STUDENT CONDUCT AND RESPONSIBILITY POLICY

I. Policy Statement

Portland State University supports the right of all people to live and learn in a safe and respectful environment that promotes the free and vigorous expression of ideas. PSU students and recognized student organizations are expected to conduct themselves in a manner consistent with these principles. The University shall adopt and implement a Code of Student Conduct and Responsibility designed to protect these freedoms and the fundamental rights of others.

II. Reason for Policy/Purpose

It is appropriate to hold students and recognized student organization responsible for conduct that is incongruent with the principles articulated above. The student conduct process is generally educational in nature and is intended to lead to self-evaluation and accountability.

The goals of the student conduct process are:

• To promote a campus environment that supports the overall educational mission of the University.

• To protect the University community from disruption and harm.

• To encourage appropriate standards of individual and group behavior.

• To foster ethical standards and engaged citizens.

III. Applicability

This policy applies to all University students, groups of University students and recognized student organizations of the University.

IV. Definitions

Code: The Code of Student Conduct and Responsibility promulgated in accordance with this Policy and published on the PSU Dean of Student Life website.
**Director of Student Conduct and Community Standards:** The Senior Conduct Officer for the University, and the University Official charged with the responsibility of administering the Code. Any action required to be performed under the Code by the Senior Conduct Officer may be performed by his or her designee.

**Recognized Student Organization:** A group of five or more Students who have formed around a defined mission or purpose and who have been officially recognized by Student Activities and Leadership Programs or Campus Recreation.

**Student:** A person who: (a) is enrolled as a student and/or registered for one or more credit hours; (b) is enrolled in a special non-credit program approved by the University; or (c) was previously enrolled as a student at PSU. A person who satisfies (a), (b), or (c) above is considered a “Student” for purposes of the Code as of the date that the person first submitted an application for admission, financial aid or any other service provided by the University that requires student status.

**The Student Conduct Committee:** A committee composed of faculty and staff appointed by the Faculty Senate of the University and students appointed by the President of the Associated Students of Portland State University.

## V. Policy / Procedures

1. **Authorization.** The Director of Student Conduct and Community Standards ("Director") is authorized to develop, publish and implement a Code of Student Conduct and Responsibility ("Code"). The Director is further authorized to develop and implement policies for the administration of the Code and procedural rules for the conduct of hearings that are consistent with provisions of the Code and applicable law.

2. **Required Elements.** The Code must include the following elements:

   2.1 **Jurisdiction.** A clear statement regarding the University’s jurisdiction with regard to enforcing the Code.

   2.2 **Proscribed Conduct.** An explicit description of conduct that is proscribed by the University and may result in sanctions under the Code.

   2.3 **Possible Sanctions.** A description of possible sanctions that may be imposed upon a student, group of students or recognized student organization found responsible for violating a provision of the Code. The list is not required to be exhaustive, but should provide examples of common sanctions that may be imposed.

   2.4 **Procedures.** A detailed description of the procedures to be followed for filing a complaint; conducting a hearing; filing and deciding an appeal; taking emergency action as needed; and otherwise in implementing the Code.
2.5 **Fees.** A description of any fees that may be charged to a student, group of students or recognized student organization found responsible for violating a provision of the Code.

2.6 **Policy of Amnesty.** A provision for amnesty from disciplinary sanctions for violating designated alcohol or drug policies where a person in good faith seeks medical assistance or help from University officials or law enforcement for a medical emergency or condition that is occurring during or near the time assistance or help is sought. The amnesty will apply to students seeking assistance, to a student who is the subject the medical emergency or condition, and to recognized student organizations. The purpose of amnesty is to encourage students to immediately seek help for an alcohol or drug-related emergency or for help in addressing matters of sexual assault, and consistent with these purposes, the Code may include a description of conditions that must be met before amnesty will apply, exceptions from amnesty, and educational measures that may be required in lieu of disciplinary sanctions.

3. **Process for Adoption and Amendment of Code.** The Director of Student Conduct and Community Standards shall develop the Code (and amend the Code as necessary) using a process that is inclusive, responsive to the needs and concerns of the campus community, and compliant with applicable law. The Code, and any amendment to the Code, will not be effective until the following steps have been taken:

3.1 **Review and Consultation.** The Student Conduct Committee is composed of representatives appointed by faculty senate and student government. The Director shall consult with the Student Conduct Committee regarding proposed changes and work in conjunction with the Committee in preparing the draft Code for review. The Director shall also solicit review and comment on the draft Code from PSU’s Title IX Coordinator and Office of General Counsel.

3.2 **Posting and Comment.** After the review and consultation described above, the Director shall publicize the draft Code on the Dean of Student website and solicit comments for a period of no less than 30 calendar days. The draft Code will be publicized in a form that highlights any proposed changes to the Code. The Director shall consider any comments received. The Director may, but is not required to, make modifications to the draft Code in response to such comments.

3.3 **Final Approval and Publication.** No less than 31 calendar days after the draft Code is posted to the Dean of Student website, the Director may adopt the Code as final. The Director shall post a notice on the website that the Code is adopted and is effective immediately, and ensure that the new or amended Code is published on the website and in any other manner the Director deems appropriate.

**VI. Links To Related Forms**

- Student Conduct Complaint Form

3 - Student Conduct and Responsibility Policy
VII. Links To Related Policies, Procedures or Information

Student Code of Conduct

Prohibited Discrimination & Harassment Policy

Information about the Student Conduct process and procedure, and proposed Code amendments, may be found on the Dean of Student Life – Student Conduct website.

VIII. Contacts

If you have any questions regarding this policy, please contact the Office of the Dean of Student at (503) 725-4422 or askdoslife@pdx.edu.

Anyone with a safety emergency or campus safety-related concern should contact:
Campus Public Safety Office, Suite 149, Shattuck Hall, 1914 SW Park
Telephone: (503) 725-4407; Emergency Telephone: (503) 725-4404; Email: cpso@pdx.edu

IX. History/Revision Dates

Adoption Date: February 27, 2015


Next Review Date: February 27, 2020

X. Policy Adoption/Reaffirmation/Revision Approvals

Approved

PORTLAND STATE UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT
Date 1/29/2019

Approved

PORTLAND STATE UNIVERSITY GENERAL COUNSEL
Date 1/30/2019

4 – Student Conduct and Responsibility Policy