GRADUATE TIGER HANDBOOK

2026–2027

The Graduate Tiger Handbook is the official university guidebook for graduate students. It is provided to students and applicants for their general guidance only. It does not constitute a contract, either expressed or implied, and is subject to change at the university's discretion.

OUACHITA BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

Introduction

When we enter a community, we commit to respect and uphold certain characteristics, standards, and values. The specific policies outlined in the Graduate Tiger Handbook are not presented as an exhaustive list; instead, they are guidelines and standards that contribute to Ouachita's vibrant community. By enrolling at Ouachita, students are expected to conduct themselves both on and off campus in ways consistent with the university's identity as a Christ-centered institution of higher education. Clear expectations help the community live in unity, and the university expects students to live and act consistently with these standards. This handbook serves as a guide to those expectations.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

WHO WE ARE 1

- Origin 1
- Vision, Mission, and Values 1
- Statement of Faith 1
- Community Characteristics 2

ACADEMIC LIFE 3

- Covenant on Academic Honor 3
- Artificial Intelligence 3
- Judicial Council 3
- Academic Support Services 4

SPIRITUAL LIFE 4

- Chapel 4
- Campus Ministries 4

RESIDENCE LIFE 5

- Meal Plans 5

CAMPUS LIFE 5

- Counseling Services 5
- Health Services 5
- Ouachita Campus Store 6
- Student Financial Services 6
- Email 6
- Student Web Portal 6

ORGANIZATION GUIDELINES 6

- Student Organizations 6

STANDARDS OF STUDENT CONDUCT 7

- Alcohol or Substance Use 7
- Race and Christian Community 7
- Sexuality, Gender and Marriage 7
- Social Media 8

DISCIPLINARY PROCESS 8

- Disciplinary Sanctions 8
- Appeal Process 10

GENERAL UNIVERSITY POLICIES 11
Emergency Response Procedures 11
Vehicles and Parking 11
Electric Scooters 11
Student Marriages and Name Changes 11
Student Demonstrations and Rallies 11
Communicable Diseases 11
LEGAL NOTICES, POLICIES, AND CAMPUS SAFETY 12
Educational Records 12
Policy Statement on Nondiscrimination 12
Harassment 13
Hazing 13
Ouachita Statement of Policies and Procedures 14
Security Services 15
Alcohol and Drugs 16
Counseling Services 16
Reporting Crimes and Other Emergencies 16
Emergency Response 17
Campus Crime Alerts 18
Fire Safety Procedures 19
Evacuation Procedures 20
Missing Student Notification 21
Policy on Non-Attendance 22
Policy on Involuntary Administrative Withdrawal 22
Policy Concerning Accommodations for Students with Disabilities 22
University Complaint Policy 24
Code of Computing Practices 24
SEXUAL ASSAULT AND MISCONDUCT 26
Sexual Misconduct Policy 26
Emergency Services Contact Information 27
APPENDIX: STUDENT CONDUCT FINES & CHARGES 28

Questions about the handbook? Contact:

Office of Student Development
Evans Student Center 220
(870) 245-5220
OBU Box 3758
studentdevelopment@obu.edu

WHO WE ARE

ORIGIN

The Arkansas Baptist State Convention authorized Ouachita Baptist College as its institution of higher education in November 1885. The following month, Ouachita trustees voted to locate the campus in Arkadelphia, Ark. Classes began in September 1886, and the institution has operated without interruption in the same location since that date. On January 14, 1965, the Board of Trustees voted to change the name from Ouachita Baptist College to Ouachita Baptist University.

VISION, MISSION, AND VALUES

Vision

Ouachita Baptist University seeks to foster a love of God and a love of learning by creating for students and other constituents dynamic growth opportunities both on campus and throughout the world. With foresight and faithfulness, Ouachita makes a difference.

Mission

Ouachita Baptist University is a Christ-centered learning community. Embracing the liberal arts tradition, the university prepares individuals for ongoing intellectual and spiritual growth, lives of meaningful work, and reasoned engagement with the world.

Values

Ouachita strives to be an academic community of vision, integrity, and service grounded in the following values:

- **Faith.** We believe that life is lived most abundantly in response to the love of God through Jesus Christ.
- **Scholarship.** We advance excellence in teaching, learning, research, and creative expression.
- **Growth.** We foster broad-based education, encouraging growth in intellectual, spiritual, physical, and social domains.
- **Character.** We affirm that respect and honesty undergird responsible citizenship and stewardship.
- **Community.** We promote a vibrant community strengthened by diversity, sustained by common aims and supportive relationships, and committed to leadership and service on campus and beyond.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

Ouachita Baptist University's Statement of Faith reflects sincerely held beliefs grounded in the solid foundation of Holy Scripture, which is fully inspired by God, and thus true and authoritative. It also reflects orthodox beliefs held by the Christian church since the first century and is consistent with Ouachita's Arkansas Baptist State Convention affiliation.

God and Creation

There is one true and living God in three persons – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – who created all things by His spoken word and declared His creation good. He made all people in His own image, both male and female, so they might enjoy their creator, live in community with others, and steward God's good creation, all to the glory of God.

Human Sin and God's Love

Tragically, Adam and Eve rebelled against God's goodness and love, introducing sin and death into the world. All generations have repeated this pattern of sin in thought, word, and deed. God, though, is merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in love. He declared that a descendant of Eve would one day reverse the effects of sin and death. God continued to reveal the good news of this salvation plan

through His covenants with Abraham, Moses, and David, promising to bless all the nations of the world through a royal descendant of David.

Jesus and Salvation
God sent His Son, Jesus Christ the Lord, who is a descendant of Abraham and David. He was born of the virgin Mary by the Holy Spirit – fully God and fully human. Jesus proclaimed the arrival of God's Kingdom through His ministry and perfect obedience to the Father, His sacrificial death on the cross for our sins, and His bodily resurrection from the dead and ascension into heaven. All those who turn from sin and believe Jesus is Lord experience forgiveness by grace through faith and are adopted into the family of God. This is the Gospel, the good news of God, who loves us and has reconciled us with Himself, defeating evil, and breaking the curse of sin and death.

The Holy Spirit
God sent His Holy Spirit, who dwells in all those who believe in Jesus, creates in us a new heart, and includes us in the meaningful work of redemption. The Spirit guides and empowers all believers to proclaim His Kingdom in word and action, to make disciples among all the nations of the world, and to live in fellowship with one another.

New Creation and Christian Life
Jesus will come again to bring about fully the new creation, when sin and death will be defeated and when all evil will be judged by Him. As we await His return, God's holy and redeemed people in Jesus – the church – are called to love Him and others, to follow Him in discipleship in a local congregation, and to develop by His Spirit a life of Christian character that includes love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

Our Statement of Faith is drawn from the entirety of the Bible. Below is a selection of key passages: Genesis 1:1–3:24; 12:1-3; Deuteronomy 30:1-6; 2 Samuel 7:1-29; Psalm 1:1-6; 2:1-12; 8:1-9; 19:1-14; 22:1-31; 89:1-52; 103:1-22; 110:1-7; 118:1-29; 139:1-24; Isaiah 7:14; 49:1-7; 52:13–53:12; Jeremiah 31:31-34; Ezekiel 34:1–37:28; Joel 2:28-32; Amos 9:11-12; Micah 5:2; 6:6-8; Zechariah 9:9-13; Matthew 16:13-16; 19:1-9; 28:16-20; Mark 12:28-31; Luke 1:26-56; John 3:16-17; Acts 1:1–2:47; 15:1-29; Romans 1:1-6; 3:21-31; 5:1-21; 1 Corinthians 15:1-58; Galatians 3:10-14, 26-29; 5:13-26; Ephesians 1:1–2:22; 4:17–5:33; Philippians 2:6-11; 3:20-21; Colossians 3:1-14; 2 Timothy 3:16-17; Hebrews 1:1-4; 10:19-25; 2 Peter 1:3-11, 21; 1 John 1:5-10; Revelation 7:9-12; 21:1–22:21.

COMMUNITY CHARACTERISTICS

Over the many decades since its founding, several common characteristics have developed at Ouachita and have been passed on as traditions from generation to generation of students. These have formed the distinctive ethos of Ouachita's campus community. While students are not required to profess personal Christian faith, making the choice to attend Ouachita means having an appreciation for our guiding biblical principles and choosing to abide by these characteristics that unite our community:

- A love of God and a love of learning
- Commitment to or respect for a Christian lifestyle
- Respect for scholarship, creativity, and achievement by fellow students, faculty, and staff members
- Respect for the rights, feelings, and property of others
- Friendliness on campus, especially to visitors
- Audience etiquette and sportsmanship at athletics events; treating speakers and performers as well as opposing teams and fans with respect
- Respect for personal appearance, including appropriate grooming and dress for class, chapel, and similar settings

- Commitment to physical and mental health and wellness through campus programs or an independent pursuit of personal development
- Positive expressions of school spirit such as singing the alma mater or fight song; attending university events; or representing the university at external events

ACADEMIC LIFE

COVENANT ON ACADEMIC HONOR

The Covenant on Academic Honor was developed by a committee of the Student Senate and approved by the Board of Trustees in 2001. All Ouachita students are obligated to uphold the Covenant Pledge.

