



**PRESIDIO**  
GRADUATE SCHOOL

Student Handbook  
2013 - 2014



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## Welcome

This Handbook has been compiled by the Academic Affairs Department to acquaint you with the resources of the School, its academic programs, regulations, and the responsibilities that come with being a member of the Presidio Community.

This handbook can be accessed on Presidio's website and in the Resources section of eLearn. This is a resource that should be referred to as the need arises. It is the goal of Academic Affairs to assist you during your time here as a student. We invite you to visit with any member of our team if you have questions about the School or its administrative procedures.

The School is proud that the people you will meet here comprise a very diverse mix of cultures and backgrounds from around the country and the globe. Our commitment to sustainable development, in our curriculum and in our day-to-day practices, contributes immensely to the academic and social fabric of daily life here. Mutual respect among colleagues of diverse social, religious, and ethnic values is expected. Beyond that, however, we hope that you contribute and embrace the sustainability ethic and the mission, vision, and values of Presidio Graduate School.

## President's Message

Dear New Presidio Student:

Welcome to Presidio Graduate School! We enter our eleventh year as one of the world's first and leading sustainability graduate schools, with over 600 active, engaged alumni helping build the field and transform the way we live, work and play.

You are here because you want to be a leader. And you want to change the world. You seek the skills, knowledge and courage that will allow you to do both. At Presidio, this is our mission. We are here to support you fully on your professional path because you are the means by which we affect change. You are our mission!

You're joining a singular community of entrepreneurs, managers, policy makers and thought leaders, one that has quickly made its mark. It includes our faculty, alumni, administration, board members and partners, each of whom is dedicated to the same purpose: building a more just, prosperous and sustainable world, now and for the future. This community is an exceptional resource; it is here for you to engage and explore. We also encourage you to discover the host of student and career development opportunities we offer and are constantly expanding, including student government and clubs, workshops and conferences, networking events, speaker series, mentorship programs and business/policy plan competitions.

Please take time to review this catalog to understand the policies, procedures, and guidelines designed to ensure a safe and supportive academic environment. We welcome your questions and feedback at any time. Please do not hesitate to contact our Student Affairs and Career Development staff or faculty via e-mail or phone at (415) 561-6555.

On behalf of all of us at Presidio—faculty, staff, alumni and board—we wish you a fulfilling and inspiring academic year. I look forward to meeting each of you this fall.

Sincerely,



William Shutkin  
President and CEO  
Richard M. Gray Fellow in Sustainability Practice

## Overview

Presidio's signature innovation to date is the integration of sustainability into every course in our curriculum. But Presidio also fundamentally believes that we cannot effectively teach sustainable management principles and practices without modeling them in our academic culture, strategic partnerships, program delivery and practice, and administration. The three pillars of our curriculum: systems thinking, business fundamentals and leadership development-cultivate the nimbleness of mind, pragmatism and disciplined reflection on experience that equip our students to be successful leaders and change agents in business and policy.

In addition to scholarship, Presidio emphasizes experiential learning by having students take theory and apply it in diverse practical settings outside the classroom, then reflect on their experiences. Presidio considers applied theory – “praxis” – to be a demonstration of our mission, as well as a standard for the academic excellence exhibited by students and faculty.

The Presidio community is committed to academic rigor in teaching and learning, and to continuously improving our performance and increasing our contribution as sustainability leaders, educators and practitioners. We understand that innovation – the ability to adapt to the unexpected and thrive indefinitely through challenges-is at the core of sustainability, and therefore, must be the cornerstone for the design, development and delivery of Presidio's educational programs.

## Mission

Presidio Graduate School educates and inspires a new generation of skilled, visionary and enterprising leaders to transform business and public policy and create a more just, prosperous and sustainable world. Through innovative professional degree, executive certificate and research programs, Presidio activates students and professionals across a range of disciplines, industries and sectors to bridge the gap between commerce and the common good.

## Vision

There has never been a greater need for leaders across all sectors to address our most pressing global challenges through sustainable models and practices, and Presidio Graduate School is poised to achieve its vision of shaping and leading graduate-level education focused on an integrated application of sustainability principles. To date, Presidio has successfully leveraged its entrepreneurial foundation to stay ahead of an ever-increasing demand for knowledge, information, and education related to sustainable business. With a vision to operate as a global destination for sustainable management, Presidio has the capacity to foster strategic growth opportunities in program development, innovative education delivery, faculty recruiting and development, and educational partnerships.

The School will leverage its core competence—a unique education model—to guide its adoption by other academic and educational institutions worldwide. Our vision is that every educational institution will in time integrate sustainability into the foundation of all their educational offerings—making the need to differentiate educational programs specific to sustainable management obsolete.

## Values

Presidio's hallmark is the integration of sustainability into every core principle and aspect of the School. We fundamentally believe that we cannot effectively teach sustainable practices without modeling them in our culture, partnerships, program delivery and practice, and administration.

The Presidio community is committed to continuously improving its performance and contribution as sustainability leaders, educators, learners, and practitioners. We understand that innovation is at the core of sustainability, and therefore, it must be the cornerstone for the design, development, and delivery of our educational programs.

We believe that a Presidio education is earned, not granted, and have designed our programs to be academically rigorous and demanding, challenging every student to attain the highest level of academic achievement, learning outcomes, and leadership development. In addition to scholarship, we emphasize experiential learning by requiring students to take theory and apply it in diverse environments outside the classroom. We consider applied learning to be a demonstration of our mission, as well as a standard for the academic excellence exhibited by students and faculty. Our faculty models this in their scholarship through applied research and case development.

Beyond an educational institution, Presidio envisions itself as a catalyst for a larger, growing, learning community of stakeholders that include faculty, students, graduates, administration, board members, investors, and partners. As such, we are conveners of life-long learning conversations with transformative leaders. An understanding and appreciation of diverse peoples, cultures, and perspectives

informs the intellectual framework on which our mission is based. We are committed to demonstrating that respect of differences among people is a prerequisite to achieving institutional excellence. We encourage and expect every member of our community to think and act both as teachers and learners who can lead by example, model Presidio's mission, and contribute to a more sustainable future over their lifetime.

The core values that serve the School's mission are as follows:

- **Audacity** ♦ Presidio dares to pursue a bold vision for how the world should be and can be. We encourage the risk taking involved in thinking and acting differently from the mainstream. We are convinced, even against the odds, that we can build an institution that helps to transform the world's economic and political systems and, in the process, restore and replenish the world's ecosystems.
- **Humility** ♦ Presidio considers humility to be the companion mind-set of audacity, the flip side of the same coin. We believe that the scale, complexity and frequent mystery of our current and future economic, social and environmental conditions demand curiosity, open-mindedness, doubt and, above all, a sense of awe and wonder.
- **Compassion** ♦ We believe that caring for and helping each other—at Presidio, in our communities and throughout the world - is indispensable to nourishing individual spirit and collective action.
- **Critical Thinking** ♦ We cultivate rigorous questioning and healthy dialogue, eschew dogma and rigid ideologies and promote technical and analytical competence as keys to generating the personal and system-level transformations that sustainability requires.
- **Leadership by Example** ♦ We encourage and expect every member of our community to lead by example in word and deed, model Presidio's mission and contribute to a more just, prosperous and sustainable future over their lifetime.
- **Professionalism** ♦ We are committed to intense self-discipline, serving customers' needs and developing the competence and quality of our professional fields, whether teaching, business or public service. Professionalism requires disciplined thinking, decisive action, persistent adaptability and precise communications.
- **Diversity and Collaboration** ♦ Presidio embraces diversity as a prerequisite to creating and maintaining a culture of institutional excellence, and we understand that to effectively address the complex, systems-level challenges that define sustainability requires many points of view, backgrounds and a variety of strategies for intervention. We also recognize that a host of individuals and institutions has long been hard at work on sustainability issues, and thus challenge ourselves to openly and thoughtfully engage these diverse stakeholders both within and outside the Presidio community in efforts to collectively evolve.

## Institutional Learning Outcomes

Our Institutional Learning Outcomes (ILOs) serve as a guidepost for our community. They inform all Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs) and course learning outcomes. As a result of their program of study at Presidio Graduate School, students will embody and demonstrate mastery of the following:

1. The principles and practices of sustainable management, including their role in helping evolve private, public, and non-profit institutions for a just, prosperous and sustainable future, and the ability to skillfully apply systems thinking, critical thinking and other sustainability frameworks and tools in real-world settings.
2. The principles and practices of sustainable leadership, including application of multidisciplinary approaches to and ethical decision-making in problem solving and leading teams and institutions, and the effective use of collaboration and stakeholder engagement tools and methods to achieve organizational change.
3. The fundamentals of business and public administration, including quantitative, qualitative, and evaluative models for addressing and solving complex, enduring, and emerging problems of society, enterprise, and the global environment.

## History

Presidio Graduate School continues a 30-year tradition of innovative, sustainability-focused, experiential education, which began in 1973 with the founding of World College West by Dr. Richard Gray. World College West was an undergraduate liberal arts college that integrated world-study with a work-study liberal arts program. Developing its own environmentally designed campus on 200 acres in northern Marin County, the College also had program sites in Mexico, Nepal, China, and Russia. The College operated until 1992. In 1993, Presidio World College established its presence as a non-profit corporation. For several years, the College offered non-degree courses and seminars in a program known as Later-Life Design, focusing on areas that contribute to successful, integrated living in the second half of life.

Then, in 1999 Presidio World College signed a one-year contract with Vermont's Goddard College, which enabled Presidio to test pilot a BA-completion program known as SEED – Sustainable, Ethical Enterprise Design during the 2000-01 academic year. Presidio found that prospective students were more interested in an MBA program than a BA degree. In August 2003, Presidio launched an MBA program in Sustainable Management through its affiliation with Alliant International University. The following year Presidio became known as Presidio School of Management. In 2009, the Presidio Board of Directors approved the current operating title of Presidio Graduate School.

## Affiliation with Alliant International University

Since 2003, Presidio has been affiliated with Alliant International University. Founded in 2001, Alliant was formed through the combination of United States International University and Alliant University/California School of Professional Psychology. Alliant offers 700 undergraduate and graduate degree programs in disciplines such as education, business, international relations, clinical psychology and organizational behavior. It is a not-for-profit, independent university with six California locations—Fresno, Irvine, Los Angeles, Sacramento, San Diego, and the San Francisco Bay Area—and locations in Mexico City and Tokyo. Alliant International University is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges.

## Accreditation

Through its affiliation with Alliant, Presidio is accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Senior Colleges and Universities of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC), an institutional accrediting body recognized by the US Department of Education. The Commission can be contacted at:

Western Association of Schools and Colleges  
985 Atlantic Avenue, Suite 100  
Alameda, CA 94501  
(510) 748-9001

## Integration of Sustainability

All of the work done at Presidio centers around its mission to create a more sustainable world. Central to all courses is the incorporation of sustainability theories, principles, practices, and applications. Presidio courses are uncompromising in this regard, even though such integration may be difficult or the state of knowledge may be incomplete, because we believe it is essential to meeting the social, economic, and ecological challenges of the next century.

## Program Offerings

### **Master of Business Administration (MBA) Degree**

Presidio's MBA in Sustainable Management program integrates the social, environmental, and financial dimensions of business—from integrative bottom-line accounting and leadership development to sustainable marketing and operations management. The program combines the vibrancy of face-to-face learning with the convenience of distance learning. Each semester, students gather for four days a month in downtown San Francisco, where they engage in intensive instruction and collaborative learning with faculty and classmates. Outside the classroom, students and faculty connect through online discussions, conference calls, and team-based course projects with a range of business partners from start-up organizations to Fortune 500 companies and government agencies.

### **Master of Public Administration (MPA) Degree**

Today as never before there is unprecedented alignment between the objectives of the public, private, and nonprofit sectors. Presidio's MPA seeks to broaden the focus of public administration professionals to include the skills of thinking systemically and acting pragmatically in the creation of new policies and solutions to address today's most compelling issues. Going beyond a traditional MPA, our program enriches students with the confidence and competencies to shift policy in ways that both benefit society and create lasting change through a more sustainable framework.

Like the MBA, the two-year, full-time program combines the effectiveness of face-to-face learning with the convenience and efficiency of online learning. Each semester is composed of one four-day weekend per month of intensive classroom learning in San Francisco, plus collaborative learning in a rich, interactive online environment.

## **Dual Degree Program (MBA/MPA)**

The MBA/MPA Dual Degree is a natural product of Presidio's intersectoral approach to sustainable management. Our Dual Degree graduates emerge with the ability to *both* manage integrated bottom lines and to convene coordinated action in the public interest. With the skills and self-knowledge to thrive in the most challenging, dynamic, and complex organizational systems, Presidio Dual Degree graduates can competently examine the array of potential solutions offered by each sector, and pragmatically choose the right sustainability solutions without sector-based confirmation bias.

Dual Degree students follow a carefully designed 3-year course of study, covering each of the courses in the MBA and MPA programs. The Dual Degree culminates in an integrative capstone project that demonstrates the integrated skills attained in both programs.

## **PresidioPRO Center for Professional Development**

The Center houses several non-degree offerings. The Master Classes and Intensives offered by the Center provide focused ½ day or 2 day learning opportunities for the general public, and can expand the educational depth of our degree students and alumni.

The Executive Certificate in Sustainable Management is an extension of the success of the MBA and MPA degree programs. This program is targeted to executives from the private, non-profit, and public sectors that possess business experience and acumen but need to understand the dilemmas of sustainability and how to apply them. It is designed to provide participants with a true competitive advantage by allowing them to gain not only insight into what makes a business sustainable, but also practical skills on how to shift corporate culture, take realistic steps toward lasting change, win over skeptics, and apply sustainable principles to benefit both the bottom line and society. The coursework, which emphasizes hands-on learning, encourages participants to tackle specific business challenges and requires them to complete a project or action plan that addresses an opportunity or problem within their organization.

## **Certificate Program**

Presidio's Certificate Program awards Certificates for satisfactory completion of specialized courses of study (e.g., Certificate in Sustainable Energy Management). Through deliverables and other activities, students in the Certificate Program will demonstrate the MBA Program Learning Outcome of Systems Thinking (Applying whole systems thinking to orient strategies toward sustainable management solutions) and the MPA Program Learning Outcome of Social, Economic and Ecological Systems (Understanding the interdependencies of social, economic and ecological problems and those of business, government and civil society, as well as how to develop integrated solutions).

## **Governance Structure**

Presidio Graduate School is governed by the Board of Directors, which includes public members, community members, and student/graduate members. Directors represent the fields of business, law, and education. The Board delegates day-to-day management responsibility to the President.

## **School Leadership**

### **President**

The President is responsible for setting the overall institutional direction, ensuring the ongoing viability and development of the institution, the development of beneficial external affiliations with businesses and educational, non-profit, and government organizations, and expanding the role and reputation of the School. The President plays a central role in fundraising and developing the resources necessary to support the School's mission, and serves as the chief spokesperson of Presidio, representing the School at ceremonies and public events and interpreting the roles and mission of the School as appropriate. In consultation with the Chief Financial Officer, the President presents a proposed annual budget to the Board of Directors for their approval.

### **Chief Financial Officer (CFO)**

The Chief Financial Officer is responsible for developing and managing the budget for the School, in consultation with the President. The CFO facilitates relevant meetings with administrative staff, oversees all financial matters with Alliant International University, and pays invoices to vendors.

### **Chief Operations Officer (COO)**

The Chief Operating Officer, working closely with the President, is responsible for the management and operations of the administrative organization. The COO has a significant role in developing and implementing the organization's strategic plan.

## **Academic Leadership**

### **Dean of the Faculty**

The Dean of the Faculty is the School's chief academic officer and provides the academic leadership and administrative oversight of its academic programs and faculty. The Dean is responsible for academic planning, developing and implementing academic policies, overseeing the recruitment, evaluation and development of all faculty, developing the in-service training schedule for faculty, and developing and enhancing high quality programs through ongoing review and assessment. S/he also is charged with ensuring that the curriculum is in compliance with licensing and accreditation requirements and overseeing the academic budget. The Dean also oversees all research and case development activities, and integrates their work with the activities of Student Affairs and Career Development, Admissions, and Institutional Advancement. The Dean also oversees relations with students on academic affairs, including primary interface with Student Representatives. If there is no Dean of the Faculty appointed, the Associate Academic Deans (the Associate Dean of the MBA, MPA, and Dual Degree Programs) shall jointly function as the acting Dean of the Faculty and Chief Academic Officer.

### **Associate Deans (MBA, MPA, & Dual Degree Programs)**

The Associate Deans are responsible for a variety of academic, administrative, and management duties related to their appointed degree or certificate program. The Associate Deans are accountable for ensuring teaching and learning excellence is consistent with the mission and strategic objectives of Presidio. They are responsible for coordinating all new program and course development, while also monitoring, supporting, and developing the existing curricula. Key duties include: oversight for educational effectiveness and assessment; ensuring compliance with accreditation standards; oversight of student academic performance (SAP) and advising, supporting mentorship and integration of faculty teaching; promoting faculty development and practice-based research and scholarship; managing faculty in-service training; conducting classroom observations; preparing annual faculty evaluations; and teaching relevant courses.

## Associate Dean of Student Affairs and Career Development

The Associate Dean of Student Affairs and Career Development supports the Academic Leadership, and leads the team offering services related to student life, experiential learning, and career development. The Associate Dean of Student Affairs and Career Development is charged with providing oversight and guidance for the learning community. Key duties include: driving the strategy for career development; strengthening and growing partnerships with private and public sector organizations; promoting students and alumni to the employer community; and enforcing student policies related to code of conduct and standards of engagement. The Associate Dean of Student Affairs and Career Development is not a member of the Faculty.

## Student Governance

Students are a primary stakeholder and an important voice in the Presidio community. Students are encouraged to contact the administrative staff with new ideas, concerns and questions at any time. In addition, students have two important channels of communication:

### Student Representatives

Students elect representatives or “reps” from the current student body to act as liaisons between the student body and the administrative staff. Student representatives are responsible for synthesizing feedback from students and providing the administration with an overall perspective on the most pressing issues or concerns among the students. Students may contact reps to ask questions, provide feedback or seek solutions to problems. If students have problems with a representative, they are encouraged to contact the Associate Dean of Student Affairs and Career Development. Student reps meet regularly among themselves and monthly with the administrative staff to discuss student issues or concerns and to receive feedback on how these issues are being addressed. These monthly meetings are comprised of agenda items from key stakeholder groups, including faculty, staff and the student body, and notes from the meetings are posted to the entire community via the Presidio Network.

Contact all reps at one email: [studentreps@presidioedu.org](mailto:studentreps@presidioedu.org)

### Student Survey

Midway through each semester, a survey of all students is conducted. This survey is an extremely important and valuable tool for students, faculty, and administrative staff to communicate with each other about the most current events in the School. This survey is conducted in addition to the course evaluations administered at the end of the semester. (From time to time, the Dean of the Faculty may elect to also issue a mid-semester survey to receive feedback on the semester’s progress in real time.) The student survey is an opportunity for students to provide feedback to faculty and staff on what they find most effective and fulfilling, and to raise questions as well as offer ideas on ways to improve the program, such as ideas for guest speakers, feedback to faculty, information about how the residencies are going, and if there are any pressing problems that need to be addressed. Students are strongly encouraged to complete the survey each mid-semester to give faculty valuable feedback in advance of the end-of- semester survey.

## Board of Directors

Presidio Graduate School's Board of Directors exemplifies and supports the school's mission and vision. The Presidio Board is responsible for the school's overall mission impact, strategic direction and finances, bringing a wealth of insight and expertise to its responsibilities.

**NIZAR ABDALLAH, M.B.A., Ph.D.**, was Engineering Director at Actel Corp. He was also Co-Founder and Executive Director of a European scientific applications start-up and professor of Computer Science at a French engineering school. He is also external co-director of an international program organized by UNESCO for researchers and engineers in developing countries. His M.B.A. is from Presidio Graduate School, his Ph.D. from Pierre & Marie Curie University in Paris, France.

**EVA AUCHINCLOSS, Board Vice-Chair**, was Associate Publisher of a women's sports publishing company and Founding Executive Director of the Women's Sports Foundation, as well as a principal of Auchincloss & Turner. A delegate to the U.S. Olympic Committee, she has served on numerous boards such as the Foundation of the California Bar Association, Junior League, Lifeplan Center, Lifeprint Center, and the International Diplomacy Council of San Francisco. She is a graduate of Vassar College.

**GRETCHEN CUMMINGS, M.P.P., M.B.A. Board Co-Chair**, is Chief of Staff of the Education, Human Development, and Workforce Program of the American Institutes of Research. She was Director of Planning & Organizational Effectiveness at WestEd, a public research and development agency. A *cum laude* graduate of Princeton University, she earned the Master of Public Policy degree at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government and the M.B.A. at Presidio Graduate School.

**DEV CREWS, M.B.A.**, is Chief Marketing Officer for Luminesa, an innovative marketing and design firm serving Fortune 500 and fast-growth companies. She has produced award-winning promotional campaigns for leading companies and brands. She is also president of Net Impact Northern California, a network of socially responsible business leaders and MBA students. She has earned the B.S. in Computer Technology and Graphic Design and the M.B.A. at Presidio Graduate School.

**SASKIA FEAST, M.B.A., Ph.D.**, is Vice President of Technology at EOS Climate, the premier producer of high quality, verified emission reductions. She has also worked for Cyrano Sciences. The author of more than 15 peer-reviewed scientific papers, she has presented at numerous conferences. An M.B.A. graduate of Presidio Graduate School, where she was the senior manager of business partnerships, she earned the doctorate in Physical Chemistry at Liverpool University in the United Kingdom.

**LINDA FRANK, M.A., Board Treasurer**, is an author and former Senior Financial Associate with RBC Wealth Management. She has written widely on business and travel and produced a cable TV show. Active with the American Jewish Committee, she served on the National Council of Jewish Women. Her novel *After the Auction* follows a woman's search for a family treasure looted by the Nazis. She holds the B.A. from the Univ. of Michigan and M.A. in Journalism from the Univ. of Wisconsin.

**ROBERT FRIESE, J.D.**, was a Founding Partner of Shartsis Friese LLP and the founder or co-founder of three operating companies. Named one of *The Best Lawyers in America*, he was formerly with the Securities Exchange Commission. Long active in civic affairs, he is Board Chair of San Francisco Beautiful and has served as Vice-Chair of Worldwatch Institute. A graduate of Stanford University with a J.D. degree from Northwestern, he also studied in graduate schools in Switzerland and Germany.

**LEE GOTSHALL-MAXON, J.D., Board Vice-Chair**, is a partner of the Allen Matkins law firm. He is a member of the Urban Land Institute, International Bar Association, and San Francisco Planning & Urban Research Association. He has served as Board President of both the Volunteer Center of Marin and Central City Hospitality House, also as a board member of San Francisco's Legal Aid Society. He is a *cum laude* graduate of Dartmouth College with the J.D. degree from Hastings College of the Law.

**RICHARD M. GRAY, M.Div., Ph.D., Board Secretary**, holds the B.A., *Phi Beta Kappa*, from Bucknell University, the M. Div. *summa cum laude* from San Francisco Theological Seminary, and the Ph.D. from the Univ. of California, Berkeley. He was with N.W. Ayer, a national advertising agency, for 16 years, and was Ayer's Detroit Creative Director. Founding president of World College West, he raised \$13 million to establish the college and build its environmentally designed 200-acre campus.

**WILLIAM A. SHUTKIN, J.D.** is President & C.E.O. of Presidio Graduate School and an *ex officio* board member. Attorney, educator, and social entrepreneur, he has served as Executive Director of the Rocky Mountain Land Use Institute and led several organizations linking community development and sustainability. Author of the award-winning book, *The Land that Could Be: Environmentalism and Democracy in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, he is a graduate of Brown Univ. and the Univ. of Virginia Law School.

**STEVEN L. SWIG, J.D., Board Co-Chair**, is a graduate of the University of Oregon and the University of Santa Clara School of Law. Formerly with the Law Office of Joseph Alioto, he was Partner and Managing Director of Titchell, Maltzman & Mark; Executive Vice-President of Swig, Weiler & Dinner Development Co.; and Counsel with Howard, Rice, Nemerovski, Canady, Falk & Rabkin. He has served on many boards including the University of Oregon, the A.C.L.U., and A.C.T.

## Faculty

Presidio Graduate School's elite community of world-class faculty is composed of scholar-practitioners, with subject matter expertise in subjects ranging from ecological economics and clean technology to social entrepreneurship and urban sustainability. They are at the forefront of scholarship, teaching and practice in the field of sustainable management. Together with our guest lectures and academic advisors, Presidio faculty offer our students an extraordinary resource for developing their skills and knowledge.

## Full-Time Faculty

Ryan Cabinte, JD, MBA  
ryan.cabinte@presidioedu.org  
Associate Dean of the MPA and Dual Degree Programs  
Director, Center for Professional Development  
Market Failures and the Regulatory Environment  
MBA, Presidio Graduate School  
JD, Boston University  
BA, Yale University

Dwight Collins, PhD  
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Associate Dean of the MBA Program  
Operations & Production  
PhD, Cornell University  
MS, Cornell University  
BS, Cornell University

Steven Crane, Ph.D.  
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Ph.D., California School of Professional Psychology  
M.B.A., Golden Gate University  
B.A., University of Michigan

Dariush Rafinejad, PhD  
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PhD, The Fielding Institute  
MPH, University of Michigan  
BA, University of California, Berkeley

## Part-Time Faculty

Nizar Abdallah, PhD  
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Quantitative Methods for Business and  
Public Administration  
PhD, University of Pierre & Marie Curie  
MBA, Presidio Graduate School

Lynne Andersson, PhD  
lynne.andersson@presidioedu.org  
Human Resources and Management Ethics  
PhD, University of North Carolina  
MS, Georgia Institute of Technology  
BS, University of North Carolina

Bram Briggance, PhD  
bram.briggance@presidioedu.org  
Strategy  
PhD, Stony Brook University  
MA, Stony Brook University  
BA, Denison University

Erin Cooke, MPA  
erin.cooke@presidioedu.org  
Civic Leadership, Decision-Making & Systems Thinking  
MPA, Columbia University  
BS, University of Massachusetts Amherst

Rodrigo Espinosa  
rodrigo.espinosa@presidioedu.org  
Managerial Marketing  
MS, Golden Gate University  
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## Approach to Teaching & Learning

### Learning from Interactive Experience and Reflection

The first principle of Presidio's approach to teaching and learning states that learning is an interactive experience that depends in large measure on the learner's active participation—intellectually, physically, intuitively and ethically. Presidio Graduate School believes that goal-directed action, mutually agreed upon, is more motivating and more potent than random or scattered action. The same is true of self-directed action, as opposed to authority-directed action.

It follows, then, that a positive, transformative education cannot be “delivered” to the student. It is, instead, an experience of co-creation by the student and mentors, a stream of encounters and interactions and feedback, some carefully designed, some true adventures. On this model, the faculty creates and holds the space for learning, and invites students to participate in breakthrough learning experiences.

Therefore, the School believes that inquiry—the process of disciplined reflection and experience—is far more effective and lasting than learning from experience alone (inductive reasoning) or reflection in the abstract (deductive reasoning). It is this continuous, testing movement between experience and assumptions, which leads to genuine understanding, education, and authentic, effective action. Potent questioning, seeking root cause understanding, and pursuing rigorous inquiry leavened by reflection and humility, create the conditions necessary for the Presidio educational model to succeed.

### Systems Thinking and Practice

The second principle—systems thinking and practice—involves looking at issues or problems as a whole and designing solutions and practices that take into account the interrelationships among human, organizational and ecological systems. This systems perspective has often been omitted from, and even discouraged by the highly specialized, discipline-centered model of higher education we have known for the past 150 years. In the words of the 1999 State of the World Report, education has increasingly taught “disconnection.”

While this model has given the western world a high state of technological advancement, its narrow focus has operated on the principle of separation and specialization. The result of this approach is that yesterday's solutions have become today's problems. But the earth tells us that it operates—in both the personal, social and natural spheres—on the principle of integration and wholeness. Each part of each system is related to every other part, and all systems are related, in turn, to one another. Our aim is to teach students to see and seek to understand the entire complex system, and then to identify lucrative and effective points to intervene in the system to bring about phase shifts that will transform the system toward sustainability.

So the need is not so much for specialists who can isolate issues as it is for “connectionalists” who can think creatively about the way that things, numbers, and people relate to one another. Jerome Bruner of Harvard University has defined creativity as “the capacity to make unexpected connections.” The ability to recognize and articulate those connections in tangible, narrative language leads to action. These are the principal capacities for which future leaders must be prepared.

### Integration and Communication of Knowledge

The two principles described above, in combination, lead to the third principle, which is a management practice based on the integration and communication of knowledge. Since we learn from active participation and seeing interconnections, the Presidio curriculum culminates in the Integrative Capstone course, in both the MBA and MPA degree programs. In the MBA Capstone Course, students develop a Venture Plan that synthesizes the narrative quality of their work. In the MPA Capstone Course, students develop a policy innovation or other civic transformation that similarly constitutes a synthesis. These courses require students to draw on all their prior studies and engage the marketplace and public policy realm through the creation of a rigorous business or public policy plan to demonstrate their mastery of the program's core competencies.

For Presidio students, the combination of coursework in the final semester also provides a culminating opportunity to explore, define, and articulate a “purpose or mission”—the work they sense they are here to do—by engaging others in pursuit of their goals, and the School's goal, of furthering sustainability in the world.

