



## **2025 Pre-Collegiate Summer Scholars Program House Rules**

The Pre-Collegiate Summer Scholars Program (PSSP) is designed as an academic bridge to your first year at Cornell University. We hope that your residential experience during the PSSP is fulfilling and supportive of your transition to living in Cornell's residence halls. This booklet contains the residential "House Rules" that will be in effect for the duration of the Pre-Collegiate Summer Scholars Program.

The following Cornell University rules, regulations, policies, and procedures apply in residential communities. Violations of Cornell policies will be documented by residential staff and will be referred to the appropriate office for adjudication. Students are responsible for making themselves knowledgeable about any campus rule or policy that may apply to them based on use or agreement of the individual even if not listed here specifically.

[Cornell University Student Code of Conduct](#)

[Cornell University Policy 4.23 – Interim Expressive Activity Policy](#)

[Cornell University Policy 6.4: Prohibited Bias, Discrimination, Harassment, and Sexual and Related Misconduct](#)

[Good Samaritan Protocol](#)

[Housing & Residential Life Community Rules and Standards/ 2024-2025](#)

Cornell and the PSSP Program have established these conduct expectations and standards as a part of the university's commitment to provide a safe, inclusive, and respectful higher educational community and residential campus for its students, faculty and staff. During the first week of PSSP, you will have opportunities to engage in thoughtful discussions about your responsibilities in this scholarly community, including behaving at all times in a responsible manner.

In addition to the general Community Living Standards that are applicable throughout the academic year, throughout all six weeks of PSSP, you will be subject to the following additional PSSP House Rules. **Please note: PSSP students must follow the additional PSSP House Rules in order to remain in the program.**

**Alcohol and other drugs** – Alcohol and other illicit drugs are banned from PSSP at all times. Any resident found to have been in possession, or under the influence, of alcohol or an illegal drug, on campus or off, at any time during the program will face disciplinary action and may be dismissed from the program.

**Nightly check-in** – PSSP students will return to their assigned residence hall and check in with the staff between 8pm and 11:59pm each evening. While students will not be required to remain in the residence hall after check-in, it is expected that students will act

responsibly regarding their health and safety and continue to uphold good standards of character inside and outside the classroom at all times.

**Guests** –Guests are not permitted to access the building or individual floors/areas of the resident’s room at any time with the exception of family members during move in and move out.

- No student is allowed to have overnight guests or other PSSP students other than assigned roommate(s) in their room once quiet hours are in effect.

**Overnight** – During PSSP, students learn to adjust to being in Ithaca on weekends and to use their weekends effectively for academic programs and personal growth. Students therefore are not permitted to leave Ithaca without permission. Students can request time away from the program for extenuating reasons. Requests will need to be verified with the student’s parent/guardian in order to grant permission for the absence. Requests should be sent to [cu-pssp@cornell.edu](mailto:cu-pssp@cornell.edu) at least 5 days in advance of requested departure.

**Off Campus Prohibited Areas:** PSSP students are permitted to go off-campus for dining, shopping, and exercise after classes. We strongly recommend that every student who wants to go off-campus does so with a fellow student. While PSSP students are permitted generally to go off-campus, the following important restrictions apply:

- **Day Trips** - PSSP students are not allowed to make day trips outside of Tompkins County except those organized by a College/School and endorsed by PSSP.
- **Gorges** - To enter any waters of Fall Creek, Cascadilla Creek, or Beebe Lake that are on or traverse the campus to swim, climb, or bathe is **strictly prohibited**, except in those waters officially designated as swimming or bathing waters and lifeguard is on duty. Climbing or being on the rocks in the gorges is also prohibited. Students must stay on designated paths at all times.
- **Fraternities and Sororities** - Entering fraternity and sorority houses is **strictly prohibited**. It is prohibited to be on the grounds of fraternity and sorority houses, including their front or back yards. Attending an event sponsored by a fraternity or sorority, including social events hosted in private off-campus residences, also is prohibited.

**Floor Restrictions** - Students do not have free access to all areas of their designated residence hall. For all non -public spaces and non-assigned rooms, students should check with their program mentors regarding whether they are allowed to access the space.

**Automobiles** – PSSP students are not permitted to have cars on campus under any circumstances. If a parent/guardian takes their child out in a car, they may do so upon completing the proper paperwork in the PM office.

**Cooking** – Individual micro-fridges with microwaves are available to rent if needed.

**Respect the property, privacy, and personal integrity of others** - To promote students' growth and to be their best selves, residents' behavior should be considerate and respectful of other community members and the physical space. This includes engaging in debate and discourse in the spirit of understanding and with respect for others. We strive to be a welcoming, caring, and equitable community where all students, faculty and staff can learn, innovate, and work in an environment of respect, and feel empowered to engage in any community conversation.

Please take time to familiarize yourself with all the policies, and if you have questions, please talk to your Residence Advisor (RA) or Program Mentor (PM). Violation of any of the policies, including Policy 6.4 and the Student Code of Conduct, or [Cornell's Residential House Rules/Community Standards](#), or state/federal laws, on or off campus, will be documented and reported to the appropriate authorities and campus officials, and may become part of a student's permanent record. It is your responsibility to read through and adhere to these policies. PSSP and Cornell University rules may be modified by PSSP and/or Cornell University at any time.

