



*2013 – 2014*  
*STUDENT HANDBOOK*  
*OF RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES*

---



# JOHNSON STATE COLLEGE COMMUNITY VALUES

*The SUCCESS of a community is based on both a shared commitment to the basic core values of the community and the individual member's sense of responsibility.*

**As a community centered on the growth & learning of its members, Johnson State College commits to...**

- *An educationally **purposeful** community where faculty and students share academic goals and work together to strengthen teaching and learning on campus*
- *An **open** community where freedom of expression is uncompromisingly protected and where civility is positively affirmed*
- *A **just** community where the sacredness of the person is honored and diversity is pursued*
- *A **disciplined** community where individuals accept their obligations to the group*
- *A **caring** community where the well-being of each members is sensitively supported and service to others is encouraged*
- *A **celebrative** community where the heritage of the institution is remembered and rituals affirming tradition are widely shared*

**We are grateful to each member of this community for honoring these values and acting accordingly.**



# Table of Contents

---

- **Section I STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES ..... 4**

Speech/Expression/Press, Nondiscrimination, Assembly and Protest, Religion and Association, Privacy, Search and Seizure, Academic Pursuits, Quality Environment, Sharing Concerns, Governance and Participation, Due Process, Confidentiality, Withholding Directory Information, Releasing information from a student’s educational record- FERPA, Notification of Rights under FERPA, Fielding Third-party Requests, Communication/Notification, Emergency Notifications to the JSC Community, How to sign up for campus alerts, Campus Crime Report, Missing Student Protocol, Parental/Guardian Notification, Student Grievances

- **Section II STUDENT LIFE POLICIES AND GUIDELINES ..... 9**

- A) Residential Student Policies**

- JSC Housing Policy, Residential Students/Credits per semester, Students exempt from the housing policy, Exemption from the JSC Housing Policy, Housing Contracts, Room Deposits, Exemption from the College meal plan, Safety Guidelines for the Residence Halls, Quiet/Courtesy Hours, Guests, Entering Student Rooms, Safety Inspections, Pets, Room Changes, Housing During Scheduled College Breaks, End of the Year Procedures, Residence Hall Replacement Costs, Fire Safety Policy, Fire Alarm Evacuation Procedures, Designate Place of Refuge, Building Entry and Reentry, Fire Drills

- B) General Student Policies**

- Medical Exit, Extended Class Absence, Smoking, Outdoor Fires, Parking, Winter months, Student IDs and Keys, Skateboarding, Rollerblading, Bicycling, Guidelines for Participation in Athletics and Co-Curricular Activities, Computing and Telecommunications Technology Conditions of Use Policy, Hazing Policy, Harassment, Sexual Misconduct, Alcohol/Drug Policy, Public Intoxication, Notice of Federal Student Financial Aid Penalties for Drug Law Violations

- **Section III CODE OF CONDUCT ..... 22**

- Disciplinary Procedures, Preponderance of the Evidence Standard, Prohibited Conduct, Off-campus Disturbances, Student Host Responsibilities, Disciplinary Procedures, Range of Sanctions

- **Section IV STUDENT APPEALS..... 27**

- Board or Administrative Hearing Appeals, Housing Policy and Meal Plan Exemptions, Parking or Traffic Appeals, Administrative Sanction Appeals, Interim Suspension Appeals

Please note- A complete listing of Johnson State College’s Policies can be found online at:  
[http://www.jsc.edu/Academics/Documents/JSC\\_Policy\\_Final-07-29-10.pdf](http://www.jsc.edu/Academics/Documents/JSC_Policy_Final-07-29-10.pdf)

Vermont State College Policies can be found online at:

<http://www.vsc.edu/about-vsc/Pages/Policies-and-Procedures.aspx>

# *Student Rights & Responsibilities*

---

*Johnson State College is an academic community in which all people--students, faculty, administrators, and staff--share responsibility for the community's growth and continued welfare. As members of this community, one can reasonably expect that the following rights will be respected by all members of the College community.*

*Students, faculty, administrators, and staff are expected to be familiar with the rights and responsibilities, as well as the Code of Conduct.*

## Speech/Expression/Press

---

Includes email and computer use. Students have the right to express themselves freely on any subject provided they do so in a way that does not violate the policies in this handbook and the policies and procedures of JSC. Students, in turn, have the responsibility to respect the rights of all other members of the College.

## Nondiscrimination

---

Students have the right to not be discriminated against by any agent or organization of JSC by reason of age, creed, ethnic or national origin, gender, disability, marital status, political or social affiliation, race, religion, or sexual orientation. In their individual roles, and as members of student organizations, students have the responsibility not to discriminate against others.

## Assembly and Protest

---

Students have the right to assemble in an orderly manner and engage in peaceful protest or demonstration that does not disrupt the functions of the College, threaten the health or safety of any person, or violate the policies in this handbook and the policies and procedures of JSC.

## Religion and Association

---

Students have the right to exercise their religious convictions and to associate with religious, political, or other organizations of their choice provided they do so in a way that respects the rights of other members of the community and complies with this handbook and the policies and procedures of JSC. Students have the responsibility to respect the rights of other members of the College community to free exercise of their religious convictions and to the free association with organizations of their choice.

## Privacy, Search, and Seizure

---

Students have the right of privacy, and to be free from unreasonable searches or unlawful arrest on college property and within their college residences. However, College property is not a safe haven for unlawful activity. Students have the responsibility to adhere to the JSC Code of Conduct and to respect the privacy of other members of the college community in their persons and in their places of residence. More information on conditions under which college employees may enter student rooms can be found in Section II.

## Academic Pursuits

---

Students have the right to accurate, clearly stated, information relating to their academic standing, graduation requirements, and individual course objectives and requirements. Students can expect instruction from designated instructors at appointed class times and reasonable access to those instructors. Students have the responsibility to attend class and know their appropriate academic requirements. Residential students who fail to attend classes at a level necessary for satisfactory academic progress or who are not in compliance with academic probation stipulations may lose their housing privileges.



## Quality Environment

---

Students have the right to expect a reasonably safe environment supportive of the College mission and their own educational goals. Students have the responsibility to protect and maintain the environment and protect themselves from all hazards to the extent that reasonable behavior and precaution can avoid risk.

## Sharing Concerns

---

Students have the right to assume the community cares about them. They also have the responsibility to share any concerns they might have regarding the health and well-being of others. JSC has the following web location to share any concerning issues at: <http://www.jsc.edu/StudentLife/StudentConcernsReport.aspx> or by email: [JSCStudentConcerns@jsc.edu](mailto:JSCStudentConcerns@jsc.edu)

## Governance and Participation

---

Students have the right to establish governmental bodies and to participate in college governance in accordance with the rules and regulations of the College and the Vermont State College system. Students who accept representative roles in the governance of the College have the obligation to participate responsibly.

## Due Process

---

Students have the right to due process before formal disciplinary sanctions are imposed by the College for violation of the policies in this handbook or the policies and procedures of JSC. Students have the right to written notice and the opportunity for a hearing before any change in status is incurred for disciplinary reasons, unless a significant risk to health or safety exists. More information on due process is in this handbook, in Section III.

## Confidentiality

---

Students have a right to access and control access to their educational records as provided in the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, also known as the Buckley Amendment. These include the right to review and challenge the content of educational records, to limit the disclosure of personal and academic information to third parties, and to limit the disclosure of all or some information defined as directory information. This confidentiality statement also holds true for international students, except where specified by legislation, rules, and regulations governing the particular visa status.

## Withholding Directory Information

---

The following information is considered by the Vermont State Colleges to be “Directory Information”:

- Name
- Home and college address
- Telephone listing
- E-mail address
- Date of birth
- Major
- Enrollment Status (full or part time)
- Enrollment level (undergraduate or graduate)
- Dates of attendance
- Degrees and awards received
- Weight and height of members of athletic teams
- Photographs
- Most recent and previous educational institutions attended
- Participation in officially recognized activities and sport

## Releasing information from a student's educational record – FERPA

---

### Notification of Rights under FERPA

---

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords students certain rights with respect to their education records. They are:

The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days from the day the College receives a request for access. Students should submit to the registrar, dean, head of the academic department, or other appropriate official, written requests that identify the record(s) they wish to inspect. The official will arrange for access and notify the student of the time and place where the records may be inspected. If the records are not maintained by the College official to whom the request was submitted, that official shall advise the student of the correct official to whom the request should be addressed.

