

# Sexual Violence and Title IX

## What you need to know

2016-2017



COASTAL CAROLINA  
UNIVERSITY

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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 been victimized by 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 make a positive impact on this campus to prevent misconduct in the many forms by which it may present itself.

Sincerely,



David A. DeCenzo  
President, Coastal Carolina University



## Definition of Sexual Violence

**Sexual Violence/Assault** - Both sexual violence and sexual assault are gender-neutral.

Non-consensual Intercourse-

- Any sexual penetration or intercourse (anal, oral or vaginal)
- however slight
- with an object
- by a person upon another person
- that is without consent and/or by force

Sexual penetration includes vaginal or anal penetration by a penis, tongue, finger or object, or oral copulation by mouth-to-genital contact or genital to mouth contact.

Non-Consensual Sexual Contact-

- any intentional sexual touching
- however slight
- with any object
- by a person upon another person
- that is without consent and/or by force

Sexual touching includes any bodily contact with the breasts, groin, genitals, mouth or other bodily orifice of another individual, or any other bodily contact in a sexual manner.

**Sexual Harassment** - Unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature. Conduct may be, but is not limited to:

- Sufficiently severe, persistent/pervasive and objectively offensive that it
- Has the effect of unreasonably interfering with, denying or limiting employment opportunities or the ability to participate in or benefit from the University's educational, social and/or residential program, and is
- Based on power differentials (quid pro quo), the creation of a hostile environment or retaliation.

**Dating Violence** - violence by a person who has been in a romantic or intimate relationship with the victim. Said relationship will be gauged by its length, type, and frequency of interaction.

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## 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 sexually assaulted, including people with disabilities, the LGBT community, prison inmates (of both genders) and the homeless.

## University Policies

Sexual misconduct is a violation of the Code of Student Conduct and the 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 student/complainant does not wish any official action be taken, that is his/her 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 his/her separation from the University.

- The Code of Student Conduct can be viewed online at [coastal.edu/conduct](http://coastal.edu/conduct)
- The following policies can be viewed online at [coastal.edu/policies](http://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 information," 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 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.

- **Denise Perez, Title IX Coordinator**

Title IX: 843-333-6229 • [denise@coastal.edu](mailto:denise@coastal.edu)

- **Travis E. Overton, Dean of Students, Deputy Title IX Coordinator**

843-349-4161 • [toverton@coastal.edu](mailto:toverton@coastal.edu)

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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 states the following:

The University prohibits:

- a. Physical assault or abuse – tries to or does physically strike another;
- b. Sexual assault or abuse – actual or attempted non-consensual sexual activity including, but not limited to, intercourse or sexual touching by a person known or unknown; and
- c. Other conduct that threatens or endangers the health or safety of any person or any act that unreasonably interferes with, impedes or harasses other persons in the pursuit of their education or way of life.

# 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 than ten years, according to the discretion of the court.

## It Could Happen To Anyone

Anyone can be a survivor of sexual violence. Both women and men can experience sexual violence.

Besides feeling frightened, angry, hurt and ashamed, survivors can feel betrayed and even guilty for having “facilitated” the assault. In some cases, he/she does not even acknowledge that he/she has been assaulted until long after the incident has occurred.

If you find yourself in an unwanted sexual situation, on a date or wherever, be assertive – say no. If you are told “no” when you make a sexual advance, accept it.

## Fight, Flight or Freeze

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 survivors 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.

Understanding that freezing is not under the control of the victim is often a great help to people.

