

Sexual Assault Policy

The college reaffirms the principle that students and employees have a right to be free from any form of sexual offense, both forcible and non-forcible. Sexual offenses are unacceptable, and they will not be tolerated. They also are unlawful. Sexual assaults include rape, sexual battery, corruption of a minor, gross sexual imposition, voyeurism, and public indecency.

The college provides programs to enhance sexual assault awareness and prevention throughout the year. Selected employees and community experts give presentations and provide resources on request.

Persons who believe sexual offenses may have occurred are strongly encouraged to report the incidents immediately and to preserve any evidence intact.

To report sexual assaults that occur on campus, victims should contact campus security through the college switchboard and/or the student development services counselor or the vice president of student development and technology services. Any student services staff member can also assist in this process. Assaults may be reported directly to the local law enforcement agency with the assistance of Campus Police and/or College Security or counseling personnel. Persons who wish to file an informal or formal complaint of sexual assault against students should notify the vice president of student development and technology services, who will assist those persons in following the Sexual Harassment Grievance Policy described in the Student Handbook. Persons who wish to file an informal or formal complaint against an employee should notify the vice president of student development and technology services who will assist the persons in following the Sexual Harassment Policy in the Personnel Handbook. Also, counseling for victims of sexual assault is available on campus.

These procedures are designed to ensure equal opportunity for both the accused and the accuser. During any hearing, both the accused and the accuser may also present witnesses and be assisted by advisors of their choice from the college community. Complaints of sexual offenses are responded to promptly and equitably. The right to confidentiality of all members of the college community is respected, insofar as possible. Retaliation against individuals bringing complaints of sexual assault is specifically prohibited. Possible sanctions for students found guilty of sexual offenses include restricted access to specified buildings, events, or areas of the campus and suspension or dismissal from the college. Possible sanctions for employees found guilty of sexual offenses include probation or termination. It should also be understood that, as with any crime, if charges of a sexual offense are prosecuted, criminal penalties can result, in addition to sanctions imposed by the college. As with any campus disciplinary proceeding, all parties are informed of the outcome of their case, including any sanction(s).