

DISTRICT AND COLLEGE POLICIES

Non-Discrimination Policy

All programs and activities of the Los Angeles Community College District shall be operated in a manner which is free of discrimination on the basis of ethnic group identification, race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, creed, sex, pregnancy, marital status, medical condition (cancer-related), sexual orientation, age, physical or mental disability (including AIDS), or veterans status (Reference: Board Rule 1202).

Non-Discrimination Policy Compliance Procedure

In order to insure nondiscrimination policy compliance at Los Angeles Valley College, please direct inquiries to the Compliance Officer—Equal Opportunity Programs, Title IX/Gender-Equity, and Sexual Harassment—(818) 947-2463, Room CC 108, LAVCCOMPLIANCE@LAVC.EDU. Matters involving Section 504 may be directed to the Office of Administrative Services, (818) 947-2606. In addition, inquiries may be directed to the District Office of Diversity Programs at (213) 891-2315.

Limited English Proficiency

Occupational education classes are open to all students. While the lack of proficiency in English is no barrier to enrollment in occupational education courses, it is recommended that students deficient in English use the services of the college that are provided for persons who are limited in English proficiency or have English as a second language.

Equal Opportunity

The policy of the Los Angeles Community College District is to implement affirmatively equal opportunity to all qualified employees and applicants for employment without regard to race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, creed, sex, pregnancy, age, disability, marital status, medical condition (cancer related), sexual orientation, or veteran status. Positive action will be taken to ensure that this policy is followed in all personnel practices, including recruitment, hiring, placement, upgrading, transfer, demotion, treatment during employment, rate of pay or other forms of compensation, selection for training, layoff, or termination. Inquiries regarding Equal Opportunity at Los Angeles Valley College should be directed to the college Compliance Officer located in the Campus Center, Room 108, (818) 947-2463, LAVCCOMPLIANCE@LAVC.EDU.

Sexual Assault Policy

The Los Angeles Community College District is committed to providing a safe environment for students, visitors, and staff. Any incident of sexual assault should be immediately reported to the College Sheriff's Office at (818) 947-2911. (The term "sexual assault" includes threats of sexual violence. (Section 67385(d), Calif. Ed. Code.)

Los Angeles Valley College has a zero tolerance policy for acts of sexual assault. The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, the provider of law enforcement services to the Los Angeles Valley College campus, will investigate all allegations of sexual assault on campus and appropriate disciplinary, criminal, or legal action will be taken.

If you become the victim of a sexual assault on or off campus:

- GET to a safe place
- DO NOT shower, bathe, douche, change or destroy clothing
- CONTACT the College Sheriff, M&O Building, (818) 947-2911
 - Immediate medical attention will be provided, as may be required.
 - Confidentiality will be maintained as required by law.
- SEEK medical attention
- SEEK emotional support, referrals, and crisis counseling from:
 - LAVC Student Health Clinic, North Gym, (818) 947-2917/2918
 - Valley Trauma Center 24-hour HOTLINE (818) 886-0453 www.valleytraumacenter.org/ (VTC is a non-profit, multicultural Rape Crisis Center that provides information, referrals, and crisis counseling over the phone. If someone has been assaulted, a VTC volunteer California State Certified Rape Crisis Advocate can be requested to meet the victim at the hospital, police station, or court to provide on-site emotional support, information, and advocacy.)

As soon as possible, the victim of a sexual assault, including date or acquaintance rape, should report the incident to the College Sheriff, or if the incident occurred off-campus, to the jurisdiction where the crime occurred. The victim should make every attempt to preserve any physical evidence of the assault. This may include a voluntary medical exam, not showering, and/or not disposing of any damaged clothing or other items that are present after/during the assault. Victims are encouraged

to call the College Sheriff after a sexual assault for referral or transport to medical treatment, referral to crisis counseling and legal advocacy, and crime investigation. Sexual assault victims may choose to be assisted by college officials in notifying the proper authorities.

The College Sheriff, with the victim's consent, will immediately conduct a criminal investigation of a reported sexual assault. If the victim wishes, they will also immediately contact the Valley Trauma Center to request that a volunteer California State Certified Rape Crisis Advocate meet the victim at the LAVC Sheriff's Office, hospital, or court to provide on-site emotional support, information and advocacy.

Disciplinary actions will be imposed on individuals found responsible for a sexual assault. College sanctions following campus disciplinary procedures depend on the outcome of the disciplinary proceedings and may range from suspension to expulsion. Every effort will be made to criminally prosecute perpetrators of sexual assaults. The accuser and the accused are entitled to the same opportunities to have others present during a campus disciplinary proceeding and both shall be informed of the outcome of the proceeding.

Colleges and universities that receive federal funding are required by the Jeanne Clery Act to disclose information about crime occurring on and in the immediate vicinity of campus. Find Clery Act information at www.securityoncampus.org/schools/cleryact/. LAVC crime stats can be found online at www.lavc.edu/sheriff/disclosures.htm or at www.ope.ed.gov/securitysearch.asp. A copy of the yearly report can be requested from the Los Angeles Valley College Sheriff's Office.

