

Sexual Assault

Policy No.: 900-03

Effective: December 13, 2013

POLICY:

California State University, Northridge (CSUN) does not tolerate and expressly prohibits sexual assault in any form. Sexual assault is a form of sexual violence, which is prohibited pursuant to the CSU Executive Order 1074, the systemwide policy prohibiting discrimination, harassment and retaliation against students, and CSU Executive Order 1089, which is the systemwide policy prohibiting discrimination, harassment and retaliation against employees and others. It is important for all members of the community to know that anyone can be a victim or perpetrator of sexual assault. It is therefore extremely important to know that the campus sexual assault policy applies to all registered students and all faculty, staff, student assistants, graduate assistants, teaching associates, interns, and volunteers employed at CSUN or any of its authorized auxiliary organizations. Employees and students who violate this policy are subject to discipline.

DEFINITIONS:

Sexual assault: (as defined in [Section 67385 of the Education Code](#)) California Education Code includes (but is not limited to) rape, forced sodomy, forced oral copulation, rape by a foreign object, sexual battery, and threat of sexual assault.

Sexual battery: (as defined in [California Penal Code Section 243.4](#)) include incidents in which the victim's or person's intimate part is touched without consent of the victim, and with specific intent to achieve sexual arousal, gratification or sexual abuse.

Rape: (as defined in [California Penal Code Section 261](#)) is forced sexual intercourse that is perpetrated against the will of a person or when the person is unable to give consent (i.e., unconscious, asleep, or under the influence of alcohol or drugs) and may involve physical violence, coercion, or the threat of harm to the individual.

PROCEDURES:

Every allegation of sexual assault will be taken seriously. Where there is reason to believe that a crime has been committed, the University will pursue criminal charges and strong disciplinary action. In addition, the University may initiate an administrative investigation of the allegations to determine whether University policies prohibiting sexual assault have been violated and to take interim measures to prevent the recurrence of sexual assault. Violations of University policies prohibiting sexual assault may also result in disciplinary action against the perpetrator.

Employees and students will be held accountable under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the California Education Code and [California Code of Regulations, Title 5, Section 41301](#) (for student or a recognized student organization conduct), and the CSUN Sexual Assault Policy. For prompt and equitable resolution of sexual discrimination complaints, including sexual harassment and violence, [CSU Executive Order 1074](#) is the systemwide procedure for all complaints of discrimination, harassment or retaliation brought by students. Students charged with sexual discrimination, harassment or violence will be subject to discipline and student conduct procedures pursuant to [CSU Executive Order 1073](#).

Disciplinary sanctions, guided by the appropriate collective bargaining unit agreement if applicable, include the possibility of suspension or termination from the University. If a sexual assault occurs at an event sponsored by a chartered campus organization or club, the University may impose sanctions within a range of discipline from probation up to and including withdrawal of recognition of student organizations which are in violation of this policy.

Reporting

1. Except in the case of a privilege recognized by California law, any member of the CSUN community who knows of, or has reason to know of, allegations or acts that violate this policy, shall promptly inform the Director of Equity and Diversity, who serves as the Campus Title IX Coordinator.
2. The victim of a sexual assault occurring on campus should report the incident to the University Police <http://www-admn.csun.edu/police/>, if occurring off campus to the local police, and the [Klotz Student Health Center](#) in either circumstance. The victim should make every attempt to preserve physical evidence of the assault. This includes not showering, or disposing of any damaged clothing or other items that were present during the assault. Victims may also be asked by University Police to submit to a voluntary forensic medical exam which is conducted at the SART (Sexual Assault Response Team) facility at [the Center for Assault Treatment Services \(CATS\)](#).

A rape crisis advocate from the University Police Department or [Valley Trauma Center](#) is available to accompany victims of sexual assault to medical facilities. Counselors from the Valley Trauma Center or University Counseling Services will also assist victims in notifying the University Police (either anonymously or voluntarily) of the circumstances of the sexual assault if they are not already involved in the situation.