**The MBA and MPA programs currently utilize several learning modalities, including:**

<b>Class Lectures</b>	During residencies, cohorts may be combined for lecture purposes; groups vary in size.
<b>Cohort Seminars</b>	Cohorts meet individually for discussion and dialogue during residency weekends.
<b>Conference Calls</b>	During the time between residencies students and faculty engage in regular conference call discussion seminars.
<b>Guest Speakers</b>	Guest instructors provide “real-world” examples to enhance the learning experience in the classroom and allow students the opportunity to learn about the speaker’s specific area of expertise; this is an integral part of the Presidio curriculum.
<b>Presidio Network</b>	In between residencies, students and faculty communicate via the Presidio Network and Elluminate. The Presidio Network facilitates community building and integration across courses, while Elluminate allows for webinar sessions with faculty and students.
<b>Case Studies</b>	Traditional Harvard Business School cases and the living case method are used in most courses.
<b>Study Groups</b>	In between residencies, students meet in organized groups to work on projects. These may be in-person or via teleconference, and may or may not involve faculty facilitation.
<b>Individual Advising</b>	During and in between residencies, students meet with faculty (and/or relevant staff) for academic or administrative advising. Faculty members have posted office hours for this purpose.
<b>Internships</b>	All students are encouraged to participate in internships during the break between semesters or, if feasible, during the semester. The hands-on experience can be directly applied to the student’s final capstone venture plan.
<b>Service Learning</b>	Presidio encourages students to obtain hands-on experience with local organizations. Service learning is student-driven.
<b>Experiential Learning</b>	Courses in the MBA & MPA require students to engage in Experiential Learning (EL) assignments. EL projects offer students the opportunity to engage with businesses, nonprofits, and government agencies looking to implement sustainability practices in various aspects of their organization.

## Degree Program Overviews

### Master of Business Administration (MBA) Degree

Presidio's MBA in Sustainable Management is unique in the field of higher education. While individual courses on business ethics and environmental management now exist, few programs engage faculty and students alike in the process of integrating—at all levels—social and environmental values with the application of practical business skills. This program is designed to prepare professionals with the competencies and courage to position current and future organizations—private, public or non-profit—to be leaders in the practice of sustainable management. With a pedagogical emphasis on experience, reflection and application students learn in a collaborative team environment and benefit from faculty expertise and feedback. Students learn to lead organizations to be socially and environmentally responsible—and financially successful through creative presentations, simulations and real-time project-based learning.

#### Program Format

The MBA in Sustainable Management is a 60-credit curriculum, with 15 required courses and one elective. The program combines the effectiveness of face-to-face learning with the convenience and efficiency of distance learning. Each semester the program is comprised of monthly four-day weekends of intensive interpersonal instruction in a classroom setting. On-site learning is combined with a robust, interactive online component, conference calls, readings, team-oriented assignments and projects with real companies.

The full-time option is a two-year program, with students registering for four courses a semester (the part-time option is a four-year program, with students registering for two courses a semester). Full-time students attend residency weekends for four days a month, and each class is a full seven hours of instruction, whereas part-time students attend class two days a month. These residencies occur Wednesday through Sunday one week a month.

#### Program Framework

Presidio defines Sustainable Management as the ability to direct the course of a company, community or country in ways that restore and enhance all forms of capital—human, natural and financial—to generate stakeholder value and contribute to the well-being of current and future generations.

Presidio's MBA program connects management theory and practice with social responsibility, ecological awareness, systems thinking and leadership within an integrated framework of sustainable management. Sustainable management is, therefore, the unifying concept that weaves the core elements of the program together in ways that help students make connections, promote innovation, and create transformative solutions. The explicit objective of the MBA is to develop the management skills and competencies necessary to address global issues through business opportunities that create sustainable value and transform our economic system.

The integrated curriculum framework is designed around three programmatic foundations and includes ten subsequent program learning outcomes. The course sequence prepares students to synthesize their learning, eventually demonstrating mastery of programmatic outcomes and competencies within the Capstone course at the end of the program. The most unique characteristic of the MBA program is the extent to which foundational business competencies are integrated with both sustainable systems and leadership competencies. These foundations and outcomes are outlined below.

## **Program Outcome: Sustainable Systems**

An understanding of sustainability is based on a foundational competence in basic principles of ecology and systems thinking. Presidio students are able to integrate systemic and sustainable frameworks into business strategy through competence in systems thinking, sustainability literacy, ethics and social justice. Presidio MBA graduates are proficient in:

- Applying whole systems thinking to develop business strategies for sustainable solutions
- Integrating sustainability principles, frameworks and tools to business activities, strategies and models
- Modeling highly ethical behavior and a social justice orientation to affect sustainability across a broad spectrum of stakeholders

## **Program Outcome: Sustainable Leadership**

The transformation toward a sustainable economy will require leadership and the human skills to create and navigate change across multiple social systems. Presidio students engender positive change – from the self, to the team, to the organization and ultimately the system – through competence in relationship management, organizational change, adaptability, resilience and efficacy. Presidio MBA graduates are proficient in:

- Adjusting to changing situations and obstacles while promoting productivity and sustainability in a variety of contexts – including relationships, teams and organizations
- Encouraging and building relationships that promote sustainability across multiple roles and stakeholders within diverse global, social, political, ethical and cultural business contexts
- Identifying levers of cultural and structural change in a organizational systems in support of sustainability

## **Program Outcome: Business Foundations**

Recognizing and transforming today's global issues into innovative business opportunities requires a level of acumen in the foundational disciplines of business and management. Presidio students understand and integrate business fundamentals of economics, innovation, capital management and critical thinking to design, develop and manage sustainable businesses. Presidio MBA graduates are proficient in:

- Analyzing market behavior and interpreting the allocation of resources while recognizing the limitations of existing economic models
- Integrating sustainability principles into the design, commercialization, marketing, and production of products and services
- Interpreting the financial conditions of an enterprise and evaluating the use of financial capital to optimize value for all stakeholders, taking into account ethics and other forms of capital, specifically social and natural capital
- Conceptualizing, applying, synthesizing and evaluating the nature of information and knowledge for effective and sustainable business decision-making through observation, experience, reflection, reasoning and communication in ways that lead to sustainable action.

## Master of Public Administration (MPA) Degree

The Presidio MPA in Sustainable Management is the first in the country to integrate sustainability, leadership and systems thinking into every aspect of the curriculum. Presidio's approach to integration is particularly relevant to the MPA degree given the multidisciplinary nature of public administration. This particular degree is timely given the changing sociopolitical landscape and ecological challenges facing the nation and world. This program is designed to build sustainability-focused practice in non-profit and public organizations.

Presidio's MPA in sustainable management prepares public and civil society leaders with the skills and sustainable management practices necessary to enhance the economic, social and environmental vitality of cities, states, the nation, and the planet. The MPA is designed to develop the skills and competencies to lead and transform public or civil society organizations in a sustainable way. Through the program, students gain the practical skills, knowledge and insight into applying the principles of sustainable management on behalf of the public good. The program will emphasize experiential, project and service-based learning with a requirement to complete two public or civic projects in the community as well as a final integrated Capstone project. The design of the MPA program will facilitate cross-sector learning and interaction, including engaging with the MBA students in classes and cross-sector projects.

### Program Format

The MPA degree is a 60-credit curriculum, with fifteen required courses and one elective. The program combines the effectiveness of face-to-face learning with the convenience and efficiency of distance learning. Each semester the program is comprised of monthly four-day weekends of intensive interpersonal instruction in a classroom setting. Onsite learning is combined with a robust, interactive online component, conference calls, readings, team-oriented assignments and service-based projects with real organizations. Residencies coincide with the MBA program and occur one week a month.

### Program Framework

Presidio defines Sustainable Management as the ability to direct the course of an organization, community or country in ways that restore and enhance all forms of capital—human, natural and financial—to generate stakeholder value and contribute to the well being of current and future generations.

Presidio's MPA program connects public administration theory and practice with social responsibility, ecological awareness, systems thinking and leadership within an integrated framework of sustainable management. Sustainable management is the unifying concept that weaves the core elements of the program together in ways that help students to make connections, promote innovation, and create transformative solutions. The explicit objective of the MPA is to develop the management skills and competencies necessary to address global public issues through innovative approaches to public policy and administration that create sustainable value and transform our economic system.

One of the unique characteristics of the MPA curriculum framework is its integration with the MBA program in Sustainable Management. The MPA degree shares the core management competencies in sustainable systems and leadership. Courses are clustered around overarching program outcomes with specific competencies. In alignment with the mission of the School, graduates demonstrate their competence in sustainability, systems thinking, sustainable leadership and public administration through the achievement of proficiency in the knowledge, skills and attributes of the core competencies. These outcomes and competencies are outlined below.

### Program Outcome: Sustainable Systems

An understanding of sustainability is based on a foundational competence in basic principles of ecology and systems thinking. MPA students are able to: integrate systemic and sustainable frameworks into public policy and administration through competence in systems thinking, sustainability literacy, ethics and social justice. Presidio MPA graduates are proficient in:

- Understanding how major social, economic and ecological problems are interconnected and have an impact on the public good
- Applying whole systems thinking to reorient public policy and administration toward sustainable solutions (accounting for the interdependence of business, government and civil society and the possibility for solutions)
- Integrating sustainability principles, frameworks and tools to public policy activities, strategies and models
- Modeling highly ethical behavior and a social justice orientation to affect sustainability across a broad spectrum of stakeholders

## **Program Outcome: Sustainable Leadership**

The transformation toward a sustainable economy will require public leaders to have the human skills to create and navigate change across multiple social, economic and political systems. MPA students engender positive change – from the self, to the team, to the organization and ultimately the system – through competence in relationship management, organizational change, adaptability, resilience and efficacy. Presidio MPA graduates are proficient in:

- Adjusting to changing situations and obstacles while promoting productivity and sustainability in a variety of contexts – including relationships, teams and organizations
- Encouraging and building relationships that promote sustainability across multiple roles and stakeholders within diverse global, social, political, ethical and cultural contexts
- Identifying levers of cultural and structural change in an organization in support of sustainability
- Convening multiple stakeholders and collaborating across boundaries to mobilize, motivate and achieve collective action on complex problems
- Demonstrating the courage and confidence needed to make the case for sustainable ideas, convey effective offers and engender action

## **Program Outcome: Public Administration**

Addressing today's most pressing global and social issues requires a level of acumen in the foundational disciplines of public administration. MPA students understand and integrate the fundamentals of policy formulation, implementation and evaluation with human resource, budgeting, finance, information management, technology and organizational theory to design, develop and manage sustainable public solutions. Presidio MPA graduates are proficient in:

- Integrating sustainable management into policy analysis, design, implementation, evaluation and management
- Translating knowledge, theory, and practice between business and public administration to create the strongest foundations for solving problems and making decisions that lead to sustainable action
- Leading and managing public governance, and incorporating public values into decisions
- Managing public finance and budgets sustainably
- Contributing to the public policy process and applying management tools that engage and enhance multi-stakeholder value

## **MPA Integrative Capstone Plan Project**

The Integrative Capstone Plan is a highly rigorous project that requires students to work closely with an advisor, the course instructor, and with community partners to ensure a high quality deliverable with meaningful and positive impacts for the community. The project design takes place over the course of several semesters and the final implementation of the project occurs during the final semester of the student's plan of study. The following outlines a basic plan and timeline for the project:

### **1. Semester One: Contact With Advisor and Course Instructors**

The first step in planning for the capstone project is to speak to your student advisor and instructors about your interest in specific projects.

- Maintain an electronic research journal of projects and ideas you are interested in.
- Discuss project ideas with instructors and brainstorm potential research questions.
- Schedule a meeting with your advisor to discuss specific project ideas.
- Discussion on the capstone planning process will begin in Civic Leadership, Decision Making, and Systems Thinking.

### **2. Semester Two: Research Question Development And Project Design**

- Students will begin to work on the initial research design of the project in Research Methods and Policy Evaluation.
- Students should discuss their project ideals with instructors and advisors, and should develop a first draft of a research question by the end of the semester.
- Students should continue additions and updates to the electronic research journal.

### 3. Semester Three: Project Pilot

- The project development will continue in Sustainable Development Local and Global Institutions, wherein students should pilot a small portion of their research project.
- Students should discuss their project ideals with instructors and advisors, and should develop a first draft of a research question by the end of the semester.
- Students should continue additions and updates to the electronic research journal.

### 4. Semester Four: Project Implementation

- Students will complete their project in the Integrated Capstone Plan.
- Students should discuss their project ideals with instructors and advisors, and should develop a first draft of a research question by the end of the semester.
- Students should continue additions and updates to the electronic research journal.
- Students should be prepared to present written and oral versions of their work at the close of the semester.

## Dual Degree Program (MBA/MPA)

The MBA/MPA Dual Degree is a natural product of Presidio's intersectoral approach to sustainable management. Our Dual Degree graduates emerge with the ability to *both* manage integrated bottom lines and to convene coordinated action in the public interest. With the skills and self-knowledge to thrive in the most challenging, dynamic, and complex organizational systems, Presidio Dual Degree graduates can competently examine the array of potential solutions offered by each sector, and pragmatically choose the right sustainability solutions without sector-based confirmation bias.

Dual Degree students follow a carefully designed 3-year course of study, covering each of the courses in the MBA and MPA programs. The Dual Degree culminates in an integrative capstone project that demonstrates the integrated skills attained in both programs. Dual Degree students are required to meet with an academic advisor to map their program of study.

## Experiential Learning (EL)

### MBA Experiential Learning Program

The Presidio MBA program provides an opportunity for students to learn and demonstrate sustainable business practices through practical experience. Using this "living case" methodology, students are able to gain experience in the workplace and learn how to apply the skills learned through the program. Teams of 3-5 students are paired with an organization and are challenged to apply both traditional management concepts and metrics, such as profitability and ROI calculation, as well as to integrate sustainability metrics that examine social and natural capital with partnering organizations. EL projects are embedded in the following courses:

- **SUS 6110: Operations & Production**
- **SUS 6040: Managerial Finance**
- **SUS 6050: Strategy**
- **SUS 6060: Managerial Marketing**

A company, nonprofit or government organization that acts as a project sponsor is on a path toward being more sustainable in all aspects of providing its products and services. They provide the time of key staff members to guide student teams and make available internal organizational data as needed to maximize the business value of the project. The culmination of an EL project includes the creation of a sustainable business plan and student presentation to their class at the end of the semester.

The co-equal goal for the program is professional and career development for our students. The program helps students gain greater practical experience in areas they may wish to focus on after graduation. In addition, there is the opportunity to hone skills (e.g. communication with stakeholders, problem solving, inspiring and motivating others) that will be needed for bringing about transformational change.

## MPA Experiential Learning Program

The MPA program promotes an Experiential Learning environment that encourages students to translate theory to practice, to develop skills critical to communicating with community stakeholders, to build professional experience by applying knowledge in government and non-profit organizations, and to master sustainable development planning by learning through collaboration with educational and community experts. The MPA program integrates Experiential Learning in several courses throughout the curriculum and concludes the plan of study with an EL Capstone course. The following outlines the Experiential Learning component of the Presidio MPA program, which includes the following courses:

- **SUS 7030: Research Methods and Policy Evaluation**
- **SUS 7060: Public Sector Finance**

## PresidioPRO Center for Professional Development

The Center houses several non-degree offerings. The Master Classes and Intensives offered by the Center provide focused ½ day or 2 day learning opportunities for the general public, and can expand the educational depth of our degree students and alumni.

The Executive Certificate in Sustainable Management is an extension of the success of the MBA and MPA degree programs. This program is targeted to executives from the private, non-profit, and public sectors that possess business experience and acumen but need to understand the dilemmas of sustainability and how to apply them. It is designed to provide participants with a true competitive advantage by allowing them to gain not only insight into what makes a business sustainable, but also practical skills on how to shift corporate culture, take realistic steps toward lasting change, win over skeptics, and apply sustainable principles to benefit both the bottom line and society. The coursework, which emphasizes hands-on learning, encourages participants to tackle specific business challenges and requires them to complete a project or action plan that addresses an opportunity or problem within their organization.

## Certificate Program

Presidio's Certificate Program awards Certificates for satisfactory completion of specialized courses of study (e.g., Certificate in Sustainable Energy Management). Through deliverables and other activities, students in the Certificate Program will demonstrate the MBA Program Learning Outcome of Systems Thinking (Applying whole systems thinking to orient strategies toward sustainable management solutions) and the MPA Program Learning Outcome of Social, Economic and Ecological Systems (Understanding the interdependencies of social, economic and ecological problems and those of business, government and civil society, as well as how to develop integrated solutions).

## Course Catalog

### **SUS6000: Managerial Accounting (4 units)**

This course integrates the principles of financial and managerial accounting to prepare the manager to use accounting to assess and manage the health of the organization. Topics include financial statements and their interpretation; the bookkeeping process and transaction analysis; accounting for assets, liabilities, and owners' equity; cost-volume-profit relationships; budgeting; and internal analysis techniques. The class will also explore environmental, social, and ethical accounting issues, which challenge students to apply existing accounting systems to new settings and critically analyze existing and proposed accounting systems. The goal is to equip students to become managers and/or designers of accounting systems that produce relevant information to facilitate organizational decision-making, and to assure that appropriate information is tracked so managers can make more successful and sustainable decisions.

### **SUS6010: Principles of Sustainable Management (4 units)**

The primary objective of this course is to impart a basic understanding of the social and environmental sustainability challenges facing managers in today's world. The course seeks to develop students' critical capacities for self-reflection and action in relation to these concepts. Course graduates will possess the understanding and experience to integrate environmental and social sustainability with commercial and economic success. Lectures and readings provide an overview of the critical literacies in environmental and social issues, the history of the sustainability movement, including the various social and economic movements from which the current practices of sustainability in business and society grew, and the key actors and the basic literature in the field. The course also addresses the global issues surrounding sustainable management and reviews the major frameworks of sustainability that provide the scientific foundations and economic principles of how sustainability can help managers to achieve natural competitive advantage.

### **SUS6021: Quantitative Methods for Business and Public Administration (4 units)**

This course teaches best practice quantitative methods used in both conventional and sustainable business settings today. The data management and modeling functions in which these tools are used exist in most mainstream business functions, e.g., marketing, operations management, finance, accounting, long-term strategy, and managerial economics. Classes of tools taught in this course include:

- Methods for summarizing bodies of data, e.g., measures of central location, variability, and correlation
- Methods of visualizing data, e.g., tables, histograms, and graphs
- Probability distributions and random variables
- Decision analysis tools and decision trees, notions of risk and uncertainty
- Random sampling methods, time series analysis, and methods of statistical inference including confidence intervals, hypothesis testing, and statistical regression
- Methods of optimization modeling such as linear and integer programming for optimizing many critical business decisions such as production capacity, distribution network design, financial portfolio structure, and marketing strategy
- Basics of modeling using simulation tools when conditions permitting more analytically precise modeling assumptions do not apply

Given that the Microsoft Excel spreadsheet management utility is so ubiquitous in business, this course makes extensive use of Excel capabilities and templates provided with the course's required textbook. A variety of Excel commands and functions used to organize data such as filters and pivot tables are covered.

The course includes examples and exercises in which the quantitative tools are applied in elementary applications settings to business paradigms taught in subsequent Presidio MBA courses. This solid quantitative grounding provides an ideal bridge into these later courses and enables decision-making processes to be taught at a more quantitatively rigorous level. It also provides these courses with the opportunity to address many new business optimization approaches that can only be taught through the lens of quantitative analysis.

**SUS6025: Micro- and Macroeconomics (4 units)***Pre-requisite: Quantitative Methods for Business and Public Administration*

This course is a one-semester introduction to the fundamentals of managerial economics, focusing on microeconomics, and an introduction to ecological economics. The first part of this course will cover basic economic relationships, focusing on analysis at the margin, supply and demand theory, production theory, capital theory, profit maximization and cost minimization, firm structure, and types of markets. The critical aspect of the class will both consider how the neoclassical model is unrealistic, and therefore of limited value, and how this model is problematic in terms of sustainability. Ecological economics is an evolving branch of, or approach to, economics that understands markets in a far more complex, evolving and interrelated manner than traditional economics. It parallels ecology in that it sees elements of the economy as part of an ecosystem rather more than as isolated components. The second part of this course provides an overview of the field of ecological economics and how this field views and illuminates the issue of sustainability. Quantitative skills developed/used in this course include linear algebra, statistics, graphing, linear programming, and game theory.

**SUS6040: Managerial Finance (4 units)***Co-requisite: Strategy**Pre-requisites:**Managerial Accounting**Operations & Production**Micro- and Macroeconomics*

This course begins with a survey of the finance area, including financial ratios; management of current assets and liabilities; liquidity; long-term capital; rate of return and net present value. The focus then moves to developing the necessary skills to be an effective financial manager. These skills include analysis of cash flow; financial planning and forecasting; and risk assessment and management. Students will explore decision-making through the capital asset pricing model, as well as construct and utilize pro forma financial statements, and assess the feasibility of projects and capital budgeting. The course will address the skills needed to be a persuasive oral and written communicator of corporate financial information. Socially responsible investment (SRI) models and the relationship between human, natural, and financial capital will be examined.

**SUS6050: Strategy (4 units)***Co-requisite: Managerial Finance*

This course presents cutting-edge ideas on how strategy is evolving and the implications for socially- and environmentally-engaged management. Through considering classical approaches to strategy (such as resource- based views of the firm that capture capability logic), modern approaches (such as hyper-competition and high- velocity perspectives that embody guerrilla logic), and emerging approaches (such as eco-systemic and chaos theory-based views that incorporate a complexity logic), the course covers traditional, mainstream, and progressive perspectives on strategic management. As a whole, it provides conceptual tools and practical methodologies for catalyzing organizational transformation based on a strategic, systemic, and sustainable appreciation of change. The knowledge, skills, and attitudes developed throughout the course focus on consideration of the emerging trends and new areas of opportunity to be taken into account in developing strategies and designing processes and structures in sustainable organizations of the 21st century.

**SUS6060: Managerial Marketing (4 units)**

The purpose of this course is to introduce a framework for marketing management. It provides a survey of trends and an overview of concepts and techniques as they relate to marketing opportunities, marketing strategies, and communicating effective marketing programs within the context of sustainable management. Students will engage in an exploration of the implications of sustainability and be challenged to critically analyze marketing strategies, plans, and decisions. Most importantly, students will gain the mindset of a marketer — the ability to inquire into real needs, of the individual and society, and to serve them.

**SUS6090: Sustainable Products and Services (3 units)***Pre-requisite: Operations & Production*

The evolving principles of sustainable management will be leveraged to explore the creation and development of sustainable products and services. The course merges theory and practice, investigates the linkages between products and services, examines historic, current, and future examples of sustainable products and services and guides students toward practical tools of inquiry and application

that will serve them in their careers in sustainable management. The final course outcomes are professional-quality group projects to be published (or be deemed publishable by Presidio faculty) in a major trade or academic journal.

#### **SUS6110: Operations and Production (4 units)**

*Pre-requisites:*

*Quantitative Methods for Business and Public Administration*  
*Managerial Accounting*

This course provides an overview of strategic, tactical, and operational decision making environments in service and manufacturing companies. Major topics are process analysis, supply chain management, quality management, service systems management, and operations strategy. These areas are explored through lectures, case studies, assigned readings, and class discussions. The course utilizes concepts of probability, statistics, and optimization commonly applied in operations management tools. It includes a special focus on companies implementing sustainability initiatives in their operations and introduces the new field of industrial ecology, which deals with tools and processes for sustainable operations management.

#### **SUS6130: Implementation of Sustainable Practices (3 units)**

*Pre-requisite: Principles of Sustainable Management*

To integrate the skills and knowledge accumulated over the two years of the Sustainable Management MBA, students examine and use the Natural Capitalism Group taxonomy for guiding organizations to a more sustainable future. Calling on the four strands of coursework — numbers, markets, people and sustainability — students explore the step-by-step process for transforming a company, both internally and externally.

#### **SUS6145: Integrative Capstone (4 units)**

*Pre-requisite: MBA Program Enrollment*

This course will integrate a range of Presidio MBA learning to the challenging tasks of taking a big idea to something sustainable -- whether a company, product, or program. Beginning with crisp ideation, students will form and evolve a business model, consider the best implementation team and strategy, assess and weigh a range of risks, markets, opportunities and opportunity costs, make good and bad strategic decisions, and share learning. Deliverables will be successive, collaborative iterations of business models, strategies and presentations, each demonstrating progressively greater depth of thought, organization and analysis. Borrowing from the “Oxbridge” style, students will select from a variety of recommended readings and faculty mentors for support. Students may choose the track of start-up or social entrepreneur, “intrapreneur”, consultant, non-profit leader, etc., and will provide collaborative expertise and constructive feedback to support classmates. Prototyping, feedback, expert and advisor inputs, are all key elements of this process

#### **SUS6175: Capital Markets (4 units)**

*Pre-requisite: Managerial Finance*

Building upon the fundamentals of finance and economics, this course is an overview of capital markets, including the financial instruments and institutions that comprise the global financial system. This course will offer an in-depth study of the marketplaces that play central roles in the global - down to the local – economies. Topics include: financing enterprises through venture capital and private equity funding, initial public offerings (IPOs), fixed income securities offerings, commercial paper, and angel investing. Financial instruments in a global market will be examined through a review of spot exchange, currency forwards, hedging, options, swaps as well as international bonds and equities. Fundraising in the non-profit sector will likewise be considered. Basics of macroeconomics will also be presented as a background to financial decision-making. Topics include monetary and fiscal policy, aggregate demand and supply, exchange rates and inflation. When time permits, the course also surveys the legal aspects of organizing, financing and operating a business enterprise, with emphasis on contracts, government regulation, intellectual property rights, corporate governance, and shareholder rights, as well as the national and international finance and investment systems, including a sustainability critique and reorientation.

**SUS6195: Effective Management, Communication & Action (3 units)**

This course will take a strengths-based approach to fostering the essential individual leadership and communication capabilities needed for managers in business and public administration. These capacities are necessary for collaborating, influencing and acting as an effective change agent for sustainability in any type of business, organization or community. We will explore various aspects of the human dimension of sustainability including social justice, work/life balance, emotionally intelligent team building and the personal aspects of learning, change, commitment, and courage. We will practice communication skills and strengthen our personal effectiveness through self-assessment, feedback, and practice in a reflective, supportive environment. We will work in teams to develop our abilities to observe and respond to team challenges and prepare to work in Experiential Learning Teams in future Presidio courses.

**SUS6210: Leadership for Sustainable Management (4 units)**

This course is a learning journey through which we invite you to engage with us in the fundamental quest to answer, “Who am I? — In relation to myself, to others, and to my environment” — so that we may best serve as leaders and collaborators in creating a sustainable world. We begin by making explicit the emerging and evolving worldview that challenges the current status quo and allows for visions of possibility to emerge: the systems and evolutionary perspective. We explore the meaning of leadership as it has changed over time and the new roles required to facilitate organizational and social transformation toward sustainability. Collaborative processes, as the core of the transformational work at the human level required to bring about sustainability, will be seen as a complement to the overemphasis on individual capacity and competition prevailing in the business world. These perspectives will be grounded in self-knowing as the portal to diversity, collective wisdom and creativity to respond to the increased complexity of our shared socio-ecological predicament.

**SUS 7010: Introduction to Public Administration & Policy (4 units)**

This foundational course presents key themes in public administration and policy. It focuses on developing increased understanding of public administration theories and on applying this information for professional growth. The course will introduce the history of public administration theory, including a discussion of key figures, theorists, and eras. Topics of both technical and practical interest such as budgeting, human resources, ethics, agenda setting, policy development, policy process, and leadership development will be introduced. The course will also introduce students to meta-narratives of public administration and discuss their importance to practice and theory.

**SUS 7020: Civic Leadership, Decision-Making & Systems Thinking (4 units)**

This course considers the rights, roles and interrelationships of citizens, their government, special interest groups and private organizations to drive social, economic and environmental change. To foster coalition-building skills among burgeoning practitioners, the course introduces networks, systems and leadership theories; democratic decision-making tools; and citizen engagement and inclusion models. Students will apply course readings, case studies and leadership theories through a group project realized through the design and implementation of a public policy issue campaign. The group project will be comprised of the following modules: issue identification and definition; need finding and research methods; stakeholder, economic, and policy analysis; prototyping and evaluative research. Through this exercise, students will develop a solid template for embarking on a future policy agenda at their place of work, neighborhood, city or elsewhere. The course provides a foundation for future applied coursework in leadership for sustainable management, sustainable urban development, economics and policy, and the integrative capstone plan.

**SUS 7025: Market Failures and the Regulatory Environment (4 units)**

This course will examine market failure as a framework for defining, articulating, and solving sustainability challenges. Students will receive a survey of the American regulatory system and its complementary role in curing or preventing market failure. Specific areas of regulation to be examined may include fiduciary, corporate formation, securities, environmental, antitrust, torts, and intellectual property and contract law. Based on this understanding of interdependent market and regulatory environments, students will practice and enhance their ability to innovate new solutions to complex and seemingly intractable problems--i.e. be social entrepreneurs. Students will consider the pros and cons of delivering their solutions through business, governmental, civil societal, or hybrid organizations. After successful completion of this course, students will also have a good sense of when it is time to call a good lawyer.

