

# COVENANT COLLEGE

## Standards of Conduct

[www.covenant.edu/studenthandbook](http://www.covenant.edu/studenthandbook)

*Students must conduct themselves in a way which reflects a commitment to holy living: doing what the Bible requires, abstaining from what the Bible forbids, and carefully discerning the will of God in every area of life. In addition, the College believes that there are some practices which, though they may not necessarily go against specific biblical teachings, are not in the best interest of others in the community. Students are expected to encourage each other to live according to these standards. For this reason, students who are present when behavior occurs that violates the standards may be found responsible for supporting the behavior.*

- Students at Covenant are to practice all the virtues taught in the Scriptures such as: self-discipline, modesty, patience and honesty and are expected to worship in a local church regularly.
- Students are also required to abstain from all activities which violate Biblical teachings such as: theft, drunkenness, slanderous or profane language, all forms of dishonesty including cheating, and sexual sins (such as premarital sex, adultery, homosexual behavior and the use or possession of obscene or pornographic material). Students must reject all sinful attitudes such as greed, jealousy, pride, lust and prejudice against those of a different race, gender, socio-economic status, etc.
- Additionally, students are to use wisdom and Christ-like discretion in the application of Biblical principles to decisions regarding all areas of life such as: the involvement with various forms of media, all non-college organizations, social interaction, and the physical expression of intimacy in relationships. When students are off campus, they should select places of business, organizations, or events that would promote and support the Standards of Conduct. Students are expected to use discretion by avoiding events that are not primarily for Christ-like edification and social interaction. Students should avoid, and encourage one another to avoid, dancing in places of business, events or organizations that primarily exist to serve alcohol, encourage lewd behavior or inappropriate physical intimacy and/or sexual behavior.
- The Scriptures call us to obey the authorities which have been placed over us in the civil government. All students are required to uphold local, state and federal law except on the rare occasions when compliance with the civil authority may be in conflict with the Scriptures. Students violating any civil law such as: possession of illegal substances, underage drinking, illegal possession of

firearms, physical or verbal harassment, gambling, copyright violations, illegal entry, the possession, sale and use of fireworks, etc., may be referred to the civil authorities for prosecution, and may also be subject to disciplinary action by the College.

- The College has established rules and guidelines with which all students are required to comply whenever they are on campus. Most of these are outlined in the Residence Hall Manual which includes guidelines for quiet study hours in the residence halls and safety guidelines such as no firearms and/or open flames on campus without expressed permission from one of the resident directors or a student dean. Students are also required to obey rules set by other various departments including, but not limited to the Library and Technology Services, and must comply with all safety and parking guidelines outlined by Facilities Management.
- Students are prohibited at all times -- whether they are on or off the campus -- from the possession and use of alcohol and/or tobacco. The only exceptions to this policy are:
  1. When students are away from the College community during official College breaks,
  2. When students are under the authority of their parents or their church,
  3. In the extraordinary circumstance on a trip to a foreign culture where to refuse a single, ceremonial drink would be construed as rude by the host,
  4. For students who are at least 25 years of age or married and are living off campus in non-college housing. These students may never possess or use alcohol or drugs on campus, nor off campus in the presence of students still under these restrictions.

In each of these exceptions, the College does not permit students to violate biblical directives or civil authorities by getting drunk or by drinking under the legal age. Students who violate these rules may still be subject to discipline by the College. Additionally, students may not come to campus exhibiting any discernible signs of alcohol or tobacco use, even if the usage occurred in the presence of the student's parents or church.

- Students found in violation of these Standards of Conduct will receive disciplinary action from the college. The College recognizes that some breaches of the Standards of Conduct are best handled through punitive discipline, some by extended counseling or involvement with an outside agency or church and others by informal admonishment. The College reserves the right to handle each situation in the manner which it deems to be most effective for the correction and development of the individual(s) involved, as well as in the best interest of the College community.

***These Standards of Conduct apply from the first day of residency or moving personal belongings into residence, and/or first day of classes, which ever comes first, to the last day of residency, the last class and/or the last academic function for the term, whichever comes last.***