MIAMI REGIONAL UNIVERSITY

Student Rights and Responsibilities

Purpose

Miami Regional University (MRU) is committed to fostering an academic community founded on integrity, respect, professionalism, and accountability. Students are expected to contribute to an environment that promotes learning, personal growth, and mutual respect while upholding the University's mission of providing quality undergraduate and graduate education in a nurturing learning environment that fosters the development of knowledge, skills, and attitudes for diverse multigenerational learners, and serve their communities.

Enrollment at Miami Regional University carries both rights and responsibilities. Every student is expected to exercise these rights responsibly and conduct themselves in a manner that supports the University's educational mission and promotes a safe, respectful, and inclusive learning environment.

Student Rights

Every MRU student has the right to:

1. Equal Educational Opportunity

Receive equal access to educational programs, services, facilities, and activities without discrimination based on race, color, national origin, ethnicity, religion, sex, pregnancy, age, disability, marital status, veteran status, or any other protected classification under applicable federal and Florida law.

2. A Safe and Respectful Learning Environment

Learn in an environment that promotes safety, civility, professionalism, and mutual respect and is free from:

- Discrimination
- Harassment
- Sexual harassment
- Sexual assault
- Sexual exploitation
- Stalking
- Dating or domestic violence
- Retaliation
- Bullying
- Hazing
- Violence

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MRU maintains policies and procedures consistent with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (Clery Act), the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, and other applicable federal and state laws.

3. Academic Freedom
Express ideas respectfully, engage in scholarly inquiry, participate in classroom discussion, and pursue learning within the framework of academic integrity, professional standards, and institutional policies.

4. Fair, Equitable, and Impartial Treatment
Receive fair, consistent, and equitable application of university policies, academic standards, and disciplinary procedures. Students are entitled to due process through established institutional procedures before disciplinary sanctions are imposed.

5. Quality Education
Receive instruction from qualified faculty who possess appropriate academic credentials and professional expertise.

Students may expect:

- Clearly stated course learning outcomes
- Published grading criteria
- Timely evaluation and feedback
- Reasonable faculty accessibility
- Instruction consistent with program and accreditation standards

6. Access to Student Support Services
Have reasonable access to institutional resources that promote academic success and personal development, including:

- Academic advising
- Library and Learning Resources
- Technology support
- Tutoring and academic support
- Career Services
- Campus Life
- Disability/Accessibility Services
- Financial Aid counseling
- Student Success resources

7. Privacy of Educational Records (FERPA)

Receive the protections afforded by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).
Students have the right to:

- Inspect and review their education records.
- Request amendment of education records believed to be inaccurate or misleading.
- Provide written consent before personally identifiable information is disclosed, except as permitted by federal law.
- File a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the University to comply with FERPA.

8. Reasonable Accommodations
Request reasonable accommodations for documented disabilities through the University's ADA Office (adaofficer@mru.edu). Accommodation requests are reviewed individually in accordance with applicable federal and state law.

9. Title IX Rights
Students have the right to:

- Report sex discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, or retaliation.
- Receive information regarding available supportive measures.
- Access the University's Title IX Coordinator.
- Participate in prompt, fair, and equitable grievance procedures.
- Be protected from retaliation for making a good-faith report or participating in an investigation.

10. Student Complaints and Grievances
Present concerns regarding academic or non-academic matters using established University grievance procedures. Procedures are published on the consumer information tab of the university website, Student Hub and Student Handbook.

Students have the right to:

- Submit complaints without fear of retaliation.
- Receive timely review of complaints.
- Be informed of institutional procedures.
- Appeal decisions as provided in university policy.

Students are encouraged to seek informal resolution whenever appropriate before initiating formal grievance procedures.

