



OFFICE OF COMMUNITY STANDARDS

What is an Support Person in the Student Conduct Process?

As stated in the Code of Conduct, Support Persons may attend any part of the Resolution Process to provide emotional or other support to a Respondent, Complainant, or witnesses.

What is the Role of a Support Person?

Support Persons may not have an active role during resolution proceedings unless specifically permitted by the Code of Conduct. In most cases, the Support Person may not speak for or represent the student they are supporting. Due to the educational nature of the conduct process, students are expected to speak on their own behalf.

Who Can Serve as an Advisor?

A Support Person can be anyone of the students' choosing, so long as they are not also involved in the incident. Support Persons may include University faculty or staff, another student, a family member, or a friend. An attorney may serve as a Support Person but may not represent the student.

How Many Support Persons Can a Student Bring?

Students can bring one (1) Support Person with them.

Are There Any Meetings a Support Persons Cannot Attend?

No. A student may bring a Support Person to any part of the Resolution Process. However, students may not bring a Support Person to a fact-finding meeting if that person may also be subject to the fact-finding process for the same incident.

How Can a Support Person Best Support a Student?

Support Persons can support a student by:

- Meeting with the student to review information and determine the best way to approach the resolution process.
- Encouraging the student to be truthful regarding the incident and to provide all relevant information to the Resolution Facilitator managing the case.
- Assist the student in compiling information they wish to share.
- Providing emotional support during the resolution process.
- Assisting the student in developing questions for the student to ask during the resolution process.
- Not interrupting the process or speaking on behalf of a student.

What Happens if a Support Person Disrupts the Resolution Process?

If a Support Person disrupts the resolution process, they may be removed from the meeting by the Resolution Facilitator or Hearing Board Chair. If the Support Person is another student, the disruption may be a violation of the Code of Conduct.

Are Support Persons for Recognized Student Organizations (RSOs) different?

RSOs have the same rights and responsibilities in the Resolution Process as individual students. This includes the right to have a Support Person of their choice, which may be their organization advisor or another person.