

"STUDENT DISCIPLINARY MATTERS:

ARTICLE 54- (1) Disciplinary penalties and disciplinary offenses requiring disciplinary penalties:

a) Reprimand: It is the written notification to the student that he/she is reprimanded for his/her misconduct related to their student status. Actions that require reprimand are as follows:

- 1) Reporting incomplete or incorrect information requested by the authorities of the Higher Education Institution in order to mislead,
- 2) Disrupting the order of lectures, seminars, exams, practices, laboratories, workshops, scientific meetings, and conferences,
- 3) Distributing leaflets, hanging posters or banners inside the Higher Education Institution without permission,
- 4) Tearing, ripping, changing, defacing or soiling current announcements, programs and similar materials posted by the higher education institution or with the permission of the higher education institution.
- 5) Attempting cheating in exams,
- 6) Using cigarettes and other tobacco products and electronic cigarettes outside the areas designated by the university senate on the university campus.

b) Suspension from the higher education institution for one week to one month: The student is notified in writing that he/she is suspended from the higher education institution for one week to one month and that he/she cannot attend classes and exams during this period. Actions that require the penalty of suspension from the higher education institution for one week to one month are as follows:

- 1) Engaging in actions that impede the freedom of learning and teaching or disrupt the functioning and peace of higher education institutions,
- 2) Preventing the proper conduct of disciplinary investigations,
- 3) Giving a document from a higher education institution that entitles him/her to use it by giving it to someone else or using a document belonging to someone else,
- 4) Performing verbal or written actions that damage the honor and dignity of individuals in the higher education institution,
- 5) Engaging in verbal or written actions that damage the honor and dignity of the personnel of the Higher Education Institution, inside or outside the institution,
- 6) Drinking alcoholic beverages in a higher education institution,
- 7) Organizing meetings in closed or open spaces belonging to the higher education institution without permission from the authorities,
- 8) Threatening staff or students of the Higher Education Institution.

c) Suspension from the higher education institution for one semester: The student is notified in writing that he/she is suspended from the higher education institution for one semester and cannot benefit from student rights during this period. Actions that require the penalty of suspension from the higher education institution for one semester are as follows:

- 1) Engaging in actions that prevent the services of higher education institutions by occupation and similar acts in higher education institutions,
- 2) Actually assaulting the staff or students of the institution,
- 3) Theft in higher education institutions,
- 4) Destroying existing buildings, fixtures and similar materials within the Higher Education Institution or damaging the information system,
- 5) Cheating or having cheated in exams,
- 6) Plagiarizing in their seminars, theses and publications or having them partially or completely written by others, except for contributions that do not include academic evaluation such as survey application, data collection, etc., except for personal labor and academic accumulation,
- 7) Failure to comply with this decision despite being suspended from the higher education institution,
- 8) Committing one of the acts listed in the third and fourth paragraphs of Article 28/A of the Animal Protection Law No. 5199 dated 24/6/2004 in higher education institutions.

d) Suspension from the higher education institution for two semesters: The student is



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notified in writing that he/she is suspended from the higher education institution for two semesters and cannot benefit from student rights during this period. Actions that require suspension from the higher education institution for two semesters are as follows:

- 1) Obstructing the performance of duty by using force and violence against the officials of the Higher Education Institution,
- 2) Preventing students from benefiting from higher education services by using force and violence against them,
- 3) Using, carrying or possessing drugs or stimulants within higher education institutions,
- 4) Cheating in exams by threats, preventing the removal of cheating students from the exam hall, letting someone else take the exam instead of oneself or taking the exam instead of someone else,
- 5) Sexual harassment in higher education institutions,
- 6) Carrying and keeping firearms and their bullets, knives and other tools specially made for use in attack and defense, explosive substances in higher education institutions in violation of the Law No. 6136 on Firearms, Knives and Other Tools dated 10/7/1953,
- 7) Hacking into the information system of the higher education institution to gain an unfair advantage for himself/herself or for the benefit of someone else or to cause victimization of people,
- 8) Threatening those tasked with investigations,
- 9) Committing the act listed in the second paragraph of Article 28/A of Law No. 5199 in higher education institutions.

e) Expulsion from an institution of higher education: The student is notified in writing that he/she is dismissed from the higher education institution from which he/she was dismissed. Actions that require the penalty of expulsion from higher education institutions are as follows:

- 1) Establishing an organization for the purpose of committing a crime, managing such an organization or being a member of an organization established for this purpose, provided that it is finalized by a court decision,
- 2) Although not being a member of an organization established for the purpose of committing a crime, carrying out activities on behalf of the organization or aiding the organization,
- 3) Selling, giving away or trafficking in drugs or stimulants,
- 4) Using firearms, bullets, knives and other tools specially made for use in attack and defense, explosive substances in violation of Law No. 6136,
- 5) Violating the sexual inviolability of persons by performing sexual acts on their bodies.