# 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.

Initial or Short-Term Response	Delayed or Cumulative Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Shakiness, dizziness, numbness</li> <li>▶ Crying or tearfulness</li> <li>▶ Disturbed sleep or wakefulness</li> <li>▶ Change in appetite</li> <li>▶ Increased irritability and anger</li> <li>▶ Argumentativeness</li> <li>▶ Withdrawal or isolating self</li> <li>▶ Family or marital conflict</li> <li>▶ Refusal to talk about event</li> <li>▶ Avoidance of reminders of event</li> <li>▶ Reduced concentration</li> <li>▶ Preoccupation with event</li> <li>▶ Headaches</li> <li>▶ Diarrhea</li> <li>▶ Stomach aches</li> <li>▶ Tingling in arms and legs</li> <li>▶ Ringing in ears</li> <li>▶ Feelings of helplessness</li> <li>▶ Flashbacks and/or nightmares</li> <li>▶ Anxiety and thoughts of death or dying*</li> <li>▶ Initiating or increasing alcohol or drug use</li> </ul>	<p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Preoccupation with the event to the exclusion of life activities</li> <li>▶ Marked avoidance of reminders of the event</li> <li>▶ Ongoing fatigue</li> <li>▶ Disinterest in sex, leisure activities, other symptoms of depression</li> <li>▶ Chronic feelings of hopelessness, powerlessness or worthlessness</li> <li>▶ Inability to work</li> <li>▶ Forgetfulness</li> <li>▶ Increased accidents due to inability to concentrate</li> <li>▶ Flashbacks and/or nightmares</li> <li>▶ Sense of not being “all there”</li> <li>▶ Increasing anger or violent behavior</li> <li>▶ Marital or family conflict</li> <li>▶ Inability to leave home and feel safe</li> <li>▶ Substance dependence</li> <li>▶ Suicidal thinking or planning*</li> </ul>

**\*ANY thoughts of self-destructive behavior need to be addressed immediately. Professional help should be sought.**

## What is Consent?

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”
- Consent is not permanent. An individual can give consent and then change his/her mind by verbalizing that he/she no longer wants to participate in a particular sexual act.
- Consent for one thing does not mean consent for everything.
- Consent given once does not mean always.
- Being passed out, sleeping or under the influence of alcohol and other drugs.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>2</sup>What is consent? (2013, 04 30) Retrieved from <http://healthandcounseling.unca.edu/what-consent>  
To view the official definition of consent at Coastal Carolina University, please view the Sexual Misconduct Policy online at [coastal.edu/policies](http://coastal.edu/policies).

# Bystander Intervention Program: Step Up!

Coastal Carolina University has adopted the comprehensive bystander intervention program, Step Up!, on our campus. The program was originally developed at the University of Arizona and teaches students how to engage in pro-social behavior to help prevent their peers from suffering from negative behavior.

Students can help reduce the risk of sexual violence or relationship violence by stepping up to intervene when potentially dangerous behavior is occurring. For example, when a person has had too much to drink and another person is making sexual advances to him/her, a bystander who is stepping up will take measures to separate the potential perpetrator and victim.

Being an empowered bystander can look different depending on the situation. In the case of sexual assault, it may or may not be safe to intervene directly. Sometimes providing a distraction can be an effective way to diffuse a potentially dangerous situation; or if someone is very agitated or aggressive, others may need to be involved. Consider both direct and indirect ways to intervene.

- **Direct:** You take responsibility as the primary helper.
- **Indirect:** You request that someone else take responsibility as the primary helper (e.g., the Police, Emergency Medical Trained or EMT personnel, athletic administrators, etc.)

## Remember the S.E.E. Model:

- **SAFE Responding**  
Decide a course of action that best ensures the safety of those involved
- **Early Intervention**  
Intervene early – before the problem becomes worse
- **Effective Helping**  
Develop specific helping skills depending on the situation

For more information about learning to Step Up!, contact the Dean of Students Office or The COAST.



## 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 non-consensual, 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 and other drugs on your judgment and that of your date.
- 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 knows you.

- Report suspicious persons to the Department of Public Safety/Campus Police.
  - 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/Campus Police 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 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 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 and other types of violence 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?
- Does my partner hit walls, drive dangerously or do other things to scare me?
- Has my partner threatened to hurt my pets?
- Has my partner threatened to commit suicide if I leave?
- 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?

