

ACADEMIC APPEALS BY STUDENTS

When a student takes issue with an instructional decision /academic matters or an application of a stated policy, the student should first discuss this matter with the faculty member who made the decision or applied the policy. If the matter cannot be resolved through this initial discussion, the student has the right to appeal the decision or application through regular college channels. See Administrative Policy 5522 or the Student Grievance Process for Instruction and Grade Related Matters in the catalog for details.

In non-academic matters, the appeal procedure is comparable, but is made through the appropriate student personnel administrator to the Dean of Student Services, Vice President of Student Services, and then to the President. The final appeal a student can make is to the Board of Trustees.

Information on students' rights and responsibilities, expected standards of conduct, disciplinary action and the student grievance procedure for disciplinary and matters other than disciplinary can be found in the Student Conduct section of the catalog, Board Policy 5500, and Administrative Procedure 5520.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

Academic honesty and integrity are core values of the Norco College. Students are expected to perform their work independently (except when collaboration is expressly permitted by the course instructor). Believing in and maintaining a climate of honesty is integral to ensuring fair grading for all students. Acts of academic dishonesty entail plagiarizing—using another's words, ideas, data, or product without appropriate acknowledgment—and cheating—the intentional use of or attempted use of unauthorized material, information, or study aids on any academic exercise. Students who violate the standards of student conduct will be subject to disciplinary action as stated in the Standards of Student Conduct and Discipline Procedures section in the catalog and at www.norcocollege.edu/ssc/Documents/policies/Academic-Dishonesty.pdf. Faculty, students, and administrators all share the responsibility to maintain an environment which practices academic integrity.

ACADEMIC RENEWAL

Academic renewal allows a student who experienced academic difficulties during earlier attendance to have grades for a particular period of time excluded from the calculation of the RCCD grade point average. All courses and grades remain on the student's permanent academic record. Petitions forms are available online at www.norcocollege.edu on the Admissions & Records webpage under "Forms." The policies are as follows:

1. A student may request academic renewal for not more than two terms (fall, winter, spring, summer) of grades. A maximum of 24 units of substandard grades and credits, which are not reflective of a student's present ability and level of performance, will be disregarded.
2. At least two semesters of college work (24 units) with a grade point average of 2.0 must have been completed at any accredited college or university subsequent to the two terms to be disregarded in calculating the grade point average obtained at Riverside Community College District. If using coursework from another college or university, the student must submit an official transcript from that institution to be submitted with the academic renewal petition.

3. If and when the petition is granted, the student's permanent record will be annotated so that it is readily evident to all users of the record that no substandard units for work taken during the alleviated term(s) will apply toward graduation or any other unit commitment. However, all work will remain legible on the permanent record to ensure a true and complete academic history.
4. A student may be granted academic renewal only once.

Academic renewal procedures shall not conflict with the District's obligation to retain and destroy records or with the instructor's ability to determine a student's final grade.

COURSE PREREQUISITES AND COREQUISITES

All course prerequisites and corequisites will be enforced. This includes both required prerequisite courses as well as required assessment preparation levels. The Accuplacer assessment test, in conjunction with multiple measures, is used to generate placement levels in English, Math, and Reading. The PTESL (Proficiency Test in English as a Second Language) is used to generate placement levels in ESL. All placement tests taken prior to July 1, 2001 are no longer valid.

Students who have not satisfactorily completed a prerequisite for a course will be denied admission to that course. A grade of "C" or better is required for satisfactory completion of a course which is a prerequisite to a subsequent course.

If prerequisites or corequisites were met by completing courses at another college or university, students must request that the official transcript(s) be sent to the Admissions & Records office and request a prerequisite validation of the appropriate course(s) to validate the course that will meet RCCD requirements. Prerequisite validation request forms may be obtained from the Counseling department in the César E. Chávez Admissions and Counseling Building at Riverside City College, and the Student Services offices at Moreno Valley and Norco colleges. For information on challenge procedures, see page 7.