The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the student believes are inaccurate or misleading. Students may ask the College to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate or misleading. They should write the College official responsible for the record, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate or misleading. If the College decides not to amend the record as requested by the student, the College will notify the student of the decision and advise the student of his or her right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the student when notified of the right to a hearing.

The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent. One exception which permits disclosure without consent is disclosure to college officials with legitimate educational interests. An official is a person employed by the College in an administrative, supervisory, academic or research, or support staff position; a person or company with whom the College has contracted (such as an attorney, auditor, or collection agent); a person serving on the Board of Trustees; or a student serving on an official disciplinary or grievance board, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.

The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the College to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA is:

Family Policy Compliance Office  
U.S. Department of Education  
600 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20202-4605

### Fielding Third-party Requests

---

As of October 1, 2010, individuals seeking non-directory\* information from a VSC student's educational record must be authorized by the student and must verify their identity (demonstrating that they are who they say they are) by providing a student-created access code\*\*.

\*The VSC defines Directory information as the following: "Directory information" means information which would not generally be considered harmful to the student or an invasion of privacy, if disclosed. For the purposes of this policy, directory information includes the following: name, home and college address, telephone listing, email address, date of birth, major, enrollment status (full-time or part-time), enrollment level (undergraduate or graduate), dates of attendance, degrees and awards received, weight and height of athletic team members, photographs, most recent and previous educational institutions attended, and participation in officially recognized activities and sports.

\*\* A student may also submit a written authorization for a one-time release of information. A one-time release does not require an access code. Students frequently submit one-time release authorizations when requesting that official transcripts, enrollment verifications, performance verifications, and business office account statements be sent to employers, agencies, schools, etc. The Vermont State Colleges must have written permission from you prior to releasing information from your educational record other than information defined as Directory Information\* under the VSC FERPA policy. Here is JSC's FERPA Policy: <http://www.jsc.edu/OfficesAndServices/RegistrarsOffice/Policies/FERPA.aspx>

You will find the FERPA Authorization Form on the Portal. Locate Web Services, Student Academic Profile. Complete the form as listed.

By granting access to individuals listed, you are giving permission to release information about your financial account, academic performance, course enrollment, and financial aid. Please be sure that the individuals you authorize know your Student ID, **and the access code** you create, when requesting information. You may update the form at any time.

**If you choose to authorize others to access your educational record, complete the form and create an Access Code.** The access code is to be used by the person(s) you authorize when requesting access to your educational record. This code must be at least five characters long. It is your responsibility to ensure the person(s) know this access code. You may grant or remove authorization at any time.

In addition to this general release form, you also have the option of completing a 'one-time' Release of Information Form to request specific information be released to a person or organization (i.e. grade report, or enrollment verification.) The Release of Information Form is available at the Registrar's Office. If you wish to have transcripts sent, a separate Transcript Request Form must be completed and submitted to the Registrar's Office

\*Students wishing to opt out of the release of Directory Information should contact the Registrar's Office.

## Communication/Notification

---

Students have the right to receive pertinent information from the College in a timely manner. Students have the responsibility to check their assigned JSC email on a regular basis, as this is the primary means used for sending official College communications. Residential students are also expected to check their campus mailbox on a regular basis.

## Emergency Notifications to the JSC Community

---

From time to time, the Department of Public Safety at Johnson State College receives word of potential emergency situations or dangerous conditions from various offices/departments or from off campus sources. If it is confirmed that there is an emergency or dangerous situation that poses an immediate threat to the health or safety of some or all members of the College Community, a campus-wide warning will be issued. Public Safety will collaborate with appropriate offices to determine the content of the message and will use some or all of the systems described below to communicate the threat to the Community or to the appropriate segment of the community, if the threat is limited to a particular building or segment of the population. The College will, without delay and taking into account the safety of the community, determine the content of the notification and initiate the notification system, unless issuing a notification will, in the judgment of the first responders (including, but not limited to: Public Safety, local Law enforcement agencies, local fire and emergency medical services), compromise the efforts to assist an individual or to contain, respond to, or otherwise mitigate the emergency.

In the event of a serious incident which poses an immediate threat, as determined by Public Safety or a local law enforcement agency, to members of the community, the college has various systems in place for communicating information quickly to those individuals. Some or all of these methods of communication may be activated in the event of an immediate threat to the campus community. These methods of communication include:

- Email notification to the individuals JSC email address of record
- Telephone voicemail messages to telephone number(s) of record
- Cell phone text messages to Campus Alert subscribers\*
- Online announcements on the JSC web portal (MyJSC.jsc.edu)
- Online announcements on the public JSC website ([www.jsc.edu](http://www.jsc.edu))

## How to sign up for campus alerts

---

\*The JSC Campus Alert system is available free of charge to JSC students, staff and faculty. We strongly encourage everyone to sign up for this service at MyJSC.jsc.edu (click on the appropriate "Resources" tab on the right, then go to College Services/Public Safety/Campus Alerts). Alternatively, you may go to this link to register:

<http://www.jsc.edu/OfficesAndServices/PublicSafety/CampusAlerts/default.aspx>



## Campus Crime Report

---

The college publishes an annual campus safety and crime report. This report includes statistics for the previous three years concerning certain crimes that occurred on campus; in certain off-campus buildings or property owned or controlled by Johnson State College; and on public property within, or immediately adjacent to and accessible from, the campus. This report also includes college policies concerning campus security. You can obtain a copy of this report by contacting Mike Palagonia, Director of Public Safety, or you may view the report via the link below.

<http://www.jsc.edu/OfficesAndServices/PublicSafety/PDFs/PSAR.pdf>

## Missing Student Protocol

---

In compliance with the Missing Student policy in the U.S. Department of Education's Handbook for Campus Safety and Security Reporting, all residential students are asked to identify a contact person or persons whom the institution shall notify within 24 hours of the determination that the student is missing.

This information is included on the Emergency Check-in Card which each residential student completes at the beginning of the academic year. The missing student contact person can be anyone, including the same person identified as the student's emergency contact person.

The missing student contact person's name is confidential and will be accessible only to authorized campus officials, and may not be disclosed, except to law enforcement personnel in furtherance of a missing person investigation.

### How to report a suspected missing student:

Should any JSC Community member be aware or suspect that a student is missing, notification to the Public Safety Office should occur immediately. This can be done by calling 802.635.1205 or by submitting a Public Safety Report using the following link:

<Http://www.jsc.edu/OfficesAndServices/PublicSafety/IncidentReport.aspx>

The Public Safety office will initiate the College's Missing Student Protocol.

## Parental/Guardian Notification

---

The Family Education Rights and Privacy Act allows notification of parents and/or legal guardians in the case of violations of the College's drug/alcohol policy without student permission or consent. It will be standard practice in such cases to inform a parent or guardian of violations. Students will be notified when parental notification is made (see Consequences for Violation of Alcohol/Drug Policy, in section II of this handbook).

Notification to parent or legal guardian will also be made in situations of immediate or imminent risk to a student's health or safety.

## Student Grievances

---

All students have the right to grievance or appeal in matters related to their attendance at Johnson State College. Additional information is provided in Section IV of this handbook.

Student life matters are the responsibility of the office of the Dean of Students. Appeals or grievances of decisions related to personal conduct, campus residency requirements, or other student life matters may be directed to the attention of the Dean of Students. The Dean, or someone designated by the Dean, will hear appeals or grievances and respond promptly in writing. Additional information is provided in Section IV of this handbook.

Academic matters are the responsibility of the office of the Academic Dean. Appeals or grievances of decisions related to academic performance, probation, and the like are ultimately heard by the Academic Dean or his/her designee. Specific procedures apply, however, for appeal of most academic matters. See the College Catalogue (found on the JSC website) for more information.

Financial matters are the responsibility of the office of the Dean of Administration. Appeals or grievances related to student financial matters, such as billing, refunds, and the like should be directed to that office.

Students should note carefully the guidelines and deadlines for appeal or grievance published in the Student Handbook or in any notices that they receive. Appeals or grievances not filed in accordance with these guidelines and deadlines may not be heard.

