



2023-2024

Annual Report



**Office of Student Conduct
and Community Standards**



TABLE OF CONTENTS

03

Meet the OSCCS Team

04

Mission Statement

05

Committee on Discipline

06

Mind and Hand Book

07

Reporting an Incident

08

Incident Data

10

Resolution Information

12

Facilitating Education

17

Contact Us



MEET THE OSCCS TEAM



Tessa McLain

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Student Conduct &
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James Reed

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Assistant Dean
Student Conduct &
Community Standards



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MISSION STATEMENT

The Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards (OSCCS) facilitates student growth and learning through an educational conduct process that upholds MIT's values and community standards.

How We Fulfill Our Mission

The OSCCS fulfills our mission by supporting students and collaborating with the Committee on Discipline and campus partners. We facilitate the MIT student conduct process, advise student judicial committees, and offer a wide array of workshops and presentations to help students understand community values and standards. We work to promote community standards of behavior and support the academic mission of the Institute by enhancing students' academic achievement as well as personal and ethical development.

Commitment to Inclusive Practices

We are committed to carrying out our work in a manner that meets the needs of our diverse community. We do this by:



Continually educating ourselves & our stakeholders



Intentionally engaging in inclusive practices



Striving to refine our procedures to reduce bias



Appreciating students' intersecting identities and acknowledging our own power and privilege

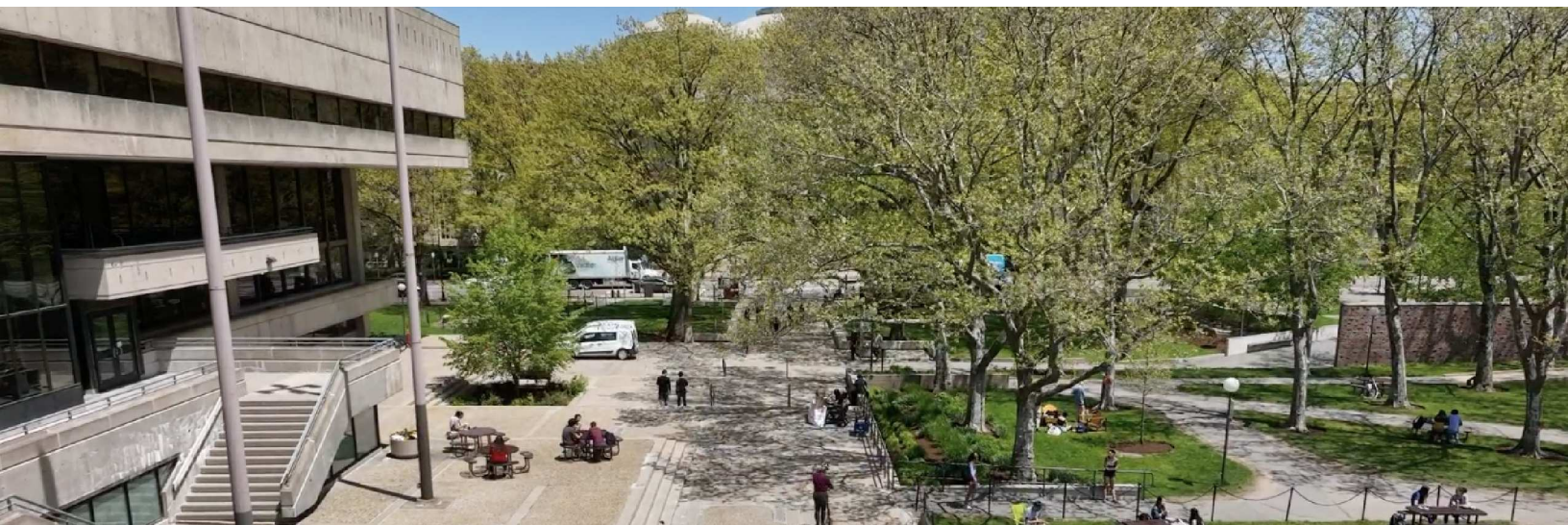
We pledge to implement the above strategies. Furthermore, we understand that inclusive practices are always evolving, and thus commit to regularly revisit these strategies.



