



# **The New England Institute of Art®**

## **CATALOG ADDENDUM**

**Catalog 2016 - 2017  
Effective Date: February 8, 2017**

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See [aiprograms.info](http://aiprograms.info) for program duration, tuition, fees, and other costs, median debt, salary data, alumni success, and other important info.

## **Undergraduate Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy Update**

***Effective 1/9/17, the following fully replaces the Undergraduate Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy located on page 149 of the academic catalog:***

### **Undergraduate Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy Update**

#### **Policy Guidance**

A student must demonstrate Satisfactory Academic Progress by successfully completing courses attempted. Completing courses with *C* or better grades indicates academic progress. Receiving *D* or lower grades and/or withdrawing from classes may put students at risk. Poor academic performance may lead to Academic/Financial Warning and/or Academic/Financial Aid Dismissal. It is very important that students attend all registered courses and complete them successfully. Should a compelling reason arise that requires a student to cease attendance, it is the student's responsibility to immediately contact the Dean of Academic Affairs or Registrar's Office.

The following criteria are used to determine whether or not a student is making Satisfactory Academic Progress. A student must be able to:

- Maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average (CGPA);
- Achieve the minimum incremental completion rate (ICR); and
- Complete the program within a maximum allowable timeframe (MTF).

Students who fail to meet the minimum standards of any of the above criteria will be notified by letter by the Dean of Academic Affairs or Campus Registrar within four (4) business days of determination. Administrative actions will be taken when a student fails to meet the minimum standards of any of the above criteria. If the resulting action results in Academic/Financial Aid Dismissal, a student may appeal the Academic/Financial Aid Dismissal. If the appeal is denied, the student will remain dismissed and can no longer attend or receive Title IV aid at the Institute.

The Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy contains the following information:

- Criteria for Honors Designations
- Milestones and Evaluation Points for Satisfactory Academic Progress
- Academic/Financial Aid Warning
- Procedure for Appealing Academic/Financial Aid Dismissal
- Procedure to Apply for Re-Entry after Academic/Financial Aid Dismissal
- Academic/Financial Aid Probation and an Academic Plan
- Explanations of Related Issues

Failure to complete courses successfully for any reason may negatively affect a student's Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) and are considered to be punitive grades. Failing courses, being suspended or terminated from courses, or withdrawing from courses could result in the loss of financial aid and/or veterans education benefits and academic dismissal. In order for a student to graduate, the minimum requirements are a CGPA of 2.0, 66.67% ICR, and completion of the program without attempting more than 150% of the credits in the program. Refer to the Metrics of SAP section below for additional information regarding the calculation of CGPA, ICR and MTF.

While the terms Academic/Financial Aid Warning, Academic/Financial Aid Dismissal, and Academic/Financial Aid Probation are used, the status applies to all students whether receiving aid or not.

The College has the right to modify the Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy at any time.

### **Criteria for Honors Designations**

To promote academic excellence and to recognize exemplary academic achievement, the following system is recommended for honor designations on a quarter basis and upon graduation.

#### **Quarter Honors Designations (at the completion of a quarter)**

Any student who enrolls for and completes 12 credits or more is eligible for the following designations:

<b>Quarter GPA</b>	<b>Honors Designation</b>
4.0	President's Honor List
3.7-3.99	Dean's Honor List
3.5-3.69	Honor Roll

#### **Honors Designation at Graduation**

Students who achieve a CGPA of 3.5 or better are designated as Honor Graduates. *Transitional studies courses are not considered when evaluating honors designations.*

#### **Milestones and Evaluation Points for Satisfactory Academic Progress**

*Compliance with Standards of Academic Progress is reviewed every quarter for all Certificate and Diploma programs.*

#### **Certificate and Diploma Programs:**

1. At the end of the first quarter, students must attain a minimum CGPA of 1.00 and an ICR of 33.33%. Anything below these milestones will result in Academic/Financial Aid Warning for one quarter. Students who are only participating in Transitional Studies courses are considered to be maintaining Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP).
2. At the end of the second quarter, students must attain a minimum CGPA of 1.50 and an ICR of 50.00%. Anything below these milestones will result in Academic/Financial Aid Warning for one quarter unless the student was on Academic/Financial Aid Warning in his or her previous quarter. If the student was on Academic/Financial Aid Warning in the previous quarter, failure to meet these standards will result in **Academic/Financial Aid Dismissal**. Students who are only participating in Transitional studies courses are considered to be maintaining SAP.

3. At the end of the third quarter, and every quarter thereafter, students must attain a minimum CGPA of 2.00 and an ICR of 66.67%. Anything below these milestones will result in Academic/Financial Aid Warning for one quarter unless the student was on Academic/Financial Aid Warning in his or her previous quarter. If the student was on Academic/Financial Aid Warning in the previous quarter, failure to meet these standards will result in **Academic/Financial Aid Dismissal**.
4. Students may not attempt more than 150% of the credits in their programs; anything in excess of 150% of the credits will result in **Academic/Financial Aid Dismissal**. Dismissal for violating the maximum timeframe (MTF) can happen at any time.
5. *Reentries*: To ensure an evaluation is completed for all students in the last 12 months, an evaluation will be completed upon reentry processing using the criteria for the next applicable evaluation point (See Certificate/Diploma Evaluation Point Milestones (CGPA/ICR) requirements) noted in this policy. For example, if a student enrolled in October 2015 and completed the fall quarter, dropped in the winter 2016 quarter and returned in the spring 2017 quarter of the following year, the student would have an evaluation prior to the start of the spring 2017 quarter against the next applicable evaluation point for the student. Students reviewed upon reentry will be advised based on their SAP status at the time of reentry and provided with a projection of what they will need to accomplish in order to be in compliance with SAP requirements at the next official evaluation point (See Certificate/Diploma Evaluation Point Milestones (CGPA/ICR) requirements). **Reentries whose evaluation does not indicate the ability to meet the next evaluation point during reentry processing will not be allowed to reenter into the program of enrollment.**
6. Students should note that if they are on Academic/Financial Aid Warning, it will be very difficult to meet the minimum requirements of the next evaluation point. Students should consult with their **academic advisor** concerning their exact requirements.
7. Transitional Studies courses are based on the result of the academic assessment tool. Like any course, students must successfully complete such courses in order to progress in the program. Transitional Studies course credits do not count towards the total number of credits for graduation nor do they count in the CGPA. Additionally, the courses do not count in determining the maximum time frame allowable to earn the certificate or diploma or in the incremental completion rate as attempted credits and, if successful, earned credits.
8. Transitional Studies courses do have credit hours assigned to them for enrollment and tuition charging purposes. While Transitional Studies courses are not included in the CGPA, a student who attempts but does not pass or withdraws from the same Transitional Studies course three times is **dismissed** and there is no right to appeal the termination.

