

## **Spring 2020 FAQ Related to Disciplinary and Academic Misconduct**

### **If I have left campus, does the Rice Code of Student Conduct still apply to me?**

The Rice [Code of Student Conduct](#) applies to all enrolled students, whether the behavior occurs on or off campus. If the university is made aware of a student's behavior that may violate the Code of Student Conduct while a student is away from campus, that report will be investigated and adjudicated using Student Judicial Programs' normal procedures as outlined in the Code and on their [website](#).

### **If I am granted the ability to remain on campus during the closure of the university, does the Rice Code of Student Conduct still apply to me?**

Yes, it is still every student's responsibility to abide by the Code of Student Conduct during this time of university closure and remote instruction, whether the student is on or off campus.

Any instruction from the Dean's office or your core team prohibiting visitors on campus, including students who are not currently allowed to live on campus, will be regarded as instructions from a University official. Any violation of these instructions will be investigated and adjudicated as a possible violation of the Code of Student Conduct.

### **What are the rules about alcohol on campus?**

Effective March 16, 2020, the campus is dry. In the interest of health and safety, consumption or serving of alcohol, in public or private spaces on campus, is strictly prohibited for everyone during this critical time. This applies even if you and your roommates are all over the age of 21, and applies to all types of alcoholic beverages. This policy will remain in effect until further notice. No gatherings will be permitted in the residential colleges of more than 10 people.

Students who violate this policy will face severe consequences, including suspension. The core teams (Magisters, RAs) in your college will be working closely with RUPD and Student Judicial Programs to enforce these instructions in order to ensure student safety.

### **Can I still report misconduct, even if I am off campus?**

Yes, Student Judicial Programs will be equipped to meet with students virtually through Zoom or conduct an interview via telephone. Students are encouraged to make reports to Student Judicial Programs regarding any problematic incidents that involve Rice students as respondents.

### **I currently have an open and pending disciplinary matter with Student Judicial Programs. What happens to the investigation?**

The investigations in all pending disciplinary matters will continue, uninterrupted, until a decision has been reached.

**Will I have the opportunity to appeal a decision made by Student Judicial Programs even though I am not on campus?**

Yes. The procedures for appeal of disciplinary decisions will not change and do not require students to be present to participate.

**Do I have to participate in an investigation if I no longer live on campus?**

Students are not required to participate in any pending investigation, however, the process will continue to a decision regardless of a student's decision not to participate.

**I have left campus according to the instructions from the Dean to vacate by March 25. What happens if I return to campus without permission from a Rice official?**

Students who have been required to leave campus for the remainder of the semester are not permitted to be on campus after March 25. Students that return to campus without explicit permission, for any reason, will face disciplinary charges under the Code of Student Conduct and the consequences for such behavior will be severe.

**I have been accused of a Honor Code violation, will the case move forward during this semester?**

Yes. The Honor Council will be working with accused students to adjudicate their cases remotely. The required meetings with the Honor Council will take place through Skype or Zoom. There may be some extenuating circumstances that will require students to defer the resolution of their case to Fall 2020.

Accused students should email [honor@rice.edu](mailto:honor@rice.edu) or [sjp@rice.edu](mailto:sjp@rice.edu) with any questions about their pending case.

**Will I still be able to appeal any decision made by the Honor Council?**

Yes. Appeals of Honor Council decisions will follow the regular procedures and students will be able to participate remotely.

**If I have an investigation pending against me, can I still graduate?**

According to the General Announcements and the Code of Student Conduct, students with pending disciplinary matters or honor code accusations are not permitted to graduate. All cases need to be resolved prior to degree conferral.

Students with pending honor code or disciplinary matters who are concerned about their graduation eligibility should email [sjp@rice.edu](mailto:sjp@rice.edu).

**Am I obligated to complete my sanctions while I am away from campus?**

Generally, yes. Students who are currently fulfilling the requirements of disciplinary probation must still be in communication with Student Judicial Programs about meeting the requirements

of their probation. If students have questions about their sanctions from Student Judicial Programs or University Court, they should email [sjp@rice.edu](mailto:sjp@rice.edu).