## Section II

---

# *Student Life Policies and Guidelines*

---

## A) Residential Student Policies

---

### JSC Housing Policy

---

In general, it is a condition of enrollment at JSC, to the extent that campus housing is available, that students are required to live on campus for their first two academic years. Students whose permanent living residence is within a 30 mile commuting distance are exempt from the policy if they choose to commute daily from the home of their parent or legal guardian (parental/guardian confirmation is required and forms are available on-line via the JSC website).

### Residential Students/Credits per semester

---

Students residing on campus are required to be registered for nine (9) or more academic credits per semester. Should any residential student drop below nine credits, and/or fail to attend classes at a level necessary for satisfactory academic progress, housing status will be reviewed and may be revoked.

### Students exempt from the housing policy:

---

- Are turning 21 years of age on or before the start date of the spring semester
- Have been approved to commute from the home of a parent or legal guardian prior to the beginning of the semester or academic year
- Are married or a single parent with custody of child(ren) or are partners in a civil union
- Are completing an internship, teaching practicum, or assistantship out of the Johnson area
- Have lived on a college campus for four (4) semesters
- Have 60 or more completed credits
- Are a returning student who has met the on-campus housing policy requirement (if students did submit a housing contract prior to leaving for the summer, they may break that contract with no penalty if done so before June 1st)
- Are registered for less than nine (9) Vermont State College credits per semester

### Exemption from the JSC Housing Policy

---

Specific procedures must be followed to obtain exemption from the housing policy. Request for Exemption forms, Medical and Parental Statement forms must be used and are available on-line. All requests must be received in the Residence Life Office by April 1 for students requesting exemption for the fall semester and December 1 for the spring semester. New students entering JSC are required to complete and submit the exemption forms by July 1 for the fall semester and December 1 for the spring semester. Grounds for exemption are as follows:

- Physical reasons: with medical certification reviewed and supported by the Johnson State College Health Center
- Psychological reasons: with certification from a mental health professional-to be reviewed and supported by a JSC Counselor
- Academic disability: with appropriate certification reviewed and supported by a Johnson State College Learning Specialist
- Economic reasons: reviewed and supported by the Financial Aid and Business Offices
- Extraordinary circumstances: specific information will be required

A Housing Review Committee will review requests. The student will receive a prompt reply via JSC email. Decisions of the Housing Review Committee are final and are in accordance with this policy. Students who receive approval to be released from their housing contract are subject to forfeiting their \$100 room deposit in addition to a contract breakage fee of \$100.

## Housing Contracts

---

Students who have submitted a Housing Contract are responsible for fulfilling their obligation under the contract for the full academic year.

## Room Deposits

---

All students living on campus are required to pay a \$100 room deposit. For new students, this deposit is part of the required Admissions Deposit. For returning students, this deposit must be paid prior to participating in Room Selection for the upcoming academic year (month of April). Students will not be assigned their room of choice in the residence halls until the room deposit is received by the Business Office.

## Exemption from the College Meal Plan

---

Students who live on campus are expected to board on campus. To request a meal plan exemption, the student must submit a meal plan exemption form with documentation from a physician diagnosing a medical condition and a specific diet. The College Health Center Director and the Food Service Director will review the meal plan exemption and medical information. If it is determined that the College Food Service cannot furnish meals that will conform to the medical needs, an exemption will be approved. Exemptions are made for the current academic year only. Meal plan exemption forms are available on-line. Meal plan refunds are based on the last day the meal plan is used. Students must annually reapply for a meal plan exemption.

## Safety Guidelines for the Residence Halls

---

### Fire Safety Guidelines –

---

Actions or items, including but not limited to the following, violate the fire safety code:

- Smoking in the residence halls
- Open flame or fire (i.e. candles or incense)
- Decorative lights- unless they are LED
- Live trees or wreaths
- Additional furniture
- Anything near, covering, or attached to the smoke detector or heat sensor
- Hanging items from the ceiling
- Toaster ovens, hot plates, electric frying pans, toasters, crock pots
- Indoor or outdoor grills
- Space heater
- Blocking doorways or exits
- Anything blocking, covering or using the room heater as a shelf
- Storage of bikes or any other items in residence hall corridors, stairwells, entryways or bathrooms

Per Labor and Industry Standards, an unobstructed 3-foot pathway into your room must be maintained at all times. In addition, 70% of walls must be free of wall decorations.

## Maintenance Guidelines –

---

Actions or items, including but not limited to the following, violate the JSC Maintenance code:

- Fans installed in or affixed to windows
- Lofts
- Steel tip darts
- Painting the room
- Nailing or drilling holes into the walls
- Excessive use of duct tape
- Hazardous chemicals

## General Community Safety Guidelines –

---

Actions that are a risk to the safety of the residence hall community, including but not limited to:

Sports of any kind cannot be played in the residence halls

Skateboards, rollerblades, scooters and bicycles cannot be used in the residence halls

Throwing or dropping items from windows, balconies or down the stairwells

Walking on roofs or window ledges.

The following is a list of acceptable appliances in the Residence Halls:

TV/VCR/DVD machines

electric blankets

coffee pots (auto shut-off)

stereos

\*micro fridge units

electric shavers

clocks

electric irons (auto shut-off)

floor lamps/lights (non-halogen)

hair dryers

\*microwave ovens (less than 1,000 watts)

computers

\*small refrigerators (no more than 90 lbs.)

Note: All electrical items need U.L. labels.

\*Only one refrigerator and one microwave are allowed per room.

If you have a question about a specific item that is not listed above, please ask your Resident Assistant (RA) or Hall Advisor (HA).

## Quiet / Courtesy Hours

---

Campus-wide quiet hours are established and observed in all of the residence halls and college apartments. During quiet hours, noise from your room should not be at a level that disturbs others. In the College Apartments, noise should not be heard by a neighboring apartment. Courtesy hours are expected 24 hours per day, meaning respect for other residents' schedules should be considered at all times.

Quiet hours are as follows:

Sunday through Thursday - 11 p.m. - 8:30 a.m.

Friday and Saturday - 1 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.

Campus-wide quiet hours are extended during the week of final exams.

## Guests

---

Guests are defined as anyone visiting a residential student past midnight. It is a privilege for students to have overnight guests in their rooms. All guests must register with a Residence Life staff member and abide by Johnson State College policies and Code of Conduct. A Guest Registration Form with photo identification should be completed with a member of Residence Life. Guests who do not register may be required to leave immediately.

Guests staying overnight should also include vehicle information when registering. Overnight guests can park only in residential student parking lots. Alcohol consumption by guests of the legal drinking age is not allowed in underage student rooms. Resident guests may not occupy any room other than the room assigned to the student hosting the guests.

Each resident must abide by the following:

- All overnight guests should first be approved by a student's roommate.
- Overnight guests must register with a member of the Residence Life staff by midnight.
- Approved guests may stay in a student's room for a maximum of two nights in a seven-day period.
- Residents are limited to two guests per evening.
- Student hosts are responsible for the conduct of guests and will be held accountable for guest conduct, to include liability for any damages or misconduct.

## Entering Students Rooms

---

Johnson State College recognizes that students are entitled to privacy in their individual residence hall rooms. Students should be aware that there are rare occasions when college representatives may, without specific consent or prior notice, enter rooms to check for conditions or articles causing concern, even in closed spaces. (i.e. wardrobes, closets, desks or drawers). When entry into a student's living area is required, reasonable attempts will be made to advise the student in advance.

Room entry may occur for the purposes of responding to housekeeping or maintenance requests; a concern for health, welfare, or safety of any room occupant or the room itself; or when there is reasonable basis to believe that there may be a violation of college policies, the Code of Conduct, or State or Federal laws. The College reserves the right to remove any prohibited or illegal items if found upon entering a student's room. The College reserves the right to request residents to open closed spaces.

## Safety Inspections

---

The college will conduct periodic safety inspections of all residential rooms and college apartments, most often occurring during college breaks. Advance notice will be given. The purpose of these inspections is to maintain a safe living environment for all on-campus students. Safety violations and any applicable sanctions will be levied on a case-by-case basis. If during the course of safety inspections, other Code of Conduct violations are discovered, students responsible will be sanctioned.