9. Students on Academic/Financial Aid Warning are considered to be making progress toward meeting Standards of Satisfactory Academic Progress and, if otherwise eligible may receive financial aid.
10. The grades, grade point average, cumulative data for all courses a student attempted at the Institution, as well as courses successfully transferred in from prior postsecondary education, are available on the student portal for review. There is also an indication if a student is on Academic/Financial Aid Warning, on Academic/Financial Aid Probation, or on academic/Financial Aid Dismissal.
11. Compliance with SAP is reviewed every quarter for Certificate and Diploma programs. A student who starts or re-enters at a MID session will have that session count as an entire quarter for SAP purposes.

CERTIFICATE/DIPLOMA		
Evaluation Point	Milestones (CGPA and ICR)	Required Action
End of First Quarter	< 1.0 and/or 33.33%	Academic/Financial Aid Warning
End of Second Quarter	< 1.5 and/or 50.00%	Academic/Financial Aid Warning (if 1st time)/Academic/Financial Aid Dismissal (if on Academic/Financial Aid Warning)
End of Third Quarter and every quarter thereafter	< 2.0 and/or 66.67%	Academic/Financial Aid Warning (if 1st time)/Academic/Financial Aid Dismissal (if on Warning)
At Any Time	Anything in excess of 150% MTF	Academic/Financial Aid Dismissal

Please note that if you do not pass the same Transitional Studies course after three attempts, the result will be Academic / Financial Aid Dismissal with no right to appeal the dismissal.

Unless otherwise noted, **Academic/Financial Aid Dismissals** can be appealed. Please see the Appeal Process below.

**Degree Programs:**

*Degree programs are evaluated after a student has attempted three quarters and sixth quarters including portions of a quarter) during the first six quarters. After the sixth quarter, the student is evaluated at the end of each quarter. While grades, GPAs, and Incremental Completion Rates are made available at the end of a student’s quarter, they are informational only except at evaluation points. Please note students may be alerted of their progress at any time and may be required to take specific action.*

1. At the end of the first academic year (an academic year is three (3) quarters in which courses are attempted in each quarter); students must achieve a minimum CGPA of 1.00 and an ICR of 33.33%. Anything below these milestones will result in Academic/Financial Aid Dismissal.

2. At the end of the second academic year, students must attain a minimum CGPA of 2.00 and an ICR of 66.67%. Anything below these milestones will result in Academic/Financial Aid Dismissal.
3. Starting the quarter after the sixth attempted quarter, and every quarter thereafter, students are evaluated at the end of each quarter and must attain a minimum CGPA of 2.00 and an ICR of 66.67%. Failure to meet these standards will result in Academic/Financial Aid Warning unless the student was on Financial Aid Warning the previous quarter. If the student was on Academic/Financial Aid Warning in the previous quarter, failure to meet these standards will result in Academic/Financial Aid Dismissal.
4. **Students may not attempt** more than 150% of the credits in their programs; anything in excess of 150% of the credits will result in Academic/Financial Aid Dismissal. Dismissal for violating the maximum timeframe (MTF) can happen at any time.
5. *Placement into Transitional Studies* courses are based on the result of the academic assessment tool. Like any course, students must successfully complete such courses in order to progress in the program. Transitional studies course credits do not count towards the total number of credits for graduation nor do they count in the CGPA. Additionally, the transitional study course(s) do not count in determining the maximum time frame allowable to earn the degree and do not count in the incremental completion rate as attempted credits and, if successful, earned credits. Please note that the student will be dismissed immediately if the student does not successfully complete the same Transitional Study upon a third attempt.
6. **Transitional Studies** courses do have credit hours assigned to them for enrollment and tuition charging purposes. While Transitional Studies courses are not included in the CGPA, a student who attempts but does not pass or withdraws from the same Transitional Studies course three times is **dismissed** and there is no right to appeal the dismissal.
7. The grades, grade point average, cumulative data for all courses a student attempted at the Institution, as well as courses successfully transferred in from prior postsecondary education, are available on the student portal for review. There is also an indication if a student is on Academic/Financial Aid Warning, on Academic/Financial Aid Probation or on **Academic/Financial Aid Dismissal**.
8. For Degree programs, compliance with SAP is reviewed every academic year during a student's first two years and then quarterly thereafter. A student who starts or re-enters at a MID session will have that session count as an entire quarter for SAP purposes.
9. Students on Academic/Financial Aid Warning are considered to be making progress toward meeting Standards of Satisfactory Academic Progress and, if otherwise eligible may receive financial aid.
10. **Reentries:** To ensure an evaluation is completed for all students in the last 12 months, an evaluation will be completed upon reentry processing using the criteria for the next applicable evaluation point (See Degree Programs Evaluation Point Milestones (CGPA/ICR) requirements)

noted in this policy. For example, if a student enrolled in October 2015 and completed the fall quarter, dropped in the Winter 2016 quarter and returned in the spring 2017 quarter of the following year, the student would have an evaluation prior to the start of the spring 2017 quarter against the next applicable evaluation point for the student. Students reviewed upon reentry will be advised based on their SAP status at the time of reentry and provided with a projection of what they will need to accomplish in order to be in compliance with SAP requirements at the next official evaluation point (See Degree Programs Evaluation Point Milestones (CGPA/ICR) and requirements). **Reentries whose evaluation does not indicate the ability to meet the next evaluation point during reentry processing will not be allowed to reenter into the program of enrollment.**

DEGREE PROGRAMS		
Evaluation Point	Both Milestones (CGPA and ICR) Must be Met	Required Action
End of First Academic Year	< 1.00 and/or 33.33%	Academic/Financial Aid Dismissal
End of Second Academic Year	< 2.00 and/or 66.67%	Academic/Financial Aid Dismissal
End of Seventh Quarter and Thereafter	< 2.0 and/or 66.67%	Academic/Financial Aid Warning (if 1st time)/ Academic/Financial Aid Dismissal (if on Academic/Financial Aid Warning)
At Any Time	Anything in excess of 150% MTF	Academic/Financial Aid Dismissal

Please note that if you do not pass the same Transitional Studies course after three attempts, the result will be Academic / Financial Aid Dismissal with no right to appeal the dismissal.

Unless otherwise noted, Academic/Financial Aid Dismissals may be appealed. Please see the Appeal Process below.

A student enrolled in Transitional Studies courses must be able to pass the same Transitional Studies course after three attempts or that student will be placed on Academic/Financial Aid Dismissal.

If the review of a student's Satisfactory Academic Progress performed at any time indicates that it is mathematically impossible to meet the minimum requirements of the Standards of Satisfactory Academic Progress policy at the next mandatory check point, the student will result in Academic/Financial Aid Dismissal from the Institution.

To be removed from Academic/Financial Aid Warning or Academic/Financial Aid Probation, a student must meet the Satisfactory Academic Progress requirements at the next applicable measuring point.

### **Procedure for Appealing Academic/Financial Aid Dismissal**

A student who is dismissed for violating Satisfactory Academic Progress must appeal in writing to the Dean of Academic Affairs for re-entry before the start of the quarter in which he/she wishes to return. The written appeal must state the mitigating circumstances that contributed to the dismissal. The written appeal must be supported with appropriate documentation of the mitigating circumstances with an explanation on how the circumstances have been remedied or changed to ensure that he or she will be able to meet satisfactory academic progress if re-admitted.

