



2023 - 2024



AVERETT  
UNIVERSITY  
— SINCE 1859 —

# STUDENT HANDBOOK

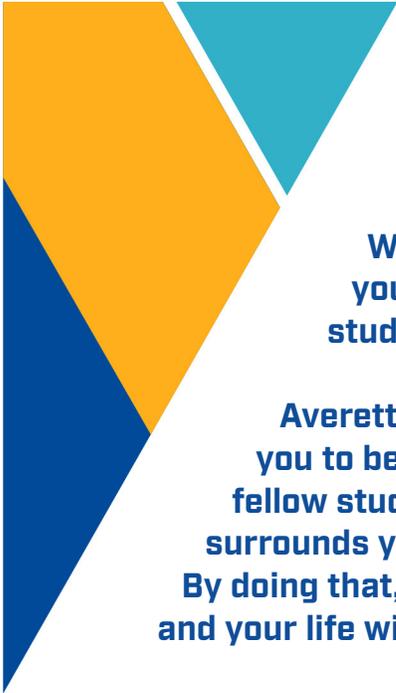
*& Resource Guide*





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# Welcome From President

Welcome to the 2023-2024 academic year at Averett University! If you are a returning student, welcome back home; if you are a new student, welcome to your new home and welcome to the Averett Family!

Averett is a place where lifelong relationships are formed, and I encourage you to begin building those relationships this year. Spend time with your fellow students, professors and staff members. Embrace the diversity that surrounds you – interact with someone with whom you have little in common. By doing that, by making those connections with others, your college experience and your life will be enriched.

During your time here, you will have many opportunities to get involved beyond the classroom. Whether it's through taking a service-learning class, volunteering during Week to Engage, becoming a student ambassador, joining a club, playing a sport, attending sporting events or acting in a theatre production, the opportunities are infinite at Averett. I strongly recommend that you take advantage when those opportunities come your way. These are the memories that you will cherish most from your time at Averett.

Embrace the Averett culture. We are a very tight-knit family here, and you are now a part of that. The faculty and staff throughout our campuses care about you and truly want you to be happy and successful while you are here and after you graduate.

Whether you take classes on our Danville campuses or online, as an Averett student you have been given a great opportunity to learn and contribute in the classroom. I hope that you will invest fully in your education – ask questions, think critically, take steps to challenge yourself.

As part of the Averett Family, we are all interconnected. We look out for one another, respect each other's rights and opinions, and enjoy being together.

Please know that my door is open to you. My husband, Joe, and I look forward to seeing you on campus and at University events. I am very eager to share this year with you!

Yours sincerely,

*Dr. Tiffany M. Franks, President*

# Mission

**Averett University prepares students to serve and lead as catalysts for positive change. Averett fulfills this mission by educating students from diverse backgrounds, cultures, and nations through liberal arts-based undergraduate and graduate programs in a personal, collegial, interdisciplinary environment.**

# Vision

**Averett University will be a premier student-centered university renowned for innovative teaching and engaged learning.**

# Core Values

- **Integrity: We practice the highest ethical standards.**
- **Innovation: We encourage and embrace innovative teaching and learning inside and outside the classroom.**
- **Engagement: We promote global awareness, service, and leadership.**
- **Discovery: We foster a spirit of discovery, problem-solving and critical thinking and incorporate liberal arts with professional preparation in our teaching and learning.**
- **Diversity: We value diversity of thought, cultures, and the uniqueness of all persons.**
- **Tradition: We embrace Averett's Judeo-Christian heritage by honoring the search for truth and spiritual formation.**

# About Averett

**Since 1859, Averett University has grown and developed into a dynamic institution that serves students of all ages, offering more than 40 undergraduate majors with a number of concentrations and minors, along with 12 graduate programs with several concentrations. Dedicated to preparing students to serve and lead as catalysts for positive change, the University's historic main campus is embedded in the heart of Southern Virginia with regional learning centers throughout Virginia and online. Averett enrolls a diverse student body, and boasts an alumni network that spans the globe.**

# Averett Ranking

Averett University was named as one of the best southeastern colleges by The Princeton Review's "2023 Best Colleges" List, and has once again been designated a 2022-2023 College of Distinction, in which it was also recognized as

a best school in business, education and nursing. Averett has additionally been ranked by U.S. News & World Report in the top 25 in the "2022-23 Best Regional Colleges in the South" list – the highest ranking Virginia school on the list. The University also earned spots on U.S. News' lists for best colleges for veterans, best value schools and upward social mobility among regional colleges in the south, and was recognized for economic and ethnic diversity among the student body.

# University Honor Code

The Averett University community believes that ideals of honor and trust are essential to an atmosphere that promotes academic excellence and social responsibility. Dishonest conduct violates the trust that exists at the University. While members of this community, students pledge to uphold principles of honesty, fairness, integrity, and respect, and to abide by University rules and regulations in all areas of academic and social life.

# Our Alma Mater

Hail to thee, our Alma Mater,  
Proudly now we sing,  
Faithful to thy name forever,  
Let our praises ring.  
O, dear Averett, we are thankful  
As we sing to thee,  
For honor, friendship, and real wisdom,  
Thou dost hold the key.  
Averett University  
Memories dear we'll hold  
We'll remember now and ever,  
Our dear blue and gold.

# UNIVERSITY SYMBOLS & TRADITIONS

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**Averett University is an institution rich in history and traditions. While some traditions may have faded away over the years, many remain strong today. Among them are:**

- **Club and Organization Fair**

During the first week of classes, representatives of the University's student organizations gather outside the Student Center and provide information and talk to their peers who may be interested in getting more involved in campus life.

- **Commencement**

Averett University honors our graduates during ceremonies at the end of the fall and spring semesters.

- **Displaying of International Flags**

The flags displayed at University ceremonies represent the home countries of our students and alumni.

- **Founders' Day**

Celebrating those who paved the path for Averett and dedicated themselves to her continuing growth, Founders' Day is celebrated at the beginning of each spring semester.

- **Homecoming**

We invite alumni, students, and the entire community to join us in a host of fun activities. Programs and activities are planned for all in attendance ranging from class reunions and recognition ceremonies to a student club carnival before the start of the homecoming football game.

- **Honors Awards**

Each spring the Averett community gathers to recognize the academic and leadership achievements of our students.

- **Opening Convocation**

Each fall, opening convocation marks the beginning of a new academic year. Faculty and staff in full academic regalia welcome both new and returning students to the start of another year.

- **Opening of School Picnic**

Immediately following Opening Convocation, the entire campus community gathers for lunch and entertainment on the Student Center lawn.

- **Senior Pinning**

Occurring each fall, the senior pinning ceremony recognizes students who are beginning their final year of study. Seniors ask a faculty or staff member who has had an impact on their time at Averett to pin them. The Averett University pin is only given to faculty, staff, and seniors as a symbol of their connection to the University. Then, after crossing the stage at commencement, the students receive an Averett Alumni pin they can wear proudly to represent their alma mater.

- **The Mace**

The mace is a symbol of the University's authority and its purpose is strictly ceremonial. The arrival of the mace, carried by a distinguished faculty member, signals the beginning of an official University gathering.

# *Non-Discrimination* **STATEMENT**

**Averett University is committed to providing an inclusive and welcoming environment and to the principle of equal opportunity in education and employment. Averett prohibits discrimination against and harassment of any student, employee, an applicant for admission or employment, third party, or community member because of race; color; national or ethnic origin; age; religion; disability; sex; sexual orientation; gender; gender identity and expression; including a transgender identity; genetics; veteran status; retaliation; and other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law.**



# FAQ'S CONTACT INFORMATION

Academic Records	Office of the Registrar	434-791-5838
Academic Standing	Office of the Registrar	434-791-5838
ADA Issues	Student Success Center	434-791-5788
Alumni & Institutional Advancement	Office of Philanthropy	434-791-5654
Athletics	Department of Athletics	434-791-5611
Billing & Payments	Office of Student Financial Aid	434-791-7182
Bonner Leaders Program	CCECC	434-791-7228
Books [Textbooks]	Bookstore	434-791-5640
Campus Safety	Office of Campus Safety	434-791-5888
Career Services	CCECC	434-791-5629
Computer/Technology	Information Technology	434-791-5720
Counseling	Counseling Services	434-791-5624
Dean of Student Life	Division of Student Life	434-791-1247
Degree Audits	Office of the Registrar	434-791-7235
Disciplinary Cases: Academic Integrity	Division of Academic Affairs	434-791-5631
Disciplinary Cases: Student Conduct	Office of the Dean of Students	434-791-2470
Financial Aid, Scholarships, Grants	Office of Student Financial Aid	434-791-5646
International Program Opportunities	Center of International Student Services and Culture Awareness	434-791-5620
Leave-of-Absence/Withdrawal	Student Success Center	434-791-5761
Library	University Library	434-791-5618
Medical or Health Assistance	Student Health Services	434-791-5824
Service-Learning	CCECC	434-791-7212

# FAQ'S CONTACT INFORMATION con't

Spiritual Assistance	Spiritual Life	434-791-7104
Student Leadership Opportunities	Office of Student Involvement	434-791-5628
Testing Assistance Program	CCECC	434-791-7212
Title IX & Compliance	Office of Compliance	434-791-7244
Transfer & AP Credits	Office of the Registrar	434-791-5634
Tutoring Services	Student Success Center	434-791-5754
Vice President for Academic Affairs	Division of Academic Affairs	434-791-5630
Vice President for Student Engagement	Division of Student Life	434-791-5627
Volunteer Opportunities	CCECC	434-791-7214
Work-Study (Averett Corps)	Student Financial Aid	434-791-5646
Work-Study (Career Services)	CCECC	434-791-7212



# **STUDENT ACCOUNTABILITY (SA) COMMUNITY STANDARDS OVERVIEW**

## **SECTION 1.0**

The Averett University community is guided by the University's Mission, Vision, and Core Values. It is based on the fundamental values of nurturing learning and growth for all community members and respecting our differences and shared humanity.

**SA Mission:** The student accountability process will support Averett's mission by developing and upholding University standards with support from students, faculty, and community partners to promote accountability and student development.

**SA Purpose:** The student accountability process approaches student conduct from an educational, developmental, and refreshing perspective. Inherent in the University's accountability process is the commitment to equally serve all involved parties in an unbiased and fair manner.

When a student is accepted into Averett as an undergraduate or graduate student, they also accept membership in the university community and responsibility for upholding its shared values and expectations. The Student Handbook and Resource Guide outlines student accountability policies established by the University that set student behavior standards, along with procedures for adjudicating and sanctioning violations of these standards. The policies and procedures apply to all students at Averett, as defined in this document. The regulations of Averett provide a framework within which all students are free to pursue their learning under the safest and most equitable conditions the institution can create. These policies serve as the guidelines to protect each individual's well-being. Whenever violations of the policies occur, the University will treat them as matters of serious concern because they disrupt the individual lives of students and the shared life of this community. The expectation for mature and responsible conduct encompasses accountability for one's well-being, including responsible physical and mental health decision-making. The University reserves the right to change its policies at any time.

The Student Accountability Process is a part of the educational process. Since it is intended to be an educational experience and not a court of law, neither the University nor a student may bring an attorney as an advocate to any meeting.

When students violate a Community Standard, they are expected to accept responsibility for their actions and the consequences of the behavior. In addition, students are responsible for reading and understanding Averett University's Student Handbook & Resource Guide and following all Community Standards and Residence Hall Policies.

Certain rights are afforded to every member of the University's student body. These rights include:

- I. The right to be free from discrimination, to be treated equally and individually without regard to race, religion, color, national origin, age, veteran status, disability, gender, gender identity, or sexual orientation, and any other protected status, and the right to be free from harassment;
- II. The right to co-exist peacefully with other members of the Averett community includes the right to protection against force, violence, threat, harassment, and abuse; the responsibility to treat others respectfully and fairly.
- III. The right to be treated fairly, to be informed of any charges of misconduct that could result in accountability proceedings, to have adequate time to prepare a response to the charges, to receive assistance from an advocate for a hearing, and to be informed of the outcome of any proceeding.

The individuals implementing the Student Accountability Process must maintain a balance between individual and institutional integrity. Therefore, the accountability process is closed to the public.

All violations of Averett's Community Standards and Policies will be handled through the Student Accountability Process unless otherwise noted. The Student Accountability process does not apply to matters of academic integrity. For information on policies and procedures related to student academic integrity, please see the Academic Policies section.

The establishment, interpretation, and enforcement of Community Standards and Policies, are designed to assist students as members of the University community in realizing educational goals and an environment in which every student may achieve their highest potential. Accountability actions vary according to the situation and the person(s) involved.

The accountability history of the individual student remains active throughout their enrollment at Averett. Thus, violations carry over from semester to semester and may impact determining appropriate sanctions after a decision of responsibility has been rendered in reviewing a subsequent incident.

Authority to approve policies for student accountability, as outlined in this Student Handbook and Resource Guide, lies with the office of the Dean of Students and the office of Title IX.

## **STUDENT INTERNAL COMPLAINT SYSTEM AND PROCESS**

The purpose of the following is to inform students of the available internal complaint system at Averett and to serve as a guide for students who wish to file a complaint about any aspect of Averett's operation, policies, or procedures or about the actions of any student, visitor, or employee of Averett. Students should also consult the procedures outlined in the Student Accountability, Community Standards, and Policies when filing a complaint for sexual harassment, assault, discrimination, or harassment based on protected characteristics such as race or sexual orientation. Similarly, the grade appeal process is separate and is outlined in the Undergraduate Academic Catalog and the Academic Policy section of this Student Handbook and Resource Guide.

Averett University believes the ideal campus community is marked by mutual respect and collegiality. This means, first, that individuals should make every reasonable effort to resolve disagreements with the person involved before invoking the complaints procedure outlined below.

The complaint process is as follows:

- i. To file a formal complaint and generate a University response, the complaint must be dated and made in writing. A student may submit a written complaint in person, via U.S. mail, or email to [deanofstudents@averett.edu](mailto:deanofstudents@averett.edu). A written complaint should name the specific nature of the complaint, cite relevant facts, and propose a solution that would be satisfactory to the student.
- ii. A student shall submit a complaint to the Office of the Dean of Students within 30 days from the activity causing the complaint. The Dean of Students will determine which administrative office the complaint should be referred.
- iii. Within 30 business days after acknowledging receipt of the complaint, the appropriate administrative office of the University will inform the complainant regarding the institutional response to the criticism. Students have an option for one (1) appeal, which will be heard by an ad hoc committee assembled to listen to the Appeal.

- iv. Suppose the complaint is a matter that should be dealt with through the sexual misconduct policy processes, grade appeal, or other formally published institutional policy and procedure. In that case, the student will be directed to follow the appropriate policy guidelines.
- v. If students take distance education under the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA), please use the following guidelines.

All students enrolled in programs operating under the aegis of SARA are first encouraged to seek and exhaust resolution of grievances/complaints with university officials through the University procedures. Suppose those processes do not resolve the issues. In that case, Averett University recognizes that in all matters related to SARA, any student may then communicate a grievance/complaint directly to the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV), as noted below.

Complete a Student Complaint Form from the Student Records Coordinator or submit the form to:  
State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) Private and Out-of-State Postsecondary Education (POPE) 101 N. 14th Street, 9th floor  
James Monroe Building Richmond, VA 23219  
Telephone: (804) 371-2285 Fax: (804) 225-2604  
[StudentComplaintProcess\\_studentversion\\_v3 \(nc-sara.org\)](http://www.nc-sara.org)

## **AVERETT EQUESTRIAN PROGRAM STUDENT COMPLAINTS**

The State Authorization Unit of the University of North Carolina System Office serves as the official state entity to receive complaints concerning post-secondary institutions that are authorized to operate in North Carolina. If students are unable to resolve a complaint through the institution's grievance procedures, they can review the [Student Complaint Policy](#) and submit their complaint using the online complaint form at <https://studentcomplaints.northcarolina.edu/form>.