Students must initiate this process well in advance of the semester in which they plan to register. Students will be informed of the results of the evaluation in a timely manner prior to the term in which they plan to enroll.

THE ARTS

Art

The visual arts at Norco College play a significant role in students' lives. Classes in painting, drawing, figure drawing, design, art history, computer/digital/gaming art, and illustration give students access to outstanding studio facilities and faculty. Our industry-recognized faculty are here to facilitate creation and further student opportunities in many areas of art. The College Art Gallery is located on the first floor of the Science and Technology Building. It is an exceptional facility, displaying both traditional and digital works. Regularly scheduled exhibitions feature student work as well as the works of local artists providing a variety of culturally diverse art to the college and surrounding community.

STANDARDS OF STUDENT CONDUCT

References: BP 5500

Ed Code Section 66300, 66301, 76033;

Accreditation Standard II.A.7.b

Health and Safety Code Section 11362.79

34 C.F.R. Part 86, et seq.

The Chancellor shall establish procedures for the imposition of discipline on students in accordance with the requirements for due process of the federal and state law and regulations.

The procedures shall clearly define the conduct that is subject to discipline, and shall identify potential disciplinary actions, including but not limited to the removal, suspension, or expulsion of a student.

The Board of Trustees shall consider any recommendation from the Chancellor for expulsion. The Board of Trustees shall consider an expulsion recommendation in closed session unless the student requests that the matter be considered in a public meeting. Final action by the Board of Trustees on the expulsion shall be taken at a public meeting.

The procedures shall be made widely available to students through the college catalog(s) and other means.

The following conduct shall constitute good cause for discipline, including but not limited to the removal, suspension or expulsion of a student.

1. Causing, attempting to cause, implying, or threatening to cause, harm to another person whether or not the threat is in writing, by electronic means (including social media) or in person. Harm is defined as, but not limited to, physical harm, harm to profession (defamation) or psychological harm. Threats of any kind directed at anyone on District property or one of its approved educational sites will not be tolerated. District police shall be called by the receiver of the threat or anyone on behalf of the receiver.
2. Possessing, selling or otherwise furnishing any firearm, knife, explosive or other dangerous object, including but not limited to any facsimile firearm, knife or explosive, unless, in the case of possession of any object of this type, the student has obtained written permission to possess the item from a District employee, which is concurred by the Chancellor.
3. Possessing, using, selling, offering to sell, or furnishing, or being under the influence of, any controlled substance listed in Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 11053) of Division 10 of the California Health and Safety Code, an alcoholic beverage, or an intoxicant of any kind; or unlawful possession of, or offering, arranging or negotiating the sale of any drug paraphernalia, as defined in California Health and Safety Code Section 11014.5. It is also unlawful under federal law, to possess, use, sell, offer to sell, furnish, or be under the influence of, any controlled substance, including medical marijuana.
4. Committing or attempting to commit robbery, bribery, or extortion.
5. Causing or attempting to cause damage to District property or to private property on campus.
6. Stealing or attempting to steal District property or private property on campus, or knowingly receiving stolen District property or private property on campus.
7. Willfully or persistently smoking, including e-cigarettes and vapor devices in any area where smoking has been prohibited by law or by policy or procedure of the District.
8. Committing sexual harassment as defined by law or by District policies and procedures.
9. Engaging in harassing or discriminatory behavior toward an individual or group based on ethnic group identification, national origin, religion, age, gender, gender identity, gender expression, race or ethnicity, color, ancestry, genetic information, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability, pregnancy, military or veteran status, or any characteristic listed or defined in Section 11135 of the Government code or any characteristic that is contained in the prohibition of hate crimes set forth in subdivision (1) of section 422.6 of the Penal Code, or any other status protected by law.
10. Engaging in negligent and/or willful misconduct which results in injury or death to a student or to District personnel or which results in cutting, defacing, or other injury to any real or personal property owned by the District or on campus.
11. Engaging in disruptive behavior, willful disobedience, habitual profanity or vulgarity, or the open and persistent defiance of the authority of, or persistent abuse of, District personnel.
12. Engaging in dishonesty
Forms of Dishonesty include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Plagiarism, defined as presenting another person's language (spoken or written), ideas, artistic works or thoughts, as if they were one's own;
 - b. Cheating, defined as the use of information not authorized by the Instructor for the purpose of obtaining a grade. Examples include, but are not limited to, notes, recordings, internet resources and other students' work;
 - c. Furnishing false information to the District for purposes such as admission, enrollment, financial assistance, athletic eligibility, transfer, or alteration of official documents;
 - d. Forging, altering or misusing District or College documents, keys (including electronic key cards), or other identification instruments.
 - e. Attempting to bribe, threaten or extort a faculty member or other employee for a better grade;
 - f. Buying or selling authorization codes for course registration.
13. Entering or using District facilities without authorization.
14. Engaging in lewd, indecent or obscene conduct on District-owned or controlled property, or at District-sponsored or supervised functions.
15. Engaging in expression which is obscene; libelous or slanderous; or which so incites students as to create a clear and present danger of the commission of unlawful acts on college premises, or the violation of lawful District administrative procedures, or the substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the District.
16. Engaging in persistent, serious misconduct where other means of correction have failed to bring about proper conduct.
17. Preparing, giving, selling, transferring, distributing, or publishing, for any commercial purpose, of any contemporaneous recording of an academic presentation in a classroom or equivalent site of instruction, including but not limited to handwritten or typewritten class notes, except as permitted by any District policy or administrative procedure without authorization.
18. Using, possessing, distributing or being under the influence

