

HOW DO I PROTECT MYSELF AFTER AN INCIDENT OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE?

If you are a victim of gender-based violence, you may pursue several alternatives to protect yourself, both internal to the university and through community resources.

UNIVERSITY OPTIONS

You have the right to request interim safety measures at the university. Here are a few options that the university may utilize based on the facts and circumstances of your particular situation:

No-contact order. The university may impose a temporary “no contact” order restricting contact between individuals during the course of an investigation.

Interim suspension. The university may remove one or more students who are suspected of violating policy from the university prior to a hearing on the issues if there is a potential risk of harm to one or more members of the university community.

Modification of living and/or dining arrangements. The university can provide a temporary modification of living and/or dining arrangements, adjust the housing assignment of students who are alleged to have violated university policy, and provide temporary emergency on-campus housing to students living off campus if the situation warrants, as available.

Security escorts. The university may provide temporary security escort options for ensuring your safety as you travel to and from specific locations on and off campus.

Modification of class and campus employment schedules. The university can review temporary reassignment of classes and on-campus employment duties during the course of an investigation. The university may also review the assigned duties of students who are alleged to have violated university policy.

COMMUNITY OPTIONS

Obtain an order of protection through the court:

You may contact one of the community victim advocates listed below to assist with the process and completion of paperwork. Advocates can make the process easier to navigate and are available to answer any questions.

Orders of protection are heard in the Jackson County Courthouse Monday through Friday at 8:30 a.m. Emergency orders of protection must be filed with the circuit clerk’s office by 8:15 a.m.

Community resources to assist with orders of protection:

Victim advocates available in Jackson County:

- Jackson County States Attorney’s Office, Murphysboro, Illinois, 618/687-7214.
- Jackson County Sheriff’s Office, Murphysboro, Illinois, 618/687-7380.
- Carbondale Police Department, Carbondale, Illinois, 618/457-3200, ext. 447.
- The Women’s Center, Carbondale, Illinois, 618/529-2324 or 800/334-2094.

For legal assistance with the process:

- Domestic Violence Clinic, SIU School of Law, Carbondale, Illinois, 618/536-4423.
- Land of Lincoln Legal Assistance, Carbondale, Illinois, 877/342-7891.

Health and support resources in the community:

- Memorial Hospital of Carbondale is a full-service medical center serving the Carbondale community that has a sexual assault nurse examiner on staff trained in the collection and preservation of evidence in cases of sexual assault.
- The Carbondale Women’s Center provides crisis support, advocacy, and legal assistance to men and women who are victims of gender-based violence. Contact information for the Women’s Center is listed above. Additional information regarding the Women’s Center may be found on its website: www.thewomensctr.org.

WHAT ADDITIONAL SUPPORT OR ACCOMMODATIONS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE UNIVERSITY?

The university will assist any victim of gender-based violence with accommodations in their academic and residence life. You may request:

Interim alteration of living arrangements. If it is determined that an on-campus housing assignment is affecting your academic success, the university will assist you in adjusting that situation, to the extent possible. The university also reserves the right to adjust or cancel the housing contract of students who are found to have violated university policy. If an off-campus living situation is no longer conducive to your academic success as a result of your experience, the university will assist you in finding appropriate on-campus accommodations at current student rates.

Interim class schedule adjustments. If it is determined that the most effective way to help ensure your academic success is to adjust one or more classes you are enrolled in, the university will assist you in minimizing the impact to your academic plans and goals.

Adjustment of student employment. If you are no longer able to fulfill your employment assignment because of your experience, the university will assist you in exploring other potential options within the university, and may review the assigned duties of students who are found to have violated university policy.

No-cost academic support. If it is determined that your experience has put your academic success in jeopardy, the university will provide academic support services available at no cost to you.

Medical and psychological support. If a form of gender-based violence occurs while you are a student at SIU, regardless of the site of the incident, Student Health Services will provide services related to the incident at no cost. You must be eligible for services at Student Health Services with payment of the Student Health fee. The additional door fee will be waived.

Assistance in adding, dropping or retaking courses. If your experience has made it difficult or impossible to continue with one or more of your classes for a period of time, the university will assist you in the process of adding, dropping, or retaking one or more courses at a different time, day, location, or semester. The university will assist you in determining the best course of action, taking your financial aid, living situation, and academic status into consideration.