(2) Repetition of a disciplinary offense:

- a) In the repetition of an act that has led to the imposition of a disciplinary penalty after the notification of the penalty and within the disciplinary penalty statute of limitations, a heavier penalty shall be applied.
- b) Expulsion from the higher education institution cannot be imposed on the grounds of repetition of the disciplinary offense.

(3) Disciplinary supervisors:

a) The dean of the relevant faculty, the director of the graduate school, conservatory, school, or vocational school is authorized to open an investigation for disciplinary offenses committed by students within a faculty, graduate school, conservatory, school, or vocational school.

b) Except for the provision of subparagraph (a) of this paragraph, the rector is authorized to open an investigation in disciplinary offenses committed in or outside higher education institutions, in common areas or places, disciplinary offenses committed by students collectively, and disciplinary offenses committed by students of more than one faculty, graduate school, conservatory, school or vocational school together.

c) The investigation is carried out by the investigator or investigators determined by the authorized disciplinary supervisor. If deemed necessary, the disciplinary supervisor may also request the appointment of an investigator from another higher education institution.

(4) Investigation period and lapse:

a) The disciplinary investigation shall be initiated immediately upon learning of the incident subject to discipline, and the investigation shall be concluded within thirty days at the latest. If the investigation cannot be completed within this period, the investigator may request additional time with justification. The disciplinary supervisor may grant additional time up to sixty days, not exceeding thirty days each time, and up to ninety days for offenses committed collectively, taking into account the justification presented and lapse.



b) For students who commit the acts of disciplinary offenses listed in this article, from the date on which the supervisors authorized to open an investigation learn about the commission of these acts;

1) In the case of warnings and suspensions from the higher education institution for a period of one week to one month, disciplinary authority expires within one month if no disciplinary investigation is initiated.

2) In the case of suspensions from the higher education institution for one or two semesters and dismissal from the higher education institution for one or two semesters, disciplinary authority expires within three months if no disciplinary investigation is initiated.

c) Within two years at the latest from the date of the acts requiring disciplinary punishment, if no disciplinary penalty is imposed, the authority to impose disciplinary penalty shall lapse. However, for the acts within the scope of subparagraph (1) of paragraph (d) of the first paragraph of this Article, the lapse starts from the day the judicial judgment becomes final.

d) In the event that the disciplinary penalty is annulled by a judicial decision, disciplinary penalty may be re-established within the remaining disciplinary penalty lapse as of the date of receipt of the decision by the administration, or within three months at the latest if the lapse has expired or less than three months remains until the expiration of the lapse.

(5) Right to defense:

a) The student against whom a disciplinary investigation is initiated is notified in writing at least seven days before the date of his/her defense. He/she may also be notified via the student information system or by e-mail or text message. In this letter, the student is asked to be present on the specified day, time, and place to make his/her defense.

b) The person who comes to make a defense can present his/her defense either orally or in writing. After the written defense is presented, the investigator may ask the student additional questions.

c) In the invitation to be sent to the student, it is stated that if he / she does not comply with the call without excuse or does not notify his / her excuse on time, he / she will be deemed to have given up his / her right to defense and the necessary decision will be made on the basis of the available evidence.

d) A suitable period of time is given to the student who submits a valid apology or fails to comply with the invitation due to force majeure. Students under arrest are informed that they can submit their defense in writing.

e) The investigation is conducted in a way that allows the student to defend himself/herself properly.

(6) Principles to be followed in disciplinary investigation:

a) Confidentiality of the investigation is essential.

b) The investigator may hear witnesses, make discoveries and consult experts. Investigation procedures shall be recorded in a report. The report shall be prepared in such a way as to indicate where and when the procedure was carried out, the nature of the procedure, who participated, the questions and answers if a statement was taken, and shall be signed by the investigator, the clerk, the statement owner and, if any, those present during the discovery. During the statement, the witness and, in the case of the appointment of an expert, the expert shall be made to take an oath. The identity, address and similar explanatory information of the witness shall be indicated.

c) The staff of higher education institutions shall provide all kinds of information, files and other documents requested by the investigators without any delay and provide any assistance requested.

d) The investigator carries out and completes the investigation limited to the persons and acts under investigation. The investigator who determines that other disciplinary offenses other than the action under investigation have been committed during the investigation or that other persons should be included in the investigation within the scope of the same offense, notifies the competent authority.

e) The fact that the student has left the higher education institution for whatever reason after committing the disciplinary offense does not constitute an obstacle to the opening and continuation of the investigation and taking the necessary decisions.

f) When a student commits an offense that requires disciplinary punishment while studying another higher education institution, the authority to investigate and impose disciplinary punishment



belongs to that higher education institution. The decision made about the student is notified to the higher education institution where the student is enrolled without delay to be implemented.

g) In crimes that require one or two semesters of suspension from the higher education institution and expulsion from the higher education institution, upon the proposal of the supervisor authorized to open an investigation or ex officio, with the decision of the rector, a measure may be applied to prevent the student from entering the buildings of the higher education institution for a period not exceeding thirty days.

h) A report is issued when the investigation is concluded. The report summarizes the approval of the investigation, the date of the start of the investigation, the identity of the investigated and alleged crime, the stages of the investigation, the evidence and the defense received. It is discussed whether the alleged offense is fixed or not, and if it is found to be fixed, the appropriate disciplinary action is proposed. The original or copies of the documents related to the investigation are attached to the report with a series of notes. The investigation report shall be submitted to the authority that opened the investigation together with the file.

i) The initiation of criminal proceedings against the student for the same incident does not delay the disciplinary investigation. The fact that criminal proceedings have been initiated against the student, conviction or not does not constitute an obstacle to the imposition of disciplinary punishment.