The Dean of Academic Affairs or an Appeals Committee will review the student's appeal and will determine within 14 business days of the date of the receipt of the appeal whether the circumstances and academic status warrant consideration for re-admission. The student may be asked to appear in person during the review process when deemed necessary by the Dean of Academic Affairs or the Appeals Committee. Upon the Appeals Committee decision, the student will be notified by the Dean of Academic Affairs both verbally and in writing. The Appeals Committee decision will be final. Following is a comprehensive list of events that indicate there may be a mitigating circumstance which has negatively impacted academic progress:

- Death of an immediate family member
  
- Student illness requiring hospitalization (this includes mental health issues)
  
- Illness of an immediate family member where the student is the primary caretaker
  
- Illness of an immediate family member where the family member is the primary financial support
  
- Abusive relationships
  
- Divorce proceedings
  
- Previously undocumented disability
  
- Natural disaster
  
- Family emergency
  
- Financial hardship such as foreclosure or eviction
  
- Documentation from a Professional Counselor
  
- A doctor documented illness of the student for a significant period of time
  
- Military deployment
  
- Military Permanent Change of Station (PCS)
  
- Special Circumstances

Students should understand that by having a mitigating circumstance it does not automatically mean the appeal will be approved. The Appeal Committee will review that the student sufficiently providing documentation of the mitigating circumstance (as outlined above) and that the student has resolved the mitigating circumstance.

A student who is successful in his or her appeal is able to apply for re-entry and if otherwise eligible, receive financial aid for one quarter; however, the student will be placed on Academic/Financial Aid Probation at the start of the academic quarter. A student on Academic/Financial Aid Probation may receive financial aid (if otherwise eligible) for one quarter. If the appeal is denied, aid cannot be paid and the student is dismissed.

Students who have an appeal denied can reapply however the passage of time by itself does not impact the Appeal Committee's decision.

The Dean of Academic Affairs is responsible for determining the appropriateness of the mitigating Circumstance in regards to severity, timing and duration of the mitigating circumstance, and for determining whether the student's situation has changed that would allow the student to demonstrate satisfactory academic progress at the end of the Academic/Financial Aid Probation or the end of the period of the Academic Plan. Any consideration of the conditions outside of the list provided should be discussed with the Art Institute Vice President of Academic Affairs. Student life issues and making the transition to college are not considered mitigating circumstances under this policy.

Documentation from a professional counselor should not breach the student/counselor relationship and should remain confidential. A memorandum or letter on school or organizational letterhead indicating a counselor's opinion that the student issues may be accommodated to ensure that the student will be able to meet Satisfactory Academic Progress will suffice as proof of mitigating circumstances as well as documentation that the student's circumstances have been remedied or changed to ensure that the student will be able to meet Satisfactory Academic Progress with the accommodations from the institution.

If a student's appeal is successful, the student will be placed on Academic/Financial Aid Probation for one quarter (or two if eligible) following re-admittance. The student will be eligible for financial aid during the Academic/Financial Aid Probation period. Academic Advisors, Registrars, and/or Academic Department Chairs/Program Directors must develop, document and maintain as part of the appeals process a concrete Academic Plan for how a student will complete his remaining coursework and meet the minimum requirements of Satisfactory Academic Progress by end of either the Academic/Financial Aid Probation period or by the end of the quarter included in the Academic Plan. The Academic Plan must detail specific time frames and student success measures and cannot be greater than one (1) quarter for certificate or diploma programs but for degree programs may be up to two (2) quarters if necessary for the student to meet the minimum requirements of Satisfactory Academic Progress. The Academic Plan must be reviewed with the student so that designated Academic Plan is being met and the student will remain on track to achieve the success measures within the approved timeframe. For students in degree programs that may have an Academic Plan for more than one quarter, the student must meet the academic targets of the Academic Plan at the end the first quarter when the student is on Academic/Financial Aid Probation and by the end of the Academic Plan, the student must meet the minimum requirements of Satisfactory Academic Progress. If the student meets the academic goals and requirements under the Academic Plan for the first quarter while on Academic/Financial Aid Probation, he or she may complete the second quarter under the Academic Plan and be eligible to receive financial

aid. Failure to meet the established goals included in the Academic Plan will result in Academic/Financial Aid Dismissal

**Registrars will ensure that Academic Advisors or Academic Department Directors have notified students in writing that they are in Academic Warning/Financial Aid Warning, Academic Probation/Financial Aid Probation, or Academic/Financial Aid Dismissal with a student signed Satisfactory Academic Progress Prediction Calculation Form.**

Any student who ceased attendance or withdrew from the institution will be evaluated against the minimum standards of the Satisfactory Academic Progress for grades and credits attempted as of the time of withdrawal in his or her last quarter of attendance. Any student who did not meet the minimum standards of Satisfactory Academic Progress at the SAP evaluation point must go through the same appeal process should the student want to be readmitted. The appeal procedure described in the preceding section applies.

Upon the Appeals Committee decision, the student is notified by the Dean of Academic Affairs both verbally and in writing. The Appeals Committee decision will be final.

Any student who is on Academic/Financial Aid Dismissal can no longer attend school nor get Title IV at the Institution.

### **Academic/Financial Aid Dismissal Appeals not Allowed**

A student who attempts but does not pass the same Transitional Studies course three times is **Dismissed** and there is not a right to appeal the dismissal.

### **Additional Appeal Procedures:**

While an appeal can be made for Maximum Time Frame, the Institution and the Art Institute Vice President of Academic Affairs must review the appeal.

If a student who has successfully appealed an Academic/Financial Aid Dismissal is later again dismissed, the student can file one additional appeal as long as the appeal is based on different mitigating circumstances from any previous appeal, the new mitigating circumstance occurred after the previous successful appeal, the student is showing significant Satisfactory Academic Progress and mathematically the student can meet the next SAP evaluation points requirements.

In addition to the Institution's Review of the Appeal, it must also be reviewed by the Art Institute Vice President of Academic Affairs.

### **Explanations of Related Issues**

#### ***Calculation of CGPA***

A student's cumulative grade point average is calculated by a) Multiplying credits for each course by grade points associated with the grade earned; b) Totaling the grade points earned for all the courses, and c) Dividing total grade points earned by the total number of quality credits. The Institute uses a 4.0 scale in assigning grade points. Note: that if there is a change of programs, only courses applicable to the new program will be considered in the CGPA.

#### ***Transitional Studies Courses***

Many Art Institutes require academic assessments. Depending on assessment scores, students may be required to take Transitional Studies courses. Students must successfully complete such courses in order to progress in the program. Transitional Studies course credits do not count towards the total number of

credits for graduation nor do they count in the CGPA. Additionally, they do not count in determining the maximum timeframe and the incremental completion rate.

