

DISCIPLINARY REGULATIONS FOR STUDENTS OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

(Adopted at the 358th Session of the Supreme Council of the Cultural Revolution, held on September 5, 1995)

Article 1 – Definitions:

A- University or Institution of Higher Education: Refers to all public or private higher education and research institutions, universities, and complexes that issue official degrees higher than a high school diploma (including equivalent degrees) in accordance with the regulations of the Ministry of Culture and Higher Education and the Ministry of Health and Medical Education. In these regulations, they are collectively referred to as the "University".

B- Domestic Student: Any individual enrolled in a University, whether through full-time, part-time, or distance education, who is pursuing an academic program. Such individual shall hereinafter be referred to as the "Student".

C- Affiliated Student: Refers to any individual studying at an overseas university as a scholarship recipient or foreign exchange student.

D- Foreign Student: Refers to any foreign national studying at a university within the Islamic Republic of Iran.

E- Period of Study: Commences at the time of initial registration at the university and terminates upon receiving the degree, a temporary graduation certificate, withdrawal, or expulsion.

Article 2 – General Provisions:

In view of the sanctity of knowledge, ethics, and academic and research environments within the holy Sharia and the Islamic government, and considering the necessity to protect and safeguard the public rights of students, every student is obligated and required during their period of study—within both university premises and external environments—to refrain from committing any act that violates the dignity and prestige of a student (whether an internal, affiliated, or foreign student). Otherwise, actions shall be taken against them in accordance with the provisions of these regulations.

Article 3 – Composition of the University Preliminary Disciplinary Committee and Selection Criteria:

1-The Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs of the university, serving as the Chairman of the Preliminary Disciplinary Committee.

2-The Head of the Representative Office of the Supreme Leader at the university, or their fully authorized representative (where such an office exists).

3-One member of the university's academic staff, selected by the President of the university.

4-Two students of the university, selected by the President of the university.

5-The Secretary of the Preliminary Disciplinary Committee, selected by the Chairman of the Preliminary Disciplinary Committee, without voting rights.

Note 1: The two student members of the university disciplinary committee must meet the following criteria:

1-They must have completed at least the first half of their undergraduate (Bachelor's) degree. (In institutions offering only Associate degrees, student members must have entered the second half of the Associate program). Postgraduate students (Master's and Ph.D.) are exempt from this provision, provided they completed their undergraduate education within the country.

2-They must be among the exemplary students of the university in terms of academic standing and moral conduct.

Note 2: All members of the university disciplinary committee must be renowned for piety, commitment, and independence of opinion, must be married, and must have no prior adverse disciplinary or legal record.

Note 3: Members designated under Paragraphs 3 and 4 shall be selected for a term of two years, and their re-selection is permissible. Furthermore, if any of the aforementioned members accumulate three consecutive unexcused absences or six intermittent unexcused absences within a three-year period, or are unable to attend committee sessions for more than three months for any reason, or if their incompetence is established, the President of the University may dismiss them and appoint a new member. Determining whether an absence is excused or unexcused rests with the Chairman of the Committee.

Note 4: The Chairman of the Committee may, at their discretion, invite informed individuals to participate in the committee sessions without voting rights.

Note 5: Committee sessions shall be formally convened with the presence of the Chairman and at least two voting members. Its resolutions shall be enforceable with three affirmative votes.

Note 6: Rulings of the University Preliminary Disciplinary Committee shall be communicated under the signature of the Preliminary Committee's Chairman, and rulings of the University Appellate Disciplinary Committee shall be communicated under the signature of the Secretary of the University Appellate Disciplinary Committee.

Article 4 – Composition of the University Appellate Disciplinary Committee:

1-The President of the university, serving as the Chairman of the Appeals Committee.

2-The Head of the Representative Office of the Supreme Leader at the university.

3-The Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs of the university, serving as the Secretary of the Appeals Committee.

