

Important Student Information Fall 2009
09/02/2009

Ramapo College seeks to create a living and learning community where students choose responsible actions consistent with this purpose. The Student Handbook contains important information that will assist and support students in meeting these goals. This publication serves as a valuable resource to students as it outlines services, standards of behavior, policies, and student rights and responsibilities. The 2009-2010 Student Handbook can be found on the Student Life, On Campus Living, and Judicial Affairs websites, <http://www.ramapo.edu/students/judicial/index.html>.

Students are responsible for knowing the contents of Ramapo's policies which are now published exclusively on-line. Students should direct their attention to **Section H: Prohibited Conduct** and familiarize themselves with a newly revised harassment code. This is now further defined to include electronic communication, cyber-harassment, and the invasion of privacy through electronic or digital means. Other key policies are: Academic Integrity Policy, Alcohol and Other Drug Policy, Anti-Discrimination Policy (includes the complaint procedure), College Hazing Policy, Responsible Use of Electronic Communications, Code of Conduct, Complaints Against College Employees, and possible sanctions for Fire Safety related infractions.

Students with alleged violations of the Code of Conduct will have cases referred to the Office of Judicial Affairs where a judicial officer will be assigned to hear the case. Under a finding of responsibility for an alcohol violation, the below guidelines are used by the judicial officer assigned to the case. Factors to be considered may include (but are not limited to): the nature and severity of the offense, damage/harm to self or others, and prior disciplinary record. Alcohol Assessments, managed through the Center for Health and Counseling Services, can be mandated even without a violation of local, State, Federal, or campus policies if there is a concern related to health and/or safety. Students may be suspended from the College or from having residence privileges for any alcohol or drug violation that is found to have seriously compromised campus safety and security.

MINIMUM RECOMMENDED SANCTIONS FOR VIOLATIONS of the ALCOHOL POLICY

1st violation – not less than a \$100 fine, attendance at Checkpoint (an alcohol education program) or completion of “Innerview” (an on-line education program) and possible Parental Notification (refer to Parental Notification policy printed in the Student Handbook).

2nd violation – not less than a \$200 fine, Parental Notification, attendance at Checkpoint, Residence Probation and possible Suspension of Activities Privileges.

3rd violation – not less than a \$400 fine, 10 Community Restitution hours, Parental Notification, referral to the Counseling Center for a Substance Abuse Assessment and possible outside treatment, Disciplinary Probation, Suspension of Activities Privileges, Loss of Campus Housing and possible Suspension from College.

4th violation – Suspension from the College and Parental Notification.

Other sanctions may apply as the result of a judicial conference, as listed under section “O” of the Student Handbook such as Loss of Campus Housing Priority. This is defined as: “For a stated period of time, the student will be permitted to participate in the on-campus housing room selection process only after all other eligible and currently housed students have participated OR only after all students have participated within a

particular credits earned cohort". IN OTHER WORDS, for such violations, students can be sent to the end of the entire room selection process or to the end of the process on their assigned day.

ALCOHOL IN RESIDENCE

Most students who have the privilege of residing in a living unit where alcohol is permitted (known as alcohol-allowed housing) will possess and consume alcohol responsibly. A living unit may lose its alcohol-allowed status by violating State laws and/or policies set by Ramapo College of New Jersey and/or residents may be relocated to a traditional style residence hall where alcohol is not permitted. Students can avoid these consequences by drinking and serving alcohol in a responsible manner that is consistent with our Code of Conduct.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE CLERY ACT

The Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crimes Statistics Act requires educational institutions to publish and distribute annual crime statistics to the community. This information can be accessed on the Public Safety website at: <http://www.ramapo.edu/facultystaff/publicsafety/index.html>

Paper copies are also available outside the Public Safety Office and in other locations on campus.

WOODS ROAD

Students are reminded that Woods Road is for vehicular traffic ONLY. Pedestrians and activities such as skateboarding, long boarding, and roller-blading are not permitted on Woods Road. Using this road for walking is dangerous.

OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS (E-MAIL, VOICEMAIL, AND MAILBOXES)

All registered students are required to have a Ramapo College e-mail account which they check daily for important information and announcements from the College. All resident students are required to check their mailboxes and voicemail on a daily basis. Students will be held responsible for information disseminated in this way.

Alert Me Now is a service that delivers emergency alerts and college closing notices to students registered phones and/or cell phones via voice or text message. A student can provide up to three phone numbers (1 text, 2 voice).

At New Student Orientation, students will be guided on how to set up their e-mail account and enter information for Alert Me Now, an emergency notification service. Students are encouraged to visit the following website for further information: <http://ww2.ramapo.edu/facultystaff/hr/alert.aspx>

If you should have any questions or comments regarding anything in this announcement, please do not hesitate to contact the Office of Judicial Affairs (Academic C-Wing, 2nd Floor, C-216) at 201.684.7869.

Sincerely,
Melissa Van Der Wall (mvanderw@ramapo.edu)
Director of Judicial Affairs