While Transitional Studies course(s) are not included in the CGPA, each individual Transitional Studies course may be attempted no more than three times. Failure to pass the courses within the attempts permitted will result in dismissal from the Institution and there is no right to appeal the dismissal.

### ***Repeated Courses and Grades***

As courses are retaken, only the highest grade will count in the GPA/CGPA. All attempts are included in the credit hours attempted for the purposes of calculating the incremental completion rate (ICR). Withdrawn and failing grades are included in the maximum allowable timeframe and incremental completion rate as credit hours attempted but not earned. The grade *Incomplete (I)* is calculated as if it is an *F* for CGPA and ICR purposes until it is changed to another grade and the course will be included as credits attempted but not credits earned until it is changed to another grade.

### ***Remediation of Academic Deficiencies***

It is strongly recommended that any student with withdrawn or failing grades enroll in the same course(s) in the subsequent quarter to improve academic performance.

### ***Transfer Credits from another Postsecondary Institution***

Credits from transfer courses are calculated in the maximum allowable credits and incremental completion rate requirements as credits attempted and credits earned. Grades for credits transferred from any other postsecondary institution will be recorded as *Transfer Credit (TR)* and will not be calculated in the student's CGPA

### ***Change of Program***

Students will be allowed one change of program. Changing from a day program to an evening program of the same major is not considered a change of major. Changing from an associate's program to a bachelor's program in the same major is not considered a change of major. Courses that apply to the second major will be recorded as earned credit and will affect the student's CGPA and will be included as credits attempted and credits earned. Students who change programs must sign a new program enrollment agreement which must be filed in the student's academic file. Note: If a student is at the point of dismissal for Satisfactory Academic Progress in the first major, that student must be put on Academic/Financial Aid Dismissal, appeal the dismissal, have the appeal granted based on mitigating circumstances before transferring to the new major. Under no circumstances can a request to change majors circumvent a dismissal of Satisfactory Academic Progress.

In cases in which a student has graduated from one program in the Institution then subsequently begins work in a different program, grades earned in the first program, if applicable to the new program, will be recorded with the letter grades and thus will be included in the Cumulative Grade Point Average and will be included in the Incremental Completion Rate as credits attempted and credits earned.

### ***Transfers from another Art Institute***

A student must be maintaining Satisfactory Academic Progress in order to be allowed the opportunity of transferring from one program to another or from one school or campus to another. A student who is on Academic/Financial Aid Dismissal and wishes to transfer to another affiliated Art Institute must appeal his/her Academic/Financial Aid Dismissal at the originating school and receive reinstatement prior to the transfer. An affiliated Art Institute is any campus that shares the same leading six-digit OPE-

ID number with the originating school. Campuses that share the same leading six-digit OPE-ID number are the same institution.

Please note that course credits and applicability of those credits at each Art Institute for a program can vary from location to location. Please carefully discuss any possible transfer with the Art Institute you wish to attend.

### **Grading System**

At the conclusion of each course in the program, the student receives a report of his or her grade(s) for the course(s) just completed. These grades are entered also in the student's academic transcript, which is updated each quarter. The criteria for determining a student's grade shall be as follows (on a percentage of total point basis):

### **The Metrics of SAP**

#### **Academic Grading System**

The grading system incorporates letter grades, equivalent numeric values and letter codes as follows:

<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>Quality Points</u>
A	4.0
A-	3.7
B+	3.4
B	3.0
B-	2.7
C+	2.4
C	2.0
C-	1.7
D+	1.4
D	1.0
F	0.0 *

\*F does compute in GPA and CGPA and does count as credit attempted.

#### **Other Grade Codes worth Zero Quality Points:**

##### **CR = Credit through examination**

Credits Earned/TR grade. This does not affect CGPA. They do impact ICR and MTF.

##### **I = Incomplete**

Affects ICR/MTF/CGPA( Computes as an F)

This grade is assigned only when some portion of a course has not been completed for good and sufficient reason. Courses in which "IPA" grades are assigned must be completed no later than the end of the next regular term in which the student is enrolled or the grade will be recorded as "F" on the permanent record in the term in which the grade is granted to replace the IPA. IPA does not affect CGPA/ICR/MTF.

##### **IPA = Incomplete Pass**

<b>IP = In Progress</b>	This identifier is used when a student is actively registered and attending a course. This does not affect the CGPA/ICR/MTF.
<b>S = Suspension</b>	Affects ICR/MTF/CGPA( Computes as an F)
<b>NC = No Credit</b>	This grade is reserved for zero-credit courses only. Non-credit courses are not computed in the CGPA/ ICR/ MTF.
<b>NP = Not passing/Fail</b>	Does not affect ICR/CGPA This grade designation is utilized to indicate that a student did not acceptably complete a non-credited course
<b>P or PR= Proficiency Credit by Exam or Portfolio</b>	This does not affect CGPA. They do impact ICR and MTF.
<b>PA = Pass</b>	This grade designation is utilized to indicate that a student acceptably completed a non-credited course. Does not affect ICR/MTF/CGPA.
<b>SP or SA = Satisfactory/Pass</b>	This grade designation is utilized to indicate that a student acceptably completed a non-credited course. Does not affect ICR/MTF/CGPA.
<b>T = Termination from course</b>	Affects ICR/MTF/CGPA (Computes as an F)
<b>TR = External Transfer Credit</b>	Grade designation utilize for transfer credits. This does not affect CGPA. They do impact ICR and MTF.
<b>U = Unsatisfactory</b>	Indicates that a student unsuccessfully completed a non-credited course. Does not affect ICR/MTF/CGPA.
<b>F= Earned F</b>	Students who met the course requirements by completing the final assignment in the course. Final assignment includes a final exam, final project, final paper, portfolio presentation, or capstone project. If a student completed all assignments including the final assignment of the course, but did not pass the course, the F grade will be considered earned. The course's instructor will award this grade when appropriate. Does compute in GPA and CGPA and does count as credit attempted.

**UF = Unearned F**

Students who failed the course **AND did not** complete the final assignments in the course. Final assignments include, but are not limited to a final exam, final project, final paper, portfolio presentation, capstone project or any other assignment due in the last week of the course. If a student completed some or all of the other requirements in the course but did not complete the final assignment of the course and failed the course, the F grade will be considered unearned. An unearned F grade will be reflected as a “UF” grade on the transcript. The course’s instructor will award this grade when appropriate. Does compute in GPA and CGPA and does count as credit attempted.

**W = Withdrawal**

When a student withdraws from the total program of study by the end of the ninth week of the quarter or from individual classes after drop/add but before the end of the ninth week of the quarter. The “W” is not used in the calculation of the GPA or CGPA but is considered attempted credits but not earned credits.

**WF = Withdrawal Fail**

When a student withdraws from individual classes or a total academic program of study after the ninth week of classes. The “WF” is calculated as an “F” in the GPA and CGPA. The “WF” also counts as attempted credits and not earned credits.