# SART

## Sexual Assault Response Team

SART is a key group of sexual assault responders (Counseling Services, Public Safety, University Housing, Student Health Services, Dean of Students, etc.). This group reviews protocol after a campus sexual assault and recommends changes to protocol if necessary. This group also includes representatives from local hospitals and the Rape Crisis Center as appropriate.

# CARES

## Campus Assault Resource and Education Support Team

The CARES Team works toward the prevention of sexual assault; promotes general awareness of the effects of sexual assault; educates faculty, staff and students through a collaborative effort; and encourages students to know the protocol for what to do when they have been assaulted. The team is made up of Coastal Carolina University students, faculty and staff. Individuals who would like to contribute to the work of the CARES Team should contact the COAST at 843-349-5022.

# OUTREACH

Annually, the members of CARES and other individuals, departments and student organizations participate in planning programs and events to educate the campus about the serious topic of sexual assault.

Some of the events may include:

- ▶ Sexual Assault Awareness Week (October)
- ▶ Take Back the Night March and Rally Against Violence (October)
- ▶ The Clothesline Project
- ▶ Forum Panels
- ▶ Speakers
- ▶ Information tables
- ▶ Bystander campaigns such as the Red Flag Campaign
- ▶ Class and club presentations
- ▶ Variety of other events and programs

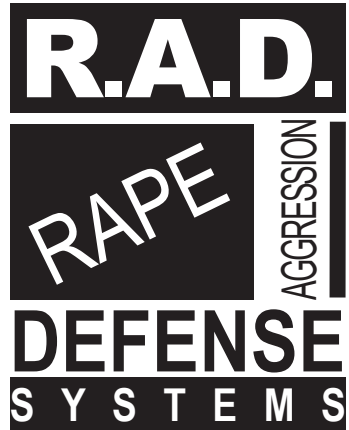


For more information or to get involved, contact The COAST, Lib Jackson Student Union, Room A108 or call 843-349-5022.

## R.A.D. 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 Rape Aggression Defense 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.

Safety and survival in today's world require a definite course of action. RAD provides effective options by teaching women to take an active role in their own self-defense and psychological well-being.

## RESOURCES

### 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 safe person.

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

- a. CCU's Department of Public Safety at 843-349-2911 or 911 for the local police department if the incident occurs off campus (***Optional, not required***)
  - b. Trusted friend
  - c. RA or other University Housing staff
  - d. Family member
  - e. On-call counselor reached through the Department of Public Safety at 843-349-2911
3. Get prompt medical attention. This can be obtained from any hospital emergency room or Student Health Services. Both will maintain the survivor's confidentiality.

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

1. Call Coastal Carolina University's Department of Public Safety at 843-349-2911.
2. Keep the clothes worn during the offense. If clothes are changed, place clothes in a paper bag. (Evidence deteriorates in plastic.)
3. Do not shower, bathe or douche. Do not urinate, if possible.
4. Do not eat, drink liquids, smoke or brush 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 until police have arrived.
6. Get prompt medical attention. This can be obtained from any hospital emergency room or Student Health Services. Both will maintain the survivor's confidentiality.
7. Obtain counseling. This can be done by contacting Counseling Services at 843-349-2305. This office will maintain confidentiality of the survivor. Counseling is also available through the local Rape Crisis Center at 843-448-RAPE or 843-448-7273.



## Medical Attention

Anyone who has been sexually assaulted should quickly seek medical attention. Even if the survivor decides not to report the assault to police, it is very important to seek medical attention immediately for possible internal injuries, sexually transmitted diseases and possible pregnancy. Survivors have two basic options for seeking medical attention – the local emergency room and/or a local medical provider. Coastal students can also receive medical attention at Student Health Services.

## 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 the survivor initially does not want to press charges, he/she may change his/her mind after the initial trauma begins to subside. Having this evidence collected will allow the survivor to consider all options.

