

# Sexual Misconduct and Title IX

## What you need to know

### 2020-2021



COASTAL CAROLINA  
UNIVERSITY®

Coastal Carolina University (CCU) does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, age, genetic information, mental or physical disability, or status as a disabled or Vietnam-era veteran in its admissions policies, programs, activities or employment practices. For more information relating to discrimination, please contact the CCU Title IX Office, Coastal Carolina University, Kearns Hall 211B, Conway, SC; Title IX email [titleix@coastal.edu](mailto:titleix@coastal.edu); office phone 843-349-2382; EEO email [eeo@coastal.edu](mailto:eeo@coastal.edu); or the U.S. Dept. of Education Office for Civil Rights at [www2.ed.gov/ocr](http://www2.ed.gov/ocr).

# Table of Contents

Message from the President ..... 1

## Education

Definition of Sexual Misconduct..... 2  
Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972..... 3  
How to File a Complaint..... 3  
Title IX Sexual Harassment or Sexual Misconduct?..... 4  
University Policies ..... 4  
S.C. Law on Criminal Sexual Conduct ..... 5  
It Could Happen to Anyone and Fight, Flight, or Freeze ..... 6  
Potential Short- and Long-Term Effects ..... 7  
What Is Consent? ..... 8  
Risk Reduction ..... 9-10  
R.A.D. .... 11

## Resources

Getting Immediate Help ..... 12  
Medical Amnesty ..... 13  
Counseling, Advocacy, and Remedies ..... 14  
Reporting Options ..... 15  
How to Help a Friend ..... 16  
Confidentiality ..... 17  
Online Resources  
Important Telephone Numbers .....(back cover)

## 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 they no longer want the act to continue, and, if that happens, the other person must stop immediately.

**Sexual misconduct** includes dating/domestic violence, sexual exploitation, sexual violence/assault, sexual harassment, and stalking, when outside of the jurisdiction of Title IX.

## 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.

## 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.

### Definition of Sexual Harassment

**Sexual harassment** is defined as conduct on the basis of sex that meets one or more of the following:

- An employee of the University conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of the recipient on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct.
- Unwelcome conduct determined by a reasonable person to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the recipient's education program or activity.
- Sexual assault (an offense classified as a forcible or nonforcible sex offense under the uniform crime reporting system of the FBI); dating violence (violence committed by a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim and where the existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on a consideration of the length of the relationship, the type of relationship, and the frequency of the interaction between the persons involved in the relationship); and stalking (engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for their safety or the safety of others or suffer substantial emotional distress).

### How to File a Complaint

To report alleged or suspected sexual harassment or sexual misconduct, contact the Title IX coordinator. While you may not wish to file a formal complaint, you may be entitled to supportive measures and resources to assist you.

- **Title IX Coordinator**  
843-349-2382 • [titleIX@coastal.edu](mailto:titleIX@coastal.edu)
- **Deputy Title IX Coordinator**  
843-349-4161 • [dso@coastal.edu](mailto:dso@coastal.edu)

## Title IX Sexual Harassment or Sexual Misconduct?

All forms of Title IX sexual harassment are sexual misconduct, but not all types of sexual misconduct are Title IX sexual harassment. This means that the process under which your complaint is adjudicated, should you choose to file a formal complaint, is determined by an analysis of the facts of the complaint.

For a complaint to move forward under the Title IX investigative process, the conduct must:

- Be against a person in the United States at the time the incident occurred.
- Have taken place on campus or within one of the University's programs or activities.
- Be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive to a reasonable person that it effectively denies a person equal access to the University's program or activity.

If a complaint does not meet those three elements, it will be adjudicated under the student conduct process.

## Standard of Proof

Regardless of which process the complaint goes through, 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.

## University Policies

- 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):
  - Title IX Policy.
  - Protection from Retaliation.
  - Pregnancy or Parenting Students.

## Retaliation

Retaliatory harassment against any complainant of sexual harassment 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.

# 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.

## It Could 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, or 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.

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>• Initiating or increasing alcohol or drug use.</li> <li>• Anxiety and thoughts of death or dying.*</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. For immediate assistance, call 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.

---

<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).

