

Office of Institutional Compliance

Resources, Rights, and Options for Individuals Accused of Sexual Harassment, Sex-based Misconduct, Sexual Assault, Sexual Exploitation, Stalking, Sex-based Discrimination, Domestic Violence, or Dating Violence

Respondent – An individual who is alleged to have engaged in sexual harassment, sex-based misconduct, sexual exploitation, sexual assault, discrimination based on sex, stalking, domestic or dating abuse or violence ("Prohibited Conduct"), whether it occurred on or off-campus. A respondent has certain resources, rights, and options available. For questions and additional information, contact the Office of Title IX at 254-519-5716 or email titleix@tamuct.edu.

RIGHTS OF A RESPONDENT

- 1. You have the right to a presumption of not-responsible for alleged Prohibited Conduct unless the Hearing Officer/Designated Administrator determines that it is more likely than not that you are responsible for violating a Texas A&M System Regulation or a Texas A&M-Central Texas University rule.
- 2. You have the right to choose an Advisor to be present with you at any meeting, interview(s), informal resolution or hearings. Your Advisor may be any person, including legal counsel. Except at a formal hearing, the Advisor's participation will be limited to providing support and guidance to you. At a formal hearing, the Advisor will conduct cross-examination. If you do not have an advisor, the university will appoint one to assist you at a formal hearing.
- 3. You have the right to meet with the Title IX Coordinator. The Title IX Coordinator will explain your rights, resources, and options for resolving the complaint, to answer any questions you might have, and to provide supportive measures.
- 4. If a Title IX complaint is dismissed prior to a formal or informal resolution, you have the right to a prompt notification of the reason for the dismissal, even if the Complaint is going to be reclassified and investigated under the same process as a complaint of Sex-Based Misconduct. You have the right to appeal the decision to dismiss the Complaint.
- 5. You have the right to have an impartial Investigator, Hearing Officer/Designated Administrator, and Appellate Authority (the person(s) who will hear an appeal) in your case. Your case and/or the appeal of your case will be decided by a person(s) who did not participate in the investigation of the allegations.
- 6. You have the right to be notified of (1) the receipt of a formal complaint stating the allegation of Prohibited Conduct; (2) the identity of the appointed Investigator(s); (3) the identity of the appointed Hearing Officer/Designated Administrator/Appellate Authority; (4) the option to request supportive measures, if any; and, (5) the availability of any informal resolution processes. You have the right to the identities of the parties involved in the incident, if known, the Prohibited Conduct alleged to have occurred, and the date and location of the alleged incident, if known. You have the right to a thorough and fair investigation of the allegations.
- 7. During the investigation, both you and the Complainant have the right to receive equitable treatment in all facets of the complaint investigation and resolution process including, but not limited to, the right to submit evidence, the right to suggest witnesses to be interviewed. You have the right to discuss the allegations under investigation with anyone you choose.
- 8. You have the right to have irrelevant prior sexual history excluded as evidence during a hearing.
- 9. You have the right to review the draft investigation report, including all inculpatory and exculpatory evidence gathered during the investigation. You may submit a response to the report before the report is finalized and submitted to the Hearing Officer/Designated Administrator.

- 10. You have the right to be informed of the outcome of the investigation at the same time as the Complainant, and in cases of sexual assault, sexual harassment, sex-based misconduct, sex-based discrimination, stalking, dating violence, or domestic violence, you will be notified of the sanction imposed (if any).
- 11. You have the right to appeal the decision of the Designated Administrator based on new evidence; procedural irregularity; bias or conflict of interest on the part of the Title IX Coordinator, Investigator(s), or Designated Administrator; or, appropriateness/severity of the sanctions. You have the right to be notified if the case is appealed by either party and the outcome of the appeal.
- 12. If you believe that the other party has subjected you to prohibited conduct or related retaliation, you have the right to file a university complaint against the other party. You also have the right to file a criminal complaint against the other party with the appropriate law enforcement agency, if appropriate.

More information about these rights can be found on the Title IX website at <u>tamuct.edu/titleix</u>. If you have questions, please contact the university Title IX Coordinator at 254-519-5716.

