Sexual Misconduct and Title IX

What you need to know

2019-2020
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A Message from the President

Dear Campus Community,

First and foremost, it is important for you to know that Coastal Carolina University does not tolerate any form of sexual misconduct. We are committed to student safety and to educating not only our students, but also our faculty, staff and campus community in regard to Title IX protections, mandates and violations. We have put in place multiple resources to support students who have become victims of sexual misconduct or sexual harassment. It is important that you know what is available and how to reach out for those resources.

This booklet is a great source of information for you to keep on hand if you or someone you know is ever affected by sexual misconduct, dating violence, stalking, domestic violence or sexual harassment. There are tips and other information you will find valuable to add to your college skills tool kit. I encourage each member of our community to take a stand against sexual misconduct. You can do this by being educated, by ensuring victims get the support they need for their safety and well-being, and by being an active citizen in reporting behaviors that are against our policies.

Together, we can help prevent sexual misconduct and make a positive impact on this campus.

Sincerely,

David A. DeCenzo
President, Coastal Carolina University
Definition of Sexual Misconduct

Sexual misconduct is defined as any sexual contact without consent, regardless of the gender of either person.

Consent is knowing, voluntary and clear permission by word or action to engage in mutually agreed upon sexual activity. Since individuals may experience the same interaction in different ways, it is the responsibility of each person to make certain that the other has consented before engaging in the activity. For consent to be valid, there must be a clear expression in words or actions that the other individual consented to that specific sexual conduct.

1. A person cannot consent if they are unable to understand what is happening or if they are disoriented, helpless, asleep or unconscious for any reason, including being under the influence of alcohol or other drugs. An individual who engages in sexual activity when the individual knows, or should know, that the other person is physically or mentally incapacitated has violated CCU's Sexual Misconduct Policy.

2. It is not an excuse that the individual responding party of a sexual misconduct allegation was intoxicated at the time of the alleged offense and that, therefore, did not realize the incapacity of the other.

3. Consent to some sexual contact (such as kissing or fondling) cannot be presumed to be consent for other sexual activity (such as intercourse). A current or previous dating relationship does not constitute consent. Silence or the absence of resistance alone is not consent. A person can withdraw consent at any time during sexual activity by expressing words or actions that he or she no longer wants the act to continue, and, if that happens, the other person must stop immediately.

Sexual harassment includes unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature. Sexual harassment also occurs when:

- Submission to or rejection of such conduct is made explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual's employment or academic standing.
- Such conduct unreasonably interferes with an individual's work or academic performance, or creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive working or academic environment.

Dating violence is violence committed by a person who has been in a romantic or intimate relationship with the victim.

Quick Facts

- College students are particularly vulnerable to sexual violence: 1 in 5 women have been sexually assaulted while in college.
- Men and boys, however, are also at risk: 1 in 71 men – or almost 1.6 million – have been sexually assaulted during their lives.
- Approximately 86 percent of victims know their assailants.
- The vast majority (nearly 98 percent) of perpetrators are male.
- Other populations are also at higher risk of being assaulted including the LGBTQ+ community, prison inmates (of both genders) and the homeless.

Source: cdc.gov/ViolencePrevention/sexualviolence/index.html
University Policies

Sexual misconduct is a violation of the Code of Student Conduct Sexual Misconduct Policy. To initiate the student conduct process, the complainant should contact the Dean of Students Office and report the assault with a request that charges be filed. If the victim/complainant does not wish for any official action be taken, that is the complainant's choice.

Students accused of sexual misconduct are charged with violating Coastal Carolina University’s Code of Student Conduct. The complainant is allowed to make a “victim impact statement” as part of the hearing process. During the hearing process, the complainant and the respondent may have an adviser present. (Please refer to the Code of Student Conduct regarding the role of an adviser as well as specifics of the conduct process.) Upon completion of the hearing process, both the complainant and the respondent are notified of the outcome.

If the student chooses not to file a formal complaint, but does identify the alleged perpetrator, the University may still decide to initiate an investigation if there is a potential threat to the campus. If a student is found guilty of sexual misconduct, disciplinary action may result in separation from the University.

• The Code of Student Conduct can be viewed online at coastal.edu/conduct.
• The following policies can be viewed online at coastal.edu/policies:
  • Sexual Misconduct.
  • Sexual Assault/Violence.
  • Sexual Harassment.
  • Protection from Retaliation.
  • Pregnancy or Parenting Students.

