

# **CONDUCT SYSTEM**

## **Structure**

Any member of the Methodist University community may file a written complaint of alleged violations with the Sr. Associate Dean of Students, the campus conduct officer. The Sr. Associate Dean of Students has the right to collect additional information and further investigate the alleged violations. The Student Code of Conduct, Residential Guidelines, and University policies will serve as the controlling rules for conduct. The Sr. Associate Dean of Students has the authority to assign a case to a specific hearing body after considering the seriousness of the incident, probationary status of student(s) involved, prior punishment for similar conduct by others, and the potential for suspension or expulsion from the University. All cases that may result in suspension or expulsion will be given to the Dean of Students, Sr. Associate Dean of Students, or Administrative Hearing Board for adjudication. All other cases will be assigned to a hearing officer in Housing and Residence Life or to the Student Community Court for adjudication. Depending upon the violation, the following methods of adjudication will be used to resolve any allegations: Educational Conferences, Student Community Court, and Dean or Sr. Associate Dean of Students.

## **Educational Conferences**

An educational conference is a meeting conducted by a Residence Life Staff Member to adjudicate minor violations (those that are not likely to result in suspension or expulsion) when responsibility is freely admitted, and/or when there is no dispute of evidence.

Each student will receive a "Notice of Alleged Violation" notifying them that an educational conference has been scheduled for them. If the student fails to attend the conference or fails to request a different meeting time, the Housing and Residence Life staff member will review the case and assign appropriate sanctions without the student being present. Students will also forfeit their right to an appeal; therefore, the decision of the staff member will be final.

Educational conferences have jurisdiction over, but are not limited to, such violations as:

- First and second alcohol policy violation
- First and second incidents of disruptive acts involving alcohol
- Tobacco policy violations
- Bias-related intimidation or harassment
- Fire safety
- Gambling
- Violations of key/access cards regulations
- Violation of telephone long-distance codes regulations
- Vandalism
- Visitation policy violations

Students have the right to appeal the decision made in an educational conference to the Student Community Court.