HOW DO I ACCESS THE RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO ME?

OFFICE OF EQUITY AND COMPLIANCE

Woody Hall, Room 478, C wing
618/453-4807
equity@siu.edu

CONFIDENTIAL ADVISOR

Rebecca Gonnering
Student Health Center, Room 120
374 E. Grand Ave.
618/453-4429

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS

Student Health Center
374 E. Grand Ave.
618/453-3311

COUNSELING AND PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES

Student Health Center, Room 253
618/453-5371

PSYCHIATRY

Student Health Center
374 E Grand Ave.
618/453-4346

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Trueblood Hall
618/453-3771

Emergencies should dial 911

WOMEN’S CENTER (OFF CAMPUS)

610 S. Thompson St. Carbondale, IL 62901
Phone: 618/529-2324

24-hour crisis hotline: 800/334-2094

Website: www.thewomensctr.org

CARBONDALE POLICE DEPARTMENT

501 S. Washington St.
618/457-3200

Emergencies should dial 911

NATIONAL SEXUAL ASSAULT HOTLINE: 800/656-4673 (HOPE)

Additional information regarding SIU Carbondale, including the university’s policy on gender-based violence (sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence and stalking) may be found online at safe.siu.edu.

safe.siu.edu

SAFETY AWARENESS FACTS AND EDUCATION

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS, RESOURCES AND OPTIONS

What to do if you are the victim of gender-based violence, sexual assault, dating or domestic violence, and stalking.

WHAT ARE MY OPTIONS FOR REPORTING GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE?

If you are the victim of gender-based violence, including being a victim of sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence or stalking, you have options. You may choose where, if and how to report the violations, and you may request university assistance and advisement in reporting. The university has a variety of options to assist you and will work to address any factors that may have led to this crime. If you choose to report or are a witness of gender-based violence, you may choose any of the following options:

REPORT TO LAW ENFORCEMENT ONLY

You may contact the police department directly to initiate a criminal investigation. They will collect important evidence that may be critical in a criminal process and assist you with seeking medical treatment. The Department of Public Safety will notify the Office of Equity and Compliance of your report.

REPORT TO THE UNIVERSITY ONLY

Even if you do not wish to pursue criminal charges, you are encouraged to speak with the Office of Equity and Compliance, the Confidential Advisor, or any member of the faculty and staff who can assist you in filing a report with the university. The Office of Equity and Compliance has individuals who are trained to investigate gender-based violence crimes and the Confidential Advisor can assist you in seeking accommodations or protective measures through the university. These offices will not report the crime to the police unless you want them to do so.

REPORT TO BOTH THE UNIVERSITY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT

University staff members are available to assist you in filing a report with law enforcement or the Office of Equity and Compliance. If you would like assistance and support in contacting the police department and/or the Office of Equity and Compliance, you may contact the university's Confidential Advisor. These individuals have been trained to accompany and support you through the process of filing a report. Any faculty or staff member you feel comfortable speaking with can also accompany you through the process of filing a report.

HOW CAN I REPORT GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE?

ELECTRONICALLY:

Complete a report on the SAFE website at safe.siu.edu.

IN PERSON OR BY TELEPHONE:

- Department of Public Safety
1175 S. Washington St.
Trueblood Hall
618/453-3771
- Carbondale Police Department
501 S. Washington St.
618/457-3200
- Confidential Advisor
Student Health Center
Wellness and Health Promotion Services
618/453-4429
- Office of Equity and Compliance
Woody Hall, Room 478, C wing
618/453-4807
- Any member of the university faculty or staff.

TO WHOM CAN I SPEAK WITH CONFIDENTIALLY?

Confidential Advisor: The university employs a Confidential Advisor to guide you through the process and assist you in seeking accommodations. The Confidential Advisor may be required to report certain statistical information to the Jeanne Clery Act compliance officer for campus safety purposes.

Student Health Services Medical and Mental Health staff: Student Health Services employs licensed medical providers, mental health counselors, and a psychiatry team who are trained to provide trauma informed, comprehensive medical and psychological care. These individuals are not required to report any information regarding gender-based violence to anyone else on campus while working in their official capacities. We encourage you to seek assistance from the professional staff at Student Health Services.