Covenant Mission

We believe that a university under the Lordship of Jesus Christ must involve itself in the pursuit of honor. In all academic endeavors, our commitment is to build a community of scholars characterized by the highest standards of integrity consistent with Ouachita's Christian ideals. We hope this pursuit of integrity will extend beyond the classroom and be reflected in every area of our daily lives.

Covenant Pledge

As a member of the Ouachita community, I am committed to fostering a culture of honor. I affirm that an academic environment can be enriching only when its members commit to mutual integrity, trust, responsibility, and respect. I will refrain from all forms of academic dishonesty, and I will act responsibly when confronted with the knowledge of such behavior. I recognize that academic excellence is more than the absence of dishonesty; true scholarship entails devotion to my studies and respect for my professors and classmates. With the aim of academic and personal growth, I make this pledge to myself and to the women and men of Ouachita Baptist University.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

The expectation of Academic Honor applies to the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI). Students should follow each instructor's guidance on approved and unapproved uses of AI for coursework and may face disciplinary sanctions for unapproved use.

JUDICIAL COUNCIL

Purpose

The purpose of the Judicial Council is to consider possible violations of the Covenant on Academic Honor and other matters related to student conduct as requested by the Office of Student Development. See the undergraduate Tiger Handbook at obu.edu/tigerhandbook for more information.

Hearings

When faculty members suspect a violation of the Covenant on Academic Honor by a graduate student, they retain the right to make independent academic determinations or may initiate hearings before the faculty members of the Judicial Council and any graduate representatives on the Council. Students may not appeal an individual faculty member's academic decision to the Judicial Council. In making a request for a hearing, the initiating faculty member will present a written statement along with any pertinent documentation to the dean of students, who serves as the Council's liaison.

Students will be given reasonable notice of hearings, which will usually take place within 10 days. The faculty member who initiated the hearing may address the Council and may call others with direct knowledge of the suspected violation to address the council. The student will have the opportunity to be heard by the council, may call others with direct knowledge of the suspected violation to address the council, and may question the faculty member and others who have presented information in the hearing. Legal counsel is not permitted in Judicial Council hearings.

If the majority of the Judicial Council representatives hearing the case agree there is substantial evidence a violation of the Covenant on Academic Honor occurred, a sanction will be imposed and provided to the student in writing. Sanctions may include a warning, honor probation, recording of a test or assignment as a zero, recording a semester grade of "F" for the course, suspension from the university or other actions at the discretion of the council.

Appeals
An appeal of a decision made by the Judicial Council must be presented in writing to the Academic Deans Council within five days of the decision. After consideration of the records of the Judicial Council hearing and other pertinent evidence, the Deans Council will notify the student of its decision in writing. Action by the Judicial Council does not preclude additional disciplinary action by the university when appropriate.

ACADEMIC SUPPORT SERVICES

Ouachita is committed to providing students with supplemental resources to meet the demands of a rigorous curriculum and to assist them with academic problems that may arise. The following services and programs are designed to accomplish these goals:

Academic Advising: obu.edu/advising
Program faculty serve as academic advisors for students in graduate programs, providing guidance for students in registering for courses each semester, as well as assisting students with other academic needs.

Academic Success Center (tutoring, etc.): obu.edu/success

Disability Support (ADA/504): obu.edu/counseling

Office of Career & Calling: obu.edu/career

IT Services (computer labs, printing, etc.) obu.edu/its

Riley-Hickingbotham Library: obu.edu/library

SPIRITUAL LIFE

In accordance with the university's vision, mission, and values, Ouachita seeks to foster in our students a love of God and a love of learning. While students are not required to be Baptist or to adhere to a specific set of beliefs, our longstanding institutional religious identity and our relationship with the Arkansas Baptist State Convention shapes the university's approach to spiritual life. Ouachita actively encourages and seeks to assist all students in developing a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Ouachita believes the local church is central to the spiritual life of Christians and does not consider chapel or other university programs to be replacements for church involvement.

CHAPEL: obu.edu/chapel

Chapel is held in Jones Performing Arts Center on Tuesdays at 10 a.m. for undergraduate students. Students in graduate programs may attend chapel but are not required to.

CAMPUS MINISTRIES

The Office of Campus Ministries coordinates the university's spiritual life programs, activities, and resources. Its primary goals are to foster meaningful relationships with Christ among students; to guide

them in fruitful ministry, discipleship, and fellowship; and to train leaders who will continue to engage the world and serve the church. The office coordinates ministry teams, mission trips, discipleship groups, and student-led gatherings, including Refuge and Noonday. See more about Campus Ministries at obu.edu/cm.

RESIDENCE LIFE

On-campus housing is not guaranteed for students in graduate programs but may be available on a limited basis. Contact the Office of Student Development at studentdevelopment@obu.edu or (870) 245-5220 for questions about housing.

Students in graduate programs who live in university-owned or university-provided housing are expected to follow and are subject to the policies of the undergraduate Tiger Handbook.

MEAL PLANS

Graduate students may purchase a meal plan or add money to their student ID for use at student center dining through Student Financial Services.

CAMPUS LIFE

COUNSELING SERVICES: obu.edu/counseling

Counseling services are available to help Ouachita students with a wide range of mental health challenges – from test anxiety and dealing with stress to depression or grieving the loss of a loved one, among others. One-on-one sessions, group sessions, and online screenings and resources are available.

Information disclosed by students during counseling sessions remains confidential unless the student is thought to be in imminent danger of harming himself/herself or other people. Students may also give written authorization if they desire the release of their records to other persons/agencies, or if they desire the university counselor to consult with a family member or other persons.

Services provided are free of charge to currently enrolled students. Appointments may be scheduled by calling the Office of Student Development at (870) 245-5220 or online at obu.edu/counseling. Students who require assistance beyond the scope of the university counseling services may be given a referral to a professional or agency in the community or other recommendations.

HEALTH SERVICES: obu.edu/healthservices

Ouachita's Office of Health Services offers on-campus first aid, health education, simple diagnoses, and treatments for minor illnesses by a registered nurse at little or no cost. An on-campus physician from the Arkadelphia Clinic for Children & Young Adults is available for more serious needs, or students may be referred to Baptist Medical Center Arkadelphia or other local physicians.

It is recommended that every student be covered by some form of health insurance; Ouachita does not provide a group policy for students. International students, however, are required to enroll in a medical insurance policy with a third party identified by the Grant Center for International Education before registering. All students must complete health records consistent with state and university requirements. See current immunization requirements at obu.edu/healthservices.

Arkansas Act 1233 of 1999 requires all universities to notify both students and parent(s) of an increased risk of meningococcal disease among individuals who live in close quarters, such as students in college residence halls. A vaccine is available and should be discussed with your local health provider.

The Arkadelphia Clinic for Children & Young Adults provides the services of a physician and other health professionals on campus. The Arkadelphia Clinic for Children & Young Adults is a private clinic, and the university does not assume responsibility for the actions of the clinic. Students seeking care through this clinic will be billed by the Arkadelphia Clinic for Children & Young Adults for their services.

OUACHITA CAMPUS STORE: obu.edu/bookstore

The Ouachita Campus Store, located on the lower floor of Evans Student Center, is the center for textbooks, supplies that are requirements for classes, everyday supplies, and Ouachita-branded merchandise. Graduation announcements and senior rings are also available through the Campus Store. Students have the option of charging books to their student account and paying for them over the course of the semester via a payment plan with the Office of Student Financial Services.

STUDENT FINANCIAL SERVICES: obu.edu/finaid

The Office of Student Financial Services, on the first floor of Cone-Bottoms Hall, provides a number of services. It receives payments for all university expenses and maintains records of all scholarship funds. It will cash checks for students in amounts up to $50; a Ouachita ID card is required for this service.

EMAIL

Each student is assigned a Ouachita email address upon acceptance to the university. The address is [the first three letters of the student's last name] [the student's ID number]@obu.edu (e.g. John Smith, ID#12345 = smi12345@obu.edu). Email accounts provided by the university are considered an official means of communication between each student and the university's employees. Ouachita students are responsible for reading email messages sent to their Ouachita email account and for responding to these emails if requested.