Article 5 – Composition of the Central Student Disciplinary Committee:

- 1-The Vice Minister for Student Affairs of the Ministry of Culture and Higher Education or the Ministry of Health and Medical Education, as applicable, serving as the Chairman of the Committee.
- 2-The Head of the Representative Office of the Supreme Leader at one of the universities, chosen by the Central Council of Representatives of the Supreme Leader in Universities and appointed by the Chairman of the Central Council.
- 3-One legal expert, selected by the Minister of Culture and Higher Education or the Minister of Health, Treatment, and Medical Education, as applicable.
- 4-The Director of the Central Student Disciplinary Committee, without voting rights, serving as the Secretary of the Committee.
- 5-One faculty member from the nation's universities, selected by the Minister of Culture and Higher Education or the Minister of Health, Treatment, and Medical Education, as applicable.
- 6-One student selected from among the members of university disciplinary committees, appointed by the Minister of Culture and Higher Education.
- 7-The Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs of one of the universities, upon invitation by the Secretary of the Central Committee.

Note 1: The term of membership for selected members shall be three years, and their re-selection is permissible.

Note 2: Sessions of the Central Disciplinary Committee achieve a quorum with the presence of four members, and decisions require three affirmative votes to be enforceable.

Note 3: Organizationally, the Central Student Disciplinary Committee is affiliated with the Ministry of Culture and Higher Education or the Ministry of Health and Medical Education, and operates under the supervision of the Supreme Council of the Cultural Revolution.

Note 4: The Chairman of the Committee may, based on their judgment and necessity, invite informed individuals to attend committee sessions without voting rights.

Note 5: Rulings of the Central Student Disciplinary Committee shall be communicated under the signature of the Secretary of the Central Committee.

Article 6 – Scope of Jurisdiction and Duties of University and Central Disciplinary Committees:

A- Addressing general crimes committed by students (such as threats, inducement/bribery, insults, assault and battery, forgery, theft, bribery, embezzlement, or homicide).

B- Addressing academic and administrative infractions, including:

B.1: Cheating in examinations.

B.2: Sending another individual to take an exam in one's place, or participating in an exam on behalf of another person.

B.3: Committing any act by natural or legal persons that causes disruption, interruption, or harassment in the execution of university or dormitory programs.

B.4: Causing damage to university property or public funds (Bayt al-Mal).

C- Political Infractions:

C.1: Deliberately providing false information or concealing facts regarding oneself or combatant/subversive/corrupt groups or individuals affiliated with them.

C.2: Membership in combatant, subversive, or heretical groups, or sympathizing and taking any action to benefit them.

C.3: Activity and propaganda in favor of blasphemous or heretical groups and schools of thought.

C.4: Insulting Islamic or national sanctities and committing acts against the system of the Islamic Republic (such as graffiti, distributing flyers, etc.).

C.5: Inciting riots and chaos within the university environment.

D- Moral Infractions:

D.1: Use of narcotics, consumption of alcohol, gambling, or involvement in the purchase, sale, and distribution of such substances.

D.2: Using obscene video or audio tapes or computer discs, or involvement in the purchase, sale, reproduction, or distribution of such items.

D.3: Failure to observe Islamic dress codes (Hijab) or using vulgar clothing or makeup.

D.4: Utilizing, distributing, or reproducing obscene books, magazines, photographs, or instruments of unlawful amusement and vice.

D.5: Violating student code of conduct and decorum.

D.6: Engaging in illegitimate relationships.

D.7: Organizing or participating in illegitimate gatherings.

D.8: Committing acts contrary to public chastity and virtue.

Article 7 – Disciplinary Sanctions:

A- Sanctions that can be imposed on students by a ruling of either the University Disciplinary Committees or the Central Disciplinary Committee:

- A.1:** Verbal summons and warning.
- A.2:** Written warning without entry into the student's disciplinary record.
- A.3:** Written reprimand with entry into the student's disciplinary record.
- A.4:** Written censure with entry into the student's disciplinary record.
- D.5:** Awarding a failing grade of 0.25 in the relevant course.
- A.6:** Deprivation of university welfare facilities (such as loans, dormitory accommodation, etc.).
- A.7:** Recovery of damages from the student in cases where the infraction has resulted in financial loss to the university or public funds.
- A.8:** Temporary suspension from study for up to two academic semesters (inclusive or exclusive of the maximum allowed years of study).

Note 1: In cases where the University Preliminary Disciplinary Committee has issued a ruling and the student files an objection within the timeframe specified in these Regulations, the review of the issued ruling shall fall under the jurisdiction of the University Appellate Disciplinary Committee.

