

PROCEDURAL RULES OF DECORUM

Within this environment, decorum relates to the proper etiquette and conduct of all involved. Due to the sensitive and oftentimes confrontational nature of these proceedings, demonstrating mutual respect is imperative to the success of these hearings.

Participants must adhere to these Rules of Decorum during Title IX hearings. Violations of these Rules may result in the participant's removal from the hearing; warnings for violations and referrals for violations may be given depending on the severity of the behavior.

- Address the Hearing Panelist(s) unless you are the subject of cross-examination or cross-examining someone. If you are the subject of cross-examination, respond to the advisor questioning you; if you are cross-examining someone, address the subject of your cross-examination.
- Refer to others by their preferred name, which should be provided at the beginning of the hearing.
- Avoid provocative or argumentative comments unless they are pertinent to the matter.
- Refrain from speaking disrespectfully to anyone and do not interrupt other participants. You may ask clarifying questions while another person is speaking after being recognized by the hearing officer; all other comments should wait until that participant is finished speaking, then the hearing officer should provide you an opportunity to speak.
- Refrain from using indecent, profane, or vulgar language, unless you are referencing communication relevant to the case.
- Remain seated when others are speaking, you may stand when it is your turn to speak if you would like, though it is not required.
- Refrain from eating, smoking, or using electronic equipment, including cellular phones or laptop computers during the hearing, unless you are actively accessing materials pertaining to the hearing.
- Wear appropriate clothing and attire (i.e. a top and bottoms; clothing without indecent, profane, or vulgar images or words, etc.).