Student Bill of Rights and Responsibilities

Eastern Florida State College students are both citizens and members of the academic community. As citizens, students enjoy freedom of speech, peaceful assembly, and the right to petition. As a member of the academic community, they are subject to the obligations which are theirs by virtue of this membership.

When students attend the College, they become subject to its jurisdiction. Students are expected to conduct themselves in a responsible manner in all areas of campus life. By enrolling, they pledge to obey the rules and regulations of the College and are responsible for observing all Board of Trustees' Policies and Procedures.

Student Code of Conduct

This code of conduct relates to all actions disruptive to the educational process and includes both physical and virtual educational communities and communications. Violation of the standard of conduct herein stated will be considered as a disciplinary matter and treated in accordance with procedures of due process and with respect of the right and welfare of all members of the college community. Standards of conduct for which students are subject to disciplinary action, such as suspension or expulsion from Eastern Florida, include, but are not limited to, those described below:

1. Academic Dishonesty – Cheating, plagiarism and any other misrepresentation of work are prohibited. Students who are found to be in violation of this standard may receive severe sanctions including a failing grade in their respective course and, depending on the circumstances, possible expulsion from Eastern Florida State College.

2. Alcoholic Beverages (See #25 also) – Possession of alcoholic beverages is prohibited on the campuses of Eastern Florida State College and at any college-sponsored activity or event unless officially approved for a specific function by the President.

3. Animals – Animals are not permitted in any of the college facilities unless they are service dogs or animals that are part of an approved course or presentation. The college procedure for animal use on campus must be followed.

4. Arson – No student shall commit or aid in the intentional commission of an act which results in fire being ignited that 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 or inflict bodily harm or discomfort on another.

6. Breach of Peace – Conduct or expression on college owned or controlled property which disrupts the orderly functioning of the college or the delivery/reception of instruction which is lewd, indecent or obscene is prohibited. Cellular telephones and audible pagers should only be used outside of classrooms.
7. Children on Campus – Because of potential disruptiveness to the learning environment, non-enrolled children are not permitted to visit a class in session or a lab. Children will not be permitted to remain in the common areas of College buildings without adult supervision. No individual, adult or children are allowed to sit in a class for which they are not a registered student.

8. College-sponsored Activities and Events – Use of College facilities must have prior approval by the proper college authority. All College-sponsored activities and events are subject to any limitations and provisions established by the appropriate college official (i.e., outdoor concerts, student rallies, outside speakers).

9. 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 the former student’s subsequent behavior constitutes support 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.

10. Conduct – Conduct or expression that is considered lewd, indecent or obscene is prohibited.

11. Contracting or Representation in the Name of the College – Students are prohibited from contracting in the name of Eastern Florida State College and may not claim to be official representatives of the College. Students will not endorse a product in a manner which implies an official endorsement by the College.

12. Cosmetology Prohibited Acts – Student cosmetology services shall be performed only in the lab under the supervision of an instructor. All services must be approved in advance by the instructor. Services shall not be performed in restrooms, hallways, or other areas. Students are expected to adhere to the professional standards associated with licensure expectations. Florida Statute 477.0263 – Cosmetology services shall be performed only by licensed cosmetologists in licensed salons.

    Florida Statute 477.0265. Prohibited acts.
    It is unlawful for any person to:
    1. Engage in the practice of cosmetology or a specialty without an active license as a cosmetologist or registration as a specialist issued by the department pursuant to the provisions of this chapter.
    2. Any person who violates any provision of this section commits a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in §775.082 or §775.083.

13. Damage or Destruction of Property – Accidental damage, vandalism or malicious damage to property belonging to Eastern Florida State College or others may require restitution from the person responsible for such damage and/or disciplinary action.

14. Defamation, Threats and Extortion – Verbal or written communication that is considered threatening, defamatory or that could lead to extortion is prohibited.
15. Disruption – In accordance with F.S. 1006.61 (1): “Any person who accepts the privilege extended by the laws of this state of attendance at any public postsecondary educational institution shall, by attending such institution, be deemed to have given his or her consent to the policies of that institution, the State Board of Education, and the laws of this state. Such policies shall include prohibition against disruptive activities at public postsecondary educational institutions.”

Students who intentionally act to impair, interfere with or obstruct the orderly conduct, process and functions of the College, either on or off campus, shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action by College authorities.
Disruptive conduct shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
  a. Violence against or endangerment of any member or guest of the College community.
  b. 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).
  c. Theft or willful destruction of College property.
  d. Forcible interference with the freedom of movement of any member or guest of the College.
  e. Obstruction of the normal process and activities essential to the college community.
       Orderly demonstrations of points of view by signs, etc., which are neither vulgar nor profane are not considered disorders.