Note 2: Re-application of the sanction specified in Paragraph A.8 of Article 7 shall be subject to the confirmation of the Central Disciplinary Committee.

B- Sanctions that can only be imposed on students by a ruling of the Central Disciplinary Committee:

- B.1:** Temporary suspension from study for up to four academic semesters (inclusive or exclusive of the maximum allowed years of study).

Note: If, after the execution of the committee's ruling and during the remaining period of study, the inclusion of the suspension period within the maximum allowed years prevents the student from graduating, and the student presents a justified excuse, the Central Committee—after reviewing the evidence and justification submitted by the student—may, at its discretion, convert the ruling to exclude the suspension period from the maximum allowed years of study.

- B.2:** Changing the student's place of study.
- B.3:** Converting the student's enrollment status from tuition-free (Day session) to tuition-paying (Evening session).
- B.4:** Expulsion of the student from the university while retaining the right to re-participate in the national entrance examination.
- B.5:** Complete ban from studying at all universities for up to 5 years.

Note 1: In cases deemed necessary and based on discretion, the University Disciplinary Committee or the Central Disciplinary Committee may issue a composite ruling (a combination of two or more paragraphs of Article 7).

Note 2: The President of the University is authorized to bar a non-compliant student from entering the university premises pending the investigation of their case by the University

Disciplinary Committee, provided that the investigation period does not exceed one month. In cases referred to the Central Disciplinary Committee for investigation and final verdict, the Chancellor may bar the student from entering the university for up to two months. (If the period of entry restriction overlaps with final semester examinations, the student may, at the discretion of the Chancellor, participate in the final examinations).

Note 3: *In order to prevent divergent applications of taste across universities for similar infractions, university disciplinary committees are required—while investigating and issuing rulings within their scope of authority regarding infractions covered by Paragraphs C.5, D.1, D.2, D.4, D.6, D.7, and D.8 of Article 6—to forward the case file to the Central Disciplinary Committee for information and potential review.*

Note 4: *Whenever a student, acting in their capacity as a student (such as during scientific field trips, internships, within dormitories, etc.), commits an act that constitutes a criminal offense under national laws, the Disciplinary Committee may investigate the infraction within the scope of these regulations and also refer the matter to competent authorities for legal processing. In any event, the university disciplinary committee is the sole authorized body within the university to report infractions and introduce the offending student to judicial and law enforcement authorities.*

Note 5: *Whenever a student commits an offense outside the university premises that is subject to criminal punishment under national laws, the investigation of the crime falls within the jurisdiction of judicial authorities under criminal and penal codes. However, the Disciplinary Committee may concurrently make decisions in accordance with Article 7 of these regulations.*

Note 6: *A student's insubordination or refusal to comply with rulings and orders issued by the Disciplinary Committee, or the repetition of an infraction, shall result in an escalation of the disciplinary sanction.*

Note 7: *At the discretion of the Disciplinary Committee, infractions may be communicated to the student's parent, legal guardian, or spouse.*

Note 8: *If there is a probability of behavioral correction and non-repetition of the infraction, the University Disciplinary Committees or the Central Disciplinary Committee may, at their discretion, suspend the execution of all or part of the ruling after obtaining a formal commitment from the student. In the event of any recurrent infraction, the suspended ruling shall be executed in addition to the sanction for the new offense. The application of this Note is permitted only once during the student's entire period of study. The validity of suspended rulings is conditional upon non-repetition until graduation; if no further infraction occurs during the remaining period of study, the disciplinary record shall be purged from the student's file.*

Furthermore, this Note applies to all categories of infractions covered by Article 6 of these regulations, except for the following cases: heinous acts (adultery and sodomy), repeated theft, use of weapons, membership or activity in heretical, subversive, or combatant groups, and the distribution of narcotics and alcoholic beverages.

Note 9: *Infractions committed by guest or transfer students shall be investigated by the disciplinary committee of the university where the infraction took place during their period of study. If the student is no longer at that university when the verdict is to be executed, the disciplinary committee of the student's current university of study is obligated to execute the issued ruling.*

Article 8 – Procedures for Student Appeals Against Issued Rulings:

A. Regarding rulings issued by the University Preliminary Disciplinary Committee (Paragraphs A.1 and A.2 of Article 7), The student may submit a written appeal to the Appellate Disciplinary Committee of the relevant university within 10 business days from the date of receiving notification of the preliminary ruling, for further review by the said committee.