The standard of proof used to determine a violation is “a preponderance of evidence,” not the “beyond a reasonable doubt” standard used in civil and/or criminal proceedings. This means that a student may be found in violation of the Code of Student Conduct if the information gathered indicates that there is a likelihood of at least 51 percent that the violating behavior occurred.

Retaliation

Retaliatory harassment against any complainant of sexual violence is prohibited and in direct violation of University policy. Any problems involving retaliation should be reported to the Dean of Students Office or the Title IX coordinator so further action can be taken.
Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 on Sexual Violence

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX) prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in education programs or activities operated by recipients of federal financial assistance. This includes Coastal Carolina University. Title IX defines sexual harassment as “unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature. It includes unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal, nonverbal, or physical conduct of a sexual nature.”

Sexual violence, according to the United States Department of Education Office of Civil Rights, is defined as “physical sexual acts perpetrated against a person’s will or where a person is incapable of giving consent due to the victim’s use of drugs or alcohol.”

Title IX requires that “if a school knows or reasonably should know about student-on-student harassment [including sexual violence] that creates a hostile environment… the school [should] take immediate action to eliminate the harassment, prevent its recurrence, and address its effects.”

While students may pursue charges against an alleged perpetrator of sexual violence through South Carolina law or the Coastal Carolina University Code of Student Conduct, they may also address alleged acts of sexual violence through CCU’s Title IX coordinator.

- **Title IX Coordinator**
  843-349-2382 • titleIX@coastal.edu

- **Deputy Title IX Coordinator**
  843-349-4161 • dso@coastal.edu

Title IX also prohibits gender-based harassment, which may include acts of verbal, nonverbal or physical aggression, intimidation or hostility based on sex or sex-stereotyping, even if those acts do not involve conduct of a sexual nature.

South Carolina law prohibits acts of sexual violence and identifies them as “criminal sexual conduct.” See Page 5 for specific definitions.

The Coastal Carolina University Code of Student Conduct prohibits sexual or gender-based misconduct including but not limited to:

a. Dating/domestic violence.

b. Sexual exploitation.

c. Sexual violence/assault.

d. Sexual harassment.

e. Stalking

NOTE: Please refer to the Sexual Misconduct Policy for additional information.
South Carolina Law on Criminal Sexual Conduct

According to the South Carolina Code of Law, criminal sexual conduct is defined as follows:

SECTION 16 3 652. Criminal sexual conduct in the first degree.

1. A person is guilty of criminal sexual conduct in the first degree if the actor engages in sexual battery with the victim and if any one or more of the following circumstances are proven:
   a. The actor uses aggravated force to accomplish sexual battery.
   b. The victim submits to sexual battery by the act or under circumstances where the victim is also the victim of forcible confinement, kidnapping, trafficking in persons, robbery, extortion, burglary, housebreaking, or any other similar offense or act.
   c. The actor causes the victim, without the victim’s consent, to become mentally incapacitated or physically helpless by administering, distributing, dispensing, delivering or causing to be administered, distributed, dispensed or delivered, a controlled substance, a controlled substance analogue, or any intoxicating substance.

2. Criminal sexual conduct in the first degree is a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than thirty (30) years, according to the discretion of the court.

SECTION 16 3 653. Criminal sexual conduct in the second degree.

1. A person is guilty of criminal sexual conduct in the second degree if the actor uses aggravated coercion to accomplish sexual battery.

2. Criminal sexual conduct in the second degree is a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than twenty (20) years according to the discretion of the court.

SECTION 16 3 654. Criminal sexual conduct in the third degree.

1. A person is guilty of criminal sexual conduct in the third degree if the actor engages in sexual battery with the victim and if any one or more of the following circumstances are proven:
   a. The actor uses force or coercion to accomplish the sexual battery in the absence of aggravating circumstances.
   b. The actor knows or has reason to know that the victim is mentally defective, mentally incapacitated, or physically helpless and aggravated force or aggravated coercion was not used to accomplish sexual battery.

2. Criminal sexual conduct in the third degree is a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than 10 years, according to the discretion of the court.
ItCould Happen to Anyone

Anyone, regardless of gender, can be a survivor of sexual violence.

Besides feeling frightened, angry, hurt and ashamed, survivors can feel betrayed and even guilty, believing they may have in some way facilitated the assault. In some cases, survivors do not even acknowledge that they have been assaulted until long after the incident has occurred.

