Penn State’s Office of Sexual Misconduct Prevention & Response (OSMPR) addresses reports of sexual harassment, gender-based harassment, sexual violence, relationship violence, and other forms of sexual misconduct involving students.

Complainants, or the reported survivors/victims of such incidents, may walk into our physical office, submit a report online or over the phone, or a third party may report an incident naming the Complainant.

OSMPR staff contact Complainants promptly and discreetly with an invitation to meet and discuss their needs, on- and off-campus resources, and procedural options available to them, including Complainant-driven resolutions and University investigations.

In some cases, Complainants may not respond, or they may request no further action from the University; a panel—comprising Student Affairs staff, University Police, and the Title IX Coordinator—reviews each such case for risk.

A University investigation may be initiated at either the request of the Complainant or the panel. The Respondent, or the accused student, is not presumed to be responsible, is entitled to adequate due process, and is afforded on- and off-campus resources. The Office of Student Conduct reviews investigative reports to determine any policy violations or sanctions.

highlights of ‘19/’20

OSMPR was awarded the It’s On Us PA Grant in the amount of $30,000

New procedures were adopted in how sexual harassment and misconduct were managed

In March 2020, OSMPR quickly adapted to the environment created by the COVID-19 pandemic by continuing with work remotely

goals for ‘20/’21

OSMPR will ensure compliance with all new Title IX requirements

Staff will continue to work with projects in our It’s On Us PA Grant application

Record-keeping and information-sharing will be streamlined with the Office of Student Conduct

Operations will be adapted to meet students’ needs during the COVID-19 pandemic
1,348 total reports received, resulting in 842 total cases.

Outreach partners:
- Center for Gender and Sexual Diversity
- Fraternity & Sorority Life
- Gender Equity Center
- Global Programs

Cases by reported behavior:
- Sexual violence: 35%
- Relationship violence: 22%
- Harassment: 18%
- Other: 18%
- Stalking: 7%

Cases by gender:
- Complainants: Female 77%, Male 14%, Unknown/Not Reported 9%
- Respondents: Female 53%, Male 37%, Unknown/Not Reported 10%

Cases by incident location:
- University Park: On campus 53%, Off campus 37%, Unknown location 10%
- Non-UP Residential: On campus 22%, Off campus 50%, Unknown location 28%
- Non-Residential: On campus 55%, Off campus 41%, Unknown location 4%
- World Campus: On campus 60%, Off campus 38%, Unknown location 2%

Outreach partners:
- Academic
- Housing
- On-campus referrals
- Off-campus referrals
- Police referrals
- Directory withholding

Office includes staff & points of contact:
- 1 Director
- 2 Administrative Supports
- 2 Case Managers
- 4 Investigators
- 23 Resource Points at Commonwealth Campuses
OSMPR remains vital to Penn State’s provision of a safe and respectful learning environment. We are committed to educating the Penn State community and the commonwealth about all forms of sexual violence, harassment, and misconduct. OSMPR strives to reduce barriers to reporting, uphold due process, and ensure success for every student at the University.