

George Mason University Student Rights in Disciplinary Hearings

The model for disciplinary procedures is that of an administrative proceeding, rather than criminal or civil trial. The following standards of fairness and student rights are guaranteed to a student in any university disciplinary proceeding.

1. The right to prompt, written notice of charges.
2. The right, upon written request filed with the hearing board or officer, to have reasonable access to any written testimony that may be used at a hearing.
3. The right to examine witnesses against the student and to produce evidence on his/her behalf.
4. The right not to be compelled to be a witness against oneself or to have his/her silence taken as an indication of responsibility for the violation.
5. The right to a decision based on a preponderance of the evidence.
6. The right not to be punished and censured unless the decision maker, on the basis of the evidence, is persuaded that the student is found responsible for the violation.
7. The right to be accompanied in all formal proceedings by an advisor of his/her own choosing and at his/her own expense.
8. The right to appeal decisions to a higher authority or hearing body within the administrative channels provided by the George Mason University Judicial System.
9. The right to have his/her case processed without prejudicial delay.