



THE CEDARVILLE EXPERIENCE
2017-18 UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT HANDBOOK



TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	5	INTEGRITY IN CONDUCT	15–19	EXCELLENCE IN EFFORT	21–26
Core Values.....	5	Honesty	16	Academic Integrity Statement	22
Cedarville Covenant	5	Alcohol and Illegal and Harmful Substances	16	Accountability and Discipline	23
Community Lifestyle Guidelines	5	Personal Care and Responsibility	17	Biblical Principles That Influence Our Approach to Discipline	23
LOVE FOR GOD	7–9	Involuntary Administrative Withdrawal	17	Upholding the Cedarville Covenant	24
Church Participation	8	Dress and Appearance.....	17	Students Voluntarily Seeking Help	24
Chapel.....	8	Dance.....	18	Judicial System	24
Personal Bible Study	8	Student ID Cards	18	Appeal Process	25
The Lord’s Day	9	Firearms and Explosives	18	Notification of Parents	26
Cedarville’s Position on Sign Gifts and Speaking in Tongues	9	Public Demonstrations, Solicitations, and Distributions	18		
LOVE FOR OTHERS	11–13	Campus Safety	19		
Commitment to Purity	12	Technology	19		
Respect for Others.....	12	Legal Resources for College Students	19		





LOVE FOR GOD · LOVE FOR OTHERS · INTEGRITY IN CONDUCT · EXCELLENCE IN EFFORT

INTRODUCTION

Words often used to describe the Cedarville University experience are intentional, rigorous, and balanced. We are intentional about creating a Christ-centered community, rigorous in our pursuit of scholarship, and balanced in our approach to Christian lifestyle. Our mission statement uses the phrase “Christ-centered learning community” to identify our commitment to a strong educational experience that strives to center all that we do, including our scholarship and our life together, on the Word of God and the Testimony of Jesus Christ.

We call our student handbook *The Cedarville Experience* because it includes many of the guidelines and principles that will shape your time at Cedarville. *The Cedarville Experience* is based on a set of core values and the Cedarville Covenant. This policy/document should be viewed in light of Cedarville University’s educational mission and theological distinctives. All applications of this policy are governed by the University’s Bylaws, Doctrinal Statement and Statements of Standards of Conduct as adopted and amended by the University’s Board of Trustees as the final interpretive authority on these matters. Any discrepancies should be resolved in favor of these controlling documents of the University, which reserves the right to make decisions that permit it to carry out its mission consistent with biblical principles.

CORE VALUES

Love for God. Love for others. Integrity in conduct. Excellence in effort.

CEDARVILLE COVENANT

We are a community of believers accountable to one another, called to reflect the character of Jesus Christ and to be obedient to His Word. We will be faithful in our support for the local church and in our practice of spiritual disciplines. We will practice biblical principles of encouragement, exhortation, and reconciliation. We commit ourselves to integrity, kindness, purity, and self-control and to continual growth in scholarship, leadership, and service.

Therefore, as members of the Cedarville community, we regularly affirm our commitment to the Cedarville Covenant with this pledge: **We will love God and others, live with integrity, and pursue excellence in all we do.**

COMMUNITY LIFESTYLE GUIDELINES

The core values and Cedarville Covenant shape each student’s experience at Cedarville University. The Cedarville Covenant and our pledge to “love God and others, live with integrity, and pursue excellence in all we do” begins when students enroll and is in effect until they graduate or discontinue enrollment at the University, including the regular semesters, semester breaks, and breaks between semesters. We hope that the principles of this covenant will be such a meaningful part of our students’ college experience that they will choose to honor these values for the rest of their lives.

The guidelines outlined in this handbook provide additional direction for how we embody these principles in the campus environment.

Cedarville is a residential campus, which means that most of our undergraduate students are required to live in the residence halls. Some exceptions include students 23 or older, married students, or students who commute from their parents’ home. In addition, each year special permission is granted to a limited number of upperclassmen to live off campus in the surrounding community.





LOVE FOR GOD

The Cedarville Covenant begins with a promise to help one another become more like Christ. At Cedarville, we help students develop disciplines that support spiritual growth. Things like participating in meaningful worship experiences, life-changing ministry opportunities, and healthy forms of spiritual accountability help students grow spiritually. Jesus taught that the most important measures of spirituality are loving God and loving people. One way that we demonstrate our commitment to being a Christ-centered community is by taking this charge seriously.

Corporate worship through experiences like church and chapel, and more private practices like personal Bible study and a healthy respect for the importance of the Lord's Day, are among the things that Cedarville encourages that help students express their love for God. These disciplines also shape our character, making us more like Jesus Christ.

