



## **Knack's Zero Tolerance Policy for Academic Misconduct**

At Knack, we are committed to ensuring that our platform aids in the widespread facilitation of educationally purposeful peer interactions. With that in mind, we understand that not all students are looking to learn. Some are just looking for answers. While there are a wide variety of reasons [why students might cheat](#), we do our very best to ensure they won't do so on the Knack Platform. If a student or tutor does try to circumvent the true process of peer learning, we do our best to catch them and revoke their access to our platform.

### **Here's what we do to steer students away from bad behaviors...**

When users sign up for Knack at a partnered university, they are required to agree to a few conditions. The first step in signing up is affirming that they will abide by the [Knack Terms of Use](#), which state that all users must uphold all code of conduct and academic integrity policies of any institutions at which the Student or Tutor is enrolled. This is written in such a way that a violation of this clause will result in immediate termination of access to Knack.

Once a user agrees to the terms of use, they will be prompted to accept additional terms for their specific college or university. This requires an explicit acknowledgment that they must abide by any Honor Policies set forth by the school, and that violating these policies or abusing the Knack Platform may result in disciplinary action with the school.

In addition to the aforementioned communication and necessary acknowledgement of policies, tutors who complete Knack Tutor Training: The Basics are made aware of potential honor code violations and how to avoid them. As a part of this module, tutors are asked to locate their school's honor policies and pledge their commitment to abide by them. Moreover, tutors are exposed to some best practices for helping to guide students towards discovering solutions to problems on their own, and it is made abundantly clear that tutoring on Knack is not allowed to be used for any graded assignments.

### **Here's what we do to uncover and investigate potential abuse...**

We utilize a variety of custom-built misuse-detection algorithms that flag suspicious activity on the Knack Platform. When these cases are flagged, our team members investigate all of the data at our disposal (messages, session descriptions, audit history, reviews, etc.) to determine whether or not we have reason to believe that a violation took place. If it appears that a violation has occurred, we immediately shut down any relevant accounts and send a notice to affected users, providing them an opportunity to appeal the case. Once all information has been collected, we turn over our findings to the partner institution in case they'd like to take further action. In addition to our automated checks, users can report violations they witness.

All told, we are confident that students and tutors are much less likely to be dishonest on the Knack Platform, since they know they have a much higher chance of getting caught and having their school find out. That said, we work hard every day to ensure that remains the case.