STUDENT WEB PORTAL: info.obu.edu

Ouachita maintains a web-based information portal for each student; accounts are created upon application to the university. This portal is designed for a student to log in and access personal information, such as current major/minor, cumulative hours, grade point average, transcripts, current and pre-registered course enrollment, chapel attendance records, financial aid, current financial balance, and pending transactions.

ORGANIZATION GUIDELINES

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Professional student organizations may be given a charter and granted recognition by the university administration upon recommendation of (1) the Student Life Committee, (2) the Student Senate and (3) the Graduate Council. A petition setting forth the need for the organization, the purpose of the proposed organization, a list of qualified charter members, the faculty sponsors and a proposed constitution for the organization must have been submitted to each governing body prior to approval. A signed copy of the approved charter must be on file with the vice president for student development and the senior director of residence and student life. See more information at obu.edu/studentlife.

Student organizations for graduate programs are subject to the organization guidelines and policies in the undergraduate Tiger Handbook.

STANDARDS OF STUDENT CONDUCT

Ouachita encourages all its students to live by Christian commitments as articulated in scripture. Ouachita expects students enrolled in graduate programs to show respect for Ouachita's Christian identity. Ouachita reserves the right to address behavior that conflicts with its Christian identity or unduly disrupts the learning of other members of the Ouachita community.

Ouachita's standards for students are grounded in the following:

- **Respect for the institution**
- **Respect for Ouachita's Christian mission**
- **Respect for others**
- **Respect for self**
- **Respect for property**

Anything identified with the university must be in keeping with the official vision, mission, and values of Ouachita Baptist University. This includes the content of programs or performances, texts of printed material, and actions and speech of individuals and groups.

ALCOHOL OR SUBSTANCE USE

The university believes that its students can best function when they are free of any mind-altering substances. It is committed to the health and safety of students and provides confidential and redemptive help to those who seek assistance.

Graduate students are prohibited from the use of alcohol and controlled or illegal substances on campus, in university-provided housing, in the presence of undergraduate students, and at university functions including club and organization events. Graduate students are expected to use discernment, moderation and self-control out of respect for Ouachita's Christian mission and values.

RACE AND CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

Ouachita is called to be an intentional community of belonging based on the Gospel, which transcends racial, ethnic, cultural, socio-economic, and national divisions. Scripture compels God's people to practice true friendship by loving their neighbors as themselves, striving to emulate the beautiful multitude from every language, ethnicity, and nation who will gather in eternal praise to God when Jesus returns and makes all things new. Bias or discrimination expressed through behavior, speech, or in other ways is inconsistent with the university's mission and values.

SEXUALITY, GENDER AND MARRIAGE

Ouachita's policy on human sexuality is grounded in the biblical and historical Christian view of marriage and sexual relationships and reflects its affiliation with and responsibility to Arkansas Baptist churches. While the university recognizes that not all students profess Christian faith, and that others may reach conclusions which differ from its biblical convictions, choosing to enroll at Ouachita carries the expectation that one will respect and live in accordance with the university's values.

As expressed in the biblical account of creation, God designed male and female as a beautiful expression of diversity and mutual dependence. Sex and gender are aspects of humanity that God created in harmony with one another. According to Scripture, both singleness and marriage are gifts of God. Marriage is a sacred covenant between one man and one woman, the exclusive context for virtuous sexual expression and procreation, and a symbol of Christ's relationship with the Church.

The following are examples of expected behaviors: stewarding sexual expression with discretion and respect for God and others; chastity in singleness and faithfulness in marriage; abstaining from

pornography; living with integrity in congruence with one's birth sex, including use of pronouns; refraining from same-sex romantic or sexual relationships; and avoiding behaviors inconsistent with the university's values.

The university will strive to treat all people redemptively with dignity, compassion, and love. Such love reflects the grace of Jesus Christ, who offers forgiveness for all sins and calls us to follow Him.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Although online content is not routinely monitored, students may be held accountable for content posted on social media or the internet at large. Any violation of laws or university policy or evidence of such a violation may be subject to sanctions as detailed in this document. The university desires its students to learn the significance and potential widespread impact of an individual's online presence and the individual's responsibility pertaining to any consequences for their words and actions.

DISCIPLINARY PROCESS

Violations of standards of student conduct or university policy will be handled through the personnel of the Office of Student Development. The dean of students will determine the appropriate person(s) or committee to interview and evaluate an incident. Cases of suspected violations will be handled by the personnel within Student Development or a duly constituted and trained committee.

Graduate students living in university-provided housing are subject to the policies, disciplinary processes and sanctions detailed in the undergraduate Tiger Handbook.

Students who have reportedly committed a conduct violation will be interviewed. The administrator conducting the interview will determine if university policies or standards have been violated and will prescribe appropriate action/sanctions.

In cases of suspected violations of the university's Covenant on Academic Honor, see the appropriate section under Academic Life.

These disciplinary procedures will not be used for allegations of behaviors included in the Sexual Misconduct Policy. See instead the Sexual Misconduct Policy.

DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS

Except for violations of the Sexual Misconduct Policy, which includes a list of sanctions for violations of that policy, the following sanctions (listed in alphabetical order) may be administered in response to a violation of university standards or policies:

Behavioral Contract
A behavioral contract may be established in conjunction with other sanctions.

Change in Living Assignment
The student may be moved from his/her present living assignment to another when appropriate.

Disciplinary Probation
Probation is a written warning and a notice the student has violated university policy and any further violation of policy may result in punitive action up to and including suspension from the university.

There are several types of probation, listed in part here, with more information available in the undergraduate Tiger Handbook:

- **Personal Probation** – Because of the violation of university policy, the student is required to meet with a member of the university staff who will help him/her explore alternatives to the exhibited behavior. This involves a contract, and the breaking of this contract will jeopardize the student's continuation at Ouachita.
- **University Probation** – The offense is serious enough that privileges are removed. The student placed on university probation may be ineligible to participate in extracurricular activities, to campaign for or hold office in any student organization, receive any university honors except those awarded for academic achievement, or represent the university in any extracurricular activities. One who is on an intercollegiate team or group may be restricted from representing the university after consultation with the appropriate coach or professor. The student on university probation is required to respond in a timely manner to communications from the Office of Student Development. Any violation will result in immediate suspension from the university.

Drug Testing
Drug testing may be required of any student when there is reason to believe prohibited substances have been used. If the drug test is positive, the student will be charged for the costs involved.

Eviction
Removal from university housing or other campus facilities as designated in the sanction. Room fees and deposits will not be refunded.

Expulsion
Termination of status as a student at Ouachita Baptist University for an indefinite period of time or permanently. The student is expected to leave campus within six hours following expulsion, and the student is not allowed on campus in the future without permission from the dean of students.

Students expelled during the first 11 weeks of a semester will receive a "W" for all classes in which they are enrolled. Students expelled during the final four weeks of a semester will receive a "W" in all classes in which they have passing grades and an "F" in all classes in which they have failing grades at the time of expulsion.

Fines/Charges
See table in the Appendix. The included table of fines in the Appendix is not exhaustive. There may be incidents that result in a fine more or less than the standard fine, given each incident's unique circumstances.

Redemptive Education
When appropriate, the student may be required to participate in redemptive education with a university staff member or the university counselor in addition to or in lieu of other sanctions. Often there will be a minimum number of sessions stipulated. While the contents of these sessions will remain confidential, the educator or counselor will provide the appropriate student development staff person (usually the dean of students) with information on the student's attendance and general progress in required redemptive education.

Restitution
Requirement to reimburse or otherwise compensate an injured party or the university for damage or loss of property resulting from the student's misconduct. Within residence halls, common assessment or group billing may be charged for damages occurring in common areas shared by groups of residents when the specific individual(s) responsible cannot be determined.

Suspension
Termination of status as a student at Ouachita Baptist University for a period of time, usually one semester to one full year. The suspension may be immediate or deferred until the end of the current term. The student is expected to leave the campus within 24 hours of the suspension decision. Suspended students are not allowed back on campus during the period of suspension without permission from the dean of students.

Students receiving an immediate nonacademic suspension during the first 11 weeks of a semester will receive a “W” for all classes in which they are enrolled. Students receiving an immediate nonacademic suspension during the final four weeks of a semester will receive a “W” in all classes in which they have passing grades and an “F” in all classes in which they have failing grades at the time of suspension.

Suspension of Financial Aid
Students who fail to abide by the policies in the Tiger Handbook as well as local, state, or national laws may have their institutional financial aid immediately suspended. Students currently on university disciplinary probation (or who have been previously warned) who fail to maintain their standard of conduct may have aid suspended. The dean of students may recommend the suspension of aid in consultation with the director of student financial services. The final appeal of the loss of aid is to the Student Life Committee.

