



Academic Misconduct

Everything you want to ask regarding Academic Misconduct allegations and outcomes

Receiving an allegation of Academic Misconduct can be confusing and concerning. This guidance will help you navigate the process and how to seek help at all stages.



What does Academic Misconduct mean?

Academic misconduct includes any unfair, unauthorised or dishonest behaviour through which a student intends or is likely to gain advantage.

Examples of academic misconduct include:

- unauthorised use of Artificial Intelligence (such as chat GPT and large language models)
- plagiarism and self-plagiarism
- collusion and copying the work of another student
- cheating in an exam or other assessment
- hiring or engaging a ghost writer (includes asking someone else to check, amend or contribute to work that will be submitted by you)
- and submitting downloaded work as your own.



<https://www.murdoch.edu.au/mymurdoch/support-advice/student-admin/complaints-appeals/academic-misconduct-process>

Academic Misconduct Student FAQs



I received a Directive email. What do I do?

Please follow the instructions to seek help with your referencing and paraphrasing.

- Book to attend a workshop with a Learning Advisor within two weeks from the date you receive the allegation.
- Visit the Academic Misconduct webpage
- Complete Murdoch Academic Passport (MAP100)

Attendance at the workshop is monitored and it is compulsory – if you do not attend, or only partially attend, you may receive a General Misconduct allegation. You will receive a reminder if you do not attend within the time frame.

How do I respond to an allegation, asking me for a written statement?

Please read your letter carefully to understand what the allegation states, the assessment details and the deadline for responding.

The Murdoch Student Guild has Student assist officers available to help with the process.

<https://www.murdochguild.com.au/find-support/academic-assistance/misconduct/>

They can:

- Explain the policy and procedures
- Review and provide feedback on your written response, or evidence
- Attend an interview with you as a support person.

They cannot:

- Request that the allegation be dismissed or revoked
- Write your response letter for you
- Attend and speak at the interview on your behalf

I would like to bring another person to the interview with me, is that OK?

You can bring any support person you feel comfortable with to your interview, however they cannot be involved in the allegation unit or have any conflict of interest; and they cannot act as a legal representative.

The support person can:

- help prepare for the interview
- provide support but may not advocate on your behalf
- contribute to the meeting if invited to do so by the Investigator but must not otherwise interject or obstruct the proceedings

The allegation is making me feel so stressed, so can I come in and speak to your office to clear it up?

Unfortunately, Student Integrity Services does not hold face to face individual meetings with students. Once we have sent an allegation, we are required to follow the academic misconduct procedure.

If you are struggling with the allegation and would like support, please contact Student Counselling. Information on their services, locations and phone numbers for all campuses are available on their webpage:

<https://www.murdoch.edu.au/counselling>

Murdoch Guild's Student Assist officers can listen to your academic concerns and provide direction regarding the misconduct allegation. You can book an appointment with them online or via email

studentassist@murdochguild.com.au

Why is my case taking so long to be resolved?

If a case is sent to investigation, then there are a few processes that need to take place before your outcome is sent. An Investigator needs time to review the case and provide a summary, then the panel will meet to determine the outcome. This process ensures fairness and is governed by the academic misconduct procedure.

I don't agree with the outcome, how can I get it changed?

Within the academic misconduct procedure there are opportunities for students to request a review of an outcome decision.

If you have received an outcome from the Student Integrity Services team, you can request a review of outcome and this will be allocated to an investigator. The case will then proceed to an interview, and a panel will need time to review the case and make a final decision on the outcome.

If you have received an outcome from the Academic Misconduct Panel, and you disagree with the outcome, then you may be eligible to appeal the decision. Please contact student assist for more information regarding the appeals process.

I don't want this to happen again, how do I seek help for my academic writing?

We would like you to succeed with your studies, so we highly recommend accessing the Learning and Study Support: <https://www.murdoch.edu.au/mymurdoch/support-advice/learning-study>

You should revisit the Murdoch Academic Passport (MAP100)

<https://www.murdoch.edu.au/mymurdoch/support-advice/learning-study/murdoch-academic-passport>

I don't want to appeal, can you reopen my case and allow me to attend and interview, or change the outcome?

No. The Student Integrity Services Team cannot reconsider and/ or reopen a case after the process is finalised or change the outcome. The next step is to lodge and appeal, following the appeals process.

Images obtained from TEQSA online resources – sourced in February 2024

