QUEST Honors Program
Policy for student probation and dismissal
March 13, 2017

Participation in the QUEST Honors Program is a privilege. Every QUEST student must not only fulfill the course requirements (the core courses and electives) but also demonstrate the principles of intellectual curiosity, critical thinking, professionalism, and teamwork in these courses and other QUEST activities. Upholding these principles, the university’s Code of Student Conduct, and the university’s Code of Academic Integrity is essential to maintaining a healthy learning community.

The program seeks to provide the support needed for a student to complete the program successfully while maintaining a healthy learning community.

QUEST students must maintain enrollment in a major offered by the Robert H. Smith School of Business, the A. James Clark School of Engineering, or the College of Computer, Mathematical, and Natural Sciences throughout their time in the QUEST program.

If a student fails to complete the required courses or is not enrolled in an eligible major, the student will not receive the QUEST notation on their transcript but may choose to stay in the QUEST community.

If a student routinely fails to uphold the principles of intellectual curiosity, critical thinking, professionalism, and teamwork in QUEST courses and related QUEST activities, the student may be placed on probation or dismissed from the program.

If a student fails to complete required program activities, the student may be placed on probation or dismissed from the program.

If the Office of Student Conduct has found that a student is responsible for violating the Code of Student Conduct or violating the Code of Academic Integrity, the student may be placed on probation or dismissed from the program.

PROCESS

Any student, faculty, or staff may refer a student to the program leadership for actions that disrupt program activities and student learning by failing to uphold the principles of intellectual curiosity, critical thinking, professionalism, and teamwork, for failing to complete required program activities, or because the Office of Student Conduct has found that the student is responsible for violating the Code of Student Conduct or violating the Code of Academic Integrity. The referral should describe the disruptive actions and any efforts made to date to address them. The program leadership will review the referral and ask the student to respond in a meeting with a member of the program leadership (for instance, the program director). The objectives of this meeting are to understand the student’s perspective and to make it clear that the student has acted inappropriately.
If there is sufficient cause, the program leadership will meet and determine if the student should be placed on probation. A student’s refusal or inability to end inappropriate behavior over time will be an important factor. If so, the probation begins immediately. The program leadership will notify the student and provide (1) conditions under which the probation will end and (2) conditions that will result in dismissal from the program. A member of the program leadership will meet with the student to discuss the student’s plan for ending the probation, and this plan will be documented and shared with the student and the program leadership.

If the student satisfies the conditions under which the probation will end, the program leadership will notify the student that the probation has ended.

If the student satisfies the conditions that will result in dismissal from the program, the program leadership and a student representative from the same cohort will review the student’s history in QUEST and arrange a hearing in which the student can respond to any complaints, ask questions, and provide new information that may be relevant. The student representative will agree to maintain the confidentiality of the process and will be asked to provide input to the program leadership.

The program leadership will then meet to decide if the student should be dismissed from the program. If so, the dismissal will take effect immediately. If not, the student may be placed again on probation, or the probation may be ended.

SANCTIONS

A student on probation shall not represent the program in any extracurricular activity or run for or hold office in any student group or organization. Additional restrictions or conditions may also be imposed.

A student who is dismissed from the program will not receive the QUEST notation on their transcript, will not be able to enroll in any QUEST core courses or electives that are limited to QUEST students, and will be unable to participate in QUEST events as a student or alumni.

APPEALS

A student may appeal the dismissal decision; the student and the program will identify three faculty (not in program leadership) from the Robert H. Smith School of Business, the A. James Clark School of Engineering, and the College of Computer, Mathematical, and Natural Sciences to review the decision.