Note: Regarding rulings under Paragraphs A.1 and A.2, the reviewing authority is the Preliminary Disciplinary Committee itself. The student must submit their objection to that committee within 10 business days from the date of notification of the initial ruling so that a final ruling may be issued.

B. Regarding decisions made by the Central Disciplinary Committee (Paragraphs A and B of Article 7), the procedures for issuing rulings and filing appeals shall be as follows:

B.1: The Central Committee shall first notify the student of its proposed sanction through the university or directly via a written notice (Preliminary Ruling).

B.2: The student may submit their defense statement to the Central Committee within two weeks following the notification of the ruling (either through the University Disciplinary Committee or directly to the Central Disciplinary Committee, with a copy forwarded to the University Disciplinary Committee).

B.3: The Central Committee, after reviewing the student's defense statement, shall issue the final and definitive ruling within a maximum period of one month.

Note 1: Preliminary rulings issued by either the University Disciplinary Committee or the Central Disciplinary Committee must be served to the non-compliant student in any possible manner within one month of issuance.

Note 2: Subject to the provisions of Note 1 of Article 8, preliminary rulings are not enforceable until the final and definitive ruling is issued.

Note 3: If a student refuses to acknowledge receipt of the preliminary ruling without a justified reason, their right to appeal shall be forfeited. (The authority to determine whether an excuse is unjustified rests with the Disciplinary Committee).

Article 9 – All university disciplinary committees are required to cooperate fully with the Central Disciplinary Committee in forwarding case files or other requested items, and must execute all rulings issued by the Central Disciplinary Committee.

Article 10 – The President of the university is responsible for supervising the proper implementation of all matters pertaining to these regulations within their respective university.

Article 11 – The authority for preliminary and final investigation of infractions committed by affiliated students rests solely with the Central Student Disciplinary Committee.

Article 12 – If security or judicial authorities determine whether a student is qualified or unqualified to continue their education, they must notify the Central Student Disciplinary

Committee in writing, specifying the type and extent of the infraction. The Central Committee shall then make a determination regarding the continuation, termination, or conditions of the student's education based on the submitted evidence. In any case, the ultimate authority for determining a student's qualification or disqualification to study rests with the Central Student Disciplinary Committee.

Note 1- Faculties affiliated with comprehensive universities and satellite faculties of other universities are permitted to form disciplinary committees. Their affiliation with the Central Disciplinary Committee shall be channeled through the main University Disciplinary Committee. The authority to determine the necessity of forming a disciplinary committee in such faculties rests with the University Appellate Disciplinary Committee, and the issuance of authorization is the responsibility of the Central Disciplinary Committee. The composition of disciplinary committees in such faculties shall be selected upon the proposal of the University Chancellor and confirmation by the Central Disciplinary Committee, as applicable.

Note 2- Universities affiliated with the Armed Forces shall investigate all infractions committed by students who are members of the Armed Forces in accordance with the Disciplinary Regulations of the Armed Forces approved by the Supreme Leader and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces. In the event of a student's permanent deprivation/expulsion from education, the university shall refer the case to the Central Student Disciplinary Committee. The continuation of such a student's education in universities not affiliated with the Armed Forces shall be subject to the clearance of their educational qualification by the Central Student Disciplinary Committee and in accordance with the criteria of the National Education Evaluation Organization (Sanjesh).

Note 3- Upon receiving a report, the Central Disciplinary Committee may, at its initial discretion, directly investigate student infractions.

Article 13 – The executive bylaws for these regulations shall be prepared jointly by the Ministry of Culture and Higher Education and the Ministry of Health and Medical Education within one month after approval by the Supreme Council of the Cultural Revolution, and shall be communicated to all universities for implementation.

Article 14 – These regulations, comprising 14 Articles, 54 Paragraphs, and 30 Notes, were approved during the session of the Supreme Council of the Cultural Revolution dated September 5, 1995 (14/06/1374 AP). They shall be strictly enforceable from the date of approval, and all conflicting regulations, directives, and circulars shall henceforth be null and void.