WHAT INFORMATION WILL BE SHARED WITH THE UNIVERSITY?

Except for the Confidential Advisor, or the medical and counseling personnel from Student Health Services, all other faculty and staff members are **required** to disclose information on gender-based violence issues they are aware of to the Office of Equity and Compliance. After any such report, you may be contacted by an investigator to discuss the report as the university works to investigate and prevent any additional gender-based crimes. Under the Jeanne Clery Act, campus personnel must maintain accurate statistical data on crimes that occur on university property and they must report this information anonymously as aggregate data to the federal government and campus community. This information for the university is collected by the Jeanne Clery Act compliance officer.

WHAT IF I DO NOT WANT THE UNIVERSITY TO INVESTIGATE?

If you are a victim of gender-based violence, you may request that the university not investigate the case even after it has been reported to the Office of Equity and Compliance. However, the Office of Equity and Compliance may not be able to honor this request if doing so might put other members of the campus community at risk or if both parties involved have been identified as possible aggressors. You are not required to speak to the university's investigators.

HOW DO I ASSIST IN AN INVESTIGATION OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE?

Report promptly: The sooner the university receives a report of gender-based violence, the easier it is to investigate and provide support to a victim of gender-based violence. We encourage everyone to report any acts of gender-based violence.

Preserve evidence: Following an act of gender-based violence: sexual assault, dating or domestic violence, or stalking, the collection of evidence is critical and must be done in a timely manner. Evidence can help to determine what happened during the incident, how it happened and, possibly, who perpetrated the incident.

The sooner the evidence is collected, the more likely it is to be useful in an investigation. In a criminal investigation, evidence is stored for a period of time at the Illinois State Police Crime Lab, and it can be used if you choose to press charges either immediately or at a later date.

WHAT SHOULD I EXPECT DURING A UNIVERSITY INVESTIGATION?

When a report is made to the university, the Office of Equity and Compliance (OEC) will be notified and the complaint resolution procedures will be enacted. An investigator from OEC will contact the person who initiated the report for an interview to discuss the incident, as well as refer that person to available resources.

The reporting party will have the opportunity to request the complaint procedures begin in a prompt and timely manner. If the person who initiated the report decides to proceed with an administrative investigation or if the university determines it must investigate based on the potential ongoing threat to the campus community, the investigator will document the complaint in writing and notify the respondent (accused) of the investigation.

The respondent will be made aware of available resources and have the opportunity to read the complaint and respond. Both parties will be asked to submit names of potential witnesses and any relevant written evidence.

OEC may also independently identify witnesses and other evidence. Witnesses will be interviewed and any available written evidence will be reviewed. The investigator will write a report of the investigation and submit it to the Title IX Officer who will make a decision as to whether university policy has been violated. Both parties will have the opportunity to appeal the decision. If a determination is made that a violation has occurred in the case of a student respondent, the decision will be sent to Student Rights and Responsibilities for a conference and sanction(s) if appropriate. If a determination is made that a violation has occurred in the case of a faculty or staff member, the decision will be sent to the Vice Chancellor over the department responsible for discipline of that respondent.

During the investigation, both the complaint and the respondent shall have the following rights:

- To be notified of an investigation by the university.
- To request a substitution of an investigator if the complaint or the respondent believes that a conflict of interest exists.
- To have an advisor of their choice present during the interview(s).
- To participate in the investigation to the extent they choose.
- To share any information that may be relevant to the investigation with the investigator.
- To be notified of the findings of an investigation.
- To appeal the finding.

The university's complete procedures for conducting the investigation may be found online at srr.siu.edu/student-conduct-code.

WHAT SHOULD I EXPECT DURING A STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITY HEARING?

If the university finds that gender-based violence occurred, a conference with Student Rights and Responsibilities will be held to determine the appropriate sanction(s) for the violation. During that conference, both respondent(s) and complainant(s) will have the following rights:

- To have one advisor of their choosing during the process.
- To participate in every step of the process to the extent they choose.
- To share any information that may be relevant to the conference.
- To receive notice of the outcome of the conference.
- To appeal the outcome of the conference.

The university's complete procedures for conducting the conference for students may be found online at equity.siu.edu/discrimination.