

AP 5524 STUDENT GRIEVANCE PROCESS FOR MATTERS OTHER
THAN INSTRUCTION, GRADES OR DISCIPLINE

References:

Education Code Section 76224
Title 5 Section 55024

I. General Provisions

A.

III. Informal Consultation Process

A student has 120 calendar days from the date of the incident or situation giving rise to the grievance to initiate the informal consultation process.

- A. A student will be encouraged to contact the individual responsible for the situation which is the subject of the grievance and attempt, in good faith and in a professional manner, to resolve the concern informally.
 - B. If the issue is not resolved with the individual who is the subject matter of the grievance, the student may file a written Request for Consultation with the Dean/Director, or designee, responsible for the Department/individual that is the subject of the grievance. Forms will be available from the office of the Dean/Director or the appropriate Vice President. The Dean/Director
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2. One (1) faculty member appointed by the College Academic Senate President.
3. One staff member appointed by the President.
4. One Dean/Director level administrator (not connected with the individual or department that is the subject of the grievance) appointed by the President.
5. One Vice President (not connected with the individual or department that is the subject of the grievance) appointed by the President of the College to serve as the chair of the committee. This individual may be from another College in the District. The chair of the committee will not vote in the final decision.

C. The College Grievance Committee Chair will:

1. Within a reasonable time period not to exceed twenty (20) days (excluding weekends and holidays) set a reasonable time and date for the hearing as well as a reasonable time limit for its duration. In the event the parties are not available within the 20 days, the Chair has the discretion of extending the time period, with notificati

threat of retaliation or retaliatory behavior. Any such behavior, verbal or written, in response to participation in the grievance process is prohibited and may be regarded as a basis for disciplinary action.

4. Notify the parties that they are entitled to bring a representative, from within the District, to assist them during the hearing. The representative's role is restricted to assisting the party. He/she may not actively participate in the grievance hearing or engage in the proceedings. The Representative must be an individual from within the District (student or employee). Legal representation is prohibited.
5. Notify both parties as to who the members of the grievance committee will be. Each party will be allowed one (1) opportunity to request that a committee member be replaced with a different person because of perceived bias or conflict of interest. Any such requests must be directed to the committee chair within two (2) days of notification of who the committee members will be and will state the perceived bias or conflict of interest. At that time, the committee chair may excuse that committee member and seek a replacement. The replacement must be an individual from within the District (student or employee). Legal representation is prohibited.

D. The Grievance Committee will:

1. Judge the relevancy and weight of testimony and evidence. The committee will make its findings of fact, basing its findings on the evidence presented. It will also reach a decision by a simple majority vote for disposition of the case.
2. Submit its findings of fact and disposition to each party and the Vice President within ten (10) days (excluding weekends and holidays) of the completion of the formal hearing.