16. Distribution or Sale of Literature or Goods – Distribution or sale of literature or goods on the campuses must be approved by the Associate Provost or Provost.

17. Dress and Appearance – Students are expected to maintain standards of personal appearance and dress which are conducive and appropriate to the maintenance of health, welfare and safety for themselves and for their associates in the community. Dress worn by students must be of sufficient quality and quantity to properly cover and protect the body, including shirt and shoes.

18. Duplication of Keys – Duplication of College keys is prohibited.

19. Failure to Pay Financial Obligations – The College may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student who has allegedly refused to pay or failed to pay a debt he/she owes to the College. If a student fails to pay the College an amount due, disciplinary action may be initiated. College transcripts will not be issued to any student who has not satisfied all financial obligations to the College.

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

21. Firearms, Weapons, Fireworks, Explosives – While on college grounds or facilities or at college-sponsored activities and events, students, staff, faculty, administration, employees, and invitees, hereinafter referred to as “person”, are prohibited from introducing, exhibiting, possessing, using, storing, buying or selling weapons, firearms, destructive devices, or explosives. [§790.001; §790.115, Fla. Stat. (2013)].

Exceptions: The following circumstances shall not be a violation of this policy/procedure:
  • It is lawful and is not a violation of Florida Statute or EASTERN FLORIDA STATE COLLEGE policy/procedure 112 for a person 18 years of age or older
to possess a concealed firearm or other weapon for self-defense or other lawful purpose within the interior of a private vehicle (conveyance), without a license, if the firearm or other weapon is securely encased or is otherwise not readily accessible for immediate use. Nothing in this policy prohibits the carrying of a legal firearm other than a handgun anywhere in a private conveyance when such firearm is being carried for a lawful use. 

[$790.115; §790.25; §790.251, Fla. Stat. (2013)]

- A firearm in the possession of a law enforcement officer who is authorized to possess the firearm whether on or off duty, by the employing law enforcement agency.

22. Gambling – Gambling is prohibited on the campuses of Eastern Florida State College.

23. Hazing – Hazing in any form on campus or at any College sponsored activity is prohibited.

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

25. Illegal Drugs and Controlled Substances – The College cannot protect students from state and federal drug abuse laws and will cooperate fully with law enforcement agencies. In accordance with Eastern Florida State College Policy: An applicant for admission to the College will be asked to sign a document to certify that he or she:

- Will not possess, sell, purchase, deliver, use, manufacture, distribute or be under the influence of illegal drugs, alcohol or other controlled substances while present on any Eastern Florida State College campus or in attendance at any college-sponsored event on or off campus.
- Will notify the College within five (5) days of any conviction for any offense relating to the possession, sale, purchase, delivery, use, manufacture or distribution of illegal drugs or controlled substances.
- Has read, understood and will obey the College drug policy. Applicants who refuse to sign the drug-free certification document may be refused admission to the college. If an applicant cannot agree to accept the above conditions for admission to the College, he or she may be offered counseling which may include information as to where to obtain rehabilitative services. The statement of certification will be considered a legal contract between the student and the college and such contract will be considered broken upon conviction of an offense relating to the possession, sale, purchase, delivery, use, manufacture or distribution of illegal drugs or controlled substances. The term conviction means an adjudication of guilt by any judicial body charged with the responsibility to determine violations of the federal or state criminal drug statutes. A student who is convicted for a drug-related offense that occurred on campus or while in attendance at a college event will be sanctioned up to and including suspension or expulsion. A student who is tested positive for an illegal drug or controlled substance during screening for college related programs or for program-related clinicals will also be sanctioned up to and including suspension or expulsion.
26. Intellectual Property Rights – The College promotes an academic environment that encourages and rewards the creative efforts and innovative spirit of its students. The College, therefore, does not claim ownership rights to the intellectual property created by students in the scope of their attendance except where the student has utilized substantial resources of the College in the development of the work that goes beyond resources commonly provided to students for production of publications or class projects. Intellectual property is meant to include both traditional forms of intellectual property such as student publications, class projects and student papers, as well as non-traditional intellectual property such as CD-ROMS, computer programs, TV courseware or other electronically recorded materials. All such intellectual property remains the property of the authoring student. However, the College retains an interest in said property by virtue of the College’s assistance and support for its development, production and dissemination and, therefore, shall have reasonable access to and use of the intellectual property for such purposes as student evaluation and reproduction in exercising their administrative duties.

