

TITLE IX

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WHAT IS TITLE IX?

Title IX, a segment of the Education Amendments of 1972, forbids exclusion on the basis of gender from any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.

La Sierra University is committed to protect all students from all violence and sexual harassment and any student is encouraged to immediately consult with or report incidents of sex discrimination, sexual harassment (including sexual violence) or sexual misconduct to the university Title IX Coordinator.

Students may also report incidents of sex discrimination, sexual harassment (including sexual violence) or sexual misconduct to any university employee (except confidential resources such as chaplains, counseling center therapists and health services medical staff) who is then required to **promptly notify the Title IX coordinator** of the reported incident.

Cases of sexual violence may also be reported to the Riverside Police Department (RPD) and other local law enforcement authorities. The Title IX Coordinator can assist individuals with contacting these law enforcement agencies.

Students may also contact the *U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights* (800-421-3481) to complain of sex discrimination or sexual harassment including sexual violence.

WHAT CONSTITUTES SEXUAL VIOLENCE?

Sexual Violence is a term used that refers sexual assault/non-consensual sexual contact, sexual exploitation, intimate partner violence or stalking. Any act of sexual contact without affirmative consent or where a person is incapable of giving consent due to age, use of alcohol or drugs, or intellectual capacity to give consent is considered sexual violence.

IMMEDIATE ASSISTANCE

If you or someone you know is a victim of sexual assault, the following procedures are encouraged:

- Go to a safe place
- Call someone whom you trust
- Consider seeing a medical professional. Seek medical care at an emergency room or hospital of your choice. It is important to have a medical exam to check for physical injuries and disease, to dispense pregnancy information and prophylaxis if necessary, and to collect evidence should you decide to prosecute. If you are planning on filing a criminal complaint, the medical exam must be done within 72 hours of the assault. You may have the exam and then decide not to prosecute.

If you decide to prosecute, steps to preserve evidence before going to the Emergency Room are as follows:

- Avoid changing clothes
- Bathing
- Douching
- Urinating
- Defecating

You are encouraged to bring extra clothes with you, as your clothing may be held as evidence.

HOW TO REPORT

All complaints of sexual harassment/sexual misconduct must be reported to the Title IX Coordinator.

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