



Resource & Information Guide on Sexual Misconduct & Assault, Dating & Domestic Violence, & Stalking

Prevention, Awareness, & Procedures for
Title IX & the Violence Against Women Act



Advent Health
UNIVERSITY

Understanding Sexual Misconduct & Violence

AdventHealth University (AHU) develops skilled professionals who live the healing values of Christ. Helping our AHU community and keeping them safe is of the highest priority. This guide will provide helpful information on protection and prevention of sexual misconduct or violence and the federal laws established to protect students as they continue their education.

Sexual assault, sexual misconduct, dating violence, domestic violence and stalking are unacceptable and are strictly prohibited at AHU. This guide will provide definitions for offenses, processes and procedures for reporting sexual misconduct and violence, resources and contacts to assist in decisions or next steps, policy and procedures for Title IX and information on the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA).

It is important to note that the Violence Against Women Act protects people of *all* genders.

What is the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)?

VAWA focuses on improving the criminal justice and community response to sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking. Enhanced accountability for institutions of higher education to provide safe learning environments is a priority of VAWA.

Definitions: Sexual Assault

The four primary gender or gender identity-based violence addressed by the Violence Against Women Act are:

Sexual assault: Defined as any sex offense, forcible or non-forcible, against another person without consent. Sexual acts include but are not limited to :

- Forcible rape
- Forcible sodomy
- Forcible fondling

- Incest
- Sexual assault with an object
- Statutory rape

The complete list of sexual act definitions can be found in the [AHU Harassment and Non-Discrimination Policy](#).

Definitions: Dating Violence

Dating violence: Defined as any violence or emotional, psychological, or sexual abuse between people who are currently or were previously in a romantic or intimate relationship toward one another.

Dating violence information can be found under [Florida Statutes § 784.046\(d\)](#)

Dating Violence is not defined under Colorado law, but such incidents would typically be covered under the definition of Domestic Violence in the [Colorado Revised Statutes § 18-6-800.3](#).

Dating violence can be:

- Abuse that takes place in person
- Abuse that takes place via technology, which can include, but is not limited to,
 - Repeated texting of a sexual nature
 - Posting sexual photographs, videos or other media of a partner, current or former, without consent
 - Dating violence may also be referred to as intimate partner violence

Definitions: Domestic Violence

Domestic violence: Defined as violence on the basis of sex committed by a current or former spouse or intimate partner.

Domestic violence can be committed by:

- A person who is cohabiting with, or has cohabited with someone as a spouse or intimate partner
- A person similarly situated to a spouse under the domestic and family violence laws of Colorado ([Colorado Revised Statutes § 18-6-800.3](#)) or Florida ([Florida Statutes § 741.28](#))
- Any person against an adult or youth who is protected from that person's acts under the domestic or family violence laws of Colorado or Florida
- A person with whom a child is shared

Definitions: Stalking

Stalking: Defined as a course of conduct on the basis of sex directed at a specific person and would make the person fear for their safety or the safety of others or suffer substantial emotional distress. Stalking includes the following, but is not limited to:

Two or more acts where a person is directly, indirectly, or through third parties,

- Followed or observed
- Surveilled or monitored
- Threatened or had interference of personal property
- Communicated with or about

These acts can be administered through any:

- Action
- Method
- Device
- Platform
- Media

Stalking information can be found at:

[Florida Statutes § 784.048](#)

[Colorado Revised Statutes § 18-3-602](#)

Title IX: Policy, Process & Procedures

Title IX became law in 1972 to reduce or eliminate barriers to your educational opportunity that are caused by sex discrimination.

The law prohibits sex discrimination and retaliation if anyone reports that they were discriminated against.

Complaints are made to Starr Bender, the Title IX Coordinator.

If the reporting party or the responding party is not satisfied with the outcome of the investigation, they may file a complaint with the Office of Civil Rights (OCR) at <https://ocrcas.ed.gov/> or at 1-800-421-3481.

To view the Title IX policy, please click [here](#). The [Title IX/Discrimination Reporting Form](#) will need to be completed and the Title IX Coordinator can assist with this form.

Title IX: Policy, Process & Procedures

What to do After Sexual Violence

AdventHealth University is committed to providing a fair, thorough process and guidance when reporting sexual misconduct, violence, or discrimination.

The primary steps in the reporting process include:

- Go to a safe location
- Seek immediate medical attention and call for help
- Preserve forensic evidence- review the list of what not to do when trying to preserve evidence in the linked [sexual violence guide](#)

- Contact [Starr Bender](#), Title IX Coordinator. The Title IX Coordinator can meet with you in person, via phone or video chat, or through email message exchange. The Coordinator will walk you through the process, including completing the Title IX/Discrimination Reporting Form
- If the Title IX Coordinator is unavailable, please follow the same steps and contact [Katie Shaw](#), Deputy Title IX Coordinator
- Remember, consent is everything

The complete guide on the process of what to do after sexual violence can be found [here](#).

