

When You Have Been Referred to the Academic Misconduct Diversionary Process

A Toolkit for Students

This is a resource for students who have been referred to the Diversionary Process under the [Academic Misconduct Regulations](#).

Remember!

If the Dean has determined that your academic misconduct case is appropriate for the [Diversionary Process](#) there are resources and supports* available to help you:

- understand the process,
- explore and weigh your options,
- know your rights and responsibilities, and
- manage any stress or provide you with emotional support.

The Diversionary Process: what you need to know

The Diversionary Process is voluntary. You can decide to engage in this process or not. It is the Faculty (usually the Dean or their delegate) that decides whether the Diversionary Process is appropriate in each particular case. But it can only resolve an academic misconduct matter if both you and the Faculty agree on the outcomes or terms that are set out in an Integrity Plan (see [sample template](#)).

The Diversionary Process is:

- only available if you have admitted to the academic misconduct allegations and you do not have a previous academic misconduct record;
- intended to reduce the time, energy, and anxiety that can be associated with the [formal discipline process](#) ; and
- intended to help increase your awareness and understanding of academic integrity and help you move forward toward your academic goals.

The Integrity Plan: what is it?

The Integrity Plan is the document that will contain a summary of the academic misconduct and the outcomes and terms agreed upon between you and the Faculty. It will also include any particular circumstances of your case that are relevant to fully understand the admitted misconduct.

The Integrity Plan is drafted by the Faculty with administrative support from the [Academic Integrity Hub](#). The Academic Integrity Hub facilitates the Diversionary Process, can help you with any questions you might have about the process and can refer you to any supports you might need.

It is important to know that:

- you have a choice about agreeing to engage in the Diversionary Process,
- you have a choice about agreeing to an Integrity Plan,
- you should take the time to carefully consider the terms of the Integrity Plan,
- you can reach out for advice and support* during this time. There are various UBC offices and student resources that can help you make a thoughtful decision.

[Possible terms](#) that could be included in an Integrity Plan:

- a. a reprimand;
- b. attendance at a workshop or program directed at academic integrity that may include developing the skills necessary to avoid further instance of academic misconduct;
- c. counseling if appropriate to the circumstances giving rise to the academic misconduct;
- d. an apology, written or otherwise, directed to those who were affected by the academic misconduct;
- e. volunteer activities related to enhancing their understanding of academic integrity;
- f. re-doing the work at issue or doing supplementary work failing which the student may receive a reduced grade (up to and including a zero) on the work if not already determined pursuant to section 4.7 of the Academic Misconduct Regulations;
- g. a reduced grade in the course;
- h. a notation of academic misconduct on the student's transcript;
- i. cessation of studies or withdrawal from other activities for a specified period of time; or
- j. reduction in course load for a specified period of time.

It is also important to understand the possible and particular impacts on you of accepting or rejecting the Integrity Plan.

For example:

- Academic progress
- Housing
- Funding, awards, scholarships etc.
- Visa or other immigration issues
- Time and energy demands

[What if I don't agree to the Integrity Plan?](#)

If you decide that you cannot accept or meet the terms set out, you can decline to agree and the Dean may give you a warning letter or refer your case to the formal discipline process and a committee known as the President's Advisory Committee on Student Discipline ([PACSD](#)).

If the Dean refers your case to the PACSD:

- There will be a hearing – virtual or in-person – where you will get a chance to tell your side of the story and present any information you think is important.

- The PACSD writes a report following the hearing and will make a recommendation to the President regarding the outcome.
- Once the President has made a decision, you will receive a [letter](#) from the President.
- You can appeal the President's decision to the [Senate Committee on Student Appeals on Academic Discipline](#) on certain grounds.
- You can visit www.ombudsoffice.ubc.ca for further information and resources on the PACSD and Senate Appeal processes.

* Resources & Supports

- [UBC Ombuds Office](#)
- [AMS Advocacy](#)
- [GSS Peer Support](#)
- [UBC Academic Integrity Hub](#)
- [UBC Counselling Services](#)
- [Academic Advising](#)
- [International Student Advising](#)

Other Links

- [Academic Misconduct Process - Overview](#)
- [Academic Misconduct - UBCV Calendar](#)