

Informal Resolution

A complainant who wishes to file a complaint but who does not wish to pursue Formal Resolution may request a less formal proceeding, known as "Informal Resolution." While the Informal Resolution process is not as structured as the Formal Resolution process, it can be an effective and appropriate means to deal with the complaint. The Informal Resolution procedure is not available for complaints of sexual violence.

If the complainant wishes to proceed with Informal Resolution, the Title IX Coordinator will ascertain the name of the respondent, and the date, location, and nature of the alleged sexual misconduct, and, within two (2) business days, will schedule an individual intake meeting with the respondent in order to provide him or her with a general understanding of the policy.

The complainant and the respondent each may bring an advisor to the Informal Resolution. Advisors are subject to the same restrictions for advisors in Formal Resolution, as set forth above. The Title IX Coordinator or designee will preside over the Informal Resolution and may elect to be assisted by another member of the senior staff of the School or an outside expert.

If, in the course of the Informal Resolution, the respondent admits to violating the School's Policy and Procedures for Reports of Student Sexual Misconduct, that admission will serve as a finding of responsibility that is final and cannot be appealed. The Decision Maker will recommend one or more sanctions, which the respondent can accept or reject. The sanctions that may be imposed as the result of the Informal Resolution process are the same as those outlined in the Formal Resolution process above. If the Decision Maker's recommended sanction is accepted, the process is concluded. If it is rejected, the complaint will proceed to the Formal Resolution process.

Informal Resolution may result in the imposition of protective actions agreed upon by the parties, or (with or without such agreement) based on information derived from the Informal Resolution taken together with any other relevant information known to the School at the time of the Informal Resolution. The School may, at any time, elect to end such proceedings and initiate Formal Resolution instead. Statements or disclosures made by the parties in the course of the Informal Resolution may be considered in the Formal Resolution.