For more information, contact:  
North Carolina Post-Secondary Education Complaints  
223 S. West Street, Suite 1800  
Raleigh, NC 27603  
(919) 962-4550

To file a complaint with the Consumer Protection Division of the North Carolina Department of Justice, please visit the State Attorney General's web page at: <http://www.ncdoj.gov/complaint>. North Carolina residents may call (877) 566-7226. Outside of North Carolina, please call (919) 716-6000. En Espanol (919) 716-0058.

If you choose to mail a complaint, please use the following address:  
Consumer Protection Division  
Attorney General's Office  
Mail Service Center 9001  
Raleigh, NC 27699-9001

# STUDENT ACCOUNTABILITY COMMUNITY STANDARDS POLICIES

**Averett's Student Accountability Community Standards set forth the behavior expected of all University members. Failure to adhere to the policies outlined in the Accountability Community Standards section can lead to discipline, including suspension or expulsion.**

## **SECTION 2.0: ALCOHOL POLICY**

As an institution of higher learning committed to providing avenues for intellectual growth and personal development, Averett University embraces the shared responsibility of upholding the values and expectations of the community. The University does not allow the possession or use of alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs on campus. In reference to alcohol, this includes, but is not limited to, drinking on campus; possessing alcohol, alcohol beverage containers (including empty containers), and drinking paraphernalia (used for drinking games or quick consumption of alcohol); being intoxicated or under the influence on campus; use or possession of alcohol on University-sponsored trips; drinking under the age of 21 on or off campus; providing alcohol to a minor on or off campus; the possession of false identification on or off campus.

Averett students should understand and follow the expectations outlined in the handbook. Each student is expected to comply with the alcohol regulations of the Commonwealth of Virginia and the University. Members of the university community are accountable for decisions on alcohol and behavior resulting from these decisions. All state laws apply to Averett students.

Misuse and abuse of alcohol and controlled substances directly conflict with educational institutions' goals and objectives. Therefore, Averett does not condone the use of alcohol and controlled substances. At Averett, members of the university community recognize that the possession and consumption of alcoholic beverages by those under the age of 21 and the illegal possession and use of controlled substances by any member of the University community violate the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia and university policy. Further, university community members recognize that the misuse or illegal use and possession of alcoholic beverages or controlled substances may pose serious health and safety risks to those engaged in such behavior.

Averett recognizes that the misuse of alcohol is a persistent social and health problem in our society and interferes with any educational institution's goals and objectives. Averett has established the following specific alcohol policies:

### **2.1 - Consumption or Possession**

Students are prohibited from possessing or consuming beer, wine, liquor, or other alcoholic beverages on campus. The Averett University definition of possession of alcohol includes the presence of such materials on or in the student's person, among the property owned by the student, or among such University property that the student is using.

### **2.2 - Drinking in Public**

Public use or display of alcohol on the Averett campuses is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to, all campus buildings, hallways, lobby areas, classrooms, parking lots, recreational areas, public areas, and all motor vehicles on campus (except when otherwise designated by the Office of the President).

### **2.3 - Alcohol Decor**

Possession and/or display of alcohol containers such as liquor bottles, beer cans, beer bottles, kegs, beer cases, alcohol posters, and the like are prohibited in all areas of the University.

## **2.4 - Consumption Paraphernalia**

Students may not possess or use alcohol paraphernalia or devices (e.g., “beer bong,” “funnels,” beer/water pong tables, etc.) which, by their nature, promote irresponsible consumption of alcohol.

## **2.5 - Special University Events Exception Policy**

As per approval by the President’s Council of Averett University, there are two exceptions to this policy:

1. **Alcoholic beverages may be served at Averett University events if (a) approved by the President of the University or the Vice President for Philanthropy; (b) the event does not involve current students under the age of twenty-one (except for those students who may work for food-service catering); (c) the President of the University deems that the consumption of alcoholic beverages is appropriate at the event; (d) all legal requirements of the Commonwealth of Virginia are met.**
  
2. **The President of the University or Vice President of Operations may designate a particular area of the parking lot on North Campus as a “tailgating area” for home football games at which those attending may bring alcoholic beverages onto the North Campus and consume them only in the designated “tailgating” area under the following guidelines:**
  - **Attendees shall act respectfully and according to all rules and regulations of any governing body, including the NCAA, the Commonwealth of Virginia, and local ordinances or laws.**
  - **Consumption of alcoholic beverages will begin no earlier than four (4) hours before starting a football game. Any alcoholic beverage consumption will cease on or before the beginning of the second half of the home football game.**
  - **Any alcoholic beverages brought onto the North Campus for such tailgating must be transported in motor vehicles in closed coolers and enclosed areas of the motor vehicle (i.e., the trunk).**
  - **No person under twenty-one (21) years old may consume or possess alcohol while on the property of Averett University. Use of the tailgating area of the North Campus parking lot signifies a person’s agreement to demonstrate to security personnel that each person consuming alcoholic beverages is over the age of 21 years.**
  - **Individuals who consume alcoholic beverages while in such tailgating areas are responsible for their behavior and should not operate a motor vehicle after consuming such drinks.**
  - **The University reserves the right to require that any individual leave the University North Campus if, in the University’s sole discretion, they violate any of the terms of this policy.**

## **2.8 - State Laws on Alcohol**

The Commonwealth of Virginia has a variety of laws governing the possession, purchase, consumption, and distribution of alcoholic beverages. As required by the Federal Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989, the pertinent state laws, including sanctions for their violation, are summarized below:

- i. It is unlawful for any person under age 21 to purchase or possess any alcoholic beverage. Violation of the law exposes the violator to a misdemeanor conviction for which the punishment is either confinement in jail for up to 12 months or a fine up to \$2,500 or both. Additionally, such a person's Virginia driver's license may be suspended for a period of not more than one year.
- ii. It is unlawful for any person to sell alcoholic beverages to persons under 21. Violation of the law exposes the violator to a misdemeanor conviction for which the punishment is either confinement in jail for up to 12 months or a fine up to \$2,500 or both.
- iii. It is unlawful for any person to purchase alcoholic beverages for another when he knows or has reason to know that the person for whom the alcohol is being purchased is under the legal drinking age. The criminal sanction for violation of the law is either confinement in jail for up to 12 months, a fine up to \$2,500, or either or both.
- iv. It is unlawful for any person to consume alcoholic beverages in unlicensed public places and/or to appear in public in an intoxicated state. Violation of the law, upon conviction, exposes the violator to a misdemeanor conviction for which the punishment is a fine of up to \$250.

### **SECTION 3.0: DRUGS POLICY**

The possession, use, or sale of illegal drugs, drug paraphernalia, stimulants, hallucinogens, depressants, or any other unlawful substance severely violates community standards. The Averett definition of possession of dangerous drugs includes the presence of such materials on or in the student's person, among the property owned by the student, or among such University property that the student is using.

### **SECTION 3.0 ADDENDUM: SMOKING AND SMOKELESS TOBACCO**

Averett University students under 21 are prohibited from using, possessing, or purchasing tobacco products on campus. Students over 21 must still abide by campus rules, which prohibit tobacco use on campus except in designated smoking areas, which have been defined as Frith Hall and Fugate Residence Hall parking lots. The following are prohibited:

- Possession and/or use of tobacco products including, but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, pipes, electronic cigarettes, hookah pipes, vaporizers, or any other tobacco paraphernalia under 21.
- Smoking of any tobacco product (cigarettes, cigars, or pipes) or the use of electronic cigarettes on-campus anywhere that is not a designated smoking area over 21 years of age.
- Possession and/or use of hookah pipes, vaporizers, or electronic cigarettes in any campus facility over 21.
- Use of smokeless tobacco in any campus facility

#### **3.1 - Marijuana**

The possession, use, or sale of marijuana is prohibited. This includes the drug and other marijuana and/or THC items, such as wax, laced gummies, etc. In addition, students are prohibited from possessing marijuana paraphernalia, including bowls, pipes, bongs, and any other device that has been adapted to smoke and/or consume marijuana.

#### **3.2 - Abuse of Medication**

Prescriptions and over-the-counter (OTC) medications are to be used as directed by a student's physician and/or as indicated on the packaging. Misusing medicine or medication not prescribed to the student can lead to personal harm or injury.

### **3.3 - Unauthorized Possession of Prescription Drugs**

Students are prohibited from possessing and using a prescription medication that belongs to another individual.

### **3.4 - Intent to Distribute**

No student shall sell or distribute drugs or drug paraphernalia. Examples include but are not limited to equipment, products, and materials designed for or used to manufacture or distribute marijuana, controlled substances, or other drugs.

### **3.5 - Drug Abuse or Misuse**

Students shall not misuse or abuse drugs. This includes but is not limited to: the destruction of property, driving under the influence, or consumption to the point of hospitalization.

### **3.6 - Virginia State Law of Drugs**

- I. The unlawful possession, use, sale, and/or distribution of controlled substances and marijuana, as those terms are defined in § 18.2-247 of Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, and the Drug Control Act (§ 54.1-3400 et seq. of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended), are prohibited under state and federal law. As required by the Federal Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989, the pertinent state laws, including sanctions for their violation, are summarized below:
  - i. Possession of a controlled substance classified in Schedules I or II of the Drug Control Act is a Class 5 felony punishable by imprisonment from one to 10 years, confinement in jail for up to 12 months, a fine up to \$2,500, or either or both.
  - ii. Possession of a controlled substance classified in Schedule III of the Drug Control Act is a Class 1 misdemeanor punishable by confinement in jail for up to 12 months, a fine of \$2,500, or either or both.
  - iii. Possession of a controlled substance classified in Schedule IV of the Drug Control Act is a Class 2 misdemeanor punishable by confinement in jail for up to six months, a fine of \$1,000, or either or both.
  - iv. Possession of a controlled substance classified in Schedule V of the Drug Control Act is a Class 3 misdemeanor punishable by a fine of up to \$500.
  - v. Possession of a controlled substance classified in Schedule VI of the Drug Control Act is a Class 4 misdemeanor punishable by a fine of up to \$250.
  - vi. Possession of a controlled substance classified in Schedule I or II of the Drug Control Act with the intent to sell, give or distribute is a felony punishable by imprisonment from five to 40 years and a fine up to \$500,000. Upon a second or subsequent conviction, the violator is subject to being sentenced to a term of imprisonment from five years to life and fined up to \$500,000.
  - vii. Possession of a controlled substance classified in Schedules III, IV, or V of the Drug Control Act with the intent to sell, give or distribute is a Class 1 misdemeanor punishable by confinement in jail for up to 12 months, a fine of \$2,500, either or both.
  - viii. Possession of marijuana is a misdemeanor punishable by confinement in jail for up to 30 days, a fine up to \$500, or either or both. Upon a second or subsequent conviction, the violator shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor punishable by confinement in jail for up to 12 months, a fine up to \$2,500, or either or both.
  - ix. Possession of not more than one-half ounce of marijuana with intent to sell, give or distribute is a Class 1 misdemeanor punishable by confinement in jail for up to 12 months, a fine up to \$2,500, or either or both.
  - x. Possession of more than one-half ounce but not more than five pounds of marijuana with intent to sell, give or distribute is a Class 5 felony punishable by imprisonment from one to 10 years, or confinement in jail for up to 12 months, a fine up to \$2,500, either or both.

- xi. Possession of more than five pounds of marijuana with intent to sell, give or distribute is a felony punishable by five to 30 years imprisonment. Upon a third or subsequent felony conviction, the violator is subject to being sentenced to a term of imprisonment from five years to life and fined up to \$500,000.

### 3.7 - Federal Drug Laws

The possession, use, or distribution of illegal drugs is prohibited by federal law. There are strict penalties for drug convictions, including mandatory prison terms for many offenses. The following information, although not complete, is an overview of federal penalties for first convictions. All penalties are doubled for any subsequent drug conviction.

#### A. Denial of Federal Benefits - 21 U.S.C. 862

A federal drug conviction may result in the loss of federal benefits, including school loans, grants, scholarships, contracts, and licenses. Federal drug trafficking convictions may result in denial of federal benefits for up to five years for a first conviction. Federal drug convictions for possession may result in denial of federal benefits for up to one year for a first conviction and up to five years for subsequent convictions.

#### B. Forfeiture of Personal Property and Real Estate - 21 U.S.C. 853

Any person convicted of a federal drug offense punishable by more than one year in prison shall forfeit to the United States any personal or real property related to the violation, including houses, cars, and other personal belongings. A warrant of seizure is issued and property is seized at the time an individual is arrested on charges that may result in forfeiture.

#### C. Federal Drug Trafficking Penalties - 21 U.S.C. 841

Penalties for federal drug trafficking convictions vary according to the quantity of the controlled substance involved in the transaction. The list below is a sample of the range and severity of federal penalties imposed for first convictions. Penalties for subsequent convictions are twice as severe.

If death or serious bodily injury results from the use of a controlled substance which has been illegally distributed, the person convicted on federal charges of distributing the substance faces a mandatory life sentence and fines ranging up to \$8 million.

Persons convicted on federal charges of drug trafficking within 1,000 feet of a university [21 U.S.C. 845a] face penalties of prison terms and fines which are twice as high as the regular penalties for the offense, with a mandatory prison sentence of at least one year.

#### D. Federal Drug Possession Penalties

Persons convicted on federal charges of possessing any controlled substance face penalties of up to one year in prison and a mandatory fine of no less than \$1,000 up to a maximum of \$100,000. Second convictions are punishable by not less than 15 days but not more than two years in prison and a minimum fine of \$2,500. Subsequent convictions are punishable by not less than 90 days but not more than three years in prison and a minimum fine of \$5,000.

**Substance****Amount****Penalty—First Conviction**

Heroin

1 kg. or more

**Prison: not less than 10 years, not more than life.**

Cocaine

5 kg. or more

**Fine: up to \$4 million.**

Crack Cocaine

50 gm. or more

Methamphetamine

100 gm. or more

PCP

100 gm. or more

LSD

10 gm. or more

Marijuana

1,000 kg. or more

N-Phenyl-N-propanamide

400 gm. or more

Heroin

100–999 gm.

**Prison: not less than 5 years, not more than 40 years.**

Cocaine

500–4,999 gm.

**Fine: up to \$2 million.**

Crack Cocaine

5–49 gm.

Methamphetamine

10–99 gm.

PCP

10–99 gm.

LSD

1–10 gm.

Marijuana

100–1,000 kg.

N-Phenyl-N-propanamide

40–399 gm.

Amphetamines

any amount

**Prison: up to 3 years.  
Fine: up to \$250,000.**

Barbiturates

any amount

Marijuana

50–100 kg.

**Prison: up to 20 years.**

Hashish

10–100 kg.

**Fine: up to \$1 million.**

Hash Oil

1–100 kg.

Flunitrazepan  
(Rohypnol, “roofies,” or  
“roaches”)

1 gm.

Marijuana

less than 50 kg.

**Prison: up to 20 years.**

Hashish

less than 10 kg.

**Fine: up to \$1 million.**

Hash Oil

less than 1 kg.

Flunitrazepan  
(Rohypnol, “roofies,” or  
“roaches”)

less th

### 3.8 Health Risk Information: Health Effects of Alcohol and Other Drugs

The adverse physical and mental effects of alcohol and other drugs are well-documented. These drugs may cause blackouts, poisoning, and overdose; physical and psychological dependence; damage to vital organs such as the brain, heart, and liver; inability to learn and remember information; and psychological problems including depression, psychosis, and severe anxiety. The risks associated with specific drugs are described later in this section. Impaired judgment and coordination resulting from these drugs are related to acquaintance assault and rape, DUI/DWI arrests, hazing, falls, drowning, and other injuries, contracting sexually transmitted diseases, including AIDS, and unwanted or unplanned sexual experiences and pregnancy.

The substance abuse of family members and friends may also be of concern to students. Patterns of risk-taking behavior and dependency not only interfere in the lives of the abuser but can also have a negative impact on the affected student's academic work, emotional well-being, and adjustment to college life.