CHURCH PARTICIPATION

The New Testament picture of a Christian includes commitment to a local congregation of believers covenanted together around the study of the Word of God, the practice of believer's baptism and the Lord's Supper, and the proclamation of the Gospel (Matt. 26:26–29; 28:18–20; Eph. 4:1–6). The local church is God's design for reaching the lost amongst the nations, growing His followers to spiritual maturity, providing for the needs of His children through fellowship, expressing love for God in worship, and meeting the needs of others through service (Matt. 16:13–20; 1 Cor. 12:12–28; Eph. 5:25–27). Therefore, we ask students to maintain the discipline of weekly corporate worship at a local evangelical church.

Undergraduate students are also asked to participate in one additional opportunity for growth and service each week. This can include participating in a local ministry, discipleship group, additional church involvement, small-group Bible study, or an intentional mentoring relationship. To encourage accountability, students are expected to connect to a local church in their first semester, invite accountability from another growing believer, and develop strong spiritual disciplines.

CHAPEL

Chapel is a defining part of the Cedarville campus experience. Chapel helps to build a sense of community at Cedarville University by providing a shared experience of worship, biblical teaching, testimonies, community, and prayer. The first week of each semester begins with a special Bible or missions conference, including both morning and evening services.

All undergraduate students taking more than six credit hours are required to attend

daily chapel and scan in using their student ID card. Students may request an excused absence for chapels missed due to illness, funerals, direct work conflicts, job interviews, and University-sponsored ministry or athletic team involvement. Students are allowed eight chapel absences (skips) per semester to be used at their discretion. For any unexcused absences accumulated in addition to excused and the eight discretionary absences, fines are given as follows:

- 5 Unexcused Absences = \$15
- 10 Unexcused Absences = \$30
- 15 Unexcused Absences = \$30 and Official Warning
- 20 Unexcused Absences = \$30 and Probation (this includes notifying current faculty and academic adviser)

Ultimately, students who show a pattern of disregard for chapel may be asked not to return for the following semester.

In light of the opportunity for spiritual growth and the distinctive role chapel serves in the Cedarville experience, students are expected to maintain responsible use of technology during chapel services to encourage individual and collective attentiveness.

PERSONAL BIBLE STUDY

In addition to corporate worship experiences like church and chapel, students are encouraged to develop and maintain the discipline of personal Bible study. Many students also voluntarily join small-group Bible studies that meet on campus to complement private and corporate worship. Find out about small-group Bible studies on the Discipleship Ministries website at cedarville.edu/discipleship.

THE LORD'S DAY

As a community, we protect Sunday to encourage the pattern of setting aside our work to rest, refocus our attention on Jesus Christ, and renew ourselves spiritually, physically, emotionally, and mentally. This includes a campuswide adjustment of the usual daily pace and schedule and an effort to encourage involvement in worship, growth, and ministry. To support these efforts, the University does not schedule classes on Sundays and limits other types of scheduled activities. Facilities like the Stevens Student Center and the Recreation Center remain open to provide opportunities for social interaction and physical refreshment.

CEDARVILLE'S POSITION ON SIGN GIFTS AND SPEAKING IN TONGUES

Most of the issues discussed in this section deal with issues related to spiritual disciplines. One doctrinal issue that we wish to clarify is that of sign gifts.

By sign gifts we are referring to things like speaking in tongues, uttering extrabiblical words of prophecy, or attempting to perform miraculous healings. We recognize that these gifts played an important role in the establishment and growth of the early Church, and we acknowledge that godly people hold a variety of opinions about the role of these gifts in the Church today. Historically, the use of these gifts in an unbiblical or improper manner has led to division within the body of Christ. At Cedarville, students agree to abstain from the public practice or promotion of the sign gifts on the Cedarville campus or at any University-sponsored event. This policy is not intended as a statement of judgment against fellow Christians who believe or practice these gifts. We also ask students in leadership positions or on traveling teams representing the University not to advocate theological positions that are inconsistent with the University doctrinal statement.







LOVE FOR OTHERS

God uses Christian community to encourage and shape our walk with Christ. One of the most valuable parts of your experience at Cedarville will be the lifelong friendships that start and grow while you are here. Members of the Cedarville community are encouraged to edify one another, be ready to listen and quick to offer encouragement.

As members of this community, we commit to love each other and to serve one another with humility and personal sacrifice. Sometimes this involves shared times of celebration. Other times it requires the courage to lovingly confront, rebuke, or correct another member of the community.