11. Financial Aid
Students have the right to know:

- How to apply for Federal Financial Aid as an Undergraduate, Graduate or Transfer student
- What types of Financial Aid is available to students from all federal, state, and institutional financial assistance programs (Scholarships, Grants, and Loans).
- The deadlines, selection criteria, and eligibility requirements that apply to each of the programs
- Know your total loan amount borrowed
- The Educational Loan Code of Conduct
- Where to and how to access the Department of Education's publications on student loans
- How your financial need is determined; this includes how costs for tuition and fees, room and board, travel, books and supplies, and personal expenses are included in your cost of attendance (COA).
- How and when financial aid is paid to students (disbursements and refunds);
- How to continue to maintain eligibility for financial assistance; including how the Office of Financial Aid determines you are maintaining satisfactory academic progress (SAP) and what happens if you are not
- If you have a student loan (undergraduate or graduate), the loan terms such as the interest rate, cancellation provisions, total amount that must be repaid, who your loan servicer is, when repayment begins, cancellation, discharge, deferment, forbearance, and consolidation information
- MRU withdrawal policy: the portion if any of financial aid you must pay back
- You can accept, decline, or reduce any or all types of aid
- If you reduce or decline aid, we may not be able to reverse this action as some funds are limited and distributed on a first-come, first-served basis
- Accepting more financial aid than necessary is not advised. We will not offer more aid than needed to attend, however, you may not need all that is offered. It is in your best interest to only accept what you need.

12. Federal and Institutional Disclosure Rights

Students have the right to receive and access institutional disclosures required by federal and state law, including information regarding:

- Accreditation
- Availability of Employees for Information Dissemination
- Completion and Graduation Rate by Gender and Ethnicity
- Tuition and fees
- Cost of attendance
- Drug and Alcohol Prevention Policy / Biennial Report
- Financial aid
- Refund policies
- Satisfactory Achievement Data
- Textbook Information

- Professional licensure disclosures
- Missing Person Policy and Procedures
- Campus Safety and the Annual Security Report
- Voter registration information
- FERPA
- Title IX
- Student grievance / complaint procedures

These disclosures are available through the university website or Consumer Information tab on the University's webpage (www.mru.edu/consumer-information) and other official institutional publications.

13. Participation in University Governance
Students are encouraged to participate in institutional governance and continuous improvement through:

- Student organizations
- Campus Life activities
- Surveys
- Institutional committees, when applicable
- Student Government
- Community engagement opportunities

Student input is valued and considered in institutional planning and decision-making.

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Student Responsibilities

Students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner consistent with the University's mission and values.

Every MRU student is responsible for:

1. Academic Integrity

Maintain the highest standards of academic honesty by:

- Completing original work
- Properly citing sources
- Avoiding plagiarism
- Refraining from cheating
- Avoiding unauthorized collaboration
- Misuse of academic materials or assessments
- Falsification of academic records

2. Respect for Others and the Learning Environment

Students are expected to treat faculty, staff, peers, and members of the community with dignity and respect. Conduct that disrupts the educational environment or violates the rights of others is not permitted.

Prohibited behaviors include:

- Harassment, discrimination, or retaliation
- Bullying, intimidation, or threats
- Verbal, physical, or electronic misconduct
- Threats, violence or unsafe conduct
- Theft, vandalism, or damage to property
- Drugs or alcohol violations
- Disruptive behavior in classrooms, labs, or online environments

MRU is committed to providing an environment free from discrimination and harassment for all members of its community.

3. Professional Conduct

Students are expected to demonstrate professionalism in all university-related settings, including classrooms, online platforms, and clinical or laboratory environments.

This includes:

- Communicating respectfully and professionally

- Adhering to ethical standards of the student's field of study
- Following expectations for conduct in clinical, externship, or practicum settings

Professional conduct is expected for students participating in clinical, practicum, internship, or simulation. Students must adhere to the professional standards established by both the University and affiliated sites.

4. Compliance with University Policies
Read, understand, and comply with all University policies and procedures contained in the:

- University Catalog
- Student Handbook
- Student Hub
- Academic policies
- Clinical policies
- Technology policies
- Campus Safety policies
- Financial Aid policies
- Other official University publications

Failure to comply with university policies may result in disciplinary action.

5. Safety and Security
Students are expected to contribute to a safe and secure campus environment.

Prohibited behaviors include:

- Possession of illegal drugs or unauthorized weapons
- Threats or acts of violence
- Hazardous or unsafe conduct
- Violations of campus safety policies

These expectations align with federal and institutional requirements related to campus safety.