Fight, Flight, or Freeze

When someone has suffered sexual violence, the nervous system responses of fight, flight and freeze are automatic survival actions. They are similar to reflexes in that they are instantaneous, but the mechanisms underlying these responses are much more complex. If the limbic system perceives that there is neither time nor strength for fight or flight, and death could be imminent, then the body will freeze.

Many victims of sexual assault go into a “freeze state” while the assault is going on as a way of surviving. In looking back on what happened, it is easy to feel a lot of guilt or shame for freezing and not doing more to protect ourselves by fighting back or running away.

It is important for survivors of sexual violence to understand that freezing is not under the control of the victim.

It is not your fault!
Potential Short- and Long-Term Effects of Sexual Violence

Adult’s Response to Trauma

An adult’s response to traumatic and cumulative stress varies according to how frequent and severe the events were as well as the coping skills of the individual. Generally, an individual’s initial response, although quite upsetting, is considered an expected response to an occurrence outside of “normal” day-to-day experience. Individuals can be at risk for developing more serious problems such as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. If the symptoms continue or greatly interfere with daily life, individuals should seek help as soon as possible.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Initial or Short-Term Response</th>
<th>Delayed or Cumulative Response</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Shakiness, dizziness, numbness.</td>
<td>Symptoms may appear in one to three months (or sometimes later) and last indefinitely without proper response. They generally include items in column one but with increasing severity. In addition, traumatic stress may include the following:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Crying or tearfulness.</td>
<td>• Preoccupation with the event to the exclusion of life activities.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Disturbed sleep or wakefulness.</td>
<td>• Marked avoidance of reminders of the event.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Change in appetite.</td>
<td>• Ongoing fatigue.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Increased irritability and anger.</td>
<td>• Disinterest in sex, leisure activities, other symptoms of depression.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Argumentativeness.</td>
<td>• Chronic feelings of hopelessness, powerlessness or worthlessness.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Withdrawal or isolating self.</td>
<td>• Inability to work.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Family or marital conflict.</td>
<td>• Forgetfulness.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Refusal to talk about event.</td>
<td>• Increased accidents due to inability to concentrate.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Avoidance of reminders of event.</td>
<td>• Flashbacks and/or nightmares.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Reduced concentration.</td>
<td>• Sense of not being “all there.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Preoccupation with event.</td>
<td>• Increasing anger or violent behavior.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Headaches.</td>
<td>• Marital or family conflict.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Diarrhea.</td>
<td>• Inability to leave home and feel safe.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Stomach aches.</td>
<td>• Substance dependence.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Tingling in arms and legs.</td>
<td>• Suicidal thinking or planning.*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Ringing in ears.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Feelings of helplessness.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Flashbacks and/or nightmares.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Initiating or increasing alcohol or drug use.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Anxiety and thoughts of death or dying.*</td>
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*ANY thoughts of self-destructive behavior need to be addressed immediately. Professional help should be sought. For immediate assistance, dial Counseling Services at 843-349-2305 during business hours and 843-349-2911 after business hours.
What is Consent?

Sexual consent is an agreement between people before they engage in any kind of sexual activity. Both people have to say "yes!" clearly and freely. Consent must be willing. The decision to engage in any type of sexual behavior must be free of force. Both partners must be free to make their own decisions and have the option of whether or not to be intimate. Force can either be physical or emotional. Examples of physical force include kidnapping, using weapons, holding someone down or taking advantage of someone when they are incapacitated due to drug or alcohol use. Examples of emotional force include threats, peer pressure, blackmail, guilt or coercion. Consent is an ongoing process, and either party can revoke consent at any point in the process. Consent can only happen when everyone participating is of legal age to consent to sexual activity.

Consent is:
- An agreement made when both people want to have sex.
- When both people can freely express their needs and wants without fear of their partner’s reaction.
- Mutual.
- Voluntary.
- Sober.
- Talked about before any sexual activity.
- Enthusiastic.
- Fun.

Consent is not:
- The absence of “no.”
- Implied or assumed, even in a relationship.
- Silence or not responding.
- When someone says “yes” because they feel pressured or afraid of how their partner would respond to “no.”
- “I’m not sure.”
- “I don’t know.”
- "I'm scared."

Individuals can give consent and then change their mind by verbalizing that they no longer want to participate in a particular sexual act. Consent for one thing does not mean consent for everything and consent given once does not mean always. Consent cannot be given by someone who is passed out, sleeping, or under the influence of alcohol or other drugs.

