A support person is any person who a student wishes to accompany and/or support them in the Student Conduct process. Support people may be another student, a parent, sibling, attorney, family friend, University staff or faculty member or any other person who has agreed to support the student. Even when a student identifies a support person to University staff, a privacy waiver must be filled out by the student prior to University involvement of the support person.

1. In all Conduct meetings, whether or not a support person is present, the primary conversation shall be with the student. The student is expected to speak on their own behalf. The Support person’s role is intended to facilitate the student in doing so, and not as representation of the student.

2. The Support person’s role is to consult with the student. This may include taking notes for the student, conferring with the student in ways which will not disrupt the progress of the review, assisting the student in keeping documentation organized, and generally ensuring that the student presents all pertinent facts. The support person should not expect to represent the student during the Conduct process, even if the student is under the age of 18. Prior to the review the support person may provide valuable assistance by helping the student prepare and clarify what they wish to say, establish what information is important, identify questions the student may wish to ask, and anticipate questions to which the student may be asked to respond during the review.

3. Support people and witnesses play distinctly different roles in the conduct process. Therefore, a witness should not expect to serve as a support person or vice versa. Witness statements will not be accepted from a support person who has been present during other interviews.

4. Support people are cautioned that their participation in the Conduct process in a manner that inhibits the student’s direct interaction with the Conduct Officer may be detrimental to the student’s case and may result in the support person’s exclusion from the meeting.

5. The student’s support person may be a licensed or practicing attorney. If the student’s support person is a practicing attorney, they must respect that the Conduct Process is an administrative process distinct from a legal process. The Conduct process is designed to be part of the educational experience students participate in at UC Santa Cruz. The Conduct Process does not follow the formal rules of evidence and procedure attorneys may encounter in court settings. The educational context and purpose of this proceeding require that an attorney play a different and more limited role than in the courtroom. Support people with questions regarding how to best support a student during the conduct process are encouraged to contact the conduct officer directly prior to a meeting with the Support person and the student.
Student Conduct, University of California, Santa Cruz
Support Person Agreement

By signing this Student Conduct Agreement ("Agreement"), I agree that I understand the role of the Support person is defined in the Guidelines for Student’s Support person.

As referenced in the Guidelines, a Support person is any individual accompanying a Complainant, Respondent, or Witness in the Student Conduct Process that advises the participant on university policy and procedures. That person may be present, but may not serve as a witness, and may not speak on behalf of the Complainant, Respondent, or Witness or otherwise interrupt proceedings at any point.

A Support person may overhear, learn or be given access to confidential student information (e.g., academic records, contact information, and health information). By signing this Agreement, the Support Person agrees that he/she/they will not copy, distribute, post, alter, or make public any such information, and understands that this obligation continues after the completion of the investigation and during any appeal process as outlined in the UC Santa Cruz Student Policies and Regulations Handbook.

Further, I understand that should the Support Person fail to adhere to his/her/their role as defined under the Procedures, the Support Person may be excluded from meetings and proceedings.

____________________  ______________________
Student Signature     Student Print Full Name

____________________  ______________________
Support Person Signature  Support Person Print Full Name

____________________
Support Person Contact

____________________
Date