

Interim Suspension

What: This is a request for approval to include an interim suspension process in the Code of Student Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct as an additional and separate Appendix within the code. An Interim Suspension is considered an 'interim measure'. There are many interim measures, including no contact orders and temporary housing moves, that occur frequently. When an interim measure removes a student from their educational opportunity it should be accompanied by a process, which is what is outlined here.

Does this replace or change the Summary Suspension process?: No. The Summary Suspension tool is an actual process on its own merit; it is not an interim measure. Summary Suspension procedures require an immediate or expedited hearing. An Interim Suspension will be used when a student presents a continuing danger – and the investigation into the matter is ongoing. An Interim Suspension also enables a hearing panel to consider the outcome of expulsion in extreme cases; Summary Suspension may result in an ongoing suspension but it does enable the student to petition to return to campus.

Why now?: In May, the Department of Education released Title IX Rules and Regulations that fundamentally changed the way universities may respond to an immediate threat of harm. To immediately respond to a situation involving a continuing danger that also falls under the category of Title IX, the use of an Interim Suspension may be appropriate, but the use of a process like our Summary Suspension will no longer be permitted.

Why the Student Code and not the Title IX procedure?: There are other types of reports and cases involving violence, threats or continuing danger under personal misconduct that may be appropriate for this measure because they also require an investigation that may prevent the immediate action required under Summary Suspension.

In Brief: When it comes to campus, student, staff, and faculty safety, IU should have the most comprehensive range of options to respond on a case by case basis. The nature of continuing danger may require an ongoing investigation or use of a specific process (like the Title XI process). This means IU needs a response that can be used to quickly respond for campus safety, and still allow a full investigation and/or a specific process to be completed without requiring an expedited hearing. This tool will achieve this need.