- **Alcohol**  
Alcohol acts as a central nervous system depressant. Its initial effects include altered perception, judgment, motor coordination, and abstract thinking/cognitive impairment. Continued use of alcohol results in physical and psychological dependence marked by increased tolerance, memory blackouts, and the experience of withdrawal symptoms. The disease of alcoholism progresses in stages from an individual's unplanned use to being preoccupied, to failing in controlling alcohol use, on to eventual loss of control and continued use despite negative consequences. Statistics show that alcohol use is involved in a majority of violent behaviors on university campuses, including acquaintance rape, vandalism, and assaults.
- **Amphetamines**  
[street names include "speeders", "black beauties", "uppers"]. Users experience euphoria, abundant energy, and decreased need for sleep. Other signs and symptoms may include irregular heartbeat, rapid breathing, irritability, anxiousness, restlessness, panic, paranoia, aggression, and impulsive behavior.
- **Anabolic Steroids**  
[brand names include Anadrol, Oxandrin, Durabolin, Depo-Testosterone, Equipoise; street names include "roids," "juice"]. Health effects may include high blood pressure, blood clotting, cholesterol changes, liver cysts and cancer, kidney cancer, hostility and aggression, acne; in adolescents, premature stoppage of growth; in males, prostate cancer, reduced sperm production, shrunken testicles, breast enlargement; in females, menstrual irregularities, abnormal hair growth.
- **Cannabis**  
[street names include "marijuana," "pot," "hashish," "blunt," "herb," "reefer," "ganja," "sinsemilla"]  
The user experiences slowed thinking and reaction time, time distortion, confusion, impaired balance and coordination, and impaired judgment. Long term effects include loss of short-term memory, loss of motivation, increased anxiety, increased upper respiratory illness.
- **Cocaine**  
[street names include "crack", "rock", "toot", "blow", "nose candy"]  
The user experiences feelings of exhilaration, energy, increased mental alertness, rapid or irregular heartbeat, reduced appetite and weight loss. Users often have a stuffy, runny nose and nosebleeds. Immediate effects include dilated pupils, elevated blood pressure, heart rate, respiratory rate and body temperature. Withdrawal symptoms include strong cravings, depression, alterations in sleep patterns. Crack, the free-base use of cocaine, can produce hallucinations, blurred vision, chest pains, convulsions and even death.

- **GHB**  
[street names include “Georgia home boy”, “grievous bodily harm”, “liquid ecstasy”] Gamma-hydroxybutyrate. It can cause electrolyte imbalance, decreased respiration, slow heart rate, vomiting, low blood pressure, confusion, unconsciousness, coma, and death.
- **Hallucinogens**  
[street names include “acid”, “blotter”, “microdot”, “magic mushrooms”] Lysergic Acid Diethylamide (LSD), mescaline, and psilocybin cause altered states of perception and feeling including delusions, hallucinations and illusions including body and time distortion. Physical effects include fever, rapid heartbeat, elevated blood pressure, blurred vision, and flushed face. Mood can range from euphoria to panic and depression. Long-term effects of use include depression, constant anxiety, paranoia, chronic personality changes and lingering perceptual changes.
- **Heroin**  
[street names include “smack”, “horse”, “dope”, “H”] It is injected, snorted or smoked. The opiate effect diminishes the sense of pain, inducing euphoria, drowsiness, and confusion. Overdose results in death from stopping breathing.
- **Inhalants**  
[street names include “poppers”, “snappers”, “whippets”] Solvents [paint thinners, gasoline, glues, butane, propane aerosol propellants, nitrous oxides] produce stimulation, loss of inhibition, slurred speech, and loss of motor coordination. Long-term effects are depression, memory impairment and damage to the liver, the heart and nervous system.
- **Ketamine**  
[street names include “Special K”, “cat valiums”, “Vitamin K”] Ketamine can be injected, snorted, or smoked. The user experiences increased heart rate and blood pressure, problems with control of movements, memory loss, numbness and nausea/vomiting. The user is at high risk for slowed breathing that may lead to brain damage or death.
- **MDMA**  
[street names include “Ecstasy”, “X”, “E”, “Adam”] Methylenedioxymethamphetamine produces mild hallucinogenic effects, amphetamine- like stimulation, and increased touch sensitivity. An increase in display of affection to others may occur. Long-term effects include impaired memory and learning.
- **PCP**  
[street names include “angel dust”, “love boat”, “peace pill”, “hog”] Since Phencyclidine is relatively inexpensive, it is often used to enhance the effects of other drugs such as LSD, cannabis or cocaine. PCP users seek an altered state of bizarre perceptions, confusion, disorientation, impaired judgement and often delirium. Behavioral changes may range from hyperactivity to catatonic states.

Please access NIDA [National Institute of Drug Abuse] Web site for further information on these and other substances of abuse a [www.drugabuse.gov](http://www.drugabuse.gov).

# Resources for Assistance

All students are encouraged to seek early help if they feel they have a problem with alcohol and/or other drugs and to learn how to assist others with substance abuse problems. Early assistance makes it less likely that severe consequences will result from an alcohol or other drug problem. In addition, there are resources on campus and in the community for assistance. Questions should be directed to the student health center or the Office of the Dean of Students.

Some other resources include:

- Alcoholics Anonymous – <http://www.aa.org>
- Al-Anon – <http://www.va-al-anon.org>
- Focus on Recovery Helpline [alcohol/drugs] – 1-800-374-2800 or 1-800-234-1253
- National Suicide Prevention Lifeline – 1-800-SUICIDE [784-2433]  
Treatment Centers
- Al-Anon and Al-Anon for Adult Children is a fellowship of relatives and friends of alcoholics who believe their lives have been affected by someone else's drinking. For information on local meetings, contact the AA 24-hour answering service at 434-799-4111.
- Alcoholics Anonymous – 24 hours answering service, 434-799-4111.
- Danville-Pittsylvania Mental Health Services Board – provides mental health, substance abuse, and prevention services to the community [245 Hairston Street 434-799-0456]

## Local and Toll-Free Information

- Drug Treatment Referral Service – a 24-hour informational and referral service sponsored by the National Institute on Drug Abuse [5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857 / 1-800-662 HELP]
- STD/HIV/AIDS – Danville Health Department [434-799-5190]

For other counseling agencies and additional information, contact the Averett Counseling Center at 434-791-6896.



### **3.9 Amnesty Policy**

**Student health and safety are fundamental to the Averett University community. In cases of intoxication, drug use, and/or alcohol poisoning, the primary concern is the health and safety of the individual(s) involved. Students are expected to contact Security whenever there is a concern for another student or belief that assistance is needed. In the case of a medical emergency, students should immediately call 911.**

**Averett University is thankful to the students who take an active role in caring for fellow Cougars by acting in responsible and timely ways during a serious situation such as an alcohol overdose. Seeking help critically needed for a fellow student shows courage and leadership.**

**Students who seek medical assistance for themselves or an intoxicated individual or experiencing a drug or alcohol-related emergency will not be subject to University disciplinary action related to the alcohol policy. Furthermore, the intoxicated student who receives medical assistance will not be subject to University disciplinary action.**

**When an incident that falls under the Amnesty Policy occurs, the student(s) involved will be required to meet the Dean of Students or designee to review the matter. While no Accountability sanction (i.e., Probation) will be applied, an appropriate educational response may be. This may include participation in an educational session, mandated counseling assessment, additional fees for ambulance services, and/or parental notification. Failure to complete the educational requirements will result in referral to the University discipline system.**

**The following is also of important note:**

- **Other violations of the Student Code related to the same incident may be referred for disciplinary review and sanction.**
- **A student involved in more than one incident that falls under the Amnesty Policy may be subject to disciplinary sanction.**
- **Students may still be subject to local and state law for their behavior.**
- **The University reserves the right to review each incident case by case.**

## **SECTION 4.0 SEARCH AND SEIZURES POLICY**

### **4.1 - Search**

While the University respects the privacy rights of its students, when there is just cause to believe that a violation of campus regulations or policies and/or city, state, or federal law has occurred, or if there is a legitimate health or safety concern, a search of student rooms and common areas within residence halls/ apartments may be made by University officials and/or law enforcement agents in order to further the University's goal of maintaining and protecting the educational environment necessary for the University to fulfill its mission. Authorized searches cover the facility and all items, including student belongings. A search of a student's room within a residence hall or campus apartment will be conducted by University officials in the following manner:

- The Dean of Students and/or designee will authorize two or more persons to conduct the search.
- Those conducting the search and/or any other persons present with them will knock on the door of the room in question. If they are not admitted, they will enter the room using a passkey, if necessary.
- If the room is occupied, those entering it will announce the purpose of their visit and indicate that they will conduct a search. Any student present at the time will be required to cooperate with the persons conducting the search in all respects.
- If the room is not occupied, the search will be conducted, and the student(s) occupying the room will be notified that the room has been searched.
- Valid search warrants issued by federal or state magistrates or courts will be honored. Every effort will be made to have a representative of the Student Life staff accompany Campus Security officers and observe a search conducted as a result of a search warrant.

### **4.2 - Seizures**

If contraband or stolen items are discovered, they will be confiscated. A written notice will be given to the room's occupant(s) indicating what has been taken and the names of those who conducted the search. If no one is in the room, the same written notice will be made and left in a prominent, easily visible place. Those conducting the search will keep a copy of the notice. When confiscating items during a Health and Safety Inspection, the email sent and posted to the resident's housing portal serves as written notification.

## **SECTION 5.0: ARSON**

Tampering with fire alarm systems or intentionally lighting any fire on University property is strictly prohibited.

## **SECTION 6.0: COMMUNITY DISTURBANCE POLICY**

The assault, battery, coercion, harassment, intimidation, or verbal abuse of another member of the University community or any person is a severe violation of the law and other persons' rights. Examples include, but are not limited to, harassment based on gender, racial/ethnic background, religious belief, gender identity, sexual or affectional orientation, and any disability. Physical fights will not be tolerated and will result in educational sanctions.

Assault, battery, coercion, harassment, intimidation, or verbal abuse are prohibited. Acts that cause offensive contact or place a reasonable person in fear of improper contact are also prohibited. A person commits offensive contact when they:

- a. intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly causes bodily harm to another;
- b. exhibits behavior that threatens another through intimidation, coercion, or verbal threats;
- c. is verbally abusive, causing another person fear or embarrassment, or
- d. intentionally irritates, torments, or annoys another persistently.

**Note:** Certain violations of this section may be adjudicated through the Sexual Misconduct Policy, which supersedes the Student Accountability Process.

### **6.1 - Assault (Verbal and/or Physical)**

Assault is defined as a threat of violent physical or verbal attack or a threat or attempts to inflict offensive physical contact or bodily harm on a person (as if by lifting a fist in a threatening manner) that puts a person in immediate danger of, or in the apprehension of, such harm or contact.

### **6.2 - Battery**

Battery is defined as the undesired touching of another, offensive touching, or use of force on a person without the person's Consent. In addition, any act of fighting where physical contact with another is made will be considered a violation of this policy.

### **6.3 - Bullying**

A person is bullied when they are repeatedly exposed to negative actions on the part of one or more other persons, and they have difficulty defending themselves. This definition includes three critical components: 1) Bullying is any aggressive and unwanted behavior that is intended to harm, intimidate, or humiliate the victim, 2) involves a real or perceived power imbalance between the aggressor or aggressors and the victim, and 3) is repeated over time or causes severe emotional trauma.

Averett considers the following types of bullying but understands this list is not all-inclusive:

- Verbal bullying includes derogatory comments and bad names
- Bullying through humiliation, social exclusion, or isolation
- Physical bullying such as hitting, kicking, shoving, and spitting
- Bullying through lies and false rumors
- Having money or other things taken or damaged
- Being threatened or being forced to do things
- Racial bullying
- Sexual bullying
- Cyberbullying includes, but is not limited to, cell phone, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, or cell phone

### **6.4 - Coercion**

Coercion is defined by looking at the root word coerce, meaning to restrain or dominate by force, compel an act or choice, and/or to achieve by power or threat.

### **6.5 - Gender-Based Discrimination and Harassment**

This includes 1) Acts of verbal, nonverbal, or physical aggression, intimidation, or hostility based on sex, even if those acts do not involve conduct of a sexual nature. 2) Sex-based harassment by those of the same sex. 3) Discriminatory sex stereotyping (e.g., harassment of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and/or questioning students). [This can also be considered Title IX, please see section 18.0]

## **6.6 - Harassment**

Harassment is intentionally irritating, tormenting, or annoying another persistently.

## **6.7 - Hazing**

Averett prides itself on being an institution of higher education devoted to excellence in teaching, learning, and service.

Hazing by individuals and/or organizations is illegal in Virginia and strictly prohibited at Averett University. Both individuals and organizations must be responsible for ensuring that all activities exclude any form of hazing. While chapter or club members may not be present at an activity associated with their group, they are not excused from the responsibility of ensuring the activity does not include hazing. All members must realize they are responsible for activities sponsored by their group and may be held accountable for hazing violations if they occur.

### **HAZING IS AN ABUSE OF POWER AND RELATIONSHIPS, AND ITS PURPOSE DEMEANS OTHERS.**

HAZING is any action taken or situation created intentionally or unintentionally by an individual, organization, or athletic team that produces mental or physical discomfort, endangerment to life, embarrassment, harassment, intimidation, or ridicule, regardless of the person's willingness to participate. Examples may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- A "boot camp" mentality
- Altering physical appearance [i.e., head or eyebrow shaving, branding, etc.]
- Acts of vandalism or acts that aid and abet vandalism or the destruction of property
- Confinement in any room or compartment
- Coerced physical activity that causes fatigue
- Engaging in behavior that violates Averett regulations or local, state, and federal laws
- Exposure to inclement weather
- Forced or required consumption of liquids, solids, or combinations [i.e., alcohol, massive quantities of water, spicy or unusual foods, or non-food items]
- Misuse, theft, or destruction of property
- Paddling in any form
- Personal servitude
- Participating in degrading or humiliating games and activities
- Physical or psychological shock
- Publicly wearing apparel and/or partaking in stunts not normally considered to be in good taste
- Sleep deprivation

Any requirement that compels a member or new member to initiate, to participate in any illegal activity which the compelling person or group knows to be contrary to a member's or prospective member's moral or religious beliefs or which is contrary to any policies, rules, or regulations of Averett University.

Organizations/individuals found violating HAZING will be subject to the University's Student Accountability sanctions and may also face criminal charges and fines.

Hazing by individuals and/or organizations is strictly prohibited at Averett. Both individuals and organizations must be responsible for ensuring that all activities exclude any form of hazing.

While chapter or club members may not be present at a prospective member or other activity associated with their group, they are not excused from the responsibility of ensuring the activity does not include hazing.

### **6.8 - Improper Conduct Related to Sex**

Unprofessional or inappropriate conduct that does not fall under other forms of Title IX Sexual Harassment or University Sexual Misconduct but that is sexual and/or sex-based in nature and has the effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's educational experience, working conditions, or living conditions.

### **6.9 - Intimidation**

Intimidation is defined as making a person timid or fearful and/or compelling or deterred by actual or perceived threats.

### **6.10 - Sexual Exploitation**

“Sexual Exploitation” means any act of taking non-Consensual, unjust, or abusive sexual advantage of another person for one's own advantage or benefit or to benefit or advantage anyone other than the person being exploited. Sexual Exploitation includes:

- Causing or attempting to force the incapacitation of another person in order to gain a sexual advantage over such person;
- Prostituting another person (for example, personally gaining money, privilege, or power from the sexual activities of another);
- Non-consensual videotaping, photographing, or audio-taping of sexual activity and/or distribution of these materials via media such as, but not limited to, the Internet;
- Exceeding the boundaries of Consent (for example, allowing another person to observe consensual sex without the knowledge of or Consent from all participants);
- Voyeurism; and
- Knowingly or recklessly transmitting a sexually transmitted disease to another individual

### **6.11 - Sexual Harassment**

“Sexual Harassment” is any unwelcome verbal, nonverbal, written, electronic or physical conduct of a sexual nature. Examples of Sexual Harassment include instances in which:

- Submission or Consent to the behavior is reasonably believed to carry consequences for the individual's education, employment, on-campus living environment, or participation in a University activity. Examples of this type of sexual harassment include:
  - Pressuring an individual to engage in sexual behavior for some educational or employment benefit or
  - making a real or perceived threat that rejecting sexual behavior will carry a negative educational or employment consequence for the individual.
- The behavior is so severe or pervasive that it substantially interferes with the individual's work or educational performance by creating an intimidating, hostile, or demeaning environment for employment, education, on-campus living, or participation in a University activity.