The following principles guide our approach to community:

- **Above all, glorify God.** The highest objective of community life at Cedarville is to encourage all of us to love God with all of our hearts, minds, and souls.
- **We should love our neighbors as we love ourselves.**
- **We should value the community in which we live.** Each of us has a responsibility for the impact that we have on the culture of the Cedarville campus.
- **We need to consider our testimony.** Our behavior should bear evidence of our commitment to Christ and our collective desire to be a campus with Jesus at the center.

COMMITMENT TO PURITY

Cedarville University is committed to an approach to sexuality and moral purity that reflects biblical values according to the following affirmations:

We believe that God's design at Creation for sexual desire and orientation is within the bounds of a marriage union between a man and a woman (Gen. 1:26–28; Gen. 2:22–25; Rom. 1:26–27). We believe that premarital sex, extramarital sex, bisexual acts, same-sex marriage, and homosexual acts violate clear biblical teaching on sexual purity (Rom. 1:26–27; 1 Cor. 6:18–20; Gal. 5:19–21; Eph. 5:3; Col. 3:5–6). We believe gender identity and roles are aspects of God's creative design (Gen. 1:26–28; 1 Cor. 11:7–9; 1 Tim. 2:12–14).

Sexual intercourse and many of the intimate acts leading up to it are reserved exclusively for the context of a biblically defined marriage (Gen. 2:21–23; Matt. 19:4–6). Sexual activities outside of this context, including sexual intercourse, oral sex, and other intimate forms of touching, are prohibited. Behavior that is inconsistent with these standards is prohibited even when consensual.

Consistent with our desire to teach and model a biblical approach to sex, the University prohibits same-sex dating behaviors and public advocacy for the position that sex outside of a biblically defined marriage is morally acceptable. We seek to help students who face all types of sexual temptation, encouraging single students to live chaste, celibate lives, and encouraging married students to be faithful to their marriage and to their spouse.

Consistent with our commitment to God's design for gender identity, the public advocacy for or act of altering one's birth-gender identity through medical transition or transgender expression is prohibited. This commitment to gender identity also applies to — but is not limited to — the use of bathrooms, locker rooms, student housing, and participating in gender-specific University groups, clubs, and organizations.

Cedarville provides the following specific guidelines intended to help single students with their commitment to moral purity:

- Students in romantic relationships should avoid spending extended time in a private place or location where there is not a healthy level of accountability, such as off-campus apartments or bedrooms.

- Students are not to share the same bed.
- Students are not permitted to spend the night in an off-campus apartment, hotel room, bedroom, etc., with the opposite sex, regardless of the number of students involved.

Cedarville provides the following specific guidelines intended to help married students with their commitment to moral purity:

- Married students are not permitted to engage in sexual activity with anyone other than their spouse.
- Married students are encouraged to celebrate God's design of sexual intimacy by pursuing emotional and physical intimacy with their spouse.
- Married students are encouraged to maintain appropriate boundaries and invite accountability for protection against temptations to emotional or physical adultery.

Cedarville provides the following specific guidelines intended to help all students with their commitment to moral purity:

- Students are prohibited from accessing pornographic or obscene websites or creating links to such sites.
- Students are prohibited from posting or sharing sexually provocative material.

Cedarville seeks to provide biblically faithful counsel, support, and equipping for holiness on matters of purity and sexual brokenness. Resources for students include Student Development staff, faculty, and the confidential setting of Counseling Services.

Violations of these guidelines may result in dismissal.

RESPECT FOR OTHERS

Living in a residence hall provides an excellent opportunity to display love through respect for others.

Respect for Fellow Members of the Campus Community

One of the primary measures of spiritual maturity is how we treat our neighbors. Our relationships are to reflect the biblical principle that all people are made in God's image and should be treated

with kindness, dignity, and respect.

Violations of respect can occur in online dialogue just as in face-to-face communication. Cedarville University prohibits all acts of disrespect outlined in this statement regardless of the mode of communication.

The following types of behavior violate the spirit of this community and will not be allowed:

- **Racial Harassment** — Racial harassment includes any behavior or form of communication that does not reflect the biblical principle that all people are made in God's image and are equal in value. Racial harassment includes physical and verbal intimidation as well as the use of racial/ethnic slurs or symbols.
- **Sexual Harassment** — Sexual harassment violates our Cedarville Covenant and federal and state law. Examples of sexual harassment include unwelcome sexual advances or requests for sexual favors. A person's statements or behaviors (of a sexual nature) can be construed as harassment when they unreasonably interfere with work, study, or living conditions by creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment. Attempting to coerce another individual into performing a sexual activity is also considered sexual harassment. The sexual harassment policy is available to all members of the University community online at cedarville.edu/sexualharassmentpolicy.
- **Title IX and Sex Discrimination** — Consistent with our belief that all people are created in the image of God, and in compliance with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Cedarville does not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of sex in education programs or activities, including recruitment, admissions, athletic and extracurricular activities, discipline, distribution of financial assistance, distribution of institutional resources, hiring practices, employment, and promotion. Sexual discrimination includes any acts of sexual violence, sexual assault, and sexual harassment.