**SUS 7030: Research Methods & Policy Evaluation (4 units)**

This course focuses on the use of research methods, performance management, informational technology, ethics, and development theories in order to assess public and non-profit organizations and their policy decisions and program outcomes. Through the use of service focused evaluation projects, students use tools of program evaluation as well as quantitative and qualitative research methods to answer important organizational questions related to process, outputs, outcomes, and resources. Students will also learn and apply information on management ethics, citizen rights and protections, and confidentiality in research and policy evaluation. Strategic Planning, SWOT analysis, PEST analysis, and other popular assessment and decision-making tools will be introduced. Finally, the course will expose students to assessment tools used in sustainable development and practice modification of existing tools of public administration for use in achieving goals of sustainability.

**SUS 7040: Human Resources & Management Ethics (3 units)**

This course focuses on the management of employees and volunteers in public and non-profit organizations. It explores ethics and decision making in human resources development, law, hiring process, allocation, and training. It considers the relationships, contracts, and structures that support human resources planning and action. The course explores theoretical concepts in the ethics of decision-making and applies those concepts to practice in public administration. The course focuses on concepts such as public service, scientific management and sustainability, gender equity, neutrality, professionalism, and communication in public administration.

**SUS 7060: Public Sector Finance (EL) (4 units)**

This course focuses on microeconomics, finance, and budgeting theories and their application to policy and management in the public and non-profit sectors. In this course, the concept of efficiency is developed and applied along with the goal of social equity to help determine the roles of the public, private and non-profit sectors in the provision of goods and services. The relationship between finance/applied economics and sustainable development will also be discussed. Students will learn concepts and theories foundational to public finance and learn to apply them in public administration and sustainable management.

**SUS 7080: Information Management, Technology & Policy (4 units)**

This course focuses on the information technology and related applications, ethics, and policy. The course discusses the importance of data security, information tools, citizen outreach through the use of technology, and related laws, policy, and rulemaking. The theories of information technology, dissent in government information sharing, the changes in information management policy, the structure of information systems, and the potential for information technology to create more efficient and sustainable systems delivery and communications, are explored. The course also addresses information access, transparency, privacy, and equity issues and implementation, evaluation, and planning processes.

**SUS 7090: Integrative Capstone Plan (4 units)**

*Pre-requisite: MPA Program Enrollment*

This course aims to integrate and synthesize the material learned throughout the program in sustainable public administration. The objective of the course is for the student to demonstrate an understanding and mastery of the practical skills, knowledge and attributes needed to plan, establish and run a sustainable program, project or policy initiative in the public sector. Students will articulate a systemic understanding of issues as well as explore current and emerging trends in their chosen field/area of specialization.

**SUS7100: Sustainable Urban Development, Economics, and Policy (4 units)**

This course focuses on the economics and policy of sustainable urban development. The course introduces students to theoretical and practical perspectives useful for community development, coalition building, environmental politics, local government leadership, sustainable development and urban development, with students being exposed to literature from economic development, policy design, sustainable development, and urban planning to deepen their theoretical knowledge. This course also covers master planning, strategic planning, sustainable development, policy process and evaluation, civic education and leadership, and citizen participation in government. It explores global issues in the context of the urban community. In addition to the course lecturers, class guest speakers will be used to build dialogue with community planning leaders and to provide translation from theory to practice. The course is designed for mid-level to advanced-level practitioners of public administration.

## Electives:

In addition to the listed elective courses, students may choose to take any course that is not part of their program (MBA vs. MPA) to fulfill their elective requirement

### **SUS6105: Culture, Values & Ethics (4 units)**

This course addresses the business world of increasing globalization, the cross cultural and organizational situations in which managers are challenged to develop solutions between their own culture and the values and ethics of people and organizations in their extended markets. The intent is to develop the managerial skills to lead from a value-based, ethical orientation to resolve workplace dilemmas while also equipping the manager to guide the change of a business, a government entity or a civil society organization. The purpose is to develop the cultural intelligence and change management competencies of students able to equip them in implementing ethical and values-based interventions supportive of sustainable organizations and relationships.

### **SUS8502: Sustainable Energy Management (3 units)**

Beginning with an overview of renewable energy sources, this course explores the fundamentals of different current and future energy systems, with focus on technologies with high development potential. We aim to understand energy technologies in a framework of enduring social and environmental stewardship on a global scale. The course offers a systems thinking approach to the subject of energy management, including technological, environmental, economic, strategic, organizational and public policy dimensions.

### **SUS8600: Individual Research in Sustainable Management (3 units)**

In this honors level independent study course for which registration requires faculty approval, the student will conduct research or develop a case study in sustainable management with oversight by a Presidio faculty member. The research or case study will be targeted for publication and will often be done in collaboration with business, nonprofit, or government organizations.

### **SUS8700: Curricular Practical Training (1 unit)**

This course will provide students with the opportunity to gain practical experience related to his/her academic area of study. Such experience would significantly add value to the student's educational experience while at Presidio Graduate School. Registration for this course requires faculty and administrative approval.

## Admissions & Enrollment Overview

Presidio's admissions policy is in alignment with the mission of the School in that an emphasis is placed on applicants' academic and professional credentials—as well as their personal commitment to creating sustainable change. In an effort to attract a diverse student body, Presidio encourages applicants with a wide range of ideas and backgrounds from every sector—public, private, and nonprofit.

Presidio's admissions process is thorough and selective. Students must have completed a bachelor's degree (no specific major required) from an accredited institution. High intellectual capacity and leadership capability are expected and should be demonstrated in the application materials.

Successful applicants should demonstrate the following qualities in their application materials:

- Proven history of self-motivation and direction
- Experience collaborating in teams and managing projects
- Strong written and oral communication skills
- Facility with numbers and quantitative analysis
- Effective use of business software and internet technology
- Aspiration to bring greater ethics and sustainability values into business leadership

Applicants without significant experience in the above areas who are otherwise excellent candidates for the program may be encouraged to prepare for the program by gaining more work experience or taking additional classes. It takes support, skill, and passion to live in the tension between the current reality of business, non-profit organizations, and government, and the vision for a more sustainable future. Therefore, it takes patience, wisdom and a sense of humor to complete a program that is both idealistic and practical at the same time.

Presidio uses a targeted admissions essay that asks applicants to consider questions, ideas, or projects they are interested in exploring through the program as well as requiring every applicant to interview with the admissions team prior to being admitted to the program. Through the use of the admissions essay and the requirement for an interview Presidio ensures accepted students have the competencies and courage to implement their ideas.

### Non-Discriminatory Policy

Presidio Graduate School is non-discriminatory in its admissions, accepting qualified applicants regardless of age, gender, religion, marital status, disabilities, sexual orientation, or national or ethnic origin.

### Admission Prerequisites

Applicants must have completed a bachelor's degree (no specific major required) from an accredited academic institution in order to be considered for admission to Presidio Graduate School. Applicants must demonstrate previous exposure to quantitative concepts and disciplines either through coursework or professional experience.

### Admissions Interview

Presidio Graduate School requires an in-person or phone interview with an Admissions representative prior to being admitted to the program. The interview is a conversation about the applicant's background, values, experience, and interests, as well as an opportunity for the applicant to ask questions about the program and admissions process.

### Application Timelines

Presidio enrolls cohorts in both fall and spring semesters. The School encourages applicants to submit applications as early as possible. For the current application deadlines, see Presidio's Web site. Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis.

## Fees & Matriculation Deposit

The application fee for the MBA, MPA and Dual degree options is \$75. This application fee is non-refundable.

An applicant admitted into a program must submit a new student deposit to hold their place in the class. The fee is \$500 and the deposit is due two weeks after the date of the letter of notification. If a response is not received by the specified date, the applicant's place will be offered to another applicant. A student who decides not to accept an offer of admission from Presidio is urged to notify the School in writing as soon as possible so that his or her place can be offered to another applicant.

## Degree Program Application

Candidates should submit all of the following application materials, in one package, to Presidio Graduate School. Though Alliant International University has final approval of all applicants, all communication regarding a candidate's application will occur directly with Presidio Graduate School.

Please submit, by mail or in person, the seven parts of the application. Some pieces of the application can be submitted online as noted by an asterisk below.

### 1. Application Form\*.

2. **Non-Refundable \$75 Application Fee.** Please make the check or money order payable to Alliant International University, but mail to Presidio with the application package.
3. **Résumé or CV** of no more than two pages. \*
4. **Two Official Sealed Transcripts**, verifying an undergraduate degree from an accredited institution. **One** official transcript from each university or college attended since high school. Academic records include community college, summer sessions, extension courses and transfer units. Transcripts must be sent directly from the institution(s) attended to Presidio.
5. If an applicant has completed graduate-level coursework, submit one copy of any graduate transcripts directly from the institution(s) attended to Presidio.

\*GPA Exemption Form (if applicable). Presidio Graduate School requires that applicants have a cumulative undergraduate grade point average (GPA) of 2.75 or higher on a 4.0 scale. Applicants must submit the GPA Exemption Form if their undergraduate cumulative GPA is below 2.75. This form allows applicants to provide a statement of exception, or submit additional material that would document their ability to perform in an intensive academic environment.

6. **Two or Three Letters of Recommendation.** Presidio welcomes professional, academic, and personal letters that provide a well-rounded perspective of the applicant. At least one letter should be a professional reference, ideally written by a supervisor. Applicants should ask references to briefly describe in what capacity they know the candidate and to address the strengths and challenges in as many of the following areas as possible:

- The values and ethics demonstrated in his/her professional and/or personal life
- Ability to work in teams
- Ability to lead initiatives and manage projects
- Communication skills
- Business software and Internet technology skills
- Ability and willingness to persist in graduate-level coursework

*Letters should be printed on organizational or personal letterhead and be no more than one page in length, if possible. Any references should submit their letters in sealed and signed envelopes for the applicant to include with the application package. No faxed letters will be accepted.*

7. **Admissions Essay.** \* Please address the following topics in two to three pages total.

- Describe one or two questions, ideas or projects that you are interested in exploring through participation in the Presidio MBA or MPA program.

- Describe, briefly, how you would contribute to the Presidio learning community.
  - Describe how you would balance school, work and personal commitments while enrolled in the program.
8. **Quantitative Assessment.** Applicants must complete one of the following options for the quantitative assessment piece of the application. These include:
- Graduate Management Admissions Test (GMAT) results taken within the last five years. Submit scores to Presidio Graduate School (Code: Alliant International University – Presidio Graduate School.
  - Graduate Record Exam (GRE) results taken within the last five years. Submit scores to Presidio Graduate School (Code: 7388.)
  - Submission of a one-page history and assessment of your quantitative skills, which includes: (1) a list of any college-level quantitative courses taken, e.g. math, statistics, economics, finance, accounting, or operations, and the resulting grades, or, if none taken in college, list the grades received in high school math courses, (2) quantitative and analytical skills regularly used in professional life, and, (3) any plans you may have for refreshing his/her math/quantitative skills prior to enrolling in a Presidio degree program
- \*Depending on an applicant's one page history and assessment of quantitative skills, GMAT or GRE scores may be required at the discretion of the admissions committee**

Please mail all application materials to:

Presidio Graduate School - Admissions  
36 Lincoln Boulevard  
San Francisco, CA 94129

If an applicant chooses to drop off a completed application, a map to Presidio's office can be accessed at:

<http://www.presidioedu.org/contact.html>

## International Applicants

International applicants must submit several additional documents with their application:

1. **A copy of the student's passport.**
2. **Two official, sealed transcripts verifying an undergraduate degree from an accredited institution.** Transcripts must be sent directly from the institution(s) attended to Presidio. Transcripts issued to the applicant will not be considered official. If an applicant has completed graduate-level coursework, submit one copy of any graduate transcripts directly from the institution(s) attended to Presidio.

If a bachelor's degree was conferred from an institution outside the United States, the applicant must have the transcript(s) evaluated by a foreign education credential evaluation service agency. Additionally, if the transcripts are not in English, an official translation must be submitted. The evaluation must contain the following:

- Degree equivalency to a 4 year bachelor's degree from an accredited U.S. university
- U.S. semester credit and grade equivalent for each course
- U.S. grade point average
- Master level courses/degrees should also be included in the evaluation, if applicable

*To locate an agency, go to: [www.naces.org](http://www.naces.org)*

3. **An official Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) score report** showing a minimum score of 100 for the Internet-based test. Use Alliant code 4039 and submit scores directly to Presidio. The English requirement is waived for those students from an English-speaking country. The following is a list of TOEFL-exempt countries:

Antigua, Australia, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Cameroon, Canada, Dominica, Fiji, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guyana, Hong Kong, Ireland, Jamaica, Kenya, Liberia, Mauritius, New Zealand, Papua, New Guinea, Nigeria, St. Christopher, Saint

Lucia, Saint Vincent, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Trinidad, Uganda, United Kingdom, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*If an applicant believes that he/she is exempt from the TOEFL, please complete the TOEFL Exemption Form.*

- 4. International Student Financial Certification Form.** This form must be submitted if an applicant is not a U.S. citizen and has not been classified by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) as a permanent resident. Presidio requires the original Certification Form along with a current financial guarantee in the form of a letter from a financial institution showing the specific U.S. dollar amount per year available to the applicant and the duration of its availability. In addition, applicants must provide an original and most current bank statement. Applicants accompanied by other family members must certify additional U.S. funds per year for each dependent. Presidio reserves the right to require further certification of finances or advance payment of tuition and fees from students whose funds originate in countries where severe currency restrictions exist.
- 5. (Optional) Transfer Verification Form.** If presently attending an institution in the United States, immigration regulations require that an applicant must maintain a full-time student status while in the U.S. on a student visa.

Applicants should keep copies of all materials submitted as part of the application. Admission materials and all supporting documents become the confidential property of Presidio Graduate School and Alliant International University admissions departments and cannot be returned to the applicant.

## Admissions Decisions

There is no appeal process for admissions decisions. All Presidio admissions decisions are final.

### Accept

Applicants accepted to Presidio Graduate School must submit their enrollment deposit within two weeks of receiving their decision letter.

### Wait-list

Applicants for First Round admission may be wait-listed and will be re-reviewed with Second Round applicants in the given application period.

### Denial

Presidio Graduate School receives many more applications than there are spaces in the entering class. Presidio's policy prohibits the release of information in regards to an applicant's denial. Students who are not accepted are welcome to reapply. Please refer to Presidio's policies and procedures on reapplying below.

## Notification of Decisions

Letters of notification will be sent electronically no later than six weeks after the admissions deadline. Late applications, if accepted, are subject to delayed notification. Wait-listed applicants will receive a final admissions decision letter with Second Round applicants.

## Conditional Admission

Applicants who have not submitted all of the required documents may be admitted on a conditional basis in some instances. Conditionally admitted students must present the required documents within a specified time frame. Failure to do so will prohibit registration and eligibility for financial aid.

## Request for Admission Deferment

Deferred admission may be requested for one semester and may only be granted to admitted degree students who have paid the required non-refundable \$500 matriculation deposit. Requests can be made based on one or more of the following circumstances:

- Financial hardship as a result of job loss or loss of house
- Death or severe illness of a family member
- Serious personal injury or extenuating medical situation(s)
- New job or internship opportunity that positively affects your participation in the program
- Unforeseen transportation or travel restrictions
- Other reasons determined acceptable by the Admissions Department

## Final Documents

Candidates must submit all required admissions interview and applicant materials at the time of formal application. A conditional letter of admission is an indication that admissions requirements must still be met and submitted before full admission is granted. An applicant admitted to Presidio must submit a tuition deposit to hold a place in the class. The deposit is due two weeks after the date of the letter of notification. If a response is not received by the date specified, the place will be offered to another applicant.

An admitted student is expected to maintain the standard of academic performance upon which admission was based during the time between acceptance and enrollment. Official transcripts of all work completed between acceptance and enrollment must be furnished to Presidio prior to registration in order for the student to enroll. Required degrees in progress must be conferred prior to enrollment at Presidio and the School must receive an official transcript verifying degree conferral.

## Reapplying for Admission

Applicants who are denied admission are able to reapply to a program in subsequent semesters. Such applicants, at minimum, will need to submit a new application, the application fee, an updated resume and a personal statement. If the applicant is applying more than three years later, he or she will need to submit all seven application components.

Students who leave the program for more than two consecutive terms without an approved Leave of Absence must reapply for admission. Such applicants will need to submit a new application, the application fee, an updated resume and a personal statement. If the student has been away from the program for more than three years, he or she will need to submit all seven application components. See the Leave of Absence policy for further details.

## Executive Certificate Program Admissions

Qualified applicants will be executives or high potential managers who are in or advancing into positions of leadership within their organizations. Presidio highly encourages teams of participants from within the same company or department to enroll and work collaboratively through the program.

### Admissions Prerequisites

- Minimum of 10 years professional experience in positions of increasing responsibility
- Working knowledge of business concepts, including basic financial literacy
- Proficiency in English

### Application Process

- Completed Application Form
- Resume or Professional CV
- Two Letters of Recommendation (one letter from a current employer or partner verifying the participant's professional achievement and organizational responsibility)
- Purpose Statement (see below for details)

### Purpose Statement

The Purpose Statement for the Executive Certificate application is a written description of a case, idea or project that the applicant is interested in exploring through participating in the program. It should be no longer than 800 words and include the following:

1. Description of why the applicant would like to attend the Executive Certificate program and what the applicant hopes to learn.
2. The applicant's experience in the field of sustainable management.
3. A brief overview of a sustainability project or case that the applicant would like to address through the program's curriculum and how the applicant would utilize his/her leadership role to execute the plan.

### Tuition and Payment Policy

Tuition fee for the Executive Certificate in Sustainable Leadership is \$12,500. Upon notification of acceptance into the program a 10% non-refundable deposit is required. The remaining tuition balance is due before the start of the program.

### Cancellation Policy

If an applicant must cancel their attendance, notice must be received 30 days in advance of the program start date. Participants who cancel may attend a future session of the same program within 24 months of the original start date.

## Alumni Audit Program

The Alumni Audit Program offers graduates of the Certificate, MPA, MBA, and MBA/MPA Dual degree programs the opportunity to pursue lifelong learning opportunities, professional and personal development and connection with our active learning community and world-class faculty.

### Participation

A maximum of five alumni may audit each degree-program class. Admission as an auditor is subject to space availability in the course. Upon successful application, registration, and tuition payment, the alumna or alumnus will receive notice of access to the course page. 80% in-class attendance is required for alumni who audit courses. Auditing alumni are encouraged to participate in class during residency sessions, but will not turn in class assignments or receive grades. Failure to attend 80% of classes will be a consideration for approval of subsequent audit requests.

### Cost of Auditing

The cost to audit a degree-program class is \$125/unit (vs. \$1040/unit for-credit tuition). There is a one-time application fee to enroll as an auditing student. Tuition and the application fee are non-refundable.

### Record of Completion

The audited course will be recorded on the alumnus' or alumna's official transcript with a grade of AU (designating an audit). If the alumna or alumnus has not met the attendance requirement to audit the course, s/he will receive a grade of NC (no credit). The course credits associated with the audited class will not be added to the earned units at Presidio. Both degree-program and EC alumni will be able to request an official transcript from Alliant with a record of the course for the cost of \$10/transcript. Alumni may audit any degree-program class regardless of whether they have completed the course in the past.

### Application and Registration Process

Submit the following:

- One-time \$45 application fee
- Special Status Application

Mail to:

Isa Dyer, Associate Director of  
Academic Operations and Associate Registrar  
36 Lincoln Blvd.  
San Francisco, CA 94129  
p [415.561.9622](tel:415.561.9622)  
f [415.561.6483](tel:415.561.6483)

In some cases, additional documentation (transcripts, faculty signature, etc.) may be required. Each term, you'll need to register for the desired course(s) by completing a 'Course Audit' form, specifying the relevant information for each audited course.

## Academic Calendar

## Fall 2013

<b>Aug 23</b>	Tuition and fees due to Alliant
<b>Aug 22-25</b>	First MBA and MPA Residency
<b>Aug 24</b>	Convocation
<b>Aug 30</b>	Degree applications due for December 2013 graduates
<b>Sept 2</b>	Labor Day – School offices closed
<b>Sept 10</b>	Last day to drop classes for a 100% refund (Instructor signature required.) Classes dropped after September 11th are considered withdrawals. Students will receive a grade of "W."
<b>Sept 17</b>	Last day to drop classes for an 80% refund ( <i>Instructor signature required.</i> )
<b>Sept 19-22</b>	Second MBA and MPA Residency
<b>Sept 24</b>	Last day to drop classes for a 60% refund ( <i>Instructor signature required.</i> ) <i>No refund available for dropped classes beyond this date.</i>
<b>Oct 18</b>	Last day to drop classes and receive a "W" ( <i>Instructor signature required.</i> )
<b>Oct 17-20</b>	Third MBA and MPA Residency
<b>Nov 11</b>	Veteran's Day – School offices closed
<b>Nov 14-17</b>	Fourth MBA and MPA Residency
<b>Nov 28-29</b>	Fall Break – School offices closed
<b>Dec 12-15</b>	Fifth MBA and MPA Residency
<b>Dec 18</b>	Last day of Fall 2013 semester
<b>Dec 23 - Jan 1</b>	Winter Break - School offices closed

## Spring 2014

<b>Jan 18</b>	Tuition and fees due to Alliant
<b>Jan 23-26</b>	First MBA and MPA Residency
<b>Jan 20</b>	MLK Jr. Day – School offices closed
<b>Jan 31</b>	Degree applications due for May 2014 graduates
<b>Feb 10</b>	Last day to drop classes for a 100% refund (Instructor signature required.) Classes dropped after February 5th are considered withdrawals. Students will receive a grade of "W."
<b>Feb 17</b>	Last day to drop classes for an 80% refund ( <i>Instructor signature required.</i> )
<b>Feb 17</b>	President's Day – School offices closed
<b>Feb 20-23</b>	Second MBA and MPA Residency
<b>Feb 24</b>	Last day to drop classes for a 60% refund ( <i>Instructor signature required.</i> ) <i>No refund available for dropped classes beyond this date.</i>
<b>Mar 21</b>	Last day to drop classes and receive a "W" ( <i>Instructor signature required.</i> )
<b>Mar 20-23</b>	Third MBA and MPA Residency
<b>Mar 31</b>	Cesar Chavez Day – School offices closed
<b>Apr 10-13</b>	Fourth MBA and MPA Residency
<b>May 15-18</b>	Fifth MBA and MPA Residency
<b>May 21</b>	Last day of Spring 2014 semester
<b>May 26</b>	Memorial Day – School offices closed
<b>May 31</b>	2014 Commencement

## Registration

Students may only register for courses when the Presidio Admissions Office officially admits them to the School. Students will not receive credit for any course in which they are not officially registered. Students may not attend any class in which they are not enrolled.

Instructions on registration will be posted to the Presidio Network at least 60 days prior to the start of each semester. If a student has questions regarding the registration process, they should contact the Registrar. Unless Presidio is notified in writing, it is assumed that students are continuing to the following semester. If a student will not be continuing in a program, it is the responsibility of the student to inform the Registrar in writing 30 days in advance of the start of the semester or the student will be required to pay a \$300 fee to cover the incurred costs of the opening residency.

## Alliant Student ID Numbers

Upon enrollment in a Presidio program, students are provided with an Alliant Student ID number. These numbers are necessary for accessing important information related to student accounts, financial aid, and billing. Students should use their ID number in all communications with Alliant and Presidio staff.

## Registration Dates

Information on registration dates can be found in the Academic Calendar. New students are required to attend the new student orientation event for an overview of registration procedures.

## Class Scheduling

Although Presidio makes every attempt to fulfill all proposed class schedules, no schedule is considered final until the first day of classes. Changes may include (but are not limited to) the adding and deleting of sections, faculty, or the day of the week a class will be held. Please contact the Registrar with any questions.

## Repeated Courses

Students may repeat courses in order to improve their academic record. All grades earned at Presidio will remain on the student's transcript and the higher grade earned when students repeat a course will be used to compute the grade point average. The record for any repeated course will show the original grade accompanied by a notation signifying that the repeated course is shown elsewhere on the transcript. In all instances, the same structured class must be completed. Repeated courses may not be taken by Independent Study. Courses must be repeated at Presidio.

A maximum of three courses may be repeated. No course may be taken more than twice (the original registration and one subsequent registration) without approval from the Dean.

## Adding/Dropping Courses

Students who wish to add or drop courses must notify the Presidio Registrar. To add or drop a course, students must complete the Add/Drop Form within the add/drop period (see the Academic Calendar for specific dates) and submit it to the Registrar to be processed. If the change is approved, the Tuition and Refund Policy will apply.

International students with visa status must confer with the Alliant International Student Services Office before dropping courses. Domestic students with financial aid must confer with Alliant's Financial Aid office before dropping courses. If a student stops attending a course without following the official drop procedure, a grade of F or No Credit (as relevant) will be recorded and the student will not be eligible for any refund of tuition or fees.

## Withdrawal from Program

Students withdrawing from the School must inform the Registrar and are required to participate in an exit interview with the Associate Dean of their Program. Students who receive financial aid and wish to withdraw must also contact Alliant's Financial Aid office.

Students will be responsible for completing a Withdrawal Form and submitting it to the Registrar as well as contacting the Alliant Student Business Services and Financial Aid offices regarding the status of their accounts. Clearance from Financial Aid must be obtained prior to withdrawal. Students withdrawing from all courses after the Add/Drop period will be subject to tuition and fees and a grade of "W" for each course will be entered into the student's permanent record. An administrative withdrawal fee of \$110 is charged for any withdrawal. To withdraw in good standing, students must meet all obligations to Alliant International University and Presidio Graduate School.

Due to privacy issues, students are responsible for communicating to their teammates, classmates and the community regarding their departure. After the withdrawal has been processed, the students' individual Presidio Network and Presidio email account access privileges will be closed after 14 days. Therefore, it is recommended that students manage this change in access accordingly.

## Leave of Absence

A student may request a Leave of Absence (LOA) by contacting the Registrar. Presidio is committed to working with students who have health, financial, and/or personal difficulties that are generally beyond the control of the student. However, an LOA is not automatically granted.

Students requesting an LOA must be in good academic and administrative standing or have been granted a waiver of these requirements due to extenuating circumstances. A leave of absence will be reviewed and approved by the Interim Dean of Faculty, Associate Director of Academic Operations, and Associate Registrar. A leave of absence may be granted for a specified period of time and not more than one academic year. If a leave of absence is requested after registration has occurred, the student is responsible for dropping their classes.

If the approved period for the leave of absence is exceeded and the student does not contact the Registrar to request an extension of the LOA by the first residency of the current semester, the student must reapply to the program and will be considered for readmission as a new applicant.

Students who are absent from the School for a term, and who have not received an approved LOA, will be officially withdrawn and must apply for readmission when they are ready to continue their studies.

Students need to be aware that there are consequences for students who have obtained financial aid and subsequently request a leave of absence:

- If a student takes a leave, federal regulations permit continuing loan deferment for up to 180 days. In this case, the student is no considered withdrawn for financial aid purposes. If the student's leave continues beyond 180 days, the date of withdrawal (and therefore, repayment) reverts to the first day of the leave.
- If a student takes a leave greater than 180 days, the repayment begins at the date of withdrawal.
- If the leave is longer than 180 days, repayment occurs according to the following terms:
  1. Unsubsidized Stafford Loan Program: Repayment begins 6 months after commencement of the leave. When the student returns from leave to at least half-time status, the in-school deferment resumes
  2. Perkins: Repayment begins after a grace period of nine months (for most loans). If the leave is shorter than 9 months, the student will then continue to have the full nine-month grace period available and does not enter repayment. If the leave is greater than nine months, the grace period is no longer available and repayment begins in the tenth month, lasting until the student returns to the program in at least half-time status.
  3. Stafford: Same as Perkins, except the grace period lasts six months instead of nine months (for most loans).
  4. HEAL Replacement Unsubsidized Stafford Loans: Same as Perkins, except the student must return in full-time status.

A leave does not change the time limits for degree completion.

## Cancellation of Registration

The School reserves the right to cancel the registration of any student who does not comply with Presidio rules, regulations, or policies.

## Change of Degree Program

A student who wishes to change degree programs must re-apply to the new area of study. If accepted, the student will be required to pay a processing fee and complete requirements for the new degree program.

## Program Status (Full-time & Part-time)

Presidio defines a Full-time student as one that takes 4 classes (15 or 16 units) per semester or 3 classes (12 or 11 units) per semester. Students may not elect to take 3 classes per semester until they have completed 15 credits. Part-time is defined as a student that takes 2 classes (7 or 8 units) per semester. Part-time students must complete a year of part time status before changing to full-time. A full-time student may change to part-time in any semester. Presidio does not offer 1 class per semester as an option.

Any student who elects to take 3 classes is encouraged to speak with an Academic Advisor. There is no guarantee that required classes will be available outside of the standard 2 or 4 classes per semester schedule. Due to pre-requisites and other registration requirements it may be necessary to take fewer than 4 classes in subsequent semesters. For more information on scheduling an academic advising session, please contact the Associate Director of Academic Operations. Students may make no more than 2 changes in Program Status during their time enrolled at Presidio. Requests for changes in Program Status must be submitted to the Registrar no later than 6 weeks prior to the first day of class. Final decisions regarding requests for changes in Program Status rest with the Dean of the Faculty.

## Graduation

The awarding of degrees is not an automatic process. All students are required to apply for graduation by the deadline date listed in the Academic Calendar. All MBA, MPA and Dual Degree candidates who wish to graduate must:

1. Submit an online graduation application to the Registrar by the deadline. The form can be found on eLearn. A non-refundable fee of \$55 will be charged to your account.
2. Complete the degree requirements.

If degree requirements are not completed on time, a graduation application for the subsequent awarding of degrees term must be submitted to the Registrar.

