

POLICY STATEMENT

Policy Name	Student Appeals Policy		
Policy #	D.01 Student Appeals	Category	Student Affairs
Approving Jurisdiction	Board of Governors	Replaces	Bylaw #3
Administrative Responsibility	Vice President, Education and Training	Version	2025-07-01
		Next Review Date	*Date to be reviewed*

See the related PROCEDURES (Link to be added when posted.)

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide a framework for a transparent, fair, and swift resolution of academic and non-academic appeals.

SCOPE AND LIMITS

This policy applies to all members of the Aurora College Community involved in the academic or non-academic appeal process when all options for an informal resolution have been exhausted.

Only decisions made by the College regarding the following matters are appealable:

- Student Academic Misconduct;
- Student Non-academic Misconduct;
- Academic Progression;
- Final course grades; and
- Student housing evictions.

Decisions outside the scope of this policy may be addressed through an informal resolution process. (see D.01.1 Student Appeals Procedure)

Students in a course or program where the curriculum is subject to third party regulations may be subject to appeal procedures of the third party.

The course grade appeal process is not meant to address concerns regarding curriculum or instruction.

POLICY STATEMENT

A student has a right to appeal academic or non-academic decisions where they believe a substantial procedural error has been made or the sanction imposed is disproportionate.

The College shall establish a committee with the delegated authority to conduct appeal hearings and determine the outcome of appeals.

Guiding Principles

1. All members of the Aurora College community have a right to a fair process, to present submissions on their behalf, to present relevant evidence, to receive an evidence-based decision, and to know the reasons for the decision.
2. Aurora College students and staff have the right to seek and receive support and advice concerning participation in the appeals process.
3. Students have a right to confidentiality.
4. A timely resolution of any appeals under this policy is in the best interest of the student and Aurora College.

DEFINITIONS

Academic Misconduct: All forms of behaviour that create an unethical space for teaching and learning and contradict the values of academic integrity. Academic misconduct includes but is not limited to: participating in acts by which a person gains or attempts to gain an unfair academic advantage thereby compromising the integrity of the academic process, including but not limited to cheating, fabrication and falsification, improper collaboration, multiple submissions, plagiarism, or helping or attempting to help another person commit an act of academic misconduct, and any other form of obtaining an unfair advantage, misrepresenting academic assignments prepared by others as one's own, or falsification of information on any academic document.

Academic Progression: An assessment of a student's academic performance at the end of each semester or trimester to determine eligibility to continue studying in their program of choice.

Appeal: A formal process conducted by the Appeals Committee to review decisions on grounds of procedural irregularities or disproportionality of sanctions.

Appeals Committee: A Standing Committee consisting of Aurora College staff (instructional and non-instructional), and students constituted by the Academic Council (Academic Appeals Committee) and/or the President that shall review and make decisions on all appeals.

Aurora College Community: Includes any person who is an Aurora College student or an Aurora College official, including instructional and non-instructional staff, volunteers, contractors, and members of the public who hold positions on Aurora College councils and committees such as the Board of Governors, Indigenous Knowledge Holders Council, Research Advisory Council, and Curriculum Review Committees.

Decision: A conclusion or resolution reached that affects a student in relation to this policy.

Disproportionate Sanction(s): Refers to disciplinary sanction(s) that students perceive to be greater in comparison to the conduct violation, given its relevant compounding and/or mitigating factors. This definition also encompasses disciplinary sanctions where two or more students commit similar conduct violations, but receive sanctions that are unequal in severity.

Non-Academic Misconduct: When a student does not meet established standards of student behaviour during activities that occur in a College facility, on a College campus, or at College sponsored or supported activities, but are not part of the required learning process.

This includes but is not limited to participation in acts that:

- Contradict published statutes, regulations, or College rules, bylaws, policies, procedures, or common standards of safety;
- Are disrespectful of faculty, staff and/or other students;
- Create an atmosphere of hostility, intimidation, ridicule, anxiety, or disrespect for others;
- Endanger or threaten to endanger the health or safety of College students, faculty, staff or others present on campus;
- Subject any College student, faculty member, staff member or others to physical, mental, written, or verbal abuse;
- Discriminate against or harass students, faculty or staff members, and/or other members of the College Community;
- Result in the unauthorized use of, or unauthorized entry into, College property;
- Include the possession of misappropriated property;
- Involve participation in unauthorized or hazardous activities;
- Damage College property, or the property of faculty, staff and/or students;
- Involve theft from the College, College faculty members or staff, or fellow students;
- Misuse library or computer resources and the Internet;
- Involve physical confrontation or fighting either on Aurora College property, or when representing the College at an outside activity or function;
- Involve knowingly aiding or assisting other students or individuals in the commission of any misconduct;
- Involve behaviours perceived as breaching the Aurora College housing agreement.

RELATED POLICIES / PROCEDURES / DOCUMENTS

- C.05 Academic Standing Policy
- C.15 Academic Integrity Policy
- C.25 Assessment and Grading Policy
- D.05 Student Housing Intake Policy
- D.17 Student Conduct Policy

D.01.1 Student Appeals Procedure

APPLICABLE LEGISLATION

Aurora College Act RSNWT 1988, c A-7

DOCUMENT HISTORY

Date	Update
2025-06-26	Policy reinstated and revised Board of Governors Motion #BG04-June-2025 Implemented July 1, 2025