

## Informal Resolution of Formal Complaint

After the filing of a Formal Complaint, either party may request to pursue an informal resolution by submitting a written request to the Title IX Coordinator or a Deputy Title IX Coordinator. If the university, the Complainant, and the Respondent all agree that the matter is eligible for informal resolution without additional investigation, then the parties may engage in informal resolution. Informal resolution may occur only after the filing of a Formal Complaint and with the written informed and voluntary consent of both parties and the Title IX Coordinator.

Informal resolution is generally not appropriate for Sexual Assault or violent conduct and is prohibited where the complaint is filed by a Student against a Respondent who is an employee (regardless of the content of the allegation).

Participation in the informal resolution process is completely voluntary. Participation may be initiated or withdrawn by either party at any time after the filing of a Formal Complaint but before a determination has been made at a live hearing, or before the signing of a Mutual Resolution Agreement. If participation is withdrawn, or if the informal resolution process concludes without a Mutual Resolution Agreement, then either party is able to continue with the Formal Complaint process under this Policy. See also, [D19.0 Student Gender-Based and Sexual Misconduct Policy](#).

Verbal or written statements made by parties or witnesses during the informal resolution process may not be used by the university or by the parties in a live hearing or other disciplinary process. However, physical evidence or other factual information that is introduced during informal resolution may be submitted as evidence in a subsequent investigation and in the hearing process if the informal resolution is not successful.

Informal resolution may encompass a broad range of conflict resolution strategies to arrive at the Mutual Resolution Agreement, including mediation, or restorative justice practices. The Mutual Resolution Agreement may include termination or withdrawal, sanctions detailed in this Policy, no contact orders, location restrictions, education or training, or restorative justice activities.

A Mutual Resolution Agreement, once signed by both parties, is considered final, binding on the parties, and may not be appealed.