In accordance with Title IX, the University has adopted a sexual discrimination policy to address reported violations of Title IX. In addition, the University has appointed a Title IX Coordinator who will investigate reported violations as well as oversee training and prevention initiatives. The policy and Title IX Coordinator contact information can be found at cedarville.edu/titleIX.

Further, the University seeks to remove barriers to reporting sexual discrimination. To this end, a violation of the student handbook, when the violation is disclosed (either by a student-participant or a third party) as a result of a report of sexual discrimination, will not result in dismissal for the reporting party, provided that the complaint is raised in good faith and the health and safety of the individuals involved is not jeopardized. The University reserves the right to extend grace to all parties involved and may choose to recommend or require institutional or counseling remedies for a student consistent with our values.

- **Hazing** — Hazing is defined as subjecting a student to abusive or humiliating pranks. Any student, or student organization, participating in a hazing or prank-type activity that potentially endangers or adversely affects the physical and/or emotional well-being of another student, regardless of motive or intent, will be held accountable.
- **Bullying** — Bullying is intimidating or mistreating someone weaker or in a more vulnerable situation.
- **Violence and aggression** — Unacceptable behaviors include physical assault and battery, dating violence, domestic violence, stalking, and menacing.
- **Slander, libel, and use of vulgar, obscene, or threatening language.**
- **Vandalism or theft.**

Violations of these guidelines may result in dismissal.

Respect for Neighbors Within the Cedarville Community

Cedarville students are known for their professed commitment to Christ. We value this reputation and trust students to take all steps necessary to maintain it.

As we uphold the Cedarville Covenant, students should:

- Ensure that conduct and behavior in and around their residence is kind, self-controlled, and consistent with University standards.
- Show consideration to neighbors regarding noise levels and parking expectations.
- Establish integrity by fulfilling any financial obligations to local businesses.
- Honor zoning regulations.





INTEGRITY IN CONDUCT

The biblical definition of integrity involves having strong character and adhering to high moral principles. The book of Proverbs portrays integrity as an essential characteristic of an upright life. A person who walks with integrity is a person who habitually does the right thing. When Cedarville students pledge to live with integrity, it is a promise to be truthful and honest and to live up to the highest values of our community.

We will say more about academic integrity in the next section of the handbook when we discuss our commitment to pursue excellence in all that we do, but here we want to emphasize the importance of honesty and truthfulness in all aspects of life at Cedarville. Integrity in conduct includes honoring the commitments we have made,

being people of our word, submitting to the authorities in our lives, and obeying the laws of the land.

Some of the standards discussed in this section deal with areas where there are clear moral stakes, such as abuse of drugs or alcohol. Others standards, like our dress code, are institutional preferences that in one way or another reflect our educational mission. In all areas, we expect students to live with integrity and to honor their commitment to abide by the rules and guidelines of this community.

HONESTY

One of the marks of integrity is honesty. Students are expected to be honest and truthful in all forms of communication (verbal or written). Forgery, providing incomplete or misleading information, scanning and not attending chapel, or misuse of your student ID card are examples of dishonesty that will result in discipline.

ALCOHOL AND ILLEGAL AND HARMFUL SUBSTANCES

The Bible contains many warnings on the use of alcohol and teaches the need for caution. This biblical teaching, coupled with the reality that alcohol is addictive to many and that alcohol-related problems pose a major threat to college students, warrants wisdom concerning the use of alcohol. Listed below are several principles that support and guide our approach to alcohol and are informed by the following Scripture texts: Prov. 20:1; Prov. 23:31–35; Prov. 31:4; Rom. 13:13; Rom. 14; 1 Cor. 6:9–10; 1 Cor. 8; Gal. 5:19–21; Eph. 5:18; 1 Tim. 3:3; Titus 1:7; 1 Pet. 2:13–17; 1 Pet. 4:3.