Warning
A verbal or written statement to the student that he/she has violated university policy, and that future misconduct will result in a more severe sanction.

APPEAL PROCESS

A student wishing to appeal a disciplinary decision must submit a written appeal request (email communication is acceptable) to the vice president for student development within 48 hours of the time the student was informed of the decision. The student should note new information not previously considered, or request that a sanction be reviewed to ensure it aligns with the facts of the violation and the Tiger Handbook.

Hearing Personnel
Appeals will be heard by the Conduct and Community Standards Appeal Committee (consisting of faculty, staff, and students). Hearings are not open to individuals not directly involved, including peers, family members, other university personnel, or legal representatives.

Hearing Timeline
Convening the Conduct and Community Standards Appeal Committee on short notice can be a challenge; every effort will be made to confirm the highest attendance possible.

Determining a Ruling
The Conduct and Community Standards Appeal Committee (or dean of students if a ResLife hearing) will deliberate to render a decision to either uphold the original finding and sanction or alter the finding and/or sanction. The committee’s decision is final and will be communicated to the student within 48 hours.

Probationary Status
The student will not be eligible to represent the university in any curricular or co-curricular activity while they are the subject of a disciplinary process or appeal without written permission from the vice president for student development or his/her designee. Where immediate suspension, dismissal, or expulsion is involved, the student’s enrollment may be interrupted until the appeal process has been completed.

GENERAL UNIVERSITY POLICIES

EMERGENCY RESPONSE PROCEDURES

Any local emergency information will be conveyed over the Ouachita RAVE Alert System. It is recommended students have access to a battery-powered radio, flashlight, and spare batteries. Campus officials responsible for facilities and personnel will try to stay current with government and other agency guidelines about emergency response.

VEHICLES AND PARKING

The university has established parking and traffic regulations to help ensure the safe and orderly operation of vehicles on campus. Graduate students who operate vehicles on campus should consult the relevant section in the undergraduate Tiger Handbook.

Designated parking zones are shown on the parking map available at obu.edu/maps. Each decal indicates the zone or lot in which the vehicle may be parked.

ELECTRIC SCOOTERS

Skate and motorized devices including skateboards, longboards, skates, rollerblades, and scooters may not be used inside university buildings. Skaters and cyclists are expected to always give the right of way to pedestrians on campus. Equipment not specifically manufactured for street use in traffic conditions – including unlicensed or unapproved motorized scooters, mopeds, and minibikes – may not be used on streets or parking lots on campus.

STUDENT MARRIAGES AND NAME CHANGES

Any student who marries during the academic year should report this in advance to the Office of Student Development so that all records may be appropriately changed.

If there is a name change for any reason, legal documentation must be shown at the Office of the Registrar before records can be changed.

STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS AND RALLIES

As a private, religiously affiliated institution, Ouachita reserves the right to restrict or prohibit any unauthorized, disorderly, disruptive, or offensive on-campus demonstrations or rallies. Students who participate in any such event are subject to disciplinary action. Student demonstrations or rallies must be authorized by the Office of Student Development.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

Ouachita reserves the right to restrict campus activities or access for any student, prospective student, or campus visitor who has been diagnosed as having a contagious or communicable disease or virus. It is assumed students are free of any communicable disease while a part of the university community. Any student who knows or who has reason to believe he/she may be infected by a communicable disease must report this information immediately to the Office of Health Services. Any restrictions and/or exclusions deemed necessary for the welfare of all students will be determined considering the most current medical knowledge and in accordance with state and federal laws. Universal precautions should be used by anyone dealing with exposure to infectious materials.

LEGAL NOTICES, POLICIES, AND CAMPUS SAFETY

EDUCATIONAL RECORDS

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, Public Law 93-380, requires the student give written permission for the release of "any personally identifiable information" other than general "directory information." Directory information includes the following data: name, local address and phone number, permanent address and phone number, place and date of birth, citizenship status, class schedule, dates of attendance, classification, academic major, full or part time status, academic and nonacademic honors, letter of commendation, high school attended, scholarship information, withdrawal date, other academic institutions attended, degree obtained and date conferred, campus activities, leadership positions, and height and weight of varsity athletes.

At the time students register for courses, they may notify the registrar in writing that directory information relating to them may not be released. Restricting the release of public information directly affects the publication of the Ouachita directory, yearbook, programs, and news releases concerning student activities, honors, and awards.

Additional information on educational records is released only upon written student request except to the following persons:

- Ouachita staff with legitimate educational interest
- Federal, state, and local officials as specified by law
- Research and accreditation representatives
- Officials of other schools in which students intend to enroll
- Financial aid representatives
- National Student Clearinghouse

Individual students may sign a consent granting Ouachita the right to disclose a student's educational record to his/her parents.

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) also grants students the right to inspect and review their education records. A copy of the full text of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 is available in the Office of the Registrar along with information about types of student records maintained at Ouachita, the procedure for gaining access to records and procedure for challenging the content of those records.

POLICY STATEMENT ON NONDISCRIMINATION

In accordance with applicable federal and state laws, such as Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, and the Americans with Disabilities Act and ADA Amendments, the university does not illegally discriminate on the basis of sex, gender, race, color, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, religion, or any other protected status under federal, state, or local law applicable to the university in its education policies, programs, and activities; in its admissions policies; in employment policies and practices; and in all other areas of the university. As a faith-based institution, the university is exempt from certain laws and regulations concerning discrimination.

Sex-based discrimination is prohibited by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, a federal law that provides that: "No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance." Sex-based harassment is a form of sex-based discrimination. In accordance with Title IX, the university's Sexual Misconduct Policy addresses the

university's prohibition of the following forms of sex-based discrimination: sex-based harassment, sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, and sexual exploitation.

For more information, see the Sexual Misconduct Policy at obu.edu/sexual-misconduct-policy. Inquiries or complaints about Title IX, sex discrimination, sexual harassment, or other forms of sexual misconduct may be directed to the university's Title IX coordinator:

Christa Neal
Title IX Coordinator
Ouachita Baptist University
TitleIX@obu.edu
Office: BPBB131
(870) 245-4896

HARASSMENT

Ouachita Baptist University is committed to providing an environment in which all persons are safe from harassment and intimidation. Harassment can include physical conduct or verbal innuendo which creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment. Such harassment is contrary to the Christian standards of conduct expected of all members of the university community, students, faculty, and staff; it may also be illegal.

Ouachita Baptist University is committed to providing students, faculty, and staff with an environment free from implicit and explicit coercive behavior used to control, influence, or affect the well-being of any member of the university community. Sexual harassment can include physical conduct, verbal innuendo, or nonverbal innuendo of a sexual nature which creates an intimidating, unwelcomed, hostile, or offensive environment. Sexual harassment of any person is inappropriate and unacceptable and is grounds for disciplinary action including expulsion or termination of employment; it may also be illegal.

For more information about the university's prohibition of sex-based harassment, the steps for recourse for those who are subjected to sex-based harassment and the procedures for determining a violation of university policy, see the Sexual Misconduct Policy. Allegations of sex-based harassment should be reported according to the reporting procedures identified in the Sexual Misconduct Policy. Any allegation of other types of harassment should be reported immediately to the dean of students or vice president for student development.

HAZING

Ouachita Baptist University abides by the definition and restrictions related to hazing set forth in Arkansas Code Annotated sections 6-5-201 (-204) as described below:

Definition
Hazing is defined as follows:

- Any willful act on or off the property of any school, college, university, or other educational institution in Arkansas by one student alone or acting with others, directed against any other student done for the purpose of intimidating the student attacked by threatening him with social or other ostracism or of submitting such student to ignominy, shame, or disgrace among his fellow students, and acts calculated to produce such results: or
- The playing of abusive or truculent tricks on or off the property of any school, college, university, or other educational institution in Arkansas by one student alone or acting with others, upon a student to frighten or scare him: or
- Any willful act on or off the property of any school, college, university, or other educational institution in Arkansas by one student alone or acting with others, which is directed against another student done for the purpose of humbling the pride, stifling the ambition, or impairing the courage of the student attacked; or to discourage him from remaining in such school, college,

university, or other educational institution; or reasonably to cause him to leave the institution rather than submit to such acts; or

- Any willful act on or off the property of any school, college, university or other educational institution in Arkansas by one student alone or acting with others, in striking, beating, bruising, or maiming; or seriously offering, threatening or attempting to strike, beat, bruise, or maim; or to do or seriously offer, threaten, or attempt to do physical violence to any student of any such educational institution; or any assault upon any student made for the purpose of committing any of the acts, or producing any of the results, to such student as defined in this Section.