## Room Changes

---

Room changes are generally not made until after the second week of each semester. This allows the Residence Life Department to determine who has arrived and which rooms might be available. Students must make final room change requests and arrangements with the Residence Life Department two weeks prior to the end of each semester. Unauthorized room changes will result in administrative action deemed appropriate by the Residence Life Department. There will be no room rate adjustments after the mid-way point in the semester.

## Housing During Scheduled College Breaks

---

The residence halls will remain open for scheduled breaks of less than one-week duration. For scheduled college breaks of one full week or longer, the residence halls close at 10:00am on Saturday and re-open at 10:00am the following Sunday. Please refer to the academic calendar for dates and times of these closings. Requests to remain on campus during breaks will be considered. Exemptions are generally made for the following circumstances:

- Student Internship - supported/approved by the Academic Deans Office and the company in which the student is interning.
- NSE/International Students - students who are participating in the NSE program or students who live overseas.
- College Sponsored Events - students who are participating in a scheduled college event during break week. This needs to be confirmed, in writing, by the program director, advisor, class professor, etc., one full week prior to the beginning of the College break.
- Extenuating Circumstances – decisions in this category will be made on a case-by-case basis.

All requests must be received, by email, to [JSCresidenceLife@jsc.edu](mailto:JSCresidenceLife@jsc.edu) on or before the stated deadline. Students who have a current disciplinary file in the Dean of Students Office may not be offered housing during the scheduled college breaks.

### Guidelines for students who remain on campus during breaks:

All Johnson State College policies apply to all residents remaining on campus during college breaks. In addition, guests are not allowed. Non-compliance with these expectations may result in immediate removal from campus housing for the remainder of the break.

**Please note:** The College's food service will be limited during college breaks – meal plans are not used during break week; however, students may use their declining balance points.

### End of the Year Procedures

Students must vacate their residential room 24-hours after their last exam. If their last exam is scheduled on the last day of exams, students are required to vacate by 5:00 P.M. that day. Exceptions are made only for seniors and students participating in graduation ceremonies. These students may stay until 2:00 P.M. on graduation day.

If an exception is needed it is the students responsibility to request this in writing to the Residence Life Office within stated deadlines.

Students who have officially checked-out of the residence halls are not allowed back into the residence halls and may not be a guest of another student. Residence Hall and room access may be terminated if a student fails to vacate the residence halls as required.

**Please Note:** College apartments are open the entire academic year. College apartment residents must make an appointment to checkout with the Business Office.

### Residence Halls Replacement Costs

Should damage occur during a student's length of stay in the residence halls or apartments, student(s) will be held accountable for replacement or repair of such equipment or furnishings.

Individual room damage will be split between roommates if no responsibility is taken for the damage. Damage or vandalism to floors, suites, or common living areas will be shared among students living in those areas. All damage must be reported promptly to the Residence Life or Public Safety Office.

A list of applicable costs for replacement or repair can be found on the backside of the Room Condition Report Form.

Students who do not formally check out of their residence hall lose the right to appeal any room damage or housekeeping fees.

### Fire Safety Policy

Johnson State College is committed to providing a safe and secure working and educational environment through planning, employee and student education, and training in order to:

- Provide for a timely and informed emergency response in the event of a fire emergency
- Reduce or eliminate all controllable risks associated with fire

Johnson State College maintains a campus-wide fire alarm system, and fire alarms are located in each building in strategic locations. Smoke and heat detectors are located in each residence hall room and in common areas in all buildings; smoke detectors are also installed in the College Apartments in conformance with building codes. Emergency evacuation routes and locations of fire extinguishers are posted on all residential room doors. Anyone who discovers a fire on campus should activate an alarm immediately before making any attempt to extinguish it. Under no circumstances should employees or students enter a hazardous area.

## Fire Alarm Evacuation Procedures

---

The occupants of a building will evacuate the building promptly and in an orderly fashion upon the activation of a fire alarm or notification that an emergency situation exists. Whenever possible, individuals evacuating a building should help those individuals who may require special assistance. Building evacuees must gather in the designated areas of refuge noted on the posted evacuation plan, as outlined below.

### Designated Places of Refuge

---

In the event of a fire or other emergency which requires vacating your building, you should take refuge as directed by the College official in charge. The SHAPE facility (or Dibden Center for the Arts if SHAPE is unavailable) is the designate place of refuge.

### Building Entry and Reentry

---

Public Safety personnel are responsible for ensuring that only fire fighters and other emergency personnel are allowed to enter a building during an emergency. No one is allowed to enter a building until either the Public Safety Department or an emergency services official determines that there is no emergency situation, and announces that a building is safe to reenter.

Following an emergency, Public Safety personnel will remain on site until the emergency services personnel have departed and everyone has safely reentered the building.

### Fire Drills

---

Announced fire drills in residence halls will be conducted by the Residence Life and Public Safety Department once per semester during the first two weeks of school. Unannounced fire drills may be conducted on occasion in residence halls to ensure that evacuation and other safety measures are correctly observed. The College mandates the student to vacate the building immediately once a fire alarm sounds. Entrances to buildings and fire lanes must be free of obstacles. All students are required to be 25 feet from the building entrance during an alarm. Assume that all alarms are emergencies. Your residence hall staff will review proper evacuation routes and procedures with you during the first week of each semester.

## B) General Student Policies

---

### Medical Exit

---

On rare occasions a student may have a medical condition which prevents her/him from continuing academic work. In these cases the student may submit a request for a medical exit to the Dean of Students. This request must be accompanied by supporting clinical documentation indicating that the student's medical condition prevents her/him from being a current student (as opposed to a condition which makes being a student difficult or inconvenient). If the exit is approved, the student's transcript will reflect withdrawals for the semester and the student will be refunded or have her/his bill reduced as appropriate on a prorated basis determined by the approved exit date. The student would automatically be granted leave of absence status and not be required to reapply in order to return to the College unless otherwise indicated.

### Extended Class Absence

---

On occasion students may have a medical, psychological, or psychiatric condition which leads them to need to leave school and/or miss class for a limited, defined period of time. In such instances students are responsible for maintaining satisfactory academic progress and are expected to contact instructors to make arrangements to stay current in their courses. The instructor has the discretion to determine whether such absences are excused for the purposes of course requirements. See *"Interim Suspension or Mandated Leave"* in Section III for information on leaves required by the College.

## Smoking

---

At JSC, our desire is to ensure a safe and healthy environment for all students as well as staff and visitors who work in and use our facilities; therefore, all buildings, including residence halls are smoke-free. This policy includes burning, carrying or possessing any lighted tobacco product, such as cigarettes, cigars and pipes. Additionally this policy also applies to the use of electronic cigarettes or "E-Cigarettes". Tobacco smoking is only permitted outside on campus grounds in areas at least 25 feet from a building.

## Outdoor Fires

---

Any student or group that wishes to have an outdoor fire of any kind on college premises must submit a request in writing and receive authorization prior to having any such fire. Requests must be made to Public Safety and must include event details such as time date and desired location. Fires will only be permitted if conditions are safe.

Any fire found on college premises that is not authorized will be immediately extinguished and those responsible will be subject to disciplinary action including costs associated with cleanup.

## Parking

---

Each student who parks a motor vehicle, including motorcycles, on college grounds must register that vehicle with the Public Safety Department, and pay an annual vehicle registration fee, to receive a parking permit. Recipients of parking permits acknowledge that they will abide by the parking and traffic regulations set forth by Johnson State College. Designated parking lot information will accompany the permit. Vehicles that do not display a valid JSC permit are subject to ticketing and/or towing.

## Winter months

---

At times, it may be necessary for students to move their vehicles to an alternate location so that snow removal can take place. Students will receive notice of this need and will be required to move their vehicles as indicated.

Parking regulations are enforced 24 hrs. a day throughout the calendar year. Lot restrictions are in force at all times unless otherwise stated by the Director of Public Safety. The owner and/or operator who receive multiple violations within the same semester may lose on campus driving privileges for one semester. Subsequent violations may result in judicial action. In cases where the violation is deemed severe, vehicle privileges may be revoked.

Information on appealing parking violations can be found in Section IV of this handbook.

