

Rush Medical College: Student Honor Code and Academic Honesty

Rush Medical College students affirm their commitment to the Rush Medical College Honor code defined as “*adhering to academic and personal integrity, sound moral character, and respect for the rights and dignity of others*”. This code is consistent with our aspirations as future physicians to uphold values of responsible and professional behavior and honesty in dealing with academics, patients and colleagues.

This Honor Code sets the standards for expected behavior and professionalism at Rush Medical College. Commitment to these standards is expected of all matriculating students, in every capacity as a Rush Medical College student. This commitment is a shared responsibility of faculty, staff, and students in the Rush University community to uphold the highest standards of behavior.

The Honor Code Council (HCC) will consist of 8 students (2 students from each class). Elected by January of their M1 year, they will serve 3 ½ years, as long as they remain in good academic standing. The Honor Code Council will elect one student chair by majority vote in September of each year. The Chair or Assistant Chair of COSEP and a member of OMSP (the faculty liaison) will serve as non-voting faculty mentors for the Honor Code Council.

In recognition of the responsibility to uphold these standards, a student, faculty member, or staff who becomes aware of or suspects a violation of the Honor Code should follow the guidelines below:

Either approach the individual who appears to have violated the Honor Code directly in order to eliminate misunderstanding, report the apparent violation to any member of the Honor Code Council, or provide a written summary to HCC via our online reporting tool (rushu.rush.edu/medcol/honorcode). Although all HCC processes are confidential, anonymous reports of Honor Code violations are not accepted.

1. The member of the HCC receiving or assigned the report will contact the reporting and the reported students to gather additional information. They will then contact the faculty liaison to HCC and one other student member to discuss the details of the report and determine whether a hearing by the full HCC is indicated.
2. A full hearing by the HCC will include interviews with the original reporter, any corroborating witnesses, the reported student, witnesses of their choosing and relevant members of the OMSP or teaching faculty as well as review of relevant written materials. The identity of the reporting student will be disclosed to the reported student only when the HCC believes such a revelation will significantly affect the reported student’s understanding of the alleged incident.
3. The Honor Code Council will vote on whether available evidence and testimony substantiates a violation of the Honor Code.
4. If a majority vote supports a finding of an Honor Code violation, the Honor Code Council will prepare a written statement on the incident(s) and a proposed resolution, which will then be submitted to the COSEP. A copy of this written statement will also be provided to the reported student.
5. All HCC statements regarding violations of the Honor Code will include a specific recommendation that the involved student be disqualified from consideration for induction into Alpha Omega Alpha and the Gold Humanism Society.
6. The COSEP will verify whether appropriate procedures were followed and determine the appropriate action based on the statement submitted.

Please also see the “University Statement on Academic Honesty”

<http://inside.rush.edu/policies/Lists/Master%20Policy/DispForm.aspx?ID=3717&Source=http%3A%2F%2Finside%2Erush%2Eedu%2FPolicies%2FPages%2Fdefault%2Easpx&ContentTypeld=0x01006120BC59C77D074E8AC97A185E25195700FE83CC7F43C1744D974E005DEA966CAB>