Resources for Students Who Have Experienced Sexual Harassment & Misconduct

Sexual Assault, Sexual Harassment, Gender-Based Harassment; Dating/Domestic Violence, Stalking, Sexual Exploitation, Retaliation

TitleIX.psu.edu

Medical Care

Medical care is important, even if you feel no injury was sustained. Medical providers can assess your overall health needs, treat physical injuries, test for sexually transmitted infections and pregnancy, and collect evidence for legal proceedings. Staff are specifically trained and sensitive to your concerns.

Confidential Emergency Care

York Hospital
1001 S. George Street
717.851.2345
Emergencies: 911

Provides treatment for injuries and sexually transmitted infections and rape kit assessments with a sexual assault nurse examiner. Advocates for survivors are available on call. Open 24/7.

Confidential Non-Emergency Care

WellSpan Care Express
2058 S. Queen Street, York
888.520.5060

Provides non-emergency assistance and referrals. Call for hours.

Emotional Support

Talking to someone can be an important part of your healing process. Confidential support services are available to assist you on and off campus. No personal information is shared without your permission.

Confidential Counseling

Counseling
Ruhl Student Center
Student Affairs Suite
717.771.4088

Services include emotional support, counseling, consultation, academic advocacy, reporting options, and connection to other services.

Confidential Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Services

YWCA York
800.262.8444

Provides 24/7 counseling, support, advocacy, shelter, legal services, and assistance with protective orders.

Confidential 24 hour Crisis Hotline

Victim Assistance Center
717.854.3131

24 hour community crisis hotline.

Reporting

You have options if you choose to report an incident of sexual misconduct: 1) file a complaint with the Office of Sexual Misconduct Prevention & Response and/or 2) file a complaint with law enforcement.

Office of Sexual Misconduct Prevention & Response

Title IX Coordinator
222 Boucke Building
814.867.0099
titleix@psu.edu

Coordinates University’s response to reports of sexual harassment and sexual misconduct, facilitates resources, and provides education and training.

Law Enforcement (Emergency Response)

Campus Police
717.771.8444

Local Police
717.741.1259 or 911

Resource Person

Scott Simonds
19 Ruhl Student Center
717.718.6715
sfs9@psu.edu

Provides information about complaint process and reporting options, may impose No Contact Directives.

Penn State Hotline
800.560.1637

Anonymous reporting

For more information regarding available resources, support services, and procedural options please visit: TitleIX.psu.edu
Sexual Misconduct

Frequently Asked Questions

What happens next if/when the University has been notified of an incident of sexual or gender-based harassment or misconduct (including sexual harassment, sexual assault, stalking, dating violence, domestic violence, and/or sexual exploitation)?

Reports of potential sexual or gender-based harassment or misconduct must be shared with the University’s Office of Sexual Misconduct Prevention & Response (OSMPR), unless first shared with a confidential employee (for example, a staff member in Counseling). Once OSMPR receives this information, a staff person will typically contact the affected student to ask if they are interested in meeting to discuss their experience as well as the resources, support services, and procedural options that may be available to them. The student is not obligated to respond to the e-mail or meet with anyone. If they do decide to meet to discuss the experience, the student will not be asked to talk about anything they are uncomfortable discussing, nor will they be pressured to do anything they do not want to do. The primary purpose of the meeting will be to assist the student in understanding their options and the University’s process for handling these kinds of incidents.

Can I bring someone with me to a meeting with the Resource Person?

Yes. A student may bring a support person or advisor of their choosing to any meeting or conversation they have regarding their experience.

What kind of help is available to me through the University?

Penn State is committed to providing ongoing support to individuals who experience incidents of sexual or gender-based harassment or misconduct. Students may be able to access a variety of resources and support services in connection with their experience, including:

• reasonable academic accommodations, including modifications to course or exam schedules, or coursework;
• housing modifications, including permanent or temporary room reassignments or the provision of a temporary safe space on campus;
• free confidential counseling and psychological support;
• access to free or low-cost healthcare options;
• referrals to local community agencies for additional services;
• the choice to request an administrative directive to limit or prohibit an individual’s contact with you; and
• your option to request a formal investigative process or an informal resolution.

Additional confidential and nonconfidential resources beyond those listed here may also be available.

Will I be in trouble if I was drinking underage or using drugs when the incident happened?

No. Penn State wants to encourage students to freely report incidents of sexual or gender-based harassment and misconduct whenever they occur. Therefore, it is the University’s policy that students who act responsibly by reporting incidents of sexual or gender-based harassment and misconduct will not face University disciplinary action for their own drug or alcohol possession or consumption in connection with the reported incident.

What if I am hesitant to talk about what happened because I am afraid that someone will retaliate against me?

Retaliation against anyone who reports an incident of sexual or gender-based harassment or misconduct, or who participates in a University process related to such an incident, is strictly prohibited under University policy. If you have any concerns about retaliation, you should discuss them with a staff member. Regardless of whether you participated in a University process, you are encouraged to consider preserving any key forensic or other evidence.

Updated 8/14/2020

This publication is available in alternative media on request. Penn State is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer, and is committed to providing employment opportunities to all qualified applicants without regard to race, color, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability or protected veteran status. U.Ed STA 20-400