Guidelines for Student Academic Dishonesty Appeals

Extracted from UW Regulation 2-114 “Student Academic Dishonesty”
Last revised: August 3, 2021

Students may appeal the final decision of the College Hearing Officer. The appeal must be submitted to the Academic Affairs appeals coordinator within 30 calendar day after the college decisions is rendered. For undergraduate students, the appeals coordinator is the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education. Graduate students will forward appeals to the Vice Provost for Graduate Education.

Academic dishonesty appeals submitted to Academic Affairs will only be considered on the following grounds:

- The student was not given written notice of a hearing or an opportunity for a hearing.
- The report of the college level hearing fails to describe any act of the student’s which could be construed as Academic Dishonesty.
- The findings from the hearing were not supported by substantial evidence, were the result of prejudice toward the student, capricious evaluation, or capricious treatment, and such allegations must include specific examples of the capricious actions or substantive factual errors.

It is incumbent upon the student appellant to lay out and provide documentation for the exact basis or bases for the appeal in their request to Academic Affairs. The appeal will be referred to the University Appeals Committee to determine if the student appeal has met the grounds above.

The University Appeals Committee is a three-person panel of faculty, staff, and a student appointed by the Provost that hears academic dishonesty appeals. Panel members are chosen from a standing pool of faculty, staff, and students provided by the academic deans.

- If the University Appeals Committee determines that the student has not met the requirements of an appeal as described above, the appeal will be dismissed, and the College Hearing Officer’s report will be submitted to the Central Repository, and the sanctions recommended by the College Hearing Officer will be enforced. This referral or, alternatively, a notice to the student that the request for an appeal is denied, will be made within 10 business days of receipt of the appeal and associated documentation from the student appellant.
- If the University Appeals Committee determines that the student has met the requirements for an appeal described above and if the finding of Academic Dishonesty is upheld, the finding will be filed in the Central Repository.
- If the finding of Academic Dishonesty is not upheld, the University Appeals Coordinator shall dismiss the finding of Academic Dishonesty and expunge the record.

Although no hearing involving the appellant, appellee or others is required, a hearing or hearings may be held if deemed necessary by the University Appeals Committee. The appeals committee will make a recommendation to the appropriate Vice Provost within 30 calendar days of receiving the appeal and associated documentation from the Vice Provost. If the University Appeals Committee elects to conduct a hearing, the deadline may be extended to 45 calendar days.

Within 10 business days, which includes excluding University holidays or periods of closure, of receiving the appeals panel’s recommendation, the Vice Provost will submit a decision to the Provost. This deadline may be extended upon good cause by the Vice Provost if more time is needed to render a decision; if the deadline is
extended notice shall be provided to the student through the University Appeals Coordinator. Unless the Provost reverses or otherwise modifies the decision within 10 business days of receipt or the extended deadline, as applicable, the decision will become final.

If the college-level decision is upheld, no explanation or report other than this decision is necessary. If the college-level decision is reversed or modified, the Vice Provost shall submit a written explanation of the decision to the relevant dean. The Vice Provost will notify the student of the appeal outcome.