## Student Health Services or other Local Medical Provider

If the survivor chooses not to go to the emergency room, it is extremely important that he/she sees 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 STDs, 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. weekdays. 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

The Student Advocacy and Intervention Manager in the Dean of Students Office serves as an advocate for students who have been sexually assaulted. The University can take measures to help promote the safety, comfort and recovery of a survivor of sexual assault. The advocate helps survivors understand and implement options. Contact the Dean of Students Office for assistance.

Remedies may include, but are not limited to:

- "No Contact" order
- Providing an escort to class
- Housing changes
- Class changes



### Remember . . .

**Sexual assault is a crime committed against you, not by you.**

**The use of alcohol or drugs by a survivor of assault never makes the survivor at fault. Do not blame yourself.**

# How to Help A Friend

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

## STEP 1: Ensure Current Safety

## 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** his/her courage and discomfort
- **REMINDE** the survivor that he/she 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 his/her own 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 his/her 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 and Referrals

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

# Reporting Sexual Violence

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 Denise Perez, Title IX Coordinator at 843-333-6229 or online at: **[www.coastal.edu/titleix](http://www.coastal.edu/titleix)**
4. To pursue compliance of Coastal Carolina University with Title IX, contact Denise Perez, Title IX Coordinator, at 843-333-6229 or online at: **[www.coastal.edu/titleix/](http://www.coastal.edu/titleix/)**
5. To talk with a person who will be able to keep your report **confidential**, contact Counseling Services at 843-349-2305.
6. To pursue confidential **medical treatment**, contact:
  - a. Local hospital emergency room
  - b. Student Health Services at 843-349-6543

**Reporting sexual violence as soon as possible after the incident maximizes the opportunities for remedies.**



## 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 three individuals to attempt contact with him/her. 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. The Dean of Students or designee will make contact to attempt to conduct a legally required investigation. 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 he/she talks to these individuals, receives services or participates in an investigation. He/She 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

Title IX	<a href="http://www.coastal.edu/titleix/">www.coastal.edu/titleix/</a>
CCU Policies	<a href="http://www.coastal.edu/policies">www.coastal.edu/policies</a>
Counseling Services	<a href="http://www.coastal.edu/counseling">www.coastal.edu/counseling</a>
Student Health Services	<a href="http://www.coastal.edu/health">www.coastal.edu/health</a>
Dean of Students Office	<a href="http://www.coastal.edu/deanofstudents">www.coastal.edu/deanofstudents</a>
Department of Public Safety	<a href="http://www.coastal.edu/safety">www.coastal.edu/safety</a>
U.S. White House Resources	<a href="http://notalone.gov">notalone.gov</a>
National Sexual Violence Resource Center	<a href="http://nsvrc.org">nsvrc.org</a>
Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network (RAINN)	<a href="http://rainn.org">rainn.org</a>

### **Apps**      Circle of 6 – Free

## Important Telephone Numbers

### Campus Resources

Counseling Services .....	843-349-2305
Department of Public Safety .....	Emergency ..... 843-349-2911
	Non-Emergency ..... 843-349-2177
Office of University Housing .....	843-349-6400
Office of Student Affairs .....	843-349-2302
Student Health Services .....	843-349-6543
Dean of Students Office .....	843-349-4161
Office of Human Resources and Equal Opportunity .....	843-349-2036
Anonymous TIPS LINE .....	843-349-TIPS
	843-349-8477
Title IX Coordinator .....	843-333-6229
Student Advocacy and Intervention Manager .....	843-349-4161

### Community Resources

Emergency Local Police and Medical .....	911
Rape Crisis Center .....	843-448-RAPE
	843-448-7273
Waccamaw Center for Mental Health .....	843-347-4888
Conway Medical Center .....	843-347-7111
Grand Strand Regional Medical Center .....	843-692-1000
Waccamaw Community Hospital .....	843-652-1000
Georgetown Memorial Hospital .....	843-527-7000
Conway Police Department .....	843-248-1790
Horry County Police Department .....	843-915-8342
Horry County Magistrate Office .....	843-915-5290
Horry County Solicitor’s Office .....	843-915-5460