**WV = Waiver**

Commonly used when waiving a Transitional courses and does not affect ICR/MTF/CGPA

**WX = Course was registered for but never attended**

Self-explanatory and does not affect ICR/MTF/CGPA

Students receive grades at the end of each quarter including midquarter. The grade report contains both the grade point average for the quarter (GPA) and cumulative grade point average (CGPA) for the program. When a course is repeated after failure, the grade earned upon repeating the class replaces the original grade in determining the grade point average, though the failing grade will still appear on the transcript.

### **Repeating Courses**

Grades earned in repeated courses will replace grades of ‘F’, “UF”, ‘W’, or ‘WF’. Course credits with grades of ‘F’, ‘UF’, ‘W’, or ‘WF’ are included in the maximum time frame (MTF) and incremental completion rate (ICR) requirements as credits attempted but not earned. Students with incomplete grades will receive an ‘F’ if a grade change is not submitted by the end of the second week of the following term. The grade ‘I’ indicates Incomplete and is calculated as if it is an ‘F’ until it is changed to another grade and the course will be included as course credits attempted, but not earned. Only if it is part of an Academic Plan may students retake courses in which they received a passing grade in order to improve their CGPA but can retake a course passed only one additional time. Credits from all repeated

courses are included as credits attempted. The highest grade earned will be used in the CGPA calculations.

### Changed Grade

When a final course grade has been established and recorded in the student record, the grade may not be changed without approval by both the Academic Department Director and the Dean of Academic Affairs. Only the final grade (not the original grade/code) will be computed in the grade point average. The final grade is the one that counts in the calculation.

### Calculations

The Art Institute measures and records academic performance by computing the Grade Point Average (GPA) and Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) for each student, using the letter grades, four-point scale and credit-hour values. GPA is the average of grade points a student earns during one quarter. CGPA is the cumulative average of all grade points a student has earned over all quarters at The Art Institute. Transitional study courses do not count in this calculation. Here is an example of how GPA and CGPA are computed: Imagine that a student is taking a total of two courses during one quarter. One course has a four credit hours value and the student earns an A. The second course has a three credit hour value and the student earns a B. Remember, each letter grade carries a grade point value. Grade point values are multiplied by credit hours.

In this example:

A = 4 grade points x 4 credit hours = 16 grade points earned

B = 3 grade points x 3 credit hours = 9 grade points earned

To compute the GPA, divide the total number of grade points earned for the quarter by the total number of credit hours earned for the quarter.

16 grade points + 9 grade points = 25 total grade points

25 grade points earned divided by 7 total hours earned = student's GPA for the quarter, 3.571 which is rounded to 3.57. Rounding occurs after the 4 digit of a CGPA is calculated and if the fourth digit is 5 or over, it is rounded up. If the fourth digit is 4 or lower it is rounded down.

A student's CGPA is computed in the same way by dividing the student's total grade points earned from all quarters/semester at The Art Institute by the student's total credit hours earned from all quarters at The Art Institute.

**Incremental completion rate** is determined as follows (transitional study credits do not count in this calculation):

**(EARNED CREDITS at the institution + TRANSFER CREDITS Accepted)**

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**(ATTEMPTED CREDITS at the institution + TRANSFER CREDITS Accepted)**

**The 150% MTF:** Only the attempted courses required in the program for which the student is currently enrolled are used in determining the number of MTF credits remaining. Transitional study courses do not count in this calculation.

**The 150% MTF is determined as follows:**

<p><b>TOTAL CREDITS NEEDED TO GRADUATE FROM THE PROGRAM x 1.5 = TOTAL NUMBER OF CREDITS ALLOWED TO BE ATTEMPTED.</b></p>
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## **STUDENT STATUS CHANGES AND SAP**

### **Transfer Students**

Transfer credits from other post-secondary institutions are calculated in the maximum time frame allowable credits and incremental completed rate requirements. Therefore, the maximum number of attempted credits for a student with transfer credit is still one and one-half times the number of credits required to complete a program for graduation.

Example: if a student transfers in 36 credits to a program consisting of 180 credits, the calculation would be  $180 \times 1.5 = 270$  credits. Therefore, the 36 transfer credits would be considered attempted and earned so only 234 more credits could be attempted.

Grades for credits transferred in from any post-secondary institution (including an Art Institute) will be recorded as "TR" in the Student Information System and will not affect the student's CGPA.

Students wishing to transfer from one Art Institute to another may do so only if they are in good standing at the sending school. If the student is transferring to a different institution (as defined by the Department of Education as a campus that does not share the same leading six-digit OPE-ID number), then he or she is treated as a student transferring in from an unaffiliated institution. Any student dismissed for violation satisfactory academic progress cannot transfer or be considered a New student (if they had a break in enrollment) at another affiliated Art Institute until he or she has been granted an appeal at the original school and is deemed to be making satisfactory academic progress.

### **Changes in Program**

Unless a second change is specifically approved for the specific student by the Dean, students are allowed only one change of program and must be making satisfactory academic progress at the time a request is made to change programs.

Courses taken in one program that is applicable to the second program will be transferred with the applicable grade. If the student has taken a course more than once, only the grades transferred to that new program will apply to the second program. All grades earned in the original program that apply to the new program will count towards the SAP CGPA (SGPA). For ICR and 150% purposes only, those courses transferred will apply to the second program will be considered.

In the formulas below, the "CHANGE OF MAJOR" adjustment factor would be those credits from the previous major that we will NOT count in the student's current major.

**Incremental completion rate** is determined as follows (Transitional credits do not count in this calculation):

**(EARNED CREDITS in the New Program + TRANSFER CREDIT ACCEPTED) minus CHANGE OF MAJOR ADJUSTMENT FACTOR FOR EARNED CREDITS**

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**(ATTEMPTED CREDITS in the New Program + TRANSFER CREDITS Accepted) minus CHANGE OF MAJOR ADJUSTMENT FACTOR FOR EARNED CREDITS**

**The 150% MTF** Only the attempted courses required in the program for which the student is currently enrolled are used in determining the number of MTF credits remaining.

The 150% MTF is determined as follows:

**TOTAL CREDITS NEEDED in the PROGRAM TO GRADUATE times 1.5 = TOTAL NUMBER OF CREDITS ALLOWED TO BE ATTEMPTED.**

## Second Degree

When a student has graduated from The Art Institute in one program, then subsequently begins work in a different program, grades used in the CGPA of the previous program will be applied to the student's new program CGPA calculation.

## Satisfactory Academic Progress for Educational Benefits which are not Title IV Funds

Please note that in order to receive and/or retain certain education benefits from a source other than the Department of Education, it may require a higher cumulative grade point average and/or a higher incremental completion rate. Examples of these education benefits are State Grants, Veterans' Benefits, Department of Defense (TA) benefits or employee reimbursements. Please check with the Student Financial Service Office for details.

