

# **Exclusion for Safety Reasons Regulations 2014**

# Part 1 - Preliminary

## 1. Objective

The objective of these Regulations is to make provision for refusal to enrol a student and suspension or exclusion of a student under section 41 of the <u>Governance</u>, <u>Academic and Student Affairs Statute 2013</u>.

## 2. Authorising provision

These Regulations are made under the <u>Governance</u>, <u>Academic and Student Affairs Statute 2013</u> and sections 28, 29 and 30 of the <u>Victoria University Act 2010</u>.

#### 3. Definitions

In these Regulations-

- a. "applicant" means a person who has applied to enrol as a student.
- b. "decision-maker" means a member of staff, other than a Deputy Vice-Chancellor, nominated by the Vice-Chancellor to decide whether or not to make an exclusion decision.
- c. "conditional exclusion decision" means an exclusion decision in respect of which the University has imposed a condition under regulation 8(2);
- d. "exclusion decision" means a decision under section 41 of the Statute to refuse to enrol a person as a student or to suspend or exclude a student;
- e. "high risk person" means a person described in paragraph (a) or (b) of section 41 of the Statute;
- f. "SAT Team" means the Safety and Triage Team established under regulation 4.
- g. "Statute" means the Governance, Academic and Student Affairs Statute 2013.

#### 4. Establishment of the SAT Team

- (1) The University must establish a Safety and Triage Team.
- (2) The functions of the SAT Team are
  - a. to assess whether a student is a high risk person; and
  - b. to make recommendations to the university.
- (3) The SAT Team is to be nominated by the Vice-Chancellor and is to comprise five members of staff of the University, as follows
  - a. one member from the student counselling service;
  - b. one member from legal services;
  - c. one member from security;
  - d. the Manager responsible for student support and wellbeing;

- e. one other member.
- (4) The chair of the SAT Team will be the Manager responsible for student support and wellbeing.
- (5) In performing its functions, the SAT Team may make any enquiries and consult any person it considers necessary.

# Part 2- Decision to Refuse, Exclude or Suspend

#### 5. Consultation with the SAT Team

The decision-maker must consult with the SAT Team before he or she makes an exclusion decision.

#### 6. Exclusion decision

After consulting with the SAT Team, the decision-maker may make an exclusion decision if it appears to him or her that the applicant or a student may be a high risk person.

#### 7. Effect of exclusion decision

- (1) A person who is subject to an exclusion decision to suspend remains a student of the university, but is prohibited from attending any teaching or assessment session.
- (2) A person who is subject to an exclusion decision to exclude remains a student of the university, but is prohibited from entering any university precincts or premises.
- (3) A person who is subject to an exclusion decision to refuse to enrol ceases to be a student of the university and is permanently debarred from enrolling or re-enrolling in any unit or course or study of the university, unless the university at any time determines otherwise.
- (4) Without otherwise affecting the operation of this regulation, a person who is subject to an exclusion decision remains a student of the university until:
  - a. the expiration of the time allowed by regulation 10(2) for the lodging of a notice of appeal; or
  - b. where a notice of appeal is lodged, until the appeal process is concluded.

#### 8. Conditional exclusion decision

- (1) If it appears to the University that an applicant or a student may be a high risk person, it may make an exclusion decision which is suspended in its operation.
- (2) If a decision is made under this regulation, the University may impose a condition that the appellant complies, to the satisfaction of the University, with specified requirements.

## 9. Notice of refusal, suspension or exclusion

- (1) If the University makes an exclusion decision, it must give written notice of the action taken to the person excluded.
- (2) The notice must be given not later than seven days after the action is taken.
- (3) The notice must set out
  - a. the person's right of appeal under these Regulations;
  - b. subject to sub-regulation (5), a statement of grounds for the exclusion decision.
- (4) The notice must be served on the person personally or by post or electronic means to his or her last known postal

address or email address.

- (5) The University may omit from the notice the statement of grounds for the decision if
  - a. it serves a statement of grounds for the decision on
    - i. an immediate family member within the meaning of the Health Records Act 2001; or
    - ii. a registered medical practitioner who is advising or treating the person; and
  - b. it is authorised to do so by Health Privacy Principle 2 of the Health Records Act 2001.

# Part 3 - Appeal Rights

## 10. Appeal from an exclusion decision

- (1) A person who is the subject of an exclusion decision may appeal from the decision by lodging a Notice of Appeal in accordance with the Procedures to these Regulations, giving a notice of appeal to the University.
- (2) A notice of appeal must be given within 3 weeks after the person is given the notice of decision.

## 11. Appeal Committee

- (1) The University must establish an Appeal Committee for the purposes of considering an appeal.
- (2) An Appeal Committee must comprise
  - a. a Deputy Vice-Chancellor or a member of staff nominated by him or her;
  - b. a member of staff nominated by the Manager responsible for student administration;
  - c. a member of the academic staff nominated by the Dean of the College in which the student is enrolled.
- (3) An Appeal Committee may also include an additional member co-opted by the Appeal Committee.
- (4) The Deputy Vice Chancellor or a member of staff nominated by him or her appointed under clause 11(2)(a) is the Chair of the Committee.
- (5) An Appeal Committee must not include a member who has been involved with the appellant in relation to any matter covered by this Regulation.

# 12. Procedure for considering an appeal

- (1) An Appeal Committee considering an appeal under these Regulations
  - a. must provide opportunity to the decision-maker and the appellant to submit written evidence for consideration by the Committee;
  - b. may require the decision-maker or the appellant or both to attend before it.
- (2) If the decision-maker or the appellant appears before the Committee, he or she may be accompanied and assisted, but not represented, by a staff member or student or other person approved by the Committee.

# 13. Powers and duties of Appeals Committee

- (1) An Appeal Committee considering an appeal under these Regulations may
  - a. make such enquiries and consult such persons as it thinks fit;
  - b. require persons with special knowledge of the state of health or disability of the appellant to report to or consult

- with the Committee;
- c. require the appellant to undergo medical examination or psychological assessment by persons specified by the Committee.
- (2) An examination or assessment under sub-regulation (1) is at the expense of the University.

## 14. Determination of the appeal

- (1) After considering the appeal, an Appeal Committee may
  - a. allow the appeal;
  - b. allow the appeal on condition that the appellant complies, to the satisfaction of the University, with specified requirements;
  - c. confirm or vary the decision;
  - d. refuse enrolment or suspend or exclude the student.
- (2) A decision of an Appeal Committee is final.

# Part 4 - Ongoing Management

## 15. Compliance with conditions

- (1) In this regulation condition requiring ongoing management means a condition imposed
  - a. by the decision-maker under regulation 7; or
  - b. by an Appeal Committee under regulation 14(1)(b).
- (2) If a condition requiring ongoing management applies to a student, the University may
  - a. require the person to report to a person nominated by the Vice Chancellor at specified intervals on his or her compliance with the conditions;
  - b. if professional assistance is a condition, require a report to be made to the University at specified intervals from the professional.
- (3) If it appears to the decision-maker that a condition requiring ongoing management has not been complied with, the decision-maker may
  - a. allow enrolment to continue subject to amended conditions; or
  - b. make an exclusion decision.
- (4) If the decision-maker makes an exclusion decision under this Regulation
  - a. he or she must give written notice of the action taken in accordance with regulation 9(1);
  - b. the right of appeal under regulation 10(1) applies to the decision.

# **Status and Details**

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Accountable Officer	Adam Shoemaker Vice-Chancellor +61 3 99194011
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