of alcoholic beverages, controlled substance(s), or poison(s) classified as such by Schedule D, Section 4160 of the Business and Professions Code, while at any District location, any District off-site class, or during any District sponsored activity, trip or competition.

- a. In accordance with Section 67385.7 of the Education Code and in an effort to encourage victims to report assaults, the following exception will be made: The victim of a sexual assault will not be disciplined for the use, possession, or being under the influence of alcoholic beverages or controlled substances at the time of the incident if the assault occurred on District property or during any of the aforementioned District activities.
19. Violating the District's Computer and Network Use Policy and Procedure No. 3720 in regard to their use of any, or all, of the District's Information Technology resources.
20. Using electronic recording or any other communications devices (such as MP3 players, cell phones, pagers, recording devices, etc.) in the classroom without the permission of the instructor.
21. Eating (except for food that may be necessary for a verifiable medical Condition) or drinking (except for water) in classrooms.
22. Gambling, of any type, on District property.
23. Bringing pets (with the exception of service animals) on District property.
24. Distributing printed materials without the prior approval of the Student Activities Office. Flyers or any other literature may not be placed on vehicles parked on District property.
25. Riding/using bicycles, motorcycles, or motorized vehicles (except for authorized police bicycles or motorized vehicles) outside of paved streets or thoroughfares normally used for vehicular traffic.
26. Riding/using any and all types of skates, skateboards, scooters, or other such conveyances is prohibited on District property, without prior approval.
27. Attending classrooms or laboratories (except for those individuals who are providing accommodations to students with disabilities) when not officially enrolled in the class or laboratories and without the approval of the faculty member.
28. Engaging in intimidating conduct or bullying against another person through words or actions, including direct physical contact; verbal assaults, such as teasing or name-calling; social isolation or manipulation; doxing and cyberbullying.
29. Abuse of process, defined as the submission of malicious or frivolous complaints.
30. Violating any District Board Policy or Administrative Procedure not mentioned above.

Responsibility

- A. The Chancellor is responsible for establishing appropriate procedures for the administration of disciplinary actions. In this regard, please refer to Administrative Procedure 5520, which deal with matters of student discipline and student grievance.
- B. The Vice President of Student Services of each College will be responsible for the overall implementation of the procedures which are specifically related to all nonacademic, student related matters contained in Administrative Procedure 5520.
- C. The Vice President of Academic Affairs of each College will be responsible for the overall implementation of the procedures

which are specifically related to class activities or academic matters contained in Administrative Procedure 5522.