The term hazing as defined in this Section does not include customary athletic events or similar contests or competitions and is limited to those actions taken and situations created in connection with initiation into or affiliation with any organization.

Prohibitions
No student at any school, college, university, or other educational institution in Arkansas shall engage in what is commonly known and recognized as hazing or encourage, aid, or assist any other student in the commission of this offense. No person shall knowingly permit, encourage, aid, or assist any person in committing the offense of hazing, or willfully acquiesce in the commission of such offense, or fail to report promptly his knowledge or any reasonable information within his knowledge of the presence and practice of hazing in this state to an appropriate administrative official of the school, college, university, or other educational institution in Arkansas. Any act of omission or commission shall be deemed hazing under the provisions of this subsection.

Penalties
The offense of hazing is a Class B misdemeanor. (Fine not exceeding $500 and up to 90 days in jail.) Upon conviction of any student of the offense of hazing, he shall, in addition to any punishment imposed by the court, be expelled from the school, college, university, or other educational institution he is attending.

OUACHITA STATEMENT OF POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

The statement of policies of the university is published annually in the Tiger Handbook for students under Legal Notices, Policies, and Campus Safety and in the university's Faculty/Staff Manual for employees. The Tiger Handbook is available at obu.edu/studentdevelopment and on the Ouachita Web Portal, info.obu.edu.

Campus Security and Fire Safety Policies
The following Annual Security and Fire Safety Report information is provided by Ouachita Baptist University in compliance with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act and the Higher Education Act, as amended by the Higher Education Opportunity Act and inclusive of the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013. All enrolled students and university employees, as well as all prospective students and prospective employees, are entitled to request a copy of this information. This report can be found on the Ouachita Baptist University website at: obu.edu/studentdevelopment/campus-security-and-fire-safety or a paper copy will be provided upon request to the Office of Student Development, OBU Box 3758, Arkadelphia, AR, 71998, telephone (870) 245-5220.

Annual Security Report
Ouachita Baptist University compiles an Annual Security Report. This report includes statistics for the previous three calendar years concerning reported crimes that occurred on-campus; in certain off-campus buildings or property owned or controlled by Ouachita Baptist University; and on public property within, or immediately adjacent to and accessible from, the campus. The report uses the Federal Bureau of Investigation UCR (Uniform Crime Reporting Handbook) guidelines for each report classification. Offenses occurring off-campus generally are not subject to inclusion in Ouachita's report. Thefts (unless

the circumstances meet the UCR criteria for the classification of burglary) also are not subject to inclusion on the report. The collection and publication of the Annual Security Report is the responsibility of the dean of students. If you have questions concerning the annual report, contact the Office of Student Development at (870) 245-5220.

Fire Safety Statistics and Documentation
A record of fires on campus beginning with calendar year 2009 is maintained in the Office of Student Development. It includes for each fire, the nature of the fire, the date and time it occurred, and the general location of the fire. The most recent 60-day period is open to public inspection upon request during normal business hours. Older portions of the log will be made available within two business days of a request for public inspection. The log will be maintained for three years following the publication of the last annual report to which it applies.

Statistics will be collected and reported annually in a fire safety report and in the Department of Education's web-based data collection system for each housing facility. The number of fires and the cause of each fire will be categorized as unintentional (cooking, smoking materials, open flames, electrical, heating equipment, hazardous products, machinery/industrial, natural, other), intentional, or undetermined. The number of deaths related to fires, the number of injuries related to fires resulting in treatment in a medical facility, and the value of property damage related to fires will be recorded.

Daily Crime Log
A record of crimes reported to the Office of Campus Safety & Emergency Management is maintained in the Office of Student Development. The log includes the nature of the crime, the date the crime was reported and the date and time it occurred, the general location of the crime and the disposition of the complaint, if known. The university reserves the right to temporarily withhold information in some cases if there is clear and convincing evidence that the release of information would jeopardize an ongoing investigation, jeopardize the safety of an individual, cause a suspect to flee or evade detection, or result in the destruction of evidence. The log for the most recent 60-day period is available for public inspection during normal business hours in the Office of Student Development. Older logs will be made available upon request within two business days.

SECURITY SERVICES

The Office of Campus Safety & Emergency Management works to facilitate a safe and secure university environment by responding quickly and effectively to needs for assistance through ensuring that university standards are upheld and by consistent monitoring of university buildings, grounds, and activities. Campus Safety & Emergency Management administratively reports to Dr. Nicole Porchia, vice president for student development. Its office is located on the first floor of Evans Student Center.

Each building on campus has a closing time established by its building supervisor. The officer on duty completes a routine checklist of buildings. Provisions for exceptions are made through the Office of Student Life (870) 245-5539. Incident reports are filed as needed by officers concerning problems related to lighting, unauthorized visitors, etc. Each member of the university community is encouraged to act responsibly, to take safety precautions and to be aware of the safety of others. Any individual should promptly and accurately report any suspected crime to the Office of Campus Safety & Emergency Management or other law enforcement.

Every residential student is urged to keep his/her room door locked, to mark personal property, and to record serial numbers of items of significance. Crime prevention and safety information is offered periodically to groups through new student orientation and in Residence Life programming. Upon request, this information is also offered to student organizations, classes or other groups or individuals.

ALCOHOL AND DRUGS

Since its founding in 1886, Ouachita Baptist University has prohibited the unlawful use of controlled or illegal substances either on or off campus.

The university intends to fully comply with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act Amendments of 1989 (PL 101-226). The university believes that its students and employees can best function when they are free of any mind-altering substances. Its goals are to provide an environment where the campus is aware of the health and safety risks of alcohol and drug use; to discourage possible use of alcohol and illegal drugs; and to provide confidential and redemptive help to students and employees who seek assistance.

The possession, consumption, manufacture, sale, transfer, purchase, or distribution of alcoholic beverages or controlled/illegal drugs, including medical marijuana, by any individual or group on campus is prohibited. Such actions may be subject to law enforcement involvement as well as campus disciplinary action. Any student who is arrested for alcohol or drug related offenses may be subject to discipline under university policies including suspension.

Illegal drug paraphernalia or alcoholic beverage containers, including those that are empty, are not allowed in the residence halls, campus apartments or anywhere on campus; alcoholic beverage or other drug logos on clothing, posters, etc., are also prohibited. Violation of this regulation by a club, organization, or group of members from a club/organization may result in a $25 fine per club member.

University staff may conduct a search of a student's housing assignment, vehicle, or other personal property when there is a reasonable suspicion of the presence of illegal drugs or alcohol.

Drug and alcohol abuse information is available through Counseling Services or Health Services.

COUNSELING SERVICES

The university's Counseling Center has licensed counselors who are available, free of charge, to assist Ouachita students with a variety of mental health difficulties, personal problems, and crises. Graduate interns also see students each semester through the center. The coordinator of the center is Dan Jarboe, who may be contacted at (870) 245-5591. For instructions on scheduling an appointment, visit the Counseling Center website: https://obu.edu/counseling, or call the Office of Student Development at (870) 245-5220.

REPORTING CRIMES AND OTHER EMERGENCIES

In the event of any emergency, call 911 immediately. For matters that are important but do not require an emergency response, call the Office of Campus Safety & Emergency Management at (870) 245-4000 or (870) 260-5691. The telephone number and location of each is below:

Campus Safety & Emergency Management
(870) 245-4000
Evans Student Center
Scott Clark, Director

Arkadelphia Police Department
(870) 246-4545
700 Clay Street
Chief Jason Jackson

Student Development
(870) 245-5220
Evans Student Center
Dr. Nicole Porchia, Vice President for Student Development

Clark County Sheriff's Office
(870) 246-2222
406 South 5th Street
Sheriff Jason Watson

Students and employees should report criminal offenses for the purpose of making timely warning reports and for the annual statistical disclosure required by the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus

Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act and inclusive of the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013.

Confidential Reporting Procedures
If you are a victim of a crime but do not wish to pursue action either within the university disciplinary process or the criminal justice system, you may still wish to consider making a confidential report. With your permission, any of the following individuals can file a report on the details of the incident without revealing your identity. The university's goal is to comply with your wish to keep the matter confidential, while taking whatever steps it can to ensure the future safety of yourself and others.

Depending on the information you permit to be shared, such steps could include keeping an accurate record of the number of incidents involving students; determining where there is a pattern of crime with regard to a particular location, method, or assailant; and alerting the campus community to potential danger. A confidential report, however, may impact or limit the scope of the response of the university depending on what information is permitted to be shared. The staff members listed below are encouraged to inform persons they are counseling of these procedures when deemed appropriate.

