

Policy Title: **Academic and Activity GPA Waiver Application Policy**

Governing Body:	Southern Oregon University	Policy Number:	AAD.090
Policy Contact:	Director of Equity Grievance/Title IX Coordinator	Date Revised:	N/A
Custodial Office:	Equity Grievance Office	Date Approved:	September 23, 2025
Approved By:	 9/23/25	Next Review:	September 23, 2028
Related Policy:	GEN. 009 – Equal Opportunity, Harassment, and Sexual Misconduct Policy		

A. Description

Some institution-sponsored programs or activities require participants to maintain a minimum grade point average. This policy explains how Equity Grievance Office staff can waive requirements for people who have reported experiencing sexual misconduct in certain circumstances.

B. Definition(s)

Definitions of sexual misconduct can be found in [GEN.009](#); this policy is meant to accompany supportive measures as offered, pursuant to that policy.

C. Policy Statement

This policy has been established in compliance with ORS 350.344.

The Director of Equity Grievance/Title IX Coordinator (hereafter “Title IX Coordinator”) will maintain all records of waivers and oversee the implementation of this policy, and provide guidance as needed.

Criteria for Waivers

Waivers may be granted when a person has reported experiencing sexual misconduct while enrolled at the University and has received approval from any of the following staff:

- Title IX Coordinator
- Deputy Title IX Coordinators, such as the Dean of Students or Director of Human Resources
- Other Equity Grievance Office staff

Confidentiality

For individuals who have reported experiencing sexual misconduct and requested an academic waiver pursuant to the standards identified in this policy, the University will maintain confidentiality of all the materials that contain personally identifiable information for such requests consistent with the application of the Federal Educational Rights Act (FERPA).

Waiver Eligibility

Institutional sponsored programs or activities include academic or extracurricular programs that the University maintains sole authority and decision-making over. This includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Any Raider Aid (institutional funds) provided solely by the University;
- Student employment and leadership opportunities, including roles such as Resident Assistant, Student Government student leaders, and student organization membership; and
- Academic programs over which the University exercises full control.

Programs that the University cannot maintain control over are not eligible for a waiver. Such programs may include, but are not limited to:

- NAIA student athlete academic standards and eligibility;
- Student leadership opportunities involving an outside organization and its academic requirements;
- Academic program standards required for accreditation, licensures, or other external standards; and
- Federal, state, and foundation financial aid eligibility.

Other requests for academic or programmatic support not available through this waiver policy may be requested as Supportive Measures through the Equity Grievance Office and will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

Contact Information

For inquiries or assistance regarding this waiver policy, please contact the Title IX Coordinator at equitygrievance@sou.edu.

Procedures for Waivers

Students seeking a waiver must submit an exception to a policy petition ([Equity Grievance Office - Waiver Application](#)) and provide supporting documentation as required. The Title IX Coordinator or designee will receive the petition, review the waiver, and communicate the decision, including a rationale, to the student. The Title IX Coordinator will coordinate with appropriate campus offices regarding the determination.

Students have the right to appeal a waiver decision. Appeals must be submitted to the Equity Grievance Office (equitygrievance@sou.edu) in writing within 5 business days of receiving the decision and will be reviewed by the Title IX Coordinator or their designee.

This policy may be revised at any time without notice. All revisions supersede prior policy and are effective immediately upon approval.

D. Relevant Authority

ORS 350.344

E. Other Information

Contact Information: For inquiries or assistance regarding this waiver policy, please contact the Title IX Coordinator at equitygrievance@sou.edu.

The Policy Contact, defined above, will write and maintain the procedures related to this policy and these procedures will be made available within the Custodial Office.