## Student IDs and Keys

---

All students will be issued one student ID at no expense. This ID is valid for the entire time students are enrolled at the College. Residential students will use their IDs for access into their Residence Hall as well as into their individual rooms. IDs also serve as one's meal card and library card, and is necessary for entry into the SHAPE facility. Your ID should be on your person at all times and should never be loaned to anyone else. Students should report lost or stolen IDs immediately to Public Safety. Replacement cost is \$25. Students that are issued metal keys for campus jobs or for living assignments are required to abide by the key terms and conditions as follows: Keys shall not be loaned to others, and must be returned immediately upon termination of campus employment or loss of residential status. Keys not returned to Public Safety by the due date indicated on student paper work will be billed to the student's account. Charges for keys returned after a due date will be refunded minus a \$25 late fee per key. Once locks are changed, there will be no refund issued.

## Skateboarding, Rollerblading, Bicycling

---

Riding is prohibited on campus roadways and in college buildings. Additionally, the use of benches, stairs, planters, railings, bridges or any other fixtures on College property for skating or snowboard tricks is strictly prohibited. Careless, negligent, or reckless riding may result in disciplinary action. Offenders may be billed for damages associated with these activities. There is a skateboard park in the town of Johnson which students are welcome to use free of charge. Pedestrians have the right of way on campus walkways.



## Pets

---

For health and safety reasons, pets are not permitted in the residence halls. Pets include, but are not limited to cats, dogs, and other fur-bearing animals, birds and reptiles. Fish in five-gallon tanks or less are allowed. Pets are not allowed in any campus buildings unless they are for personal assistance.

The college requires that dog owners follow the following regulations as they pertain to dogs on campus:

- Dogs are not allowed on the athletic fields or in flower beds at any time, even if leashed.
- Dogs may not be left unattended anywhere on campus, including but not limited to inside a motor vehicle, even if leashed.
- The owner or the person possessing control of a dog on campus must abide by the Johnson Town Dog Ordinance, which states the following: Dogs must be licensed, collared and prohibited from running at large. In addition there are other requirements in this ordinance, which can be found by visiting the following: <http://www.townofjohnson.com/DogControl/tabid/870/Default.aspx>
- The owner or the person who possess control of a dog on campus must possess the means to remove fecal matter left by the dog, and is responsible for the immediate cleanup of incidental damages caused by the dog, including digging. Any cleanup should be thorough enough so as to not generate additional work for the college grounds crew.
- Vicious dogs or dogs that exhibit excessive barking may be banned from campus at the college's discretion.

## Guidelines for Participation in Athletics and Co-Curricular Activities

---

Students have the following responsibilities:

---

### Making commitments that can be honored.

Both in terms of which courses they choose and in making commitments to teams and other extracurricular groups, students must make sure that they do not extend themselves beyond their ability to deliver on their commitments. When an irresolvable conflict exists between the needs of a student's academic program and the opportunity to participate in an extracurricular activity, the student's academic needs must be considered first. Students signing up for sports teams and other extracurricular activities should take the time to learn about what is expected of those who participate in these activities. Certainly, no student should sign up for a team, for example, which practices at a time that regularly conflicts with the student's course schedule.

### Communication

When a student has undertaken commitments that do not impose unreasonable conflicts, the student must ensure that all parties are kept informed of conflicts that exist and how these will be resolved. While coaches and the Athletics Director, for example, have a specific role in communication directly with faculty, the student holds the ultimate responsibility for ensuring that his/her instructor receives adequate, timely notification of athletic contest schedules, etc. Similarly, when students must miss scheduled extracurricular events such as athletic practices and competitions because of class responsibilities, it is only fair that they give ample notice to the coaches or other individuals who have responsibility for organizing the event.

### Getting the work done

While the policy guidelines that follow detail circumstances under which students may be excused from class attendance or be given the opportunity to make up class responsibilities, it must be stated that none of these guidelines is intended to relieve students of the responsibility for completing the academic work of their courses. Whether through attending make up laboratory sections, audio taping lectures, borrowing class notes from students, interviewing those who attended, or any other appropriate procedure, the student must do whatever it takes to ensure that participating in extracurricular activities does not interfere with the attainment of course learning objectives. Finally, students should not assume that faculty will grant them incomplete grades because of their involvement in extracurricular activities.

## Excused Class Absences

---

Three levels of athletic and co-curricular participation are addressed by this policy:

### **Varsity contests, concerts and plays, and certain governance roles.**

The College officially recognizes three categories of student participation as deserving of special accommodation: varsity athletic competitions, performances officially sponsored by the Music and Theatre Arts Departments, and representation of the College at meetings of the Board of Trustees, Board Committee meetings and meeting of the Vermont State Colleges' Student Association. For these three types of events faculty are required to permit students to miss class and are required to waive, postpone, or agree to schedule makeup opportunities for students who would otherwise have been obliged to take a test or present an in-class project or assignment. This obligation for excuses, however, extends to no more than 10% of the scheduled class meetings. The only exception made to this policy pertains to district, regional, and national varsity athletic competitions. Even students who have already taken excused absences equivalent to 10% of their class shall not be penalized for missing assignment and test due dates for participating in postseason competition.

### **Co-curricular and Faculty - sponsored field trips**

Often in the course of the year, either related to specific courses that are being taught or growing out of departmental or club activities, field trips are organized that can be very educationally beneficial to students. Faculty are not obliged to grant students excused absences from class to participate in these field trips but are strongly encouraged to do so as long as students can reasonably be expected to keep up with the academic requirements of the course. Similarly, while faculty are not required to reschedule evaluations and other class assignments, they are encouraged to do so in these cases.

### **Rehearsals, athletic practices, club activities.**

Students may not miss classes for varsity athletic practices. Students are not guaranteed excused absences for attending play or concert rehearsals or for participating in club activities, including club sports. In such cases, the students may request to be absent from class without penalty. The instructor may use his or her own judgment as to whether to grant such permission. Instructors are expressly discouraged from rescheduling course evaluation procedures and/or deferring class-related presentations, etc., in these cases. Finally, faculty must inform students when the use of excused absences is, in the judgment of the faculty, beginning to jeopardize learning.

## Computing and Telecommunications Technology Conditions of Use Policy

---

The purpose of this policy is to define permissible behavior of those Vermont State Colleges ("VSC") employees, students and others using VSC computing and telecommunications resources ("VSCnet) in order to preserve the confidentiality, availability, and integrity of VSCnet resources and promote the goals and values of the VSC.

The Vermont State Colleges (VSC) owns and maintains computing and telecommunications technologies to support the education, research and daily work of its faculty, staff, and students. This policy applies to any user of VSCnet resources. The right to use VSCnet, its resources, and the Internet is dependent upon compliance with this policy. If found in violation of this policy, a student may be denied access to the VSCnet.

This policy can be viewed in its entirety at: [http://www.vsc.edu/about-vsc/Pages/VSC\\_Policy\\_General.aspx](http://www.vsc.edu/about-vsc/Pages/VSC_Policy_General.aspx)

## Hazing Policy

---

It is the policy of the Vermont State Colleges (VSC) that no member of the VSC community may participate or be involved in hazing. A student or employee will be subject to disciplinary action for: (1) engaging in hazing; (2) soliciting, directing, aiding or abetting, or attempting to aid or abet another person engaged in hazing; and (3) knowingly failing to take reasonable measures within the scope of the person's authority to prevent hazing. It is not a valid defense against

charges of hazing that the student against whom the hazing was directed consented to or acquiesced in the hazing activity.

“Hazing” means any act committed by a person, whether individually or in concert with others, against a student in connection with pledging, being initiated into, affiliating with, holding office in, or maintaining membership in any organization which is affiliated with the Vermont State Colleges or any member College thereof; and which is intended to have the effect of, or should reasonably be expected to have the effect of, humiliating, intimidating or demeaning the student or endangering the mental or physical health of a student. Hazing also includes soliciting, directing, aiding, or otherwise participating actively or passively in the above acts.

Students and other members of the VSC community are strongly encouraged to report possible hazing incidents. All reports of hazing should first be directed to the public safety or security office.

The VSC Hazing Policy, in its entirety, can be found on the JSC portal.