## 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.

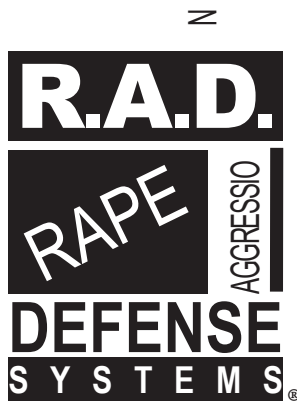
- Does my partner tease me in hurtful ways in front of others?
- Does my partner act jealous of my friends, family, or co-workers?
- Does my partner check up on me constantly by calling, texting, or showing up unexpectedly?
- Does my partner try to control what I wear or how I style my hair?
- Does my 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?
- 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?

## **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.**
  - **Confidential** – These departments are not required to report to Title IX or the Department of Public Safety.
    - Counseling Services
    - Student Health Services
  - **Other contacts for getting help** – These are other resources that can help.
    - CCU Department of Public Safety
    - Dean of Students Office
    - Title IX coordinator
    - University Housing staff
  - **Anonymous Resources** – These are entities where you can report and receive resources without providing your name.
    - EthicsPoint (<https://www.coastal.edu/universitycompliance/reporting>)
3. 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 sexually transmitted infections, 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, call 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](mailto: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](mailto:titleix@coastal.edu). Detailed information can be found at [coastal.edu/titleix](http://coastal.edu/titleix).

Dean of Students	Department of Public Safety
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Title IX coordinator is notified.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>3. Report is reviewed to determine whether or not there is a threat to the community.</li> <li>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 <a href="http://coastal.edu/conduct/process">coastal.edu/conduct/process</a>.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Public Safety is notified.</li> <li>2. Victim/survivor is contacted by DPS victim services coordinator regarding available resources and services. The coordinator provides support/advocacy over the course of the investigation until final adjudication, if victim/survivor elects to pursue criminal charges.</li> <li>3. Victim/survivor is provided information, direction, and guidance on pursuing criminal charges if they choose to do so.</li> <li>4. Victim/survivor will be provided with updates from DPS staff regarding the status of the case if they elect to seek criminal charges.</li> </ol>
<p>*A survivor may choose to pursue reporting to one, both, or neither of the above.</p>	

**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.
- **REMINDE** 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 there 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. The following University employees **MUST** report allegations of sexual harassment or sexual misconduct to the Title IX coordinator:

- Human Resources and Equal Opportunity employees.
- President, vice presidents, associate/assistant vice presidents, and directors.
- Provost, associate/assistant provosts, academic deans, department chairs, and other academic administrators.
- Advisors to recognized student organizations.
- Staff who work directly with students, including all Student Affairs staff who work directly with students.
- Community and graduate community directors in their capacity as employees.
- Resident advisors in their capacity as employees.
- Athletic director, assistant athletic directors, coaches, and assistant coaches of official University teams.

South Carolina statutes provide for Counseling Services and Student Health Services personnel to maintain confidentiality.

When the Title IX coordinator receives a report of alleged or suspected sexual harassment or sexual misconduct, the student survivor can expect contact from the Dean of Students Office which will offer services and remedies to assist the student in dealing with the situation and provide the student with options for filing a formal report.

# Campus Resources

<b>Counseling Services</b>	<a href="http://coastal.edu/counseling">coastal.edu/counseling</a> 843-349-2305
<b>Dean of Students Office</b>	<a href="http://coastal.edu/deanofstudents">coastal.edu/deanofstudents</a> 843-349-4161
<b>Department of Public Safety</b>	<a href="http://coastal.edu/safety">coastal.edu/safety</a> 843-349-2911 emergency 843-349-2177 non-emergency
<b>Student Health Services</b>	<a href="http://coastal.edu/health">coastal.edu/health</a> 843-349-6543
<b>Title IX</b>	<a href="http://coastal.edu/titleix">coastal.edu/titleix</a> 843-349-2382
<b>ChantSafe</b>	<a href="http://coastal.edu/chantsafe">coastal.edu/chantsafe</a>
<b>Anonymous TIPS LINE</b>	843-349-TIPS
<b>Victim Services Coordinator</b>	843-349-2178

---

# Community Resources

Rape Crisis Center .....	843-448-RAPE
Horry County Police Department .....	843-915-8342
Conway Police Department .....	843-248-1790
Emergency Local Police and Medical .....	911
Conway Medical Center.....	843-347-7111
Grand Strand Regional Medical Center .....	843-692-1000
Family Justice Center.....	843-445-2583