Examples of this type of sexual harassment include:

- one or more instances of Sexual Assault; persistent unwelcome efforts to develop a romantic or sexual relationship;
- unwelcome sexual advances or requests for sexual favors;

- unwelcome commentary about an individual’s body or sexual activities;
- repeated and unwelcome sexually-oriented teasing, joking, or flirting; and verbal abuse of a sexual nature.

Sexual harassment also includes acts of intimidation, bullying, aggression, or hostility based on gender or gender stereotyping, even if the actions do not involve conduct of a sexual nature.

### 6.12 - Threat[s]

Threat is defined as a communicated intent to inflict punishment, harm, injury, or loss to another person[s], group[s], or institution[s].

### 6.13 - Verbal Abuse

Verbal abuse is a form of abusive behavior involving the use of language. It is a form of profanity that can occur with or without the use of expletives. Oral communication is the most common form of verbal abuse; however, it includes abusive words in written form.

**\*Non-Title IX Sexual Misconduct allegations will be investigated and heard under the Student Accountability Process by trained staff appointed by the Dean of Students.**

## SECTION 7.0 SEXUAL MISCONDUCT POLICY (NON-TITLE IX)

This policy addresses Sexual Misconduct not covered under the University’s Title IX policy. Sexual Misconduct encompasses all prohibited conduct described below that occurs based on sex that does not fall within the definitional or jurisdictional requirements of the federal regulations underlying the Title IX Sexual Harassment policy.

“Sexual Misconduct” means any unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature, including any conduct or act of a sexual nature perpetrated against an individual without Consent. Sexual Misconduct can occur between strangers or acquaintances, including people involved in an intimate or sexual relationship. In addition, men or women can commit sexual Misconduct, which can occur between people of the same or different sex. The University encourages reporting of all Sexual Misconduct.

Examples of prohibited conduct under the Sexual Misconduct policy may include:

- Conduct that occurs in the local vicinity (e.g., an off-campus party) but outside of a University program or activity; or
- Conduct that occurs outside of the United States when the behavior is associated with an institutional-sponsored program or activity, such as travel, research, or internship programs; or
- Conduct that involves the use of the University’s computing and network resources from a remote location, including but not limited to accessing email accounts; or
- The alleged sexual Misconduct significantly connected to or affected the learning or working environment at Averett of the Reporting Party.

In determining whether alleged conduct violates this policy, the University will consider the totality of the facts and circumstances involved in the incident, including the nature of the alleged conduct and the context in which it occurred. Individuals of any gender can commit any prohibited conduct defined in this policy, and it can occur between individuals of the same gender or different genders. In addition, it can occur between strangers or acquaintances and people involved in intimate or sexual relationships.

The prohibited behaviors listed below are serious offenses and will result in an accountability process. Prohibited conduct involving force, coercion, or inducement of incapacitation, or where the perpetrator has deliberately taken advantage of another individual's state of incapacitation, will be deemed especially egregious and may result in expulsion. The respondent's consumption of alcohol or the use of illegal substances does not constitute a mitigating circumstance when it contributes to violating this policy.

“Sexual Misconduct” means any unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature, including any conduct or act of a sexual nature perpetrated against an individual without Consent. Sexual Misconduct can occur between strangers or acquaintances, including people involved in an intimate or sexual relationship. In addition, men or women can commit sexual Misconduct, which can occur between people of the same or different sex. The University encourages reporting of all Sexual Misconduct.

Sexual Misconduct includes but is not limited to:

- Stalking
- Sexual Assault
- Domestic Violence
- Dating Violence

### 7.01 - Stalking

Engaging in the course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to

- Fear for the person's safety or the safety of others; or
- Suffer substantial emotional distress.

For the purposes of this definition:

- Course of conduct means two or more acts, including, but not limited to, acts in which the stalker directly, indirectly, or through third parties, by any action, method, device, or means, follows, monitors, observes, surveils, threatens, or communicates to or about a person, or interferes with a person's property.
- Reasonable person means a reasonable person under similar circumstances and with similar identities to the victim.
- Substantial emotional distress means significant mental suffering or anguish that may not necessarily require medical or other professional treatment or counseling.

### 7.02 - Sexual Assault

An offense that meets the definition of rape, fondling, incest, or statutory rape.

### 7.03 - Domestic Violence

A felony or misdemeanor crime of violence committed

- By a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim;
- By a person with whom the victim shares a child in common;
- By a person who is cohabitating with, or has cohabitated with, the victim as a spouse or intimate partner;
- By a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction in which the crime of violence occurred;
- By any other person against an adult or youth victim who is protected from that person's acts under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction where the crime of violence occurred.

## 7.04 - Dating Violence

Violence is committed by a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim.

- The existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on the reporting party's statement and considering the length of the relationship, the type of relationship, and the frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.
- For the purposes of this definition, dating violence includes, but is not limited to, sexual or physical abuse or the threat of such abuse.
- Dating violence does not include acts covered under the definition of domestic violence.

Averett University does not unlawfully discriminate based on sex in any educational programs or activities, including against any employee, applicant for employment, student, or applicant for admission. Inquiries related to Sexual Misconduct (Non-Title IX) at Averett should be referred to the Office of the Dean of Students:

**Dr. JL Porter**  
**Dean of Students**  
420 West Main  
Student Center, Suite 42  
Danville, VA 24541  
deanofstudents@averett.edu

Averett's Non-Title IX Sexual Misconduct Policy and procedures can be found [here](#).

## SECTION 8.0: SEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICY (TITLE IX)

In compliance with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Averett University does not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of sex in any of its educational programs or activities, including against any employee, applicant for employment, student, or applicant for admission. Inquiries related to the application of Title IX at Averett should be referred to the University's Title IX Coordinator:

**Amanda R. Estabrook**  
**Title IX Coordinator**  
420 West Main St. Main Hall, Office 10  
Danville, VA 24541  
[434] 791-7244 TitleIX@averett.edu

Any person may report sex discrimination, including sexual harassment, via email, phone, or mail at any time or in person during normal business hours using the contact information above. Averett's Title IX Sexual Harassment Policy and procedures can be found [here](#).

Individuals may also inquire externally to the Department of Education:

**Office for Civil Rights**  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, SW. Washington, D.C. 20202-1100  
[800]421-3481  
OCR@ed.gov  
<https://www.ed.gov/ocr>

## **SECTION 9.0: COMPLICITY IN STANDARDS VIOLATIONS**

Any student who is aware that a violation of any standard, law, or ordinance is about to occur, is taking place, or has taken place, and who fails to make some reasonable effort to stop the offense; or notify a University staff member, or remove self from the situation at once, will be considered a participant in the offense. Penalties may be the same for these persons as for the person who commits the offense.

## **SECTION 10.0: DISORDERLY, DANGEROUS, OR DISRUPTIVE CONDUCT**

Regardless of proximity to campus, no student shall cause, incite or participate in any disturbance or behavior which interrupts the orderly operation of the University and/or infringes on the rights of community members. No student shall engage in any activity or behavior that endangers the lives or safety of that student or others. No student shall fail to adhere to stated safety requirements set by academic and/or recreational organizations.

### **10.1 - False Information or Reporting**

Any individual who knowingly submits a complaint that is not in good faith or provides false or misleading information in any capacity to a member of the Averett faculty or staff may be subject to accountability sanctions.

### **10.2 - Indecent, Inappropriate, or Obscene Language**

Indecent, inappropriate, or obscene language in public areas, whether inside or outside, will not be tolerated and may result in accountability sanctions. Students are asked to monitor their language at all times and avoid swearing, cursing, or using sexually explicit terms except when such terms pertain to an academic discussion. Words and/or phrases considered “fighting words” are not permitted. All students are asked to assist in enforcing this policy and may report disregard or violations to the Office of the Dean of Students.

### **10.3 - Indecent, Inappropriate, or Obscene Behavior**

Indecent, inappropriate, or obscene behavior in public areas, whether inside or outside, will not be tolerated and may result in accountability sanctions. Students are asked to monitor their behavior at all times and to act appropriately. Examples include, but are not limited to, aggressive hand gesturing, urinating in public, flashing, streaking, screaming, pranking, or other behaviors as determined by the University.

### **10.4 - Indecent, Inappropriate, or Obscene Attire**

Indecent, inappropriate, or obscene dress in public areas, whether inside or outside, will not be tolerated and may result in accountability actions. Students are asked to dress in appropriate attire at all times. If students have questions regarding attire for different functions, please consult the Office of Student Involvement staff.

### **10.5 - Interference with Safety or Emergency Response**

No individual is permitted to interfere with University officials or emergency responders attempting to offer emergency or safety aid on campus

## **SECTION 11.0: FAILURE TO COMPLY**

Students who fail to comply with the directions of agents and employees of the University are subject to accountability sanctions.

**11.1 -** Students notified of accountability appointments and who fail to attend the meeting/hearing may be subject to accountability sanctions. Students who cannot participate in a meeting should contact the office of the Dean of Students as soon as possible.

**11.2 -** Failure to complete assigned accountability sanctions also constitutes a failure to comply.

## **SECTION 12.0: PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY**

### **12.1 - Personal Responsibility On or Off Campus**

Each student is responsible for their actions on or off campus, whether or not Averett is in session.

- If a student is involved in a violation of local, state, or federal law (or any other action which is inconsistent with that expected of a student at Averett based on the Student Handbook & Resource Guide), Averett reserves the right to take accountability action regardless of any action that may or may not be taken in a court of law. In addition, students arrested for violent acts and/or any other criminal law violation(s) on or off campus, whether or not Averett is in session, may be immediately removed from campus and/or not be allowed to return to Averett.

## **12.2 - Good Neighbor Policy**

**Averett University students have lived off campus for many years and, in most instances, have developed positive and lasting relationships with area residents. Off-campus students must understand and appreciate that residents of a particular community have made a long-term commitment to their neighborhood; students are transient community members and usually remain only for the duration of their academic tenure. The quality of life and the overall character of a neighborhood can be significantly influenced by student residents' lifestyles and sense of citizenship. A respectful and courteous attitude is usually returned in kind and makes the neighborhood a more pleasant place to live. Some students may find community service activities further their sense of belonging in their neighborhood. Living off campus is a maturing experience that carries concomitant responsibilities.**

**As a student living in the community, you represent Averett University, and your conduct will reflect directly on the University. Families living in the neighborhoods around our campus have a right to enjoy a reasonable level of peace and quiet. As students, your academic and personal schedules often conflict with the more routine schedules of families. Students are expected to exercise sound judgment and be sensitive to the needs of their neighbors. Most neighborhood residents are not against responsible parties. What concerns them, however, is rowdiness, public drunkenness, disorderly conduct, and people partying outside with loud music or other noise late into the night. Party hosts put themselves in serious jeopardy when their guests act irresponsibly. As a social host, you assume all the risks associated with state and local laws regulating drinking age, noise, and public safety when you host a party at your apartment. Recent court decisions have held the social host liable for personal injury and property damage caused to a third party due to the irresponsible service of alcoholic beverages to guests. This liability is compounded when minors are involved.**

**It is important to understand that the University has no interest in regulating what goes on in the privacy of your home. However, when otherwise private actions or behaviors become public and attract the attention of neighbors or others within the community, Averett University becomes involved. Living off campus does not circumvent your responsibility as a member of the Averett University community to abide by the Student Accountability Code. Take the responsibilities of living off campus seriously. This social experience is part of your education and should be pleasant for you and your neighbors.**

## **12.3 - Personal Responsibility of a Student's Guest(s)**

- A. All student guests visiting campus must observe the Accountability Community Standards and Residence Hall Policies of the University and all local, state, and federal laws. Averett students are responsible for the actions of their guests on campus or at University-sponsored events off campus. If a visitor is causing a disturbance or problem; in that case, they may be escorted off the campus or from the event by a University Safety Officer, Danville Police, or designated University official. After the violation of a local, state, or federal law or University policy, non-students may be banned from Averett.**

- B. Overnight guests (same or opposite sex) are allowed, but no more than two consecutive nights and no more than two two-night periods within any 30 days. The roommate hosting an overnight guest must obtain permission from their roommate before the guest's arrival. All non-Averett overnight guests must also be registered with the Housing & Residence Life respective RA in the hall before the first night of visitation. Failure to register guests will result in the guest being immediately removed from the Residence Hall, and the host Averett student will be subject to accountability actions. In addition, overnight guests are not allowed when Residence Halls are closed or during exam week (for students and non-students).**

#### **12.4 - Personal Responsibility for Campus Safety**

The safety of the campus is everyone's responsibility. Students, faculty, and staff must alert Campus Safety and the appropriate administrator when a safety concern and/or emergency arises. Students that fail to report a known safety concern, tamper with a safety measure, and/or purposely disable safety equipment such as propping open a door, removing and/or covering a smoke detector, disabling a lock, etc., will receive accountability action. Violation of this policy may result in an automatic fine being placed on the student's account.

#### **12.5 - Personal Responsibility for University Communication**

Communication on campus is critical. During times of crisis or emergency, it is imperative to be able to contact students quickly. In an academic community, communication provides announcements of important events, academic assignments, and much more. Students are generally notified through the LiveSafe Alert System, word of mouth, campus email, or by phone. To optimize campus communication, students are responsible for information sent through the following:

**A. University Email**

All students are assigned a University email account. Students are responsible for checking their email regularly and the information contained therein. Email is the preferred method by which many students, staff, and faculty convey important information.

**B. University Mail**

All residential students are assigned a campus mailbox in the Mail Services located on the lower floor of Main Hall. Students are responsible for checking their mailboxes regularly. When picking up a package, you must present a valid Averett or state-issued ID. In addition, students are responsible for returning their campus mailbox key to Mail Services when they are no longer Averett students. [i.e., withdrawal, transfer, graduation, etc.]

**C. University Alert System (LiveSafe)**

Text messages are communicated directly to students' cell phones and email during an emergency. It is the responsibility of the student to comply with all emergency notifications received.

## **SECTION 13.0: Harm-to-Self/Harm-to-Others Policy**

When serious self-harm or harm-to other behaviors occur which are deemed to be potentially life-threatening (including but not limited to suicide threats, suicide attempts, or threats to harm others), Averett University has the responsibility to act swiftly, keeping in mind the best interests of the student, those closely affected and the University community.

The priority in all cases is to preserve human life and to minimize or eliminate the potential for trauma to self or others. While the University is committed to helping students develop appropriate means for dealing with setbacks and depression, long-term assistance to students who exhibit serious self-harm or harm-to-other behaviors must be balanced with the effects of a student's actions on others and the entire University community.

Therefore, the Dean of Students and others, as directed by the Dean of Students, will determine whether it is in the student's and the University's best interests that they remain enrolled students, when serious behaviors occur.

### **Guidelines:**

- If a student engages in self-harm or harm-to other potentially life-threatening behaviors, student safety takes precedence over confidentiality, and the following guidelines may be activated.
- The Dean of Students may be notified of the student's behavior and, in cooperation with the Director of Counseling Services and/or other members of the Student Life Staff, will determine an appropriate course of action, including but not limited to an assessment by a licensed or certified mental health professional off campus.
- The Dean of Students may notify the student's parents, legal guardians, or other persons listed as emergency contacts regarding the student's behavior and the University's concern for the student.
- The Director of Counseling Services may work with the student to identify appropriate resources and licensed or certified therapists who will do an assessment and potentially long-term counseling. In some instances, it may be relevant to identify other medical providers from whom an assessment is needed as well.
- If a student is hospitalized due to such behavior, the student must be evaluated and, if appropriate, treated by a licensed or certified mental health professional. The student may not return to campus unless those considering the student believe that their return is in the best interest of the student and the Averett community.
- Upon the student's return to campus, the Dean of Students will meet with the student to review the recommendations of the evaluating professional. The Dean and the student will determine the course of action to help the student adjust to the University community. This may include visits to the Averett University Counseling Center, a local mental health provider, or meetings with the Dean for a specified period.