## Grading Policy Addition

**Effective 1/9/17, the following is an addition to the Academic Policies section beginning on page 135 of the academic catalog:**

### The Art Institutes Grading Policy

#### Repeating Courses.

1. Students who must retake a **passed course** may only do so in accordance with the following [EDMC Retaking Coursework Policy](#) guidelines.
  - o Retake coursework: If otherwise eligible, students may retake coursework for one of the following reasons:

- Failed the course: Students who have failed the course and earned no credit hours.
- Withdrawn course: Students who withdraw from a course will receive either a Withdrawal without penalty (W), Withdrawal with penalty (WF), or Unearned F (UF), Failing grade (F). Please refer to the school catalog for information when a W, WF, UF, F grade will be granted.
- Stale course: By State or Accreditation requirements a student must pass a course within a specific window of time. *For example*, the course must be passed within the last 5 years and the course was taken 7 years ago so it must be repeated.
- Meet Progress or Professional Requirements: Students who have successfully completed the course and earned credit hours but are required to improve their grade point average (G.P.A.). For standard term-based programs, EDMC's policy, as required by ED regulation, will allow financial aid to cover a single repetition of a previously successfully passed course if the course is required as part of an academic plan to appeal a Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) termination or to help students who need a specific grade or G.P.A. to practice upon graduation or progress in the program, per the academic catalog or course requirements published and provided to students. For example, the student passed the course but the grade received is not sufficient for progression. The student receives a C but, in order to graduate, a B or better is required.

## **Validation Policy Addition**

***Effective 10/14/16 the following is an addition to the Admissions Requirements section beginning on page 121 of the academic catalog:***

### **The Art Institute High School Graduation Validation Policy**

An applicant must be a high school graduate, possess a recognized high school equivalency (GED - General Education Diploma) or have an associate's degree (of at least two full academic years) that fully transfers to a bachelor's or higher degree from a recognized accredited institution. Students can meet the High School graduation requirement by submitting an official academic transcript that shows at a minimum a completed two-year program that is acceptable for full credit toward a bachelor's degree at the school from which the two-year degree was earned.

Applicants to a graduate program may present a bachelor's degree as a form of proof of graduation from high school. Accreditation requirements must adhere to EDMC's list of acceptable accreditation. A student who is home-schooled must be able to present a high school credential evidencing that he or she completed secondary education or complies with applicable State requirements for home-schooling in the State in which the student resided during home-schooling.

The military document DD214 is NOT an acceptable means of proving high school/GED completion. There are specific types of diplomas that are not acceptable at The Art Institute locations (See Definitions):

- Certificate of Performance

- Certificate of Completion
- Certificate of Attendance
- Certificate of Achievement
- Modified Diploma
- Fast Track Online Degree
- Special Education Diploma.

A stand alone "Certificate of Completion" does not suffice for admission to The Art Institutes.

Students who have conflicting documentation in their file regarding completion of a high school diploma must have this situation resolved before the conclusion of the student's first quarter (No Later than COB Week 9 or prior to final exams) with consultation of the Art Institute Chief Academic Officer or his/her designee as needed.

Should you receive a transcript with one of these types of diplomas, you must:

1. Immediately notify the ADA and S/DOA regarding this issue. The ADA/S/DOA will notify the applicant.
2. The application paperwork may NOT be submitted to Admissions Committee for review. Either the applicant must receive a regular (Traditional) diploma or take the GED with passing test scores. If this is not an option, the application will need to be academically rejected after notification.

## **Student Conduct Policy Update**

***Effective 1/9/17 the following fully replaces the Student Conduct Policy found on pages 166 of the academic catalog:***

### ***Student Conduct Policy***

#### Section I – Guiding Principles

The College recognizes its students as responsible and dedicated men and women who are preparing for career employment. An integral part of their career and professional development is the expectation that they conduct themselves during the education process in the same manner as will be expected in all employment situations. As members of the College community, students have responsibilities and duties commensurate with their rights and privileges. In this policy, the College provides guidance to students regarding those standards of student conduct and behavior that it considers essential to its educational mission. This policy also provides guidance regarding the types of conduct that infringe upon the fulfillment of the Institute's mission.

#### Section II - Scope

This Student Conduct Policy applies to all students and student organizations at the College.

#### Section III - Reach

The Student Conduct Policy shall apply to student conduct that occurs on college premises including online platforms, at college-sponsored activities, student organization sponsored events or in Campus Sponsored Housing. At the discretion of the Chief Conduct Officer (Dean or Director of Student Affairs, Director of Student Services, Dean of Academic Affairs or a delegate as appointed by the President of

the College), the Policy also shall apply to off-campus student conduct when the conduct, as alleged, adversely affects a substantial college interest and potentially violates a campus policy.

#### Section IV - Responsibilities of Dual Membership

Students are both members of the College community and citizens of the state. As citizens, students are responsible to the community of which they are a part, and, as students, they are responsible to the academic community of the College and to other individuals who make up the community. By enforcing its Student Conduct Policy, the College neither substitutes for nor interferes with other civil or criminal legal processes. When a student is charged in both jurisdictions, the College will decide on the basis of its interests, the interests of affected students, and the interests of the community whether to proceed with its disciplinary process or to defer action.

#### Section V - Disciplinary Offenses

The offenses listed below are given as examples only. The College may sanction other conduct not specifically included on this list.

##### Scholastic Dishonesty

- Plagiarism
- Cheating on assignments or examinations
- Engaging in unauthorized collaboration on academic work
- Taking, acquiring or using test materials without faculty permission
- Submitting false or incomplete records of academic achievement
- Altering, forging or misusing a college academic record
- Fabricating or falsifying data, research procedures, or data analysis
- Deceiving the College and/or its officials

Misuse or abuse of school assigned email address and log-in information Sharing your username or password for any school assigned system with any student or non-student individual

- Logging-in to a school assigned system with the intention to display classroom environment to other student or non-student individuals
- Allowing an individual access to post information in the on line environment on your behalf or with the intention of impersonation.
  - Note: on ground students cannot share or give access to other students or non-student individuals to access the student portal (unless designated for training purposes at the direction of a campus official)

#### Illegal or Unauthorized Possession or Use of Weapons

- Possession or use of firearms, explosives, fireworks, ammunition, dangerous chemicals, or other weapons, likenesses of weapons, on college property, Campus Sponsored Housing or at college sponsored functions, except where possession is required by law.

#### Sexual Assault or Nonconsensual Contact

- Any form of unwanted sexual attention or unwanted sexual contact. (See the Sexual Misconduct and Relationship Violence Policy for more detail. For all cases covered by the Sexual Misconduct and Relationship Violence Policy, the investigation and disciplinary procedures outlined in that policy shall govern.)

#### Threatening, Violent or Aggressive Conduct

- Assault, battery, or any other form of physical abuse of a student or college employee.
- Fighting or physical altercation.
- Conveyance of threats by any means of communication including, but not limited to, threats of physical abuse and threats to damage or destroy college property or the property of other students or college employees.
- Any conduct that threatens the health or safety of one's own self or another individual. Threats to commit self-harm and/or actual incidents of self-harm by any student.

