

## Chapter: 4. Student Personnel Activities & Services



# 4071 - STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

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PROCEDURE NUMBER:       **4071**  
PROCEDURE TITLE:         **STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT**  
BASED ON POLICY:         **IV-5: STUDENTS' RIGHTS RESPONSIBILITIES**  
EFFECTIVE DATE:         **August 1, 1977, REVISION DATE : October 16, 1981**  
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### I. PURPOSE:

It is recognized that Miami-Dade Community College has the right to protect its educational purpose and its students from the irresponsible conduct of others. In order to ensure this right, the College finds it necessary to set forth the following regulations which require student compliance for the welfare of the College community.

Students who are alleged to have violated one or more of the regulations stated in this Code of Conduct may be charged with the violation(s) in accordance with Miami-Dade Community College Disciplinary Procedures. The College may exercise its discretion and choose not to charge students with violations of this Code of Conduct in the event that viable alternatives to disciplinary action are appropriate.

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## II. PROCEDURE:

### 1. Academic Dishonesty

Cheating, plagiarism, and any other misrepresentation of work are prohibited. Charges of academic dishonesty will be handled by the academic area where the infraction occurred.

### 2. On Campus Activities and Events

Use of College facilities is prohibited on any of the Miami-Dade campuses except in an area designated by the proper College authority and subject to any limitations and provisions established by an appropriate College official (i.e., outdoor concerts, student rallies, outside speakers).

Promotion for any activity or event must be approved by the appropriate College official.

### 3. Alcoholic Beverages

Alcoholic beverages are prohibited on the campuses of Miami-Dade Community College.

### 4. Arson

No student shall commit, or aid in the intentional commission of, an act which results in a fire being ignited which causes damage, or is intended to cause damage, to the property of the College or to the property of any other person.

5. Assault and/or Battery

No student shall threaten bodily harm or discomfort to another such as would constitute an assault. Nor shall any student commit, or aid in the intentional commission of, an act which causes bodily harm or discomfort to the person of another such as would constitute a battery.

6. Bad Checks

Student shall not make and/or deliver any check to the College which is not supported by sufficient funds on deposit or is in any other way worthless.

7. Complicity

A student present during the commission of an act by another student which constitutes a violation of College policy may also be charged if his/her subsequent behavior constitutes a permission of condonement of the violation. Students witnessing any act(s) which constitute(s) a violation of College policy are required to report such incidents to the proper authorities. Confidentiality of the identity of students reporting violations will be maintained as it is not the intent of the College to burden innocent witnesses.

8. Contracting or Representation in the Name of the College

Students are prohibited from contracting in the name of Miami-Dade Community College and may not claim to be official representatives of the College for any commercial purposes.

9. Damage or Destruction of Property

Accidental damage, vandalism, malicious damage to property belonging to Miami-Dade Community College or to others may require restitution from persons responsible for such damage and/or disciplinary action.

10. Defamation, Threats, and Extortion

Verbal or written communication which unlawfully exposes any individual or group to hatred, contempt, or ridicule, and thereby injures the person, property, or reputation of another, is prohibited.

Verbal or written communication which threatens another of a

crime or offense, or threatens injury to the person, property, or reputation of another, or maliciously threatens to expose another to disgrace, with the intent to extort money or other advantage whatsoever, is prohibited.

#### 11. Disruption

Florida Statute 877.13 provides that disruption of the normal activities of the institution is prohibited.

Disruption shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

Physical violence or abuse of any person or College-owned or controlled property, or at College sponsored or supervised functions, or conduct which threatens or endangers the health or safety of any person.

Deliberate interference with academic freedom and freedom of speech, including not only disruption of a class, but also interference with the freedom of any speaker invited by any section of the College community to express his/her views. (Faculty are authorized to have students removed from class is warranted.)

Blocking of entryways to buildings, rooms, or sections of buildings, or of hallways, or stairways, in such fashion that people find it difficult or impossible to pass.

Blocking of vehicular traffic.

Noisemaking, or other physical behavior which is so distracting that it is difficult or impossible to conduct a class, a meeting, or any other authorized event.

Congregating in such a fashion as to create a situation which could endanger life or property.

Incitement to any of the above-mentioned actions, or to other violations of College policy which could result in such actions, whether orally or through written materials or pictures.

#### 12. Standards of Dress

Students must comply with standards of dress established for safety or health reasons in specific classes.

#### 13. Narcotics and Illegal Drugs

Manufacture, possession, having control over, sale, transmission, or use of any narcotic, stimulant or hallucinogenic drug in violation of the laws of Florida or the United States is prohibited. (S 239.582, Fla. Stat.)

The College cannot protect students from State and Federal drug abuse laws, and has the policy of full cooperation with law enforcement agencies. A student who is formally charged by a proper prosecuting attorney with drug violations, may, following an administrative hearing, be suspended until his/her case is adjudicated. If found guilty, the student shall be automatically expelled from the College and all other state-supported institutions of higher learning for a period of one year, subject to State Board of Education Rule 6A-14.56 Control and Discipline of Students, Community Colleges, Supp. No. 71.