## **Pre-Collegiate Summer Scholars Program House Rules DISCIPLINARY PROCESS**

### **A. Notice of Violation**

At the request of any student, faculty or staff member, or independently, residential staff may file a complaint against a student. The student will be notified of the meeting and specific charges and will be expected to attend a conduct meeting within 1-2 business days for minor violations. In the case of violations that may result in dismissal, the student can expect to talk with a staff member within 24-hours of the filing of violations. That staff member will set up a conduct meeting to occur either the same business day or the next business day, depending on the timing of the violation.

### **B. Conduct Meeting**

At the conduct meeting, the nature of and the responsibility for an alleged offense is discussed. The student will also be advised of his or her options for resolving the matter. Failure to respond to the Notice of Meeting will be considered Failure to Comply, which results in an additional violation.

#### **1. Minor Violations**

For violations, that the residential staff, in their discretion, considers minor, the following outcomes may occur: (a) a sanction may be imposed following the conduct meeting, or (b) the charge(s) could be dropped. There is no appeal for minor violations. Minor violation sanctions may include, but are not limited to, verbal warnings, formal warning, loss of privileges, and/or educational sanctions. Minor violation judicial meetings are held by the appropriate staff governing the violation. Outcomes of these meetings will be shared with the PSSP Director, Assistant Director and student's college. There is no appeal of the decision at this level.

#### **2. Repeated Violations and/or More Serious Violations (House Rules and/or Code of Conduct)**

For repeated violations and/or infractions that Residential Staff, in their discretion, consider more serious, the following outcomes may occur: (a) a sanction may be imposed following the conduct meeting, or (b) the charge(s) could be dropped. Sanctions for repeated violations and more serious violations may include, but are not limited to loss of privileges, educational sanctions, probation, and/or dismissal. Conduct meetings for repeated violations and/or more serious infractions will be held by the leadership of PSSP or Housing and Residential Life depending upon the violation. The outcomes of these meetings will be shared with the student's College Associate, the PSSP Program Director, and other appropriate university personnel. Students may appeal the decision **only** when a sanction of probation or dismissal has been issued. Such appeals may be made only when there is additional information to be reviewed.

#### **3. Violations of the Student Code of Conduct or Policy 6.4**

Allegations of violations of the Student Code of Conduct or Policy 6.4 will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards or the Office of Institutional Equity and Title IX to be investigated and adjudicated under the applicable

procedures.

#### **4. Parental Notification**

It is the discretion of PSSP professional staff (Program Director, College Associate, Assistant Director) when and if to notify parents or guardians prior to, or as the result of, a conduct meeting consistent with the University's Student Privacy Record Statement. Generally, parents will be notified prior to the judicial meeting when an incident has occurred that could result in dismissal and after the dismissal decision has been made.

### **C. Sanctions**

#### **1. Dismissal and Restriction**

"Dismissal and restriction" is a separation of the student from the PSSP program. Students can be dismissed from PSSP for serious infractions, for repeated violations, or if they have clearly demonstrated, in the opinion of PSSP professional staff, that they are not acting responsibly toward themselves or others (**whether or not their actions are covered by specific rules**). Immediate dismissal could result from the use/presence of alcohol or drugs; theft; possession of a fake ID; violent, threatening or harassing behavior of any kind; swimming in the gorges, a violation of community standards, or any other serious violation. Dismissal can also result from a series of incidents that have been documented through the progressive discipline process that indicate that the behavior of the student has not changed or improved.

The student is required to leave campus within twenty-four hours of parental notification. While departure is being arranged, students may not participate in trips or other program activities.

In cases warranting dismissal, sanctions may not necessarily follow the sequence indicated above. Following any dismissal from the PSSP program, the student's College/School will follow up as to if this affects the student's admission to Cornell University as a student. Please note dismissal is serious and dismissed students may have their admission to the University rescinded.

#### **2. Probation**

Probation is a final notice given to the student where any further violations of policies may result in the student's dismissal and restriction. Probation will include restrictions on privileges such as adjustment to student's check-in and/or the ability to participate in certain activities, and possible other sanctions. The student's parent or legal guardian is notified if the student is placed on probation, consistent with the University's Student Privacy Record Statement.

#### **3. Formal Warning**

A formal warning is an official notice to a student that his/her behavior is unacceptable. The student will be asked to attend a conduct meeting during which they will be advised that any further violations of policies may result in more severe disciplinary action.

#### **4. Verbal Warning**

A verbal warning is a documented conversation with a student to notify the student that his/her behavior is unacceptable. The student is advised that any further violations of policies may result in more severe disciplinary action.

#### **5. Other Sanctions**

Other sanctions may be imposed instead of or in addition to those specified above, such as restrictions upon privileges, educational service projects, restitution, or other appropriate sanctions.

### **D. Appeals**

An appeal of probation or dismissal may be made, in writing, by the student to the Program Director or their designee(s) within 8-hours of the decision. The Program Director will review the written communication with the PSSP Leadership Committee. Appeals must include new information about the incident that may change the outcome of the dismissal decision. If there is no new information an appeal meeting will not be granted. If an appeal meeting is granted the Program Director will assign a designee and arrange a meeting for them with the student, either that day if the appeal meeting is granted during an active business day or the next business day if the appeal is received after hours, to discuss the new information. Deadlines to leave campus will be adjusted accordingly. Students should expect to miss class as needed to participate in the appeals process. If appeals are granted other sanctions may be applied such as warnings, probation, or educational sanctions depending on the final nature of the case.

Students who are appealing a decision of dismissal and restriction should be prepared to leave within twenty-four hours if the appeal is denied.