COMMITTEE ON DISCIPLINE

MIT expects its students to uphold the highest standards of respect, integrity, and civility. In this context, the Committee on Discipline (COD) was created to resolve complaints of alleged violations of policies and community standards by a student, former student, or student organization in a way that is objective and educational. The procedure that the COD uses to hear and respond to such complaints is described in the [COD Rules and Regulations](#). These procedures are designed to ensure equity and fairness to involved parties.

COD Chair: Professor Tamar Schapiro





MIND & HAND BOOK

The Mind and Hand Book is MIT's official guide to its expectations of all undergraduate and graduate students. The Mind and Hand Book details Institute policies on academic integrity, alcohol, drugs, sexual misconduct, and other essential matters. Each year students are made aware of Institute expectations through an annual communications campaign.

The Mind and Hand Book is updated annually by the Student Policy Review Committee (SPRC). SPRC is comprised of faculty, staff, and student representatives from the Undergraduate Association and Graduate Student Council.

handbook.mit.edu



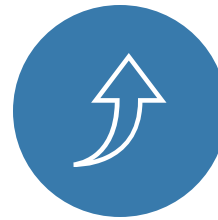


REPORTING AN INCIDENT

Complaints or incident reports that allege MIT students or student organizations have violated Institute policy should be directed to the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards (OSCCS). Complaints about discriminatory harassment should be directed to MIT's Institute Discrimination and Harassment Response (IDHR) Office. Complaints against MIT faculty and staff should be directed to MIT's Human Resources.



Use the OSCCS's online form - complete with as much detail as possible



Contact OSCCS directly by emailing osccs@mit.edu



Set up a meeting with an OSCCS staff member



Call OSCCS at 617-258-8423



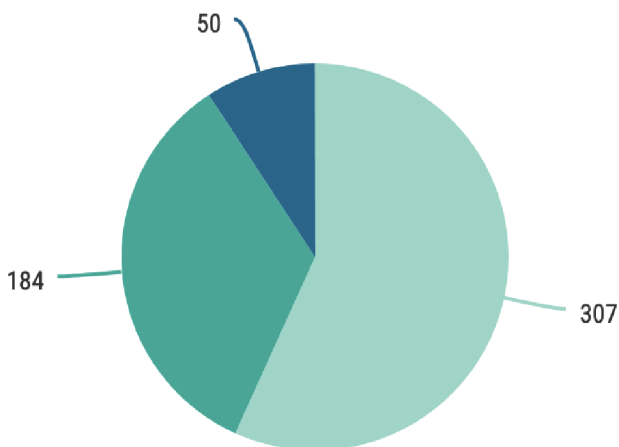
INCIDENT DATA

The OSCCS received 541 total reports in the 2023-2024 academic year. These reports are broken down into three broad categories:

Academic Integrity ● Personal & Sexual Misconduct ● Student Organization Misconduct

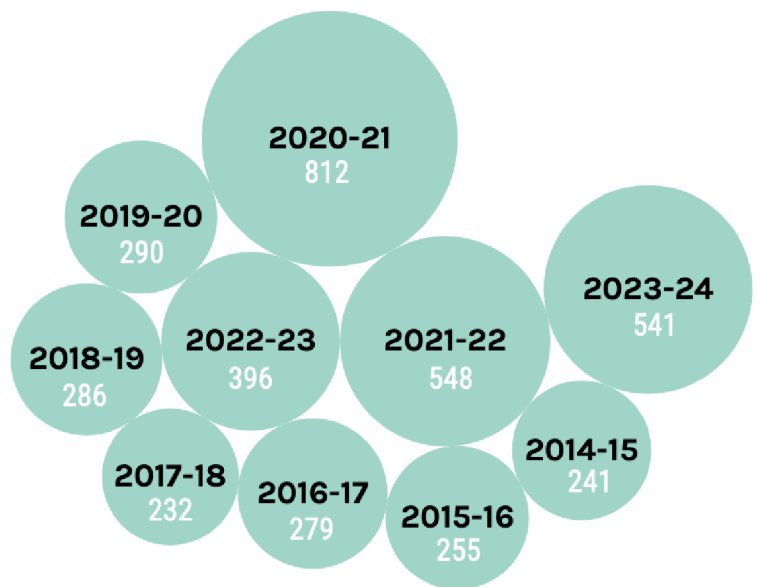
Of those 541 complaints, 57% were complaints alleging individual personal or sexual misconduct, 34% were complaints alleging academic misconduct, and 9% were complaints alleging student organization misconduct.