Counseling Services
Evans Student Center 137
(870) 245-5220
Therapists:
Dan Jarboe, LPC
Sue Poole, LCSW

Campus Ministries
(870) 245-5536
Evans Student Center
Dustin Wagley, Director
Holly Hatcher, Assistant Director

Health Services
(870) 245-5244
Evans Student Center
Dr. Wesley Kluck, MD
Beth Hasley, RN

Victim Services
A comprehensive listing of victim services available in the area, including sex offender victim services, is maintained on the website of the Arkansas Crime Information Center. University staff members listed above will assist members of the university community in locating and accessing victim services when requested.

Sex Offenders
Law enforcement agency information concerning registered sex offenders provided by the State of Arkansas through the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 is available by accessing the website of the Arkansas Crime Information Center.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE

The safety and security of our students, faculty, staff, and visitors is a top priority of Ouachita Baptist University. The safety of our campus community is each of our responsibilities, and each of us plays a critical role in keeping our students, faculty, staff, and visitors safe.

Upon confirmation of a significant emergency or dangerous situation involving an immediate threat to the health or safety of students or employees, the campus community will be notified through the university's RAVE Alert system. Campus authorities will determine the content of the notification and initiate the notification system, unless the notification will, in the professional judgment of responsible authorities, compromise efforts to assist victims or to contain, respond to, or otherwise mitigate the emergency.

Notifications will provide information on the nature of the emergency and the appropriate action one should take. The notification methods that may be used are email, text messaging, and designated telephones in resident director apartments and certain faculty and staff offices.

When uncertain that a significant emergency exists and when time allows, at least two of the campus authorities listed below will confer and determine whether to activate the RAVE Alert. Other members of the Administrative Council may be consulted when appropriate. The individual who initiates the activation of the RAVE Alert is responsible for determining the content of the notification.

While the RAVE Alert is designed to reduce the probability of harm to campus students, employees, and guests, no system can ensure the safety of persons on campus. Rather, this represents the university's efforts to exercise reasonable care in the face of an emergency. The RAVE Alert is tested at least once per year. These annual tests are coordinated by the Office of Campus Safety & Emergency Management. A description of the exercise, as well as the date and time of the exercise, and whether it was announced or unannounced is maintained on file in the Office of Campus Safety & Emergency Management.

When appropriate, emergency information will be disseminated to the larger community through local and state media sources including newspaper, radio, and television, as well as through the university's website, obu.edu. The Office of Communications & Marketing is responsible for the coordination of such efforts and may be contacted at (870) 245-5228.

The telephone number/location of those authorized to issue emergency notifications on the campus is below:

Scott Clark
Director of Campus Safety & Emergency Management
Evans Student Center 131
(870) 245-4000

Dr. Nicole Porchia
Vice President for Student Development
Evans Student Center 220
(870) 245-5220

Kevin Herrington
Chief Information Officer
Cone-Bottoms Hall 250
(870) 245-4552

Jonathan Hughes
Director of Facilities Management
Physical Plant
(870) 245-5189

CAMPUS CRIME ALERTS

The Clery Act requires the university to issue a crime alert (timely warning) to the campus community about certain reported offenses that may represent a serious or continuing threat to students and employees. The timely warning may include that an incident has been reported, general information surrounding the incident, and how incidents of a similar nature might be prevented in the future. The timely warning will not include any identifying information about the individual who has alleged the crime.

If a report of a violent crime against a person or a major crime against property on campus represents a severe, ongoing threat to the safety of members of the university community, the director of campus safety & emergency management, vice president for student development, assistant to the president for communications, or other authority will issue a crime alert.

Crime alerts may be distributed by email, posted in areas frequented by students, included in other university publications, or otherwise distributed. The release of a crime alert will be subject to the availability of facts concerning the incident.

The telephone number/location of those authorized to issue crime alerts on the campus is below:

Scott Clark
Director of Campus Safety & Emergency Management
Evans Student Center 131
(870) 245-4000

Dr. Nicole Porchia
Vice President for Student Development
Evans Student Center 220
(870) 245-5220

Tim Harrell
Dean of Students
Evans Student Center 220
(870) 245-5220

Kevin Herrington
Chief Information Officer
Cone-Bottoms Hall 250
(870) 245-4552

James Taylor
Assistant to the President for Communications
Lile Hall 325
(870) 245-5228

FIRE SAFETY PROCEDURES

As defined by the Higher Education Opportunity Act, for the purposes of fire safety reporting, a fire is, "Any instance of open flame or other burning in a place not intended to contain the burning or in an uncontrolled manner."

Each housing facility owned or controlled by Ouachita is equipped with a fire safety system. Anthony, Everett, Gosser, Georgia Hickingbotham, Maddox, and Tollett Halls are equipped with a sprinkler system with hardwired heat and smoke detectors and central alarms. O.C. Bailey, Crawford, and Flippen-Perrin Halls have hardwired heat and smoke detectors with central alarms. Tatman Corner, Caddo Place, Lancelot, Starlight, Kluck Hillside, and Terrace Apartments have 110v with 9v battery backup smoke detectors. Fire drills are conducted on a regular basis, with at least one occurring for each housing unit each year. Portable electrical appliances are allowed in campus housing except those that have an open heating coil or open flame. Halogen lamps, candles, and incense are prohibited.

Housing staff members (e.g., resident directors and resident assistants) will maintain an accurate listing of all students living in the building and the location of each person's room. Copies of the lists for all floors are provided to each RA in the building. In the event of an evacuation, the lists will be used to determine whether individuals may still be in the building. A resident of the building who has a disability that impairs mobility, vision, or hearing will be noted on the list. Individualized evacuation plans and/or a responsible person will be designated for such situations.

When smoke or fire is noticed, the nearest alarm should be pulled, and 911 should be called. The Office of Campus Safety & Emergency Management should also be notified at (870) 245-4000. When fire is suspected (alarm, smoke, etc.), the entire building must be evacuated. Elevators are not to be used when a possible fire exists. Resident directors and RAs are responsible for notifying the residents of the need to leave the building. If the alarm is positively determined to be a false alarm, the evacuation may be halted, and residents may return to their rooms.

If a serious fire or other emergency seems to exist, resident directors and/or RAs will notify emergency personnel. Resident directors and RAs will make room-to-room efforts to alert the residents of the necessity of evacuating the building until such time as their own safety becomes compromised.

A location outside each housing facility is designated as the meeting place for residents from the hall in order to check occupant lists. This designated meeting place is communicated by the resident director to residents at times throughout the year.

Upon the arrival of emergency personnel and in the existence of an actual fire emergency, the resident director and RAs will immediately leave any alert or rescue efforts to the trained personnel.

No person may reenter the building until emergency personnel give permission to do so.

Fire safety education and training programs will be provided to faculty and staff upon request to the Office of Campus Safety & Emergency Management. New student orientation and residence hall programs periodically provide fire safety education to students.

The telephone numbers and locations of those to whom reports of a fire on the campus should be reported (after emergency personnel have been summoned if appropriate) are below:

Scott Clark
Director of Campus Safety & Emergency Management
Evans Student Center 131
(870) 245-4000

Dr. Nicole Porchia
Vice President for Student Development
Evans Student Center 220
(870) 245-5220

Jonathan Hughes
Director of Facilities Management
Physical Plant
(870) 245-5189

EVACUATION PROCEDURES

In the event of a required evacuation of the entire Ouachita campus or portions thereof, the vehicular evacuation plan will be followed. The plan is designed to allow the fastest possible evacuation from campus with the least amount of confusion by segregating the campus into five zones and directing those zones to the nearest public street exiting the campus. The plan is also designed to limit the amount of cross traffic and the potential for vehicles to interfere with emergency vehicle access. See the evacuation map at obu.edu/evacuationmap

Zone 1
Exits south following 6th Street to Pine Street and includes the following areas:

- Cone-Bottoms/Ouachita Commons lot (104 spaces)
- Cone-Bottoms west lot (18 spaces)
- Frances Crawford lot (47 spaces)
- Flippen-Perrin lot (140 spaces)
- Maddox south and west lots (120)
- Verser/JPAC lot (114)

Zone 2
Exits south following 4th Street to Caddo Street and includes the following areas:

- 5th Street/Ouachita Street (48)
- Jones Science Center lot (92)
- Anthony lot/4th Street (55)

Zone 3
Exits south following Ouachita Street to 6th Street then Pine Street and includes the following parking areas:

- Ouachita Street near Lile Hall (33)
- O.C. Bailey lots (134)
- Mabee/McClellan lots (43)

- Ouachita Street near McClellan (11)
- Walker lot (16 spaces)

Zone 4
Exits west following University Drive and includes the following parking areas:
- Frances Crawford lower lot and west lot (110 spaces)
- Triangle lot (45 spaces) • Gosser lot (200 spaces)

Zone 5
Exits north following Elrod Boulevard and includes the following parking areas:
- Tollett Hall lot (250 spaces)
- Elrod Blvd lot (210 spaces)
- SPEC lot (120 spaces)

A full evacuation of the Ouachita campus would be initiated only in rare and extreme situations due to the problems inherent in evacuating 1,500-1,800 vehicles. If a partial evacuation of specific buildings or areas of the campus occurs, those areas will evacuate based on the routes designated for the zone in which they are located. Notification to evacuate will be initiated through activation of the RAVE Alert system and other means of communication as necessary. The evacuation plan will be distributed to all students, faculty, and staff periodically to maintain high awareness of the evacuation routes.