#### 14. Misuse of Emergency Equipment

Fire escapes, ground level fire doors, fire hoses, extinguishers, and alarm equipment are to be used only in emergencies. Tampering with, or misuse of these emergency devices, or blocking of fire exits or other means of impeding traffic, is prohibited.

#### 15. Unauthorized Use of College Facilities

The unauthorized use of, or entry into, any College facilities (i.e. classrooms, athletic fields), whether by force or not, is prohibited.

#### 16. Interference with Academic Freedom and Freedom of Speech

Any act which restricts to the professor's or another student's right to speak is prohibited. Any act which disrupts the orderly functioning of a class is prohibited.

#### 17. Gambling

Gambling of any kind is prohibited on the campuses of Miami-Dade Community College.

#### 18. Hazing

Florida Statute 240.326 prohibits students from engaging in any kind of hazing action or situation on or off-campus which recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student for the purpose of initiation or admission into, affiliation with, or participating in any student organization. Hazing activities are more specifically defined in College Procedure 4607. Students who engage in hazing activities are subject to penalties which may include the imposition of fines, the withholding of diplomas or transcripts, and the imposition of probation, suspension or dismissal. Organizations which authorize hazing activities are subject to penalties which may include rescission of permission for that organization to operate on campus property or to operate under the sanction of Miami-Dade.

19. Identification of Students

Students are required to present identification when requested by authorized College officials. Any misrepresentation, alteration or misuse of identification is prohibited.

20. Providing False Information

No student shall knowingly give false or perjured testimony in any College investigation or proceeding. No student shall knowingly give false information to a College official or show reckless disregard for truth.

21. Public Laws

Any act by a student which constitutes a charge of a violation of a public law, occurring either on or off campus, may establish cause for legal and/or disciplinary action by the College.

22. Distribution or Sale of Literature or Goods

Distribution or sale of literature or goods on the campuses must be processed by the Director of Student Activities and are subject to College Procedure 4160.

23. Use of College Mail Services

Students must receive approval from the Student Activities Office in order to use College mail services. Use of department and/or area mail boxes must receive approval of the appropriate College official.

24. Obeying Reasonable Orders of College Officials

Students are required to comply with reasonable requests or orders by authorized College officials or representatives acting in behalf of the College. This requirement includes reasonable requests for students to meet appointments in administrative offices and at disciplinary investigations and hearings.

25. Parking

Students are required to park in student-designated spaces only. Failure to do so may result in a citation from a civil authority as well as disciplinary action on the part of the College. (Parking fines are levied by the City of Miami Police or the Metropolitan Public Safety Department and, thus, are not part of the College's collection system.)

26. Breach of Peace

Conduct or expression on College-owned or controlled property which disrupts the orderly functioning of the College, or which is lewd, indecent or obscene, is prohibited.

27. Pets

Seeing-eye dogs are permitted on any of the campuses of Miami-Dade Community College, but, no other pets or animals of any kind are permitted on any of the campuses without specific approval from the appropriate College official.

28. Violation of Probationary Status

A student who is alleged to have violated the Code of Conduct while being subject to Disciplinary or Final Disciplinary Probation may be charged with the separate offense of violating disciplinary probation.

29. Falsification of Records

Falsification of College records, including, but not limited to admission, registration, student disciplinary and health records, by forgery or other means of deception, is prohibited.

30. Search and Seizure

College officials reserve the right to search lockers or other College property when deemed necessary to uphold the basic responsibility of the College regarding discipline, safety, and the maintenance of an educational atmosphere. Contraband items will be confiscated and may be used as evidence in disciplinary cases. Briefcases, handbags, and other such containers may be searched in the library, in laboratories, in the bookstore, and at other places where materials or equipment are not secured.

31. Smoking

Smoking in classrooms, on elevators, and in other designated no smoking areas is prohibited.

32. Outside Speakers

Speakers may be invited to address a campus audience by Miami-Dade Community College students, recognized organizations and the Student Government. These invitations must be approved by the Student Activities Department.

33. Recognition of Student Groups

In order to be classified as a student organization, established recognition procedures must be met and approved by the Student Activities Office.

34. Theft, Unauthorized Possession and/or Sale of Property

Students involved in theft, unauthorized possession, and/or sale of property not belonging to them are subject to College disciplinary action as well as to arrest and prosecution by legal authorities. Students are required to make full restitution.

Students in possession of property owned or controlled by the College (i.e., the bookstore, library, audio-visual department, athletic department), or of another person, without authorization or payment for such property, will be subject to College disciplinary action.

35. Use of Vehicles

Riding of bicycles in hallways, in buildings, or on walkways is prohibited. Motorized vehicles are prohibited in areas other than designated roadways and parking lots. Mopeds are considered in the same category as bicycles.

36. Firearms, Weapons, Fireworks, Explosives

No students, except law enforcement officers, may leave weapons in their possession at any time on College property. Weapons are defined as firearms, knives, explosives, inflammable materials, or any other items that may cause bodily injury or damage to property.

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