27. Interference with College Guests – The College may initiate disciplinary actions for any interference with the freedom of movement of any member or guest of the College.

28. Misuse of Emergency Equipment – Fire escapes, designated ground-level doors, fire hoses, extinguishers and alarm equipment are to be used only in emergencies. Tampering with or misuse of these emergency devices, as well as blocking fire exits or impeding traffic in any way, is prohibited.

29. Obeying Reasonable Orders of College Officials – Students are required to comply with reasonable requests or orders by authorized College officials or representatives acting on the part of the College. This requirement includes reasonable requests for students to meet appointments in administrative offices and at disciplinary investigations and hearings.

30. Outside Speakers – Speakers may be invited to address a campus audience by a recognized student organization and the Student Government Association. These invitations must be approved by the Associate Provost or Provost.

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

32. 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.

33. Recognition of Student Groups – In order to be classified as a student organization, established, recognized procedures must be met and approved by the Associate Provost.

34. Search and Seizure – College officials reserve the right to search lockers or other personal property for suspicious cause. If necessary, local law enforcement may be contacted for follow up.

35. Smoking – Smoking is prohibited in all enclosed facilities of the College. Smoking is ONLY allowed in designated/posted areas on any campus.
36. Theft or Other Abuse of Computer Time, including but not limited to:
   a. Unauthorized entry into a file to use, read, change contents or for any other use.
   b. Unauthorized transfer of a file or unauthorized copying of licensed products.
   c. Unauthorized use of another individual’s identification and password.
   d. Use of computer facilities including laptop and wireless access to interfere with
      the work of another student, faculty member or college official.
   e. Use of computing facilities including laptop and wireless access to send obscene
      or abusive messages.
   f. Use of computer facilities including laptop and wireless access to interfere with
      the normal operations of the college computing system.
   g. Use of computing facilities including laptop and wireless access to download
      obscene materials.
   h. Violation of other established computer lab policies or laptop computer loan
      agreements.

37. 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 by another person, without authorization or payment for such property,
  will be subject to college disciplinary action.

38. Threat to any College Guest – The active threat of violence against any member or
  guest of the College is strictly forbidden.

39. Unauthorized Use of College Facilities – The unauthorized use of, or entry into,
  any college facilities (i.e., classrooms, labs, athletic fields), whether by force or not, is
  prohibited.

40. Use of College Mail Services – Use of College mail services is limited to official
  business of the college or College-sponsored or approved College-related organizations.
  Students must receive approval from the campus Associate Provost Office in order to use
  college mail services.

41. Use of Vehicles – Riding 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 classified as bicycles. Roller skating or skateboarding is prohibited
on the campuses of Eastern Florida State College in any location or at times which, at
the discretion of campus officials, constitute a pedestrian or motor traffic hazard or
which imperil the health or safety of persons and property on the campus. EXCEPTION:
Motorized vehicles for handicapped persons may be used on walkways and in buildings.
42. 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.

43. Violations of Law – Federal and state law, respective county and city ordinances, and all college and Board of Trustees rules and regulations will be strictly enforced.

Student Disciplinary Procedure

A list of disciplinary sanctions (F.S. 1006.62) that may be imposed in cases of violation of the Student Code of Conduct follows:

1. Expulsion. Mandatory separation from the College with no promise of future re-admission. A student who has been expelled is barred from enrolling at or visiting any of the campuses or centers of Eastern Florida State College. The Provost will present recommendations for expulsion to the President. Only the President may authorize an expulsion.

2. Suspension. Mandatory separation from the College for a period of time as specified in the order of suspension. A student who has been suspended is barred from enrolling at or visiting any of the campuses or centers of Eastern Florida State College during the suspension. The student may re-enroll at the College when the suspension order has elapsed. The Provost will present recommendations for suspension to the President. Only the President may authorize a suspension.

3. Temporary Suspension. The Associate Provost or Provost may temporarily suspend any student when: (1) the student is ordered by an administrator, officer or faculty member to cease or desist any activity which disrupts the orderly operation of the College and (2) the student persists in activity which is disruptive after receiving the warning and order. The Associate Provost or Provost shall determine whether or not the suspension shall continue until a hearing is held on the merits of the respective case. A student on temporary suspension is barred from visiting privileges and class attendance at any of the campuses or centers of Eastern Florida State College.