

# Understanding Your Role as a Mandated Reporter Under Title IX

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# Agenda

1. What is Title IX?
2. What behavior is covered by Title IX?
3. Who is a Mandated Reporter?
4. What are your responsibilities as a Mandatory Reporter?
5. How to Report
6. What type of support is available to students?
7. Scenarios
8. Questions



# What is Title IX?

**Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972** is a federal law that states:

“No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.”

## **Title IX Covers:**

- Sexual Harassment
- Sexual Assault (rape and fondling)
- Stalking
- Dating Violence
- Domestic Violence
- Gender-based discrimination
- Pregnancy discrimination
- Unequal access to athletics and academic programs



# What is a Mandated Reporter?

A **mandatory reporter** is someone required by law or institutional policy to report incidents of suspected abuse, sexual misconduct or discrimination to the university's Title IX Coordinator.

- All Widener employees, unless specifically identified as confidential, are mandatory reporters.



# Your Role in Ensuring the Right Response

- You may be the **first point of contact** for students experiencing harm.
- Your response can **shape their trust** in the University.
- Reporting ensures that individuals receive **support and resources**.
- Reporting ensures the university can take **appropriate action** to protect students and uphold their rights.



# Reporting Responsibilities

**When to report:** You must promptly report an incident to the Title IX Coordinator if you suspect a Title IX violation has occurred

**What to report:** Everything that was shared with you.

**Do not:** Ask questions about the incident(s), investigate, or confront the alleged perpetrator.

**Failure to report:** Can lead to disciplinary action, up to and including termination from employment.



# What To Do If Someone Discloses To You?

- Ask them if they are safe.
- Let them know you are a mandatory reporter
- If they want to share details with you, take them to a private location and listen. Do not ask questions about the incident.
- Call police or ambulance if they are injured, wish to report to the police, or say that they feel unsafe.
- Avoid judgment or promises (such as confidentiality)
- Inform them of supportive services (such as counseling or advocacy services)
- **Report promptly** – follow your institution's procedures for Title IX reporting.



# How To Report

- [www.widener.edu](http://www.widener.edu)
- (bottom of home page)

[VIEW EQUAL OPPORTUNITY & NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY](#)

 Widener University

One University Place

Chester, PA 19013

1-888-WIDENER



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# How To Report

<https://www.widener.edu/title-ix-sexual-misconduct-resources>

## What is Title IX?

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## Our Commitment

Here at Widener, we are dedicated to upholding Title IX and fostering an environment that provides equal learning opportunities for all of our students.

We are also committed to creating and sustaining a safe environment for all students and employees. Our [Equal Opportunity, Harassment, and Nondiscrimination Policy \(EOHN\)](#) prohibits all forms of sexual misconduct and assault on campus. Upon receiving a report of misconduct, we will address the matter as quickly and fairly as possible. Please review the Statement of Party Rights to learn about the rights, accommodations, and protective measures available to individuals involved in the resolution process as outlined in the EOHN Policy.

[View Statement of Party Rights](#) →

[REPORT AN INCIDENT](#) ↗

**DO NOT EMAIL  
REPORTS!**



# How To Report

Follow all instructions on the reporting form and answer all questions to the best of your knowledge.

**SUBMIT THE FORM. DO NOT EMAIL REPORTS!**



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## Discrimination, Harassment, and Sexual Misconduct Reporting Form

*If this is an emergency or you need immediate assistance, please call 911.* You can also call campus safety at 610-499-4200 (Chester Campus), 302-477-2200 (Delaware Law School), or 717-541-1911 (Commonwealth Law School).

This form should be used to report incidents of alleged discrimination, harassment, including Bias Incidents, and all forms of sexual misconduct including sexual assault, sexual harassment/discrimination, dating/domestic violence, stalking, and sexual exploitation.

Students, faculty, staff, and non-community members are encouraged to use this form if they believe that they have been impacted by, were a witness to, or have information of a potential violation of Widener University's [Equal Opportunity, Harassment, and Nondiscrimination Policy](#). **Faculty and Staff who are Required Reporters must use this form to report all known details of potential policy violations if an incident was disclosed to them by a student. All Required Reporters must provide their own name when submitting a report.**

Individuals that are not Required Reporters can submit a report anonymously by leaving the name and contact information fields blank.

The submitted report is reviewed by the Title IX Coordinator and Equal Opportunity Officer, who will keep the information as private as possible and will assess next steps based on safety concerns for the individuals involved and the campus community. The information in the report will only be shared with those who have a role in addressing the alleged misconduct and/or providing supportive measures.

Upon submission, the complainant (the person who was harmed by the alleged misconduct) will be contacted to assess needs for resources and supportive measures and to be made aware of procedural options for resolution.

Background Information



# What Does Title IX Do With Your Report

1. Reach out to the student via Email
2. Offer Supportive Measures that may include (Required by Law):
  - No Contact Order (affiliated person)
  - No Trespass Order (non-affiliated person)
  - Academic Support
  - Increased safety measures, e.g. parking, escorts, changes in housing
3. Share On and Off Campus Resources
4. Offer Opportunity to Meet w/TIXC to Discuss Next Steps
  - Formal Complaint
  - Informal Resolution
  - Investigation
  - Hearing



# Campus Resources

- Title IX Office
- Campus Safety
- Dean of Students

# Confidential Campus Resources

- Health Services
- Counseling and Psychological Services

Resource Link: [Title IX – Sexual Misconduct Resources | Widener University](#)



# Questions & Contact Information

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Interim Title IX Coordinator

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# Case Scenarios



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# Scenario 1: An Academic Advisor Conversation

## Situation:

- A student confides in their academic advisor about being sexually assaulted at a party.

## Response:

- - Listen empathetically
- - Inform the student of your reporting obligation
- - Connect them to support services
- - Submit Report to Title IX

## Key Takeaway:

- Students may share this information with their Academic Advisor because the student is thinking strategically about their classes and concerned who may be in those classes.



# Scenario 2: Student tells professor they missed class because they had to meet with a detective about a stalking situation.

## Situation:

- The student missed a class and wants to let the professor know why.

## Response:

- - Follow up privately - immediately
- - Explain your role as a mandatory reporter
- - Ask them if they feel safe
- - Connect them with campus support services
- - Submit Report to Title IX

## Key Takeaway:

- Even disclosures that have been reported to the police need to be reported. In this case, although the student already reported to the police, you still must report to Title IX. Also, the University may be able to take steps to assist in helping the student feel safe that may be more impactful than the police.



# Scenario 3: Indirect report to you about dating violence.

## Situation:

- A friend of a student shares with you that they are concerned that their friend/roommate is in an abusive relationship. They tell you they've witnessed some of the behavior.

## Response:

- - Explain your obligation to report
- - Ask them if they think their friend is safe
- - If you do not know the name of the victim in this case, ask the friend their name
- - Thank them for sharing the information
- - Submit Title IX Report

## Key Takeaway:

- Even in cases in which the name of the person identified as the victim is not shared, Title IX will still reach out with resources – in this case through the friend.



## Final Thoughts



- You are not alone in your response
  - TIX will take the baton.
- Trust Your instincts!
- Reporting is about protecting students and the campus community.
- Your role as a mandatory reporter is not just a responsibility—it's an opportunity to foster a culture of care, respect, and accountability.

WE'RE ALL  
**WIDENER**

*You belong here!*