## **SECTION 14.0: FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION POLICY**

Averett University celebrates the exercise of freedom of expression on every Averett campus. Free inquiry and expression, exercised responsibly, are indispensable to the vibrancy and vitality of a campus community. We value and honor diverse perspectives and believe it essential that students, faculty, and staff have the opportunity to engage in peaceful and orderly protests and demonstrations. This policy is structured to ensure equal opportunity for all members of the Averett community; preserve order within the university campus; protect and preserve university property, and provide a secure environment for members of the campus community exercising freedom of expression.

Averett University does not permit conduct — or attempted or threatened—that violates university policies or standards of conduct, or that is prohibited by law. Such conduct includes, but is not limited to, defamation; incitement to unlawful conduct; imminent threats of actual violence or harm; obscenity; criminal or civil harassment; sexual harassment; bullying; and trespass.

To ensure that members of the campus community who are exercising freedom of expression do not interfere with the operation of the University, with state and federal laws, or with the privileges of others, the following provisions apply:

- A. Consistent with the mission and ideals of Averett University and its emphasis on respect for others, and in deference to the operations of the University, members of the campus community are expected to provide at least 24-hour advance notification to the Office of the Dean of Students for any demonstration or similar activity on the Averett University campus. Advance notification is intended solely to promote the safety of all individuals on the Averett University campus.**
- B. Advance notifications will include the day, time, and location where the demonstration or similar activity is expected to begin as well as the full name and detailed contact information of the primary organizer and/or person responsible for the demonstration. In addition, any demonstration or similar activity will comply with the University’s guidelines regarding the time, place, and manner of such activities and the allocation of the use of campus facilities.**
- C. Demonstrations or similar activities must not obstruct, frustrate or delay vehicular or pedestrian traffic or block ingress to or egress from outdoor or indoor facilities. Obstruction of public sidewalks and streets is a violation of Virginia law. Demonstrations or similar expressive activities must not unreasonably interfere with the educational and administrative activities inside or outside campus buildings.**
- D. There may be no attempt to prevent, delay or frustrate the orderly conduct of scheduled university ceremonies or events.**
- E. If applicable, local, state, and federal laws and regulations and Averett University standards of student conduct must be observed and followed.**
- F. Chalking is permitted on campus to publicize campus events and resources, make announcements, and share messages. Any enrolled full-time Averett University student, registered student group, University department, faculty member, or staff member is permitted to chalk on campus — consistent with the University posting policy and the guidelines of this Freedom of Expression policy.**

## **SECTION 15.0: MISSING PERSON'S POLICY**

If a member of the Averett University community has reason to believe that a student who resides in on-campus housing is missing. In that case, they should immediately notify the Averett University Security Department at 434- 791-5888 or extension 15888. The Averett University Security Department will generate a missing person report and contact the Danville Police Department to initiate an investigation. The Averett University Security Department and the Office of Housing and Residence Life will work closely with Danville Police Department to support such inquiry to locate the missing person.

In addition to registering a general emergency contact, students residing in on-campus housing have the option to identify, confidentially, an individual to be contacted by Averett University in the event the student is determined to be missing for more than 24 hours. If a student has identified such an individual, Averett University will notify that individual no later than 24 hours after the student is determined to be missing. In addition, a student who wishes to identify a confidential contact can call the security emergency number at [434] 791-5888 [or ext. 15888]. The student does not need to give their name if that student wishes to remain confidential.

If the missing student is under the age of 18 and is not an emancipated individual. In that case, Averett University will notify the student's parent or legal guardian immediately after Averett University Security and the Danville Police Department have determined that the student has been missing for 24 hours.

## **SECTION 16.0: TECHNOLOGY ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY**

### **16.1 - Acceptable Use & Administration of Computer and Communications Systems**

This is a policy statement regarding the use and administration of Averett University computer and communication facilities, including those dealing with voice, data, and video. It relates to using and administering telecommunications equipment (including computer networks involving the PBX and Internet), mainframe, midrange, minicomputer, workstation, and personal computer systems. Thus, it covers all activities involving the computing and communication facilities of Averett University. Every user of these systems is expected to know and follow this.

This policy applies to any individual using or administering Averett University computer and/or communication facilities. Related University policies and guidelines that such individuals must respect include the following:

- A. Acceptable Use Guideline:** Data communication facilities at Averett University have been developed to encourage widespread access and distribution of data and information. Computing systems facilitate the manipulation and sharing of data and information. Together, these systems and facilities can be used similarly to mail and telephone services and are governed by principles of appropriate use for those services.

University communication and computing resources support the institution's educational, research, and public service missions. Activities involving these resources must accord with the University honor code, employee handbook, student handbook, and relevant local, state, federal,

and international laws and regulations. Access to computer systems and networks owned or operated by Averett University imposes specific responsibilities and obligations and is granted subject to University policies and local, state, and federal laws. Acceptable use is always ethical, reflects academic honesty, and shows restraint in consuming shared resources. In addition, it demonstrates respect for intellectual property, data ownership, system security mechanisms, and individuals' rights to privacy and freedom from intimidation and harassment.

**In making acceptable use of resources, every student MUST:**

- Have and utilize current and up-to-date virus protection, e.g., Microsoft Security Essentials.
- Use resources only for authorized purposes.
- Protect their user id and system from unauthorized use. Students are responsible for all activities on their user id or that originate from their systems.
- Access only one's publicly available information or to which the student has been given authorized access.
- Use only legal versions of copyrighted software in compliance with vendor license requirements.
- Be considerate in one's use of shared resources. For example, refrain from monopolizing systems, overloading networks with excessive data, degrading services, or wasting computer time, connect time, disk space, printer paper, manuals, or other resources.

**In making acceptable use of resources, every student must NOT:**

- Use another person's system, user id, password, files, or data without permission.
- Use computer programs to decode passwords or access control information.
- Attempt to circumvent or subvert system or network security measures.
- Engage in any activity that might be purposefully harmful to systems or any information stored thereon, such as creating or propagating viruses, disrupting services, damaging files, or making un-authorized modifications to University data.
- Use University systems for commercial or partisan political purposes, such as using electronic mail to circulate advertising for products, services, or political candidates or serving web pages for financial gain.
- Make or use illegal copies of copyrighted materials or software, store such documents on University systems, or transmit them over University networks.
- Use mail or messaging services to harass or intimidate another person; for example, by broadcasting unsolicited messages, repeatedly sending unwanted mail, or using someone else's name or user id.

- **Waste computing or network resources; for example, by intentionally placing a program in an endless loop, printing excessive amounts of paper, or sending chain letters or unsolicited mass mailings.**
- **Use the University's systems or networks for personal gain; for example, by selling access to one's user id or University systems or networks, or by performing work for profit with University resources in a manner not authorized by the University.**
- **Install routers, wireless routers, repeaters, bridges, or managed switches on the network.**
- **Engage in any other activity that does not comply with the General Principles presented above.**

## **16.2 - Enforcement**

**The University considers any violation of acceptable use principles or guidelines a serious offense and reserves the right to copy and examine any files or information existent on University systems and to take all other actions to protect its network from systems and events that threaten or degrade operations. In addition, violators are subject to disciplinary action as prescribed in the Honor Code, the University Code of Conduct, and employee handbooks. Offenders also may be prosecuted under all applicable federal and state laws, including (but not limited to) the Communications Act of 1934, the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act of 1986, Chapter 41 of Title 18 of the United States Code, the Interstate Transportation of Stolen Property Act, the Virginia Computer Crimes Act, and the Electronic Communications Privacy Act. Access to the text of these laws is available through the Averett University Library Reference Department.**

### **A. Reporting Suspected Security Breaches**

**Anyone who suspects a breach of established security policy or procedure should promptly report it to the appropriate Dean, Director, Department Head, and the University Security Office. If it is felt the breach is severe and needs immediate attention, Averett University Security or local law enforcement should be contacted. The Information Technology Security Office may be involved with suspected violations and can also be a resource for those interested in any investigation.**

### **B. Information Disclaimer**

**Individuals using computer systems owned by Averett University do so subject to applicable laws and University policies. Averett University disclaims any responsibility and/or warranties for information and materials residing on non-University systems or available over publicly accessible networks. Such materials do not necessarily reflect the attitudes, opinions, or values of the Commonwealth of Virginia, Averett University, its faculty, staff, or students.**

## **SECTION 17.0: THEFT, UNAUTHORIZED ENTRY**

### **17.1 - Theft**

Unauthorized appropriation or possession of the property of another is strictly prohibited. The act of stealing, specifically the taking and removing personal property or identity with the intent to deprive the rightful owner, is considered a serious violation. This includes theft of such things as credit cards, debit cards, bank cards, telephone access codes, or computer passwords.

### **17.2 - Unauthorized Entry**

Unauthorized entry to, or use of, University facilities, property, or equipment is prohibited. For example, entering a locked or unlocked room without the student's permission is prohibited.

### **17.3 - Endangering Campus Facility**

Students are prohibited from propping open doors, tampering with room/building locks, or any other action that compromises the safety of a residence hall, apartment, or campus facility.

## **SECTION 18.0: USE OF EXTERIOR SURFACES**

Using exterior surfaces such as roofs, fire escapes, balconies, and ledges is prohibited. In addition, students are forbidden from hanging out of windows, throwing objects out of windows, or rappelling or climbing on any University building. University roads, sidewalks, and exterior stairs must be used appropriately.

**18.1 - Window Screens, Window Entry/Exit** For the safety of the students, all window screens must remain down at all times, and students are prohibited from using the window as an exit or entrance unless there is a documented emergency such as a fire. Repeated screen violations may result in monetary fines for students in residence halls or apartments.

## **SECTION 19.0: VANDALISM**

Students are prohibited from destroying, vandalizing, or otherwise defacing public or private property. Actions of this nature will result in charges for damages, fines, Accountability action, and/or referral to law enforcement authorities.

## **SECTION 20.0: WEAPONS ON-CAMPUS POLICY**

Averett University aims to keep students, faculty members, staff, vendors, and visitors to the University (the University community) as safe as possible. The possession, carrying, storage, or maintenance of any weapon by a member of the University community, with the exception of law enforcement officials and other individuals, specifically authorized, is prohibited on University property.

Possession of weapons is strictly prohibited and may result in immediate suspension or expulsion. Possession or use of firearms (including pellet guns, airsoft guns, BB guns, and paintball guns – regardless of the fuel used) or explosives (firecrackers, fireworks, noisemakers, smoke devices, or any explosive or incendiary device) are prohibited on the University property. This standard also includes such weapons as knives (3" blades or longer), ammunition, swords, Martial Arts weapons, metal knuckles, blackjacks, Tasers, stun guns, and other items which could potentially be dangerous weapons. This includes toys or non-lethal entities that resemble and/or mimic weapons, including foam and/or water guns. This standard includes possession of such items in a vehicle located on campus.

For purposes of this policy, “Weapon” means firearm or other weapon listed in §18.2-308(A) of the Code of Virginia, including:

- “any pistol, revolver, or other weapon designed or intended to propel a missile of any kind by the action of an explosion of any combustible material;
- any dirk, bowie knife, switchblade knife, ballistic knife, machete, razor, slingshot, spring stick, metal knucks, or blackjack;
- any flailing instrument consisting of two or more rigid parts connected in such a manner as to allow them to swing freely, which may be known as a nun charka, nun chuck, nunchaku, shuriken, or fighting chain;
- any disc, of whatever configuration, having at least two points or pointed blades which is designed to be thrown or propelled and which may be known as a throwing star or oriental dart; or
- any weapon of like kind as those enumerated in this subsection.”

Students and visitors are also prohibited from the possession, carrying, storage, or maintenance of:

- Ampellet guns, air guns, airsoft guns, paintball guns, bows and arrows (other than as appropriately used in a class overseen by a faculty member), slingshots, knives (other than eating utensils or a folding pocketknife with a blade of fewer than 3 inches), toy/counterfeit/replica/blank firing firearms, dangerous chemicals/substances/materials, explosives, or incendiary devices prohibited by law.

## **SECTION 21.0: SOLICITATION**

For the safety and privacy of all members of the Averett University community, there shall be no solicitation on campus or in campus buildings by non-University organizations, businesses, or individuals, without prior written permission from the Dean of Students and/or Office of Housing and Residence Life. Any authorized visitors will be informed they must check in at the Security office in Bishop Hall, where they will receive the appropriate passes for access to campus.

Individual students and students representing campus organizations are not permitted to solicit contributions and gifts on the Averett campus. Student organizations planning campus fundraising events must complete a request form with the Office of Student Involvement at least one week prior to the beginning of the fundraising event. The request will be reviewed and either approved or denied. Fundraiser permission is granted on a first-come, first-served basis during the semester in which the fundraiser will take place.

*The Chanticleer* may sell ads for its publication provided the publications board grants the appropriate permission.

## **STUDENT ACCOUNTABILITY (SA) RESIDENCE HALL POLICIES**

Living on campus is a vital part of the Averett experience. Because of this, the University requires students to live on campus for six semesters (not including summer sessions) or until they have completed 90 credit hours. There are a few exceptions to this residency requirement outlined later in this section under “On-Campus Residency Policy.” The Residence Life program at Averett University is committed to “Education beyond the Classroom.” Residential students spend most of their time in residence halls, and their rooms become a temporary home away from home. Residence halls are communities where students are challenged to learn, grow and succeed as individuals and community members.

Residence Hall Policies have been designed to maximize a student’s academic success in a living-learning environment. The Residence Hall Policies aim to develop a comfortable living atmosphere in which students can expect reasonable attitudes and behaviors from each other in all areas of residence life. Every student is responsible for these policies, and by signing the Housing Agreement, they have formally agreed to abide by them. Failure to comply with these policies will result in accountability action. We strive to be educational at all times, though we also recognize that sometimes education requires time away from campus. Averett reserves the right to change these guidelines, upon written notice, at any time.

### **SECTION 22.0: ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES OR HORSEPLAY**

No athletic activities (i.e., football, ball bouncing, boxing, wrestling, jumping rope, frisbee, water fights, tennis, soap slides, soccer, skateboarding, etc.) are allowed inside any residence hall, residence hall room, or apartment.

### **SECTION 23.0: DAMAGES**

#### **23.1 - Accidental Damage to Student’s Room or Apartment**

Any accidental damage in a student’s room, to the furniture in the room, or in a hallway must be reported to the Residence Assistant (RA) of that area immediately. Students who are responsible for the damage will be billed for proper repairs. In addition, students are responsible for maintaining the cleanliness and physical appearance of the room or apartment assigned to them by Averett. Any damage that occurs in the room or apartment, unless reported otherwise, is the responsibility of the student(s) assigned to that room or apartment. Damage billing may occur at any time but primarily will be addressed after the student(s) has/have checked out of the residence hall room or apartment.

### **23.2 - Damage to Residence Hall, Rooms, Apartment Common Areas**

Keeping the hallways and other public areas of the residence halls and apartments in good condition is the responsibility of everyone. Maintenance will appraise any damage in these common areas by unidentified persons, and the residents of that hall may be assessed the charges.

Common area and hall repair costs resulting from willful abuse, vandalism, and otherwise disorderly conduct will be prorated among residents. Each account will be billed accordingly if the responsible party is not identified. In the event of common area damages to furniture or fixtures within a specific residence hall or to the physical facility, damage(s) will be evaluated. Each resident will be assessed an equal amount based on the cost incurred to restore damaged furniture, fixtures, or physical facility to its original condition in the event the responsible party is not identified. A minimum charge for any billed damages will be \$10. Students are encouraged to report vandalism as soon as it occurs and to report any potential suspects to an appropriate University official (RAs, maintenance staff member, and/or University Safety).

### **23.3 - Use of Dart Boards**

Metal tipped darts are not to be used in residence hall rooms due to damage that results from their use. Students will be billed for any damage incurred, and dartboards will be confiscated.

