

2024-2025 Expedited COD Process for “Time, Place, and Manner” Violations

The conflict in the Middle East following the events of October 7, 2023, spurred an increase in protests and demonstrations on the MIT campus during the last academic year. Many of these protests and demonstrations did not comply with MIT’s “time, place, and manner” rules for free expression.

For the 2024-2025 Academic year MIT has clarified its [rules](#) for conducting protests and demonstrations on the MIT campus, and those rules have been clearly communicated to [students](#) and the broader [MIT community](#).

Given the volume of complaints received last year relating to protests and demonstrations, MIT has determined that establishing an expedited process for resolving complaints of violations of MIT’s time, place, and manner rules by students and student organizations will ensure a swift, effective, and consistent review and adjudication of these complaints.

Pursuant to [Section II.G.](#) of the Committee on Discipline (“COD”) Rules, the Chair of the COD has established the following expedited process for resolving complaints of violations of time, place, and manner rules, which includes delegating authority to an Ad Hoc Panel of the COD as further described below.

The Ad Hoc Panel will consist of the Chair of the COD and two additional COD members. The Senior Associate Dean for Student Conduct & Community Standards or designee may serve as an ex-officio member as described in COD Rules [Section V.K.](#)

Expedited COD Process for Time, Place, and Manner Violations

Administrative Resolution by the Chair of the COD and the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards (“OSCCS”)

- OSCCS will review each complaint to determine if it alleges a violation of MIT’s time, place, and manner rules.
- If OSCCS determines that the complaint alleges a violation of MIT’s time, place, and manner rules, OSCCS will provide written notice of the complaint and request to meet with the accused student(s) and/or individual leaders of an accused student organization (the “respondent”) for their response. The respondent(s) will be required to meet with OSCCS within one day of receiving their notice letter. Respondents will initially not be given an option to submit a written statement, but will be permitted to respond during the meeting with OSCCS.
- Following the meeting with the respondent, the Chair and OSCCS may resolve any complaint of time, place, and manner rules violations through an administrative resolution as set forth in COD Rules [Section VII.](#) Administrative resolutions are final and not subject to appeal.

Resolution by Ad Hoc Panel

- If, after reviewing the complaint or meeting with the respondent, OSCCS determines that a respondent has repeatedly violated MIT’s time, place, and manner rules and/or the alleged violation is severe enough to warrant possible probation with transcript notation, suspension, expulsion, or degree revocation for individual students or suspension of recognition, revocation

of recognition, or loss of residence for student organizations, OSCCS will refer the case to the Ad Hoc Panel for resolution.

- OSCCS will provide written notice to the respondent that the complaint is being referred to the Ad Hoc Panel for resolution and give the respondent an opportunity to submit a written response to the complaint within three business days. The respondent can also submit written witness statements or any other documentary evidence that they believe is relevant within three business days of receiving the notice.
- Upon receipt of the written response and any other information submitted by the respondent, the Ad Hoc Panel can choose to resolve the complaint as follows:
 - Administrative resolution, in which case all sanctions other than probation with transcript notation, suspension, expulsion, and degree revocation for individual students and suspension of recognition, revocation of recognition, and loss of residence for student organizations may be assigned. Administrative resolutions by the Ad Hoc Panel are final and not subject to appeal.
 - An Ad Hoc Panel meeting, as described below, if the panel determines that the alleged violation is severe enough to warrant possible probation with transcript notation, suspension, expulsion, or degree revocation for individual students or suspension of recognition, revocation of recognition, or loss of residence for student organizations.
- If the Ad Hoc Panel chooses to resolve the case through a meeting, the following process will apply:
 - The Ad Hoc Panel will schedule a meeting with the respondent as soon as possible. In general, the meeting will be held via Zoom.
 - The respondent will be given an opportunity to present a statement and answer questions from the Ad Hoc Panel. The respondent can also submit any further written witness statements or documentary evidence that they believe is relevant no less than three business days before the meeting.
 - The Ad Hoc Panel is permitted, but not required, to meet separately with the complainant or any witnesses that are identified by the complainant or respondent. The panel may, but is not required to, follow up with the respondent to clarify any information obtained from the complainant or any witnesses.
 - After meeting with the respondent (and, if applicable, the complainant and any witnesses), the Ad Hoc Panel will make a determination, using the preponderance of evidence standard, whether the respondent violated MIT's time, place, and manner rules, and if so, the appropriate sanction. The full range of sanctions is available after an Ad Hoc Panel meeting.

- If the Ad Hoc Panel issues a sanction of suspension, expulsion, or degree revocation for individual students or revocation of recognition or loss of residence for student organizations, the respondent can appeal in accordance with COD Rules [Section XII](#).

Miscellaneous

- In all cases, the respondent will be given access to all of the evidence available to the Chair/OSCCS and/or the Ad Hoc Panel.
- Respondents will have the right to have an advisor as set forth in COD Rules [Section V.B](#).
- The Chair/OSCCS and the Ad Hoc Panel are permitted under this expedited process to find individual students who serve as leaders of student organizations individually responsible – and impose individual sanctions – for time, place, and manner rules violations committed in the name of their organizations.
- If the complaint alleges violations of both time, place, and manner rules and other MIT policies, OSCCS and the Chair can determine, in their discretion, to resolve the time, place, and manner rules violations through this expedited process and refer the remainder of the complaint to the standard COD process (including referring complaints of discrimination and discriminatory harassment to [IDHR](#)), or refer the entire complaint to the standard process.
- As needed, the Chair/OSCCS and/or the Ad Hoc Panel may consult with the [Committee on Academic Freedom and Campus Expression](#).
- This expedited process will remain in effect until the Chair determines that it is no longer necessary.