# GRADUATE STUDENT CONFLICT RESOLUTION

Conflict can occur between the graduate student and the advisor or between a student and others due to a difference in communication style and/or misunderstanding about expectations.

**Graduate Student Conflict Resolution Resources**

- Thesis/Dissertation Committee Members
- Office of Student Advocacy
- Counseling Services

**GRADUATE STUDENT**

The graduate student should attempt to resolve the conflict with their Advisor. Resources are available to guide discussions with the advisor. If a resolution is not identified, the student is encouraged to seek mediation from their department/program administration.

**ADVISOR** → **Conflict Resolved** → **NO** →

**YES** → **END**

**Who are your Department / Program Administration?**

- Graduate Program Director or Program Staff Administrator
- Department Chair
- Associate Dean
- School/College Dean

**DEPARTMENT/ PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION**

The graduate student should start with their graduate program director or staff administrator and then consult other school/college administration,in the order shown, as appropriate.

School/college graduate program structure may vary. Please see your school/college administration for contacts in your program.

**Conflict Resolved** → **YES** → **END**

**NO**

**GRADUATE SCHOOL** →

- **Graduate School Dean**
- **Admissions and Academic Standards Committee**

If the student issue cannot be resolved at the school/college level, the issue could be escalated to the Graduate School for support and/or appeal. Please see the graduate appeal process in the Graduate Bulletin.

**Conflict Resolved** → **YES** → **END**

## Other Reporting Resources

- Title IX
- Accessibility
- Discrimination Policy
- Office of the Ombudsperson
- Research Misconduct
- Student Conduct and Academic Integrity

VCU Graduate School