

# SEXUAL VIOLENCE SURVIVOR BILL OF RIGHTS

Know that SUNY students  
have the right to:

Have disclosures of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, and sexual assault treated seriously.

Make a decision about whether or not to disclose a crime or violation and participate in the judicial or conduct process and/or criminal justice process free from pressure from the institution.

Your reporting rights include:

- To make a report to local law enforcement and/or state police.
- To participate in a process that is fair, impartial, and provides adequate notice and a meaningful opportunity to be heard
- Access to at least one level of appeal of a determination (Appeal must be considered by a panel—not one person. The panel may include one or more students.);
- Be accompanied by an advisor of choice who may assist and advise a reporting individual, accused, or respondent throughout the judicial or conduct process including during all meetings and hearings related to such process

Be treated with dignity and to receive from the institution courteous, fair, and respectful health care and counseling services.

Be free from any suggestion that the reporting individual is at fault when these crimes and violations are committed, or should have acted in a different manner to avoid such crimes or violations.

Describe the incident to as few institutional representatives as practicable and not to be required to unnecessarily repeat a description of the incident.

Be free from retaliation by the institution, the accused and/or the respondent, and/or their friends, family and acquaintances within the jurisdiction of the institution.

Exercise civil rights and practice of religion without interference by the investigative, criminal justice, or judicial or conduct process of the College.

A victim/survivor reporting sexual violence to campus officials or law enforcement will not be subject to campus conduct action for violations of alcohol and/or drug use policies occurring at or near the time of the sexual violence.

Students have many options that can be pursued simultaneously. You can do one or more of the following:

- Receive resources, such as counseling and medical attention
- Meet with a college official to learn about your options without making a crime report
- Confidentially or anonymously disclose a crime or violation
- Make a report on and/or off campus

**Learn about your options at**

If you're worrying about:

I'm not sure if what happened to me is "sexual assault/dating or domestic violence/stalking." It happened a long time ago.  
I'm a man.  
The perpetrator is the same sex as I am.  
I can't remember very much.

I'm afraid I will lose control of the situation after I report it.  
I'm unsure of the consequences.

No one will believe me.  
I'm afraid it won't be treated seriously.  
I'm embarrassed.  
I'm afraid of being judged.

I'm afraid that my actions will be scrutinized.  
I think I will be blamed.  
I should have been able to stop what happened to me.

I don't want everyone to know what happened.  
It's a personal matter.

I'm afraid that their friends will come after me.  
I'm afraid it will get worse if I report it.

Will I be supported?  
What will happen if I tell?

I'm afraid of getting in trouble.  
I will get in trouble because I was drinking and/or drugging.

There are many other reasons why survivors of these crimes don't tell anyone what happened to them. What ever your experience, you did what you needed to do to feel safe.

**Most importantly, know that we've got your back.  
We are here for you when you are ready.**

The State University of New York and this SUNY campus are committed to providing options, support and assistance to victims/survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and/or stalking to ensure that they can continue to participate in College/University-wide and campus programs, activities, and employment. All victims/survivors of these crimes and violations, regardless of race, color, national origin, religion, creed, age, disability, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, familial status, pregnancy, predisposing genetic characteristics, military status, domestic violence victim status, or criminal conviction, have the following rights, regardless of whether the crime or violation occurs on campus, off campus, or while studying abroad.

To learn more about your reporting options and resources on campus available to help you visit: