as well as by the following:

Servers

All servers operating on campus must do so with the knowledge and consent of the Office of Information Technology. A server is defined as any computer providing services of any type to other computers on the network or on external networks. Such services could include DNS, DHCP, SNMP, e-mail and application, file, and/or printer sharing. In order to request the deployment of a server on the network, written petition must be made, stating:

- The legitimate academic use of the server;
- Intended server operating system;
- All intended server functions and applications, including protocols and services; and
• The identity and function of target subordinate computers/users.

Any computer acting as a server without prior authorization as stated above will be removed from the network. All licensing, operation, and support of the hardware and software utilized will be the responsibility of the petitioner, if such petition is granted.

Accounts

All authorized users will be provided an account by which to access the necessary network resources of Mount Union. The information regarding this account, including the account name and password, is privileged and must not be disseminated to anyone other than the account owner for any purpose. Account holders should protect their passwords and keep them confidential. Passwords should be changed frequently.

Any problem resulting from irresponsible use of a password (e.g., a password that can be easily guessed or oral or written dissemination of a password, as well as, passwords that are stored in scripts or saved on an individual machine) may be treated as grounds for action against the account holder. Any attempt to determine the passwords of other users is strictly prohibited.

The following are categories of authorized users:
• Current faculty and staff of the University
• Current students

The following categories of users may be authorized to utilize the University network based on the legitimate need for access to such resources:
• Volunteer staff of the University
• Student employees
• Current students studying abroad and doing transient work
• Guests
• Alumni/Alumna

Other categories of users may be granted special permission to obtain access to the system at the discretion of the University. Student employees who need to access administrative software and resources due to their employment must be given approval for this access by an office administrator.

Special Access

From time to time, circumstances dictate the provision of short-term, special access to University systems. Such access must be in accordance with the strictest adherence to the user policies stated above and may only be granted by the Office of Information Technology after review of a written petition. The petition must state the purpose of the access, the source username, and the department. Such access will typically be provided only for a limited time and will be allowed only from designated computers. All such petitions that are approved will be maintained on file in the Office of Information Technology. All connections made through such petitions will be monitored.

Network Electronic Equipment

Network electronic equipment, including switches, hubs, wireless access points and routers, may only be installed on campus with the knowledge and consent of the Office of Information Technology. In order to request the deployment of this equipment on the network, a written petition must be made stating:
• The legitimate academic use of the equipment;
• The type of equipment wishing to be deployed and for what purpose;
• All intended functions, including protocols and services; and
• The identity and function of target subordinate computers/users.

Any network electronic equipment deployed without prior authorization as stated above will be removed from the network. If a petition is granted, all licensing, operation, and support of the hardware and software utilized will be the responsibility of the petitioner.

**VPN (Virtual Private Network)**

VPN is a resource made available to faculty, staff, and students. VPN will allow a user to connect to the campus network from an off-campus ISP (Internet Service Provider) and make it appear to the user that they were physically connected to the Mount Union network. VPN will allow users to gain access to their home space (H:\ drive), and/or departmental common space (S:\ drive). VPN will be supported for only specified operating systems. If misuse of this resource occurs or if the user does not comply with the VPN Policy of Mount Union, the Office of Information Technology reserves the right to terminate any VPN connection without notice. Any party found to have violated the VPN policy may be subject to conduct action, including termination of VPN access. A copy of the VPN policy can be found on the Office of Information Technology website.

**Wireless**

Wireless technology is available in specified areas of Mount Union. Use of the wireless information network implies consent to abide by all University policies pertaining to the use of computer resources at Mount Union. Users may not install wireless access points. Any unauthorized wireless access points deployed will be removed from the network.

**Campus ID Card System**

The Campus ID Card System is a network resource and as such is protected by the rules of this policy. Any party found to violate this policy or damage devices specific to this system, such as door card or meal plan readers, may be subject to conduct action.

**Web Pages**

The Mount Union websites are network resources and as such are protected by the rules of this policy. Any party found to violate this policy may be subject to conduct action.

**University of Mount Union Social Media**

Social media is defined by Mount Union as public forms of communication that are used via the Internet. This form of communication combines integrated technology, social interaction, and the construction of words and/or pictures. Such sites are as follows but not limited to: Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, YouTube, TikTok, WordPress, Google+, Pinterest, Tumblr, Vine, WhatsApp, Medium, Tinder, MySpace, Renren, Flickr, blogs, etc. or any social site that can be created by a person and utilized as marketing the institution in any manner. Personal sites are permitted and are not held to the approved identity standards of Mount Union, however, any reference to the institution must adhere to the values of the institution. Please reference the Identity Standards to ensure the proper usage of Mount Union policies for written or video communication. Anyone choosing to create a social media site representing an office, department, organization, and/or any site that would be connected to the brand of Mount Union must contact the Office of Marketing. For additional information see the Social Media Policy.

The campus Unified Communications Services including voice/telephony, instant messaging (IM), presence, etc. (Tools available in Skype for Business), which maybe used by student employees. Unified Communications Services are explained in detail on the Office of Information Technology web pages within the portal (iRAIDER). These services including voice-messaging, boice messaging is an electronic voice messaging
system that gives users a convenient and dependable way to communicate with people. Voice messaging answers calls when the user is on or away from her/his phone. Users of Unified Communications Services should be aware of Mount Union’s Unified Communication policy. Users of these services agree to abide by this policy. This policy can be found within the portal (iRAIDER) on the Office of Information Technology pages and instructions for using the Unified Communication tools, can be found there as well.

**E-mail Policy**

Mount Union e-mail is intended to serve the communication needs of the University community. Access to the e-mail system is a privilege. Any e-mail addresses or accounts assigned by the University to individuals, sub-units, or functions of the University are the property of the University. The Mount Union network is not intended for private correspondence, as such, all communications on the University’s computer systems, whether personal or business related, are the property of Mount Union. E-mail users are required to comply with state and federal law, University policies and normal standards of professional and personal courtesy and conduct. Unacceptable uses of e-mail and Internet access include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Use for any purposes that violate a federal, state, or local law.
- Use for any commercial activities, including commercial advertising unless specific to the charter, mission, or duties of Mount Union.
- Use to publish post, distribute, disseminate, or link to any:
  - Inappropriate, profane, defamatory, infringing, obscene, indecent, harassing, or unlawful topic, name, material, or information
  - Software or other material protected by intellectual property laws, rights of privacy or publicity, or other proprietary rights, unless the individual owns/controls such rights or has received all necessary consents for the use of such software and other materials;
  - Software or other material that contains viruses, corrupted files, or that may or are intended to damage the operation of another’s computer.
- Use to gather or otherwise collect information about others for commercial or private use, including e-mail addresses, without the express consent of the individuals.
- Use for fund raising, political campaign activities, or public relations activities not specifically related to Mount Union activities.
- Use to conduct or forward illegal contests, pyramid schemes, or chain letters, or to spam.
- Use to sell access to the Internet.
- Use to conduct any activity that adversely affects the availability, confidentiality, or integrity of Mount Union’s technology.
- Use to benefit personal or financial interests of any employee or student.
- Use for mass e-mail purposes.

E-mail users shall not give the impression that they are representing, giving opinions, or otherwise making statements on behalf of the University or any unit of the University unless expressly authorized to do so. Where appropriate, the following explicit disclaimer shall be included: “The opinions or statements expressed herein are my own and should not be taken as a position, opinion or endorsement by University of Mount Union.”

**Restriction of E-Mail Privileges in Response to Resource Limitations, Administrative Procedures, or Policy Violations**

The Office of Information Technology of Mount Union sets the amount of disk space available for mailboxes and file space. The Office of Information Technology will announce the limits on an annual basis. On occasion it may become necessary for IT to impose additional limitations on the use of e-mail due to technical necessities or to require purges of information stored on the University servers to preserve the integrity of the system.
Users are advised to implement a data recovery plan, for example storing files on a DVDs, CDs, or making paper copies, as well as regularly archiving their e-mail messages.

**Security**

E-mail, as a public record, is subject to the Freedom of Information Act and to subpoena by a court of law. Users should be aware that any information submitted via e-mail is not confidential and could be observed by a third party while it is in transit. Encryption encourages the false belief that privacy can be guaranteed. Users should never put anything in an e-mail message that must be kept confidential. E-mail users should assume that anyone could accidentally or intentionally view the content of their message. E-mail security is a joint responsibility of Mount Union Office of Information Technology and e-mail users. The University will provide the security offered by the currently used software, as well as a “firewall” to prevent unauthorized access to the mail server. Users must take all reasonable precautions, including safeguarding and changing passwords, to prevent the use of the account by unauthorized individuals. Users may not divulge passwords for Mount Union accounts to any other person or allow other persons use of their Mount Union account for any reasons.

**Archiving and Retention**

The Office of Information Technology does not archive documents. Mount Union records communicated using e-mail or the Internet need to be identified, managed, protected, and retained as long as they are needed to meet operational, legal, audit, research or other requirements. Each director is required to comply with approved records retention schedules or to set standards to retain, manage and make accessible in an existing filing system, outside the e-mail system, records needed to support program functions in accordance with Mount Union’s standard practices.

**Eligibility for E-Mail Privileges**

Students are eligible for e-mail privileges as long as they are officially registered at Mount Union.

**Hardware and Software Support Policy**

**Personally Owned Computers on Campus**

**Hardware**

Personally owned computers belonging to the students will be supported by the helpdesk in a limited manor. Students can find out additional information on this service by visiting the Helpdesk or the IT web site. Additional computer services offered to students can be found on the Office of Information Technology web site.

**Data Security**

Data is considered a primary asset and as such must be protected in a manner commensurate to its value. Data security is necessary in today’s environment because data is a valuable asset. Security and privacy must focus on controlling unauthorized access to data. Security compromises or privacy violations could jeopardize the University’s ability to provide service; lose revenue through fraud or destruction of proprietary or confidential data; violate business contracts and customer privacy; or reduce credibility and reputation with its students, faculty, staff, friends, and alumni. The main objective of this policy is to ensure that data is protected in all of its forms, on all media. This policy applies to all University data.

A breach of policy could have severe consequences to Mount Union. The goals are to educate users about their obligation for protection of all data assets and to ensure the security and integrity of all University data. It is the responsibility of the individual to keep Mount Union data secure on any device, including but not limited
to desktops, laptops, portable hard drives, mobile devices such as cell phones, PDAs, etc. Individuals are prohibited from downloading, storing, or recording of data that include any information which if lost or stolen could be used for identity theft purposes. Additional information on data security can be found in the Office of Information Technology’s Data Security Policy.

Smart Phones

Any student who carries a smart phone that connects to Mount Union data and services must comply with the Office of Information Technology policy regarding Smart Phones. Users are expected to secure their device by using passwords, changing them regularly, always locking the device when not in use, encrypting data, and securing their device to prevent theft. Any Mount Union data that is stored on a mobile device is the responsibility of the owner. If Mount Union data is stored on a mobile device and the device is lost it must be reported to the Office of Information Technology immediately.

Users are expected to adhere to all policies set forth by the University regarding the use of technology resources. Failure to follow the expectations set forth in this section or any other policy of the University regarding use of technology may result in sanctions against the user, including, but not limited to, loss of access to technology resources and/or conduct action. Additional Information can be found in the Office of Informational Technology’s mobile device policy.

Policy Updates and Reviews

This policy will be reviewed on an annual basis. Updates may be made without notification. It is the user’s responsibility to review applicable policies on a regular basis.

Indemnification of Mount Union

Users agree by virtue of access to the University’s computing and e-mail systems, to indemnify, defend and hold harmless the University for any suits, claims, losses, expenses, or damages including, but not limited to, litigation costs and attorney’s fees arising from or related to the user’s access to or use of University e-mail and computing systems, services, and facilities.

Tobacco Free Policy

The Tobacco-Free Policy applies to all University of Mount Union facilities, property, sponsored events, and vehicles, owned or leased, regardless of location. Smoking and the use of tobacco products shall not be permitted in any enclosed place, including, but not limited to, all offices, classrooms, hallways, waiting rooms, restrooms, meeting rooms, community areas, performance venues and private residential space within University of Mount Union housing. Smoking and the use of tobacco products shall also be prohibited outdoors on all University of Mount Union campus property, including, but not limited to, parking lots, paths, fields, sports/recreational areas, and stadiums, as well as in all personal vehicles while on campus. This policy applies to all students, faculty, staff, and other persons on campus, regardless of the purpose for their visit.

Smoking is defined as inhaling, exhaling, burning or carrying any lighted or heated cigar, cigarette, or pipe, or any other lighted or heated tobacco or plant product intended for inhalation, including hookahs and marijuana, whether natural or synthetic, in any manner or in any form. Smoking also includes the use of an electronic smoking device which creates an aerosol or vapor, in any manner or in any form, or the use of any oral smoking device for the purpose of circumventing the prohibition of smoking in this policy.
In further recognition of the incompatibility of the University of Mount Union’s educational mission and the promotion of tobacco products:

No tobacco-related advertising or sponsorship shall be permitted on the University of Mount Union property, at University of Mount Union-sponsored events, or in publications produced by the University of Mount Union, with the exception of advertising in a newspaper or magazine that is not produced by the University of Mount Union and which is lawfully sold, bought, or distributed on University of Mount Union property. For the purposes of this policy, tobacco-related applies to the use of a tobacco brand or corporate name, trademark, logo, symbol, or motto, selling message, recognizable pattern or colors, or any other product identical to, similar to, or identifiable with, those used for any brand of tobacco products or company which manufactures tobacco products.

No tobacco products or paraphernalia shall be sold or distributed as samples on university grounds, either in vending machines, the Hoover-Price Campus Center, or any other area on campus.

For assistance or resources in regards to cessation, student can contact the Office of Alcohol, Drug, and Wellness Education https://www.mountunion.edu/alcohol-drug-and-wellness-education.

Other resources can be found at:

Smokefree.gov  
https://smokefree.gov/

The American Lung Association  
http://www.lung.org/

The American Heart Association  
http://www.heart.org

The American Cancer Society  
https://www.cancer.org/

Mercy Medical Center  
Tobacco Treatment Program  
https://www.cantonmercy.org/smoking-cessation/

Aultman Hospital  
Give it Up!  
https://aultman.org/home/health-and-wellness/community-programs/give-it-up/

**Vehicles**

Mount Union maintains a fleet of vehicles that are available for university-sponsored activities and functions. The use of a university vehicle is a privilege that entails specific responsibilities. Failure to follow university, state, and federal rules and regulations or irresponsible use of a vehicle will result in that privilege being withdrawn.

All drivers must be authorized annually to drive university-owned vehicles. Drivers must be 21 years of age, complete the following: the driver’s application form signed by the department or organization for which you
will be driving, the statement of rights and responsibilities, online motor vehicle record check, and online
defensive driving training. The supervisor of the department or organization must initiate the initial request
and will be charged any associated fees. Requests for authorization and associated documentation should be
completed at least ten days prior to the need to drive a university vehicle.

Withdrawal Process and Refund Policy

A student who wants to withdraw after classes have started for the semester initiates the process with the Office
of Student Affairs to indicate that they are withdrawing. The official date of withdrawal is the date the student
contacted the Office of Student Affairs or the student’s last date of attendance at a documented academically
related activity. This policy applies to students who withdraw from all of their classes for the semester or are
suspended. Students who participate in activities on campus prior to the first day of classes and then submit
written notice of withdrawal prior to the first day of classes shall be assessed an early withdrawal fee of $150.

The charges for tuition, fees, room, and meal plan are based on a weekly schedule listed in the University
Catalogue. The student who withdraws after those dates will be charged for the whole semester and will be
eligible for financial aid based on the semester costs. Notification of withdrawal and requests for refunds must
be done in writing. The process is initiated with a withdrawal form which is available in the Office of Student
Affairs in the Hoover-Price Campus Center. The Mount Union Refund Policy can be found in its entirety in
the University Catalogue.
Handbook Statement

Mount Union students are responsible for knowing the information, policies and procedures as outlined in this handbook. Mount Union reserves the right to make changes to this document as necessary and once those changes are posted online, they are in effect. Changes to the handbook, except those made at the start of the academic year will be announced to the community through their Mount Union email. Students are encouraged to check online https://www.mountunion.edu/campus-life/safety-and-parking/student-conduct for the updated versions of all policies and procedures.

If you are responsible for a policy housed in the Student Handbook and it needs to be updated, or you have questions about the policies housed in the Student Handbook, please contact studentconduct@mountunion.edu for updates and/or clarification.