

GROUNDS FOR DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS and PENALTIES

(Codes of Conduct)

17. FIREARMS, WEAPONS, CHEMICALS, OR EXPLOSIVES

In accordance with the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning Policies and Bylaws 1106—Firearms policy, Alcorn State University prohibits the possession of pistols, firearms or other weapons in any form by any person other than duly authorized law enforcement officials, institutional security officials and other authorized persons. “Authorized persons” includes those individuals authorized by applicable law and by the institutional executive officer or his/her designee. “Authorized persons” also includes those who have in their possession a valid, unexpired state firearms permit with the “Instructor Certified” (IC) sticker on the back, or the equivalent permit issued by a state with a reciprocity agreement with Mississippi. Even so, those possessing such permits are not permitted to possess firearms in any institutional facilities and/or areas that are deemed non-public. Students and employees are not authorized to possess firearms on institutional property or at institutional off-campus events regardless of possession of firearms permits.

Also, section 97-37-17 of the Mississippi Code 1972 makes it a felony for any student to possess or carry, whether openly or concealed any firearm on University property.

Students found in possession of a weapon may be subject to arrest and confiscation of the weapon. Additionally, students shall immediately be suspended from classes pending a disciplinary hearing. A student who wishes to have access to a weapon for hunting or other legal purposes must make arrangements to store the weapon with the University Police Department.

A weapon is any dangerous instrument if it is used, attempted or threatened to be used, or is readily capable of being used to cause death or serious physical injury. It shall be a felony for a student to possess or carry, whether openly or concealed any gun, rifle, pistol or other firearm of any kind, or any dynamite cartridge, bomb, mace, grenade, mine, or powerful explosive on educational property. It shall be a misdemeanor for a student to possess or carry, whether openly or concealed, any BB gun, air rifle, air pistol, bowie knife, dirk, dagger, slingshot, leaded cane, switchblade knife, blackjack, metallic knuckles, razor and razor blades (except solely for personal shaving), and any sharp-pointed or edged instrument except instructional supplies, unaltered nail files and clips and tools used solely for preparation of food, instruction and maintenance on educational property.

Failure to comply with University policy or state law may subject one to criminal liability, removal from campus or campus events or facilities, and/or disciplinary sanctions under the University conduct system.

PENALTY: Suspension; Probation; Indefinite Suspension; Expulsion

Non-Public Spaces” are spaces that are not open to ordinary citizens or the general public. At Alcorn State University these spaces include all academic buildings, administrative buildings, residence halls, convocation and recreational spaces designated for use by Alcorn State University students, faculty, and staff, Health and Disability Services (Rowan Hall), Campus Safety Center, and the Facilities Management Center. Individuals, including those holding a valid unexpired state firearms permit with the “Instructor Certified” (IC) sticker, may not carry firearms or other weapons into the aforementioned spaces.

See Student Handbook “Firearms, Weapons, Chemicals, Or Explosives.”

See also Mississippi Institute of Higher Learning (IHL) Policy 1106.

See also Section 97-37-17 of the Mississippi Code, which could make it a felony for any student to possess or carry, whether openly or concealed any firearm on university property.

For more information, contact the University Police Department.