STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Purpose
Texas A&M University-Kingsville is deeply committed to the development of the student and promotion of personal integrity and self-responsibility. The university recognizes the student as an adult pursuing an education. By enrolling, students become citizens of the community and are entitled to enjoy the privileges and assume the responsibilities and obligations associated with this affiliation. Just as a student does not lose citizenship rights upon enrolling at a university, the student also does not become immune to society's obligations and laws or to the responsibilities of daily living in a broader society. In general, the behavioral norms expected of a university student are those of common decency and decorum, recognition of and non-infringement upon the rights and property of others and of the university, honesty in academic work and all other activities and observance of local, state and federal laws.

ADMINISTRATION OF STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Authority for administering the disciplinary system is delegated by the President of the university to the Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students. To promote fairness and consistency, the Office of the Dean of Students coordinates all disciplinary activities. The Dean of Students will determine which hearing officer, conduct board or appellate board will be authorized to hear each matter. All academic and nonacademic disciplinary sanctions imposed campus-wide will be reported to the Dean of Students for record-keeping purposes.

Students are expected to comply with all federal, state and local laws; Disciplinary procedures may be instituted against a student charged with conduct that potentially violates both the criminal law and this code without regard to the pendency of civil or criminal litigation in court or criminal arrest and prosecution. The principle also extends to conduct off campus, which is likely to have an adverse effect on the university or the educational process. Proceedings under this code may be carried out prior to, simultaneously with, or following civil or criminal proceedings off campus at the discretion of the Dean of Students. Determinations made or sanctions imposed under this student code shall not be subject to change because criminal charges arising out of the same facts giving rise to violation of University rules were dismissed, reduced or resolved in favor of or against the criminal law defendant.

The procedures outlined in the Student Code of Conduct are intended to aid the hearing officer or disciplinary body in its efforts to ascertain the facts of a matter and reach a just decision. They do not confer any contracted rights on the accused. Circumstances can differ greatly in each case and the
presiding hearing officer or chair may need to modify procedures or rule on procedural matters in order to reach a just decision.

**Notice of charges/Notification of disciplinary results**
Written notice of charges may be presented in person, by placement in a student’s residence hall mailbox or by mail to the accused student’s local address on file with the university. Notification of disciplinary results will be considered served if mailed to one’s local address on file with the Registrar. Failure to have an up-to-date local address or failure to claim one’s mail shall not invalidate notice of charges or notification of disciplinary action results.

**STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY**

When students enter a university, they bring upon themselves certain responsibilities and obligations, including satisfactory academic performance and social behavior consistent with the lawful purposes of the university. Student conduct, therefore, is not considered in isolation within the university community but as an integral part of the educational process. All students are expected to know and abide by the Student Code of Conduct. The university will hold each student responsible for compliance with these published policies. Each student is expected to be fully acquainted with all published university policies, copies of which are available to each student for review in the Dean of Students Office and the Jernigan Library at the Reserve Desk.

The official Texas A&M University-Kingsville Student Code of Conduct is located at http://osa.tamuk.edu/studenthandbook/. (For the most current updates, see the website.)