3. The victim of sexual assault should also report the incident to the Campus Title IX Coordinator. The Director for the Office of Equity and Diversity has been designated as the Campus Title IX Coordinator and is available to explain and discuss: a victim's right to file a criminal complaint for sexual assault and violence; a victim's right to file a University complaint; the investigation process; how confidentiality is handled; available resources, both on and off campus; and other related matters.
4. CSUN's primary concern is the safety of its campus community members. The use of alcohol and other drugs never makes the victim at fault for sexual violence; therefore, victims should not be deterred from reporting incidents of sexual violence out of concern that they might be disciplined for related violations of drug, alcohol or other university policies. Except in extreme circumstances, victims of sexual violence shall not be subject to discipline for related violations of the Student Conduct Code.

Investigations

1. The University Police, with the victim's consent, will immediately conduct an investigation of a reported sexual assault.
2. The Title IX Coordinator may also conduct an investigation into allegations of sex discrimination, which includes sexual harassment and sexual violence. The administrative investigative procedures are designed to provide a supportive process for sexual assault victims and individuals who report sexual discrimination as well as to ensure a fair process for individuals who are accused of discriminatory conduct. CSUN is committed to conducting timely, thorough, and impartial investigations pursuant to CSU systemwide executive orders.

The Title IX Coordinator may, in collaboration with other campus departments, implement interim measures in order to maintain a safe and non-discriminatory learning and working environment. Such measures may include immediate interim suspension from the University, required move from University-owned or affiliated housing, adjustment to course schedules, or prohibition from contact with parties involved in the alleged incident.

3. If the outcome of the University investigation is a finding of sexual assault, the matter will be referred to Human Resources or the Student Conduct Coordinator, as appropriate. Both the complainant and the accused shall be informed of the outcome of the investigation.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

The University will commit available resources to assist, support and accommodate victims of sexual assault.

Examples of accommodations may include but may not be limited to: changes in academic program or living

arrangements in campus housing, night escorts, etc.

The Sexual Assault Committee is charged with responsibility of conducting annual review of the campus sexual assault policy. The committee also coordinates campus prevention education programs designed to promote awareness of rape, acquaintance rape and other sexual crimes. For further information please contact the Chief of Police and Chair of the Committee.

RESOURCES:

The University has a variety of services that cooperate to provide effective protection of health and safety for victims of sexual assault, assure confidentiality, investigate the incident, initiate sanctions if appropriate and maintain records.

I. University Police:

If a victim wishes to report a sexual assault to university police, a crime report will be taken. CSUN Police encourage victims to report incidents of assault whether or not a victim chooses to move forward within the criminal justice system.

Police officers, male or female, will meet with victims privately at a time and location of the victim's choice to take a police report. A sexual assault investigator will be assigned to each case for in-depth investigation. The department also has an on staff rape crisis advocate to provide emotional support during the law enforcement investigation accompany the victim to forensic exams and to facilitate communication between the police officers, medical personnel and the victim.

If a forensic exam is necessary, victims will be transported to the SART (Sexual Assault Response Team) facility in Northridge for a forensic medical exam and will be provided with a range of long term assistance information, including victim/witness program information and criminal prosecution information. University Police will work closely with the District Attorney's Office on all cases in which the victim chooses to move forward with prosecution.

The University Police Department also provides educational materials and programs concerning sexual assault and provides rape awareness and self defense training with its RAD program and RAD Kids program. University Police also partners with Kinesiology in providing RAD for course credit (<http://www-admn.csun.edu/dps/police/rad/>).

II. Title IX Coordinator:

The [Title IX Coordinator, who also serves as the Director for the Office of Equity and Diversity](#), is available to explain and discuss: your right to file a University complaint as well as a criminal complaint; the University complaint and investigation process; how confidentiality is handled; available on-campus and off-campus resources; and other related matters. The Title IX Coordinator also provides information on sexual violence awareness and prevention, including information about stalking and dating or domestic violence (<http://www-admn.csun.edu/eqtydiv/>).

