

Interim Separation Policy

I. SCOPE

This policy applies to all Goucher students.

II. STATEMENT

In certain circumstances, pending student conduct proceedings, proceedings before a civil or criminal court, or other governmental agency proceedings, the Associate Vice President for Student Well-being & Dean of Students (AVP/DOS), or designee, may issue an interim separation from Goucher College.

An interim separation may be issued to a student during such pending proceedings for the following reason(s):

- A. to ensure the safety and/or well-being of members of the college community and/or preservation of college property;
- B. to ensure the student's own physical safety and/or emotional well-being; or
- C. if the student poses an ongoing threat of disruption of, and/or interference with, the normal operations or reputation of the college.

In accordance with the Code of Conduct, an interim separation may be issued when a student's conduct occurred off campus.

III. NOTICE OF INTERIM SEPARATION

Upon taking such action, the AVP/DOS or their designee will immediately notify the student in writing of the interim separation, including the reasons for the interim separation and notice of the student's right to appeal the action.

IV. IMPACT OF INTERIM SEPARATION

A. Access

As a result of interim separation, the student may be denied access to the residence halls and/or to the campus (including classes) and/or to all other college activities or privileges for which the student may be eligible, as the AVP/DOS or their designee deems appropriate.

B. Academic Concerns

The Dean of Students office will notify the student's current instructors and Associate Provost of Undergraduate Studies of a student's Interim Separation. No detailed information about the alleged violation will be released to instructors.

With the assistance of the Associate Provost of Undergraduate Studies, and the Title IX coordinator in appropriate cases, and approval of the instructor, a student may arrange to obtain class notes and make up missed assignments and exams, and/or request an incomplete grade. However, such arrangements must be made by phone or online, given that the student may not be present on college property while on Interim Separation.

The student may want to consult with their advisor and the Associate Provost for Undergraduate Studies about withdrawing for the semester if the student believes the work missed while on Interim Separation cannot be made up. Such a withdrawal will not affect the college's disciplinary processes.

If the student is found not responsible for the alleged misconduct, they are eligible to return to the college immediately. If the student is found responsible, their eligibility to return to the College depends on the student's sanction(s) and the outcome of the appeal process (if applicable). A student who is suspended should contact the Office of the Dean of Students to discuss the reinstatement process, if and when eligible to reenroll at the college.

C. Residence Life Concerns

1. Students must vacate their current residence hall assignment within twenty-four (24) hours of being notified of an interim separation.
2. Upon return from an interim separation, the student should contact the Office of the Dean of Students for information on the room assignment process.

D. Financial concerns

Whether any of the student's charges for tuition, room or board are refunded depends on the outcome of the disciplinary proceeding. [Refund Policy | Goucher College](#)

1. Students who are suspended or expelled forfeit all credits and fees paid to the college for the semester in which the misconduct occurred;
2. Students who are found not responsible or receive a lesser sanction than suspension or expulsion will receive full or partial refunds, depending on the date of the interim separation, as determined by senior administrators. See [Refund Policy](#).

V. APPEAL OF INTERIM SEPARATION

A student may appeal an interim separation to the Vice President for Student Affairs or designee, in writing, within forty-eight (48) hours of notice of the interim separation. The interim separation remains in effect, regardless of a pending appeal. An appeal is based solely on the written record, and the student's letter of appeal should speak to the following factors, which are the basis for consideration:

- The reliability and credibility of the information upon which the interim separation is based, including the student's conduct and the student's identity; or
- Whether or not the alleged conduct and surrounding circumstances reasonably indicate that the continued presence of the student on college premises poses a substantial and immediate threat to them and/or to others, and/or to the stability and continuance of normal college functions.

VI. PROMPT DISCIPLINARY HEARING

A student under interim separation will have an opportunity for as prompt a disciplinary hearing as possible, within the parameters of the applicable college conduct process.

VII. RESPONSIBLE OFFICE

Questions about this policy should be addressed to the [Dean of Students](#).

VIII. HISTORY

Adopted: March 2020; Updated: June 2024.