## Commencement Exercises

Commencement exercises are held once per academic year in May or June. Students who have completed their degree requirements in the past 12 months or who have a graduation application on file may participate in the ceremony. Students may only participate once. Participation in the commencement ceremony does not guarantee graduation.

Presidio advisory board members, faculty, continuing students, graduates and guests are invited to the commencement ceremony. Degree candidates must appear in appropriate attire at the commencement exercises.

## Diplomas & Degree Completion Verification

Only the Registrar is authorized to issue confirmation documentation attesting to matters pertaining to a student's academic work at the School. All degrees will be posted to the permanent record transcript at the end of the term in which the degree requirements are completed. Requirements are considered complete when the Registrar receives relevant documents.

Diplomas are mailed to the graduate's permanent address (on file with the Registrar) 6-8 weeks after Commencement as long as there are no holds on the graduate's account. Diplomas include degree earned, student name and date of completion.

## Academic Policies Related to Registration

For information on grades, academic standing and advising, see the Academic Policies section of this Catalog.

## TUITION, FEES & PAYMENT

Presidio Graduate School is committed to helping students navigate the process of applying for federal financial aid and alternative loans. Current students can find information regarding tuition, expenses, student loans, and the financial aid process including application deadlines in this section of the Catalog.

### Tuition & Fees

The tuition rates for the 2013-2014 academic year are \$1040 per semester credit hour for both full-time and part-time MBA and MPA students. Tuition for full-time MBA and MPA students (30 credits per year) is \$31,200 per year. For part-time MBA and MPA students (15 credits per year), tuition is \$15,600 per year. Other expenses include books and administrative fees. In addition, commuting students may have room and board expenses.

### Application Fees & Matriculation Deposits

Application Fee	\$75
Matriculation Deposit (non-refundable)	\$500

### Tuition Rates & Fees

MBA, MPA (per semester credit hour)	\$1040
HUB Membership (per semester)	\$350
Administrative Fee (per semester)	\$150
Course Reader Fee (per semester per course)	\$25
Technology Fee (per semester)	\$65

### Administrative Fees

Late Registration Fee	\$110
Late Tuition Payment Fee	\$110
Late Deferment Payment Fee	\$60
Add/Drop Fee (per class) (after the end of the add/drop period)	\$30
Payment Plan Fee (per semester)	\$40
Finance Charge per month (on outstanding balance)	1.0%
Reinstatement (into academic program)	\$330

Reinstatement (into courses for de-registration)	\$100
Withdrawal Fee (not charged for an approved leave of absence)	\$110
Return Check Fee (for insufficient funds)	\$40
Student ID Card Replacement Fee	\$15
Graduation Fees	\$55
Diploma Reprinting Fee	\$55
Transcript Fee, official	\$10

### Tuition Payment Policy

Tuition and fees for Presidio Graduate School are billed in August for the fall semester and January for the spring semester. Please see the Academic Calendar for specific dates for each semester. All checks should be made payable to Alliant International University. There is a \$110 late payment fee for payments received after the due dates listed on the Academic Calendar.

The student account statement is available online 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Access to the account is available at <https://ais1.alliant.edu>.

**Late Registration** – Any class that is added after the Add/Drop deadline must be paid in full before it can be added to a student's schedule and requires clearance from the Alliant Student Business Services Office.

**De-Registration for Failure to Pay** – Students who fail to pay their tuition by the posted deadline may be de-registered from the School. In order to have their schedule reinstated, students will be required to provide the Alliant Student Business Services Office with payment in full, proof of guaranteed financial aid funds, or a valid payment plan that has been approved by the Alliant Director of Student Business Services. In addition, any student who is de-registered for non-payment will be charged a mandatory \$100 reinstatement fee and will be responsible for any late fees associated with the original balance due.

No student may register for a subsequent semester, be issued a diploma or transcript or be awarded a degree until all outstanding tuition, emergency loans or fees are paid in full. Non-payment of tuition or fees may result in referral of the delinquent account to an independent collection agency. If an account is turned over to an independent collection agency, the student will be responsible for all attorneys fees and other reasonable collection costs and charges necessary for the collection of any amount past due.

## Making Tuition Payments

Tuition payments can be made two ways:

1. **Online by credit card** at: <https://ais1.alliant.edu>. Login to the Student Information System to access your payment options. Select “For Students”. Your username is your six digit numeric Alliant Student ID# and your password is your birthday (e.g., June 1975 = 675 or October 1982 = 1982).  
If you are having trouble logging into your account, please contact [helpdesk@alliant.edu](mailto:helpdesk@alliant.edu).
2. **Via mail** to Alliant International University, 10455 Pomerado Road, M-18, San Diego, CA 92131

## Tuition Payment Deadlines

If tuition has not been paid in full by the close of business on the first day of the fall and spring semester or if an approved payment agreement (referred to as “deferment”) is not on file with the Alliant Student Business Services Office by the deadline, the student’s account will automatically be charged a \$60 late payment fee.

## Tuition Deferments

Tuition deferments may occur under the following circumstances:

### Outstanding Financial Aid

A student who has applied for Federal Family Educational Loan Programs or any other loan in order to pay tuition must apply for a deferment agreement by the tuition deadline if the financial aid proceeds have not arrived by the tuition payment due date. An interim payment may be required depending upon the nature of the delay. When Alliant receives the funds, they are credited to the student’s tuition account. Any excess credit balance on the student’s account will be refunded based on the established timeframe, legal, and processing requirements.

The Alliant Director of Student Business Services is the only person authorized to approve deferment agreements or tuition adjustments not covered by current policy. This Director must approve all deferment agreements in writing. Students who defaulted on a previous agreement must reapply to the Alliant Director of Student Business Services to be considered for an extension. In most cases, students who previously defaulted on an extension agreement will not be reapproved.

### Monthly Payment Plan

A Deferred Payment Plan must be completed by the student and be approved by the Alliant Director of Student Business Services in order to be valid. The payment schedule must reflect the most expeditious rate of payment possible, but never longer than the end of the current semester. A \$40 deferment fee is charged for this plan and a finance charge will be assessed at the rate of 1.0% (12.0%APR) on the unpaid balance at the end of each month. Payments not made by the agreed upon date will be assessed a \$60 Late Deferment Payment Fee.

Repeated late payments will nullify the agreement and all outstanding tuition immediately becomes payable in full. If financial problems arise, students should contact the Alliant Student Business Office immediately. Defaulted payment plans from prior semesters may cause a student to become ineligible for future Deferred Payment Plans. Past due balances and tuition due from prior semesters may also disqualify students from future payment plans. Students who apply for a payment plan must have a source of funding for making the payments prior to agreeing to a payment plan. Unemployment, under-employment, ineligibility for financial aid, and loss of third

party payers should be considered prior to making the determination to sign a payment plan. It is the student's responsibility to carefully determine whether or not they are able to meet the conditions of the agreement. Failure to complete the deferment agreement can result in de-registration; therefore, it is imperative that the student be able to complete their payment agreement.

## Miscellaneous Fees and Finance Charges

Charges on a student account such as late registration or library fees are due and payable immediately. A finance charge of 1.0% per month will accrue after 30 days, and the account becomes subject to late fee assessment. If any such charge is in dispute, a student should advise the Alliant Student Business Services Office and contact the appropriate department for resolution within 30 days, or the charge will be considered accurate and payable in full.

Any financial disputes must be addressed in writing within one year of the charge or they will be considered accurate and payable in full.

## Alliant Billing Contact

Director of Student Business Services: Michael Sulger, (858) 635-4810, msulger@alliant.edu

## Tuition Reimbursements

Students whose employers help cover tuition costs need to submit Third Party Tuition Billing forms to Michael Sulger at the Alliant Student Business Services office.

If a student is applying for scholarships or tuition reimbursement, he/she may need proof of enrollment or documentation of grades by a certain date. Students should make such requests by contacting the Registrar at the beginning of the semester so that records may be sent out in a timely manner.

## Refund Policy for Students without Financial Aid

If a student who is not a recipient of Title IV student financial aid withdraws from Presidio he/she will be entitled to a refund of the unused portion of his/her tuition and fees according to the following schedule. If a student wishes to withdraw from the program, the student must inform the Registrar in order for the withdrawal to be officially recorded.

Students are refunded according to the following schedule:

- 100% refund if officially recorded during the add/drop period.
- 80% refund if officially recorded within 7 calendar days after the add/drop period.
- 60% refund if officially recorded within 14 calendar days after the add/drop period.

In conjunction with the tuition refund schedule outlined above, there is a \$110 administrative fee if all courses are dropped. The \$110 fee does not apply to students taking an approved leave of absence. Any student who withdraws from Presidio and is a recipient of student loans will have his or her costs and eligible loans prorated according to Title IV guidelines.

Presidio's tuition and refund policy will always begin on the first day of the semester.

## Procedure for Withdrawing/Requesting a Refund

A student must complete the following steps in order to receive a refund:

1. Contact the Registrar to officially withdraw from course(s) and prepare an Add/Drop Form.
2. The Add/Drop Form must be submitted to the Registrar. For students receiving state or federal financial aid, refunds are not always made directly to the student. The official withdrawal date used for refund purposes is the date the student submits the Add/Drop form to the Registrar.

Students on financial aid who withdraw from course(s) should refer to the section on Financial Aid Refunds/Return of Title IV Funds for assistance in determining the impact this action has on their student account balance and financial aid prior to dropping classes.

3. If a credit balance occurs on a student account, the School has 14 days in which to return the excess credit balance to the student.

## Financial Aid Refunds/Return of Title IV Funds

If a recipient of Title IV student financial aid withdraws from Presidio or does not complete the term for which he/she has paid, he/she may be entitled to a partial refund of his/her tuition based on the Return of Title IV Funds Policy. Under this policy, the School will determine how much Title IV student financial aid a student has earned based on the period he/she was in attendance. Any unearned Title IV student financial aid will be returned to the Title IV programs. This pro rata schedule is calculated up through the 60% point in time of the enrollment period at Alliant International University for which the student was charged (measured from the first day of classes through the end of formal instruction, the end of session, or end of term, whichever is earlier).

Funds returned to any Title IV student financial aid program may not exceed those disbursed to the student (or credited to his/her account) from that program. All Title IV refunds will be made within 45 days of the date the student officially withdraws, the date the school determines that the student has unofficially withdrawn, or within 45 days of the date the student fails to return from an approved leave of absence or notifies the school that he/she will not be returning, whichever is earlier.

Any recipient of Title IV federal student financial aid, who withdraws or does not complete the term, must complete a clearance process, including a financial aid exit interview for students who have received educational loan assistance. The clearance and exit interview will explain students' rights and responsibilities as they pertain to tuition refunds, financial aid refunds and return of Title IV funds and educational loans. (See Return of Title IV Funds examples below.)

New student matriculation deposits become tuition paid as of the first day of class and will be treated accordingly in any refund calculations.

Any refund calculated must be returned first to the Title IV programs. Refunds are allocated in the following order:

1. Unsubsidized Federal Direct Loan Program
2. Subsidized Federal Direct Loan Program
3. Federal PLUS/GRADPLUS Loan Program
4. Federal Perkins Direct Loan Program
5. Federal Pell Grant Program
6. Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG) Program
7. Any other Title IV program
8. Other federal, state, private, or institutional student financial aid programs.

## Financial Aid

Presidio Graduate School believes students are making a great investment in their personal and professional development and strives to make the programs affordable. Financial aid may make it possible for students to borrow money at a low interest rate.

Through Alliant International University, Presidio Graduate School has a number of resources available, including:

- Federal Stafford Loans
- Federal Grad Plus Loans
- Alternative Loans
- Outside MBA/MPA scholarships

Financial aid application materials are available each December for the following academic year. Students wishing to be considered for assistance from federal, state, or institutional sources must complete all required forms, which can be found on the Alliant Web site. Check back periodically for special news and announcements on new scholarships, etc.

If students have any questions regarding the financial aid policies, processes, or procedures, they should contact Alliant's Financial Aid office AT [finaid@alliant.edu](mailto:finaid@alliant.edu) or (858) 635-4700.

## A. Where to Begin

The following steps will help make applying for financial aid easier and more understandable for students.

1. **Obtain a Department of Education PIN Number.** A PIN is necessary to electronically sign your FAFSA online. If you do not have one or have forgotten your PIN go to [www.pin.ed.gov](http://www.pin.ed.gov) to obtain one before starting the FAFSA online.
2. **Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)** at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov). You will need to have your 2010 Federal Tax information handy to complete the FAFSA. Alliant International University's Federal School Code is 011117.
3. **Determine Financial Aid Eligibility.** Factors include:
  - being a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen;
  - not being in default on a federal student loan or has made satisfactory repayment arrangements;
  - not owing money back on a federal student grant or has made satisfactory repayment arrangements;
  - being registered with Selective Service (males at least 18 years old, unless not required);
  - having a valid social security number;
  - being enrolled at Presidio/Alliant for a minimum of 5 units per semester (8 units for some aid such as Perkins) in a degree program;
  - making Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) for financial aid recipients. See the below for the requirements of SAP.
4. **Award of Financial Aid Package.** After Alliant's Financial Aid Office receives the results of your FAFSA, a budget will be created for you based upon the information you submitted in your financial aid application. You will be awarded an aid package based upon what qualifications fit you and your budget and resources.
  - You will receive an Electronic Award Letter in your email inbox. You will be notified via email when it is available to view AND accept or decline, within a specified time. Click on the "Your award letter" link and follow instructions to view and accept your offer of financial aid. There are several important steps to the award letter:
    - i. **Acceptance of aid.** You must indicate that you accept or decline the aid that is being offered. You also have the option to reduce the amount.
    - ii. **Selection of a lender.** You must indicate your choice of lender. A list of preferred lenders is provided when you click on "Select Lender." There is also additional information available on Alliant's Web site. You also have the option to type in a lender's name if the lender you want to use is not on the list.
    - iii. **Completion of a Master Promissory Note.** Next to the lender's name will be a link you should click on. This link will take you to your lender's Web site where you can complete the Master Promissory Note. This is your contract with the lender. Once completed, you will need to click back to the award letter.
    - iv. **Electronic Funds Transfer.** You have the option to download an EFT form. The completed form should be sent to the Alliant Student Business Accounts Representative, Dorothea Guillory. Completion of this form will allow your refund to be directly deposited into your bank account.
    - v. **Stafford Loan Entrance Counseling.** A link is provided to the EdFund Web site where you can complete the Stafford Loan Entrance Counseling. Once you have completed the entrance exam, Alliant will be notified electronically. Print out a copy of the confirmation page also. This information is required and will delay the posting of your aid if not completed. Once completed, you will need to click back to the award letter.
  - **Submit.** You will then need to click the submit button to fully submit the award letter.

## B. Different Types of Student Loans

For more information on the different types of student loans, please contact Alliant's Financial Aid office.

### General Information about Stafford Loans

The federal Stafford loan program is the most widely used loan program for graduate students. Federal Stafford loans offer many features, including:

- **Low interest rate.** For the 2013 – 2014 academic year, subsidized Stafford loans have a fixed interest rate of 3.4%. Unsubsidized Stafford loans for graduate students will have a fixed interest rate of 6.8%.
- **No payments required while in school.** Repayment begins six months after you graduate or drop below half-time enrollment.
- **Deferment options.** You can apply for deferment of your repayment while you are enrolled in a graduate or professional program, if you become unemployed, or if you meet certain other conditions.

There are two types of federal Stafford loans: subsidized and unsubsidized.

- Subsidized Stafford loans are interest-free while you are enrolled in school at least half-time and during your six-month grace period. The federal government subsidizes your loan by paying the interest to your lender on your behalf.
- Unsubsidized Stafford loans accrue interest while you are enrolled. You can choose to pay off the interest each month while you are in school, or you can allow the interest to accumulate.

You may be eligible for subsidized or unsubsidized Stafford loan funds, or both. The Alliant International University Financial Aid Office will determine whether you qualify for subsidized Stafford loan funds based on the information you provide on your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), and depending on your total educational budget and other aid funds received. The maximum amount a graduate student can receive from a Federal Stafford Loan is \$20,500 per year.

Loan Fees: An origination fee of up to 1.5% and a default fee of up to 1% may be deducted from each disbursement of your loan.

## Additional Funding

If you need more funds than the Federal Stafford Loans provide, you have two options: the fixed rate Federal Grad Plus loan or a variable rate loan from a private lender. Both options are intended to cover the difference between your full cost of attendance and the other aid you are receiving.

### Grad Plus Loan

The Grad Plus is a new federal loan program that allows you to borrow any amount up to the difference between your cost of attendance minus other aid, for periods of at least half time enrollment (6 units). You must be a U.S. citizen or Permanent Resident and pass a simple credit check. The interest rate for 2013-2014 has been set at 8.5%. A net 3-4% loan fee will be deducted from each disbursement. The Grad Plus Loan may be consolidated with your other federal loans when you leave school.

### Alternative Loans

The choice of which type of loan to use is one that rests with each individual student. Neither Presidio nor Alliant can recommend one specific lender. Although it is recommended that students utilize the federal loan programs first, we understand that individual circumstances may make a private loan more appealing to some students. Presidio encourages students to compare the benefits associated with the different loan types—and in the case of private loans, benefits offered by different lenders—so that each student is able to make an informed choice.

## Outside Scholarships

Presidio has put together a list of relevant scholarships for students. The School encourages students to apply, taking note of all deadlines for application. If students have any questions about scholarships, they may contact the Presidio Admissions Assistant for more details. The list of scholarships is also available on the Presidio Network forum in an electronic format.

## Student Affairs

### Overview

The Student Affairs and Career Development team supports students and alumni by helping them define their career vision and equipping them with the tools and knowledge they need to achieve success. From self-assessments to lifelong networking, the Student Affairs and Career Development team will work with you to build your story in order to transition into another industry, expand your role within your current organization, and realize your leadership potential. As a current student, we encourage you to take advantage of individual career coaching, career development workshops, online resources, and other services to realize your professional goals.

There are abundant opportunities to participate in student leadership roles and clubs as well as initiatives that match your particular mission to extend your academic learning into real-world experiences. In this section you will find the services and support we offer our students and alumni.

### New Student Orientation & Program Logistics

Prior to the start of each semester, Presidio Graduate School organizes a two-day New Student Orientation designed to help students get the best possible start on their graduate studies. Orientation is an important event for new students and attendance is mandatory.

Overall, orientation provides a critical opportunity for you to connect with others around your commitment to sustainability, get oriented to the expectations of being a Presidio Graduate student, and become engaged in the Presidio community. During orientation you will meet full-time faculty, key administrative staff, student leaders, and fellow members of your cohort. Students leave orientation armed with information and details necessary to successfully navigate the logistics of residency weekends and ready to take advantage of the Presidio MBA and MPA experience.

### Program Delivery Method

Presidio's programs combine face-to-face learning with the convenience of distance learning. Each semester, students gather for four days a month at 835 Market Street in downtown San Francisco (and in some cases, at the Presidio headquarters building at 36 Lincoln Blvd. in the Presidio), where they engage in intensive instruction and collaborative, classroom-based learning with faculty and classmates. During the intervening weeks, students and faculty engage in distance learning through online discussions, webinars, conference calls, and team-based course projects using distance-learning resources.

### Classroom Learning

Presidio's MBA and MPA classes are held at the 835 Market Street building, located in downtown San Francisco between 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> streets. Classes take place on the sixth floor of the building. Classroom locations will be posted on the Presidio Network no later than the Monday prior to class.

The entrance to 835 Market Street is at the intersection of Market Street and Powell Street, in the downtown district. The location offers easy access by public transportation, including Muni, BART, Caltrain, and Alameda, Oakland, and Golden Gate ferry services.

There are numerous parking garages located within walking distance of 835 Market Street. The closest option is the Fifth & Mission Garage, at 833 Mission Street. For other downtown parking garage locations, please contact Student Affairs and Career Development.

Classes may also be held at the Presidio headquarters building at 36 Lincoln Blvd. in the Presidio,

### Carpooling and Public Transportation

In keeping with the School's commitment to sustainable practices, Presidio encourages students to carpool or take public transportation as much as possible to residencies. It is up to students to self-organize for rideshares.

**Bay Area-Wide Transit Information:** Visit their Web site or dial 511 from any area code in the counties of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Solano and Sonoma.

**East Bay:** Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) or (510) 465-2278

**North Bay:** Golden Gate Transit or (415) 455-2000

**Peninsula/South Bay:** SamTrans/CalTrain or (800) 660-4287

**San Francisco:** Municipal Railway (MUNI) or (415) 673-6864

Students attending classes at the Presidio headquarters building at 36 Lincoln Blvd. in the Presidio may also take the Presidigo Shuttle, information about which is available at <http://www.presidio.gov/visit/transportation/Pages/shuttle.aspx>

## Presidio Community Events

During each residency the School hosts a community-wide event (usually on Saturday evenings). Community Events are intended to bring together all Presidio stakeholders. Previous events included guest speakers, panel discussions, formal networking events, student initiatives and the Capstone Showcase presentations. Further details on each Community Event will be communicated to students prior to the start of each residency via the Presidio Network.

### Internet Connection during Weekends

Many students bring laptops to residencies for note-taking purposes or for class presentations. Wireless access is provided in all classrooms. Access codes to the wireless network will be communicated via the Presidio Network prior to each residency along with room assignments for each course. If students are bringing a laptop to class, it is recommended that in addition to a power cord, students also bring an extension cord in case it is needed to reach an outlet.

## Video Policy

Video and audio recording of classes is permitted for personal, individual student use only. Recordings may only be viewed by students registered in the class for which the recording is made. Recording of any kind with the intent to distribute content to anyone else is prohibited, including posting on external blogs, Web sites, and forums, except with written permission of the Dean of the Faculty.

## Distance Learning

Presidio Graduate School's distance learning component enables students from all over the world to collaborate regardless of their location or other commitments. For the weeks between residencies, students rely on virtual learning technologies to further their learning. Presidio Graduate School currently utilizes four technologies: Presidio Network (Moodle), Elluminate, conference call services, and Google hosted email. Students in the program are expected to be able to access the Presidio Network for each of their courses through a computer or other appropriate technology. Course assignments and content are delivered via the online classroom (Presidio Network) between the monthly residencies.

## Initial Technology Access

Upon acceptance to the programs students are provided access to the Presidio Network and given a Presidio email account. Access information will be sent to each student's personal email after the initial tuition deposit is paid.

### Presidio Network

The primary instructional platform for learning in the program is known as the "Presidio Network." It is a system built on Moodle software, an open-source Learning Management System (LMS). Moodle stands for Modular Object-Oriented Dynamic Learning Environment and is originally based on social constructionist pedagogy, which states that learning happens best when a student engages in the activity of creating something collaboratively within a community. The Presidio Network serves as an online classroom portal where students have access to all assignments, are able to participate in forum discussions, download resources, and submit assignments for feedback. Each course has its own course page, and there are additional pages for announcements, open community dialogue, student resources, student clubs, and Experiential Learning programs.

Presidio's online community offers a variety of custom features that allow students to interact with classmates and faculty for course work as well as an open community area for students to participate in forums and student clubs. Individual course access will be

activated on the first day of each semester.

## **Elluminate Live Virtual Classroom**

Presidio utilizes a virtual classroom environment called Elluminate Live. Elluminate Live enables students to communicate live via the Internet for real-time online learning and collaboration. Elluminate is an essential tool for faculty office hours, tutoring sessions, lectures by faculty and guest speakers, and for conducting meetings or project presentations. It features high quality voice-over Internet technology as well as an easy-to-use instant messaging feature for e-learning and web collaboration. Each session may be recorded and if so, will be accessible on the Presidio Network after the session is completed.

Elluminate Live requires the use of Java plug-ins installed prior to a student's first session. To download, visit <http://lluminate.com/support/> for step-by-step instructions and user training guides. Training guides are also available on the Presidio Network under the Student Resources section. Moderators or participants will experience the best performance with a headset that has an attached microphone. The use of a PC or laptop's built-in speakers and microphone are not recommended. Students are required to purchase a computer headset to use this service.

USB-based headsets are the best choice for Elluminate. Some recommended brands and models include:

Logitech ClearChat Comfort USB Headset, Model Number: 981-000014

Cyber Acoustics AC-850 USB Stereo Headset, Model Number: AC851B

Plantronics Foldable USB Headset (.Audio 470), Model Number: AUDIO 470 USB

For Reservations, Help Desk and Technical Support: [lluminate@presidioedu.org](mailto:lluminate@presidioedu.org) or (415) 561-9622

## **Conference Call Services**

Presidio faculty occasionally host teleconference sessions for meetings or special events throughout the semester. Access information will be provided by the instructor. When appropriate, students may request use of the Presidio conference line service for meetings with Experiential Learning (EL) business partners. This courtesy is extended to students in order to present the most professional experience possible. Students who request this service must have at least one faculty or one Presidio staff member as a participant or provide information of at least one EL client as a participant. Student requests are subject to approval by the administration, course instructor and/or Student Affairs. Requests will be declined for any personal usage, student-only meetings or non-School related purposes.

To reserve a line, please contact Student Affairs. All requests must allow 24 hours for administrative processing and approval is granted on a first-come, first-serve basis. Presidio is not able to guarantee availability, so students should plan accordingly. Any student that uses the conference line service for anything other than the reasons stated above risks losing this privilege.

## **Presidio Email Account**

Presidio email includes a number of Google's web-hosting features, allowing users to access the web via a secured environment. Web-hosting features (Google Apps) include shared calendars, Word and Excel-type documents, instant messaging, labels and filters for email, and knowledge-base help. It also supports many third-party email applications and mobile devices. Because the email service is web-based, students may want to download Mozilla Thunderbird. Thunderbird is an application that allows users to save all email messages on a computer hard drive, thus giving users access to sent and received messages even when offline.

Students are strongly recommended to activate their email account immediately upon receiving access information. Presidio email accounts are linked to the Presidio Network, which is the School's primary vehicle for broadcasting important announcements and information on upcoming events. It is expected that all students will regularly check their Presidio email account while enrolled in the program.

Access URL: <http://mail.presidiomba.org>

## Online Standards of Conduct

When communicating with others both inside and outside Presidio Graduate School via Presidio email and/or a Presidio Network account, students should use good judgment and consider how one's actions reflect on themselves and the School. Students are expected to demonstrate a high level of professionalism in online interactions and treat all Presidio stakeholders with respect.

### Terms of Use and Policies for Online Accounts

Once a student graduates from a Presidio program, they will be able to maintain their Presidio email account and have limited access to the Presidio Network. Students who withdraw from the program will lose access to both their Presidio email and Presidio Network accounts within 14 days of the withdrawal date and immediately upon dismissal.

Users must not distribute obscene, abusing, threatening, harassing, or unnecessarily repetitive messages. Students should not post or promote any materials that could harm or disrupt another user's computer or intentionally distribute computer viruses or worms. Copyrighted materials may not be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means unless permission of the copyright owner has been obtained. It is strictly prohibited to access email accounts that are assigned to another community member.

These statements govern the use of network resources. It is not intended to be exhaustive. All existing laws, both federal and state, and all relevant School regulations and policies will also apply.

### Virtual Systems Training

New students receive online, instructor-led training on the Presidio Network, Elluminate, and Presidio email prior to the start of the semester. Online training is also supplemented with written documentation and screen-capture videos on a variety of online technology topics, accessible throughout the semester. Individual support is also available through the IT department. All incoming students are required to participate in the virtual systems training in order to gain access to the Presidio Network

## Equipment Requirements

All students must own a computer (desktop or laptop), a headset, and a fast Internet connection (cable, DSL, T1, etc.). Students with laptop computers will find that all classrooms have wireless access during residencies, but laptop computers are not required. Presidio Graduate School is committed to supporting both PC and Mac-based computers, and technical support is available for either platform. Computers should have, at a minimum, the following specifications:

40 MB free disk space

Sound card with speakers

Computer Headset

Wireless Internet card (802.11b or 802.11g)

Java versions 1.5 or 1.6

A word processing program (Microsoft Office, iWork, or Open Office)

#### PCs:

Windows 2000/XP/Vista/7

Pentium III 500 MHz processor

256 MB RAM

#### Macs:

Mac OS X 10.2.8, or higher

G3, G4, G5 or Intel Processor

## Student ID Cards

All incoming students will receive a permanent photo ID card upon enrolling in their first semester. Photos will be taken during the New Student Orientation event. ID cards are issued before the second residency. If dismissed from Presidio, the student will be required to surrender his/her ID card to Student Affairs. Lost or stolen cards can be replaced by contacting the Student Affairs and Career Development department. There will be a non-refundable \$15 charge for each replacement ID card.

## Student Health Insurance

Student health insurance is available through our affiliate, Alliant International University. Visit the provider, Kaiser Permanente, for details on the plans and an application. Enter Alliant as the school name. Visit the Alliant Web site for a direct link to the plan. All students enrolled in 12 units or more are automatically enrolled in Alliant's Student Health Insurance plan. If Students already have Health Insurance, they can choose to waive out of this program by visiting this link:

<https://studentnet.kaiserpermanente.org/wps/portal/WaiveNow?univ=anr>

## Student Assistance Program

Presidio Graduate School offers a Student Assistance Program (SAP) through service provider MHN. The Student Assistance Program is designed to help students manage life's challenges and is available at no cost to students and their eligible dependents. SAP provides assessment, assistance, and when necessary, referral to additional services. Students are entitled to face-to-face (3 per incident per year) or telephonic (unlimited) consultations for a wide range of emotional health, family, and life issues, including:

- Stress and Anxiety
- Depression
- Grief and Loss
- Marriage, relationships, and family problems
- Domestic Violence
- Alcohol and drug dependency

Consultations are also available to help students balance work, life and school covering the following topics: financial services, legal services, identity theft recovery services, childcare and eldercare assistance, and daily living services. To access these services 24/7 students can call [800-327-0556](tel:800-327-0556) or visit [members.mhn.com](http://members.mhn.com) (access code: alliantstudent)

## Disability Services

Presidio Graduate School and Alliant International University are committed to diversity and inclusion of a diverse student body. Presidio provides students with disabilities with reasonable accommodations and services to assist them in accessing the curriculum and school environment. Students with either permanent or temporary disabilities may be eligible for a variety of support services in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Rehabilitation Act, Section 504.

