

ICCCSSO
Suspension Re-entry Protocol

Do you have re-entry protocol in place for students who have been suspended from your campus for a defined period because of a violation to your Code of Conduct or for students who are required to sit out for a semester by your Behavioral Intervention Threat team? Would you mind sharing your re-entry rubric or language? This is an area in my department that I need to strengthen. Thank you in advance for your feedback. I will share and compile the results for the group.

Guy Goodman
Vice President of Student Affairs
Illinois Central College

I have no “formal” process other than that any student reentering must meet with me prior to enrolling or even stepping foot onto campus per their suspension letter. From there, the conversation centers on what they have been doing since suspension and what changes have been made to reduce the opportunity for reoccurrence.

Dr. Normah Salleh-Barone
Vice President for Student Development
Moraine Valley Community College

Please see the information sent by our Coordinator, Code of Conduct, Bradley D. Custer, M.A.

Dr. Normah,

You are correct in that we have no rubric. All conditions of re-enrollment are on a case-by-case basis. For code violators who do not have any mental health concerns who were suspended, there are not usually any re-enrollment conditions. Minimally, they may have to check in with me and Kent so that we can remove the student’s hold and/or they must have completed any other sanctions (apologies, educational assignments, etc.). For code violators who have mental health issues who were suspended, we may require as a sanction that before return from suspension, they must provide a new psychological/psychiatric evaluation, substance abuse assessment, and/or proof of treatment progress. A key point here is that those conditions must have been plainly described in the student’s sanction letter, otherwise extra conditions for re-enrollment are discriminatory and illegal. See attached for sample language that we use.

For TAT cases, things get more complicated in the absence of code violations. A suicidal student, for example, who voluntarily withdraws from school to seek treatment may not have any conditions of re-enrollment placed on him/her. This would be illegal and discriminatory, even though it would be second nature for the TAT to want to know that the student is okay to return. The only time that conditions should be placed on a TAT student’s re-enrollment is when, after a due process hearing and a proper psychological evaluation, a student was determined to be a threat and was involuntarily withdrawn for school. Then, and only then, can the college place re-enrollment restrictions on the student, such as providing documentation that the student is no longer a threat.

Your colleague’s question is far more complicated now

because of the 2011 changes to ADA. Regardless, I do not know that a rubric is useful. There are many rubrics available for determining threat levels and case priority levels, but I haven't seen one for this.

Bradley D. Custer, M.A.
Coordinator, Code of Conduct
Moraine Valley Community College

Marietta Turner
Dean of Students
Parkland College

Suspension is outlined under the Student Conduct Code Section B - Sanctions 1H on page 59 describes a suspension as "a student being separated from Parkland College for a definite period of time, after which a student is eligible to be return. The conditions for the readmission can be specified."

The conditions are itemized by the conduct advisor in the hearing committee's summary letter that is sent to the student after the hearing. The conduct committee's suspension sanctions usually require the student to submit information proving that the specifics, such as a drug or psychological evaluation, have been met to the dean of student's office and meet with the dean of students prior to returning from suspension.

II describes the protocol for Returning after Expulsion - "Permanent separation of the student from Parkland College. Student may petition for reentry after a minimum of (1) one calendar year has elapsed since imposition of expulsion."

A part of the readmission protocol requires the student needs to submit a formal written petition for review by the dean of students and vice president for student services. The student is required to contact the dean of students for the petition process at the end of the one calendar year. Process requires student to write a letter describing how he/she has changed in the last year, what is the focus of study and how would he/she behave differently in order to be successful. This letter is sent to the dean of students who reviews and discusses student with the vice president for student services. The decision whether to grant readmission is sent in writing to the student.

I hope that this information is helpful. Please let me know if you have any further questions about our re-entry protocols.

Ashley B. Knight, Ed.D.
Dean, Student Affairs
William Rainey Harper College

Our process does not allow our BIT to impose a sanction directly for a currently enrolled student. It may recommend that the case be referred to Student Conduct and the Student Conduct Officer may charge the student with a violation under the Code; the student would then face the charges and go through the conduct process. If the student is found responsible for violating the Code, he or she may be sanctioned under "Conditional Enrollment or Re-enrollment: Condition a student's enrollment or re-enrollment on his or her taking or refraining from specific actions". We do not have a rubric for this, as each case is

considered individually.

However, for non-currently enrolled students, the BIT may recommend to the Dean that a “Dean’s Hold” be placed on the student’s record. This will allow a conversation to take place with the student prior to re-enrollment.

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