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To view the official definition of consent at Coastal Carolina University, please view the Sexual Misconduct Policy online at coastal.edu/policies.
Risk Reduction

Only a perpetrator can prevent sexual violence from occurring. Potential victims, however, can take steps to reduce the risk of being assaulted.

Failure to take these proactive measures does NOT mean that the victim is to blame for a sexual assault. By definition, a sexual assault is nonconsensual, and the victim can never be blamed!

A. With Acquaintances

In approximately 86 percent of sexual assaults, the victim knows the assailant. These proactive measures can help reduce the risk of being sexually assaulted by an acquaintance:

- Know your sexual desires and limitations and communicate them clearly.
- Don’t go to a secluded place with someone you’ve just met or don’t know well. Suggest a public place.
- Drive your own car, use public transportation or have enough money for a taxi.
- Don’t go to a room alone with someone you just met (or invite them to yours).
- Beware of the impact of alcohol or other drugs on your judgment and that of your companion(s).
- Be cautious about spending time alone with someone you don’t know well.
- Beware of attitudes that could possibly signal the potential for sexual violence—domineering personality, jealousy or unrealistic expectations.

B. With Strangers

While only 14 percent of assaults are perpetrated by strangers, there are a number of proactive measures you can take to minimize the potential for assault by someone who you do not know.

- Report suspicious persons to the Department of Public Safety.
- Let others know where you are going and when you will return.
- Avoid working, studying or being alone in buildings or isolated in poorly lit areas.
- If you “feel” uncomfortable, trust your feelings. Contact the Department of Public Safety to be accompanied to your destination.
- Know where emergency call boxes are throughout the campus.
- Always close your blinds/shades/curtains at night.
- Check identification of strangers before opening your apartment door.
- Always keep your apartment door and car doors locked.
- Be alert, aware of what is going on around you, and walk with confidence.
- Always watch your drink, and do not accept drinks from strangers.
C. In Relationships

There are a number of proactive measures you can take to minimize the potential for assault by someone with whom you are in a relationship.

• Be aware of red flags and address them early.

• Realize you are two different people. If you disagree on topics like football or music, RESPECT how the other feels about it.

• Do what you say; you both have to TRUST in one another.

• Share your feelings with each other. Good communication will help prevent arguments.

• Be patient, breathe and count to 10 when arguing to calm yourself down.

• Remove yourself from an argument if either partner is unable to remain calm.

Relationship Red Flags

Sexual violence and other types of abuse can occur in relationships. This is a list of potential indicators that the relationship may be abusive.

• Does my partner tease me in hurtful ways in front of others?

• Does my partner act jealous of my friends, family or co-workers?

• Does my partner check up on me constantly by calling, texting or showing up unexpectedly?

• Does my partner try to control what I wear or how I style my hair?

• Does my partner blame me for his/her problems or bad mood?

• Does my partner throw or destroy things when angry?

• Does my partner read my mail, look at my phone or go through my personal space/items?

• Does my partner keep money from me, keep me in debt or have “money secrets”?

• Has my partner threatened to hurt me?

• Has my partner slapped, punched or kicked me?

• Has my partner given me visible injuries?

• Has my partner forced me to have sex when I don’t want to?

• Has my partner used alcohol or other drugs?

• Has my partner insisted that I use alcohol or other drugs?

• Has my partner had trouble with the police?

• Does my partner act one way in public and another when we are alone?

• Is my partner secretive about past relationships?

• Have I lost friends because of my partner’s actions?

• Have I thought about calling the police because of my partner’s actions?

• Have I felt afraid to call the police because of threats from my partner?

• Has my partner hurt a friend or family member?
Rape Aggression Defense (RAD) Class
offered by the Department of Public Safety

The Rape Aggression Defense System is a program of realistic, self-defense tactics and techniques. The RAD system is a comprehensive course for women that begins with awareness, prevention, risk reduction and avoidance, while progressing on to the basics of hands-on defense training. RAD is not a martial arts program. Courses are taught by certified RAD instructors who provide participants with a RAD workbook/reference manual.