Decisions regarding the exact accommodations to be provided are made on an individual basis. Accommodations are determined based on documentation, student collaboration, and essential functions of the curriculum. Students requesting accommodations must provide verification of disability at least three weeks before the accommodation is needed. Some services or accommodations require considerable review of student's documentation of a disability; therefore it is important for students to plan ahead.

### Applying for Accommodations and Documentation

When a student requests accommodations and services from Presidio, there is a system in place to determine appropriate and reasonable accommodations to support a student's learning. Students who think that they might need disability related accommodations should begin this process as soon as possible. Students should be aware that the process for accommodations might take time to be established and implemented (approximately 2-3 weeks). The first step is to contact the Student Affairs and Career Development department to make an official request for accommodations. This will initiate an interactive process between the student and school. Accommodations will be determined based on student disclosure, discussion with a Student Affairs and Career Development staff member, and documentation from a trained professional qualified to assess the disabling condition in question. All accommodations are considered on a case-by-case basis.

It is standard practice for a university or college to require documentation of disabilities when an individual puts the disability at issue. Presidio has the right to request documentation of any disability, disabling condition or nature of functional limitations due to the disability, but may choose not to exercise this right in some instances when a disability is readily visible and the student is able to describe the functional limitations. A professional qualified to diagnose the disability must provide documentation. Presidio reserves the right to request for further documentation at anytime.

The professional writing the letter of documentation should be qualified to diagnosis the condition the student is requesting accommodations for. For example a chiropractor could not document a learning disability, although they might diagnosis and recommend accommodations for a physical disability. If you have further questions about this, you should consult the Student Affairs and Career Development staff member to determine the best individual to document a disability.

Students in an academic track that leads to licensure should take into consideration that Alliant might accept documentation that a licensure agent may not. It is strongly suggested that students consider updating their documentation to confirm that the accommodations they receive in school is consistent to the licensing agency. This consistency is important in demonstrating a history of accommodations. Students should contact the licensing awarding agency to see what standards might apply to them.

In general, documentation must include the following:

- A diagnosis of the condition
- Assessment(s) this diagnosis is based on (i.e., testing, self-reports, what diagnostic criteria are met)
- How this condition impairs or impacts the student in the educational setting
- Recommended accommodations and services
- Qualifications of the professional making the diagnosis

Please note that the University has the right to determine accommodations through an interactive process with the student. Recommendations from the professional will be taken into consideration but may not necessarily be implemented.

The following is a more specific description of what is needed in documenting a disability:

The qualifications of the evaluator, the testing procedures followed, the instruments used to assess the disability, the test results, and an interpretation of the test results, which includes a diagnosis of a specific learning disability. Such documentation must reflect the individual's present achievement level, be as comprehensive as possible, and adequately measure cognitive abilities and academic achievement skills. For assessment of learning or attention disabilities, the achievement test should sample reading, math, and writing. It must include test results for at least the following characteristics: intelligence, vocabulary, reading rate, reading comprehension, spelling, mathematical comprehension, memory, and processing skill.

Documentation should state the disability or disabling condition that impacts the student's academic functioning. This should include the methodology used. This may include but not limited to tests, assessments and/or clinical information.

It is always preferable to have recent documentation. Many students who were tested in elementary and high school, have received services throughout their education, and reasonably can be assumed to continue to have the disability. Nonetheless, more current documentation may be requested.

Documentation should include current level of functional limitations. This should include how the disability impacts student major life functions. These limitations should substantiate the student's request for accommodations. This should include a description of the expected progression or stability of disability.

Documentation should include current and past accommodations, services, and applicable medications. This might include adaptive devices, assistive technology, and compensatory strategies.

If there is no documented record of a disability but the student feels there is one, the student may pursue an evaluation at his or her own expense. The Student Affairs and Career Development team member can assist you in finding an appropriate professional to perform an evaluation for a learning disability. However, the Student Affairs and Career Development staff member and Alliant are not responsible for the quality and nature of any subsequent evaluation.

## **Records and Privacy**

The school will maintain confidential records related to the disability within Presidio's Student Affairs and Career Development department and Alliant International University's Office of Accessibility ("Accessibility") relating to academic adjustments and accommodations based upon the student's disability. The records will include documentation submitted to verify the disability,

documentation requests for reasonable accommodations, and correspondence with the Student Affairs and Career Development staff member. Information will only be released on a need to know basis such as clarify accommodation requests or in the case of grievances. The records are subject to FERPA/HIPAA rules and regulations.

## Student Governance

Presidio sees its students as a primary stakeholder and an important voice in the Presidio community. Students are encouraged to contact the administrative staff with new ideas, concerns and questions at any time. In addition, students have two important channels of communication:

1. The student survey is an extremely important and valuable tool for students, faculty and, administrative staff to communicate with each other about the most current events in the School. This survey is conducted in addition to the course evaluations administered at the end of the semester. The student survey is an opportunity for students to provide feedback to faculty and staff on what they find most effective and fulfilling, and to raise questions as well as offer ideas on ways to improve the program, such as ideas for guest speakers, feedback to faculty, information about how the residencies are going, and if there are any pressing problems that need to be addressed. Students are strongly encouraged to complete the survey each mid-semester to give faculty valuable feedback in advance of the end-of-semester survey.
2. Student Representatives—Students elect representatives or “reps” from the current student body to act as liaisons between the student body and the administrative staff. Student representatives are responsible for synthesizing feedback from students and providing the administration with an overall perspective on the most pressing issues or concerns among the students. Students may contact reps to ask questions, provide feedback or seek solutions to problems. If students have problems with a representative, they are encouraged to contact the Associate Dean, Student Affairs and Career Development. Student reps meet regularly among themselves and monthly with the administrative staff to discuss student issues or concerns and to receive feedback on how these issues are being addressed. These monthly meetings are comprised of agenda items from key stakeholder groups, including faculty, staff and the student body.

Contact all reps at the following email address: [studentreps@presidioedu.org](mailto:studentreps@presidioedu.org)

## Student Clubs

Presidio encourages students to self-organize into interest-based clubs to facilitate the development of specific priorities and interests. The Associate Dean of Student Affairs and Career Development approves clubs. Once a club is approved, the Student Affairs and Career Development department provides a certain level of oversight through providing a minimal amount of funding for any external speakers invited to present material to the club. In some instances, the administration will co-sponsor an event with a club. Clubs are restricted in the use of the Schools logo on any club materials, in line with marketing policies. In addition, the IT Manager monitors each club’s forum on the Presidio Network, and alerts the Associate Dean, Student Affairs and Career Development to any potential issues. The Student Affairs and Career Development staff is available to provide guidance to the clubs in establishing their goals and planning events. The Student Affairs and Career Development team conducts a yearly review of the clubs. The review includes an evaluation of the clubs forum activity and a request is made to each club point person to submit a summary report of the previous year’s events, future planned events and any leadership/membership changes in order to determine which charters are still active and which have disbanded.

The guidelines for starting a club can be found in the Student Resources section of the Presidio Network. Details regarding current student club offerings can be found on the School’s Web site at: <http://www.presidioedu.org/student-life/student-clubs>.

## Student Discounts

Students can receive discounts on Dell computer products.

Alliant’s Dell Member ID is US24508180. Dell can be reached at 800-695-8133.

Apple also offers special education pricing on Apple computers, software, and select third party products to college students. The discount can be redeemed in person (with student ID) or online: Alliant International University is located in San Diego.

## Career Development

### Overview

The Student Affairs and Career Development team supports students and alumni by helping them define their career vision and equipping them with the tools and knowledge they need to achieve success. From self-assessments to lifelong networking, the Student Affairs and Career Development team will work with you to build your story in order to transition into another industry, expand your role within your current organization, and realize your leadership potential. As a current student, we encourage you to take advantage of individual career coaching, career development workshops, online resources, and other services to realize your professional goals.

There are abundant opportunities to participate in student leadership roles and clubs as well as initiatives that match your particular mission to extend your academic learning into real-world experiences. In this section you will find the services and support we offer our students and alumni.

### Career Development

Presidio Graduate School's Career Development office provides students with the resources needed to build successful, impactful, and meaningful careers in sustainability. Students have access to a variety of resources including career coaching, networking events, skill-building workshops and seminars, and job/internship postings.

### Career Coaching

Career coaching appointments are designed to assist students in identifying their skills, interests, and values as they relate to career objectives and employment choices. Current MBA/MPA students and alumni can sign up for 1-on-1 career coaching sessions to discuss a range of career related issues including job search strategies, interviewing and networking tips, cover letter and resume writing, and negotiating an offer. Students are encouraged to take advantage of 1-on-1 meetings throughout the year, which are available in person and by phone.

### Career Workshops

Workshops help facilitate career exploration and skill building in an interactive and engaging way. Our career development workshops are especially tailored to the needs and interests of Presidio Graduate students with a focus on careers in sustainability. Topics include refining your focus, leveraging your network, and developing a targeted job search strategy. Workshops generally are offered in conjunction with residencies.

### Career Development Forum

The Career Development Forum on the Presidio eLearn Network contains tips and guides related to the job search process as well as industry/sector related information to support students as they explore and map their career plans. Information and updates pertaining to career-related events, skill building workshops, and new listings for full and part-time positions, internships, and other opportunities are found there.

Presidio Graduate School is committed to helping students make the most of their time here as students. Students are encouraged to start thinking about career development from the very beginning of their educational program and to take advantage of career development resources throughout their time at Presidio.

### Professional Memberships

All current Presidio students receive a complimentary membership to Net Impact (MBA) or American Society of Public

Administration/ASPA (MPA) for the duration of their enrollment in the program.

Net Impact is a professional network of thousands of MBAs and professionals committed to leveraging business to create a better world. Net Impact chapters are located in over fifty countries and at top business schools around the country. Two student volunteers act as Presidio's Chapter Leaders each academic year to help coordinate and execute Net Impact events for Presidio students. Details about Presidio's Net Impact chapter can be found on the Presidio Web site.

ASPA has "been the nation's most respected society representing all forums in the public service arena" and is made up of "advocates for greater effectiveness in government – agents of goodwill and professionalism – publishers of democratic journalism at its very best – purveyors of progressive theory and practice and providers of global citizenship."

## Networking Opportunities

Networking opportunities abound for Presidio students. Formal events that Presidio supports include:

### **Career Development Fair**

Presidio Graduate Schools hosts two Career Development Fairs annually, with one each during the fall and spring semesters. These events feature a select group of private, government, and non-governmental organizations that wish to meet with students and alumni to discuss their sustainability efforts and a range of work opportunities—including EL projects, internships, and full-time employment.

### **Presidio Community Events**

During each residency the School hosts a community-wide event (usually on Saturday evenings). Previous events included guest speakers, panel discussions, formal networking events, student initiatives and the Capstone Showcase presentations.

### **Student Business Cards**

All incoming students have the opportunity to order a box (250) of Presidio business cards at no charge.

## Institutional Policies

### Updating Student Contact Information

If a student's contact information changes, he/she is required to notify the Registrar's Office and complete the Change of Address/Telephone/Email Form. In addition, students are responsible for updating personal contact information on the Presidio Network.

### Disclosure or Release of Student Information

Presidio Graduate School does not disclose student information as a matter of practice, unless it is absolutely required to deliver the MBA or MPA program.

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords students certain rights with respect to their education records. To protect the privacy of students, the law sets certain conditions on the disclosure of personal information kept by Presidio Graduate School and Alliant International University. Alliant defines Directory Information as:

- student name
- address
- telephone number(s)
- email address
- date and place of birth
- major field of study
- participation in officially recognized activities and sports
- dates of attendance
- degrees and awards received
- most recent previous school attended

This information may be disclosed without the student's prior consent; however, Presidio students may request that this Directory Information remain private by providing a written statement to the Associate Director of Academic Operations.

A complete copy of the FERPA/Educational Records Policy is available in Appendix A.

### Non-Discriminatory Policy

Presidio Graduate School is non-discriminatory in its hiring and in its admissions, accepting qualified applicants regardless of age, gender, religion, marital status, disabilities, sexual orientation, or national or ethnic origin.

### Sexual Harassment Policy

The prohibition against sexual harassment, a form of discrimination on the basis of sex, is set forth in the Non-Discrimination Policy, in Appendix B. The term "sexual harassment" means unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors and other verbal, visual or physical conduct of a sexual nature. This behavior is unacceptable in the academic environment and in other School-related settings such as School-sponsored activities or School-related social events. The Sexual Harassment Policy can be found in Appendix D.

### Alcohol and Drug Policy

The Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 require that each College and University receiving federal financial assistance provide, annually, information to all students about compliance with this law. Presidio Graduate School has adopted Alliant's statement regarding a Drug Free School\*:

*Presidio Graduate School strictly prohibits the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, use, sale, purchase, transfer,*

*consumption, or being under the influence of a controlled substance on Presidio Graduate School property or as part of any Presidio-sponsored activity. Presidio also prohibits the abuse of prescription drugs as well as the illegal use, purchase, sale or attempted sale of prescription drugs. The use of alcoholic beverages during scheduled class time, including meals and breaks, is absolutely prohibited. Alcohol consumption may be permitted when authorized by the President or Dean of the Faculty for approved Presidio functions. However, being under the influence of alcohol at any Presidio function is prohibited. Using or being under the influence of unauthorized drugs while attending Presidio Graduate School approved functions is also prohibited. Violation of this policy will constitute grounds for disciplinary actions.*

**Note:** Alliant International University's comprehensive drug free and smoke free policy can be viewed in full on their Web site at [www.alliant.edu](http://www.alliant.edu).

## Standards of Engagement

By accepting Presidio's offer of admission and when registering for courses, students agree to abide by the policies and procedures of Presidio Graduate School. Graduate students are expected to act with professional competence and demeanor at all times, and to meet and uphold the ethical standards of the professional world. Presidio Graduate School reserves the right to define professional competence and demeanor and advocates the following community-wide Standards of Engagement:

1. We commit to act with and practice high standards of professionalism and leadership.
2. We take action to produce fulfillment of our shared commitment to learning for the sake of producing a world that is sustainable and socially just.
3. We take responsibility for situations of breakdown, dissatisfaction, and disagreement and view them as opportunities for leadership, and we act to: initiate the missing conversations; have people's concerns listened to; and produce resolution.
4. We hold ourselves and other members of the Presidio community to standards of interaction that are: respectful and promote dignity; collaborative and cooperative; attentive to, and honoring of, our roles.
5. We commit to address situations in which there is disconnection from our shared care and commitment as a community, including those that involve: gossip, bad moods, and assessments made without grounding.
6. We recognize the difference between making promises and having expectations, and when expectations are unfulfilled move to make requests, offers and proposals that produce shared promises.
7. We commit to clarify promises and who the customers are for them, keeping in mind that:
  - Students are customers for the promises made by the mission, vision, values and overall educational model of the School and for the promises made by the faculty for their courses.
  - Faculty are customers for the engagement of the students in the learning practices of their course and in meeting the standards of learning of the course.
  - Administration is the customer for the members of the community meeting standards for community collaboration, dialogue and honoring the policies of the School.

## Professional Code of Conduct

### Conduct Jurisdiction

Presidio Graduate School strives to create an environment that endorses academic achievement and integrity. The School seeks a professional community that is respectful of the rights and welfare of students, faculty, staff, and guests of the School. The School's faculty and administrative staff are committed to act in accordance with the same professional and ethical standards as students to co-create an environment that does not threaten the physical or mental health or safety of members of the Presidio community.

Presidio reserves the right to take necessary action to protect the safety and well being of the School community and to protect its facilities and programs. All students, regardless of where they live, are members of the academic community with the same basic rights and responsibilities. All students are subject to the Professional Code of Conduct. The School may deal with violations whether they occur on or off campus.

Students are expected to observe administrative deadlines listed in the Academic Calendar, including registration, add/drop dates and withdrawal and tuition payment deadlines. Students are responsible for ensuring that all financial aid information is complete and accurate. Failure to abide by any of the above constitutes grounds for probation or dismissal from Presidio.

In addition, students are expected to abide by all applicable laws including the laws of the State of California, and the United States of America. Students who violate the law may incur penalties prescribed by civil authorities. In such cases when the School's interests are involved, the authority of the School may be asserted. The President or designee will determine if the interests of the School are involved and if legal and/or disciplinary action is necessary.

Violation of a School regulation, which is a violation of civil law or criminal law, which affects the School, shall be procedurally handled as a School disciplinary situation regardless of whether there is a prosecution under law. Disciplinary action at the School will not be subject to challenge on the grounds that criminal charges involving the same incident have been dismissed or reduced. Finally, the implementation of School disciplinary authority does not protect the student from, nor does the School necessarily consider it to be a substitution for civil process or criminal prosecution.

Student organizations (e.g. clubs) formally approved by the School are subject to the same regulations as individual students. Cases will be considered if a significant number of students involved in the alleged offense belong to an organization, or if planning and leadership responsibility for an alleged offense came from student members of an organization. Sanctions for organization misconduct may include probation, withdrawal of official recognition or limitations on the use of facilities and privileges afforded by the School, as well as other appropriate sanctions as provided in this code. In general, the School, by its disciplinary authority, attempts to promote:

1. concern with matters that impinge upon academic achievement and standards, and the personal integrity of students;
2. protection of property;
3. interest in the mental and physical health and safety of members of its community;
4. concern for preserving the peace, for ensuring orderly procedures, and for maintaining student morale;
5. responsibility for character development, for maintaining standards of decency and good taste, and for providing an appropriate moral climate on the campus; and
6. protection of its good relations with the surrounding larger community.

### Conduct Regulations

A student who is found in violation of any of the following regulations is subject to the sanctions authorized in this Catalog. The implications of some violations are so serious that a single incident would require a sanction at or near the maximum. Other violations become significant through repetition or if they are committed intentionally or recklessly.

A violation will be regarded as more serious if it is done because of race, gender, color, religion, national origin, disability or sexual orientation of another individual or group of individuals. Academic misconduct, including all forms of cheating and plagiarism, is outlined in the Academic Code of Conduct. The following conduct is prohibited:

1. Actual or threatened physical assault or intentional or reckless injury to self, persons or property.
2. Offensive or disorderly conduct, which causes interference, annoyance or alarm, or recklessly creates a risk of harm.
3. Interference with the freedom of any person to express his/her views, including invited speakers.
4. Interference with entry into or exit from buildings and areas or free movement of any person.
5. Behavior or activities that endanger the safety of oneself or others.
6. Violation of any of the restrictions, conditions, or terms of a sanction resulting from prior disciplinary action.
7. Failure to provide identification upon demand by or to comply with other directions of School staff members or the staff of contractual affiliates of the School acting in the performance of their duties.
8. Misuse of School documents including but not limited to forging, transferring, altering or otherwise misusing a student ID card, or other School identification.
9. Possession, sale, use, transfer, purchase, delivery of drugs, or being in the presence of drugs, or drug paraphernalia, except as expressly permitted by law.
10. Making false statements in any application for admission, petition, request, or other official School document or record.
11. Forcible entry into a building or other premises.
12. Unauthorized presence in a building or other premises.
13. Possession or use of firearms, fireworks, dangerous weapons, ammunition, or possession of chemicals when not authorized or possession or use of realistic looking toy weapons that can be used to threaten people.
14. Starting fires, or explosions; false reporting of a fire, bomb, incendiary device, or other explosive, or any false reporting of an emergency.
15. Tampering with fire or safety equipment.
16. Theft, damage, destruction, tampering or defacement of personal, School or School affiliates' property.
17. Obscene, lewd or indecent conduct.
18. Illegal gambling.
19. Unauthorized use of School property or property of members of the School community or School affiliates.
20. Violation of published School policies, rules and regulations, including, but not limited to alcohol use, smoking, and verbal and/or written harassment.
21. The misuse of telephone, communication and/or computer equipment, including electronic mail.
22. Any violation of federal, state or local law.
23. Use of School facilities for commercial purposes.
24. Children in classrooms. Presidio students are not permitted to bring children to class. Many topics discussed in School classrooms are inappropriate for children, and having children in the classroom is often a distraction that takes away from the educational experience. Please make other arrangements for childcare.
25. Animals in a Campus Building or Classroom. Presidio students are not permitted to bring non-service animals inside campus buildings or classrooms. These animals can be disruptive, non-hygienic, and potentially unsafe. This policy acknowledges the rights of individuals with disabilities to use service animals and distinguishes between service animals, including seeing-eye dogs, and non-service animals.

## Disciplinary Procedures

Distinct disciplinary procedures have been designated to ensure a fair hearing. Complaints involving discrimination will follow the procedures outlined in the sections titled Non-Discrimination Policy and Student Grievance Policy. Other incidents will be processed according to the following disciplinary procedures.

## Disciplinary Charge(s)

1. Any member of the School community may bring charges against any student. Such charges must be in writing and filed with the President or designee.
2. A complaint filed in writing must be received within 90 calendar days of the infraction. This time for filing can be extended up to one calendar year by the President or designee based upon unforeseen information or circumstances.
3. President or designee will direct the charges to the appropriate hearing officer.

## Disciplinary Process

1. The accused student(s) or organization officers will be provided written notification of the time, place, and date of the hearing. Sufficient notice is defined as at least five calendar days. The notice will include the charges that will be reviewed and other pertinent information about the hearing. An extension may be requested within two days of receipt of the notice.
2. The student(s) or organization representative(s) has/have the right to have a friendly advisor present at the hearing that may be a faculty member, student or staff member. Attorneys may not be present.
3. The hearing will be closed to the public, except for the immediate members of a student's family and for his/her advisor or witnesses. The School reserves the right to review individuals participating in hearing procedures based upon the involvement with the incident.
4. Oral or written testimony by the accused student(s) or witnesses involved may be presented.
5. Accused students will be afforded an opportunity to hear all testimony against them and question witnesses testifying against them.
6. Student witnesses may be subject to charges of dishonesty within the School disciplinary system if their testimony is deemed to be intentionally inaccurate.
7. Prospective witnesses, other than the accuser and accused student(s), may, at the discretion of the School hearing officer, be excluded from the hearing during the testimony of other witnesses.
8. Any person, including the accused student(s), who disrupts a hearing, may be excluded from the proceedings.
9. The hearing will be conducted in a fair and impartial manner, although strict rules of evidence do not apply. A suggested order for the hearing is as follows:
  - a. Introductions
  - b. Disciplinary philosophy of the School
  - c. Charges (in the presence of the accused)
  - d. Evidence in support of the charge
  - e. Witnesses in support of the charge
  - f. Evidence in support of the accused
  - g. Witnesses in support of the accused
  - h. Review of the evidence and testimony
  - i. If an accused student fails to appear at a scheduled hearing without a valid excuse, the School hearing officer will proceed to a decision based upon the evidence presented.
  - j. Hearings must be recorded on audiotape or other reliable means of making a record as determined by the School hearing officer. The record must be maintained in the Student Affairs and Career Development department for two years or until such time as all School appeal procedures are exhausted.
  - k. Pending action on any charges, the status of the student will not be altered, except in cases involving interim suspension and only in accordance with the procedures for such suspensions.
  - l. The accused has the right to receive in writing the decision of the hearing officer which must contain the reasons for the action, findings of fact, and an explanation of the sanction(s).
  - m. The School hearing officer shall prepare this notification in a timely manner, but no longer than 30 calendar days after the hearing.

## Disciplinary Sanctions

The following disciplinary sanctions comprise a range of official action, which may be imposed for violation of regulations. One or more sanctions may be imposed. When a student has been suspended or dismissed from the School for disciplinary reasons, tuition refunds are not available. Additionally, students who violate federal, state, or local laws also may be referred to the criminal justice system for prosecution. For students found to be using drugs or be in violation of the alcohol use policy, a condition of continuance at the School

may include the completion of an appropriate education or rehabilitation program.

## **Warning**

This written action is taken when the individual's conduct or involvement merits an official admonition. The student is warned that further misconduct may result in more severe disciplinary action.

## **Disciplinary Probation**

*Probation Level I.* A serious form of reprimand that is fitting for the type of violation or repeated violations as designated for a certain period of time by the School hearing officer. The student may, if it is deemed appropriate, represent the School in activities and hold office in student organizations during the time stipulated as probationary. The student is notified that further infractions of any School regulation may result in more stringent restriction being placed on his/her actions.

*Probation Level II.* The most serious level of disciplinary sanction short of suspension from the School. The student remains enrolled at the School under circumstances defined by the School hearing officer. The student may not represent the School in any official capacity or hold office in any student organizations. The student is, however, still considered to be in "good standing" academically. Representing the School in an official capacity includes participating in recognized student organizations or holding office as a student representative. This probation level indicates to the student that further violations of any School regulations will result in more stringent disciplinary action, including but not limited to, dismissal or suspension from the School. Additional restrictions may be placed on the student while on Level II probation, such as restriction from campus events and activities.

## **Interim Suspension**

The President or designee may suspend a student for an interim period pending full disciplinary proceedings whenever there is evidence that the continued presence of the student on the campus poses a substantial threat to the safety or well being of any person or persons, School property, or the property of others. An interim suspension may become effective immediately without prior notice. A student suspended on an interim basis will be given an opportunity to appear personally before a hearing officer within 10 or fewer calendar days from the effective date of the interim suspension.

During an interim suspension, the student will be barred from all or part of the School premises. Any student under interim suspension who returns to the portion of campus to which he/she is barred without permission from the President will be subject to dismissal and arrest for trespassing.

## **Suspension**

This sanction is one of involuntary separation of the student from the School for a designated period of time. After this period of time, the student is eligible to return. The School hearing officer may establish additional requirements, which must be fulfilled to his/her satisfaction, prior to reinstatement. Permanent notation of suspension will appear on the student's transcripts and academic history. The student shall not participate in any School-sponsored activity and may be barred from School premises during suspension.

## **Mandatory Leave of Absence**

A student is recommended for Mandatory Leave of Absence in circumstances in which the academic work or professional development, in the opinion of the Dean of the Faculty requires serious remediation that necessitates withdrawal from the School and a required leave of absence in order to complete the necessary remediation. In all cases, the required leave of absence causes the student loans to go into a repayment status, with no recourse for loan deferment. Financial aid recipients who are placed on a Mandatory Leave of Absence may ask lenders for forbearance.

## **Dismissal**

This sanction is one of involuntary and permanent separation from the School. Notice of permanent dismissal will appear on the student's academic history and transcript. The student will also be barred from School activities and premises.

## **Suspension of Organization Recognition**

This sanction consists of the withdrawal for a stated period of time of all or part of the official recognition of an organization. Such action may include conditions for reinstatement or recognition. Total removal of recognition results in complete suspension of the organization.

## **Revocation of Organization Recognition**

This sanction is permanent cancellation of the official School recognition and privileges of an organization and causes the organization to disband and its activity to end.

## **Restitution Fines**

Restitution fines may be demanded by the School in addition to any other sanction applied. Restitution fines may include an administrative fee for processing.

## **Appeal Procedures**

Formal appeal of a decision reached by the School hearing officer must be made to the President or designee in writing within five days of the receipt of the outcome of the hearing. Failure to submit the appeal in writing within the allotted time will render the original decision final. An appeal must be based upon one or more of the following conditions:

1. Errors in interpretation or implementation of procedures for conduct violations were so significant as to effectively deny the student a fair hearing;
2. New and significant evidence, which could not have been discovered by diligent preparation for presentation at the initial hearing, is now available; or
3. Lack of substantial evidence in the record to support the outcome below.

The President will limit his/her inquiry to the record of fact from the hearing. The President must respond to an appeal in writing within 10 calendar days. The President may reject, amend or modify the action taken by the hearing officer, or grant a new hearing with him or her. Should a hearing be granted, the student will receive notification of the time, place and date. The hearing is informal and no record will be made.

## **Student Grievance Policy**

If a student has a non-grade related problem or dispute concerning the program, curriculum or an individual (staff member, faculty, or fellow student), the following procedure should be followed.

### **Introduction**

Presidio Graduate School is committed to maintaining an atmosphere of acceptance, civility, and mutual respect for the rights, duties, and sensibilities of each individual. Occasionally, however, complaints or concerns arise, the timely resolution of which is important to maintaining the desired School atmosphere. The School will treat each complaint or concern seriously, and attempts to resolve issues quickly and effectively using informal processes. The School encourages the prompt reporting of complaints so that a rapid response can be made and appropriate action taken.

Students should use the guidelines and policies that follow if problems arise with the School staff, student support services, administrators, faculty, or other students.

The principles that underlie this policy and its related procedures are that:

- All students should receive fair and equitable treatment
- Relationships among members of the community will be conducted with respect, professionalism and honesty
- Most problems can be resolved informally. Mistakes or omissions occur on occasion and need to be corrected. Often problems can be resolved quickly by identifying them to the appropriate person for correction or resolution

- Students should take appropriate action as soon as they have a concern that is not being dealt with through the normal channels set up to address the area(s) of concern
- Confidentiality will guide the grievance process to the extent practical and appropriate under the circumstances
- These guidelines and the School's values obligate everyone to proceed in candor and good faith at all times
- No students will be penalized for good faith efforts to resolve problems or concerns by using these guidelines and policies
- Presidio prohibits all forms of harassment and/or discrimination on the basis of race, national origin, color, creed, religion, sex, age, marital status, disability, medical condition, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity or associational preference. Grievances or complaints that are based on one of these areas need to be reported to the Associate Dean, Student Affairs and Career Development, Dean of the Faculty, or the President.

