

**REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
COMMUNITY STANDARDS**

COMMITMENT

We commit ourselves to the historical gospel of our Triune God.

John 17:3

As a community of believers devoted not only to the accumulation of knowledge but also to the development of practical ministry skills, a starting point for our fellowship is a commitment to the historic Christian faith. This includes acknowledging the only true God to be one God in three distinct persons and the belief that eternal life is a gift of God received by faith alone through the righteousness of Christ alone.¹

HONOR

We honor one another in our relationships and work for Christ's glory.

Romans 12:10

Further, all Christians are called by God to a life of holiness. At the Seminary, where we train those who are preparing for service in Christ's church, we are especially concerned to be above reproach in our conduct. In our study and in our relationships with one another, we seek to be faithful, wise, and filled with the fruit of the Spirit.

ACCOUNTABILITY

*We promote healthy communication
to achieve accountability in the Spirit's strength.*

Galatians 5:25

We are committed to holding one another accountable in matters of Christlikeness and spiritual maturity, seeking to encourage and strengthen one another in a spirit of meekness.² All members of the community—faculty, staff, students, board members— are called to respect one another in regard to diversity of denomination, ethnicity, and culture.³ All members are expected to refrain from behavior which Scripture forbids, including sexual misconduct (sexual relations outside of marriage, sexual harassment, sexual abuse, same-gender sexual relations, use of pornography, and any other sexual or gender deviation contrary to God's Word),⁴ theft,⁵ academic or personal dishonesty,⁶ substance abuse,⁷ misuse of property,⁸ threats to the health and safety of others⁹ physical or emotional abuse,¹⁰ financial irresponsibility,¹¹ disrespect,¹² or violation of campus regulations.¹³ These behaviors damage or even destroy true fellowship and the spiritual vitality which Christ purchased with His own blood.¹⁴

The Seminary may deny admission, admonish, warn, place on probation, suspend, expel, withhold a degree, deny employment, terminate employment, or take other action in response to beliefs or personal conduct outside of these Standards.

- 1 WLC Q 8 to Q11, Q70
 - 2 WLC Q 122 – Matt. 22:39; Matt. 7:12, Gal. 6:1-2
 - 3 WLC Q 126 – Eph. 5:21; 1 Pet. 2:17; Rom. 12:10
 - 4 WLC Q 137 to Q 139 – 1 Thess. 4:4; Job 31:1; Matt. 5:28; SHICB
 - 5 WLC Q 140 to Q 142 – Ps. 15:2; Rom. 13:7; Phil. 2:4
 - 6 WLC Q 140 to Q 142 – Ps. 15:2; Rom. 13:7; Phil. 2:4
 - 7 WLC Q 134 to Q 136 – Eph. 4:26-27; Eph. 5:28-29; Luke 21:34; 1 John 3:15
 - 8 WLC Q 140 to Q 142
 - 9 WLC Q 134 to Q 136 – Eph. 4:26-27; Eph. 5:28-29; Luke 21:34; 1 John 3:15
 - 10 WLC Q 134 to Q 136 – Eph. 4:26-27; Eph. 5:28-29; Luke 21:34; 1 John 3:15
 - 11 WLC Q 140 to Q 142 – Ps. 15:2; Rom. 13:7; Phil. 2:4
 - 12 WLC Q 124 to Q 133
 - 13 WLC Q 124 to Q 128 – Eph. 5:21; 1 Pet. 2:17; Rom. 12:10
 - 14 WCF 26.1, 26.2 – 1 John 1:3; Heb. 10:24-25
- WLC – Westminster Larger Catechism
Q – Question
WCF – Westminster Confession of Faith