- Nearly 70 percent of our undergraduates are under the legal drinking age. For these students, drinking is not only unwise, it is also illegal.
- Both Testaments contain warnings concerning the use and specific instruction regarding the sinful abuse of alcohol. As a Christian university community, Cedarville is concerned about the potential risk to a person's individual well-being and the reality that alcohol use has a significant negative impact on University culture.
- Abuse of alcohol is not consistent with a spiritually mature lifestyle.
- Alcohol use can reduce a person's ability to make good decisions about sex and is

commonly associated with various forms of sexual immorality, including sexual and physical assault.

- Alcohol makes a person less alert and diminishes self-control.
- Use of food and drink is listed by Paul in a discussion of "disputable matters." We are advised to be careful not to place stumbling blocks in a brother's way. We are also warned to be careful about what we approve and to seek each other's mutual edification.

To create a healthy environment for our students, and in some cases to comply with the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989, Public Law 101-226, Cedarville University adheres to the following guidelines for all undergraduate students and graduate students enrolled in degree programs on campus, including those students who do not live in campus housing.

- Students are not allowed to use, purchase, share, or possess alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, or any illegal drug on or off campus. Students are also prohibited from recreational drug use, misusing legally prescribed medications, or using synthetic street drugs or medical marijuana.
- Students are notified of significant health risks associated with the improper use of certain substances, including those mentioned above. These risks include, but are not limited to, physical and mental dependency, damage to the heart and lungs, and, in some cases, death.
- In addition to University prohibitions, state and federal law prohibits the unlawful sale, use, or possession of drugs and alcohol. Penalties may include fines and/or imprisonment. Students are also reminded that underage drinking violates federal law. Students who engage in underage drinking or provide

alcohol to underage individuals may be subject to legal sanctions in addition to University penalties.

- Students are not to attend bars or clubs where alcohol is the primary feature.
- Students are not permitted to attend parties where alcohol is being used in a manner that violates University standards.
- Students struggling with drug or alcohol use may obtain confidential support at Counseling Services and University Medical Services.

Violations of these guidelines may result in dismissal.

PERSONAL CARE AND RESPONSIBILITY

All students are expected to live independently and are responsible for their own personal care. Any student requiring a personal care attendant because of a physical disability is responsible for making such arrangements. More information on the personal care attendant policy and other disability accommodations is available at cedarville.edu/disabilities.

INVOLUNTARY ADMINISTRATIVE WITHDRAWAL

This is a special, non-disciplinary process used when a student appears to pose a significant risk to self or to others, or when that student's behavior infringes on the rights or educational process of others. A student may be subject to involuntary withdrawal from the University or from University housing if the student engages or threatens to engage in the following:

- Behavior that poses a danger of causing physical harm to self or others.

- Behavior that would cause property damage or directly impedes or disrupts the lawful activity of others.

All appeals for Involuntary Administrative Withdrawal should be addressed to the Vice President for Student Life and Christian Ministries within 48 hours of the decision.

DRESS AND APPEARANCE

Our approach to standards for dress and appearance seeks to honor biblical principles of modesty as humility expressed in dress and to provide general guidelines appropriate for a Christ-centered educational institution. The biblical expectation of modesty is that the conduct of both men and women, which includes but is not limited to dress, serves to enhance rather than detract from the reputation of the Gospel (1 Tim. 2:3–10; 1 Pet. 3:3–4). Manifestation of modesty includes seeking to adorn the Gospel by placing emphasis on the condition of one's heart expressed by living with humility in attitude, behavior, and dress (Prov. 31:30). Therefore, students are encouraged to portray servant attitudes toward Christ and other people in their dress and appearance. The specific guidelines included below are shaped by biblical principles, community preferences, and cultural expectations in terms of propriety and professionalism.

- Clothing should not be excessively short or revealing. For example, skirts/dresses should be to the top of the knee, midriff and underwear should not show, leggings/tights should have knee-length skirt or dress over top, and shirts should not be low-cut and should have at least a modest strap.
- Students wearing spandex for exercise should have loose-fitting shorts overtop. Racerback shirts are not allowed.

- Clothing should not have slogans that are inconsistent with University values.
- Shoes should be worn in academic buildings, chapel, and the dining hall at all times.
- Shorts, sweatpants, and pajama pants should not be worn to class or chapel.
- Hairstyles and fashion should avoid extremes. Clothing should be gender appropriate.
- Facial jewelry (other than earrings and nose studs) is prohibited.
- Other than in the residence halls, shirts should be worn everywhere on campus, including the Callan Athletic Center.
- Students are expected to remove hats before entering class or chapel.

In addition, our campus culture supports the professional development of students and allows faculty to communicate additional dress guidelines for classes that are consistent with the course objectives.

DANCE

We recognize that appropriate styles of dance can be a valuable part of art, worship, choreography, celebration, and exercise. Expressions of dance performed in a manner that honors God and promotes holiness are permitted.