Total Reported Cases from 2023 - 2024



● Personal & Sexual Misconduct
● Academic Integrity
● Student Organization Misconduct

Case Numbers from June 2014 to June 2024

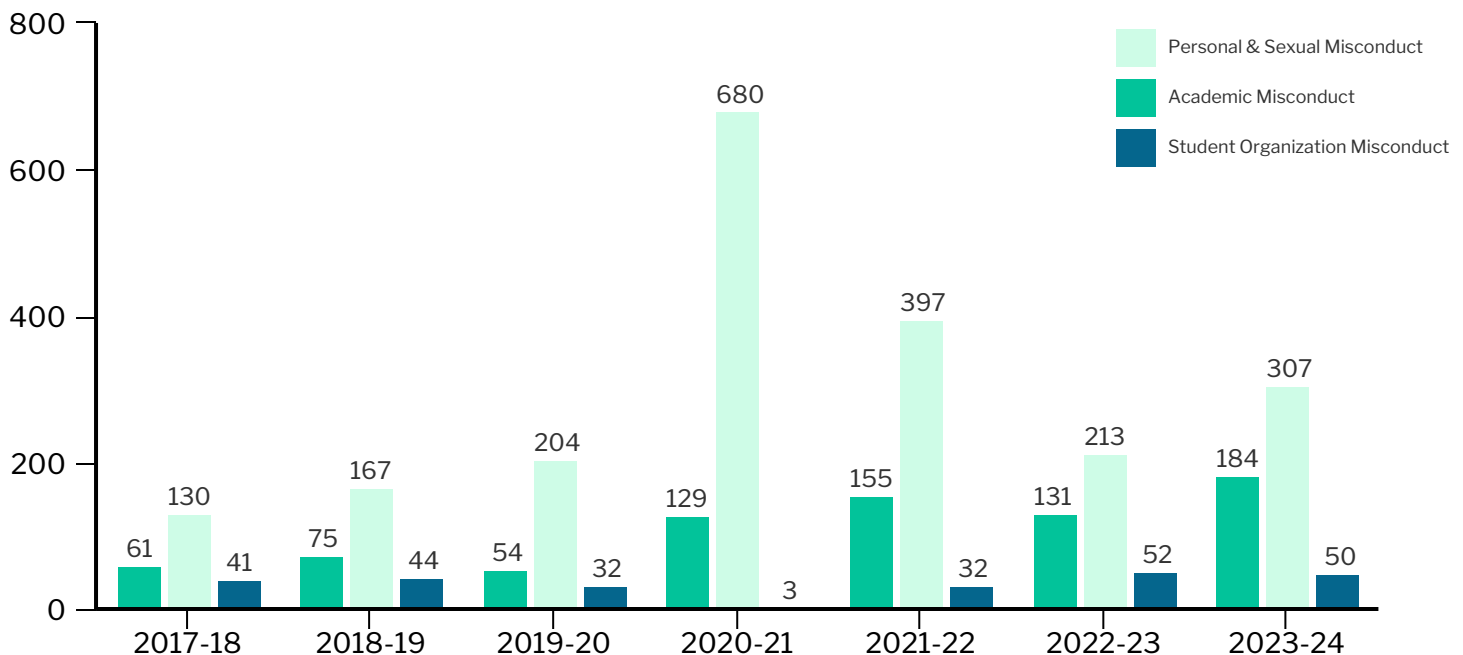


During 2020-2022 we experienced a peak in case numbers due to Covid-19 policy violations. After 2022, Covid-19 policy violations are no longer included, as those policies were phased out. This year, we experienced an 87% increase compared to pre-Covid-19 years.



2023-2024 INCIDENT DATA

The total reported number of cases increased by 36% from the prior year. Reports of academic misconduct increased by 40%. Student organizational misconduct reports remained consistent (4% decrease).



The figure to the right outlines the MIT affiliation of the "Respondent" (or responding party) in complaints against students at MIT.