PRIVACY OF INFORMATION

Privacy of Information

Most university employees are mandatory reporters, which means that if an employee experiences, observes, or becomes aware of an alleged or suspected incident of discrimination or harassment in the course and scope of their employment, the employee must report all known information to the University. Counselors and Medical providers report de-identified statistics only. See <u>Texas A&M University System Regulation 08.01.01</u>, Section 2.1 for more information about mandatory reporting.

The University is committed to protecting the privacy of reporting parties, complainants, and respondents to the extent allowable under law. Given the sensitive nature of reports, information will be maintained in a secure manner and will only be disclosed to school officials who are responsible for handling the university's response and/or have a legitimate educational interest. All students' educational records are protected under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). For more information about FERPA, go to tamuct.edu/ferpa.

SUPPORTIVE MEASURES

Accused individuals have an equitable right to request assistance with changes to academic, and work situations. Contact your Title IX Coordinator to request these changes. Supportive measures will be provided free of charge and may not unreasonably burden either party.

Counseling, health, mental health, advocacy, and other services are available for respondents both on-campus and in the community. In most cases, psychologists/counselors in the Student Counseling Center (for students, Student Counseling) or Work/Life Solutions Program (for employees, Employee Assistance Program) are not required to, nor may, report an incident that in any way identifies students or employees concerned without their consent. However, if an imminent harm situation is present, the counselor must take action to protect whoever is at risk. Below is a brief list of available resources. Confidential resources are *italicized*; however, in accordance with the Clery Act, confidential resources will report de-identified statistics only.

Counseling Resources (Confidential)

Name	Phone	Address	Website
Work/Life Solutions Program (for employees)	866-301-9623		https://www.tamuct.edu/human- resources/benefits/employee- assistance.html

Student Counseling Center			
(for students)	254-501-5955	Warrior Hall 207L Texas A&M Campus	https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-counseling.html

Medical and Health Services

Name	Phone	Address	Website
AdventHealth Central Texas	979-458-8250	A.P. Beutel Health Center, Texas A&M Campus	adventhealth.com
Carl R. Darnall Army Medical Center	254.288.8000	36065 Santa Fe Ave Fort Hood, TX	crdamc.amedd.army.mil/ Default.aspx
Baylor Scott & White Medical Center - Temple	254.724.2111	2401 S 31st St. Temple, TX 76508	https://www.bswhealth.com/ locations/temple/Pages/default.aspx
Seton Medical Center	254.690.0900	850 W. Cen TX Expy Harker Heights, TX	setonharkerheights.net/

Support, Advocacy, and Other Resources

Name	Phone	Address	Website
Student Affairs	<u>254.501.5909</u>	Warrior Hall 105 Texas A&M Campus	https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/
Student Success	254.501.5836	Warrior Hall 212 Texas A&M Campus	https://www.tamuct.edu/student- affairs/student-success.html
Student Financial Assistance	254.501.5854	Founders Hall 108 Texas A&M Campus	https://www.tamuct.edu/financial- aid/index.html
Access and Inclusion	254.501.5836	Warrior Hall 212	https://www.tamuct.edu/student-
		Texas A&M Campus	affairs/access-inclusion.html
Student Wellness &	254.501.5955	Warrior Hall 207L	https://www.tamuct.edu/student-
Counseling Center		Texas A&M Campus	affairs/student-counseling.html
National Sexual Assault Hotline	800.656.4619		online.rainn.org
Aware Central Texas -	254.213.2986	2408 S. Clear Creek	https://www.awarecentraltexas.org/
Killeen		Rd. Ste. 201	
24/7 Hotline: 254.813.0968		Killeen, TX 76549	
Aware Central Texas -	254.939.7582	903 N. Main St.	https://www.awarecentraltexas.org/
Belton		Belton, TX 76513	
24/7 Hotline: 254.813.0968			
Families in Crisis	254.634.1184/		http://familiesincrisis.net/
	254.773.7765	1-888-799-SAFE	
National Domestic Violence	800.799.7233		thehotline.org
Hotline			