## Harassment

---

### VSC Policy 311: Non-discrimination and Prevention of Harassment and Related Unprofessional Conduct

The Vermont State Colleges (“VSC”) and each member College do not engage in unlawful discrimination based on race, color, creed, ancestry, ethnicity, national origin, place of birth, sex, sexual orientation, disability, age, veteran status, marital status or any other status protected by law. Sexual harassment, racial harassment, and harassment of persons based upon other protected categories are forms of discrimination and will not be tolerated. Also, inappropriate sexual relationships between staff and students, although they may not rise to the level of sexual harassment, are prohibited. Further, the VSC and each Member College, in accordance with Vermont law, do not discriminate against any person on the basis of the person having a positive HIV-related blood test.

Sexual misconduct, which includes sexual harassment (see section below) is a form of sex discrimination and therefore is a violation of both VSC Policy 311 and the federal Title IX law (discussed in the section below).

The VSC Policy 311 can be found in its entirety at:

[http://www.vsc.edu/about-vsc/Pages/VSC\\_Policy\\_Student\\_Affairs.aspx](http://www.vsc.edu/about-vsc/Pages/VSC_Policy_Student_Affairs.aspx)

To initiate a harassment complaint, formally or informally, or for further information, contact:

JSC Policy 311 Coordinator, Jo Ann Lamore  
Assistant Academic Dean  
Johnson State College  
337 College Hill  
Johnson VT 05656  
802-635-1242  
[Jo.Lamore@jsc.edu](mailto:Jo.Lamore@jsc.edu)

## Sexual Misconduct

---

Sexual misconduct includes sexual violence (rape, sexual assault) and sexual harassment. Sexual misconduct is a violation of the Johnson State College Code of Conduct, JSC policy, and federal and state law. The College is committed to taking action against those who violate these policies and to assisting individuals, regardless of whether the conduct occurs on or off campus. A sexual misconduct violation can result in consequences up to and including criminal charges and dismissal from the College.

Sexual misconduct often creates difficult emotional issues for the individual. Through educational programs, the College seeks to promote awareness and to inform students of risk reduction strategies and of the steps to take in the event of sexual misconduct. Copies of, or links to, this policy are made available annually to all students and employees.

Intentional sexual contact without consent of the other person is sexual misconduct. These violations may involve threats, coercion, or fear of imminent harm. Sometimes these situations occur when alcohol or other drugs impair the

ability of a person to give consent, or have personal control. Impaired people cannot give consent and impairment is not an excuse for committing sexual misconduct. On a college campus, these situations can occur between students who may know each other or even have a close relationship. Regardless of prior relationship, sexual contact should not occur without consent of the individual. The following are important steps to take should an act of sexual misconduct occur:

- Get to a safe place as soon as possible. Contact a trusted person for support. This could include parents, a friend, the Clarina Howard Nichols Center hotline (802.888.5256) or campus resources such as the counseling center (x1265), the health center (x1265), public safety (x1205), or the dean of students' office (x1200).
- Do not wash, go to the bathroom, or change clothing, if it can be avoided. This will help to preserve physical evidence, should the individual decide to take legal action. If you must change clothing, all of the clothing worn at the time of the assault should be put in a paper bag (not plastic).
- Seek medical attention as soon as possible.
- Decide what actions to take (see below)

Everyone is strongly encouraged to report alleged violations. All JSC employees shall report any alleged violation of which they are aware or made aware to the Dean of Students (Title IX Coordinator). If the alleged violation is reported to any official at the College the general information will become part of the College's crime statistics (names are not included).

If you are a victim of sexual misconduct, you may still decide what, if any, further action you would like to take. You may report it to the state or local police and/or you may report it to Public Safety, the Dean of Students Office or the Policy 311 Coordinator (see above).

Choosing not to request official action at the time of the incident does not preclude requesting action at a future date, though the process of adjudication becomes more difficult over time.

Please note, that where circumstances warrant, the College may report and/or investigate an alleged violation even if you choose not to pursue official action. You are not obligated to cooperate in this process.

Both the accused and the accuser have rights in this process. If College disciplinary proceedings are initiated, students may have others present for support during the proceedings. In resolving sexual misconduct complaints the College uses a preponderance of the evidence standard (i.e., whether it is more likely than not that a violation occurred). To the extent permitted by law, both parties will be informed of the outcome of any college disciplinary proceedings.

Title IX is a federal law that prohibits discrimination based on gender in any educational program or activity. Sexual misconduct (including harassment) is a form of sex discrimination and therefore is a violation of Title IX. The Vermont State Colleges also has a policy prohibiting discrimination and harassment known as Policy 311 (described in the section above). The campus coordinators are:

Title IX Coordinator  
David Bergh  
Dean of Students  
802 635-1200  
[David.Bergh@jsc.edu](mailto:David.Bergh@jsc.edu)

Policy 311 Coordinator  
Jo Ann Lamore  
Assistant Academic Dean  
802 635-1242  
[Jo.Lamore@jsc.edu](mailto:Jo.Lamore@jsc.edu)

## JSC Alcohol/Drug Policy

---

JSC's first concern is a student's health and safety. Should a student find him, herself, or a fellow student in an unsafe situation involving alcohol or drugs, he or she is strongly encouraged to contact the residence life or public safety staff. The focus of the College's response will be on ensuring the safety of the students involved, rather than on disciplinary action.

Consumption or possession of alcohol by students under the age of 21 is illegal and prohibited. The possession, distribution, or use of illegal controlled substances on college property is not tolerated. The College prohibits the possession and use of prescription drugs by persons for purposes other than those prescribed by a licensed physician. Drugs other than those prescribed by a licensed physician for legitimate health purposes may not be used or stored on College property. Use and/or abuse of other substances, including but not limited to marijuana, salvia, inhalants, and prescription medications or using over the counter medicines for means other than prescribed on the bottle is a

violation of the JSC drug policy. All prescription pill bottles must have official prescription labels affixed to the bottle. Any unlabeled pill bottles will be confiscated. Possession of drug related paraphernalia is prohibited on College grounds.

Violators are subject to internal disciplinary action as well as criminal penalties provided for by State and local laws. Students are separately accountable to civil law and to policies of the college. When these areas of jurisdiction overlap, the College reserves the right to follow its normal disciplinary process whenever a student is accused of a criminal act that also violates college policy, regardless of legal disposition.

All residential students and visitors to the campus must abide by Federal and Vermont State Laws and the College's Code of Conduct. Students are responsible for enforcing the alcohol/drug policy with their guests.

Any behavior that disrupts the academic or campus community may result in disciplinary action.

Alcohol may be consumed only by persons of legal drinking age within the individual's assigned residential room or within the room of another person of the legal drinking age. No alcohol is permitted in Arthur Hall or in Governors South 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> floors regardless of the age of the resident or guests.

The consumption of alcohol in public areas is strictly prohibited. All alcohol transported through public areas must be unopened. Public areas include, but are not limited to stairwells, balconies, laundry rooms, lounges, public restrooms, outside ground areas, elevators, hallways, lobbies, office areas, and vending areas.

No alcohol is permitted on the campus grounds including Recreation Fields and Disc Golf Course.

Students of the legal drinking age are limited to having no more than the following per of-age resident in their own room at one time:

One 12 pack of 12 oz. malt beverages (beer, wine coolers, alco-pops) or equivalent OR

One bottle of liquor OR

One bottle of wine

Legal age guests visiting legal age residential students are limited to bringing the alcohol equivalent of:

One 6 pk 12 oz of malt beverages (beer, wine coolers, alco-pops) or equivalent **OR**

One pint (473ml) of liquor **OR**

One bottle (750 ml) of wine

Kegs, mini-kegs and wine boxes are prohibited within the College housing facilities, including the College Apartments.

Johnson State College does not allow empty alcohol containers in the rooms of anyone under the age of 21.

## Public Intoxication

---

College officials are authorized to contact emergency and/or law enforcement services to safeguard community members' well-being when life-threatening behaviors are exhibited. These include the following:

- Impaired fine and gross motor skills as evidenced by significantly slurred speech, staggering gait, or inability to stand without support,
- Impaired level of consciousness as evidenced by significant degree of confusion or inability to clearly express awareness of information relating to time and place,
- Display of a barely conscious or semi-stuporous state despite verbal and tactile attempts to waken student.

Students who are removed from campus due to high alcohol or drug levels and/or unsafe behavior are subject to a campus removal fee. The fee reflects the serious nature of this violation and allows the College to offer the student transportation back to campus from medical, correctional or detoxification facilities.