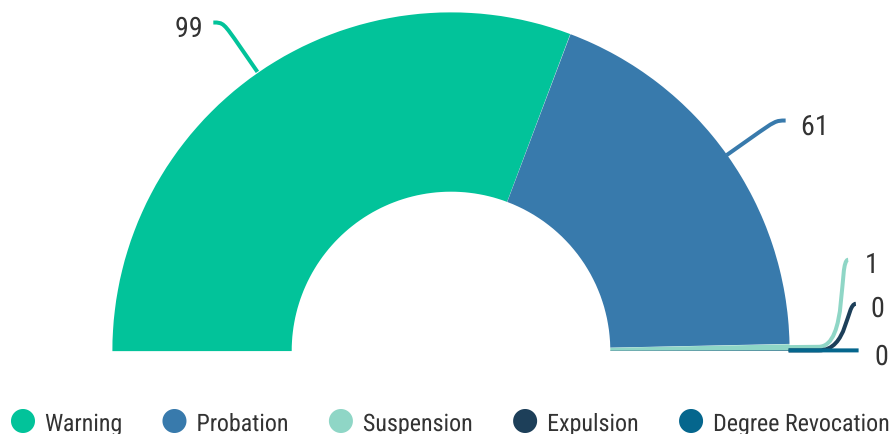
RESOLUTION INFORMATION

The COD utilizes resolution methods as described in the Rules of the Committee on Discipline. The table below shows the COD's resolution methods in 2023-2024:



Note: as of June 30, 2024 six cases remained active without resolution and are not reflected above.

When a student is found responsible for violating policies, the COD assigns appropriate sanctions as a part of the outcome. The pie chart below shows the breakdown of assigned status sanctions last year.





RESOLUTION INFORMATION

As we adapted to changing environments around hybrid meetings, OSCCS gave students the opportunity to choose if they wanted to meet in person or remotely for their Initial Response Meeting (IRM) when resolving their case.

Student's choice for Initial Response Meeting (IRM) format:



100%

Academic Integrity
IRMs were Virtual



2%

Personal Misconduct
IRMs were In Person



2%

Only 2 % of all cases
were in person

Actual Count Breakdown of Meetings

Academic Integrity Cases

183 Virtual

1 In Person

Personal Misconduct Cases

349 Virtual

8 In Person

All Cases

532 Virtual

9 In Person



FACILITATING EDUCATION

The OSCCS facilitates education through intentional sanction design, facilitation, and management. Sanctions are designed to achieve the following learning outcomes:



Identifying Impact

Student can recognize the impact of their actions to self, others directly related to the incident, as well as the MIT Community.



Evaluating Self

Student can evaluate changes in their own behavior and understand how to generalize positive behavior change across multiple and diverse contexts.



Applying Knowledge

Student can use knowledge or insight gained through completion of the essay or project to develop detailed alternatives to past behavior.



Recognizing Discrepancies

Students can identify potential discrepancies between their previous actions and Institute policies.

The OSCCS also engages in community outreach and education. During the 2023-2024 academic year, OSCCS conducted 9 presentations to an estimated total of 419 students, faculty, and campus partners.



FACILITATING EDUCATION

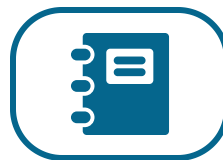
The OSCCS offers several types of educational sanctions:



Mentoring Program



Academic Integrity Workshop



Personal Development Plan



Substance Use Education



Building Healthy Connections Workshop



Values Based Decision Making Workshop

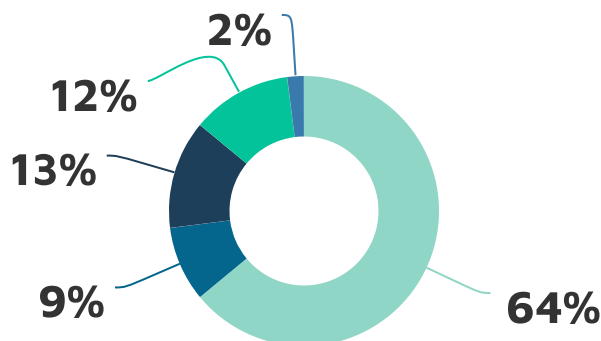


Conflict Management Project



Reflective Essay Assignments

Most Common Educational Sanctions By Type



● Substance Use Education ● Decision-Making Workshop ● Reflection Essays
● Academic Integrity Workshop & Seminar ● Other Educational Sanctions & Referrals



FACILITATING EDUCATION

The OSCCS continually assesses our policies, processes, and programming by gathering student feedback to best meet the needs of students at the Institute and understand student learning.

