

MUSKINGUM UNIVERSITY POLICY ON OFF CAMPUS BEHAVIOR

Student Conduct and Community Expectations

Our community holds high expectations of how we live and interact with each other, as the actions of one of us has an effect on us collectively. Respect for self, others, property, authority, and honesty, both within and outside the University community, are the foundations for our standards of conduct. In order for our community to thrive, all members must be active in contributing to an environment where people feel safe, sustained, engaged, challenged, and appreciated. We must also hold ourselves and each other accountable for our actions as a part of our community life.

When you choose to live off campus, you are making the choice to represent Muskingum University within the village. Students are always considered Muskies, both on and off campus. When off campus, students are responsible for knowing and abiding by all local, state, and federal laws.

Student Handbook

The University reserves the right to review student misconduct that occurs off campus when such behavior reflects upon the integrity of the University. Students are reminded that they serve as representatives of Muskingum University, and both positive and inappropriate behavior affect the University's image and reputation. Students are encouraged to be involved in their community in positive ways, such as community service and local government. The University desires to have students act as both responsible and mature representatives.

In the cases of inappropriate behavior off campus, the Dean of Students or designee investigates these charges and may make referrals to the Student Conduct Process. (Students or organizations found responsible for violating these regulations will be subject to the same sanctions imposed for violations that occur on campus.) Students cited for violating laws off campus can also have additional consequences on campus, through the Student Conduct Process.

Student Conduct Expectations

1. As stated above, students are expected to demonstrate respect for all members of the local community regardless of their place of residence. Failure to adhere to the following guidelines can result in disciplinary action.

2. Show respect for the area where you live. Signs of disrespect include, but are not limited to: littering; destruction of property; trespassing; public urination; nudity; and illegal parking.
3. Maintain an orderly residence. Evidence of a disorderly residence can include the following: violations of alcohol and drug laws; public intoxication; harassment; or noise level that violates local law.
4. Ohio law prohibits open alcohol containers in public places. Public places are those which anyone can enter freely and include sidewalks, streets, tree lawns, some outdoor areas of apartment complexes, and inside parked or moving cars.

Overall Guiding Principles

1. Neighbors have a right to the peaceful enjoyment of their property.
2. Students living in these neighborhoods have an obligation to respect these rights and to enjoy the benefits of living in the wider community.
3. Muskingum University has a duty to work proactively with the communities surrounding the University to assist students in their transition to community living.
4. When appropriate and possible, the University should intervene swiftly to resolve issues and problems caused by students.
5. All neighbors, including businesses, churches, and landlords can collaborate to create and sustain neighborhood environments that are safe and enjoyable for all.