(7) Authority to impose disciplinary sanctions:

a) Reprimand and suspension from higher education institutions for one week to one month are given by the dean of the relevant faculty, graduate school, conservatory, school, or vocational school director.

b) The rector has the authority to impose reprimand and suspension from higher education institutions for up to one month for disciplinary offenses committed in common places.

c) The penalties of suspension from the higher education institution for one or two semesters and expulsion from the higher education institution are imposed by the authorized disciplinary board.

d) In investigations conducted by faculties, graduate schools, conservatories, schools, or vocational schools, the administrative boards of these units, and in investigations conducted by the rectorate, the university administrative board fulfills the duty of the disciplinary board.

(8) Working procedure of disciplinary committees:

a) The Disciplinary Board convenes at the place, day, and time to be determined upon the call of the chairperson.

b) Preparation of the meeting agenda, announcement of the meeting agenda to the relevant persons and regular execution of the work of the Board shall be ensured by the chairperson

c) The meeting quorum of the administrative boards as the Disciplinary Board is the absolute majority of the total number of members of the board.

d) The duty of rapporteur in the disciplinary boards shall be carried out by the member assigned by the chairperson. The rapporteur member shall complete the examination of the file to be referred within five days at the latest.

e) The Board first hears the rapporteur's explanations. The Board may also hear the investigators if deemed necessary. At the end of the discussions, a vote is taken and the decision is announced by the chairperson.

(9) Voting, decisions, and decision times:

a) The authorities authorized to impose disciplinary penalties may return the file for the purpose of correcting the deficiencies in the investigation if it is determined that there are deficiencies in the investigation, and may impose, mitigate, or reject the disciplinary penalty proposed by the investigator.

b) Decisions of the disciplinary boards are taken with the absolute majority of the participants in the meeting. In case of equality of votes, the majority of the votes cast by the chairperson shall be deemed to have been achieved.

c) If the investigator is a member of the disciplinary board, he/she cannot attend the meetings of the file he/she is investigating and cannot vote.

d) The supervisors authorized to impose disciplinary penalties must decide on the penalties of reprimand, suspension from the higher education institution for one week to one month within ten days at the latest from the day the investigation is completed. In cases requiring other disciplinary penalties the file is immediately referred to the disciplinary board. The disciplinary board decides within ten days at the latest from the date of receipt of the file.



e) The supervisors and disciplinary boards authorized to impose disciplinary penalties may impose a lower penalty by taking into account the severity of the acts constituting the disciplinary offense, whether the student under investigation has previously received a disciplinary penalty, whether he/she regrets the act he/she has committed, his/her past behavior, work and achievements in the higher education institution. The authority authorized to impose the lower penalty shall impose the lower penalty.

(10) Notification of the outcome of the disciplinary investigation, remedies, and application of penalties:

a) The result of the disciplinary investigation is notified to the student under disciplinary investigation and the victim, if any.

b) The disciplinary penalty imposed at the end of the disciplinary investigation shall be notified to the institution granting scholarship or loan to the student and the higher education institution by the supervisor authorized to open an investigation, in addition to the above-mentioned.

c) Disciplinary penalties shall be applied as of the date they are imposed, unless the date from which they are to be applied is specified in the decisions of the supervisor or board authorized to impose disciplinary penalties.

d) Disciplinary penalties imposed by disciplinary supervisors and boards may be appealed to the university administrative board within fifteen days. Within the scope of the file, the person who is directly victimized by the act constituting the disciplinary offense can also appeal the decision in the same procedure. Penalties are recorded in the student's file.

e) In case of objection, the university administrative board accepts or rejects the objection within fifteen days. If the objection is accepted, the authorized disciplinary supervisor or board decides within thirty days, taking into account the grounds for acceptance.

f) Disciplinary penalties imposed on students may be appealed to the administrative judiciary without using the right of appeal.

(11) The provisions of the Notification Law dated 11/2/1959 and numbered 7201 shall apply to the notification to be made to the student, except in specially regulated cases. However, the notification sent to the address registered in the higher education institution to the student who does not notify the higher education institution to which he / she is a member or who notifies it incorrectly or incompletely, although he / she changes the address he / she notified while enrolling in the higher education institution, is deemed to be a proper notification.

(12) Files pertaining to disciplinary investigations shall be delivered and received together with the index sheet. Signatures of the deliverer and the receiver shall be found at the bottom of the index."

