What to Do if You or Someone You Know Has Experienced Sexual Harassment at Western New England University?

Get Safe. Western New England University is committed to creating a safe learning and working environment. Any report of sexual harassment is taken seriously. Contact Public Safety or Springfield Police if you are in immediate danger or feel threatened.

Look to Professionals. If you are in need of medical assistance, go to University Health Services or a local hospital as soon as possible to treat any symptoms of the incident. Students should feel comfortable contacting Public Safety, the Title IX Coordinator, or any University employee. Employees should speak to supervisors, human resources personnel, a vice president, or the Title IX Coordinator.

Reporting. Many individuals are often hesitant to report sexual harassment because drugs and/or alcohol may be involved. The University’s highest priority is the safety of everyone on campus. Drugs or alcohol never makes the person who was victimized at fault for the sexual harassment.

Confused about consent? Effective consent means the individual is able to make a free, informed and reasonable choice without the influence of alcohol, drugs, disability, or fear. Remember, consent can be rescinded at any time.

Confidentiality. The University keeps the identities of anyone making a report or complaint of sexual harassment, the parties, and any witnesses confidential to the greatest extent practicable. Employees who learn of an allegation of sexual harassment should inform the Complainant that the University will maintain the privacy of the information to the greatest extent practicable. However, the employee must report the allegation to the Title IX Coordinator or Deputy Title IX Coordinators. The names of the parties will be exchanged between the Complainant and Respondent, and if necessary, witnesses.

Retaliation Not Tolerated. The University prohibits any form of retaliation against anyone who participates in a Sexual Harassment/Title IX proceeding. Any allegation of retaliation will be adjudicated through the relevant disciplinary process. Examples of retaliation include pressuring a Complainant to withdraw the complaint; sending unwelcome messages either directly, or through a third-party or electronically; lowering an academic grade; stalking or threatening behavior; issuing a poor performance report; failing to provide or adjust campus services, such as housing, or registration, or changing a work schedule and/or work duties.

Cheryl Smith, Title IX Coordinator
413-782-1542
cheryl.smith@wne.edu
wne.edu/title-ix
Title IX
Emergency Information and Resources

Support Services and Advocacy

Counseling Center
413-782-1221
Provides confidential counseling sessions, referrals, and crisis assistance.

Spiritual Life
413-782-1628

YWCA ARCH
Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault 24-hour Hotline:
413-733-7100 or 800-796-8711
Free counseling, support group, and advocacy

Medical Attention

Health Services
413-782-1211
Provides confidential counseling, medical care, and referral if appropriate. A healthcare provider is on-call whenever Health Services is closed.

Local Hospitals:
Baystate Medical Center
413-794-0000
Mercy Medical Center
413-748-9000
Medical Centers provide full medical exams, including preventative treatment. A sexual assault nurse examiner assists the individual.

Emergency Services

Department of Public Safety
413-782-1411
Provides 24-hour coverage with emergency services and has trained rape investigators to assist the survivors.

Local Police Department 911

Housing and Academic Accommodations

Office of Residence Life
413-782-1317
Assists with housing accommodations and judicial matters.

Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students Office
413-782-1282
Assists with academics and referrals.

WESTERN NEW ENGLAND UNIVERSITY

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