

ANTI-HARASSMENT PROCEDURE

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Parent Policy	Anti-Harassment Policy		
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Related Documents	Anti-Harassment Policy Risk Management Policy (and related Procedure) Staff Code of Conduct Staff Disciplinary Procedure Staff Grievances and Complaints Policy (and related Procedure) Student Code of Conduct Student Misconduct Procedure Student Grievances, Complaints and Appeals Policy (and related Procedure) Higher Education Standards Framework (Threshold Standards) 2015 (TEQSA Act 2011)		

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1. PURPOSE

1.1 The Anti-Harassment Procedure provides a framework to assist Adelaide Institute of Higher Education (AIHE) in resolving the unlawful discrimination and harassment grievances of students and staff. The procedures, founded on the principles of natural justice and procedural fairness, support AIHE's commitment to eliminating unlawful discrimination, sexual harassment, workplace bullying, victimisation and any other form of unlawful behaviour described in the Anti-Harassment Policy.

1.2 Consistent with the relevant legislation and good business practice these procedures are based on the philosophy of using education and conciliation as the principal approach to the prevention of unlawful discrimination and harassment and in the resolution of grievances.

1.3 The procedures are designed to assist in the resolution of grievances by:

- providing a consistent and transparent process for managing grievances;
- encouraging complainants to lodge grievances as soon as practicable after the alleged incident occurs;
- ensuring every grievance is clearly defined; and
- investigating and dealing with grievances promptly.

2. SCOPE

2.1 The Anti-Harassment Procedure applies to students, staff and affiliates of AIHE. For this Procedure all references to the term "student" are inclusive of a prospective student, an applicant for admission to AIHE, a current student, or a former or past student of AIHE.

2.2 This Procedure applies when a claim of harassment, bullying or discrimination concerns an AIHE student or staff member and where the conduct complained about occurred at AIHE or where the conduct is related to AIHE activities.

3. PREVENTION OF DISCRIMINATION AND HARASSMENT

3.1 To create and maintain a teaching and learning environment that encourages and empowers everyone to perform at their best AIHE will take reasonable steps to prevent unlawful discrimination and harassment through a risk management approach.

3.2 Consistent with AIHE's Risk Management Policy and related Procedure, this approach includes, but is not limited to:

- identification of risk factors, being circumstances and other things that could contribute to discrimination, bullying or harassment, such as the way in which students are assessed or staff are managed;
- assessment of the likelihood of discrimination, bullying or harassment occurring from the risk factors identified and their potential impact on staff, students or the teaching and learning environment;
- eliminating, controlling or minimising the risks as far as reasonably practicable;
- reviewing the effectiveness of the control methods put in place and the process generally; and
- training staff and educating students about unlawful discrimination, bullying and harassment, how to deal with it and its impact on the teaching and learning environment.

4. STUDENT COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

4.1 The grievance resolution procedures, as set out in the Student Grievances, Complaints and Appeals Policy (and related Procedure) provide students with several options to resolve their concerns, grievances or complaints concerning discrimination or harassment at AIHE. A student may:

- seek to resolve the problem at the local level, if it is reasonable and appropriate to do so, before a formal complaint is made; or
- lodge a formal complaint, generally when a matter cannot be resolved at the local level, or if a student is dissatisfied with the outcome at the local level.

4.2 AIHE will facilitate the timely, fair and confidential resolution of student grievances.

4.3 If a student is not satisfied with a decision or determination made by AIHE, they have the right to lodge an appeal provided there are grounds as set out in Section 6 of the Student Grievances, Complaints and Appeals Procedure. Further, a student may lodge a complaint or appeal with a relevant external agency.

5. STAFF COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

5.1 Where a staff member has a concern or complaint concerning another member of staff or an AIHE determination or decision, the grievance resolution procedures are set out in the Staff Grievances and Complaints Policy (and related Procedure). Options available to staff to resolve their grievances include:

- seek advice and information resolution of the grievance without lodging a written complaint (informal resolution); and
- lodge a written complaint using the Staff Complaints Form.

5.2 In some circumstances, the seriousness of an allegation may place AIHE under a legal obligation to ensure that a matter is investigated beyond that which the complainant intends or wishes, in which case AIHE may initiate a complaint or progress a complaint on its own volition.

5.3 A staff member who has a concern or complaint about the conduct of a student, where that conduct is in breach of the Student Code of Conduct, must follow the processes set out in the Student Misconduct Procedure.

6. CONSEQUENCES OF BREACH

6.1 Breaches of the Anti-Harassment Policy will be addressed through the disciplinary procedures prescribed for staff and affiliates (refer AIHE's Code of Conduct and the Staff Disciplinary Procedure) and students (refer Student Code of Conduct Policy and Student Misconduct Procedure). Depending upon the severity and implications of the breach, sanctions may include legal action, a formal warning, retraining, and/or other disciplinary action (such as suspension or termination of employment, or suspension or exclusion from AIHE).

7. DEFINITIONS

7.1 See the AIHE Glossary of Terms for definitions.