- D. For matters involving the prohibition of discrimination and harassment, the concern should be referred to the District's Diversity, Equity and Compliance Office.
- E. The definitions of cheating and plagiarism and the penalties for violating standards of student conduct pertaining to cheating and plagiarism will be included in all schedules of classes, the college catalog, the student handbook, and the faculty handbook all of which are produced and posted to the college websites. Faculty members are encouraged to include the definitions and penalties in their course syllabi.

STUDENT DISCIPLINE PROCEDURES

References: AP 5520

Education Code Sections 66017, 66300, 72122, 76030 and 76032

I. General Provisions

The purpose of this procedure is to provide a prompt and equitable means to address violations of the Standards of Student Conduct, which guarantees to the student or students involved the due process rights guaranteed them by state and federal constitutional protections. This procedure will be used in a fair and equitable manner, and not for purposes of retaliation. It is not intended to substitute for criminal or civil proceedings that may be initiated by other agencies.

These Administrative Procedures are specifically not intended to infringe in any way on the rights of students to engage in free expression as protected by the state and federal constitutions, and by Education Code Section 76120 and will not be used to punish expression that is protected.

II. Definitions

District - The Riverside Community College District

Student - Any person currently enrolled as a student at any college or in any program offered by the District.

Instructor - Any academic employee of the District in whose class a student subject to discipline is enrolled, or counselor who is providing or has provided services to the student, or other academic employee who has responsibility for the student's educational program.

Short-term Suspension - Exclusion of the student by the Vice President of Student Services or designee for good cause from one or more classes for a period of up to ten consecutive days of instruction.

Long-term Suspension - Exclusion of the student by the Vice President of Student Services or designee for good cause from one or more classes for the remainder of the school term, or from all classes and activities of the college for one or more terms.

Expulsion - Exclusion of the student by the Board of Trustees from all colleges in the District for one or more terms.

Removal from class - Exclusion of the student by an instructor for the day of the removal and the next class meeting.

Loss of privileges - Loss of privileges denies, for a designated period of time, a student's attendance on District property to specified activities (library privileges, football game, club activities, or other non-instructional activities) and will be delineated in a written notification to the student.

Restitution - This is financial reimbursement to the District for damage or misappropriation of property. Reimbursement may also take the form of appropriate service to repair or otherwise compensate for damage.

Written or verbal reprimand - An admonition to the student to cease and desist from conduct determined to violate the Standards of Student Conduct. Written reprimands may become part of a student's permanent record at the District. A record of the fact that a verbal reprimand has been given may become part of a student's record at the District for a period of up to one year.

Withdrawal of Consent to Remain on Campus - Withdrawal of consent by the President or designee for any person to remain on campus in accordance with California Penal Code Section 626.4 where the President or designee has reasonable cause to believe that such person has willfully disrupted the orderly operation of the campus.

Day - Days during which the District is in session and regular classes are held, excluding Saturdays and Sundays.

III. Academic Dishonesty

In cases of academic dishonesty by a student, a faculty member may take anyone of the following actions:

1. The faculty member may:
 - a. reduce the score on test(s) or assignment(s) according to the weight of the test or assignment;
 - b. reduce the grade in the course if the weight of the test or assignment warrants grade reduction; or,
 - c. fail the student in the course if the weight of the test or assignment warrants course failure.

The faculty member may recommend to a College Dean of Instruction that the student be suspended from the course. If the course suspension is recommended, the Dean of Instruction will review the information regarding the charge of academic dishonesty, notify the student, consult with the faculty member regarding the recommendation for suspension and turn the matter over to the Vice President of Student Services who will take appropriate action.

2. If the suspension is upheld, the College Vice President of Student Services will make note of the offense in the student's educational records. A second instance of academic dishonesty may result in expulsion proceedings. Enrollment, tuition, and other applicable fees will not be refunded as a result of disciplinary action for academic dishonesty.