Unfortunately, many forms of dancing are closely associated with things that undermine godliness. Participating in dance that is sexually provocative, occurs in unhealthy environments, or accompanies lyrics that do not reflect a pure and godly lifestyle is prohibited.

STUDENT ID CARDS

Cedarville University provides each student with a photo identification (ID) card. In

addition to serving as verification, IDs are used daily to access buildings, eat in the dining hall, scan in to chapel, and utilize other campus resources like the library and Fitness Center.

Students are expected to present their ID card upon request to any University employee, student staff, or village official. Refusing to present an ID card will result in discipline. Photo ID cards are for the personal use of the student to whom the card was issued. Any misuse of the card or permitting another student to use the card will result in discipline.

FIREARMS AND EXPLOSIVES

The possession of all firearms, live ammunition, explosive devices, pellet or BB guns (including airsoft guns), paintball guns, bows and arrows, knives with blades longer than 3 1/2 inches, wrist rocket-type slingshots, etc., is not permitted on campus. Any student found in violation of this regulation is subject to disciplinary action up to and including dismissal and may violate state law. In addition, should any of these items be found, Campus Safety will confiscate them. Students who desire to store firearms with Campus Safety for hunting or recreational marksmanship purposes should make arrangements with Campus Safety in advance.

The possession and use of fireworks/explosives violates state law. Any student in possession of fireworks/explosives will receive a \$50–\$200 fine, be held liable for all damages, and may receive discipline up to dismissal.

PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, SOLICITATIONS, AND DISTRIBUTIONS

Cedarville University will permit only those demonstrations, solicitations, or distributions that, in the judgment of the University administration, are orderly and peaceful. Demonstrations will be restricted to members of the University

community. In addition, the University will restrict demonstrations, solicitations, or distributions to those that support views that are consistent with Scripture and with the mission of Cedarville University. Demonstrations, solicitations, or distributions that, in the opinion of the University, involve advocacy of unscriptural positions, are disorderly, or that interrupt or disrupt the primary teaching, research, service, ministry, and/or administrative functions of the University, or any other activity or proceeding on campus that is generally accepted as a legitimate University function, are prohibited. Students wishing to organize a demonstration, make solicitations, or distribute materials must secure permission in advance from Student Life Programs.

Cedarville University reserves the right to consider any and all participants who are not members of the Cedarville University student body to be trespassers and therefore subject to arrest by local law enforcement. Any activity that, in the opinion of the University, interrupts or disrupts campus life is prohibited.

CAMPUS SAFETY

Additional policies regarding safety and security can be found at cedarville.edu/campussafety.

TECHNOLOGY

Applying the Cedarville Covenant to the use of technology requires using technology in ways that honor God, treat others with kindness and respect, and exemplify a commitment to integrity and purity.

To ensure that the network is used appropriately, the University reserves the right to define and enforce regulations for network use. The University may, at its discretion,

monitor stored files and electronic transmissions (email, website access, etc.). Use of the network and computing facilities implies consent to these regulations and monitoring activities. Additional information and policies regarding the use of the campus network are located at cedarville.edu/acceptableuse.

LEGAL RESOURCES FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS

FERPA

ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco/ferpa
cedarville.edu/registrar

Drugs and Alcohol

cedarville.edu/securityreport

Title IX: Sex Discrimination

cedarville.edu/titleIX

Copyright

copyright.gov

Immunization

cedarville.edu/ums

Clery Act

ed.gov/admins/lead/safety/campus.html
cedarville.edu/securityreport

Federal Crime Awareness and Campus Safety Act of 1990

cedarville.edu/securityreport

EADA

cedarville.edu/EADA





EXCELLENCE IN EFFORT

“Rigorous” is one of the words used at the beginning of this handbook to describe life at Cedarville. The academic program here is challenging, and you will find many people who are dedicated to helping you do your very best. We encourage students to make academics one of their very highest priorities.

After you have planned time in your schedule for academic study, there are many other ways for you to get involved and have a rich college experience. Cedarville

students recognize that excellence in effort is just as important to the aspects of college life that occur outside of the classroom. We want our students to do their best as ministry leaders, in community service, or in the roles that they play in student organizations.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY STATEMENT

One way students live out this commitment to excellence is by adhering to very high standards of academic integrity. Our Academic Integrity Pledge and a link to the Academic Integrity Policy are provided below. These statements are integrated into the Cedarville culture. You will see them in your syllabi, sign them in some of your courses, and recite them together during events such as convocations. These are ways that demonstrate our commitment as a University to be a place where people live with integrity and where we pursue excellence in all that we do.