### **23.4 - Unnecessary Mess**

Sweeping personal debris into public areas, littering the hallways, or otherwise creating a mess in the public hallways and grounds on Averett campus is prohibited. Haircutting is prohibited in hallways, nor should any hair be left in public areas. Any unnecessary mess in public areas by unidentified persons will be appraised by housekeeping, and that hall's residents may be assessed the charges. Excessive mess in student rooms at checkout will lead to additional charges. Students are expected to keep their rooms neat in appearance.

### **23.5 - Bicycles**

Bicycles may be brought on University property and kept in student rooms only if the roommate agrees. The fire code prohibits storing bikes in hallways/stairwells. There is limited outside storage for bicycles. All storage is at one's own risk.

### **23.5 - Hover Boards**

Averett University has prohibited using, storing, and/or charging electronic skateboards from all university buildings and grounds. This includes self-balancing boards and/or hoverboards. This ban also consists of all university residence halls and apartments. Students found using these devices in the residence halls, university buildings, and grounds will be referred to the Office of the Dean of Students.

### **23.7 - Residence Hall Maintenance**

Residents are responsible for maintaining established cleanliness and safety standards throughout the building. Specifically, residents are solely responsible for maintaining the cleanliness of their rooms and, where applicable, entire apartments—including living room areas and bathrooms. Residents are responsible for putting a work order into Net Facilities for any maintenance needs or extermination issues that need to be addressed.

### **23.8 - Refund Schedule**

Room and board fees are subject to payment based on the Student Account “Withdrawal and Return of Funds” policy, which can be found [here](#).

Any student whose enrollment is terminated during the contract year will be expected to check out of the residence hall immediately.

## **SECTION 24.0: FIRE SAFETY POLICIES**

### **24.1 - Fire Equipment**

Tampering with fire equipment is prohibited. In addition, tampering with, obstructing, painting, or damaging smoke detectors and/or sprinkler heads is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to, hanging items from, or attaching anything to, sprinkler heads. Any violation of this policy will result in an automatic fine on the student account. Violation of this policy and associated policies will result in a fine of \$50.00 (without a student accountability hearing). Students experiencing a problem with a smoke detector or emergency call button should immediately contact Security [434-791-5888].

### **24.2 - Activating Fire Alarm**

No student shall activate a fire alarm except in case of an actual fire. False reporting of a fire through a pull station, smoke detector, or other means is a federal offense and is not permitted.

### **24.3 - Evacuation**

Students and visitors must evacuate the building when the fire alarm sounds and gather at their assigned evacuation point. Students may not enter the building until proper authorization has been given, and students can only enter through designated entrances. Individuals failing to vacate the building during a fire alarm or reentering the building prior to receiving proper authorization will be assessed an accountability sanction and/or fine.

### **24.4 - Obstruction of Fire Evacuation Routes**

Fire safety regulations require that no bed construction materials, boxes, trash, bicycles, or other items be stored temporarily in hallways or other public areas. Purposefully preventing someone from swiftly and safely evacuating a building is prohibited. Doors must be able to swing open a full 90 degrees. All occupants must evacuate a building in which an alarm sounds. Students who fail to evacuate appropriately are subject to fines and/or disciplinary action. Please contact Housing and Residence Life or a Resident Assistant with questions about evacuation procedures.

### **24.5 - Electrical Appliances**

The following appliances are not allowed in residence hall rooms:

- Halogen lights
- String lights (hot to the touch)
- Toaster ovens or hot plates (allowed in the commons apartments kitchen area as long as breakers are not tripped)
- Air fryers (allowed in the commons apartments kitchen area as long as breakers are not tripped)

- Any appliances with exposed heating elements
- Electric frying pans
- Refrigerators larger than 3.5 cubic feet
- Space heaters (unless issued by the University)
- Extension cords (unless they are UL approved with grounded power strips with fuses)
- Hammocks or porch swings
- Grills of any type (except those supplied on Mtn. View Ave side of Commons Apartments. Note: must be cleaned after each use by a resident using that grill.)

The following small appliances are allowed in residence hall rooms:

- Popcorn poppers
- Thermostatically controlled heating elements
- Electric percolators

### 24.6 - Open Flames

Due to safety considerations, flame-producing items, including, but not limited to, candles, incense, oil-burning lamps, and lanterns, are prohibited in residential areas. Such items found in residential areas will be confiscated. In addition, smoking in residential areas, residence hall rooms, public areas, or apartments is not permitted at any time.

### 24.7 - Room Decorations

Residence hall rooms must not be decorated as destructive, a fire hazard, or in violation of sound judgment. They should be neat, orderly, and clean. Students are not to nail, tack, or glue items to the walls or woodwork; masking or painter's tape may be used for this purpose. Objects should not be placed or hung from the ceiling, walls, windows, or floors that will prevent or hinder access to and from the room or are deemed a fire hazard. No items should be suspended from ceilings, overhead lights, smoke detectors, or sprinkler systems. Decorations may not be placed on exterior surfaces of buildings. Window coverings such as foil, sheets, towels, flags, cardboard, or other items are not permitted. Students are not allowed to write on the walls.

### 24.8 - Wall Coverage

Excessive decorations on room walls can be hazardous. The State Fire Marshall has set the following guidelines for residence hall room wall coverage:

- Wall coverage is not to exceed 50% in buildings with sprinklers
- Wall coverage is not to exceed 20% in buildings without sprinklers

## SECTION 25.0: HALL MEETINGS

Residence hall meetings are held as needed to discuss the needs and ideas of resident students, as well as to provide necessary information to students. Students are expected to attend these meetings and are responsible for the information covered when they cannot be in attendance.

## SECTION 26.0: LOUNGES

The lounge areas in residence halls are for residential students on the floor, suite, apartment, or building. Guests and/or students who do not reside in that floor, suite, apartment, or structure may be asked to leave if not accompanied by a resident of that space.

## **SECTION 27.0: NOISE REGULATIONS**

It is the responsibility of all to ensure an academic atmosphere is maintained throughout the campus.

### **27.1 - Quiet Hours**

Within the residence hall, time periods have been designated as “Quiet Hours” and “Courtesy Hours” to promote an environment conducive to living and learning. Averett is committed to providing students with housing in which they may grow and develop both personally and academically. The development of an atmosphere conducive to study is the residents’ mutual responsibility. Therefore, the following community standards have been established:

- Twenty-four-hour courtesy hours are always in effect. Residents are expected to be courteous; upon request or complaint, students are expected to lower the noise level of their activity.
- Quiet hours:
  - Sunday – Thursday 10:00 p.m. - 10:00 a.m.
  - Friday – Saturday 12:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
- Quiet hours will begin on the first evening the residence halls are open.
- Quiet hours are in effect 24 hours a day during final examinations [please refer to that schedule for exact dates].
- At no time should noise from inside a residence hall room or apartment be heard outside the residence hall or apartment via the windows of a building.

### **27.2 - Use of Sound Equipment, Musical Instruments**

Sound equipment may be used by students as long as the use does not disturb other University community members. Excessive sound equipment or musical instruments may not be used in residence hall rooms. See your RA for a place to use instruments with sound amplification equipment. Confiscation or banning of stereos and sound equipment may result if noise levels remain too high. The placement of speakers in room windows and hallways is prohibited. It is recommended that headphones be used to avoid disruption of classes or other activities.

### **27.3 - Outdoor Noise**

Students should refrain from screaming/yelling when outside the residence halls or apartments. When created outside the parameter of a campus-sponsored event, noise from outside should not be heard indoors. When driving or parking on Averett’s property, car stereos and bass should not be heard inside the residential or academic facilities at any time.

## **SECTION 28.0: PET POLICY**

Except for fish, students are prohibited from possessing a pet on campus. This includes having a pet in the residence halls, apartments, and other campus facilities. Violation of the Animals policy and associated policies will result in a fine of \$50.00 [without a student accountability hearing]. Removal of the unapproved animal must occur within 24 hours from the notification. Failure to comply will result in additional fines being charged to the student account. In addition, students are responsible for the financial restitution of any damage sustained to campus residence halls, apartments, and all other campus property by a student’s pet. Students may have fish as pets according to the following guidelines. Snake tanks are not permitted on campus. Tanks may not exceed 10 gallons, and there cannot be more than two tanks per room. All tanks must be taken out of the residence halls during all breaks exceeding four days, and tanks must be cleaned regularly.

## **SECTION 29.0: KEYS**

Access to Residence Halls entrances and rooms is provided using a “physical” key or access card. Residence Hall entrance keys and residence hall room keys/key cards are distributed to residents when they check into their residence halls.

Keys are issued to students for their residence hall spaces and mailboxes. These keys are only for the use of the student to whom they are given. Loaning of a key to another individual (student or non-student) is not permitted and may result in disciplinary action.

## **SECTION 30.0: RESIDENCE HALL STORAGE**

Students may leave belongings in rooms during Thanksgiving, winter (Christmas), and spring breaks. Storage of property during breaks is the student’s risk as the University assumes no responsibility for any damage to or theft of any personal property throughout the term of the housing contract.

Students are encouraged to explore personal property insurance to protect their items while on campus. The University does not provide storage of personal belongings during summer break. Therefore, students are expected to remove all belongings before checking out of a residence hall room. Belongings left in a residence hall room/apartment after checkout are not the responsibility of the University.

## **SECTION 31.0: Room Change Periods**

Housing & Residence Life has designated two room change periods during the academic year for students to get approved room changes without additional cost. These are the end of August for the Fall semester and January for the Spring semester. A student wishing to change rooms will need to speak with their RA on the next steps. The move will need to be completed during the designated time period.

## **SECTION 32.0: Room Change Procedure**

Any student desiring a room change that is not during the designated room change period must speak with Housing & Residence Life. The student must demonstrate that they attempted to solve their issues via mediation, roommate contract, etc. A student may not move into a new room or building until they have gained approval from the H&RL and made necessary arrangements to check into their new room and out of their old room. Students must return all keys by a specified date, or they will be charged with replacing the old lock and new keys.

## **SECTION 33.0: Unauthorized Room Change**

Unauthorized room changes are defined as those that occur 1) without proper authorization from H&RL or 2) during the established room change periods if the student does not follow proper procedures. The student will also be responsible for any damages found in the room where the unauthorized room change occurred. The student will only be allowed to move to their desired room with proper authorization and after consultation with their RA and Housing & Residence Life team. **Students changing rooms/ apartments without approval from Housing & Residence Life may be fined \$50.00 for non-compliance with the process and required to move their belongings back to their initially assigned room.**

## **SECTION 34.0: UNIVERSITY FURNITURE**

University furniture (either hall or room) is not to be removed or disassembled without authorization. Unauthorized use of University furniture (e.g., lobby furniture) or disassembling such furniture is not permitted and, if found in students' rooms/apartments, could be considered theft. Furniture assigned to a specific room must remain there. Mattresses may not be removed from the beds except for cleaning purposes. Students may not remove University equipment or furniture from their assigned room, suite, lounge, or other areas within a residence hall. The unauthorized furniture removal within a building or from one facility to another will be considered misappropriation. This also includes items outside the halls (i.e., picnic tables).

## **SECTION 35.0: ON AND OFF CAMPUS RESIDENCY POLICY**

### **35.1 - Residential Living**

Averett University is committed to a vibrant residential community and the educational value of living in such a setting. As such, we are a residential university requiring traditional undergraduate students to reside on campus through the first three years (6 semesters) of enrollment or until the student reaches senior class status (90+ credit hours complete).

Averett University has a residency requirement for all students. All Residential Students are required to have a meal plan and sign a Housing and Meal Plan Contract. Our traditional housing options are available to students entering Averett for the first time or readmitting through admissions that are 23 years of age or younger.

Students who wish to request a release from the University's residency requirement must complete a Housing Waiver Request Form with the Office of Housing and Residence Life. If a spring waiver is granted, it will supersede the Housing and Meal Plan Contract signed in the fall. Exceptions to the residency requirement may be granted based on the circumstances listed below:

- Students who live with a parent's/guardian and commute from their permanent home address (address must be within 30 miles of the Danville Main Campus) must be established as the sole legal and permanent residents of parents/guardians.
- Students who are 23 years of age:
  - A student must turn 23 before October 1st to be exempt from campus housing for the fall semester.

- **Students who live with a parent’s/guardian and commute from their permanent home address (address must be within 30 miles of the Danville Main Campus) must be established as the sole legal and permanent residents of parents/guardians.**
- **Students who are 23 years of age:**
  - **A student must turn 23 before October 1st to be exempt from campus housing for the fall semester.**
  - **A student must be 23 before February 1st to be exempt from campus housing for the ng semester.**
- **A married student OR student who is a parent, caring/providing for a dependent child.**
- **An International student who has lived on campus for one full year (2 semesters).**
- **Other**

**Exemptions will be made only for students who submit a Residency Requirement Waiver request and who can provide the requested documentation that verifies that they meet any of the above requirements by the posted deadline; approval will come from The Office of Housing and Residence Life.**

**Deadlines to submit a Housing Waiver Request Form:**

- **July 1st for the fall semester.**
- **December 1st for the spring semester.**

**Transfer, readmit, and new incoming students should speak with Housing and Residence Life staff if they believe they meet one or more of the exceptions to the residency requirement.**

**Averett does not provide student options for married or family housing. Our traditional housing options are unavailable to students entering Averett for the first time that are 23 years of age or older. Students enrolled part-time (less than 12 credit hours) are not eligible to reside on campus unless Housing and Residence Life approves. Any inquiries about Averett University’s residency requirement should be directed to the Office of Housing and Residence Life by emailing [hrl@averett.edu](mailto:hrl@averett.edu).**

### **35.2 - Off-Campus Housing Lottery**

**A limited number of qualifying students will be permitted to live off campus in the “Off-Campus Housing Lottery.” Only qualifying students will be eligible to receive off-campus approval in the lottery number assignment. In the interest of fairness to all, dishonesty in the application process will result in revoking off-campus lottery privileges.**

The following factors determine eligibility:

1. **Lottery Number Assignment:** In our effort to keep the process fair, Housing and Residence Life will be set up at a table in the Cafeteria in the spring semester (February), and students will be assigned a number. Numbers will be drawn at random.
2. **Class:** Students with 60-89 credit hours completed by the end of the current semester are eligible to participate.
3. **Approval:** Once entered into the off-campus housing lottery, students' credits will be validated and entered into a random selection. The student will be notified in March and asked to complete the off-campus housing waiver and select "Lottery Number Slot" as an option. In May, the student will provide Housing and Residence Life with your new off-campus address and contact information for your new landlord. Your lottery spot is forfeited, and another student will be selected.

### **35.3 - Occupancy**

Occupancy is required by the University's first day of classes. Rooms not claimed by this date may be reassigned unless the Dean of Students, or their designee, has granted permission for late arrival in writing. Any student who arrives late without prior notification must accept whatever room is assigned or will be assigned upon arrival. Early arrival to campus at the beginning of each semester, before your assigned check-in date, is not permitted unless you have prior written approval from the Dean of Students or their designee.

Campus housing closes at 10:00 am the morning of the last class day before a break and opens at 10:00 am on the day preceding the resumption of classes. Residence Halls and dining are closed during all break periods, including Thanksgiving, winter, and spring breaks. However, residents who wish to remain on campus during these break periods must request through the appropriate break application on the Housing Portal prior to the start of the break period. Students are encouraged to follow break information in the student handbook and work directly with their residence hall staff regarding opening and closing dates. Students are required to leave their residence halls within 24 hours of their last final examination or by hall closing, whichever comes first, unless the Assistant Director of Housing Operations, or their designee, explicitly authorizes an exception in writing. Rooms may be occupied ONLY by students to whom they are assigned. Rooms may not be sublet to any other person[s].

### **35.4 - Room Lockout**

If a student is locked out of their residential area, the student should contact Campus Safety and Security at 434-791-5888. A security officer will assist the student as soon as possible. When the security officer arrives at the student's room, the student must present picture identification (either before entering the room or immediately after entering if their ID is in the room). The security officer will complete a lock-out form stating that the student is responsible for a \$20.00 (minimum) fee. Under no circumstances will a student be allowed to enter a room where they do not reside.

