

## Sanctioning Guidelines for Sexual Misconduct

Ohio University prohibits sexual misconduct, relationship violence, and stalking in any of its employment situations or educational programs and activities. This includes sexual harassment, non-consensual sexual contact and non-consensual sexual intercourse, sexual exploitation, domestic violence and dating violence, stalking, and retaliatory harassment. Sexual misconduct, relationship violence, and stalking are violations of Ohio University Policy 03.004 and the Student Code of Conduct, Section D7.

Ohio University has a commitment and an obligation to respond to sexual misconduct, relationship violence, and stalking violations in a way that ends the misconduct, remedies its effects, and prevents its recurrence. To this end, Ohio University utilizes these sanctioning guidelines when a student is found in violation of Policy 03.004 and Section D7 of the Student Code of Conduct. Within the guidelines a range of sanctions is available extending from probation through expulsion; however, the specific circumstances of the violation will be considered to determine the appropriate sanction.

There are three general questions that will be evaluated to establish a starting point for the hearing authority's deliberations regarding the appropriate sanction.

**Question 1:** Was there a sexual misconduct violation? If yes, the hearing authority will consider a minimum of a 1 semester suspension.

**Question 2:** Was there physical contact? If yes, the hearing authority will consider a minimum of a 1 year suspension.

**Question 3:** Was there penetration of any form? If yes, the hearing authority will consider expulsion.

In addition, the hearing authority will take any mitigating or aggravating circumstances into consideration when making a determination of sanction. These may include, but are not limited to, the frequency and severity of the misconduct, any previous disciplinary history of the respondent, non-adherence to interim measures, intentional use of drugs or alcohol to facilitate the violation, use of force or a weapon in the commission of the violation, and any on-going threat to the complainant and/or the university community.

Students who are eligible to return to campus after fulfilling the terms of their suspension will be expected to fully comply with the conditions of their sanction and will not be permitted to have any form of contact with the complainant(s) for the duration of their enrollment at Ohio University. Additionally, other restrictions, including but not limited to the inability to enroll in the same courses as the complainant(s) or to access a particular area of campus, may also be conditions of a student's re-enrollment following suspension.