

I am involved in a report of possible fraud – what to expect?

Board of Examiners CEG

Fraud

More information on fraud can be found in the [Rules and Guidelines](#) of the CEG Board of Examiners (article 7a). You can also find information on the [TUD student portal](#) under the heading Legal Status and also on the [TU Library page](#).

Fraud is always very carefully investigated. Depending on various factors, the investigation can in some cases take up to several months. In this document we try to give you a global overview and timeframe. This way you know how the process proceeds, what to expect and when to expect it.

Fraud is not always related to intention, but can happen consciously or unconsciously. For example, due to carelessness or ignorance. In addition, fraud does not depend on the result of the (attempted) fraud. You can also be found guilty of fraud if you failed, or, for example, did not benefit at all from a cheat sheet. Fraud can have major consequences for all students in the exam in question, for example if the Board of Examiners is forced to declare the entire exam invalid.

Reporting an irregularity - up to 4 weeks after the date of the exam (due to marking time and investigation)

A lecturer or invigilator has found an irregularity in, for example, an exam, exam preparation or report in which you are involved. The lecturer of the course concerned reports this to the Board of Examiners. The lecturer or the Board has already informed you of this. An irregularity could indicate fraud. It is up to the Board of Examiners as an independent body (of the program for which you are enrolled) to find out whether fraud can indeed be established and whether a sanction needs to be imposed. The examination is not assessed until the Board has decided what consequences the findings will have.

Investigation Board of Examiners - up to approx. 2 weeks from receipt of the irregularity report

If the Examination Board receives a report, it will start an exploratory investigation. Does the Board have all the information it needs? Are there any clarifying answers needed from the lecturer? Does the Board have all information and details? Should images or videos be (re)viewed? Is there possible fraud or another irregularity? In the latter case, the Examination Board does not always have to continue a fraud investigation.

For example, if it appears that a student has not complied with the rules of the course and / or the exam.

How can I tell my side of the story? - up to approx. 1 week after completion of the first investigation of the Board of Examiners

If the Board has a good overview of the case and continues the investigation as possible fraud, it will ask you by email to send a written opinion within a reasonable period of time. In this opinion you can describe your point of view and provide a possible explanation on the reported irregularity. You can also send relevant documents. Subsequently, an oral hearing with a delegation from the Board is scheduled for each student involved..

Hearing - 1 - 4 weeks after receipt of the views of (all) students involved

In general, there will be 2 Board members and 2 members of the official staff of the Board present. Prior to the hearing, you will be asked for permission to record the hearing. This because of the reporting and as a reference should an appeal follow. Once a case has been fully decided upon, the recordings will be deleted.

If necessary, you can supplement your written opinion during the hearing. The Board will ask you additional questions, but will also respond to any questions you may have.

Decision - 1-4 weeks after hearing

In general, the Board deliberates immediately after the hearing and will, if possible, make a decision. In some cases, the Board will await additional documents from the student concerned. Perhaps the Board has additional questions for the lecturer or needs to conduct further research. The Board of Examiners will try to inform you by e-mail prior to the formal decision. It takes longer to prepare the formal decision letter, after receipt of which you could also submit an appeal with the 'CBE'.

What sanction can I expect?

The Board of Examiners takes fraud, and for example abuse of circumstances, very seriously. When imposing the sanction, the Board takes into account the type of fraud, the seriousness of the fraud, recidivism and the possible consequences of the sanction. If fraud is established, your result will automatically be declared invalid, because the examiner has not been able to test your knowledge. If an investigation shows that the examination can no longer be assessed for all students, the Board may declare the entire examination invalid for all students.

Furthermore, a copy of the decision will be stored in your personal file. This has only effect in case you would again be found guilty of committing fraud. The Board will then impose a heavier sanction. No reference of this is made on your diploma.

The sanctions vary from a formal reprimand to - in extreme cases - a request to the Executive Board of TU Delft to remove a student from the study program. The Board may, for example, exclude you from the next examination of the course concerned or from all examinations of one or more consecutive quarters up to an entire academic year.

The resit is soon, but no decision has been taken yet. Can I participate?

The Board tries to take resits into account. If the examination of the Board has unfortunately not yet been completed at that time, it is up to you to decide whether or not you want to take the resit.