These guidelines and policies are not intended to replace administrative judgment or academic freedom, but instead serve to facilitate the decision-making process in areas of concern or complaint. Additionally, there are formal policies and procedures for certain issues (such as appeals about grades; see Presidio's Catalog) that are governed by specific processes that should be followed.

## Informal Actions to Achieve Problem Resolution

The following steps represent the School's informal dispute resolution process and, as such, outside legal or other counsel may not be present for either the respondent or the complainant. If outside legal counsel becomes involved, the informal problem solving process ceases.

- **Step One:** Students should first attempt to solve the problem through direct discussion.  
The School encourages discussion between the parties directly involved in a dispute, especially in the early stages. When first faced with a concern or problem regarding academic or administrative policy, procedure, decision, or conduct, students should first make a good faith attempt to resolve the problem through one or more discussions about the problem with the person(s) most directly involved.
- **Step Two:** If discussion does not solve the problem, help should be sought.
- If direct discussion does not solve the problem, or if the student would like additional help or support in continuing the resolution process, or needs advice about how to engage in a discussion about difficult issues, or just feels unsure about what next step to take, Associate Dean, Student Affairs and Career Development should be consulted.

The Associate Dean, Student Affairs and Career Development will assist students with this process. The Associate Dean will work to understand the problem and then will do one or more of the following:

- Provide consultation about next steps or assist in contacting the MBA or MPA Associate Dean, if appropriate.
- Provide direct assistance if the problem is administrative.
- Refer the student to an appropriate academic advisor or administrator, or work with the student to get access to appropriate academic assistance or consultation if the issue is academically related.
- If multiple issues are involved, the Associate Dean, Student Affairs and Career Development can work to assemble all the appropriate parties to address the issue.
- If discrimination or harassment is involved, the Associate Dean, Student Affairs and Career Development can assist with any safety issues, and ensure that the problem is reported appropriately.

The Associate Dean, Student Affairs and Career Development is responsible for working collaboratively with students to identify the appropriate School resources to help them, and in administrative areas may be able to provide direct support. The chart to the right shows the various people who can provide help and support:

The Associate Dean, Student Affairs and Career Development or others being worked with may request that information be provided in writing to assist with the resolution of the issue. A good faith effort should be made to resolve the issues at an informal level before filing a formal grievance.

## Formal Complaint Mechanism: Filing a Grievance

Students have the right to file a grievance, either initially or preferably after first having attempted to resolve the problem after using the steps and the various resources described above. All grievances must be filed within 180 calendar days of the alleged violation or the time at which the person making the complaint (the complainant) knew (or should have known) of the alleged violation. Failure to file a formal grievance within the 180-calendar-day period constitutes waiver of the right to file a grievance.

The student should discuss the grievance with the Associate Dean, Student Affairs and Career Development. She/he will assist the student in determining whether the matter is grievable, and if so, in determining the appropriate grievance officer to address the matter. Grievable issues include:

- Unfair or unreasonable treatment by a staff or faculty member in relation to the discharge of School-related duties;
- Violation of a duly adopted School policy as described in the School's catalog or other publications;
- Illegal discrimination under federal, state or local law;

Unethical conduct according to recognized professional standards.

Individuals Who May Help	Areas of Responsibility
<b>Associate Dean of Student Affairs and Career Development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Communications with staff</li> <li>- Basic service issues</li> <li>- Environmental issues, which may include questions about diversity and inclusion</li> <li>- Respectful treatment among community members</li> <li>- Financial Aid</li> <li>- Registration</li> <li>- Student Business Office</li> <li>- Tuition and billing</li> <li>- Facilities needs</li> <li>- Safety and security</li> </ul>
<b>Academic Advisor</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Academic performance</li> <li>- Academic progress</li> <li>- Evaluation issues (excluding grades)</li> <li>- Unethical behavior</li> <li>- Fear of retaliation</li> <li>- Comprehensive exams/preliminary exams/proficiency reviews</li> <li>- Classroom statements of prejudice</li> <li>- Issues of culture, diversity, and inclusion</li> </ul>
<b>President or Human Resources Officer</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Discrimination<sup>3</sup></li> <li>- Harassment<sup>4</sup></li> </ul>
<b>Dean of the Faculty<sup>2</sup></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Problem solving, including problems that aren't getting solved</li> <li>- Communication regarding problems</li> <li>- Finding answers to complex or difficult questions</li> <li>- Facilitating difficult conversations</li> </ul>
<p>1. If the person with whom the student is having difficulty is the Associate Dean of Career Development and Academic Affairs, contact instead the President.                  2. Any student may contact the Dean of the Faculty.                  3. Issues regarding discrimination can also be reported to the Office of Civil Rights of the U.S. Department of Education, or the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing.                  4. Harassment complaints can also be made to the President or Dean of the Faculty.</p>	

The following issues are not reviewable through the grievance process:

- An issue that would dispute the legitimate exercise of professional judgment by School faculty, administration, or staff;
- The content of any policy or procedure currently in force at the School<sup>1</sup>
- A student performance evaluation, or grade for a course or field placement or for independent academic work under the supervision of a faculty member (grade appeals process applies);
- A decision regarding a student's academic status made by a duly designated administrative officer or committee;
- A procedural or final decision of a previous complaint or grievance;
- Any action taken more than 180 calendar days prior to a complaint or grievance.

The Associate Dean, Student Affairs and Career Development will generally seek assistance from other School personnel in making a determination that the issue is grievable, and will normally inform the student of that decision within 10 business days except when the School is closed (e.g., for official holidays). If the grievance is against a faculty member, the Associate Dean, Student Affairs and Career Development will refer the complaint to the Dean of the Faculty.

If the problem is not permitted to be reviewed through the grievance policy or other School policies that may apply, and, depending on the specific issue involved, the Associate Dean, Student Affairs and Career Development will either review the complaint himself, based on the specific area of responsibility and authority within which the complaint falls, or refer the complaint to the appropriate authority, generally, the Dean of the Faculty or to the President or Human Resources Officer when the complaint concerns issues of employment, discrimination or harassment. The Associate Dean, Student Affairs and Career Development will notify the student in writing of that referral. This School official designated to review the complaint will normally issue a ruling regarding the complaint within 20 business days and will provide the student in writing of the ruling. If more time is needed, the person handling the complaint will notify the student to that effect. The ruling on a complaint that is not reviewable in the grievance process is final and cannot further be appealed.

If the complaint concerns the Associate Dean, Student Affairs and Career Development, the complaint should be filed with the President or Human Resources Officer who will serve as the reviewing or referral authority.

After determining that the grievance concerns a grievable issue, the Associate Dean, Student Affairs and Career Development will ensure that the grievance is forwarded to the appropriate School officer who will then become the Grievance Officer, that is, the person responsible for reviewing and deciding the outcome of the grievance. In general, Grievance Officers will be assigned by the type of concern that has been raised:

Area of Grievance:	Grievance Officer
Administrative matters	Associate Dean of Student Affairs and Career Development
Academic matters	Associate Director of Academic Operations or Full-time Faculty Member
Discrimination or harassment	President or Human Resources Officer

If the complaint concerns one of the designated Grievance Officers, it will be forwarded to the person's supervisor, who then becomes the Grievance Officer for the case. Complaints regarding violation of professional ethical standards will be referred to the relevant committee on ethics. When a valid grievance is in process, any related action will normally be stayed until the grievance procedure is completed. However, when, in the opinion of the Grievance Officer, there is reasonable cause to believe that immediate action is needed for the health, safety, or welfare of the complainant or other members of the community or to avoid disruption of the academic process, the Grievance Officer will work with appropriate parties to take immediate interim appropriate actions. All parties will be informed in a timely manner and in writing of any such interim actions.

*1 If the issue concerns a policy that is allegedly unfair, the complaint should be raised through the problem solving processes described here.*

## Roles and Responsibilities of the Grievance Officer

- Records the date of the grievance as the date the complaint was determined to be reviewable as a grievance.
- Provides the person against whom the grievance has been filed ("the respondent") with a copy of the grievance and a copy of the grievance processing procedures.
- Provides a copy of the grievance procedure to the complainant and assists the complainant with information regarding the complainant's right and responsibilities in the process of filing a grievance.
- Provides copies of the grievance to appropriate School personnel in a confidential manner for recordkeeping purposes only. When the person against whom the grievance is filed is another student, a copy of the complaint is filed with the

Associate Dean, Student Affairs and Career Development. When the respondent is a staff member, a copy of the complaint is filed with the Human Resources Office.

- Appoints a three-person panel to hear the grievance. The panel shall consist of one student, one faculty member, and one non-faculty employee, all chosen at the discretion of the Grievance Officer. All panel members must be full-time in their respective roles, and must have worked or been a student at the School for at least one full year. A hearing panel member must withdraw from participation if a conflict of interest is (or should be) anticipated.
- Makes requests for all documents relevant to the complaint, and ensures (subject only to privacy laws) that all information is distributed to all parties. Documents not deemed relevant to the complaint by the Grievance Officer will not be forwarded to the grievance panel or the parties.
- Establishes a date (that can be no later than 30 calendar days after the grievance was determined to be reviewable as a grievance) for the grievance-hearing panel to meet. All parties will be given reasonable advance written notice of the hearing. This notice of the grievance hearing will include a brief statement of the factual basis of the complaint, the time and place of the hearing, and the names of the panel members. Either party to the complaint may request a new panel member on the grounds of conflict of interest but must submit the request directly to the Grievance Officer prior to the hearing date so that an alternate panel member can be identified. Requests for new panel members, which in the exclusive judgment of the Grievance Officer do not have an appropriate basis, will not be approved.

## Rules for Investigating the Complaint

- Retaliation, harassment, or discrimination against a student filing a grievance or participating as a witness in the investigation will not be tolerated. Any incidents of retaliation should be reported immediately to the Grievance Officer or Dean of the Faculty. Allegations of alleged discrimination or harassment should be reported to the President or Human Resources Officer.
- Only those who have an immediate need to know, including the individual to whom the report is made, the accused, and any witnesses or other involved parties, are permitted to know the identity of the complainant. Persons contacted in the course of the investigation will be advised that all parties involved in a charge are entitled to respect and that any retaliation against an individual who has made a complaint, or who has provided evidence in connection with a complaint is a separate actionable offense as provided below. Confidentiality is to be maintained throughout the investigation to the extent practical and appropriate under the circumstances.
- If any party fails to cooperate with a School-sponsored investigation, he or she will be subject to appropriate discipline.
- If the investigation results in a finding that the complainant falsely, knowingly or in a malicious manner accused another of violating School policies, the complainant will be subject to appropriate sanctions, up to and including dismissal from the School.
- Both parties shall receive copies of all documents developed or utilized in the investigation of the complaint (in so far as is consistent with privacy laws).
- The School will maintain a confidential written record of the grievance and how it was investigated and resolved by the appropriate Grievance Officer. This record will be retained for six years from the date of resolution of the grievance unless new circumstances dictate that the file should be kept for a longer period.

## Roles and Responsibilities of the Hearing Panel

- Has the discretion to establish reasonable procedures for the hearing.
- Discusses testimony, hears issues, and considers all available evidence pertaining to the charge(s). Any relevant evidence may be admitted if it is the sort of evidence on which reasonable and responsible persons are accustomed to relying in the

conduct of serious affairs. This is true regardless of the existence of any common law or statutory rules that might otherwise make improper the admission of the evidence.

- Evaluates the relevancy and weight of testimony and evidence and makes its finding of fact, limiting its investigations and decisions to the formal charge(s). Accusations not specifically related to the alleged violation will not be considered.
- Conducts the hearing in a fair, dignified, and orderly manner.
- Makes an adequate record of the proceedings using tape recording or other appropriate means since all evidence becomes part of the overall record of the grievance.
- Renders a decision no later than ten (10) School working days after the hearing is completed and notifies the Grievance Officer in writing.

## Hearing Rules

- Grievance hearings are closed except for the parties involved and their advisors, and any relevant witnesses.
- Witnesses may be excluded from the hearing except while giving testimony.
- Any member of the panel may ask questions.
- The panel may call other “expert” witnesses for assistance, whether or not the parties present testimony from experts at the hearing.
- Anyone who disrupts the hearing may be excluded.
- Representation by outside legal counsel is not permitted. However, each party may choose a non-legal advisor to assist in the presentation of evidence. Advisors are not permitted to participate directly at the hearing. Consultation at the hearing may occur only with the consent of the hearing panel.

## Outcome and Notification

- Within 15 working days of the grievance hearing, and subject to any legal restrictions on the disclosure of disciplinary actions and appeal rights, the Grievance Officer will notify in writing the parties involved in the grievance of the findings of the hearing panel.
- Any School staff or administrator found to be responsible for offenses in violation of School policy would be subject to appropriate disciplinary action up to and including dismissal. The severity of the disciplinary action will depend on the circumstances of the infraction.
- Any student found to be responsible for offenses in violation of School policy would be subject to appropriate disciplinary action up to and including suspension or dismissal. The severity of the disciplinary action will depend on the circumstances of the infraction.
- The notification will include information about the right to appeal the decision.

## Appeal Issues

The findings of a grievance-hearing panel may be appealed only on the following three grounds.

1. Errors in interpretation or implementation of grievance procedures were so significant as to effectively make a fair hearing of the issues impossible;

2. Presentation of new and significant evidence that could not have been discovered by diligent preparation for presentation at the initial hearing is now available;
3. Lack of substantial evidence in the record to support the outcome.
4. Development.
5. Appeals concerning academic matters other than those involving faculty members (in which case the Faculty Handbook provisions apply) are made to the Dean of the Faculty. These individuals may designate someone other than themselves to serve as the Appeal Officer because of a conflict or other constraints. The identified person becomes the Appeal Officer.
6. The request for appeal must be made within 10 working days of the original decision.
7. The Appeal Officer will determine whether the grounds for appeal have been met. If not, the complainant will be so informed and no appeal process will take place.
8. If the Appeal Officer determines that the grounds for appeal have been satisfied, s/he will conduct a thorough review of the evidence, and issue a written decision to the parties within 10 working days of the receipt of the appeal. The decision of the appeal officer is final except when the Appeal Officer's behavior in the appeal is itself at issue, in which case the School's President is the reviewer and final appeal authority.

Students are responsible for becoming familiar with the information presented in this Catalog and for following all policies, procedures, meeting deadlines and requirements. This responsibility includes, but is not limited to, academic requirements and general rules listed in this Catalog. Regulations will not be waived nor exceptions granted based on a student's lack of knowledge regarding Presidio policies and procedures.

Upon recommendation by the Board of Directors, faculty are appointed by the Dean of the Faculty. The curriculum is developed by the faculty and, upon recommendation of the Dean of the Faculty, approved or disapproved by the Board

## Academic Policies

### Catalog Controlling Graduation

Students must satisfy degree and course requirements as outlined in the catalog in effect at the time of first enrolling at Presidio as degree candidates, provided they do not interrupt their studies. Once students interrupt their program, it may be necessary to satisfy the degree requirements as outlined in the School catalog in effect at the time they re-enter as newly enrolling degree candidates, even if the changes in curriculum for that program are significant. Students may be able to graduate under the degree requirements from a more recent catalog than their matriculation catalog if the courses are available. It should be noted that while students are required to satisfy degree and course requirements as outlined in their matriculation catalog, School policies and procedures might change on a yearly basis. Students are held to the policies and procedures outlined in the current catalog. Catalogs take effect on the first day of class for the fall term of the academic year for which they are published.

### Coursework Exceptions

The Presidio MBA and MPA programs are 16-course, 60-credit programs, and all courses are required for successful graduation from the programs. Coursework exceptions are approved in rare cases and the following policy outlines the process for requesting an exception.

### Transfer Credit and Course Waiver Policy

The following policy applies to requests for placing out of Presidio courses based on undergraduate degrees, work experience or graduate degrees.

Presidio Graduate School can only consider the transfer of academic credits for equivalent graduate-level courses from institutions accredited by agencies recognized by the United States Department of Education. Undergraduate-level courses and work experience cannot be substituted for Presidio courses. Additionally, given the unique design of the curriculum, no student may pass out of more than two courses.

All transfer requests must be reviewed by the individual faculty member and the Dean of the Faculty, and be granted final approval by the Dean of the Faculty. Since Presidio's curriculum is unique in its integration of sustainability into every course, in order to place out of a course, students must demonstrate competence in relation to the sustainability literature or application of the particular course content.

Should a student wish to pass out of a course, he or she is required to place an application with the Associate Director of Academic Operations at least 8 weeks prior to the commencement of the course. It is the responsibility of the student to provide the School with the following information:

1. One official, sealed transcript (indicating a grade of B or higher). The transcript must be sent directly from the institution(s) attended to Presidio. Transcripts issued to a student will not be considered official.
2. The course description and syllabus
3. Completion of the Transfer Evaluation Form
4. Approval by the Presidio course instructor
5. Approval by the Presidio Dean of the Faculty

As noted above, an additional requirement for placing out of a course is the submission of a paper/project covering the sustainability dimensions of the course material that is unique to the Presidio curriculum. The scope and detail of this requirement is at the discretion of the individual instructor.

### Course Numbering System

All courses with a 6000-9999 prefix are graduate level courses open to holders of a baccalaureate degree subject to prerequisite or other requirements as stated in the program's course descriptions.

## Course Sequence

Students must take the sixteen MBA or MPA courses in order (see course grids below). In other words, students should complete the four courses for each semester before progressing on to the next semester.

Should students wish to take courses out of the recommended order, courses that require pre-requisites must be completed first and the request must be approved by the Dean of the Faculty. Students who choose to take courses out of the recommended order do so with the understanding that the School may not be able to offer all courses when students need to take them. If taken out of order, students are responsible for ensuring all sixteen courses are taken before graduating from the program.

## Course Prerequisites

Course Prerequisites are listed in the Program Overview section of this Catalog. Only in extenuating circumstances pre-approved by the Dean of the Faculty may students be allowed to take courses out of order.

## Course Content

The syllabi, course outlines, or lesson plans for courses in the programs of study at Presidio Graduate School are subject to changes at the discretion of instructors. Students should not construe syllabi, et al., used in prior terms or distributed at the start of a term, as an unalterable commitment of the instructor or of the School.

Variations in the learning needs of students, inherent uncertainty in predicting exactly how material for a course should be covered, and an ambiguity in determining the most effective means of evaluating students, dictates that a design for instruction may need to be adjusted. Therefore, in order to be pedagogically responsible, the School allows that reading assignments, written assignments, examinations, daily topics, and the means and weights involved in the instructor's evaluation of students can change as needed after instruction has begun.

Instructors are encouraged to be as faithful as possible to published syllabi or lesson plans. However, if altering these is judged by instructors to be necessary and appropriate, instructors may do so but are requested to share with their students in a timely manner how the course syllabi or lesson plans have changed.

## Independent Study and Research

In order to receive credit for independent study, the student must develop a written learning contract with a faculty member, which outlines specific objectives, learning activities and criteria for evaluation. All independent study courses must have prior written approval of the Dean of Faculty and the advising faculty member. Independent Studies are to be used only in cases in which the course content is not available in a regular course and there is clear justification for offering the option.

In addition, independent study can be a means for conducting in-depth research on a subject or for studying an area not covered by, but related to, the regular curriculum. Presidio Graduate School supports active research and publications (including case studies and independent study projects) by faculty. Student participation in research is highly encouraged.

### Areas of Presidio Research Focus

1. Clean Technology
2. Impact Investing and Renewable Finance
3. Sustainable Urban Development and Smart Cities
4. Sustainable Agriculture & Food Systems
5. Organizational Change and Leadership

The number of units and the fulfillment of specific degree requirements students may take in an independent study capacity varies by degree program. Students should contact the Academic Affairs department with further questions.

## Petition To Waive Academic Requirements

Petitions to waive academic requirements are directed through the Associate Academic Deans and Dean of Faculty. This procedure is not used to request transfer credit (which is governed by a different administrative procedure described in this Catalog). It is most often used to request a waiver of a course requirement. Waivers are granted on a very limited basis.

## Registration and Registration Limits

Students register online via Alliant's portal system. Students may add or drop courses during the first two weeks of each term by filing the appropriate forms with the Associate Director of Academic Operations. Students must be registered for the semester in which they complete their degree requirements. It is the responsibility of the student to check with the Director of Financial Aid to be sure that any changes in total units after adds and/or drops does not affect eligibility for financial aid or the amount of financial aid received.

For more information on registration procedures and limits, see the Registration section of this Catalog or contact the Associate Director of Academic Operations.

## Agreement to Rules

Registration signifies that the student agrees to abide by the rules, regulations, and requirements of the School. This agreement is in keeping with the School's philosophy that students should be aware of the dimensions and constraints of the educational community in which they participate during the years of their enrollment.

## Deadlines

Students are required to respect the various academic and administrative deadlines listed in the Academic Calendar and other publications. Failure to do so constitutes grounds for probation, suspension, or dismissal from the program.

Each student is provided with an @presidioedu.org e-mail address as the official method for communicating deadlines and other important information. Students are required to check their Presidio e-mail accounts on a regular basis (see the Orientation & Program Logistics section for more information).

## Transcripts

Presidio maintains a file for each student, which contains a copy of admissions records, relevant forms related to academic policies and procedures, and any record of disciplinary action or academic misconduct. This information will be kept on file in the Presidio office for five years. If a student wishes to obtain a copy of their unofficial transcript, they should contact the Registrar's office.

## Official Records

Only the information of an academic nature is entered into the Student Academic Record (transcript). Specifically, no statement regarding disciplinary action is entered except in cases in which specific entry is part of a sanction (e.g. "Academic Conduct Dismissal" as described in the Academic Code of Conduct section). Disciplinary action and the disciplinary records fall within the purview of Student Affairs and Career Development except as otherwise noted in this Catalog.

The official transcript bears the following entries regarding the completion of degree requirements and the awarding of degrees:

- Degree awarded
- Area of concentration or major (as applicable)
- Date of completion, (i.e., the last day of the last term registered or the date on which all requirements for the degree were completed (whichever is the later date))

To obtain a copy of your official transcript, students must visit the Alliant website and order a copy for a \$10 fee.

## Privacy and Access to Records

Presidio Graduate School complies with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA), as amended, and its implementing regulations issued, which provide students with safeguards for the accuracy, completeness and privacy of their educational records. Annual notice is given to students summarizing their rights under this law. Presidio's Statement of Policies and Procedures under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 can be found in Appendix A.

## Marking System & Symbols Used on Transcripts

**A Exemplary performance.** The student has demonstrated a level of high quality work that exceeds the formal requirements showing a clear indication of initiative and mastery of the subject.

**B Proficient performance.** The student has demonstrated a level of good quality work that meets the formal requirements showing initiative, comprehension and clear ability to handle ideas.

**C Average performance.** The student has demonstrated a level of work that meets the formal requirements and demonstrates comprehension of the subject with a reasonable ability to handle ideas.

**D Below average performance.** The student has demonstrated a level work that (while passing) is below expectation. Minimum requirements have been met, but provide an inadequate demonstration of comprehension of the subject and ability to handle ideas.

**F Failure.** The student has not met the minimum requirements.

**NC No credit.** The student has not achieved the minimum expectations of scholarship or credit in terms of the course objectives. The NC is not to be used in situations in which a grade of F is justified. It is not used in computing grade point averages.

**AU Audit.** Does not yield credit. Enrollment for audit is limited to original registration for the term or to properly approved changes within the first week. Registration and payment of fees are required for audit courses.

**I Incomplete.** Given only in extenuating circumstances. Work must be completed by the end of the succeeding term.

**IS Course is currently in session.** Marking used on unofficial transcripts produced during a current semester.

**NR No report.** Indication (to be used only by the Registrar) that as of the deadline for submitting grades, none had been received.

**W Withdrawal.** Grade given to those who drop classes after the scheduled drop period.

**TC Credit by transfer from another institution.**

## Quality Points and Grade-Point Average (GPA) System

For each unit in which the student is enrolled, he or she will receive quality points as follows:

Grade A	4.0
Grade A-	3.7
Grade B+	3.3
Grade B	3.0
Grade B-	2.7
Grade C+	2.3
Grade C	2.0
Grade C-	1.7
Grade D+	1.3
Grade D	1.0
Grade D-	0.7
Grade F	0.0

A student's grade point average is obtained by dividing the total number of quality points earned by the total number of units undertaken. Transfer units are not counted in calculating a student's GPA on the transcript. All Presidio credits counted toward a degree are used in calculating the cumulative GPA.

## Grades

Grades are posted approximately two to three weeks after the last day of the semester. At the semester's end, if a student has questions about their performance and grade in a class, the student should speak directly with the instructor before grades are posted. Once grades are officially recorded, a change of grade becomes a serious and stringent grievance process that involves several faculty members, staff and the Dean. We advise that students consult with their instructors on grades throughout the semester.

## Checking Grades at the End of the Semester

Grades are due to Alliant by Presidio faculty approximately one week after the semester ends. Presidio will inform students about expected dates for online grade postings, but it usually takes an additional two weeks after grades are due to Alliant to be posted.

To view final grades:

1. Go to: <https://my.alliant.edu/ICS/>

## Grade Reporting

Instructors report a grade for credit when all requirements for the course have been completed. The Registrar must receive grades from instructors no later than the date published in the Academic Calendar. If the Registrar does not receive grades on time, an NR (No Report) will be entered on the student's transcript. Students who receive NR for their grade should contact their instructor. After a grade has been reported to the Registrar, the grade will not be changed unless a written grade change and an acceptable reason for the change are submitted to the Registrar by the instructor with prior approval from the Dean of the Faculty.

## Grades Required for Graduation

Students must maintain a GPA of 3.0 in all coursework. It is the responsibility of the student to monitor his or her academic progress while at Presidio, and to maintain a cumulative 3.0 GPA. For more information on grade requirements, please see the Satisfactory Academic Progress policy. Should a student require assistance, he or she should contact the Academic Affairs department for academic advising services.

## Incomplete Grades

Students may receive an incomplete grade for a course when illness, family tragedy, or similar difficulty makes it impossible for them to complete course requirements on time. Students must arrange for an incomplete grade with their instructor and have it approved by the MBA, MPA, or Dual Degree Associate Dean or Dean of the Faculty. Students do not need to re-register for the course to finish incomplete coursework; however, students are required to finish incomplete coursework no later than the end of the following semester. Normally, the course must be completed with the instructor who assigned the incomplete grade. Incomplete grades that are not removed by the end of the following semester will be converted automatically to an F grade.

## Grade Appeals Process

In general, grades represent the faculty member's professional judgment of a student's performance in a course, and, as such, are final. However, students have the right to ask an instructor for an explanation of any grade received. Grade appeals can be made only in instances where procedural issues or biased, arbitrary or capricious grading are in question, specifically:

1. An obvious error in calculation.
2. The instructor has applied more exacting standards to the particular student.
3. The grade was given on some other basis than performance in the course.
4. The grade represents a substantial departure from the instructor's announced standards.

Appeals must be filed within six weeks of the School's notification of the final grade. Students needing assistance at any step in appealing or filing a complaint may contact the Associate Director of Academic Operations.

Students are encouraged to talk to their instructor before beginning this process to attempt to resolve the matter informally.

Grade appeals will be reviewed in the following manner:

**Step 1:** A written petition will be submitted by the student to the instructor of the class. This petition should contain the nature of the problem, relevant information that supports the appeal and the remedy sought. The student should retain a copy for his/her records. Within two weeks, the instructor will respond to the student in writing. If the student is not satisfied with the response provided by the instructor, he/she may proceed to Step 2. In cases where the Dean of the Faculty is the faculty member whose grade is being appealed, the student shall proceed to Step 3.

**Step 2:** A written petition will be submitted by the student to the Dean of the Faculty with a copy to the instructor, no later than two weeks after receiving the instructor's response in Step 1. This petition should contain the nature of the problem, a statement that

an attempt was made to resolve this issue directly with the instructor (including the original written petition and instructor's response), relevant information that supports the appeal and the remedy sought. The student should retain a copy for his/her records. The student, instructor and Dean of the Faculty may meet to discuss the complaint. Within two weeks, the Dean of the Faculty will respond to the student in writing with a copy to the instructor of the class. Generally, the Dean of the Faculty makes the final decision; however, in unusual cases, the student may proceed to Step 3.

**Step 3:** The written petition and all supporting documentation are submitted to the Dean of the Faculty. The Dean may make a final determination or may convene a Grades Appeals Committee, which shall serve in an advisory capacity to the Dean. The manner and appointment and number of members on the Grade Appeals Committee shall be determined within the School. The Dean shall appoint the chairperson of the Grade Appeals Committee, and the committee shall have the right to all relevant instructor records. Within two weeks, the chairperson of the Grade Appeals Committee will make a recommendation to the Dean who will respond to the student in writing of the decision reached, with a copy to the Dean of the Faculty and student. This decision is final.

**Note:** If at any step the School representative fails to review and/or respond within the time limits provided, the student may proceed to the next step. If the student fails to respond within the time limits provided, the appeal shall be deemed to have been withdrawn.