IV. Actions That May Be Taken Prior to Suspension or Expulsion

The following actions may be taken by appropriate personnel prior to considering suspension or expulsion:

1. **Removal from Class** (Education Code Section 76032) - Any instructor may order a student removed from his or her class for the day of the removal and the next class meeting. The instructor shall immediately report the removal to the appropriate Department Chair person and/or the Dean of Instruction, who will in turn notify the Dean of Student Services or designee. The Dean of Student Services or designee shall arrange for a conference between the student and the instructor regarding the removal. If the instructor or the student requests it, the Dean of Student Services or designee shall attend the conference. The student shall not be returned to the class during the period of the removal

without the concurrence of the instructor. Nothing herein will prevent the Dean of Student Services or designee from recommending further disciplinary action in accordance with these procedures based on the facts which led to the removal.

2. **Immediate Interim Suspension** (Education Code Section 66017) - The President or designee may order immediate suspension of a student where he or she concludes that immediate suspension is required to protect lives or property and to ensure the maintenance of order. In cases where an interim suspension has been ordered, the time limits contained in these procedures shall not apply, and all hearing rights, including the right to a formal hearing where a long-term suspension or expulsion is recommended, will be afforded to the student within ten days.
3. **Withdrawal of Consent to Remain on Campus** - The President or designee may notify any person for whom there is a reasonable belief that the person has willfully disrupted the orderly operation of the campus that consent to remain on campus has been withdrawn. If the person is on campus at the time, he or she must promptly leave or be escorted off campus. If consent is withdrawn by the President or designee, a written report must be promptly made to the Chancellor.

The person from whom consent has been withdrawn may submit a written request for a hearing on the withdrawal within the period of the withdrawal. The request shall be granted not later than seven (7) days from the date of receipt of the request. The hearing will be conducted in accordance with the provisions of this procedure relating to interim suspensions.

In no case shall consent be withdrawn for longer than 14 days from the date upon which consent was initially withdrawn.

Any person for whom consent to remain on campus has been withdrawn who knowingly reenters the campus during the period in which consent has been withdrawn, except to come for a meeting or hearing, is subject to arrest. (Penal Code Section 626.4)

Any times specified in these procedures may be shortened or lengthened if there is mutual concurrence by all parties.

V. Process Preceding Suspensions or Expulsions

Before any disciplinary action to suspend or expel is taken against a student, the following procedures will apply:

1. **Notice** - The Vice President of Student Services or designee will provide the student with notice of the conduct warranting the discipline.
2. **Time limits** - The notice must be provided to the student within five days of the date on which the conduct becomes known to the Vice President of Student Services or designee; in the case of continuous, repeated or ongoing conduct, the notice must be provided within five days on which the conduct becomes known to the Vice President of Student Services or designee.
3. **Meeting** - Unless otherwise agreed upon, the student must meet with the Vice President of Student Services or designee within five days after the notice is provided. During the meeting, the student will be given the following:
 - the facts leading to, and in support of, the

- accusation
- the specific section of the Standards of Student Conduct that the student is accused of violating
- the nature of the discipline that is being considered
- an opportunity to respond verbally or in writing to the accusation

4. Potential Disciplinary Actions

- a. Short-term Suspension - Within five days after the meeting described above, the Vice President of Student Services or designee shall decide whether to impose a short-term suspension, whether to impose some lesser disciplinary action, or whether to end the matter. Written notice of the Vice President's or designee's decision shall be provided to the student. The notice will include the length of time of the suspension, or the nature of the lesser disciplinary action. The Vice President's or designee's decision on a short-term suspension shall be final.
- b. Long-term Suspension - Within five days after the meeting described above, the Vice President of Student Services or designee shall decide whether to impose a long-term suspension. Written notice of the Vice President's or designee's decision shall be provided to the student. The notice will include the right of the student to request a formal hearing before a long-term suspension is imposed, and a copy of this policy describing the procedures for a hearing.
- c. Expulsion - Within five days after the meeting described above, the Vice President of Student Services or designee shall decide whether to recommend expulsion to the Chancellor. Written notice of the Vice President's or designee's decision shall be provided to the student. The notice will include the right of the student to request a formal hearing before expulsion is imposed, and a copy of this policy describing the procedures for a hearing.