MISSING STUDENT NOTIFICATION

A residential Ouachita student who is absent and unaccounted for after a period of 24 hours or longer without any known reason may be deemed missing. The vice president for student development or a designee is responsible for determining whether a student is missing for the purposes of this policy. The Office of Campus Safety & Emergency Management and local law enforcement with jurisdiction in the area will immediately be notified that a student is missing in every instance once the determination has been made.

A parent or guardian will be notified when a missing student is less than 18 years of age and not emancipated. A parent or guardian will be notified in all other cases unless the student has notified the vice president for student development in writing in advance that he/she prefers the parent/guardian not be notified in the event the student is deemed to be missing. Such written notification should be submitted to the Office of Student Development.

Each student living in Ouachita housing has the option to register a confidential contact person to be notified in the case the student is determined to be missing. Only authorized campus officials and law enforcement officers in furtherance of a missing person investigation may have access to this information if a confidential contact person is registered by the student. To do so, contact Student Development at (870) 245-5220.

When a student is thought by a reporting person to be missing, personnel from the Office of Student Development and the Office of Campus Safety & Emergency Management will gather essential information. The student's acquaintances, family, and friends may be interviewed. Appropriate campus staff will be contacted and their assistance requested to aid in searching for the student. The student's campus ID photo may be disseminated to assist in identifying the missing student, and card access logs may be analyzed. Other campus computer resources may be checked for student logins or email usage.

Ouachita Baptist University reserves the right to implement these procedures in less than 24 hours if circumstances warrant a faster implementation. If an individual is concerned a fellow student might be missing or otherwise be in danger, he/she is encouraged to immediately notify one of the persons or offices below:

Scott Clark
Director of Campus Safety & Emergency Management
Evans Student Center 131
(870) 245-4000

Dr. Nicole Porchia
Vice President for Student Development
Evans Student Center 220
(870) 245-5220

POLICY ON NON-ATTENDANCE

When a student, for whatever reason, has ceased to attend classes and/or chapel, the student may be withdrawn from the university.

POLICY ON INVOLUNTARY ADMINISTRATIVE WITHDRAWAL

A student will be subject to involuntary administrative withdrawal from the university, from university housing, or both if it is determined the student engages or threatens to engage in behavior which poses a danger of causing physical harm to self or others; would cause significant property damage; or would directly, substantially impede the lawful activities of others or the university.

At the discretion of the university, a student may be required to submit documentation from an appropriately licensed mental health professional certifying a student's readiness to continue or to reenter the university's academic program and/or housing facilities. Student agreement to ongoing treatment by an appropriately licensed mental health professional may be stipulated by the university as a requirement for continued academic enrollment and/or housing in university facilities.

Legal representation is not permitted in any university hearings regarding such cases. Refund policies as stated in the university catalog will apply to the above cases.

POLICY CONCERNING ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Ouachita Baptist University supports the goals of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act to extend access and opportunity to those who are disabled. It is the university's intention to fully comply with the provisions set forth in these federal laws while maintaining the essential academic standards of the institution. The university does not discriminate on the basis of disability with respect to admission to, access to, or employment in its programs and activities. Just as the university is responsible for the provision of reasonable accommodations for those who are disabled, the student has responsibilities concerning documentation of the disabling condition and requests for accommodations. The guidelines below have been established for students who desire accommodation for a disabling condition.

Identification of Disability

It is the responsibility of the student to self-identify a disabling condition if he/she desires an accommodation. This disclosure must be made to the ADA/504 coordinator.

Documentation

It is the responsibility of the student to provide written documentation to the ADA/504 coordinator of any disabling condition for which he/she desires an accommodation. Documentation should be recent (within the previous three years) for conditions that tend to change over the course of time (such as learning disabilities or emotional/mental disorders). Less recent documentation may be acceptable for disabling conditions that do not tend to change over the course of time (such as many mobility, visual, or hearing impairments).

The documentation must include a diagnosis of the disabling condition and a description of the resulting functional difficulties and limitations in an educational setting, as well as the severity and longevity of the condition. Documentation should include suggestions of reasonable accommodations which might be appropriate at the postsecondary level.

For learning disabilities, documentation of testing results must be provided by a licensed psychologist or other appropriately certified educational diagnostician. Testing should include a full range IQ test, such as the Wechsler, as well as an achievement test in reading, writing, and math. Although the university does not provide or pay for testing services, the ADA/504 coordinator will provide a referral for students who desire such testing.

For emotional or mental disorders, documentation must include the DSM-V diagnosis, a summary of present symptoms, a summary of assessment procedures and evaluation instruments used to make the diagnosis, and a summary of evaluation results (including standardized or percentile scores). If medication is prescribed, the impact of medication on the student's ability to meet the demands of the post-secondary environment should be included.

Requests for Accommodations
The student is responsible for requesting specific accommodations in each course. These requests must be made to the ADA/504 coordinator in a timely manner. For example, if extended time on an exam is requested after the exam has begun, the student has failed to make a request in a timely manner. If the student fails to ask for extended time until late in the semester, the instructor is only required to provide accommodations from that time forward and does not need to offer make up exams.

The ADA/504 coordinator will facilitate requests for accommodations. Students who have presented documentation of a disability may sign a release allowing the ADA/504 coordinator to notify professors and instructors of the need for reasonable accommodations. This process must be repeated each semester. Students should make an appointment with the ADA/504 coordinator immediately after completing registration at the beginning of each semester.

Requests for accommodations that are reasonable and that are supported by the student's documentation will be met. The university is not required to lower its academic standards. If the university determines that the requested change would substantially alter essential elements of a course or program of study, the requested modification will not be granted, even if specified in the student's documentation. The university may also refuse to grant a student's request for an accommodation that is not specified in the student's documentation as being essential.

The university is not required to provide accommodations of a personal nature such as personal care attendants, tutors, or transportation services (unless non-disabled students are being transported by the university). Equipment aids (such as wheelchair or eyeglasses) also are not the responsibility of the university.

Grievance Procedure
Students who believe their rights under Section 504 or the ADA have been violated are responsible for contacting the ADA/504 coordinator. The ADA/504 coordinator will work with the university personnel and the student to resolve concerns. If communication between the ADA/504 coordinator and university personnel has not resolved the matter, an individual may register a complaint with the appropriate dean or vice president. Upon receipt of a written complaint that alleges a violation of these laws, the appropriate dean or vice president shall promptly attempt to resolve the matter to the satisfaction of all parties. If this informal resolution proves unsuccessful, the student may request the dean or vice president to notify the university's compliance officer, who shall then begin an impartial investigation of the allegations within 10 working days of the receipt of the complaint. Complainants will be given the opportunity to be heard and will be given notice of the outcome of the investigation.

ADA/504 Coordinator
The ADA/504 coordinator at Ouachita is Dan Jarboe, who also serves as university counselor. Contact him at (870) 245-5591 or jarboed@obu.edu.

UNIVERSITY COMPLAINT POLICY

Ouachita Baptist University takes seriously all questions, concerns, and complaints it receives and responds in a timely fashion. These should be initiated and resolved through regular university processes whenever possible. Some matters may be directed to the university compliance officer, Missy Lewis (lewism@obu.edu), who will refer them to the appropriate department or official. The University Complaint Policy may be found at obu.edu/complaintpolicy. For questions, please send an e-mail to consumerinfo@obu.edu.

CODE OF COMPUTING PRACTICES

General Principles

Access to computer systems and networks owned or operated by Ouachita Baptist University imposes certain responsibilities on users, obligations to users, and is granted subject to university policies. Acceptable use is always ethical, reflects academic honesty, and shows restraint in the consumption of shared resources. It demonstrates respect for intellectual property, ownership of data, system security mechanisms, individuals' rights to privacy, and to freedom from intimidation, harassment, and malicious annoyance. Violations to this code will be reviewed through established procedures.