The manual outlines the entire physical defense program for reference and continuous personal growth. The RAD System of Physical Defense is taught at many colleges and universities throughout the nation and Canada. Coastal students receive college credit for successfully passing this course. The growing, widespread acceptance of this system is primarily due to the ease, simplicity and effectiveness of tactics, solid research, legal defensibility and unique teaching methodology. The RAD System is dedicated to teaching women defensive concepts and techniques against various types of assault by utilizing easy, effective and proven self-defense/martial arts tactics. This system of realistic defense provides a woman with the knowledge to make an educated decision about resistance.

RAD operates on the research-supported premise that a spontaneous violent attack will stimulate a natural desire to resist on the part of the victim. Women are taught about the “Flight or Fight Syndrome,” while showing them that enhancing their option of physical defense is not only prudent, but a necessity, if natural resistance is to be effective.
Getting Immediate Help

Survivors may be unsure how to deal with the assault or what courses of action are available and appropriate. All students, faculty, and staff should be aware of both the consequences of sexual assault and the options available to the survivor. Seeking assistance in connection with a sexual assault from the hospital, the police, the University, or anyone else does not obligate you to take further action.

If a sexual offense should occur, the survivor should:

1. Go to a safe place.
2. Contact a trusted person.

   The survivor has the right to choose who to talk to and who not to talk to at any point.

   a. Confidential – These departments are not required to report to Title IX or the Department of Public Safety.
      i. Counseling Services
      ii. Student Health Services

   b. Other contacts for getting help – These are other resources that can help.
      i. CCU Department of Public Safety
      ii. Dean of Students Office
      iii. Title IX coordinator
      iv. University Housing staff

   c. Anonymous Resources – These are entities where you can report and receive resources without providing your name.
      i. EthicsPoint (https://www.coastal.edu/universitycompliance/reporting)

   d. If you are not comfortable with getting help from any of the above resources, consider talking to a trusted friend or family member.

Refer to Page 18 for additional information about confidentiality.

The following are options and are not required of a survivor:

1. For the purpose of evidence collection, an exam needs to be completed within 120 hours of the incident.
2. Keep the clothes worn during the offense. If clothes are changed, place clothes in a paper bag. (Evidence deteriorates in plastic.)
3. It is best not to shower, bathe or douche. Do not urinate, if possible.
4. If possible, avoid eating, drinking liquids, smoking or brushing teeth if oral contact took place.
5. If the crime occurred in the victim’s home and if the victim chooses to contact the police, the victim should not clean or straighten up the area until police have arrived.
Medical Amnesty

When a student contacts the Department of Public Safety, a member of the University Housing staff, or off-campus law enforcement personnel (for off-campus incidents) regarding a medical emergency related to alcohol or drug consumption, neither the student making the contact nor the student in need of assistance will be charged with violations of the University Alcohol and Drug Policy.

Don’t let the fear of getting into trouble stop you from getting help!

Emergency Room

Physicians in the emergency room have the ability to treat injuries and infections as well as collect evidence. This is the best option since the rapid collection of evidence will allow the survivor to keep options open for pressing charges. Even if survivors initially do not want to press charges, they may change their minds after the initial trauma begins to subside. Having this evidence collected will allow survivors to consider all options. For the purpose of evidence collection, an exam needs to be completed within 120 hours of the incident.

Student Health Services or other Local Medical Provider

If survivors choose not to go to the emergency room, it is extremely important that they see a medical provider. Coastal Carolina University’s Student Health Services will see students who have been sexually assaulted. Typically, Student Health Services will be able to treat injuries and infections, but will not collect evidence. Call Student Health Services at 843-349-6543 for more information.

Even if the survivor goes to the emergency room after the assault, it is advisable to follow up with a local medical provider to monitor the appearance of STIs, which typically do not emerge immediately after the assault.
Counseling

Emotional trauma is severe after a sexual violence incident. The violation, loss of trust and loss of control can have serious long-term impacts on the survivor. It is not unusual for a person to feel guilty and distrustful or withdraw from others, particularly in an acquaintance rape. There are, however, trained persons on and off campus who can provide counseling and support during recovery. Student survivors who wish to remain anonymous are encouraged to call Counseling Services at 843-349-2305 for help or advice. To reach a counselor after regular office hours, call 843-349-2911. Regular office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Survivors have the option of keeping their report of sexual assault in complete confidence, thus protecting their right to anonymity, when making a report through CCU’s Office of Counseling Services.

The Rape Crisis Center is a local nonprofit agency that offers a 24-hour crisis line for counseling and advocacy services. The crisis line number is 843-448-7273.