## Consequences for Violations of the Alcohol/Drug Policy

---

The following are minimal consequences that students can expect if they choose to violate the JSC alcohol/drug policy. Additional consequences may apply as determined by the College or as mandated within state and federal law.

First Violation

Parental Notification

Educational service hours or other administrative sanctions

Meeting with a professional Residential Life Staff Member.

Any subsequent violation of the JSC alcohol or drug policy will result in additional administrative sanctions. Depending on the severity of the violation, the following sanctions may be imposed:

- Parental Notification
- Educational service hours or administrative sanctions as deemed appropriate
- Meeting with a member of the JSC Counseling Center or Substance Abuse Evaluation with a licensed alcohol or drug counselor
- Administrative hearing which may result in removal from campus housing for the remainder of the academic year
- Suspension or dismissal from the College

The College reserves the right to impose additional sanctions as deemed appropriate. The College will place a hold on student academic records (i.e. transcripts, registration, grades, etc.) in cases of failure to comply with administrative sanctions or educational service hours.

Note the following: The Family Education Rights and Privacy Act allows notification of parents and/or legal guardians in the case of violations of the college's drug/alcohol policy without student permission or consent. It will be standard practice in such cases to inform a parent or guardian of violations.

Students convicted of a drug law violation are subject to the loss of eligibility for Federal Student Financial Aid.

## **Notice of Federal Student Financial Aid Penalties for Drug Law Violations**

---

### **Suspension of Eligibility for Drug Possession or Sale Convictions**

---

A student who is convicted of any offense under any Federal or State law involving the possession or sale of a controlled substance for conduct that occurred during a period of enrollment for which the student was receiving any Federal Pell, Supplemental Education Opportunity Grant, Federal Work-Study, Federal Perkins loan, Federal Direct Student Loans, Federal Direct PLUS loans, and/or Federal Direct Grad PLUS Loans shall not be eligible to receive any additional grant, loan, or work assistance from the date of that conviction for the period of time specified in the following table:

	Ineligibility Period for Title IV Federal Aid		
OFFENSE	1ST CONVICTION	2ND CONVICTION	3RD CONVICTION
Possession	1 year	2 years	Permanent
Sales	2 years	Permanent	NA

### **Rehabilitation**

---

A written notice will be provided to each student who has lost eligibility for Title IV federal financial aid funds mentioned above. A student whose eligibility has been suspended may resume eligibility before the end of the ineligibility period by completing an acceptable drug rehabilitation program or by having their convictions overturned. If you have been convicted of a drug offense while receiving Title IV federal financial aid, you are required to report it on the FAFSA. For additional information on this requirement, call a federal representative at 1-800-433-3243.

### **Notice of Federal Student Financial Aid Penalties for Fraud Violations**

---

Students who have been convicted of, or who have pled guilty or no contest to a crime involving fraud in obtaining Title IV federal financial aid are not eligible for additional aid until they have repaid the fraudulently obtained funds.

# Code of Conduct

---

## Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures

---

All students are expected to conduct themselves as responsible members of the College community and to respect the rights of their fellow citizens. Any departure from these standards which can be shown to be injurious to the College's pursuit of its normal activities will be defined as a violation of the rules or regulations specified in the JSC Code of Conduct.

All Code of Conduct violations will be dealt with as promptly as possible. All students are guaranteed the right of a fair hearing and/or appeal in all matters of judgment of academic performance and personal conduct. The College reserves the right to take necessary and appropriate action to protect the safety and well-being of the campus community. All JSC students are also obligated, as citizens and community members, to obey local, state, and federal laws.

The Code of Conduct applies to all persons enrolled in courses at JSC, including full-time and part-time undergraduate, graduate, and continuing education students. A student shall also be responsible for the actions of his/her guests.

## Preponderance of the Evidence Standard

---

In reviewing all cases related to policy and code of conduct violations, Johnson State College will apply the "preponderance of evidence" standard to determine whether a policy or code of conduct violation has occurred. The "preponderance of evidence" standard means that upon careful review of all information presented, it is more likely than not that a violation occurred.

## Prohibited Conduct

---

Any of the following types of misconduct, whether occurring on or off campus, may result in dismissal or in a lesser sanction deemed appropriate by the College. Attempts to commit acts prohibited by the Code of Conduct may be considered as serious as an actual violation.

- A. Assaulting, battering or intentionally or recklessly causing physical harm to any person including but not limited to the following:
  - Fighting, whether the fight is between two individuals or within a group
  - Sexual misconduct
  - Physical assault of another person
- B. Use, possession or storage of any hazardous or dangerous weapon or explosive device(s) including but not limited to the following:
  - Knives with longer than a 3-inch blade
  - Firearms, including air, pellet, paintball, and BB type guns
  - Fireworks or explosive devices which are defined as any substance prepared for the purpose of explosion or detonation
- C. Creating a fire, safety, or health hazard including but not limited to:
  - Intentionally or unintentionally starting a fire
  - Intentionally or recklessly misusing or damaging safety equipment or unauthorized removal and/or use of such equipment
  - Improper use of electrical appliances, power tools or flammable substance
  - Pulling or causing a fire alarm
  - Initiating any false report, warning or threat of fire, explosion or other emergency on college premises or at college-sponsored events.

- Use of college or personal vehicles, facilities or properties in a dangerous or unsafe manner.
- D. Intentionally or recklessly interfering with normal college-sponsored activities.
- E. Unauthorized distribution, use or possession of any controlled substance or illegal drug.
- F. Knowingly violating the terms of any disciplinary sanction imposed in accordance with the code including deadlines by which time services must be performed or fines paid.
- G. Theft from the College, or any other JSC community member, of money, property or services.
- H. Unauthorized use, possession or duplication of any keys, access cards or other devices, including computer access codes, designed to afford access to restricted areas or activities.
- I. Intentionally furnishing false information or data to the College including but not limited to the following:
- Lying to a JSC official with the intent to deceive or misrepresent oneself.
  - Knowingly conveying or causing to be conveyed false information for the purpose of cheating or defrauding any person.
- J. All forms of academic dishonesty, including but not limited to the following:
- Cheating
  - Fabricating
  - Facilitating academic dishonesty
  - Plagiarism
- K. Intentionally or recklessly destroying, damaging or defacing the property of others.
- L. Failing to comply with the direction of college officials including but not limited to refusing to identify oneself or show proper identification to any member of the JSC staff and/or faculty who have properly identified themselves.
- M. Intimidating or harassing another JSC community member, including but not limited to the following:
- Verbal abuse which is threatening
  - Sexual harassment
  - Abusing someone either verbally or in writing which may cause stress and/or humiliation
  - Abusing members of the college staff/faculty verbally or in writing which interferes with the exercise of their responsibilities
  - Intentionally interfering with the free expression of other's ideas or opinions
  - Harassment based on gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation or other protected categories.
- N. Bullying, including but not limited to:
- repeated infliction of verbal abuse, such as the use of derogatory remarks, insults, and epithets;
  - verbal or physical conduct of a threatening, intimidating, or humiliating nature;
  - attempts to exploit an individual's known psychological or physical vulnerability.
- O. Stalking, including but limited to:
- Repeated non-consensual communication or any communications that are undesired and/or place another person in fear.
  - Following, pursuing, waiting, showing up uninvited or trespassing at locations frequented by an individual.
  - Surveillance and other types of observation.
  - Gathering of information about an individual.
  - Manipulative and controlling behaviors such as threats to harm oneself or others close to the individual.
  - Defamation or slander against the individual.
- P. Trespassing or forcefully entering any college-owned or college-related property at a time when access is prohibited, or when access is denied to students in general or to the individual student(s) in question.
- Q. Violating published college regulations or policies not specifically covered by the Code of Conduct (e.g. Housing Contract, College Vehicle Use, Parking Policy).
- R. Enabling or allowing another individual to violate the code of conduct.
- S. Disturbing the peace of the college or the local community through disorderly or other misconduct. Note: Town Ordinance--The Town of Johnson has a noise ordinance. For more information, please visit the Johnson Town Hall.
- T. Violating federal, state, or local law.