## Instructor Evaluations

Students are asked to evaluate each course and instructor at the end of the term. A form is distributed during the final residency and each student is asked to complete an evaluation for each course completed. Students are encouraged to provide appropriate feedback and comments. Instructors are then encouraged to incorporate the feedback into their courses in subsequent semesters. Comments on these forms are taken very seriously by the School and constitute one part of the faculty evaluation process.

## Academic Status

All units are offered on a semester basis. Full-time status is defined as a master's student enrolled in 15, 12, or 11 units per semester, whereas part-time status is defined as a master's student enrolled in 7 or 8 units per semester.

## Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)

The academic requirements that students who receive U. S. federal assistance must meet to maintain their eligibility have changed due to new guidelines adopted by the Federal Department of Education effective July 1, 2011. Students must now meet new standards of Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) effective fall 2011.

These SAP standards may be different from, and at times, more stringent than, the Satisfactory Academic Progress policies adopted by Presidio. The federal guidelines require that Alliant's Financial Aid Office conduct reviews of student progress at the end of fall, spring, and summer terms to determine if students are making satisfactory progress towards earning their degree and therefore remain eligible for federal financial aid. These SAP reviews should not be confused with Student Evaluation and Review Committee (SERC) reviews conducted by Alliant's academic programs.

### SAP Standards:

- **Cumulative Minimum Grade Point Average:** Students must achieve a 3.0 GPA by the end of their first term of enrollment and maintain at least a cumulative 3.0 GPA throughout their program enrollment.
- **Average Credit Hours per Semester:** Students must have completed, with a passing grade, an average of 10 units (full-time) and 5 units (part-time) per semester using the formula: *Number of credit hours completed/number of semesters*.
- **Completion Ratio:** Students have a course completion ration of at least 67% using the formula: *number of credit hours earned/number of credit hours attempted*.
- **Maximum Length of Study:** Graduate programs must be completed within a period no longer than the maximum time frame of three years for full-time and six years for part-time students. Aid eligibility is limited to these timeframes.

Students who satisfy these requirements have met satisfactory academic progress with regard to financial aid and will continue to be eligible for aid.

## Timing of Review Process

The Financial Aid Office will review students' academic records each term after grades are posted to determine whether the SAP standards have been met. Students who do not meet any of the standards will receive a letter from the Financial Aid Department placing them on "Warning" Status for purposes of financial aid eligibility. These students may continue to receive aid for one term, and have until the end of that term to meet the SAP eligibility standards. If, after the one term of warning status, these students have not met the standards of Satisfactory Academic Progress, they will be ineligible for federal financial aid for future semesters.

A student has the opportunity to appeal to the Financial Aid appeals committee (not to be confused with the SERC) and, if it is found that there are extenuating circumstances in accordance with the SAP policy, the student may be reinstated to aid eligibility status. Some appeals may require that the student meet certain standards each term to remain eligible for financial aid.

## Academic Status

All units are offered on a semester basis. Full-time status is defined as a master's student enrolled in 15, 12, or 11 units per semester, whereas part-time status is defined as a master's student enrolled in 7 or 8 units per semester.

## Academic Standing

At the end of each semester, each student is evaluated on three components to determine if he/she is maintaining satisfactory academic progress:

1. cumulative grade point average (CGPA),
2. successful course completion rate, and
3. credits attempted relative to the maximum credits attempted that are allowed (1.5 times the credits required in the program).

A table outlining these standards for satisfactory academic progress can be found below. The table describes the maximum time frame, required CGPA, minimum number of credit hours a student must earn each semester, and how frequently satisfactory academic progress is evaluated.

### Part 1: Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA)

Students must maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average (CGPA) of 3.0 at the end of each semester, and at the maximum time frame (MTF) evaluation points in order to achieve satisfactory academic progress and successfully graduate from the program. These MTF evaluation points occur each time a student attempts 15 credits. Presidio uses a 4.0 grading scale, and grades are measured at the end of each semester. Withdrawals are not included in the GPA, and in the case of retakes, only the most recent grade is included in the GPA calculation.

### Part 2: Course Completion Rate

Students must complete a minimum of 80% of all credit hours attempted at the end of each increment to maintain satisfactory academic progress.

#### Counting Grades for the Completion Rate Calculation

Included below is a table outlining the weight of each type of grade on a student's completion rate. In general, credits associated with grades of A, B, C, D, F, Incompletes, and Withdrawals are all included in the student's completion rate calculation. In addition, if a student retakes a course, all credits attempted are included in the completion rate, whereas only the most recent grade is included in the CGPA calculation. Credits excluded from the completion rate include Transfer Credits and Audited Courses.

### Part 3: Maximum Time Frame (MTF)

Students must complete their educational program within 1.5 times the standard program length, which is defined by the School as the total number of semester credits required to complete the program. The maximum time frame for the program is 90 attempted semester credits.

Financial aid eligibility is limited to the maximum time frame allowed for the degree. Students who exceed the maximum time frame will not be eligible for financial aid, but may complete the program at his or her own expense. Students who do not complete the program successfully within the specified time must reapply for admission.

Grade	Credits Attempted	Credits Completed	Calculated in CGPA	Counted in Completion Rate
A – C	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
C – F	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
I – incomplete	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
W – withdrawal	Yes	No	No	Yes
CR – transfer credit	No	No	No	No
AU – audited course	No	No	No	No

## Evaluation Points

Evaluation points for the satisfactory academic progress policy are tied to the academic year. An academic year is defined as 34 weeks of classes (or two semesters of 17 weeks each; 30 credit hours for full-time students and 15 credit hours for part-time students). Presidio students will be evaluated at the end of each increment for the duration of his/her program (as outlined in the table below). In determining the total number of credit hours attempted, all courses, including courses with grades of F, I or W will be counted.

## Evaluation Point Standards

Students will be evaluated at the end of each increment. For Presidio, an increment is defined as 7-8 credit hours. In order for a student to maintain satisfactory academic progress, he/she must successfully complete at least 80% of all credits attempted at the end of each increment. In other words, at the end of increment 1, a student must successfully complete at least 6 credits of the 7-8 attempted. A table outlining the schedule of evaluation points is included below:

Evaluation Point*	Required CGPA	# of Credit Hours Attempted	# of Credit Hours Completed	If Not Met, Academic Status Becomes:
Increment 1	3.0	7-8	6	Warning/Probation
Increment 2	3.0	15	12	Warning/Probation
Increment 3	3.0	22-23	18	Warning/Probation
Increment 4	3.0	30	24	Warning/Probation
Increment 5	3.0	37-38	30	Warning/Probation
Increment 6	3.0	45	36	Warning/Probation
Increment 7	3.0	52-53	42	Warning/Probation
Increment 8	3.0	60	48	Warning/Probation
Increment 9	3.0	67-68	54	Warning/Probation
Increment 10	3.0	75	60	Not Allowed (Dismissal)

*\* If any evaluation point falls during the middle of a semester, the evaluation will be conducted at the end of the previous semester. The School will not wait until the end of the next semester to monitor the satisfactory academic progress of its students.*

## Academic Warning & Probation

At the end of each increment each student's CGPA and completion rates are reviewed to determine whether students are meeting the above requirements.

Situation	Academic Status	Federal Financial Aid Eligibility
First increment in which CGPA and/or completion rate is below minimum standards	Warning	Students are still eligible for Federal financial aid for the following 17-week semester
Second consecutive increment in which CGPA and/or completion rate is below minimum standards	Probation	Students are no longer eligible in his/her 3rd semester for Federal financial assistance and may be dismissed from the School
Third consecutive increment in which CGPA and/or completion rate is below minimum standards	Dismissal (Suspension)	Students are no longer eligible in his/her 4th semester for Federal financial assistance and may be dismissed from the School

## Academic Warning

Any student who meets one of the following qualifications:

1. fails to maintain a minimum GPA of 3.0 for any semester
2. fails to successfully complete at least 80% of credits attempted in an increment
3. who receives an “F” grade
4. who receives two Incomplete “I” grades or two Marginal Pass grades (C or lower)
5. who receives a combination of “I”, “F”, and Marginal Pass grades
6. who engages in academic dishonesty as defined in the Catalog

will receive an academic warning at the end of that semester. The student will receive a formal letter from the School indicating the student is being placed on Academic Warning status, and is given one increment to complete the necessary requirements to reach satisfactory academic progress. However, if a student’s CGPA falls below the Warning Period at the end of an increment (see the table below), the student will automatically be placed on Probation or dismissed from the program, depending on the student’s CGPA and increment point.

When placed on Academic Warning status, the student will be advised through the Student Evaluation & Review Committee (SERC) process and provided assistance in order to improve his/her CGPA and/or increase his/her completion rate. The statement “Placed on Academic Warning” will be entered into the student’s permanent record.

## Early Warning Status:

*Students who end a semester with a GPA between 3.0 and 3.25 may be required to meet with SERC for academic advising.*

## Financial Aid Implications

The academic requirements that students who receive U. S. federal assistance must meet to maintain their eligibility have changed due to new guidelines adopted by the Federal Department of Education effective July 1, 2011. These SAP standards may be different from, and at times, more stringent than, the Academic Standing policies adopted by Presidio. Please see the Financial Aid section of this handbook for more information.

## Academic Probation

Students who fail to reach satisfactory academic progress after one semester on Academic Warning status will be placed on Academic Probation. Or, if a student’s CGPA falls within the Probation Period as outlined in the table below, the student will automatically be placed on Academic Probation.

Students placed on probation will be prevented from enrolling full-time in the program. The student will be advised through the Student Evaluation & Review Committee (SERC) process and provided assistance in order to improve his/her CGPA and/or increase his/her completion rate. The statement “Placed on Academic Probation” will be entered into the student’s permanent record. The probation period is normally one semester except under mitigating circumstances.

## Academic Dismissal

Students who do not maintain at least a 2.0 GPA at the end of the probation period (one semester) and who cannot meet the minimum CGPA requirement at the evaluation points will be dismissed from the School and the statement “Academic Dismissal” will be entered into the student’s permanent record.

## Maximum Program Length

Should any student exceed the 150% maximum time requirement, regardless of whether or not the student receives federal financial aid, he/she will not be allowed to graduate from the program of study. Presidio, as directed by the federal government, does not allow students who do not raise their CGPA or completion rates of progress to the necessary minimums to continue to receive federal financial assistance, regardless of the students’ circumstances.

Any student receiving federal financial aid who does not meet the CGPA requirement in the Dismissal category in the table above at the end of their second year will no longer be eligible for financial aid, and must be dismissed. A student not meeting the CGPA standard at the end of the second year will not be permitted to remain an enrolled student, regardless if the student wishes to continue without being eligible for federal financial aid. A student may remain an enrolled student who is eligible for federal financial aid if there are documented mitigating circumstances (i.e. death in the family, sickness, etc.).

## Appeal for Mitigating Circumstances

Students may appeal a dismissal in writing to the Dean of the Faculty. A response to the appeal will be given to the student in writing within ten business days. If the appeal is granted, a student may be allowed to continue in an extended enrollment status on a cash payment basis, or the student, with good cause, reapplies and is accepted under special consideration for readmission by an ad hoc Admissions Committee.

Evaluation Points	CGPA Falling in Warning Period	CGPA Falling in Probation Period	CGPA Falling in Dismissal Period
At Increment 1 (7-8 credits attempted)	3.0 > CGPA > 2.4	2.4 > CGPA > 2.0	CGPA < 2.0
At Increment 2 (15 credits attempted)	3.0 > CGPA > 2.4	2.4 > CGPA > 2.0	CGPA < 2.0
At Increment 3 (22-23 credits attempted)	3.0 > CGPA > 2.4	3.0 > CGPA > 2.0	CGPA < 2.0
At Increment 4 (30 credits attempted)	3.0 > CGPA > 2.6	3.0 > CGPA > 2.4	CGPA < 2.25
At Increment 5 (37-38 credits attempted)	3.0 > CGPA > 2.6	3.0 > CGPA > 2.4	CGPA < 2.25
At Increment 6 (45 credits attempted)	3.0 > CGPA > 2.75	3.0 > CGPA > 2.5	CGPA < 2.5
At Increment 7 (52-53 credits attempted)	3.0 > CGPA > 2.75	3.0 > CGPA > 2.5	CGPA < 2.5
At Increment 8 (60 credits attempted)	N/A	3.0 > CGPA > 2.75	CGPA < 2.75
At Increment 9 (67-68 credits attempted)	N/A	3.0 > CGPA > 2.75	CGPA < 2.75
At Increment 10 (75 credits attempted)	N/A	3.0 > CGPA > 2.75	CGPA < 2.75

When reading this table, students can interpret the increments as follows: “At Increment 1 (having attempted either 7 or 8 credits), if my cumulative GPA is between 2.4 and 3.0, then I fall in the Warning period for the following semester; if my cumulative GPA is between 2.0 and 2.4, then I fall in the Probation period for the following semester; if my cumulative GPA is below a 2.0, I fall in the Dismissal period from the program Incompletes, Withdrawals, Repetitions, Noncredit Remedial Work.

Students with course incompletes, withdrawals, repetitions, and those doing noncredit remedial work are eligible to continue receiving financial aid if the following conditions are met:

1. The student is otherwise making satisfactory progress.
2. The time needed to make up the incomplete course work is within the program maximum time frame.

A student may retake a course, and grades from prior attempts will be excluded from calculating the student’s cumulative GPA. However, the credits from all course attempts will be included when calculating the student’s completion rate.

## Leave of Absence (LOA)

The purpose of a Leave of Absence (LOA) is to provide students with the opportunity to leave school for an extended period of time without withdrawing or affecting his/her academic standing calculations. Presidio is committed to working with students who have health, financial and/or personal difficulties that are generally beyond the control of the student by granting a leave of absence when warranted. However, a leave of absence is not automatically granted.

The Dean of the Faculty may authorize a leave of absence under the following circumstances:

- Students requesting a leave of absence should be in good academic and administrative standing.
- A leave of absence may only be granted to a student who has completed a semester and has not been in class past the end of the published Add/Drop deadline of the current semester they wish to take the LOA.
- Students must resume classes at the same point at which they exited the program.
- The student must complete the Leave of Absence form. The last date of attendance and return date must be clearly identified.
- The student has not completed his/her program.
- There is a one-year maximum time limit on leaves from the School.
- All loans and grants will be returned to appropriate parties or disbursements rescheduled for the semester of an approved leave of absence.
- The student will incur no additional tuition charges during an approved leave of absence.

Students who are absent a term, and who have not received an approved leave of absence will be officially administratively withdrawn and must reapply for admission, be reviewed by the program and, if readmitted, must enter a program offered at the time of readmission (i.e., may not enter the program or curriculum in which they were previously enrolled if it is no longer offered or if the curriculum has changed).

Most leaves are for reasons that are planned in advance and requested prior to the beginning of the academic semester. However, others are sought in response to urgent and unanticipated matters that constitute a bona fide emergency. Such (documented) emergency leaves may be requested at any time. In either case, the student must petition to receive a leave, and must complete the appropriate application form. Students must confirm their desire to return one term prior to re-entry. In cases of leaves for medical reasons, prior to being allowed to return to the School, a medical release must be obtained from medical doctor confirming the ability to return to school and stating any restrictions that may affect the individual's ability to perform in the program.

The following policies apply to students who have outstanding student loans and are granted a leave of absence:

1. If a student takes a leave, federal (U.S.) regulations permit continuing loan deferment for up to 180 days. In this case, the student is not considered withdrawn for financial aid purposes. If the student's leave continues beyond 180 days, the date of withdrawal (and therefore, repayment) reverts to the first day of the leave.
2. If a student takes a leave greater than 180 days, repayment begins on the date of withdrawal.
3. If the leave is longer than 180 days, repayment will occur according to the following terms:
  - a. Unsubsidized Stafford Loan Program: Repayment begins 6 months after commencement of the leave. When the student returns from leave to at least halftime status, the in-school deferment resumes.
  - b. Perkins: Repayment begins after a grace period of nine months (for most loans). If the leave is shorter than nine months, the student will then continue to have the full nine-month grace period available and does not enter repayment. If the leave is greater than nine months, the grace period is no longer available and repayment begins in the tenth month, lasting until the student returns to the program in at least half-time status.
  - c. Stafford: Same as Perkins, except that the grace period lasts six months instead of nine months (for most loans).
  - d. HEAL Replacement Unsubsidized Stafford Loans: Same as Perkins, except the student must return in full-time status.

## Transfer Credits

After Presidio has determined which courses will be accepted for transfer credit from a non-Presidio institution, the student's transcript will be changed to reflect these courses. Transferred courses have no effect on grade point average; these courses meet the graduation requirements only. The student's standard program length will be reduced by the number of transfer credits, and this new program length will be multiplied by the maximum program length of 1.5. If a student transfers credits to a new program from the same or other Presidio School, the courses will be counted in the calculation of completion and in the calculation of GPA.

## Program Changes

The maximum time frame for a student who changes from one program to another is adjusted by subtracting the earned course credits that are common to both programs from the total credits in the new program and multiplying that number by 1.5. Depending on the program, the Dean of the Faculty will evaluate a student's academic progress and transfer all relevant courses. All transfer courses will

be counted in the completion rate and used in computing the cumulative GPA. Students must be admitted and enrolled in the new program by the end of the add/drop period of the term applicable. Students may apply for change of program no more than twice during their enrollment at Presidio.

## Academic Probation or Dismissal Appeal

A student who is placed on academic probation or dismissed for failing to maintain satisfactory academic progress may appeal this action by submitting to the Dean of the Faculty a written statement explaining the mitigating circumstances that affected his/her performance. Such circumstances may include illness or injury, death in the family, family crisis, or other occurrences outside the control of the student. The student must provide documentation of the circumstances that had an adverse impact on his/her performance.

### Appeal Process

To appeal the application of the satisfactory academic progress standards, the student must follow the appeal process:

1. Obtain a Satisfactory academic progress Appeal Form from the Academic Affairs Department.
2. Within two days of notification of probation or dismissal, complete the form and submit it to the Dean of the Faculty.
3. Should the appeal be granted, the student must meet with the Dean of the Faculty or Student Evaluation & Review Committee to develop an academic success plan.
4. Continue to attend regularly scheduled classes during the review period.

The Dean of the Faculty will review the student's request and reach a decision no later than the fourteenth calendar day after the term start day. Should an appeal be denied, the student's dismissal stands and he/she can no longer attend classes; any tuition charges that have been posted for the current term will be reversed. A student may appeal academic dismissal only once. Any additional appeals may be considered at the sole discretion of the Dean of the Faculty.

### Reestablishment as a Regular (Title IV Eligible) Student and Extended Enrollment Status

Students who have been dismissed due to failure to maintain the qualitative and quantitative minimums outlined above may apply to continue their studies at the institution in an extended enrollment status. During this time, the student is not eligible to receive financial aid or loans and must attempt to improve the deficient areas that led to the dismissal by retaking courses from which the student withdrew or which he/she failed. The student will be responsible for all costs incurred while on extended enrollment status and must make acceptable arrangements with the business office in order to continue. Students on extended enrollment status remain in probationary status and will have their progress evaluated at the completion of each increment by the Dean of the Faculty & Associate Director of Academic Operations. Students on extended enrollment who do not make improvement may be dismissed from the School. A student on extended enrollment who reestablishes satisfactory progress may return to a regular student status. If the Dean of the Faculty determines that the student has the academic ability and desire to successfully continue in the program, the student will meet with the Director of Financial Aid to determine eligibility for Title IV aid. Reinstated students will be placed on probation for one term after reestablishing satisfactory progress.

### Multiple Attempts

Students who voluntarily withdraw from the School or who are withdrawn for academic, disciplinary, or attendance reasons may re-enter the School one time. Students must complete the Reentry Process, as outlined by the Associate Director of Student Affairs and Career Development, to be considered eligible for re-entry. If a re-entering student attends classes before the end of the drop/add period, the student will be returned to "active" status at the School. If the student does not attend classes after the drop/add period of the re-entry term, the student retains his/her status as a withdrawn student. If a student is dropped or voluntarily withdraws from the School a second time, the student must meet with the Dean of the Faculty to discuss the extenuating circumstances that would warrant an additional attempt to re-enter the School.

## Attendance at Residency Requirement

Attendance at weekend residencies is required; any student who misses more than one class will not qualify to pass the course. Exceptions can only be made in extenuating circumstances. In the case where a student must miss part or all of a residency, the class instructor must be informed prior to the absence. It is up to the student (not the instructor) to take responsibility for making up any

missed class lectures or materials. Students may ask other class members if they are willing to share notes, slides or assignment details for the day(s) missed. Faculty are required to include an attendance policy in their syllabus.

Students in EL courses are required to attend the first residency.

## Religious Holidays

Presidio respects and embraces the cultural diversity throughout the entire learning community and does sincerely regret when a conflict occurs with the residencies. For all students, faculty, and staff who wish to observe holy days that are relevant to their spiritual practice (and that coincide with residencies), Presidio will make the appropriate accommodations. For students, please contact the faculty member who teaches the course to make specific arrangements.

## Spring Break

During the spring semester students are given a week off from classes. In most instances, this break falls after the third residency. Students are not expected to complete any assignments during this time.

## Distribution of Syllabi, Assignments and Reading Lists

Presidio does not distribute syllabi, assignment descriptions, reading lists, team requirements or any other curriculum-related information before the official start of the semester. This information is provided exclusively to students enrolled in each class. A book list including all required texts and pre-readings for the first residency is communicated to current students by the start of the registration period for that semester.

Students can contact other students who have completed coursework in previous semesters to obtain past versions of syllabi or reading lists. However, Presidio does not guarantee the curriculum will remain unchanged for the following semester, as faculty are engaged in an ongoing revision and update of the curriculum to reflect the dynamic and evolving nature of the field of sustainable management.

## Intellectual Property

Members of the Presidio community are expected to respect intellectual property rights of others and to abide by copyright laws. Copyright is the right of authors to control the reproduction and use of their creative work. Software, graphic designs, photographs, drawings, audio-visual presentations, musical works and literary works may all be protected by copyright. Presidio's intellectual property policy can be found in Appendix E.

## Academic and Administrative Deadlines

The Academic Calendar defines administrative and academic deadlines. All students are required to meet them. When deadlines are not met, it can lead to problems for the students, extra paperwork, additional fees, loss of financial aid, and/or termination from the program. In general, the only exceptions made to deadlines are for medical emergencies.

## Academic Code of Conduct

Presidio Graduate School is committed to principles of scholastic honesty. Its members are expected to abide by ethical standards both in their conduct and in their exercise of responsibility towards other members of the community.

This Student Academic Code of Conduct is established to lend greater definition and meaning to the principles of scholastic honesty and integrity and to outline standards that will guide the actions of the academic community. Any student who violates the Student Academic Code of Conduct will be subject to sanctions up to and including dismissal from the School. A student accused of a violation is guaranteed an impartial hearing and the right to an appeal. Procedures and guidelines for the hearings and the appeals are described in this section. Students also need to be in compliance with the Standards of Engagement, which is included under the Administrative Policies section in this Catalog.

### Students

As it is with other members of the academic community, each student's conduct is expected to be in accordance with the standards of

the School. Students bear the responsibility not only for their own academic integrity, but also for bringing instances of suspected violations of the Academic Code of Conduct to the attention of proper School authorities.

## Faculty & Administration

Faculty, teaching assistants and administration are obligated to the School and to the students they teach and serve to uphold the ethical standards. They must deal fully and fairly with instances of academic misconduct. Any evidence that a faculty member has intentionally acted in a manner not consistent with this policy (including failure to report instances of suspected misconduct) will be subject to a referral to the Dean of the Faculty for appropriate action.

## Acts of Misconduct

The Academic Code of Conduct prohibits certain acts of misconduct by students enrolled at Presidio Graduate School. Other School policies and procedures may also apply. Depending on the circumstances, the acts of misconduct described below may be considered as either a violation or an infraction.

Students who engage in conduct that disrupts the orderly functioning of the School may be subject to probation or dismissal from the program as set forth in the Academic Code of Conduct and Standards of Engagement. In the case of dismissal for cause, no fees will be refunded.

## Violations

The following acts are examples of violations:

1. **Examination Behavior.** Any intentional giving or use of external assistance during an examination without the express permission of the faculty member giving the examination.
2. **Fabrication.** Any falsification or invention of data, citation or other authority in an academic activity.
3. **Plagiarism.** Presidio has identified plagiarism as an especially serious act of misconduct, which deserves particular procedures in addition to our general academic code of conduct. Plagiarism is any passing off of another's ideas, words, or work as one's own. In cases where students feel unsure about a question of plagiarism involving their work, they are obliged to consult their instructors on the matter before submission. Any work found to be plagiarized will receive a grade of zero.
  - **Report to SERC:** When a faculty member suspects a student of plagiarism they must report it to SERC. To report to SERC, please contact the Associate Director of Academic Operations.
  - **SERC Meeting and Determination:** The accused student must meet with SERC to discuss the infraction.
  - **Multiple infractions:** Any student found guilty of plagiarism by the SERC committee on more than one occasion will be expelled from the program.
  - **Group Work:** When working in groups students are responsible for all collective work. If a portion of group work is suspected to be plagiarized all members of the group share equal responsibility.
4. **Unauthorized Collaboration.** Collaboration in any academic exercise unless the faculty member has stated that such collaboration is permitted.
5. **Theft of Resource Materials.** Any unauthorized taking of resource material such as course materials, library materials, computer software or media equipment.
6. **Previously Submitted Work.** Presenting work prepared for and submitted to another course.
7. **Unauthorized Access.** Any unauthorized access to any person's files or computer account.
8. **Alteration or Misuse of School Documents.** Any alteration or misuse of School documents, including acts of forgery and/or furnishing false information.
9. **Disruption of Academic Activity.** Disruptive behavior, willful disobedience, profanity or vulgarity, or the abuse of School personnel which continues after a warning has been given.
10. **Acts or Threats of Physical Harm.** Any act or threat of physical abuse, assault and/or battery upon any member of the School community, including faculty, students and staff.

11. **Violations Defined by Faculty Member.** Any other intentional violation of rules or policies established by a course faculty member.
12. **Assisting other Students in Acts of Academic Misconduct.**

### Infractions

The following acts are examples of infractions. Students found to have committed these acts are subject to sanctions described, as applicable, for infractions in the Sanctions section.

1. Any unintentional act that, if it were intentional, would be a serious violation.
2. Any serious violation of the rules or policies established for a course or academic exercise.

**Note:** Under certain exceptional circumstances involving serious violations listed above which pose a threat to the health and safety of the School community, disciplinary procedures administered by the Chief Executive Officer may replace the procedures outlined below. These include circumstances in which a matter has been referred by the Dean.

### Process and Procedures

The following process and procedures apply to suspected instances and allegations of academic misconduct. Pending resolution of the matter and any permitted appeal regarding the matter, the student's status as a student remains unaltered except in cases in which there are reasons relating to the physical or emotional welfare of the student or of others, or reasons involving the safety of persons or property.

### Violation Determination Phase

1. **Investigation.** When a faculty member directly observes or otherwise determines (based on other evidence) that an act of misconduct may have been committed by a student, it is the responsibility of that faculty member to undertake as thorough and reasonable an investigation as possible under the circumstances.
2. **Communication with the Student of Potential Violation.** If this investigation suggests to the faculty member that there may have been misconduct, the faculty member must promptly contact the student suspected of the misconduct in order to provide an opportunity for the student to discuss the matter directly with the faculty member. The faculty member may call upon the Dean of the Faculty to be involved in a discussion with the student. Following this contact between the faculty member and the student, the faculty member must determine whether no action of misconduct has occurred, an infraction has occurred, or a serious violation has occurred.
3. **Report to the Presidio Dean of the Faculty.** In all cases in which an act of misconduct has been determined by the faculty member to have occurred, the faculty member shall report this determination to the Dean of the Faculty in a timely manner so that he/she may determine appropriate action under the terms of this policy. The faculty member shall include in the report to the Dean of the Faculty the following: a description of suspected misconduct (including the date, time and circumstances); a summary of the investigation conducted; the finding and to whether the act of misconduct should be considered as an infraction or a serious violation; and a recommendation as to the sanction to be imposed. Pending a final determination, the faculty member gives a grade of Incomplete if the semester ends before the matter is resolved.
4. **Determination by the Dean of the Faculty.** After making a review and recommendation, the Dean of the Faculty shall notify the student in writing (personal delivery or delivery requiring a signature) within 10 business days from receipt of the report whether the circumstances warrant preliminarily the imposition of a sanction or that a sanction is determined to be unnecessary or inappropriate under the circumstances. If a sanction is determined preliminarily to be necessary and appropriate under the circumstances, the notice to the student must include specific allegations of misconduct, the sanction proposed to be imposed, a copy of the report by the faculty member and the recommendation of the Dean of the Faculty. The student must be informed that he or she has 10 business days from receipt of the notice to (1) respond in writing to the allegations and report, or (2) to request in writing a meeting with the Dean of the Faculty. After considering the material and information presented by the student or after the lapse of 10 business days without a student response, the Dean of the Faculty or his/her designee shall make a final determination as to whether an act of misconduct has occurred, and if so, whether that act of misconduct is considered an infraction or a serious violation and the sanction. The student will be reminded of the right to appeal. The Dean of the Faculty's decision is final unless it is appealed as provided below, except in the case of

an expulsion. In the case of an expulsion, the case is automatically referred to the Dean of the Faculty for mediation, appeal or both.

### Appeals Phase

All requests for appeals must be made in writing to the Dean of the Faculty within 30 days of receipt of the final determination of the Dean of the Faculty.