The Academic Integrity Pledge is a commitment to live with integrity in all areas of life, including the classroom. All forms of academic dishonesty violate this pledge and could result in dismissal from this community.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY PLEDGE

With my pledge to affirm the Cedarville Covenant, I attest that all work I submit in person, online, or in any other format as my own is my own work and is in accordance with the standards of the Academic Integrity Policy. As a member of this community, I will love God and others, live with integrity, and pursue excellence in all that I do.

Signature _____

Date _____

“Whatever you do ... do all to the glory of God” (1 Cor. 10:31).

The complete Academic Integrity Policy may be found at cedarville.edu/academicintegrity.

The grade appeals process may be found at cedarville.edu/gradeappealprocess.

ACCOUNTABILITY AND DISCIPLINE

The purpose of discipline at Cedarville is to help all students move toward spiritual maturity and to ensure that our campus is a safe, healthy environment for all who live here. Our approach to discipline is redemptive and restorative. When carried out in a spirit of love and humility, discipline has the following functions.

- **Discipline has a protective function.** Awareness that discipline could take place helps some members of our community avoid behavior that would be harmful to them or to the community.
- **Discipline has a redemptive function.** The process of discipline can be used to rescue individuals from harmful patterns of behavior, bringing them back to a lifestyle of virtue and holiness.
- **Discipline has a punitive function.** Discipline can be used in an attempt to force a person to recognize and abandon sinful behavior and to punish actions that are a threat to the community.
- **Discipline has a restorative function.** The ultimate goal of discipline is restoring fellowship within the community after repentance and forgiveness has occurred.

BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES THAT INFLUENCE OUR APPROACH TO DISCIPLINE

The following principles guide our approach to community accountability.

- Discipline is a normal and healthy part of Christian community. The degree to which we are willing to lovingly confront one another can indicate the degree to which we love each other and value our community (Heb. 12:7–10).

- Discipline should be carried out in a spirit of humility, gentleness, patience, and awareness of our own sinfulness (Gal. 6:1; Col. 3:12).
- Along with discipline, we should help carry each other's burdens. Discipline works best in the context of loving, helpful relationships (Gal. 6:2; Col. 3:13–14).
- Discipline should be conducted in a heart-oriented manner, seeking not only to modify behavior, but as a priority, forming character through spiritual transformation (Luke 6:45).
- Discipline should begin prayerfully and privately (Matt. 18:15; 1 John 5:16).
- Sharp rebukes and even expulsion from the community are sometimes necessary to bring a person to the point of repentance (Matt. 18:17; 1 Cor. 5:11, 13; 2 Thess. 3:15).
- Among the behaviors and attitudes that call for serious discipline are things like drunkenness, sexual immorality, divisiveness, greed, laziness, lack of gratitude, lack of love, and a refusal to forgive (Rom. 16:17; 1 Cor. 5:11; 2 Thess. 3:6, 14–15; 2 Tim. 3:1–5; Titus 1:10–13).
- With discernment attuned to the contrast between worldly repentance and godly repentance, we should extend forgiveness and comfort to those who repent, reaffirming our love for them and welcoming them back into the community (Luke 17:3; 2 Cor. 2:7; 2 Cor. 7:10).
- When dealing with the sins of others, we should always be mindful of God's grace to us (Matt. 18:21–35; Luke 15:11–32).

UPHOLDING THE CEDARVILLE COVENANT

The principles of the Cedarville Covenant are a central part of Christian community, so all members of the campus community share responsibility to uphold its ideals. The Student Development staff members are specifically responsible to enforce all other standards of conduct.

STUDENTS VOLUNTARILY SEEKING HELP

Consistent with the biblical expectation of frequent and voluntary repentance as a discipline necessary for spiritual growth, we encourage students to voluntarily seek help for any personal problems, including those that involve a violation of the Cedarville Covenant and Community Lifestyle Guidelines. When the student voluntarily confesses to an action of which the University has no prior knowledge, the student's initiation of repentance and confession will be considered in the response of the University. University faculty and staff members are committed to discretion, sensitivity, and redemption as spiritual leaders. Therefore, the University will make reasonable effort to preserve an individual's privacy and protect the confidentiality of information disclosed voluntarily. Exceptions to the expectation of confidentiality may be where behavior is repetitive, self-destructive, poses a threat to self or others, or involves a significant legal issue. Students may also obtain confidential support from the Counseling Services staff.

Students seeking help should:

- Cease all involvement in the activity that violates the Cedarville Covenant or campus guidelines.
- Take the necessary steps for restoration as determined by faculty, staff, or counselors.