III. Counseling Services:

University Counseling Services offers up to eight free confidential counseling sessions for students who have been sexually assaulted and for students who have had a loved one who has been sexually assaulted (recently or in the past). Students can arrange immediate services and can request to see either a female or male counselor (<http://www.csun.edu/counseling/>).

IV. Project D.A.T.E.:

This is an on-campus rape and sexual assault male and female prevention program sponsored by University Counseling and the Valley Trauma Center. Students who enroll in the program can earn academic credit and receive priority registration while they receive education and training on the various issues surrounding rape and

sexual assault. These students become peer educators who in turn raise awareness and educate the campus community by giving presentations and engaging in other outreach efforts (<http://www.csun.edu/~date>).

V. Office of Student Housing:

Student and professional staff at CSUN Housing are committed to advocating for victims and survivors of sexual assault/rape for on-campus residential students. These services are provided through a 24 hour emergency response duty program, referrals to our campus partners (i.e. Counseling Services, Police Services, Valley Trauma Center, etc.) and with excellent training and commitment to assisting students in their pursuit to end sexual assault violence for themselves and others. In emergency situations, housing staff can arrange for emergency housing for victims of sexual assault. This includes housing bed spaces, guest housing spaces and hotel rooms if housing and guest spaces are all full (<https://housing.csun.edu/>).

VI. Klotz Student Health Center:

The Student Health Center works with the Center for Assault Treatment and Services and the Valley Trauma Center to support and serve victims of assault. Confidential and caring services include pregnancy testing, emergency contraception, medication such as antibiotics and antivirals, and referrals to helpful resources (<http://www.csun.edu/studenthealthcenter/>).

VII. Human Resources:

The Employee Enrichment and Support Services Program is a resource benefit provided by the Employee Relations Department at CSUN. The program provides options to CSUN faculty and staff to support opportunities for education, direction, and tools that empower and may include brief interventions during acute or crisis situations. Services are confidential and provided at no cost to CSUN faculty and staff (<http://www-admn.csun.edu/ohrs/eap/>).

VIII. Valley Trauma Center:

The Valley Trauma Center (VTC) is a Chartered Center with the Educational Psychology Department of CSUN's Michael D. Eisner College of Education. The VTC provides a 24-hour crisis hotline and accompaniment services utilizing volunteer State Certified Rape Crisis Advocates. Advocates will accompany survivors to police stations, forensic examinations and the courts for all initial and subsequent interviews and proceedings. In addition, the center provides 12 free counseling sessions to individuals and their significant others who have been affected by sexual violence. The center will also assist all survivors, when appropriate, in the eligibility process for the Victims Assistance program, which may entitle the individual to extended counseling sessions (<http://www.csun.edu/vtc/>).

IX. Women's Research and Resource Center:

The Women's Research and Resource Center (WRRC) is a warm, inviting, and comfortable place for CSUN students to learn, grow, hang out between classes, volunteer, or find resources and referrals for a variety of issues and challenges women face. While the WRRC specialized in issues and situations particular to women's experiences, we openly welcome all students to use and enjoy our space and resources. The WRRC also provides a resource lending library with over 1000 women's studies and gender-based holdings. Each semester, WRRC offers a variety of meetings and special events including guest speakers, film screenings, awareness rallies and much more. The WRRC participates in a wide array of political and social campaigns and supports students in any academic endeavor. The WRRC also has a resource library providing educational printed materials and brochures on rape and sexual assault (<http://www.csun.edu/ws/WRRC.html>).

FURTHER INFORMATION:

Department of Police Services:

Phone: (818) 677-2201 or <http://www-admn.csun.edu/police/assault/>

Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

All other hours: (818) 677-2111 (24 hour police dispatch)

Campus Title IX Coordinator (Office of Equity and Diversity):

University Hall 285

Phone: (818) 677-2077 or <http://www-admn.csun.edu/eqtydiv/>

Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Office of the Vice President of Student Affairs:

University Hall 310

Phone: (818) 677- 2391 or <http://www.csun.edu/studentaffairs/>

Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

APPROVED BY THE PRESIDENT