Advocacy and Remedies

Student Advocacy and Intervention

Student Advocacy and Intervention in the Dean of Students Office offers guidance, support and interim remedies to student victims or survivors of sexual misconduct. The University can take measures to promote the safety, comfort and recovery of survivors, even if they choose not to pursue conduct or criminal charges. The advocate helps survivors undertake and implement options available on campus. Examples of interim remedies include:

- No contact orders.
- Department of Public Safety escorts to class.
- Communication with professors.
- Class changes.
- Information about reporting options.

Please contact Student Advocacy and Intervention at 843-349-4161 for more information about your options. Students are never required to share any information or pursue any processes against their will.

Victim Services Coordinator

CCU’s Department of Public Safety employs a victim services coordinator who acts as a liaison between the survivor and the police department. The victim services coordinator’s duties include, but are not limited to, providing criminal justice information and support, immediate crisis information, court accompaniment, assistance in preparing written and/or oral statements and financial assistance with medical exams. For more information, contact 843-349-2178 or 843-504-1864. Options are available for you. Reporting is not prosecuting. Pursuing criminal action is your decision to make.

Sexual assault is a crime committed against you, not by you. The use of alcohol or drugs by a survivor of assault does not make the survivor at fault. Do not blame yourself. This information will not be held against you should you choose to move forward with a report.
What to Expect When You Report

Coastal Carolina University provides students with several options for reporting sexual violence.

1. To pursue **criminal charges** or to simply keep your option for pursuing criminal charges open, contact the police in the jurisdiction where the assault occurred.

   If you are unsure of the jurisdiction, contact the Coastal Carolina University Department of Public Safety at 843-349-2911.

2. To pursue charges of a violation of the **Code of Student Conduct**, contact the Dean of Students Office at 843-349-4161.

3. To pursue a complaint against a faculty or staff member, contact the Title IX coordinator by email at titleix@coastal.edu.

4. To pursue compliance of Coastal Carolina University with Title IX, contact the Title IX coordinator by email at titleix@coastal.edu. Detailed information can be found at coastal.edu/titleix.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dean of Students</th>
<th>Department of Public Safety</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Title IX coordinator is notified.</td>
<td>1. Public Safety is notified.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Victim/survivor is contacted with information about resources and an invitation to meet to review these resources. Victim is not required to respond or take any action.</td>
<td>2. Victim/survivor is contacted by DPS victim’s coordinator regarding available resources and services. The victim’s coordinator provides support/advocacy over the course of the investigation until final adjudication, if victim/survivor elects to pursue criminal charges.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Report is reviewed to determine whether or not there is a threat to the community.</td>
<td>3. Victim/survivor is provided information, direction and guidance on pursuing criminal charges if they choose to do so.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. If victim/survivor agrees, an investigation is initiated for review through the student conduct process. Additional information about this process is available on the Dean of Students website at coastal.edu/conduct/process.</td>
<td>4. Victim/survivor will be provided with updates from DPS staff regarding the status of the case if they elect to seek criminal charges.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*A survivor may choose to pursue reporting to one, both or neither of the above.*

If you are not sure what you want to do, anonymous evidence collection can be done at any hospital within 120 hours of the incident and maintained for 365 days.
How to Help a Friend

If someone tells you about an unwanted sexual experience, follow these steps to help:

**STEP 1:** Ensure your friend is safe.

**STEP 2:** Listen carefully.

**Helpful responses:**

- LISTEN without interrupting.
- KEEP CALM and don’t panic. Note the volume of your voice.
- RESPECT the language that the survivor uses to identify what happened.
- ALLOW for tears and expression of feelings.
- VALIDATE the survivor’s experiences or reactions.
- ONLY touch or hug the survivor with his/her permission. Be conscientious of the victim’s personal space.
- BELIEVE and support the survivor.
- ACKNOWLEDGE the survivor’s courage and discomfort.
- REMIND the survivor that the survivor is not at fault. Be aware of the Medical Amnesty Policy in the Code of Student Conduct. A victim and helping friend who reach out for help will not be charged with a violation of the code. Refer to the code for details.
- ENCOURAGE the survivor to seek medical attention and counseling.
- ALLOW the survivor to make decisions.
- ASK what you can do to be supportive.
- PROVIDE resources and options.