### **35.5 - Windows/Balconies**

Nothing is to be hung or thrown out of the windows. A violation could result in disciplinary action. Furthermore, for safety reasons, no one is allowed to sit on windowsills, remove window screens, or endanger themselves by hanging out of windows or on balcony railings. Entry or exit through windows/ balconies is strictly prohibited, and violators will be referred to the Averett Conduct System. All items placed on balconies are subject to removal by the Housing and Residence Life staff if deemed unsafe. Items are not to be hung from or over railings on balconies. Balcony lights are not to be tampered with or obstructed in any way and should remain on when it is dark outside.

### **35.6 - Ghosting**

Ghosting occurs when students pay for a residence hall space but fail to move into their room. Suppose a student fails to pick up their keys by Drop/Add Day (the Friday of the whole week of classes each semester). In that case, Housing and Residence Life Office reserves the right to change their housing assignment to a space designated as “overflow” to open up further options for room changes. Should the ghosting resident decide to move into their area after a room assignment has been changed, they will be required to live in their newly assigned space until further accommodations become available.

### **35.7 - Laundry Facilities**

Laundry facilities are located in Main, Fugate, and each Averett Commons apartment unit. Students using these facilities should show consideration for others by removing laundry as soon as the cycle is completed. Only residential students living in campus housing may use laundry facilities. Non-residential students using campus laundry facilities will be subject to the conduct system and charged \$50 for each offense. Any problems with the washers and/or dryers in Main Complex or Fugate [i.e., a specific machine is not working] should be reported by scanning the QR code on the washer and/or dryer that needs service.

### **35.8 - Laundry Services**

Problems with washers/dryers in the Averett Commons should be reported by entering a work order ticket through our maintenance request system or, in an emergency, Security at 434-791-5888.

Students are encouraged to remain with their laundry. Use of the laundry facilities is at one’s own risk; the University does not assume responsibility for lost, stolen, or damaged items.

### **35.9 - Roommate Changes**

Having a roommate is part of the educational process of residence hall living. All efforts will be made to place students with a compatible roommate at the beginning of the year. All students are encouraged to enter this process with an open mind and take time to get to know a new roommate.

During room change, students may request a change of room. Students must talk with their Resident Assistant before setting up an appointment with a member of the Housing and Residence Life staff member, who will explain the procedures for a room change.

Students changing rooms/ apartments without approval from the Housing and Residence Life Office may be fined \$500.00 for non-compliance with the process and required to move their belongings back to their initially assigned room.

### **35.10 - Accommodations**

If students believe specific housing accommodations are warranted, they should register with the Disability Services Office in the Student Success Center. Accommodations are made on a space-available basis. Students will be required to have a completed Housing and Residence Life Accommodation Request form found at <https://www.averett.edu/wp-content/uploads/Housing-and-Residence-LifeAccommodation-Request.pdf>

### **35.11 - Consolidation**

If one of the occupants of a room moves or a room is not fully occupied, the student(s) who remain agree(s) to accept an assigned roommate(s) and/or to move to another room upon notification from the Housing and Residence Life. Housing and Residence Life will allow the remaining student to select a compatible roommate if desired. If the student is afforded this opportunity and does not select a roommate within 48 hours of the space being vacated, Housing and Residence Life will fill the vacancy either by consolidating assignments or assigning another student to the vacancy. Vacancies will be filled at the discretion of Housing and Residence Life. Residents who fail to consolidate within seven days of receiving the notice will automatically be charged and obligated to pay the private room rate or be moved from the space if the private space is not available.

### **35.12 - Food Services**

All residential students are required to purchase one of the meal plans offered to residential students. This contract will apply to the fall and spring academic year. Any unused meals are forfeited at the end of each semester. Unused meals are NOT refunded at the end of each semester. The Bonus/Jut's Bucks balance transfers from the fall to the spring semester. Any remaining balance at the end of the spring semester remits to the University and is not refunded. No exceptions will be granted. The purchaser of the Meal Plan agrees to comply with the rules and regulations of Averett University. The University is entitled to terminate this agreement without a refund if the purchaser is found to be in violation of the rules and regulations. Students who have purchased a meal plan must present their student ID in our café and dining hall to use their meals or Bonus/Jut's bucks. The meal plan payment schedule is the same as for tuition.

# Student Accountability Process

**The Dean of Students is responsible for the overall administration of the Student Accountability Process. The Vice President of Academic Affairs is responsible for academic violations.**

**Averett University views its role in the administration of discipline as one of both ensuring justice and providing an educational opportunity for the student. While it is intended that this approach protect the campus community by providing a system of discipline for those violating University rules and regulations, the system also encourages the growth and development of the student by supporting the practice of responsible behavior as it is related to living in a community of people. The educational approach infers a need for understanding and self-discipline in the student, as well as a respect for the rights and privileges of others. The focus of the conduct system is educational, preventive, corrective, and, as appropriate, punitive. Averett students shall, at all times and in all places during their enrollment, conduct themselves in a manner which reflects positively upon the University and complies with the Student Rules and Regulations of the University, whether on campus, off campus, or involved on campus activities, or representing the University in any function.**

- **Discipline is necessary and effective when applied consistently in a student's learning experience and/or for the protection of the community of which they are a member.**
- **When disciplinary action becomes necessary, that action must be handled expeditiously.**
- **The education of students concerning the rules and regulations of the University, emphasizing the need to abide by those rules in a community of people, is promoted during orientation to the University, in residence hall meetings, in the Student Handbook, in contact with faculty and staff, and Accountability hearings.**
- **In hearings involving students who are accused of violating University rules and regulations, consideration will be given to all information relevant to the case, and a fair process will be provided to ensure a just resolution.**

**Under normal conditions, the following principles, guidelines, and procedures prevail in dealing with violation(s) of the Community Standards and Policies of Averett (For academic violations, please refer to the Academic Policies section).**

## **I. Students' Rights**

- i. Any member of the University community who believes that a student has violated a University policy or regulation may file a complaint of the alleged violation with Campus Security, the Housing and Residence Life Office, or the Dean of Students Office. The latter shall decide whether there is sufficient cause for a formal charge and the initiation of conduct proceedings. Incidents reported to the Dean of Students Office will be documented and given to a University designated conduct officer. The accused student will be notified of the charge and a scheduled appointment with the Accountability officer. At this meeting, the Accountability officer assigned to the case will explain to the accused student the charge(s) against them.**
  
- ii. During the meeting, the student has the following rights:**
  - To be presumed not responsible for a violation until charges have been reviewed.**
  - To have a written statement of the charges.**
  - To have written notice of the date, time, and place of their Hearing and the opportunity to review a copy of the incident report.**
  - To have a fair and impartial hearing before a University Accountability Officer [SA Officer].**
  - To have the Accountability hearing postponed for a good cause [Request for postponement must be made no less than 24 hours before the scheduled Hearing and be written to the hearing officer assigned to the case].**
  - To hear the evidence.**
  - To present witnesses on their own behalf.**
  - To question witnesses present at the Hearing and/or to challenge all written statements presented at the Hearing.**
  - To speak on their own behalf.**
  - To be notified of the decision in writing for any conduct case.**
  
- iii. Hearings are closed meetings; the University will maintain the confidentiality of all information and decisions.**

## **II. Limits to Student Rights**

- i. In some situations, the Dean of Students, or their designee, may place students on immediate interim suspension. If this occurs, the student must leave campus immediately and is not eligible to return to campus until the incident resulting in the suspension decision has been resolved.**
  
- ii. Some incidents involving a violation of University policy are so severe that an Accountability Hearing [SA Officer or SAB] is not needed to determine that a student should no longer be part of the University community. Examples of policy violations where this may occur include, but are not limited to, possession of weapons on campus, distribution of illegal drugs, fighting, and threats [physical and/or verbal] to any member of the Averett University community [faculty, staff, students]. In these situations, the University President, Dean of Students, or the designee of either, may impose immediate suspension or expulsion from the University.**

A student wishing to appeal must send a letter to the Dean of Students within five days.

- iii. Additionally, any student arrested and taken into custody by local and/or federal law enforcement officers may be placed on interim suspension, at least through the remainder of the semester in which they are arrested.

### **III. Student Accountability (SA) Review & Incident Notification**

- i. Upon receipt of a report, the SA Officer will be responsible for gathering pertinent information regarding the incident and notifying the referred student(s) via University email of the nature of the incident and notification of scheduling of a Hearing.
- ii. Most incidents are automatically assigned to a formal accountability hearing with a conduct officer.

### **IV. Accountability Hearing**

- i. The Accountability Hearing, whether in person or through other electronic means, is a meeting with an SA Officer in which a student has the opportunity to discuss the accountability process the incident. In most cases, if they have committed the acts underlying the charge, students admit responsibility for violations in which they have been accused and accept the consequences of their actions.
- ii. When a student has been notified via University email of an Accountability Hearing, it is the student's responsibility to attend the meeting unless the student has a legitimate pre-authorized reason for missing the Hearing. Students may choose to have an advocate attend the Hearing for support purposes. The advocate must be a member of Averett University, such as a faculty or staff member. The advocate may not be an attorney. If the student chooses not to attend the Hearing, the Hearing will be held in the student's absence. The SA Officers will decide the case's outcome and, if necessary, assign appropriate sanctions.
- iii. It is important to remember that Averett is not a court of law. Unlike the criminal justice system, we do not have to determine responsibility for a policy violation "beyond a reasonable doubt." Instead, University officials utilize a preponderance of evidence when adjudicating a possible violation of University policy. This means that the SA officer will consider all the information and evidence available regarding a reported incident and decide the most probable course of events based on this information.
- iv. If a student admits responsibility for violations they have been charged with, the SA Officers will find the student responsible and assign appropriate sanctions.

- v. **If a student does not admit responsibility for violations they have been charged with, the SA Officer will determine whether the student is in violation. The SA Officer will use the information generated from investigating the incident, which may include, but is not limited to, reading reports, interviewing witnesses and/or others involved, and gathering other pertinent information to determine whether the student is found responsible.**
- A. **If the SA Officer determines that the student is not responsible, charges are dropped, and no sanctions are applied,**
  - B. **If the SA Officer determines that the student is responsible, the student will be found responsible, and the SA Officer will assign appropriate sanctions.**
  - C. **In limited circumstances, the SA Officer may determine that the student may have been found in the presence of a policy violation committed by another individual but not hold the student formally accountable for the violation. In these cases, the SA Officer will mark the student “Present at Incident,” issue a Statement of Concern in writing to the student, and close the case.**
  - D. **If the SA Officer determines additional evidence may become available at a different time after speaking with the student, the case will be held in remission and will be reheard at a later date.**
  - E. **After the Accountability Hearing, and if the sanction(s) are accepted, the SA Officer will document the outcome in an accountability letter to the student and close the case. A copy of the letter will be kept on file.**
  - F. **After the Accountability Hearing is complete and sanctions are assigned, if new evidence is made available that could not have been known during the Hearing, the student or the SA Officer may request a new Hearing to address the new evidence. The new evidence may or may not change the outcome of the original Hearing.**
  - G. **The SA Officers will follow up and review all sanctions to ensure proper completion.**
  - H. **A student found responsibly has a right to submit an appeal to the Student Accountability Board (SAB). See the Appeal process below.**
  - I. **SA Officers act as the original decision-maker for cases in which a student is charged with minor, major, or flexible policy violations as classified by the Office of the Dean of Students.**

## **V. Appeals**

### **I. Appeal Process**

- A. If found responsible, students have the right to submit a written appeal of the sanction decision made by a SA Officer within three business days of receiving the decision notification letter.**
- B. If an appeal is submitted, it must be submitted directly by the Accused Student and be based on the following:**
  - a. Appeals from an Accused Student based on the due process must outline how the University failed to follow the stated process for the adjudication of the charge and how that affected the decision.**
  - b. Appeals from an Accused Student based on new evidence must introduce evidence that was not available or accessible to the Accused Student at the time of the Hearing.**
- C. The Dean of Students or designee will review the Appeal submitted and determine if an appeal will be granted to the Accused Student based on these criteria. A request that does not meet these requirements will be denied.**
  - a. A request that does not meet these requirements will be denied.**
    - i. If the Accused Student submits an appeal and the Appeal is denied, in that case, the decision rendered at the Hearing will be considered final.**
  - b. A request that does meet these requirements will be reviewed.**
    - i. The SAB reviews sanctions resulting from the Hearing and will decide to:**
      - Uphold the sanction(s) given at the Accountability Hearing**
      - or**
      - Recommend different or altered sanction(s) for the Dean of Students to review.**
- D. After the review by the Dean of Students or designee, the SAB will notify the Accused Student of the outcome and the final decision.**

### **II. Student Accountability Board (SAB)**

- A. The Student Accountability Board shall consist of faculty, staff, and student members and are selected by the Dean of Students.**
- B. The Dean of Students may appoint additional members to the SAB as needed.**
- C. Appointment to the SAB shall be on an annual basis. Reappointment shall be made with consideration to the need for continuity.**
- D. The Office of the Dean of Students is responsible for the training of the Accountability Board.**
- E. The SAB reviews sanctions resulting from the Hearing and will decide to:**
  - a. Uphold the sanction(s) given at the Accountability Hearing or**
  - b. Recommend different or altered sanction(s) for the Dean of Students to review.**

The goal of the SAB when reviewing sanctions is to look for consistency, educational merit, and the reasons behind assigned sanction(s). If the SAB recommends a change of sanction(s) for a student, the new recommended sanction(s) would be submitted to the Dean of Students for review and decision. The Dean of Students may review the case file, the original sanction(s), and the recommended change(s) in determining the final sanction(s). After the Dean of Students reviews, the student will receive a letter documenting the outcome. A copy of the letter will be kept on file. The decision of the Dean of Students is final, and the case will be closed.

- F. If any member of the SAB serving on a particular case feels their previous contact or relationship with the students involved will prevent a fair decision from being rendered, the member must request that they not serve. In addition, upon receiving notification from the board members reviewing their case, an Accused Student may immediately request that a member serving on the SAB be excused if the student can show a bias on the part of the member. To make such a request, an Accused Student must contact the Dean of Students immediately, stating their reasons in writing. The Dean of Students or designee will review all submissions.**
- G. The decision to postpone a Hearing for any reason is at the discretion of the Dean of Students or designee.**
- H. In circumstances where multiple Accused Students in the same case appeal the decision of the SA Officer, the Accused Students will be given the option to have their cases reviewed together during the same Appeal or to have their cases reviewed separately. If Accused Students choose to have their cases heard separately, the same SAB will be used to make the decisions for all the Accused Students' cases. If applicable, decisions of responsibility and sanctioning will be made individually for each Accused Student by the members of the SAB.**
- I. A Hearing will generally be conducted in accordance with the procedures below:
  - a. The SAB members and participants are introduced.**
  - b. A SAB member presents the statement of the charges.**
  - c. Participants state any questions they have concerning rights or procedures.**
  - d. All information pertaining to the incident allegedly involving the Accused Student is provided to the Accountability Board.**
  - e. The board members may request further clarification regarding the sanction provided by the Accused Student, witnesses, or other involved parties if needed.
    - i. SAB will consider only the information introduced in the Accountability Hearing, Appeal, and/or case file.**
    - ii. SAB will deliberate in a closed session until a decision is made regarding the sanction.******
- J. In circumstances where the Accused Student waives their right to appeal the decision made at the Hearing, or if the Accused Student does not submit an appeal of the decision made at the Hearing within the timeline set by the procedures listed in the Student Handbook & Resource Guide; the Dean of Students will not review the decision made at the Hearing; the decision made at the Hearing will be considered final in these circumstances.**
- K. The University will maintain the confidentiality of all information and decisions.**