VI. Hearing Procedures

1. Request for Hearing - Within five days after receipt of the President's or designee's decision regarding a long-term suspension, the student may request a formal hearing. The request must be made in writing to the President's or designee's.
2. Schedule of Hearing - The formal hearing shall be held within ten days (excluding weekends and holidays) after a formal request for hearing is received
3. Hearing Panel - The hearing panel for any disciplinary action shall be composed of one administrator, one faculty member and one student.
The President of the Academic Senate shall, at the beginning of the academic year, establish a list of at least five faculty who will serve on student disciplinary hearing panels. At the time that a hearing is requested, the President will notify the Associated Students President who will provide the name of a student to serve on the panel. This name shall be provided within 48 hours. The President or designee shall appoint the hearing panel from the names on these lists. However, no administrator, faculty member or student who has any personal involvement in the matter to be decided, who is a necessary witness, or who could not otherwise act in a neutral manner shall serve on a hearing panel.
4. Hearing Panel Chair -- The President or designee shall appoint one member of the panel to serve as the chair. The

decision of the hearing panel chair shall be final on all matters relating to the conduct of the hearing unless there is a vote by both other members of the panel to the contrary.

5. Conduct of the Hearing - The hearing will comply with principles of due process, including the right to confront and cross examine witnesses. The following procedure will be followed:
 - a. The members of the hearing panel shall be provided with a copy of the accusation against the student and any written response provided by the student before the hearing begins.
 - b. The facts supporting the accusation shall be presented by the administrator who issued the disciplinary action.
 - c. The administrator and the student may call witnesses and introduce oral and written testimony relevant to the issues of the matter.
 - d. Formal rules of evidence shall not apply. Any relevant evidence shall be admitted.
 - e. Unless the hearing panel determines to proceed otherwise, the administrator and student shall each be permitted to make an opening statement. Thereafter, the administrator shall make the first presentation, followed by the student. The administrator may present rebuttal evidence after the student completes his or her evidence. The burden shall be on the administrator to prove by substantial of evidence that the facts alleged are true.
 - f. The student may represent himself or herself, and may also have the right to be represented by a person of his or her choice, except that the student shall not be represented by an attorney unless, in the judgment of the hearing panel, complex legal issues are involved. In that case, and if the student wishes to be represented by an attorney, a request must be presented not less than five (5) days prior to the date of the hearing. If the student is permitted to be represented by an attorney, the administrator may request legal assistance. The hearing panel may also request legal assistance; any legal advisor provided to the panel may sit with it in an advisory capacity to provide legal counsel but shall not be a member of the panel nor vote with it.
 - g. Hearings shall be closed and confidential unless the student requests that it be open to the public. Any such request must be made no less than five days prior to the date of the hearing.
 - h. In a closed hearing, witnesses shall not be present at the hearing when not testifying, unless all parties and the panel agree to the contrary.
 - i. The hearing shall be electronically recorded by the District, and shall be the only recording made. No witness who refuses to be recorded may be permitted to give testimony. In the event the recording is by tape recording, the hearing panel chair shall, at the beginning of the hearing, ask each person present to identify themselves by name, and thereafter shall ask witnesses to identify themselves by name. Tape recording shall remain in the custody of the District at all times, unless released to a professional transcribing service. The student may request a copy of the tape recording.
 - j. All testimony shall be taken under oath; the oath shall be administered by the hearing panel chair. Written statements of witnesses under penalty of perjury shall not be used unless the witness is unavailable to testify.

A witness who refuses to be tape recorded is not unavailable.

- k. Within five days following the close of the hearing, the hearing panel shall prepare and send to the President, a written decision. The decision shall include specific factual findings regarding the accusation, and shall include specific conclusions regarding whether any specific section of the Standards of Student Conduct were violated. The decision shall also include a specific recommendation regarding the disciplinary action to be imposed, if any. The decision shall be based only on the record of the hearing, and not on matter outside of that record. The record consists of the original accusation, the written response, if any, of the student, and the oral and written evidence produced at the hearing.