**Unhelpful responses:**

- ASKING “why” questions or other questions that might imply blame.
- BLAMING or JUDGING the survivor’s actions (“How much did you drink? What did you wear? Why were you there? Are you SURE it happened?”)
- DISMISSING the survivor’s feelings or minimizing the experience.
- TRYING to “fix” the problem.
- ASKING “too many” questions. You are here to help, not to investigate a crime.
- OVERLOADING the survivor with too much information at once.

**STEP 3:** Make a follow-up plan.

Refer to pages 14-18 for follow-up options.
Confidentiality

Before revealing a sexual violence incident to a faculty or staff member, students should understand that person’s legal responsibility. As a responsible person in the University, any faculty or staff member who knows or reasonably should know of an alleged sexual violence incident must report this to the Department of Public Safety and the Title IX coordinator and/or deputy Title IX coordinator. This responsibility extends to all student employees, including resident advisers. Title IX mandates that these responsible persons must report all relevant details so that the University will be able to determine what occurred and resolve the situation. **The only exceptions to this legal mandate are Counseling Services personnel and Student Health Services personnel.** South Carolina statutes provide for these individuals to maintain confidentiality. The advocate and intervention manager in the Dean of Students Office must inform the Dean of Students and Title IX coordinator of incidents of sexual violence, but will not reveal information to other individuals without the student’s permission.

Once Public Safety and the Title IX coordinator have been notified, they in turn will notify relevant Dean of Students Office personnel, relevant Counseling Services personnel and the vice president for student affairs. The name of the alleged survivor will be shared only with those individuals. Other administrators may be informed that an incident occurred, but will not be told the survivor’s identity without the permission of the survivor.

Once notifications are made, the student survivor can expect contact from three individuals.

1. The advocate and intervention manager in the Dean of Students Office will contact the student to offer services and remedies to assist the student in dealing with the situation.
2. The dean of students or designee will make contact to attempt to conduct a legally required investigation.
3. Department of Public Safety personnel will attempt to make contact to offer services and conduct a criminal investigation. It is the survivor’s decision as to whether or not to talk to these individuals, receive services or participate in an investigation. The survivor can choose not to cooperate; however, the survivor is highly encouraged to respond to contact from these individuals who can provide assistance. Benefits include:

   • Making sure survivors have services to protect their health and safety, and to help them heal.

   • Making sure survivors know what options they have for pursuing justice and helping to facilitate those options.

   • Ensuring the safety of other potential victims.

   • Helping survivors avoid having this incident interfere with their education.
Online Resources

- CCU Policies: coastal.edu/policies
- Counseling Services: coastal.edu/counseling
- Dean of Students Office: coastal.edu/deanofstudents
- Department of Public Safety: coastal.edu/safety
- National Sexual Violence Resource Center: nsvrc.org
- Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network (RAINN): rainn.org
- State Office of Victim Assistance (SOVA): sova.sc.gov
- Student Health Services: coastal.edu/health
- Title IX: coastal.edu/titleix
- U.S. White House Resources: notalone.gov

Apps

- Circle of 6

Important Telephone Numbers

**Campus Resources**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anonymous TIPS LINE</td>
<td>843-349-TIPS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Dean for Student Advocacy and Intervention</td>
<td>843-349-4161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Counseling Services</td>
<td>843-349-2305</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dean of Students Office</td>
<td>843-349-4161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Public Safety</td>
<td>843-349-2911</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency Non-Emergency</td>
<td>843-349-2177</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victim Services Coordinator</td>
<td>843-349-2178</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office of Human Resources and Equal Opportunity</td>
<td>843-349-2036</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office of Student Affairs</td>
<td>843-349-2302</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office of University Housing</td>
<td>843-349-6400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Health Services</td>
<td>843-349-6543</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title IX Coordinator</td>
<td>843-349-2392</td>
</tr>
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**Community Resources**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CareTeam Inc.</td>
<td>843-236-9000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conway Medical Center</td>
<td>843-347-7111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conway Police Department</td>
<td>843-248-1790</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency Local Police and Medical</td>
<td>911</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Justice Center</td>
<td>844-208-0161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgetown Memorial Hospital</td>
<td>843-527-7000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Strand Regional Medical Center</td>
<td>843-692-1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horry County Magistrate Office</td>
<td>843-915-5290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horry County Police Department</td>
<td>843-915-8342</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horry County Solicitor's Office</td>
<td>843-915-5460</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rape Crisis Center</td>
<td>843-448-RAPE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waccamaw Center for Mental Health</td>
<td>843-347-4888</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waccamaw Community Hospital</td>
<td>843-652-1000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>