



# VCU

## **Division of Student Affairs**

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## **Interim Suspension**

The Dean of Students Office or appropriate Student Affairs designee may issue an interim suspension as a temporary measure to a student reasonably believed to pose a threat to the University community. Such threat may involve a significant risk to the health or safety of any member of the University community, including the student, to University property, or to University operations, including the educational process. An interim suspension is also authorized upon information that a student has been or is likely to be charged with a violation of VCU policy or state or federal law involving acts of violence or other serious conduct that would reasonably support a finding that the student is not fit to remain a member of the University community pending the outcome of university or legal proceedings.

## **Definition of Interim Suspension**

An interim suspension is the immediate removal of a student from the University and may include, but is not limited to, exclusion from University property (including facilities and premises owned or leased by the University), exclusion from University activities (including classes and programs), and revocation of University privileges. In certain cases, an interim suspension may require administrative withdrawal from classes.

## **Notice of Interim Suspension**

A suspending official shall provide to the student a written or electronic Notice of Interim Suspension ("Notice"), which includes the following terms:

- The basis for the interim suspension;
- The scope of the interim suspension, whether comprehensive or prohibiting the student only from selected University property, activities, or privileges;
- The process for appeal and review of the interim suspension; and
- The appropriate contact in the Division of Student Affairs or other administrative unit for questions about the terms of the interim suspension and for permission to enter University property for certain limited purposes, such as attending a student conduct proceeding.

Immediately upon receipt of the notice of interim Suspension, the student shall exit the portions of University property identified in the notice and shall not reenter any such property unless in compliance with explicit instruction or directive in the notice. In certain cases, a student placed on interim suspension will be escorted off University property by VCU Police. If a student violates the terms of an interim suspension, that student may be subject to disciplinary action by the University, arrest, and/or criminal prosecution.

### **Appeal of Interim Suspension**

The student placed on interim suspension may submit a written appeal to the Student Affairs designee specified in the notice of interim suspension and must follow any appeal instructions provided in the notice. The appeal must be filed within three business days (unless otherwise noted) of receiving the suspending official's decision unless an extension has been requested and approved by the Vice Provost or designee. The Student Affairs designee shall notify the student in writing of his or her decision to uphold, modify, or terminate the interim suspension within three (3) days of receiving the written appeal or as soon as is reasonably practicable thereafter. The decision of the designee shall be final and is not subject to further appeal. The designee may require a suspended student to provide additional information relevant to the determination of health and safety risks posed by the student, and the timeframe for decisions outlined herein may be extended in order to enable the development and review of such information.

#### **Note:**

The interim suspension process is separate and distinct from the processes of investigation and adjudication undertaken pursuant to other VCU policies and regulations, including those occurring under the Student Code of Conduct and Sexual Misconduct/Violence and Sex/Gender Discrimination Policy. Interim suspension is authorized as an interim measure to protect the University community pending resolution of charges of misconduct.

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