

Policies of The University of North Texas

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**Policy Statement.** The University of North Texas (UNT) supports and promotes a culture of compliance and accountability that encourages all members of the UNT community to conduct themselves lawfully, honestly and with integrity. Everyone within the UNT is expected to operate in an ethical, honest and lawful manner. Preventing and detecting criminal conduct is critical to achieving these goals. The UNT expects and encourages all members of its community, including faculty, students, staff and individuals authorized to act on behalf of the UNT to make good faith reports of suspected wrongdoing. Retaliation against those making good faith reports of misconduct is prohibited.

**Application of Policy.** All members of the UNT community, including but not limited to faculty, students, staff and individuals authorized to act on behalf of the UNT.

**Definitions.**

1. **Employee.** “Employee” means anyone employed by UNT, including staff, faculty, and student employees.

2. **Student.** “Student” means anyone actively enrolled in at least one SCH (semester credit hour) during a given enrollment term. Student also includes individuals between academic terms that completed the most recent term and registered for the upcoming term.

3. **Retaliation.** “Retaliation” means adverse action against an individual because of the individual’s report of suspected wrongdoing or assistance in an authorized investigation of suspected wrongdoing under this policy.

**Procedures and Responsibilities.**

1. Employees and individuals authorized to act on behalf of the UNT are required to promptly report suspected wrongdoing of any kind, including but not limited to illegal or fraudulent activity, conflicts of interest, financial misstatements, accounting irregularities, and violations of other laws, Regents Rules, System Regulations, or UNT policies. The requirement to report suspected wrongdoing under this policy is in addition to and does not replace, change or modify reporting requirements under federal or state laws.

   **Responsible Party:** Employees and individuals authorized to act on behalf of the UNT.
2. Students and other individuals are strongly encouraged to report suspected wrongdoing of any kind including but not limited to illegal or fraudulent activity, conflicts of interest, financial misstatements, accounting irregularities, and violations of other laws, Regents Rules, System Regulations or UNT policies. Reports shall be made to the UNT Institutional Compliance Office. Reports of suspected criminal wrongdoing shall be made to the UNT Police Department. Reporting suspected wrongdoing under this policy is in addition to and does not replace, change or modify reporting requirements under federal or state law.

   **Responsible Party:** Students and other individuals connected with the UNT, but who do not fall in the category of an Employee or individual authorized to act on behalf of the UNT

3. Reports of suspected wrongdoing made by employees or individuals other than students shall be made to the UNT Institutional Compliance Office. Reports of suspected wrongdoing made by students shall be made to the Dean of Students Office. Reports of suspected criminal wrongdoing also shall be made to the UNT Police Department. Reports of sexual harassment and discrimination shall be made to the UNT Office of Equal Opportunity. Reports that are not within the Compliance Office’s jurisdiction or the Dean of Students Office’s jurisdiction will be redirected to the appropriate administrative office. Reports regarding suspected wrongdoing involving the Institutional Compliance Office or a member of the Compliance Office’s staff may be made to the President’s Office. Reports by students regarding suspected wrongdoing involving the Dean of Students Office may be made to the Office of Institutional Compliance. Reports of suspected wrongdoing involving the UNT Office of Equal Opportunity may be made to the Office of Institutional Compliance.

   **Responsible Party:** Faculty, students, staff or any other individual making a report or who assists in an authorized investigation of suspected wrongdoing under this policy; Institutional Compliance Office; Dean of Students Office; UNT Office of Equal Opportunity; UNT Police; President’s Office

4. Officials who receive a report of suspected wrongdoing shall determine whether an investigation is appropriate and resolve the report in accordance with legal requirements and the policy requirements of the UNT. The President, the Vice Chancellor and General Counsel, the Chief Internal Auditor, and the Compliance Officer shall be informed of unlawful conduct that may pose risk of significant liability or reputational harm to the UNT or of other matters that may be a significant compliance concern. The Board of Regents shall be informed of unlawful conduct that poses risk of significant liability or reputational harm to the UNT or of other matters that are a significant compliance concern in the judgment of a compliance officer, the President, the Vice Chancellor and General Counsel, the Chief Internal Auditor or the Chancellor.
Responsible Party: Officials receiving a report of suspected wrongdoing under this policy; Institutional Compliance Office; Dean of Students Office; and President

5. Individuals are expected to be truthful and cooperative in an investigation of suspected wrongdoing. Although cooperation is expected, a person who makes a report is not entitled to be involved in the investigation or to be advised of the status or disposition of a matter unless required by law.

Responsible Party: Faculty, students, staff and other individuals making a report or who assists in an authorized investigation of suspected wrongdoing

6. No action shall be taken against any individual who, in good faith, reports or causes to be reported suspected wrongdoing or who assists in an authorized investigation of suspected wrongdoing. This prohibition does not extend to disciplinary action for self-reported violations. Any individual who engages in retaliation may be subject to disciplinary action, including termination of employment or authority to act on behalf of the UNT.

Responsible Party: All faculty, staff, and student employees of UNT

7. Individuals are required by Chapter 261 of the Texas Family Code to immediately report to local or state law enforcement authorities or to the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services when there is reason to believe that a child’s physical or mental health or welfare has been adversely affected by abuse or neglect. Under this Policy, Employees and Students, and individuals authorized to act on behalf of the UNT are required to report child abuse and neglect in accordance with the specific manner required by Chapter 261 of the Texas Family Code, which is more specifically explained in UNT Policy 04.010, Reporting of Child Abuse and Neglect. Informing a supervisor or other official of the UNT does not fulfill this legal reporting requirement, however, a person who makes a report of abuse or neglect as statutorily required also should provide notice to the Institutional Compliance office or the Dean of Students Office when the report is made. Failure to report when required by law is a crime and grounds for disciplinary action or revocation of authority to act on behalf of the UNT

Responsible Party: Faculty, staff, students, individuals authorized to act on behalf of the UNT, and all other individuals with reason to believe that a child’s physical or mental health or welfare has been adversely affected by abuse or neglect.

8. The Institutional Compliance Office and the Dean of Students Office will publish on its website contact information for receiving reports of suspected wrongdoing and retaliation.
**Responsible Party:** The Institutional Compliance Office and the Dean of Students Office

**References and Cross-references.**

Regents Rule 04.1100 – Reporting Suspected Wrongdoing
UNT Policy 04.010 – Reporting of Child Abuse and Neglect
UNT Policy 05.015 – Ethics
UNT Policy 04.006 – Responsibilities and Rights of Employees under the UNT Compliance Program
UNT Policy 05.021 – Consensual Relationships
UNT Policy 05.033 – Staff Employee Discipline and Involuntary Termination
UNT Policy 12.005 – Policy for Prohibition of Sexual Assault
UNT Policy 13.004 – Use of Human Subjects in Research
UNT Policy 12.006 – Annual Campus Security Report
UNT Policy 07.013 – Hazing

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