1. **Mediation:** A student wishing to appeal the determination of the Dean of the Faculty may request a mediation session with the Dean of the Faculty, the MBA, MPA, or Dual Degree Associate Dean and the faculty member. The student may bring a friend or family member to the mediation session. If the session does not result in a resolution acceptable to all parties, the Dean of the Faculty shall, upon request from the student, appoint an Appeal Board to hear the appeal as expeditiously as possible.
2. **Appeal Process:** The Appeal Board will review the entire record of the case preliminarily, including the report prepared by the faculty member, the Dean of the Faculty and any response prepared by the student. If necessary, the Appeal Board may request that the faculty member and the student provide clarification with respect to the record of the case. Following its preliminary review, the Appeal Board shall determine how the procedures specified below will be utilized during their review of the case. The student shall be afforded the right to ask questions of the faculty member and other witnesses in the presence of the Appeal Board.
3. **Appeal Board:** The Appeal Board shall be appointed by the Dean of the Faculty and shall be composed of two faculty members, an administrator and two students. The Dean of the Faculty will choose one member of the Presidio Board of Directors to act as chair. The chair of the Appeal Board shall be responsible for assuring compliance with the terms of this policy during the course of the appeal process. The Appeal Board will establish the time and place of the hearing and will be responsible for notifying the student about all aspects of the appeal process. No person who has a conflict of interest may participate as a member of the Appeal Board. Any individual who discovers a conflict of interest must withdraw immediately. Upon withdrawal, the Dean of the Faculty shall appoint a substitute board member. The Appeal Board is an advisory to the Dean of the Faculty and recommends actions on an appeal.

The Appeal Board shall:

- Schedule the date and time for the hearing and provide written notice to the student (in person or via delivery libraries at the four main campuses (San Diego, San Francisco, Fresno and Los Angeles). The libraries in San Diego, San Francisco, Fresno and Los Angeles are full-service locations, where students can study alone or in groups, access print and electronic resources, use audiovisual equipment and computer resources, print documents, and use the wireless network. To maximize the diversity of resources available throughout the system, noncore materials are shared across the University rather than being duplicated unnecessarily at multiple locations. Within California, materials not available onsite may be requested via the Alliant Library catalog and are shipped between campuses by courier service. To supplement Alliant's book collections, the Library also participates in LINK+, a resource-sharing consortium of California and Nevada libraries. In addition to physical collections, the Library provides access to a growing number of electronic information resources, including full-text journals, electronic books, and research databases.

Students can access Alliant Library's electronic databases from home or from any campus. All told, the Alliant libraries own approximately 148,000 volumes, with another 7,000 titles available to all users as electronic books. The libraries' database and journal subscriptions provide instant access to the full contents of roughly 37,000 journals, and citation level access to thousands more. The Alliant libraries are open an average of 72 hours per week, and each month nearly 5,500 items are checked out. The various Alliant libraries are open and staffed six or seven days a week across all four campuses. The San Francisco campus library is open Monday-Thursday, 8:30am - 9pm, Fridays from 8:30am - 5pm and from 11am - 5pm on Saturdays and Sundays. The San Francisco facility includes a variety of study environments for students, including quiet study rooms, group study rooms, carrel seating and open table seating. The space also provides facilities for photocopying, computer use and printing.

Presidio's sustainability-focused library will launch in the fall of 2010 with a collection of electronic research databases focused on sustainability topics. These databases include full-text access to relevant periodicals, podcasts, reports, and statistics related to sustainable business and policy. Access to these resources can be found on the Presidio Network. The plan is to build on this collection by adding more relevant electronic and print resources that support Presidio's programs.

If students have questions regarding Presidio's library holdings or require assistance in conducting research, please contact the Research & Library Services Manager

- requiring a signature) of the hearing procedures and the time and date of the hearing.
- Hold a hearing and determine whether the alleged misconduct occurred. The hearing and deliberations will be closed to the public.
- Be entitled to ask questions of the student, the faculty member and any other witness during the hearing.

## Library Services

Presidio's library resources are provided through Alliant International University and supplemented by Presidio's recently launched sustainability focused digital library. Presidio MBA and MPA students are provided full access to Alliant's physical and electronic library resources. Details for how to access Alliant's library and conduct research remotely using its electronic databases will be provided at the beginning of the first semester for new students. Presidio's Research & Library Services Manager is available to assist students during normal working hours on the use of Presidio and Alliant's reference materials. In addition, the Research & Library Services Manager holds office hours for students at each residency session so students are provided the opportunity to meet and discuss research projects during the semester.

The library at Alliant's San Francisco campus is located at One Beach Street, Suite 100. Alliant's library Web site can be accessed at <http://library.alliant.edu>. The Alliant Library is a distributed network of physical, electronic, and human resources. The mission of the Alliant Library is to provide information resources and services in support of learning, scholarship, and evidence-based practice throughout the University and to foster the development of information literate practitioners. Major physical collections – including books, dissertations and doctoral projects, journals, psychological tests, videos, DVDs, and audio recordings – are maintained in libraries at the four main campuses (San Diego, San Francisco, Fresno and Los Angeles). The libraries in San Diego, San Francisco, Fresno and Los Angeles are full-service locations, where students can study alone or in groups, access print and electronic resources, use audiovisual equipment and computer resources, print documents, and use the wireless network. To maximize the diversity of resources available throughout the system, noncore materials are shared across the University rather than being duplicated unnecessarily at multiple locations. Within California, materials not available onsite may be requested via the Alliant Library catalog and are shipped between campuses by courier service. To supplement Alliant's book collections, the Library also participates in LINK+, a resource-sharing consortium of California and Nevada libraries. In addition to physical collections, the Library provides access to a growing number of electronic information resources, including full-text journals, electronic books, and research databases.

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## Appendix A: FERPA - Educational Records Policy

### Disclosure and Release of Student Information

In order to protect the privacy of students, the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA) affords students certain rights with respect to their education records and sets certain conditions on the disclosure of personal information from these records. Students will be notified of their FERPA rights annually. These FERPA rights are:

1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 15 working days of the day the School receives a request for access.
2. The right to request the amendment of the student's education records to ensure that they are not inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy or other rights.
3. The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.
4. The right to file with the Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20202-4605, a written complaint concerning specific alleged failures by the School to comply with the requirements of FERPA.

#### Definitions

Student - any person who attends or has attended the School.

Education records - any record (in handwriting, print, video or audio tape, film, computer or other medium) maintained by the School or an agent of the School, which is directly related to a student, except:

- A personal record kept by a staff member if it is kept in the sole possession of the maker of the record and is not accessible or revealed to any other person except a temporary substitute of the maker of the record.
- Records created and maintained by a School law enforcement unit for law enforcement purposes.
- An employment record of an individual whose employment is not contingent on the fact that he or she is a student, provided the record is used only in relation to the individual's employment.
- Records made or maintained by a physician, psychiatrist, psychologist, or other recognized professional or paraprofessional if the records are used only for treatment of a student and made available only to those persons providing treatment.
- Alumni records which contain information about a student after he or she is no longer in attendance at the School and which do not relate to the person as a student.

Disclosure - To permit access to or the release, transfer, or other communication of personally identifiable information contained in education records to any party, by any means, including oral, written, or electronic means.

A School official is:

- A person employed by the School in an administrative, supervisory, academic, research, or support staff position.
- A person elected to the Board of Trustees.
- A person employed by or under contract to the School to perform a special task, such as an attorney, auditor, or security.
- A student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or who is assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks.

#### Procedure to Inspect Education Records

Students may inspect their education records upon a written request to the appropriate records custodian, which identifies as precisely as possible the record(s), he or she wishes to inspect. The records custodian or appropriate staff person will make the needed arrangements for access as promptly as possible and notify the student of the time and place where the records may be inspected. Access must be given within 15 working days from the date of receipt of the request. When a record contains information about more than one student, the student may inspect only the records that relate to him or her.

## Limitation on the Right of Access

The School reserves the right to refuse to permit a student to inspect the following records:

1. Financial records of the student's parents.
2. Letters and statements of recommendation for which the student has waived her or his right of access, or which were maintained before January 1, 1975.
3. Records connected with an application to attend the School if that application was denied.
4. Those records which are excluded from the FERPA definition of education records.

## Refusal to Provide Copies

The School reserves the right to deny copies of records, including transcripts, not required to be made available by FERPA in any of the following situations:

- The student has an unpaid financial obligation to the School.
- The student is in default status on a student loan made as a student of the School.
- There is an unresolved disciplinary action against the student.

The education record requested is an exam or set of standardized test questions. (An exam or standardized test which is not directly related to a student is not an education record subject to FERPA access provisions.)

## Types, Locations, and Custodians of Education Records

Types	Location	Custodian
Admission Records	Admissions Office for applicants Registrar's Office for admitted students	Admissions Director or Registrar
Cumulative Academic Records (current students)	Registrar's Office	Registrar
Cumulative Academic Program Records (former students)	Registrar's Office	Registrar
Disciplinary Records	Student Affairs and Career Development Office	Associate Director of Student Affairs and Career Development
Financial Aid Records	Financial Aid Office	Financial Aid Director
Financial Records	Student Business Services	Student Business Services Coordinator
Records for Students with Disabilities	Disability Services	Disability Services Coordinator
Transcripts & Supporting Documentation	Registrar's Office	Registrar

## Fee for Copies of Records

The fee for copies will be 25 cents per page. The School will also charge for postage. There is a separate fee for a transcript.

## Disclosure of Education Records

The School will disclose information from a student's education records only with the written consent of the student, except that records may be disclosed without consent when the disclosure is made in accordance with FERPA regulations, including when the disclosure is:

1. To school officials who have a legitimate educational interest in the records. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official is:
  - Performing a task that is specified in his or her position description or contract agreement.
  - Performing a task related to a student's education.
  - Performing a task related to the discipline of a student.

- Providing a service or benefit relating to the student, such as health care, counseling, job placement, or financial aid.
  - Maintaining the safety and security of the campus.
2. To officials of another school, upon request, where a student seeks or intends to enroll.
  3. To certain officials of the U.S. Department of Education, the Comptroller General, and State and local educational authorities, in connection with audit or evaluation of certain State or federally supported education programs.
  4. In connection with a student's request for and receipt of financial aid to determine the eligibility, amount, or conditions of the financial aid, or to enforce the terms or conditions of the aid. Since the terms of a Title IV loan require that it be repaid, a collection agency may have access to those records necessary to enforce the terms of a promissory note.
  5. To State and local officials or authorities if specifically required by a State law that was adopted before November 19, 1974.
  6. To organizations conducting certain studies for or on behalf of the School.
  7. To accrediting organizations to carry out their functions.
    - To comply with a judicial order or a lawfully issued subpoena. If a subpoena is served, it will be referred to Alliant International University's Legal Counsel. The University will make a reasonable effort to notify the student in advance of compliance so that the student may seek a protective order. Note that the University must comply with orders in subpoenas for Federal Grand Jury or other law enforcement purposes that forbid such notification.
    - To appropriate parties in a health or safety emergency.
    - To individuals requesting directory information so designated by the School.
    - The results of any disciplinary proceedings conducted by the School against an alleged perpetrator of a crime of violence to the alleged victim of that crime. By law, the alleged victim must keep the results of the disciplinary action and any appeal confidential.

### Record of Requests for Disclosure

The School must maintain a record in the student's education record of all requests for or disclosures of information from a student's education records except when disclosure is in response to:

1. A written request from the student (the request will be maintained in the record);
2. A request from a school official;
3. A request for Directory Information; or
4. A court order or lawfully issued subpoena (the order or subpoena and response will be maintained in the record).

The record will indicate the name of the party making the request, any additional party to whom it may be disclosed, and the legitimate interest the party had in requesting or obtaining the information. The eligible student may review the record.

### Directory Information

The School designates the following items as Directory Information: student name, address, telephone number(s), e-mail address, parent's name(s), date and place of birth, major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance, degrees and awards received, and most recent previous school attended. The School may disclose any of those items without prior written consent, unless the student notifies the Registrar in writing to the contrary.

If student directories are published, students will have the opportunity to have their names, addresses, and telephone numbers omitted.

### Correction of Education Records

Students have the right to ask to have records corrected that they believe are inaccurate, misleading, or in violation of their privacy rights. Following are the procedures for the correction of records:

1. A student must ask the custodian to amend a record. In so doing, the student should identify the part of the record to be amended and specify why the student believes it is inaccurate, misleading, or in violation of the student's privacy rights.

2. If the School decides not to amend the record as requested, the School will notify the student of the decision and inform the student of his or her right to a hearing to challenge the information believed to be inaccurate, misleading or in violation of the student's privacy right.
3. Upon request, the School will arrange for a hearing, and notify the student, reasonably in advance, of the date, place, and time of the hearing.
4. The hearing will be conducted by a hearing officer who is a disinterested party; however, the hearing officer may be a school official. The student will be afforded a full and fair opportunity to present evidence relevant to the issues raised in the original request to amend the student's education records. The student, at his or her own expense, may be assisted by one or more individuals, including an attorney.
5. The School will prepare a written decision based solely on the evidence presented at the hearing. The decision will include a summary of the evidence presented and a reason for the decision.
6. If the School decides that the information is inaccurate, misleading, or in violation of the student's right of privacy, it will amend the record and notify the student, in writing, that the record has been amended.
7. If the School decides that the challenged information is not inaccurate, misleading, or in violation of the student's right of privacy, it will notify the student that he or she has a right to place in the record a statement commenting on the challenged information or a statement setting forth reasons for disagreeing with the decision.
8. The statement will be maintained as part of the student's education records as long as the contested portion is maintained. If the School discloses the contested portion of the record, it must also disclose the statement.

#### **Disclosure in Response to Telephone Inquiries**

Only those items designated as directory information shall be released in response to telephone inquiries. Such items include:

- student's name;
- address and telephone number;
- whether or not the student is currently enrolled;
- the program of enrollment;
- dates of enrollment;
- class/year status (first-year, sophomore, junior, senior, graduate student, etc.)
- degree(s) earned; date degree(s) conferred, major or field of concentration and honors received;
- participation in officially recognized activities and sports;
- weight and height of athletic team members and most recent educational institution attended.

Any student who does not wish to have directory information released must submit written notification to the Registrar's Office.

#### **Student Directories**

If student directories are published for general distribution, students shall be given the opportunity to have their addresses and telephone numbers omitted, but not their names.

#### **Military Recruiting on Campus Policy/Solomon Amendment**

Institutions of higher learning which access federally funded financial aid programs are required by law to accommodate military recruiting on campus.

Alliant International University will allow entry to campuses, access to student records on campuses, and access to information that would be helpful to them for recruiting purposes including student name, address, telephone number, age, or year of birth, level of education, and major, if requested by any branch of the military. If the student has requested withholding of this type of directory information under FERPA, the information will not be released.

## Appendix B: Non-Discrimination Policy

Presidio Graduate School prohibits discrimination in employment and in its educational programs and activities, including admission or access thereto, on the basis of race, national origin, color, creed, religion, sex, age, marital status, disability, medical condition, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity or associational preference. This policy includes the prohibition against sexual harassment — a form of sex discrimination. (See the Sexual Harassment policy in Appendix D). The School will conduct its programs, services and activities consistent with applicable federal, state and local laws, regulations and orders.

This policy is governed by Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Civil Rights Act of 1991, Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, the regulations implementing these statutes, and applicable federal and California law.

Although educational institutions are obligated to make a statement confirming non-discrimination, Presidio Graduate School practices non-discrimination as a matter of choice and philosophy.

## Appendix C: Drug-Free School & Workplace Policy

The School strictly prohibits the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, use, sale, purchase, transfer, consumption, or being under the influence of a controlled substance on School property or as part of any School sponsored activity. The School also prohibits the abuse of prescription drugs as well as the illegal use, purchase, sale or attempted sale of prescription drugs. The use of alcoholic beverages while on School premises, including meal periods and breaks, is absolutely prohibited except when authorized by either the President, Dean of the Faculty, Associate Director of Student Affairs and Career Development, or Faculty, or as set out in the Alcohol Use Policy. However, being under the influence of alcohol at any School function is prohibited.

Using or being under the influence of unauthorized drugs while attending School approved functions is also prohibited. Violation of this policy will constitute grounds for disciplinary action. Presidio Graduate School will impose sanctions for violation of this policy which may include completion of an appropriate rehabilitation program, expulsion from school, or referral to the authorities for prosecution.

Each School employee is required to notify his/her supervisor if he/she is using prescription drugs which may affect his/her ability to perform his/her job safely. Each School staff member is required to provide notice to his/her supervisor no later than five (5) days following any drug-related criminal conviction if such unlawful conduct for which he/she occurred in the workplace.

## Appendix D: Anti-Harassment & Sexual Misconduct Policy

Presidio Graduate School strives to provide a workplace free from sexual misconduct and all forms of harassment including, but not limited to, sexual, racial and religious harassment. The School will not tolerate such conduct on the part of any employee, student, vendor, or other individuals. Compliance with this policy will be strictly enforced and violations will be dealt with in accordance with published disciplinary policies and procedures.

Presidio Graduate School finds sexual misconduct totally unacceptable to this working/learning environment. Staff, faculty and administrators are not to engage in sexual relationships with students, whether consensual or otherwise. Supervisors are not to engage in sexual relationships, whether consensual or otherwise, with staff who report to them, directly or indirectly.

The School will take all reasonable steps necessary to prevent harassment and sexual misconduct. Administrators will support and assist staff, faculty, and students in the legitimate pursuit of investigating and remediation of problems of harassment or sexual misconduct whenever it occurs. If you are a student or employee who feel you have been subjected to such abuses, you should report all harassment and sexual misconduct complaints (knowing that it will be in confidence and without reprisal or retaliation) to the Human Resources Officer or to your supervisor. In most cases, the procedures by which incidents of harassment will be handled are the standing grievance procedures.

### Definitions of Harassment

Sexual harassment means unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal, visual, or physical conduct of a sexual nature. This behavior is unacceptable in the academic environment and in other University-related settings such as University-sponsored activities or University-related social events.

Sexual harassment is sexually related behavior the victim perceives as offensive or threatening or which makes the victim uncomfortable. It is usually repeated behavior, but it can be an action that occurs only once. Sexual harassment exists when:

- submission to the conduct is explicitly or implicitly made a term or a condition of an individual's academic status or progress;
- submission to, or rejection, of the conduct by the individual is used as the basis of academic decisions affecting the individual;
- the conduct has the purpose or effect of having a negative impact upon the individual's academic performance, or of creating an intimidating, or hostile, educational environment; or
- submission to, or rejection of, the conduct by the individual is used as the basis for any decision affecting the individual regarding benefits and services, honors, programs, or activities available at or through the University.
- Examples that may constitute sexual harassment include:
  - offering grades or academic benefits in exchange for sexual favors
  - making or threatening reprisals after a negative response to sexual advances
  - subtle pressure for sexual activity
  - unnecessary brushes or touches
  - disparaging remarks about one's gender or physical appearance
  - assault
  - physical aggression such as pinching and patting
  - verbal sexual abuse directly expressed or disguised as humor
  - whistling in a suggestive manner
  - obscene gestures
  - favoritism of any kind toward one gender or the other

**Racial harassment.** Racial harassment is defined as creating a racially intimidating, hostile or offensive social, educational, or work environment.

**Religious harassment.** Religious harassment is defined as creating a religiously intimidating, hostile or offensive social, educational, or work environment. (This definition will be interpreted and applied consistent with generally accepted standards of mature behavior, academic freedom, and freedom of expression.)

## Harassment Policy

It is the policy of the School that all persons should enjoy freedom from unlawful discrimination of any kind. The purpose of this policy is to provide notification of the prohibition against sexual harassment as a form of sexual discrimination and to provide notification of available remedies. This policy applies to prohibit all types of harassment and misconduct between members of the School community, including between students, or between students and School employees.

Any student who feels that he or she has been subjected to sexual or another kind of harassment by any School employee or other student should let the offender know immediately and firmly that the student identifies the behavior as harassment and that the employee's/other student's behavior is unwelcome, and (if applicable) that s/he is rejecting the advance or invitation.

Report the matter according to the procedure set out in the Student Grievance Policy. Complaints about harassment or sexual misconduct will be responded to promptly and equitably. The right to confidentiality of all members of the community will be respected in both informal and formal procedures, insofar as appropriate. Any harassment or sexual misconduct complaints received by the Student Affairs and Career Development office will be referred to the Human Resources Officer.

No individual will suffer reprisals for reporting any incidents of sexual or other harassment or making any such complaints, or participating as a witness in the investigation. Any incidents or further harassment or retaliation should be reported immediately.

It is expected that many complaints of sexual/racial/religious harassment will result from misunderstanding rather than from willful misconduct, and that explanation, education and warning will prevent further complaints.

## Appendix E: Intellectual Property Policy

A. Purpose. The Presidio Graduate School (the “School”), its faculty (whether part-time or full time) (“Faculty”) and paid employees (whether part-time or full time) (“Staff”), the individuals that attend any Program (defined below) as students (the “Students”), and third parties that participate in any Program (each, a “Third Party”) all have a mutual interest in articulating the terms and conditions governing the ownership of any Intellectual Property (defined below) that is created for and during a Program.

B. Governance. In consideration of their membership and participation in the academic community and upon approval of this policy (the “Presidio IP Policy”) by the School’s Board of Directors, the Parties agree that the ownership of Intellectual Property created for and during a Program will be determined in accordance with this Presidio IP Policy; provided, however, that this Presidio IP Policy is and will be subject to, and hereby incorporates by reference, the terms and conditions of the Alliant International University Interim Intellectual Property Policy approved on May 2, 2007 (the “Alliant Policy,” a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit A) for as long as the School receives its accreditation through Alliant International University (“Alliant”). In the event of a conflict between this Presidio IP Policy and the Alliant Policy, the terms and conditions of the Alliant Policy will prevail for as long as the School receives its accreditation through Alliant.

C. Definitions. The following capitalized terms will have the meanings given them below. Any capitalized term used and not defined in this Presidio IP Policy will have the meaning given in the Alliant Policy.

1. “Intellectual Property” or “IP” means (i) patents, patent applications, patent disclosures and inventions (whether patentable or not), (ii) trademarks, service marks, trade dress, trade names, logos, corporate names, Internet domain names, and registrations and applications for the registration for any of them, together with all goodwill associated with any of them, (iii) copyrights and copyrightable works (including computer programs and mask works) and registrations and applications for registration, (iv) trade secrets, know-how and other confidential information, (v) waivable or assignable rights of publicity, assignable moral rights, (vi) unregistered and registered design rights and any applications for registration, (vii) database rights and all other forms of intellectual property; and (viii) drafts and embodiments of any of the foregoing. Without limiting the foregoing, “IP” includes, but is not limited to, the following: business plans, discoveries, developments, designs, ideas, improvements, inventions, formulas, processes, techniques, know-how, data, new and non-obvious ideas and/or their reduction to practice that results in new devices, processes, products, computer software, data bases, circuit design, any improvement on existing systems and processes, original works of authorship fixed in any tangible medium of expression that can be perceived, reproduced or communicated, whether directly or with the aid of a machine or device, including but not limited to publications, pictorial, graphic, and 3-dimensional works, literary works, creative and artistic endeavors, video and audio.

2. “Parties” means, collectively, the School, Faculty, Staff, Students and Third Parties.

3. “EL Project” means a defined project for a Third Party outside of the classroom, in connection with the School’s Experiential Learning program, whereby Students, guided by Faculty, incorporate their classroom learnings in a business case setting.

4. “Program” means any program, course or project of the School, including MBA, MPA, Executive or custom-made programs or courses and any Capstone project of a Student.

D. IP Ownership.

1. Alliant Policy Terms Governing Ownership of Copyright. For purposes of terms and conditions incorporated herein from the Alliant Policy with respect to ownership of “Copyright” (as defined

in the Alliant Policy), such terms will be deemed to apply to “Intellectual Property” (as defined above).

2. Ownership of IP – Students. Except as set forth below in Sections D3 (Ownership of IP – EL Project), D4 (Ownership of IP – Internships) and D5 (Ownership of IP – Sponsored Projects), each Student will own all rights to Intellectual Property to the extent created by the Student for and during a Program. If two or more Students claim ownership rights in Intellectual Property, it is the sole responsibility of those Students to allocate ownership rights as between them. Each Student is responsible for taking such steps as are necessary to protect his or her rights in Intellectual Property (e.g., by registering a copyright, etc.). Upon creation, Students shall promptly disclose the existence and nature of any and all Intellectual Property to the School and to those Parties that are involved in the Program for and during which the Intellectual Property was created. The Parties agree that the School has no obligation to preserve, protect or safeguard any Student rights in Intellectual Property.
3. Ownership of IP – EL Projects. Students may, from time to time, engage in an EL Project. Students who participate in a EL Project shall execute a Third Party Intellectual Property and Confidentiality Agreement in accordance with Section E1 (Third Party Intellectual Property and Confidentiality Agreements). Students and Faculty are not permitted to make any representations or warranties as to the results of any EL Project. The Parties agree that the School shall not be liable to any Student, Faculty or Third Party with respect to the results, findings or conduct of any EL Project.
4. Ownership of IP – Internships. Each Student who wishes to participate in an internship with a Third Party shall execute a Third Party Intellectual Property and Confidentiality Agreement in accordance with Section E1 (Third Party Intellectual Property and Confidentiality Agreement). The Parties agree that the School shall not be liable to any Student, Faculty or Third Party with respect to the results, findings or conduct of any internship.
5. Ownership of IP – Sponsored Projects. From time to time, Students may participate in a project undertaken by the School that is sponsored by either the School or a Third Party, but that is neither an EL Project nor an internship (each, a “Sponsored Project”). Students who participate in a Sponsored Project with a Third Party shall execute a Third Party Intellectual Property and Confidentiality Agreement in accordance with Section E1 (Third Party Intellectual Property and Confidentiality Agreement) with each Third Party that is or will be involved in the project. Students who participate in a Sponsored Project with the School shall execute an agreement with the terms and conditions required by the School. The entity that sponsors each Sponsored Project (i.e., the School or Third Party) shall own all Intellectual Property created for and during that project. The Parties agree that the School shall not be liable to any Student, Faculty or Third Party with respect to the results, findings or conduct of any Sponsored Project.

E. Use of Third Party Intellectual Property and Confidentiality Agreements and Non-Disclosure Agreements.

1. Third Party Intellectual Property and Confidentiality Agreements. Students involved in a Program with a Third Party shall execute an agreement with each Third Party, under the supervision and guidance of Faculty, whereby the Third Party will hold rights to Intellectual Property created for and during the Program (each, a “Third Party Intellectual Property and Confidentiality Agreement”). A form of Third Party Intellectual Property and Confidentiality Agreement is attached hereto as Exhibit B. The Parties agree that rights with respect to Intellectual Property created for and during the Program shall be determined in accordance with the Third Party Intellectual Property and Confidentiality Agreement, and the School shall not be liable to any Party with respect to the warranties, representations or allocation of IP rights in a Third Party Intellectual Property and Confidentiality Agreement. The Students involved in a Program shall: (a) execute a Third Party Intellectual Property and Confidentiality Agreement before beginning a Program that involves a Third Party; (b) notify the School and the relevant

Faculty advisors after a Third Party Intellectual Property and Confidentiality Agreement has been executed; and (c) provide a copy of the agreement for the School's files.

2. Intellectual Property Rights Assignment Document. If requested by a Third Party, students will sign an Intellectual Property Rights Assignment document in the case where the Third Party Intellectual Property and Confidentiality Agreement was not executed at the beginning of the project. See Assignment of IP rights to Third Party, attached hereto as Exhibit D.
  3. Non-Disclosure Agreements. The Parties acknowledge that it may be appropriate to execute a Non-Disclosure Agreement with a Third Party in connection with a Program. In such cases, the relevant Faculty advisors, Students and Third Party involved in the Program shall execute a Non-Disclosure Agreement substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit C before participating in any substantive discussions or exchanges with the Third Party regarding the Program. The Parties agree that the School shall have no liability with respect to any Non-Disclosure Agreement. The Students involved in a Program shall notify the School and the relevant Faculty advisors after a Non-Disclosure Agreement has been executed and provide a copy of the agreement for the School's files.
- F. Use of School's Name.
1. In connection with activities that are conducted outside the School's premises with the support of non-School entities (e.g., a Third Party), Faculty and Students may use the School's name to identify themselves to third parties (e.g., "Jane Doe, Professor of Sustainable Business Economics, Presidio Graduate School" or "John Doe, graduate student of Presidio Graduate School"). In so doing, Faculty and Students agree that they: (i) will state that the School does not endorse or bear responsibility for the particular activity, and will not imply otherwise; and (ii) will conduct themselves in a manner that does not reflect adversely on the School. Faculty and Students may not otherwise use the School's trademarks to identify any activity or publication that is not related to the School without the School's prior written approval.
  2. Faculty and Students may not use the School's logo for any purpose without the School's prior written approval.
- G. Dispute Resolution. In the event of a dispute between the Parties concerning or relating to this Presidio IP Policy, a Third Party Intellectual Property and Confidentiality Agreement or a Non-Disclosure Agreement (a "Dispute"), the complaining Party must provide the other Party with written notice of the Dispute, and the Parties agree that they will meet and will use all reasonable efforts to resolve the Dispute. If the Dispute has not been resolved within thirty (30) days of the initial written notice that there is a Dispute (or such additional time to which the Parties may agree in writing), the Parties hereby agree to submit the Dispute to mediation within thirty (30) days. Each Party shall bear its own costs in any mediation, but the Parties agree to share the cost of the mediator equally. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Parties have the right to seek equitable relief from a court of competent jurisdiction with respect to any dispute for which there is no adequate remedy at law.