## Off-campus Disturbances

---

As members of Johnson State College and members of our neighborhood community, all Johnson State students have a responsibility to demonstrate respect and concern for all members of the local community. As a result, JSC imposes an obligation upon all its students to demonstrate responsible citizenship in the local neighborhood. Students who violate these expectations and/or whose behavior jeopardizes the College's positive relationship with the local community may be subject to college discipline.

## Student Host Responsibilities

---

Students should be aware of the responsibilities incurred when hosting parties where alcohol is present. Hosts can be held liable for civil or criminal offenses committed by guests. No one can sell or give alcohol to a person under 21 and no one can allow a person under 21 to drink alcohol.

Further information on the Vermont Statutes related to furnishing or selling alcohol to a minor can be found online at: <http://www.leg.state.vt.us/statutes/fullsection.cfm?Title=07&Chapter=021&Section=00658>

## Disciplinary Procedures

---

Alleged violations of the Code of Conduct or other published campus regulations will result in one or more of the following processes:

### *Administrative Sanctions*

Certain violations of the Code of Conduct or other published campus regulations subject students to educational service hours or an administrative monetary fine which will be indicated on an Administrative Sanction report. These sanctions can be administered by any administrative or faculty member at JSC including staff members of the Public Safety or Residence Life Departments. Notification of these sanctions is delivered to the student's JSC email account. Students who fail to complete educational service hours or pay the administrative fine within seven (7) calendar days of issuance, will be billed accordingly. Student Appeal of Administrative Sanctions is described in Section IV.

### *Administrative Hearing*

A student charged with a violation of the Code of Conduct or other published campus regulation may receive an administrative hearing with a designee of the Dean of Students. The designee will determine if and what sanctions are appropriate.

### *Board Hearing*

The student may in some cases be afforded a hearing before a Hearing Board appointed by the College. A designated member of the College staff will be available to answer any questions regarding hearing procedures. The Hearing Board shall report specific findings and make recommendations to the Dean of Students. The Dean of Students shall thereafter impose any sanctions thus determined.

Note: The College reserves the right to determine the appropriate type of hearing in each case based on the facts and findings of investigations of the case.

Note: Students are separately accountable both to civil law and to the standards of conduct maintained by the College. The College reserves the right to follow its normal disciplinary process whenever a student is accused of a criminal act that also violates College policy. Violations of local, state, and federal laws will also be referred to proper law enforcement agencies.

### *Interim Suspension or Mandated Leave*

Where it is believed that a student presents a threat to him or herself or to any member of the College community, he/she may be removed from the residence hall or otherwise restricted from free movement on the campus or at

College-sponsored events. This interim suspension or mandated leave does not indicate a presumption of guilt of a violation of the Code of Conduct, nor does it preclude subsequent disciplinary action.

Under normal circumstances, disciplinary proceedings shall be expedited so that the period of suspension may be as brief as possible. However, in cases in which felony charges are possible or pending, the College may, on advice of Counsel, postpone disciplinary proceedings until after the resolution of the criminal charges.

In certain cases, a student may be placed on probationary leave as a result of a psychological or psychiatric condition which affects his/her capacity to perform academically and/or present as safe to be living on campus in the residence halls. Students will be required to receive "medical clearance" from a licensed mental health professional prior to returning to the College. Medical clearance means that the student, as indicated by his/her licensed mental health professional, can demonstrate that the condition which brought about probationary leave can be sufficiently and safely managed in order for the student to remain stable and well enough to be on campus and academically successful.

In cases of either Interim Suspension or Mandated Leave course instructors have the discretion to determine whether such absences are excused for the purposes of course requirements. Students are expected to contact faculty to make arrangements to meet course expectations.

## Range of Sanctions

---

If it is determined that a student has violated the Code of Conduct, the student is subject to sanctions that range from a verbal reminder of the policy to dismissal from the College. In general, disciplinary action against an individual progresses in severity with the seriousness of violations and repeated violations. In certain instances, a combination of sanctions may be imposed.

Sanctions, in order of severity, include the following:

- Verbal warning.
- Written warning, which becomes a part of the student's disciplinary file.
- Educational Service hours, or a monetary fine.
- Disciplinary probation:
  - Specific conditions imposed (e.g., probation specific to behavior in residence halls or college apartments, probation pending completion of other sanctions, etc.)
- Conduct probation:
  - Subsequent violation(s) of the student Code of Conduct will result in further administrative sanctions likely to include removal from residency and/or suspension or dismissal from the College.
- Removal from campus residency:
  - Students removed from residency will be given a specific date and time to vacate their residence hall room. Removal from residency will also include a residential No Trespass Notice for a specified period of time (not more than two academic semesters from the date of the precipitating incident) unless specifically approved by the Dean of Students.
- No trespass notice
  - When a person's actions violate state or federal laws or College policy or pose a threat to the health, safety, welfare, or academic experience of members of the College community, that person may be denied access to all or part of the campus through oral notice or issuance of a written No Trespass Notice.
- Suspension for a definitive period of time:
  - A student who is suspended from the College for disciplinary reasons may not enroll in any courses offered by Johnson for a determined period (not more than two academic semesters from the date of the decision). If additional requirements are imposed during the suspension period (e.g. counseling) the suspension will continue until the requirements have been completed.
- Dismissal from the College:
  - A student who is dismissed from the College for disciplinary reasons may not enroll in any course offered by the College. A dismissal will be noted on a student's transcript.

Students who are administratively suspended or dismissed from the College for being in violation of the Code of Conduct will cease attending all classes immediately. The student will not receive academic credit for the work done during that semester. A notation of "Dismissed" will be entered on the student's official transcript. Students who are suspended or dismissed are liable for all tuition and housing costs.

Students suspended or dismissed from the residence halls are not eligible for refunds from their housing contract.

Failure to abide by the terms of a disciplinary sanction including deadlines by which time served must be performed or fines paid is considered an additional violation of the Code of Conduct, which may result in further administrative sanctions.

---

# *Student Appeals*

---

In general, procedures for grievance or appeal follow the guidelines below. Submission of an appeal does not mean there is a stay, or pause of the sanction(s) the student received.

## *Board or Administrative Hearing Appeals*

---

Written requests for an appeal shall be made to the designated appeals officer within seven calendar days of the issuance of a written decision. The written request for appeal shall specify the grounds for the appeal, including specific supporting factual arguments, which may address one or more of the following:

1. Inadequate due process.
2. Emergence of new evidence that could change the outcome of the proceedings.
3. The Sanction is disproportionate to the offense.

After review of written appeal and documents used in the hearing process, the appeals officer may affirm, reverse or modify the decision. The decision of the appeals officer is final.

## *Housing Policy and Meal Plan Exemptions*

---

Information on exemption process and procedures may be found in Section II of this handbook.

## *Parking or Traffic Appeals*

---

Information on parking or traffic appeals may be found on the parking ticket itself.

## *Administrative Sanction Appeals*

---

Students have the right to appeal any sanction. All appeals must be in writing and specify the sanction and reason(s) for the appeal. All appeals must be received in the Residence Life Office within seven (7) calendar days of the incident. A prompt decision will be made and the student will be notified via JSC email.

## *Interim Suspension Appeals*

---

A student may appeal an interim suspension by contacting the Dean of Students within twenty-four (24) hours of its imposition. A preliminary meeting would then be held to address the interim suspension only. This would not replace or preclude disciplinary procedures related to any alleged Code of Conduct violations.

---

# Academic Calendar

---

*Fall 2013/ Spring 2014*

## **Fall 2013**

Monday, August 26.....	First Day of Classes
Monday-Friday, October 7-11.....	Fall Break
Monday, October 14.....	Classes Resume
Monday-Friday, November 25-29.....	Thanksgiving Break
Monday, December 2.....	Classes Resume
Friday, December 13.....	Last Day of Classes
Monday–Friday, December 16-20.....	Final Examinations
Friday, December 20.....	Semester Ends

## **Spring 2014**

Monday, January 20.....	Classes Begin
Monday-Friday February 24-28.....	Winter Break
Monday, March 3.....	Classes Resume
Monday-Friday, April 7-11.....	Spring Break
Monday, April 14.....	Classes Resume
Friday, May 9.....	Last Day of Classes
Monday-Friday May 12-16.....	Final Exams
Friday, May 16.....	Semester Ends
Saturday, May 17.....	Commencement