### **III. Sanctions**

- A. To maintain fairness in the assignment of sanctions for policy violations, charges have been classified as either major, minor, or flexible. Depending on the severity of the incident, a flexible violation can be classified as major or minor. Typically, major violations will carry more severe sanctions than minor violations. Therefore, the Office of the Dean of Students will classify a violation as either major or minor.**
- B. To balance the consistency in sanctioning, guidelines have been developed as a starting point for SA Officers and SAB to consider when determining a sanction for a student found responsible for a first-time violation. However, the totality of the evidence, the severity of the incident, previous case history, and the students' perspectives may result in the severity of the sanction being higher or lower than the guidelines listed below. Therefore, SA Officers or SAB can increase or decrease the severity of the sanction when making decisions in a case.**
- **Sanctions resulting from first minor policy violations typically include disciplinary probation and/or educational sessions.**
  - **Sanctions resulting from first-time major policy violations can include probation, educational session, fines, special assignments, special restrictions, deferred suspension, suspension or expulsion from housing, and suspension or expulsion from the University.**
  - **When classified as minor, sanctions resulting from first-time flexible policy violations typically include disciplinary probation and educational sessions.**
  - **When classified as major, sanctions resulting from first-time flexible policy violations can include Probation, educational session, fines, special assignments, special restrictions, deferred suspension, suspension or expulsion from housing, and suspension or expulsion from the University.**
  - **Minor Policy Violations included by not limited to the following:**
    - **Alcohol**
    - **Smoking (including Vaping)**
    - **Roommate Disagreement**
    - **Disruptive Conduct**
    - **Gambling**
    - **Health and Safety Violations**
    - **Noise**
  - **Major Policy Violations (examples)**
    - **Alcohol and Drugs in the same incident; repeated violations**
    - **Drug Violations**
    - **Failure to Comply with a Disciplinary Decision**
    - **Harassment and/or Bullying**
    - **Hazing**
    - **Interference with or Retaliation for Exercising or Participating in the Accountability Process**
    - **Sexual Misconduct**
    - **Theft**
    - **Assault, Physical Force, or Attempted Physical Force**
    - **Possession of Fireworks**
    - **Weapons**
    - **Arson**

- **Flexible Policy Violations (examples)**
  - **Computer Misuse**
  - **Damage, Attempted Damage, or Vandalism of Property**
  - **Disorderly Conduct**
  - **Drugs - Possession of Drug Paraphernalia**
  - **Falsification of Information**
  - **Fire Safety**
  - **Non-Compliance with an Official Request**
  - **Obscene Conduct**
  - **Responsibility for Guests**
  - **Trespassing**

**C. Multiple sanctions for violations of Accountability Community Standards and Residence Hall Policies may be applied. Sanctions include, but are not limited to:**

- **Statement of Concern:** This may be issued to students who are found in the presence of a policy violation committed by another person but are not held formally accountable for that violation.
- **Written Warning:** A written reprimand for violating Accountability Community Standards is intended to further educate a student about living in a community and not to have that student violate further policies.
- **Probation:** Probation is designed to acquaint students with their responsibilities as University community members. A student is expected to accept responsibility for their behavior. The student will be expected to avoid additional violations during the probation period.
- **Fines:** A fine may be assigned to students due to pet or fire policy infractions.
- **Educational Session or Experience:** Educational sanctions are assigned to encourage community responsibility development and a student's personal growth. Educational sanctions may include, but are not limited to, assessment for alcohol or drug abuse or addiction, educational service hours, attendance at personal growth workshops, specific programs, writing assignments, posters, and/or presentations.
- **Community Programs:** Sometimes, students will be referred to community programs to meet their needs. Examples of this include anger management programs or conflict resolution sessions.
- **University Housing Restriction:** Residence reassignment or restrictions on the type of housing where a student may live.
- **University Housing Suspension:** Suspension of a student from the residence hall for a specified period of time. This removal from the residence halls may allow students to complete classes while living elsewhere.

- **Deferred Suspension:** Students who have been held responsible for behavior that warrants a suspension, but where mitigating circumstances and additional sanctions may allow a student to remain in the community while these sanctions are being completed. Failure to meet any other expectations by the stated deadlines will lead to the immediate implementation of suspension without further Hearing. In addition, if a student is found responsible for any further University policy violations, at minimum, the student may automatically be recommended for immediate suspension for a minimum of one entire semester.
- **Suspension:** Suspension means that a student is dismissed from Averett. The Dean of Students will determine the period of suspension. The student may apply for readmission after a specified period of time and may return if their application is approved through the readmission process. A decision notification letter is sent via email and to a student's home address on file.
- **Expulsion:** Expulsion means that a student is permanently separated from the University. The University President, Dean of Students, or designee automatically reviews an expulsion decision. However, a student may write a statement on their behalf before the review. The information must be submitted within three days of the expulsion decision. Violations that may lead to expulsion include, but are not limited to, arson; assault, battery; intimidation; coercion; harassment; hazing; stalking; verbal abuse; drugs; theft; violations of federal, state, or local laws; weapons; and tampering with life safety equipment. Other violations may be deemed severe enough to warrant expulsion by the University President, Dean of Students, or designee. [ see "Limits to Student Rights" statement above]
- **Other Sanctions:** Other sanctions may be imposed for various violations. These actions will be reviewed by the Dean of Students or designee and may include anything deemed educational given specific circumstances.

#### **IV. Sanctions for Student Organizations**

- A. **Student organization violations of the Accountability Community Standards may be adjudicated through the Student Accountability Process. If organizations are found responsible for an infraction, sanctions typically will be issued in consultation with The Director of Student Involvement. An organization that has received sanctions for a policy violation may choose to have the Dean of Students review. Individuals within organizations may still face Student Accountability violations stemming from group or organization violations and may also individually go through the Student Accountability Process.**
- B. **Sanctions listed above may be imposed upon organizations. In addition, specific student organization sanctions may include:**
  - i. **Loss of New Member Class(es) – denied the opportunity to recruit for a specified period, usually not less than one entire semester.**
  - ii. **Deactivation of organization or loss of privileges, including University recognition, for a specified period of time.**

## **V. Interim Suspension**

- A. If the Dean of Students or designee determines that an individual's behavior is dangerous to the welfare of themselves, others, and/or property in the University community, immediate removal from campus is necessary. In that case, the Dean of Students or designee may implement an interim suspension, and the Dean of Students will notify the Vice President of Student Engagement. A student who is suspended on an interim basis must leave campus immediately. The student will not be allowed to return until the outcome of a scheduled appointment with their SA Officer. Students on interim suspension are encouraged to communicate with faculty to continue with missed work while absent from campus, especially in the rare case where an investigation may take longer than two days.**
- B. In extremely limited circumstances, the Dean of Students or designee may allow a student to remain on campus during an interim suspension but be placed on a University Restriction and be banned from certain buildings/areas/activities on campus until the scheduled appointment with the SA Officer.**

## **VI. Student Accountability Records**

- A. If a student has been expelled or permanently separated from Averett, the records will be a part of the academic and student accountability records. These records will be kept permanently.**

## **VII. Interpretation and Revision**

- A. Any question of interpretation regarding the Student Accountability Process shall be referred to the Dean of Students or designee for final determination.**
- B. The system of Student Accountability shall be reviewed every three years under the direction of the Dean of Students or designee.**

# Academic Policies

Averett makes every effort to assist students in understanding their rights and responsibilities during their enrollment. The institution reserves the right to add, modify or remove an academic policy at any time and students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with all updated policies and procedures.

All academic policies can be found [here](#).



# Services and Resources

## AVERETT BOOKSTORE

Averett University Bookstore proudly serves the students, faculty, staff, alums, and community. The primary goal is to ensure students can obtain the required course materials at reasonable prices. The bookstore also provides many other items to support academic careers and school spirit. Please stop by the bookstore during the business hours.

**For more information:**  
354 W. Main Street  
Danville, VA 24541  
Webpage: AU Bookstore

## AVERETT CENTRAL

Averett Central Student Services is a “one-stop shop” providing superior student/staff interaction and services.

Averett Central is the place where students can go to accomplish the “business” of being an Averett student. Here, students can request, receive, and retrieve the wealth of student information they need without running all over campus to do it. Students can also get answers to their questions online.

This centralized service center is a point of contact for assistance and problem resolution and a place where students will go to find friendly faces whose sole purpose is to help.

**For more information:**  
Main Hall, First Floor  
Webpage: AU Averett Central

## CAMPUS MAIL CENTER

Averett University Campus Mail Center is located on the ground level of Main Hall. Correspondence to students must include their mailbox number to ensure delivery. Please see an example of how mail should be addressed to Averett Students:

Student Name  
Averett University  
420 West Main Street  
Danville, VA 24541

**For more information:** Main Hall, Room 116

## CAMPUS SAFETY AND SECURITY

Campus Safety and Security officers are on duty around the clock, 365 days a year, and can be reached at 434-791-5888 [ext. 1-5888].

**For more information:**

Galesi Family Student Success Center (SSC)/Bishop Hall

## CENTER FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & CAREER COMPETITIVENESS

Averett's CCECC offers a wide range of student services under one roof: career development [internships, resume review, mock job interviews, employment opportunities]; academic service-learning; volunteerism activities; study abroad information; Averett Bonner Leaders; Averett 110 [first-year experience course]; academic advising; and Averett's Cougar Cares program [textbook assistance, hygiene supplies; professional interview attire, emergency food supplies].

**For more information:**

204 Woodland Drive

434-791-7212

Webpage: AU Center for Community Engagement and Career Competitiveness

## CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SERVICES & CULTURAL AWARENESS

The Center for International Student Services and Cultural Awareness (CISSCA) plays a significant role in helping our campus community develop global awareness. In addition, CISSCA is committed to promoting opportunities, services, resources, and experiences for all students through cultural events and activities.

**For more information:**

Student Center, Suite 417

Webpage: AU Center for International Student Services & Cultural Awareness

## COMPUTER LABS

Computer labs can be found in the following locations:

- Frith 109
- Frith 108 (Mac)
- Frith 207
- Danville 110
- The Library
- The Student Center
- The Galesi Family Student Success Center

Labs are open to all currently enrolled students during the hours of operation for the given building.

## COUNSELING SERVICES

Counseling Services offers free and confidential services to help all enrolled students. Our services are designed to help students understand themselves better, create and maintain healthy relationships, improve their academic performance, and make satisfying career and life choices. In addition, for more intensive or specialized care is needed, we will assist with making referrals to healthcare providers in the community.

For more information:

Galesi Family Student Success Center (SSC)/Bishop Hall

Phone Number: 434-791-5624

To make an appointment, please email [counseling@averett.edu](mailto:counseling@averett.edu)

Webpage: AU Counseling Services

## COUGAR MEAL PLANS

All residential students are required to select a meal plan. Various meal plan options are available to meet the dining needs of our students. Meal plans may be changed during the drop/add period for classes at the beginning of each semester. After the drop/add period, your meal plan selection becomes final and may not be changed. The Meal plan period ends on the last day of exams each semester. Students who come to campus early or need to stay late may have to pay out of pocket for meals outside the meal plan period.

- **Plan A: Unlimited Meals** – For students who make eating a social event. This plan is ideal for students who eat at least three meals a day during the week, brunch and dinner on weekends, plus an occasional snack in between. IDs must be swiped each time the student enters the café, and because they have unlimited meals, students with this plan are not allowed to use their plan to allow guests entry into the café.
- **Plan B: 210 meals/semester** – Students with a medium appetite might do well with this plan. Students can enjoy approximately 15 meals per week on campus. In addition, this plan allows students to supplement their café meals with a meal from our other campus eatery or enjoy one of the many restaurant options convenient to campus.
- **Plan C: 105 meals/semester** – This plan is for moderate eaters. Students who tend to eat one meal daily and the occasional snack or plan to take most of their meals off campus will find this plan suits their needs.
- **Commuter Plan: 50 meals/semester**- Commuters may purchase this plan in addition to the above plans.

## HOUSING & RESIDENCE LIFE

The Department of Housing and Residence Life works collaboratively to create open, welcoming communities for all residential students. Residents are empowered to engage their potential as scholars and leaders through self-governance and participation in residential activities and leadership.

From incoming first years and returning undergraduates to transfer students, residents encounter inclusive environments supporting the University's academic, cultural, and social goals.

**For more information:**  
Student Center, Suite 424  
rlife@averett.edu  
Webpage: AU Housing & Residence Life

## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES (ITS)

ITS is here to assist students, faculty, and staff navigate the various aspects of technology on campus. For general information about the IT Department, the Acceptable Use Policy, and other useful links, please click [here](#) or the Virtual Helpdesk by clicking [here](#).

**For more information:**  
420 W. Main Street  
Danville, VA 24541  
Danville/ Davenport Hall  
434-791-5720  
Webpage: AU Information Technology  
Web Support

## MARY B. BLOUNT LIBRARY

The Mary B. Blunt Library serves the educational and research needs of Averett students, faculty, staff, and the community. The library is located at 344 West Main Street.

**For more information:**  
Webpage: AU Library

## SPIRITUAL LIFE

**For more information:**  
Bishop Hall, First Floor  
Webpage: AU Spiritual Life

## STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES

Student Health Services is a walk-in clinic, open Monday through Friday, with no appointments necessary. The clinic is staffed by a Registered Nurse (RN) who collaborates with a local physician overseeing clinic operations. In addition, the RN works with students individually to ensure the student's healthcare needs are being met.

Common services include treatment of cold symptoms, seasonal allergies, first aid, vital assessment, allergy injections, and testing (COVID-19, Flu, Strep, Mono, and Pregnancy). No additional fees are charged for visits or testing provided in the clinic. All services are covered under the yearly Health Services Fee.

**For more information:**

Galesi Family Student Success Center (SSC)/Bishop Hall

Bishop Hall

434-791-5824

health@averett.edu

Webpage: AU Student Health Services

## STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES

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**For more information:**

Galesi Family Student Success Center (SSC)/Bishop Hall

Bishop Hall

434-791-5824

health@averett.edu

Webpage: AU Student Health Services

## STUDENT ID CARDS

All students must have an identification card. Cards must be carried out and presented promptly when directed by University officials. This ID card will be used when checking out library books, cashing checks, making bookstore charges, eating in the dining hall, using University facilities, and attending University functions. The University reserves the right to charge a student a replacement fee of \$10.00 for lost, stolen, misplaced, or damaged cards.

## STUDENT INVOLVEMENT

Student Involvement structures a community of learners and inspires the growth of each student by facilitating extracurricular and co-curricular programs that support leadership development, community involvement, engagement, personal empowerment, teamwork, and service.

**For more information:**

Student Center, 4th Floor

[studentengagement@averett.edu](mailto:studentengagement@averett.edu)

Webpage: AU Student Involvement

## STUDENT SUCCESS CENTER

The Student Success Center (SSC) is a full-service learning support unit designed to respond to the diverse needs of all students by providing support services and resources to help successfully navigate educational pathways.

SSC provides an array of student support services that include:

- Success Coaching
- Disability and Accessibility Services
- Certified Peer and Professional Tutoring
- Certified Writing Support
- Testing Support

The Student Success Center welcomes all students needing information and/or services to ensure academic success. Assistance is available by appointment or walk-in basis.

**For more information:**

Galesi Family Student Success Center (SSC)/Bishop Hall

Bishop Hall

[studentsuccess@averett.edu](mailto:studentsuccess@averett.edu)

## TRANSPORTATION

### **Cougar Express**

Averett's Cougar Express offers free shuttle service from the Main Campus to the North and Riverview Campuses. The Cougar Express operates Monday – Friday when classes are in session. The shuttle stops in front of Jut's Café on Main Campus, at the North Campus Grant Center classroom entrance, and the main entrance of the Riverview Campus. The Cougar Express schedule is built around the class schedule each semester.

While getting students to class is the primary function of the Cougar Express, transportation to Wal-Mart, Piedmont Mall, and Providence Family & Sports Medicine may be arranged through the Dean of Students Office when the shuttles are in service by calling 434-791-5620.

### **Airport Shuttles**

Students who need transportation to or from the Greensboro (GSO) or Raleigh-Durham (RDU) airports should contact Tammy Jackson at 434-791-5620 at least seven business days prior to the travel date. Students are encouraged to complete this process as soon as possible to ensure that drivers and vans are available on the travel date. Although every effort is made to provide transportation, requests received less than one week prior to travel is not guaranteed.



**Main Campus**

420 West Main Street, Danville, VA 24541  
Phone: (434) 791-5600  
1-800- AVERETT

**North Campus**

707 Mount Cross Road, Danville, VA 24541  
Phone: (434) 791-5700  
1-800- AVERETT

[www.averett.edu](http://www.averett.edu)

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