Decision Making Workshop (DMW)



of student participants
Agree/Strongly Agree:
"the Decision Making Workshop (DMW) helped me understand how my personal values."



of student participants
Agree/Strongly Agree:
"the DMW helped me understand how my values play a role in my decision making."



of student participants
Agree/Strongly Agree:
"the DMW helped me build my confidence in my ability to exercise my own values when making future decisions."

"From the decision making workshop, I was able to spend more time further analyzing the values I hold and the ways I apply them to my life, actions, and decisions. In deliberately considering the most important values in my life, they become more present as I move through my day to day life." - DMW Participant



FACILITATING EDUCATION

Academic Integrity (AI) Workshop



86%

of student
participants
Agree/Strongly
Agree:

**"this workshop
helped me
understand why
Academic Integrity
is important to my
success at MIT."**



86%

of student
participants
Agree/Strongly Agree:

**"this workshop
helped me think
about the future and
how ethics and
integrity have a role
in it."**



86%

of student
participants
Agree/Strongly
Agree:

**"this workshop
helped me learn how
my personal values
and academic
integrity relate to
each other."**

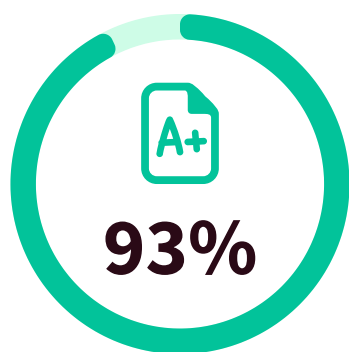
"I learned the most from the reflection part in the values and ethics section. Being able to take the time to think through what I value and how I want to shape myself better prepares myself to make decisions that I think are within the standards MIT has for me and the standards I want to hold for myself." -AI Workshop Participant



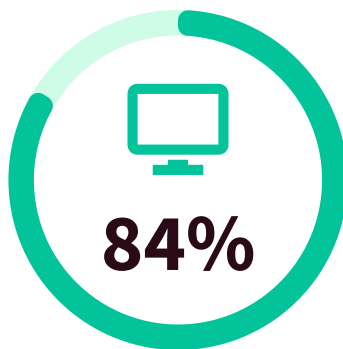
FACILITATING EDUCATION

In Summer 2023, OSCCS implemented a required online module on academic integrity for all first-year students. Approximately, 1120 students completed the asynchronous module.

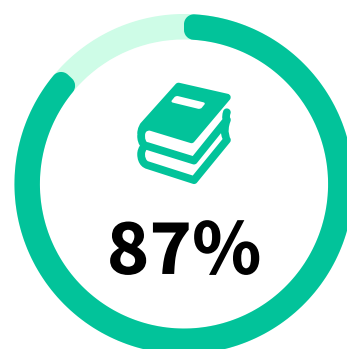
The six short lessons included the following topics: the definition and importance of academic integrity, where to find MIT's expectations, what the common policy violations are, potential consequences of violating policy and how to avoid violations.



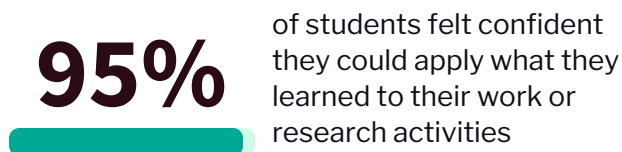
of students felt the course quizzes and checks for understanding reinforced their learning



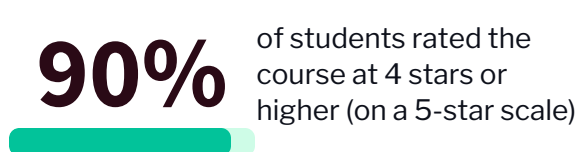
of students found the visual materials useful



of students learned something new in the course



of students felt confident they could apply what they learned to their work or research activities



of students rated the course at 4 stars or higher (on a 5-star scale)

*Results reported above include students who selected Strongly Agree or Agree for survey questions unless noted.



CONTACT US



Email

osccs@mit.edu



Website

<https://studentlife.mit.edu/osc>



Phone

(617) 258-8423



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