#### Theft, Property Damage and Vandalism

- Theft, attempted theft, vandalism/damage, or defacing of college property, college controlled property or the property of another student, faculty, staff member or guest.
- Extortion.
- Setting fires, tampering with fire safety and/or fire fighting equipment.

#### Disruptive or Disorderly Conduct

- Disruptive Behavior, such as, Interference with the normal operations of the College (i.e., disruption of teaching and administrative functions, disciplinary procedures, pedestrian or vehicular traffic or other college activities)

#### Disruptive Classroom Conduct, such as:

- Engaging in behavior that substantially or repeatedly interrupts either the instructor's ability to teach or student learning. The classroom extends to any setting where a student is engaged in work toward academic credit or satisfaction of program-based requirements or related activities, or
- Written or verbal acts or uses of technology, which have the effect of disrupting the online classroom learning environment.

- Use of cell phones and pagers during scheduled classroom times.

Disorderly Conduct, such as:

- Disorderly, lewd, indecent, or obscene conduct.
- This would include but is not limited to any type of clothing, gang colors, gang symbols or materials worn or brought onto the premises by any student or guest deemed to be lewd, indecent or obscene as determined by college officials;
- Breach of peace on college property or at any college-sponsored or supervised program; or
- Any in-school, online classroom, or off-campus act considered inappropriate or as an example of misconduct that adversely affects the interests of the College and/or its reputation.

Illegal or Unauthorized Possession or Use of Drugs or Alcohol

- Use, sale, possession or distribution of illegal or controlled substances, drug or drug paraphernalia on college property or at any function sponsored or supervised by the College.
- Being under the influence of illegal or controlled substances on college property, or at any college function.
- Use, sale, possession or distribution of alcoholic beverages on college property or at any function sponsored or supervised by the College.
- Being under the influence of alcohol on college property or at any college function is also prohibited.

Verbal Assault, Defamation and Harassment, Verbal Abuse of a Student or College Employee.

- Harassment by any means of any individual, including coercion and personal abuse. Harassment includes but is not limited to, written or verbal acts or uses of technology, which have the effect of harassing or intimidating a person.
- Harassment based on sex, race, color, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, age, disability or any other criteria protected by state, federal or local law.

Hazing

- Any form of “hazing” and any act that endangers the safety of a student, or that destroys or removes public or private property, for the purpose of initiation, admission into, affiliation with, or as a condition for continued membership in a group or organization. “Hazing” includes any method of initiation or pre-initiation into a student club or any pastime or amusement engaged in with respect to such a club that causes, or is likely to cause, bodily danger, physical harm, or personal degradation or disgrace resulting in physical or mental harm, to any student or other person attending the College.

Falsification

- Willfully providing college officials with false, misleading or incomplete information.

- Forgery, falsification, alteration or misuse of college documents, records or identification with the intent to injure, defraud, or misinform.

Abuse of the College's Disciplinary System, including but not limited to:

- Failure to obey the summons of a disciplinary body or college official.
- Falsification, distortion, or misrepresentation of information before a disciplinary body or college official.
- Disruption or interference with the orderly conduct of a disciplinary proceeding.
- Attempting to influence the impartiality of a member of a disciplinary body prior to and/or during the course of the disciplinary proceeding.
- Verbal or physical harassment and/or intimidation of a member of a disciplinary body prior to, during, and/ or after the disciplinary proceeding.
- Failure to comply with the sanction(s) imposed under the student conduct policy.
- Influencing or attempting to influence another person to commit an abuse of the disciplinary system.

Unauthorized Use or Misuse of College Facilities

- Unauthorized entry into, unauthorized use of, or misuse of college property, including computers and data and voice communication networks.

Violation of Federal or State Laws

- Violation of federal, state or local laws and college rules and regulations on college property or at college-sanctioned or college-sponsored functions. In addition, students must disclose any criminal conviction received while a student to the Dean of Student Affairs within 5 days of the conviction.

Insubordination

- Persistent or gross acts of willful disobedience or defiance toward college personnel.
- Failure to comply with direction of college officials, faculty, staff or security officers who are acting in the performance of their duties.
- Failure to exit during fire drill.
- Failure to identify oneself when on college property or at a college-sponsored or supervised functions, upon request of college official acting in the performance of his/her duties.

Violations of College Rules

- Violations by guest of a student on college property. Students are responsible for the actions of their guests.

- Violation of school safety regulations, including but not limited to setting fires, tampering with fire safety and/or firefighting equipment, failure to exit during fire drill, turning in false fire alarms and bomb threats.
- Smoking in classrooms or other college buildings or areas unless designated as a smoking area.
- Any violation of the student housing license agreement, rules and regulations and/or the College- sponsored housing student handbook.
- Any violation of the institution’s policies on the responsible use of technology including but not limited to:
  - The theft or abuse of computer, email, Internet or Intranet resources
  - Unauthorized entry into a file, to use, read, or change the contents, or for any other purpose
  - Unauthorized transfer of a file
  - Unauthorized downloading of copyrighted materials in violation of law
  - Unauthorized use of another individual’s identification and/or password
  - Use of computing facilities to interfere with the work of another student, faculty member, or school official
  - Use of computing facilities to send obscene or abusive messages
  - Use of computing facilities to interfere with normal operation of the school’s computing system
  - Failure to satisfy school financial obligations.

The above list is illustrative only, and the College may sanction other conduct not specifically included on this list.

#### Section VI - Sanctions

The College may impose sanctions for violations of the Student Conduct Policy. The type of sanction imposed may vary depending upon the seriousness of the violation(s). The College reserves the right to immediately impose the most severe sanction if circumstances merit.

Although not exhaustive, the following list represents the types of sanctions that may be imposed upon any student or student organization found to have violated the Student Conduct Policy:

1. Warning: A notice in writing that a student has failed to meet some aspect of the school’s standards and expectations.
2. Probation: Probation is used for repeated violations or a specific violation of a serious nature as a first course of action. The Chief Conduct Officer or his/her delegate defines the terms of probation.

3. Discretionary Sanctions: The student will be required to complete an educational service, attend counseling, or have restricted privileges.
4. Removal from Sponsored housing: The student will be immediately dismissed from Campus Sponsored Housing. The student will be required to vacate the premises according to the terms of the sanction.
5. Suspension: Separation of the student from the campus for a pre-determined period of time. The student may be able to return to campus once specified conditions for readmission are met. The student may not attend classes, visit campus-sponsored housing, use school facilities, participate in or attend college activities, or be employed by the school during his/her suspension.
6. Expulsion: The student will be expelled from the College immediately. The student will not be permitted to continue his or her studies at the College and may not return to the College or to Campus Sponsored Housing or activities at any time or for any reason.
7. Restitution: Compensation for loss or damage to property leased, owned or controlled by the school. This may take the form of monetary or material replacement.

The above list is only a general guideline. Some sanctions may be omitted, and other sanctions not listed above may be used.

## Section VII – Disciplinary Procedures

### Complaint

Any member of the College community may file a complaint against any student for misconduct or for otherwise being in violation of the College policies.