- Be aware that seeking counsel from a faculty or staff member does not void consultation with Student Life, potential investigation, or discipline.
- Understand that their voluntary act of repentance and acts of restoration will be taken into account if disciplinary steps are necessary.

JUDICIAL SYSTEM

Our judicial system is intended to be redemptive and is designed to restore individuals to good standing within our community. The purpose of all penalties is to draw attention to behaviors and choices that violate the Cedarville Covenant, that threaten our unity, or damage the educational and spiritual ethos we seek to maintain. Discipline is often progressive in nature, starting with warnings and moving to more serious sanctions. If the student refuses to receive corrective action, engages in behaviors that threaten the safety and security of other members of the community, or exhibits a blatant disregard of University policy, dismissal is likely. The University is not required to impose the same discipline in all situations involving the same offense, nor is the University required to always impose the maximum penalty. Consideration is given to the student's previous discipline record and the spirit in which the student receives and responds to correction. Because of the value that the University places on integrity, truthfulness, justice, and due process, any student who is untruthful about a disciplinary incident, at any stage in the investigation, is subject to the maximum penalty for the offense in question.

The ultimate goal of nearly all disciplinary incidents is the restoring the student to the community. In cases where the student poses a unique threat to the community, immediate dismissal may occur, and/or the student may not be allowed to return to the University. In addition to the appropriate level of discipline, students can receive a

fine or pay restitution for willful/negligent damage to University property or another student's belongings. Confidentiality often prevents the disclosure of details that contribute to a decision, occasionally resulting in unanswered questions regarding an outcome.

Levels of discipline include:

1. **Personal Caution** — A warning to the student that a violation of the Cedarville Covenant or the Residence Hall Guidelines has occurred and that continuing or repeating the behavior may result in additional sanctions. An accumulation of five Personal Cautions will result in an Official Warning.
2. **Official Warning** — Assessed for an accumulation of five or more personal cautions, patterns of misconduct, or violations that are more serious in nature. An Official Warning indicates that if immediate changes in behavior do not occur, the student will begin to lose some of the privileges associated with being a member of this community.
3. **Probation** — Students are not allowed to hold leadership positions on campus (including SGA-sponsored positions or leadership roles within student organizations) at the discretion of the Student Life Deans. Students will be required to meet regularly with a mentor for accountability. Additional expectations may also apply. Additionally, the student's academic advisors, dean, and the department chair of the student's academic program will be notified.
4. **Dismissal** — This is reserved for (a) unresolved patterns of misconduct, (b) refusal to submit to less punitive forms of correction in a spirit of repentance, (c) blatant disregard for University standards, (d) behaviors with potential to significantly impact the spiritual, physical, or emotional well-being of other

members of the University, or (e) behaviors that endanger the safety and security of other students, the University, or the surrounding community. Dismissal can be immediate or at the end of the semester, depending on the nature and timing of the offense and the discretion of the Student Life Deans. Dismissals can be without the benefit of a refund or retention of course credit completed during the semester in which dismissal occurs. Behaviors most likely to result in dismissal include patterns of disregard for University standards, violations of standards related to alcohol and other controlled substances, serious acts of disrespect or harm to members of the University family, violations of state or federal law, major violations of academic integrity, and actions threatening institutional security.

Disciplinary Withdrawal — Occasionally, a student will withdraw voluntarily or at the request of the Student Life deans before a disciplinary process is complete. Sometimes this occurs when a sanction for a major violation of University standards takes place at the very end of a semester or between semesters. In such cases, the student's record will list the Disciplinary Withdrawal rather than Dismissal.

APPEAL PROCESS

In order to ensure that each student is treated fairly and receives due process, the University has established an appeal process that includes a hearing board. The appeal process and other information regarding judicial sanctions are available online at cedarville.edu/handbook.

NOTIFICATION OF PARENTS

Cedarville University recognizes the concern that parents have for their sons and daughters and seeks to involve them in the discipline process in helpful ways. At all levels of discipline, students are encouraged to notify their parents. The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) provides guidelines for releasing any information that is included in a student's educational record, including records of discipline. Access to educational records is limited to these circumstances: (a) the student is a dependent of his or her parents; or (b) the student has signed a form consenting to the release of his or her educational records. However, the University is permitted to notify parents concerning the following matters: (a) medical or psychiatric emergencies; (b) discontinuation, extended absence, or dismissal from the University; or (c) violation of a University drug or alcohol policy.





CEDARVILLE
UNIVERSITY.

251 N. Main St., Cedarville, OH 45314
cedarville.edu