Contacts & Resources: Security & Title IX

Resource	Phone Number	Information
Orlando Campus Security	407-353-4002	M-Th 6:00am-9:30pm; Fri 7:00am-3:30pm
Housing Security- Bay Run	407-756-8763	Daily 10:00pm-6:00am
Housing- LaSalle Arms	407-257-3778	Daily 10:00pm-6:00am
AdventHealth Emergency Line	407-303-1515	
AdventHealth Non-Emergency Line	407-303-4819	
Denver Campus Security (Porter Adventist Hospital Security)	303-778-2463	
Report Safety Concerns	407-303-8016	M-Th 8:00am-4:30pm; Fri 8:00am-3:00pm
Starr Bender, Title IX Coordinator	407-303-5765	Starr.Bender@ahu.edu ; 671 Winyah Dr. Campus Center #330 Orlando, FL 32803
Katie Shaw, Deputy Title IX Coordinator	303-765-6271	Katie.Shaw@ahu.edu ; 950 E. Harvard Ave., Suite B80 Denver, CO 80210

❖ *All times listed are in the Eastern Time Zone.*

Contacts & Resources: Denver, CO

Community Resources: Denver, CO	Phone Number	Information
Colorado Coalition Against Domestic Violence/Violence Free Colorado	303-831-9632	https://www.violencefreecolorado.org/
Colorado Coalition Against Sexual Assault	303-839-9999	https://www.ccasa.org/
Safehouse Denver	303-318-9959	https://safehouse-denver.org/about/contact.html
The Blue Bench	303-329-9922	https://thebluebench.org/
Moving to End Sexual Assault (Boulder)	303-443-7300	https://movingtoendsexualassault.org/
Gateway Domestic Violence Services	303-343-1851	https://www.gatewayshelter.org/
Denver Police Department Victim Assistance Unit	720-913-6035	
Chaplain Reynold Acosta	407-303-7747 ext.110-1033	Reynold.Acosta@ahu.edu
Chaplain Niesha Steinke	407-303-9474	Niesha.Steinke@ahu.edu
Betty Varghese, Licensed Mental Health Counselor	407-303-1870	Betty.Varghese@ahu.edu
Pastor Seth Day	269-719-0880	Seth.Day@my.ahu.edu

Contacts & Resources: Orlando, FL

Community Resources: Orlando, FL	Phone Number	Information
Victim Service Center (Sexual Assault)	24- hour helpline 407-500-4325	https://www.victimservicecenter.org/
Harbor House (Domestic Violence)	24-hour crisis hotline 407-886-2856	https://www.harborhousefl.com/
Florida Domestic Violence Hotline	1-800-500-1119	https://www.fcadv.org/
Mental Health Association of Central Florida	407-898-0110	https://www.mhacf.org/
National Association on Mental Illness Greater Orlando	Helpline 1-800-273-8255	https://namigo.org/
Chaplain Reynold Acosta	407-303-7747 ext.110-1033	Reynold.Acosta@ahu.edu
Chaplain Niesha Steinke	407-303-9474	Niesha.Steinke@ahu.edu
Betty Varghese, Licensed Mental Health Counselor	407-303-1870	Betty.Varghese@ahu.edu

Contacts & Resources: National

National Resources	Phone Number	Information
National Sexual Assault Hotline	1-800-656-4673	https://www.rainn.org/
National Sexual Violence Resource Center		https://www.nsvrc.org/
National Domestic Violence Hotline	1-800-799-7233	https://www.thehotline.org/

Risk Reduction & Prevention

While victim-blaming is never appropriate and AdventHealth University fully recognizes that only those who commit sexual misconduct are responsible for their actions, AdventHealth University provides the suggestions that follow to help individuals reduce their risk of being victimized and their risk of committing acts of sexual misconduct.

- Make any limits/boundaries you may have known and clearly articulate consent or lack of consent
- Remove yourself, if possible, from an aggressor's physical presence
- Reach out for help
- Look out for your friends and ask them to look out for you
- Be aware of your surroundings and take safety precautions

Potential Aggressor Risk Reduction & Bystanders

To make sure you don't become an aggressor

- Listen to your partner both verbally & non-verbally
- Clearly communicate your intentions
- Respect your partner and their personal boundaries
- Consent is everything
- Don't abuse any power advantage (gender, size, etc.) to intimidate or scare your partner

Bystander Intervention:

- Offer support if you suspect abuse, assault, or stalking
- Raise awareness and advocate against all forms of sexual misconduct and violence
- Consent is knowing, voluntary, and clear permission, verbal or non-verbal, to engage in mutually agreed upon sexual activity or contact



For more information,
please consult the:

- [AHU Harassment and Non-Discrimination Policy](#)

- [AHU Student and Employee Handbooks](#). Search Student Handbook or Employee Handbook in the drop-down menu

- [Contact the Title IX Coordinator or Deputy Title IX Coordinator](#)