Guidelines

In making acceptable use of resources, one must:

- Use resources only for authorized purposes.
- Protect one's account and system from unauthorized access. (The student is responsible for all activities on his/her account or that originate from his/her system.)
- Access only files and data that are one's own, that are publicly available, or to which one has been given authorized access.
- Use only legal versions of copyrighted software in compliance with vendor license requirements.
- Be considerate in one's use of shared resources by refraining from monopolizing systems, overloading networks with excessive data, or wasting computer time, printer paper, or other resources.
- Abide by restrictions associated with one's account.

In making acceptable use of resources, one must not:

- Disclose privileged or sensitive information to which one has access other than during official university business.
- Use another person's system, account, password, files, or data without permission.
- Use computer programs to decode passwords or access control information.
- Attempt to circumvent or subvert system or network security measures.
- Engage in any activity that might be harmful to systems or to any information stored thereon, such as creating or propagating viruses, disrupting services, or damaging data.
- Use university systems for commercial or partisan political purposes, such as using email to circulate advertising for products or for political candidates.
- Make or use illegal copies of copyrighted materials, store such copies on university systems, or transmit them over university networks.
- Use mail or message services to harass, intimidate, or otherwise annoy another person, for example, by broadcasting unsolicited messages or sending unwanted mail.
- Waste computing resources, for example, by intentionally placing a program in an endless loop or by printing an excessive amount of paper.
- Use the university's systems or networks for personal gain, for example, by selling access to your resources or to university systems or networks or by performing work for profit with university resources in a manner not authorized by the university.
- Engage in any other activity that does not comply with the code presented above.

Legal Note
Unauthorized copying or use of digital material (e.g., computer software, movies, music, or intellectual material) is illegal and unethical. Ouachita Baptist University strictly prohibits copying licensed software. Users are allowed, however, to make a copy for backup or archival purposes of duly licensed software. Ouachita will not knowingly encourage, condone, or support the illegal acquisition, possession, or distribution of copyright protected materials in any form. Specifically, if the university becomes aware of persons utilizing the campus network for such purposes, those persons could be considered in violation of this Code of Computing Practices, and appropriate actions will be taken. If one is in doubt of whether he/she owns a legal copy of one's digital material, he/she may contact the Office of IT Services for assistance.

Disclaimer
The above does not cover every situation that pertains to proper or improper use of the computing resources at Ouachita Baptist University, but it does suggest some of the responsibilities that one accepts if he/she chooses to use Ouachita's computing resources or any network access that the university provides. This code is intended to work for the benefit of all users by encouraging responsible use of limited computing resources.

Abuse of Computer Access
The Code of Computing Practices has established the following guidelines. Abuse of computer time includes, but is not limited to:

- Unauthorized entry into a file to use, read, or change the contents or for any other purpose.
- Unauthorized transfer of a file.
- Unauthorized use of another individual's identification and password.
- Use of computing facilities to interfere with the work of another student, faculty/staff member, or university official.
- Use of computing facilities to send or procure obscene or abusive materials.
- Use of computing facilities to interfere with normal operation of the university computing or any other system.

Accounts
Student computer accounts are assigned upon enrollment at Ouachita. They remain active as long as the student is enrolled. Accounts are dropped when:

- The student does not enroll for two consecutive semesters.
- The student has graduated and will not be enrolled in the next semester.
- The student is denied access due to academic or disciplinary action.

When an account is dropped, all files and emails are erased.

Network Use
Being connected to a network may involve security risks such as viruses. Ouachita is not responsible for damages resulting from connection to the network. The university recommends taking appropriate measures such as using antivirus software and regular backups. Improper settings could not only affect the way your PC works, but it could cause problems for other network users. Peer networks are not allowed. Students may NOT provide network services to others. We recommend file and print sharing be turned off due to the security risks involved; see how to disable this feature at obu.edu/its. Misuse of your computer on the network could result in termination of your network connection.

SEXUAL ASSAULT AND MISCONDUCT

SEXUAL MISCONDUCT POLICY: obu.edu/sexual-misconduct-policy

Ouachita Baptist University is committed to establishing a safe, Christ-centered learning community and addressing all forms of unlawful harassment and discrimination to achieve this goal. The university's Sexual Misconduct Policy outlines the university's community expectations to ensure a campus free from sexual misconduct, the steps for recourse for those individuals whose rights have been violated, and the procedures for determining a violation of university policy related to sexual misconduct. It also provides information about the resources available to those who have been affected by sexual misconduct.

The Sexual Misconduct Policy applies to the following forms of sex discrimination, which are referred to collectively as "sexual misconduct": sex-based discrimination and sex-based harassment, including sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, and sexual exploitation.

The Sexual Misconduct Policy applies to all university community members including students, faculty, administrators, staff, trustees, volunteers, vendors, independent contractors, visitors, and any individuals regularly or temporarily employed, studying, living, visiting, conducting business, or having any official capacity with the university or on university property.

The university will not tolerate sexual misconduct in any form. The university will promptly and equitably respond to all reports of sexual misconduct in order to eliminate the misconduct, prevent its recurrence, and address its effects on any individual or the community. See the full Sexual Misconduct Policy at obu.edu/sexual-misconduct-policy.

Inquiries or complaints regarding Title IX, sex-based discrimination, sex-based harassment, or other forms of sexual misconduct may be directed to:

Christa Neal
Title IX Coordinator
Berry-Peeples Bible Building 131
TitleIX@obu.edu
(870) 245-4896

In case of emergency or for immediate assistance, call 911 or reach local law enforcement at (870) 246-4545. To reach the Office of Campus Safety & Emergency Management, call (870) 245-4000.

Students and employees should report criminal offenses for the purpose of making timely warning reports and for the annual statistical disclosure required by the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act.

The university or an officer, employee or agent of an institution may not retaliate, intimidate, threaten, coerce, or otherwise discriminate against any individual for exercising their rights or responsibilities.

When reporting an incident of possible sexual assault or exploitation, victims, intervening bystanders, or corroborating witnesses will be provided amnesty (immunity from university sanctions/punishment) in situations which involve alcohol or drug use. Amnesty is provided to ensure that no sexual assault incident goes unreported from fear of sanctions for alcohol or drug use.

EMERGENCY SERVICES CONTACT INFORMATION

The telephone number, location, and jurisdiction of each is below:

Clark County 911 Service
911
Provides emergency access to all Clark County and City of Arkadelphia emergency services

Office of Campus Safety & Emergency Management
(870) 245-4000
Evans Student Center 131
Scott Clark, Director
Ouachita Campus; A police force with the ability to arrest

Arkadelphia Police Department
(870) 246-4545
700 Clay Street
Chief Jason Jackson
Law enforcement in the City of Arkadelphia; able to arrest

Clark County Sheriff's Office
(870) 246-2222
406 South 5th Street
Sheriff Jason Watson
Law enforcement of Clark County which includes the City of Arkadelphia; able to arrest

Student Development
(870) 245-5220
Evans Student Center 220
Tim Harrell, Dean of Students
All Ouachita students

APPENDIX: STUDENT CONDUCT FINES & CHARGES

CONDUCT ISSUE	FINE/CHARGE
Alcohol - group (social club)	$25 per active member
Alcohol possession or use	$350
Apartment/Room change without authorization	$50
Cleaning fee	$200
Conduct, general	$200-600
Cluttering hallway/stairwell	$100
Damage to walls	Repair cost ($100 min.)
Damaged or missing furniture, blinds or modem	Replacement/repair cost ($1000 max.)
Dirty room/failed health & wellness check	$25
Excessive noise	$50
Exterior door propping	$50
Hazing - group	$25 per active member
Illegal drug possession or Use	$350
Illegal or Improper use of ID card	$100
Improper check-in/Improper check-out	$50
Late off-campus housing exception application	$50
Lobby visitation violation	$50
Loss of key	$25/$75
Missed mandatory meeting	$50
Modem Replacement	Up to $250 per unit
Not exiting during fire alarm or any safety drill	$125
Parking violations	See Vehicles and Parking
Possession or use of fireworks/explosives/open flame or open fire devices	$50
Removal of personal items	$300
Tampering with fire & safety equipment	$300
Tampering with university HVAC equipment	1st $100 • 2nd $200 and therm. lock
Tobacco, nicotine product, vape, e-cigarette use or possession	1st $100 • 2nd -$150 • 3rd -$200
Unapproved Pets/Animals	$200/night
Unregistered vehicle with tickets tracing	$25
Visitation violation	1st -$100 • 2nd -$200 • 3rd -$300

STUDENT FEES	
Apartment Deposit	$250
Auto Registration	$40
Early housing check-in / late check-out	$75 per day
ID card replacement	$25
Loft rental	$50