University Police	254.501.5800	Founders Hall 103	https://www.tamuct.edu/police/
Department	23 1.301.3000	Texas A&M Campus	
Killeen Police Department	t 254.501.7698	301 South Texas	https://www.killeentexas.gov/280/Victims-
Victim's Assistance		Ave.	Assistance
		Bryan, TX	
Bell County Victim Service	s 254.933.5235 /	1201 Huey Road,	https://www.bellcountytx.com/county_
Division	800.460.2355	Suite 2100	government/district_attorney/victim_services_
	ext. 5235	Belton, Texas	division.php
		76513	
Fort Hood Victim Advocac	y254.287.3583	Darnall Loop Bldg.	https://hood.armymwr.com/programs/victim-
Program		36000, 2nd Floor	advocacy-program
Coryell County Crime	254.865.5911	620 E Main St	https://www.coryellcounty.org/page/
Victims Assistance		Gatesville, TX	coryell.Crime
		76528	
Healthy Homes and	254.953.5439	402 Indian Trail	http://www.ci.harker-
Crime Victims'		Harker Heights, TX	heights.tx.us/index.php/healthy-homes
Assistance			

REPORTING PROHIBITED CONDUCT

Anonymous Reporting

Individuals wishing to submit an anonymous report may use the reporting form found on the <u>Title IX website</u>. The University's ability to investigate and respond to an anonymous report may be limited.

Reporting to Law Enforcement

Individuals reporting an incident have the option of notifying or not notifying law enforcement authorities, including university and local police. An individual may decline to notify law enforcement. An anonymous "Jane/John Doe" report can be filed with the police by the alleged victim while deciding whether to pursue criminal charges. Law enforcement is able to help individuals understand the process of obtaining orders of protection, restraining orders, or similar lawful orders issued by the courts. Below is a list of local law enforcement agencies. Reports should be filed with the law enforcement agency that is located where the incident occurred.

Name	Phone	Name	Phone
University Police Department	254.501.5800	Copperas Cove Police Department	254. 547.8222
Killeen Police Department	254.501.8800	Harker Heights Police Department	254.953.5400
Temple Police Department	254.298.5500	Georgetown Police Department	512.930.3510

Importance of Preserving Physical Evidence

Retain communications and document any contact with the involved individual(s). If possible, individuals should write down dates, times, locations of contact and preserve any text messages, emails, and/or social media site postings related to the incident.

Reporting to the University

Individuals may make inquiries or file a complaint by contacting the University's Title IX Coordinator, Michelle Zornes, at titleix@tamuct.edu or 254-519-5716. Individuals may also visit the Office of Institutional Compliance in Founder's Hall Rm, 317, Killeen, TX 76549.

Name	Phone	Address	Website
Office of Institutional Compliance	254-519-5716	1001 Leadership Place FH - 317 Killeen, TX 76549	https://www.tamuct.edu/compliance
Deputy Title IX Coordinator for Students	254.519.5909	1001 Leadership Place WH - 105 Killeen, TX 76549	https://www.tamuct.edu/compliance
Deputy Title IX Coordinator for Faculty/Staff/Visitor	254.519.8015	1001 Leadership Place WH - 424 Killeen, TX 76549	https://www.tamuct.edu/compliance

Reporting to a Federal Agency

The U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights is a federal agency responsible for enforcing Title IX. Information regarding filing a complaint with the Office for Civil Rights can be found at: <u>ed.gov</u>.

RETALIATION

The university will take reasonable action to protect the complainant, the respondent, and those providing witness statements on behalf of either party or supporting either party from retaliation. Additionally, those individuals are encouraged to report any acts of retaliation from other individuals associated with the incident. This action may come at any time during or following an investigation of a complaint. Individuals are reminded to contact law enforcement immediately if there is a threat to physical health or safety.

SANCTIONS

Individuals seeking information about sanctioning of students should consult the <u>Student Sanctioning Matrix</u>. Information about employee sanctions may be found in <u>University Rule 08.01.01.D1</u>.