California law requires that certain statutorily-defined sex offenders notify community college law enforcement officials that they are present on campus in specific capacities. If you fall into this category, you must register with the College Sheriff's Dept. Office.

Sexual Harassment Policy

The policy of the Los Angeles Community College District is to provide an educational, employment and business environment free from unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct or communications constituting sexual harassment. Employees, students, or other persons acting on behalf of the District who engage in sexual harassment as defined in the policy or by state or federal law shall be subject to discipline, up to and including discharge, expulsion or termination of contract. The specific rules and procedures for reporting charges of sexual harassment and for pursuing available remedies are incorporated in the Board Rules in Chapter 15.

The Los Angeles Community College District has a policy which provides informal and formal procedures for resolving complaints.

Copies of the policy and procedures may be obtained from the Compliance Officer located in the Campus Center, Room 108, (818) 947-2463, LAVCCOMPLIANCE@LAVC.EDU or by calling the Senior Director of Educational and Student Support Services at (213) 891-2279, or the District Office of Diversity Programs at (213) 891-2315. Any member of the College Community, which includes students, faculty, and staff, who believes, perceives, or actually experienced conduct that may constitute sexual harassment, has the right to seek the help of the College. Every employee has the responsibility to report such conduct when it is directed towards students to the Sexual Harassment Compliance Officer. Potential complainants are advised that administrative and civil law remedies, including but not limited to injunctions, restraining orders or other orders may be made available.

Drug Free Policy

Los Angeles Valley College adheres to, supports, and is in full compliance with requirements that maintain our college as a drug-free institution of higher education.

Smoking Policy

In accordance with Administrative Regulations B6, smoking is prohibited on all property and all indoor and outdoor spaces owned, controlled, or administered by Los Angeles Valley College except in designated areas.

Designated Smoking Areas

There are areas designated for smoking throughout the campus. Please refer to the campus map on the inside back cover of the catalog, on which the designated smoking areas are identified.

A student of the college who knowingly violates the smoking policy is subject to the student code of conduct disciplinary regulations.

Policy on Academic Dishonesty

Trustworthiness and honesty are the foundations of an academic environment in which there is freedom to learn. Los Angeles Valley College is proud to stand for the age-old tradition of academic integrity. This requires that the highest standards be maintained on campus and in the classroom.

Los Angeles Valley College has established the following policy to carry out this tradition. The policy was established in accordance with the standards of student conduct (LACCD Board of Trustees Rule 9803- Adopted June 14, 1995) and is intended to preserve the constitutional rights of every administrator, student,

employee, faculty member and authorized visitor on campus. Violations will result in administrative action on the part of Los Angeles Valley College as outlined in a formal LACCD SD5 Notice of Charges form. This administrative action will follow the rules of due process, and students will have a right to appeal disciplinary actions through the student grievance process.

1. In-class cheating: When taking an examination, unauthorized looking at, procuring or sharing information from any unauthorized sources.
2. Out-of-class cheating: Unauthorized acquisition, reading or knowledge of test questions prior to the testing date and time; changing any portion of a returned, graded test or report and resubmitting it as original work to be re-graded; or presenting the work of another as ones' own.
3. Plagiarism: Representation of expression or ideas from either published or unpublished work(s) as students own. This also includes copying software and the violation of copyright laws.
4. Furnishing false information: Forgery, falsification, alteration, or misuse of college documents, records, or identification in class or laboratory situations.

Some Common Examples of Academic Dishonesty

- Copying answers from another student during in-class examinations
- Turning in a report, term paper, or other assignment which has not been written by the student
- The use of notes, books, dictionaries, or other references during an examination that are not authorized by the instructor
- Signing an attendance sheet for another student not present in class
- Text messaging another student during an exam

Consequences of Cheating

For academic dishonesty, penalties will be determined by the instructor. In addition, other penalties for violations of the Student Code of Conduct may be imposed by the Vice President of Student Services.

Repeated Violations

In the case of repeated violations or violations in deliberate disregard to the specific warning, a student will be subject to progressive discipline that could result in more serious sanctions. Violations of the Student Code of Conduct Board Rule 9803 are subject to any of the following types of disciplinary actions:

1. Reprimand
2. Restitution charges for damaged or misappropriated property
3. Disciplinary Probation
4. Disciplinary Suspension
5. Expulsion from the college

How Faculty Should Report Violations

When an alleged incident of academic dishonesty occurs, the faculty member may take the following steps to report the incident:

1. Inform the student and the Department Chair of the alleged violation and the action.
2. Complete the SD5 form (Student Discipline) and submit it with documentation to the Vice President of Student Services. (Campus Center, Room 100A)
3. The Vice President of Student Services will investigate the allegations and recommend any appropriate disciplinary actions, beyond any actions taken by the faculty member specific to course grading.