VII. President's Decision

Upon receipt of the Hearing Panel's decision, the President of the College will consider the decision of the Panel.

1. Long-term suspension - Within five days following receipt of the hearing panel's recommended decision, the President shall render a final written decision. The President may accept, modify or reject the findings, decisions and recommendations of the hearing panel. If the President modifies or rejects the hearing panel's decision, the President shall review the record of the hearing, and shall prepare a new written decision which contains specific factual findings and conclusions. The decision of the President shall be final.
2. Expulsion - Within five days following receipt of the hearing panel's recommended decision, the President shall render a written decision. The President may accept, modify or reject the findings, decisions and recommendations of the hearing panel. If the President modifies or rejects the hearing panel's decision, the President shall review the record of the hearing, and shall prepare a new written decision which contains specific factual findings and conclusions. The President will forward his or her decision to the Chancellor with a copy to the hearing panel.

VIII. Chancellor's Decision

The Chancellor will review any recommended expulsions. Within five days following receipt of the President's recommended decision, the Chancellor shall render a written recommendation decision to the Board of Trustees. The Chancellor may accept, modify or reject the findings, decisions and recommendations of the President. If the Chancellor modifies or rejects the President's decision, he or she shall review the record of the hearing, and shall prepare a new written decision which contains specific factual findings and conclusions. The Chancellor's decision shall be forwarded to the Board of Trustees, with a copy to the President.

IX. Board of Trustees Decision

The Board of Trustees shall consider any recommendation from the Chancellor for expulsion at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board after receipt of the recommended decision.

The Board of Trustees shall consider an expulsion recommendation in closed session, unless the student has requested that the matter be considered in a public meeting in accordance with these procedures. (Education Code Section 72122)

The student shall be notified in writing, by registered or certified mail or by personal service, at least three days prior to the meeting, of the date, time, and place of the Board's meeting.

The student may, within two days after receipt of the notice, request that the hearing be held as a public meeting.

Even if a student has requested that the Board of Trustees consider an expulsion recommendation in a public meeting, the Board of Trustees will hold any discussion that might be in conflict with the right to privacy of any student other than the student requesting the public meeting in closed session.

The Board of Trustees may accept, modify or reject the findings, decisions and recommendations of the Chancellor and/or the hearing panel. If the Board of Trustees modifies or rejects the decision, the Board shall review the record of the hearing, and shall prepare a new written decision which contains specific factual findings and conclusions. The decision of the Board of Trustees shall be final.

The final action of the Board of Trustees on the expulsion shall be taken at a public meeting, and the result of the action shall be a public record of the District.

STUDENT GRIEVANCE PROCESS FOR INSTRUCTION AND GRADE RELATED MATTERS

References: AP5522

Education Code Section 76224

Title 5 Section 55024

I. General Provisions

1. Purpose: The purpose of the Student Grievance Procedure is to provide a means by which a student may pursue a complaint for an alleged violation of college or district policy concerning instruction or to appeal a grade. However, complaints regarding discrimination harassment or retaliation are to be handled in accordance with Administrative Procedure 3435 titled Handling Complaints of Discrimination, Harassment or Retaliation.
2. Scope: Student grievances for matters other than for discipline such as, but not limited to, grade challenges and academic or program issues, will be processed in the following manner. Please note: Per Education code 76224, the instructor's grade is final except in cases of mistake, fraud, bad faith, or incompetency.
A grievable action is an action that is in violation of a written college or district policy or procedure, or an established practice. The basis of the grievance is that an action constitutes arbitrary, capricious, or unequal application of a written college or district policy or procedure or an established practice.
3. Confidentiality: To protect to the maximum extent possible, the privacy of individuals who in good faith file legitimate grievances, these procedures will be considered confidential throughout initial consultation, preliminary and final review, and appeal, unless required to be disclosed pursuant to a court order or state or federal law. Confidentiality will also be afforded the respondent to avoid unwarranted damage to reputation. Breach of confidentiality by any party to the grievance is considered unethical conduct and may be