RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR EARLY COLLEGE PROGRAM STUDENTS

Early College Program (ECP) students at SAIC have certain rights and responsibilities commensurate with those of degree-seeking students. These rights and responsibilities, which are subject to change from time to time, can be found in the Student Handbook at:


As described in the Student Handbook, these rights and responsibilities include SAIC’s Rules of Conduct and Specific Policies. All ECP students are expected to be familiar with and abide by the most current version of the Student Handbook as stated on the SAIC website, subject to the following modifications:

I. The following provisions of the Student Handbook do not apply to ECP students:

- Student Participation in Institutional Government;
- Alcohol and Drug Amnesty Policy;
- Health Insurance;
- Locker Policy;
- Overnight Access; and
- Policies relating to the Academic Review Board and Student Employment Committee.

II. In compliance with state law, no ECP student under the age of 18 is permitted to be in possession of any tobacco products or paraphernalia, including cigarettes, electronic cigarettes, and rolling papers, at any time while enrolled in the Early College Program.

III. The Additional Residence Hall Policies as set forth in the Student Handbook are modified as follows for ECP students who have elected to live on campus:

- ECP students are not permitted to have guests in the residence halls. Exceptions must be approved in advance by the Hall Director.
- In accordance with the City of Chicago curfew ordinance, ECP students who have elected to live on campus are not permitted to leave the residence hall after 10:00 p.m. All residents are required to sign in for the evening immediately after curfew. Requests to return to the residence hall after curfew will not be granted. Failure to comply with curfew requirements may result in expulsion from the residence hall. ECP students must also comply with amendments to the City of Chicago curfew ordinance.
- All requests to be away from the residence hall for the night must be approved in advance by Residence Life. In addition, the resident’s parent or legal guardian must give permission for the overnight absence to Residence Life Staff via email (SAIC-ResLife-ECP@saic.edu) at least 48 hours prior to the date of requested absence.
• ECP students who elect to live on campus are not permitted to use Chicago’s public transportation (CTA buses, Pace buses, Metra, and the L) unless they are accompanied by a staff member.

IV. Allegations of misconduct will generally be resolved using the ECP Administrative Procedures described below. However, SAIC reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to use the Student Conduct Procedures or the Involuntary Withdrawal Procedures outlined in the Student Handbook to address certain allegations of misconduct or behavior that renders a student unable to effectively function in the SAIC community.

Issues of sexual misconduct that fall under Title IX shall be managed and administered according to the Sexual Misconduct Under Title IX policy, located here. All issues related to Title IX can be emailed to title9@saic.edu or sent in via report from this website.

ECP Administrative Procedures

The Dean of Continuing Studies (DCS) or designee will review the allegation of misconduct and initiate an investigation. At SAIC’s discretion, the investigation may be conducted by the Dean of Continuing Studies, designee, or Campus Security. The investigator may seek to interview anyone, including the student accused of misconduct.

Any student who provides information to the investigator must provide truthful information. Providing information that is not truthful may constitute a violation of the Student Rules of Conduct. Students, including those accused of misconduct, are expected to cooperate in any investigation. If a student chooses not to cooperate, the investigation will continue and the matter will be resolved without the input of the student declining to cooperate.

During the course of the investigation, the student accused of misconduct may be restricted from being present on SAIC’s premises and/or attending classes.

Upon completion of the investigation, the DCS or designee will review the findings and then convene a meeting with the student accused of misconduct and, if available, the student’s parent or guardian. At SAIC’s discretion, the meeting may be conducted in person, by phone, or by electronic means.

At the meeting, the DCS or designee will review the allegation of misconduct and discuss the findings of the investigation with the student. The student will be given the opportunity to explain his/her conduct.

At the conclusion of the meeting, the DCS or designee usually will proceed to render a determination as to whether it is more likely than not that the student engaged in an act of misconduct in violation of SAIC’s Rules of Conduct or Specific Policies. The DCS or designee will discuss this finding with the student. If an ECP student is found to have committed a violation, the DCS or designee will determine the sanction, if any, to be imposed upon the student. In extraordinary circumstances, the DCS or designee may take the matter under consideration, rather than making a determination at the conclusion of the meeting; in such circumstances, the DCS or designee will communicate
the outcome of the meeting to the student as soon as possible following the conclusion of the meeting.

Sanctions are imposed at the sole discretion of the DCS or designee and may include expulsion from the program and/or the residence hall. In addition, an ECP student found to have violated SAIC's Rules of Conduct or Specific Policies may be prohibited from applying to other programs conducted by SAIC, including degree programs.

At its discretion, SAIC may choose to use procedures and sanctions that differ from the procedures and sanctions that might be applied to a degree-seeking student accused of similar misconduct. Reasons for different handling of ECP conduct issues include the nature of the ECP program, the brief duration of ECP course offerings, the ages of ECP students, and other relevant factors.

The School of the Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC) expressly reserves the right to make changes to its written policies, rules, and regulations at any time, with or without prior notice. Please visit saic.edu for the most up-to-date version of the Student Handbook. Updated May 2023.