2020 Addendum to the Statement of Student Rights and Responsibilities

Preamble
The Office of Student Conflict Resolution (OSCR) at the University of Michigan endeavors to provide programs and services - with a restorative justice framework through a social justice lens - designed to support a safe, just and peaceful community through building trust, promoting justice and teaching peace. OSCR offers a full-spectrum of conflict resolution pathways to help prevent, reduce and repair community harm. These pathways include formal conflict resolution as described in the Statement of Student Rights and Responsibilities. Learn more about OSCR here: https://oscr.umich.edu/learn-more.

Student Rights. The Statement of Student Rights and Responsibilities is a community-developed document outlining both the rights and responsibilities of students at the University of Michigan. The same values that undergird the Statement are here extended within this document and include: civility, dignity, diversity, education, equality, equity, freedom, honesty, and safety. The following is implemented with the purpose of supporting and maintaining a safe scholarly community for all. Through this document, students maintain the same rights and protections under the constitutions of the United States and the State of Michigan. All student rights outlined in section II of the Statement remain.

Procedure. The provisions under this addendum will utilize the procedures found in section VI of the Statement of Student Rights and Responsibilities starting with the initiation of the Resolution Process by any student, faculty member, or staff member submitting a complaint on their behalf or based on information reported to them. Per Statement procedures, appropriate resolution mechanisms may include disciplinary and non-disciplinary procedures: resolution by agreement, adaptable conflict resolution, and formal conflict resolution (arbitration).

Authority. This addendum is adopted in accordance with sec. 2.01 of the Bylaws of the University of Michigan Board of Regents, which describes the responsibility of the President to steward the “maintenance of health, diligence, and order among students.” The process used to develop this addendum mirrors that of an established Statement amendment process as a one-time response to the COVID-19 crisis.

Time Limitation. This addendum is intended to be in effect on a limited term. Further expectations set forth in this document will be in effect for the Fall 2020 and Winter 2021 term. Extensions of this addendum, to account for the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic, may be extended by the determination of the Vice President for Student Life.

Existing Statement provisions: Individual behavior with COVID-related public health and/or safety implications on individuals and groups would be addressed through the most relevant existing policy provision in the Statement and by the range of existing procedures already outlined under the Statement.
Supplementary Student Responsibilities
In addition to the responsibilities set forth in Section IV of the Statement, the following violations would apply:

1. Members of the Student community are expected to comply with health and safety laws, orders, ordinances, regulations or health and safety guidance adopted by the University as it relates to public health crises, including COVID-19, where failure to do so may result in public health risk. This guidance will evolve as the public health crisis evolves and may include, but is not limited to, social distancing, mandatory COVID-19 testing, de-densifying efforts, limitations on mass gatherings, wearing a face covering, contact tracing, and quarantine / isolation requirements.


3. Failure to participate in and maintain isolation and/or quarantine, as instructed by a health care provider or public health officials, which may include U-M Environmental health and safety.

4. Hosting or attending a social gathering larger than the allowable limits set by any state or local law or University policy. This provision does not preclude constitutionally protected activity, such as protesting, or individuals who may be residing together in a single household.

Scope. Section V. Scope of violations of the Statement or this addendum include any behavior or misconduct that occurs in the online environment.

Interim Measures. Section VII, Procedures, of the Statement are here clarified to include interim measures as follows: if a student’s actions pose an immediate health or safety risk to any member of the University of Michigan - Ann Arbor community, the Vice President for Student Life or designee may institute interim measures, including removal from in-person activities related to the University, effective immediately. The process described in the Emergency Suspension section of the Statement would follow the issuance of any interim measure.

As outlined in the Statement, Students have the right to be treated fairly and with dignity. The public health crisis presented by COVID disproportionately impacts certain marginalized communities; examples include, immuno-compromised people, black, indigenous, and people of color and LGBTQIA+ people. The same fundamental fairness extended by the Office of Student Conflict Resolution, through the Statement - by trained multi-partial facilitators with a social justice lens and restorative justice framework - is here extended through this addendum.