6. Integrity in Personal and Administrative Matters
Students are expected to provide accurate and truthful information in all interactions with the university.

Violations include:

- Falsification of records or documentation
- Misrepresentation in admissions, financial aid, or academic matters
- Failure to meet financial obligations or comply with administrative requirements

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Students share responsibility for maintaining accurate records and fulfilling institutional expectations.

7. Classroom / Online Course Responsibilities

Students are expected to:

- Attend classes regularly
- Arrive at class, prepared and on time
- Complete assignments by established deadlines
- Participate actively in learning activities
- Communicate professionally with faculty and staff
- Monitor official university email and student portal communications

8. Responsible Use of Technology

Use university technology resources ethically, responsibly, and in accordance with institutional policies. Students shall not:

- Misuse University information systems
- Violate copyright laws
- Access unauthorized information
- Share confidential information improperly
- Engage in activities that compromise institutional cybersecurity

Students are expected to maintain the security and integrity of university systems

9. Financial Responsibility

Students are responsible for:

- Meeting financial obligations owed to the University
- Provide accurate information related to admissions and financial aid, completing all required applications and forms
- Maintaining eligibility for financial aid, including Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)
- Understand and comply with terms and conditions of Title IV aid (grants and loans)
- Read all University Financial Aid communications sent to your MRU email address
- Know your total loan amount borrowed
- Use financial aid funds only for educational expenses
- Respond promptly to all requests from the Office of Financial Aid
- Know and meet all deadlines to apply and re-apply for financial aid
- Read, understand, and keep copies of all forms you are asked to submit or sign

- Notify the Office of Financial Aid if there are changes to the information you reported on your FAFSA or any changes to your grade level and/or enrollment status
- Know and comply with the university's refund and withdrawal policies
- Repaying financial aid funds when required under federal regulations
- Reviewing and understanding all financial aid rights and responsibilities

10. Protection of University Property

Respect University facilities, equipment, instructional resources, technology, and property.

Students may be held financially responsible for damage resulting from negligence or misconduct.

11. Clinical and Professional Responsibilities

Students participating in clinical education, externships, internships, or laboratories, must comply with:

- HIPAA and confidentiality requirements
- Site-specific policies
- Professional dress standards
- Safety protocols
- Immunization and health requirements
- Background screening requirements
- Licensing or certification requirements, when applicable

12. Personal Responsibility

Students are responsible for:

- Monitoring their academic progress
- Maintaining current contact information
- Reading official University communications
- Understanding degree requirements
- Meeting graduation requirements
- Seeking assistance when academic or personal challenges arise
- Reviewing and remaining informed of university policies and federally required consumer disclosures

13. Student Conduct Disciplinary Process and Sanctions

Conduct subject to disciplinary action includes, but is not limited to:

- Academic dishonesty
- Disruptive classroom behavior
- Harassment or discrimination
- Sexual misconduct
- Threats or acts of violence

- Theft or vandalism
- Alcohol or drug policy violations
- Possession of illegal drugs or unauthorized weapons
- Misuse of technology
- Falsification of University records
- Failure to comply with lawful directives of university officials acting within the scope of their responsibilities

Sanctions may include educational interventions, warnings, probation, suspension, dismissal, or other appropriate disciplinary actions consistent with university policy.

Reporting and Resolution

Students are encouraged to report concerns or violations through appropriate institutional channels, including Academic Affairs, Student Services, or the Title IX Coordinator, as applicable.
The University provides both informal and formal resolution processes, and students may pursue grievances without fear of retaliation.

Questions or Concerns
Students seeking assistance regarding their rights, responsibilities, or University policies are encouraged to contact the appropriate University office, including:

- Academic Affairs
- Academic Advising
- ADA Officer /Accessibility Services
- Campus Life
- Campus Safety
- Financial Aid
- Registrar
- Student Services
- Title IX Coordinator

Additional institutional policies and federally required disclosures are available through the University Catalog, Student Handbook, and the University's website or Consumer Information webpage (mru.edu/consumer-information).