1. The complaint shall be prepared in writing or in an incident report and directed to the Chief Conduct Officer or his/her delegate.
2. The written complaint or incident report should include the nature of the offense, date, approximate time and location of incident. The name of the victim, offender and any witness/s may be included.
3. Complaints or incident reports should be submitted within 48 hours after the alleged violation occurred unless there are extenuating circumstances requiring a longer timeframe.

The Chief Conduct Officer or his/her delegate may review and investigate the complaint to determine if the allegations have factual merit, to identify violations of the Student Conduct Policy, and to impose sanctions for such violations.

Generally, the accused should be given the opportunity to tell his or her account of the situation and to provide this information, in writing, unless the College determines that the circumstances do not warrant disclosure of some or all of the facts.

### Search of Student's Property

Students have no expectation of privacy in their personal property while on campus. The College reserves the right to search the contents of students' personal property or belongings at any time and

for any reason, including when there is reasonable suspicion on the part of the Institute staff that a risk to the health, safety or welfare of students, and/or the school community exists and including searches pursuant to an investigation of potential wrong doing. This includes but is not limited to vehicles brought onto property leased, owned or controlled by the school, backpacks, portfolios and clothing. This policy also applies to student property in Campus Sponsored Housing, student e-mail and/or computers.

#### Notification and Determination of Violations that Warrant Disciplinary Meeting

1. The Chief Conduct Officer or a delegate may choose to conduct a disciplinary meeting. Potential attendees include a student or students, the Chief Conduct Officer or his/her delegate and others who may have relevant information. The Student should receive advance notice of the allegations and the reason for the meeting.
2. After the meeting the Chief Conduct Officer or his/her delegate will determine whether it is more likely than not that a violation occurred, may render and communicate the decision to the student in writing, which shall describe the violation and the sanctions imposed, if any, and the student's right to appeal. If the Chief Conduct Officer determines that there was no violation, that decision may be documented in writing to the student as well.
  - If a student fails to appear for the meeting, the Chief Conduct Officer or his/her delegate may make a determination of violations of The Art Institute policies on the basis of the information available, and impose sanctions for such violations.

#### Notification and Determination of Violations that Warrant Disciplinary Hearing or Panel

In some cases, involving serious violations, the Chief Conduct Officer or his/her delegate, hereby referred to as "Hearing Officer", in his or her sole discretion, may choose to assemble a Disciplinary Panel to adjudicate the process.

1. The Hearing Officer may immediately (before a hearing takes place) remove the student from the campus community pursuant to an Interim Suspension until the Disciplinary Panel is convened. (see interim suspension)
2. The Student should receive advance notice of the allegations and the reason for the meeting. A student may forgo attendance at the hearing and a determination of the sanction will be made by the Disciplinary Panel.
3. Hearings normally shall be conducted in private. The Disciplinary Hearing is an academic hearing, not a legal hearing. Therefore, legal counsel is not allowed at the hearing.
4. The student may be accompanied by one person (family member, friend, etc.) to provide support. The committee may prohibit from attending or remove any person who disrupts the proceedings of the committee
5. In Hearings involving more than one student, the Hearing Officer, in his or her discretion, may permit the hearing concerning each student to be conducted separately.
6. The Disciplinary Panel may hear from any person who may have relevant information and the Panel may review any documents presented to them. a) Pertinent records, documents and written statements

may be considered by the Hearing Officer at his/her discretion. b) The Disciplinary Panel may ask questions and may seek information not provided to it.

7. The Disciplinary Panel may determine whether it is more likely than not that a violation occurred. The Panel should communicate to the Hearing Officer its decision and its recommended sanction, if any.

8. After the Hearing, the Hearing Officer will issue a written decision to the accused student which identifies the accusations and the panel's conclusions, any sanctions, and the student's right of appeal.

9. In general, the accused should have access to the documentation reviewed by the panel, however identifying names and information may be removed from the documentation when necessary to protect other student's privacy rights.

#### Disciplinary Panel

A Disciplinary Panel may consist of members of the College Executive Committee, Campus Staff, Faculty or Student Body. When students are permitted on the Panel, the accused student should sign a form granting permission to release his/her educational records to a student serving on the Panel. Failure to sign the permission constitutes an agreement to have no student on the Panel.

#### Administrative Interim Suspension

Students may be administratively suspended on an Interim basis when:

1. Serious allegations are being investigated;
2. Serious allegations are pending before a disciplinary panel;
3. In advance of a disciplinary panel hearing; or
4. When a student potentially poses a threat of harm to himself, to others, or to property of the Institute or a member of the Institute community.

During the Interim Suspension, students are denied access to Campus Sponsored Housing and/or to the school (including classes, labs, Library) and/or all other school activities or privileges for which the student might otherwise be eligible, as the Chief Conduct Officer or his/her designee may determine to be appropriate.

This Interim Suspension period should last no longer than three business days, and the Chief Conduct Officer or his/her delegate may make reasonable provisions to provide for accommodations of a student in Campus Sponsored Housing.

The Interim Suspension is not to be considered disciplinary, but it is a tool to separate potential adversaries until a reasoned decision can be made.

#### Section VIII – Appeal Procedures

Students have a right to appeal disciplinary actions when they believe they have extenuating circumstances or believe themselves to have been treated in an arbitrary or biased fashion or without adherence to the College policies and procedures.

- During an appeal, the student should continue to obey the terms of the decision, i.e., a student who has been suspended from school may not be on school property, a student dismissed from Campus Sponsored Housing must leave in accordance with the directions indicated in the decision
- The student must write a letter of appeal in the student's own words, addressed to the President of the College or his/her delegate. This letter must clearly state the extenuating circumstances or the grounds for believing the decision was arbitrary or biased or that it was without adherence to the College's policies and procedures, and provide any supporting documentation. It must be delivered to the President or his/her delegate within seven calendar days following the student's receipt of the decision.
- Students should provide documentation to support the allegations of the appeal.
- The President or his/her delegate may appoint an ad hoc committee to review appeals and make a recommendation regarding disposition of the appeal within 30 days of the date of receipt of the appeal. This committee will be comprised of faculty or staff members not involved in making the initial disciplinary decision.
- The President and/or the committee may decide to convene an appeal hearing. The student will be notified in writing of the date and time of the appeal. The student is expected to attend the meeting, and failure to do so, for other than documented emergencies, may be considered forfeiture of the right to present further information regarding the appeal.
- The student making the appeal may be provided an opportunity to address the committee in person. The student may be accompanied by one person (family member, friend, etc.) as an observer. The committee may prohibit from attending or remove any person who disrupts the proceedings of the committee.
- The Appeal Committee is an academic hearing, not a legal hearing. Therefore, legal counsel is not allowed at the meeting.
- Audio recording of the academic hearing is not permitted. Minutes of the meeting are confidential.
- Following appropriate review and deliberation, the committee will report to the President or his/her delegate with its recommendation following its review of the appeal. The President or his/her delegate will render a written decision on the appeal within thirty calendar days from receipt of the appeal. The decision will be final.