



Campus Sexual Violence Prevention Program Overview

Nunez Community College is committed to creating an environment free of sexual violence. The College strives to achieve this goal through prevention and promotion awareness, survivor support, due process procedures, and referrals to law enforcement. In accordance with the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (Campus SaVE Act) and 2013 Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act, the College is actively working to increase transparency about the scope of sexual violence on campus, guarantee survivors enhanced rights, and provide College-wide prevention educational programming.

The College implements relevant policies in such a manner to ensure that all students and employees have equal access to the information and services related to sexual violence, regardless of race, color, religious or political affiliation, gender, sexual orientation, citizenship, national origin, age, disability/handicap, marital status or veteran's status, gender, race, sexual orientation, nation of origin, religion, age, disability, pregnancy, childbirth and related medical conditions, and the sickle cell trait. Applicable services are available to any student or employee, whether the alleged assault occurred on or near campus, or elsewhere.

Definitions

Sexual violence is defined by the U.S. Department of Education Office of Civil Rights as physical sexual acts perpetrated against a person's will or where a person is incapable of giving consent (e.g., due to the student's age or use of drugs or alcohol, or because an intellectual or other disability prevents the student from having the capacity to give consent). A number of different acts fall into the category of sexual violence, including rape, sexual assault, intimate partner abuse/domestic violence, dating violence, sexual battery, sexual abuse, sexual coercion, and stalking. Sexual violence can be carried out by College employees, other students, or third parties. All such acts of sexual violence are forms of sex discrimination prohibited by Title IX.

In this policy, the person reporting the incident is referred to as a "survivor" to acknowledge those who have experienced sexual violence as individuals who have survived these experiences. While in other contexts, the term "victim" or "patient" may be used; however, "survivor" is used as term of respect to acknowledge that people who experience sexual violence have survived an event or events that can be life-changing.

Stalking is defined by the U.S. Department of Education to mean engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for his or her safety or the safety of others; or suffer substantial emotional distress.

Rights

It is the survivor's right to decide how to cope with and report the experience. All individuals who report an incident of sexual violence have specific rights whether or not they pursue any formal complaint or not. Nunez affords anyone who reports alleged sexual violence, either on or off-campus, with the following information and rights:

- Procedures that should be followed in the event of an incident of sexual violence including to whom the offense should be reported (page 76, 2014-15 College Catalog).
- Options for reporting to law enforcement including the right to be assisted by campus authorities, as well as the right to decline to report to law enforcement.
- The right to a prompt, fair and impartial investigation and resolution.
- Changes to the academic, transportation and working situations if requested and reasonably available whether or not a formal report is made.
- Possible sanctions or protective measures that may result from an institutional disciplinary proceeding.
- Notification that the College is obligated to follow up on all allegations and that confidentiality will be ensured to maintain the survivor's safety, provided that doing so does not interfere with the College's ability to investigate and take appropriate corrective action.
- Reasonable safeguards to prohibit retaliation.
- Notification about existing counseling, health, mental health, survivor advocacy, legal assistance and other services available on and off-campus.

Reporting to Police

Nunez Campus Police is the primary investigative agency for crimes that occur on Nunez property owned or leased except for the following: Murder; Child Abuse; Juvenile Offenses; Sex Offenses; Aggravated Kidnappings; Aggravated Arson; Parental Kidnappings; and Vehicle Fatalities. These offenses are investigated by the St. Bernard Parish Sheriff's Office. An individual who has experienced an incident of sexual violence may report this to the police by calling 9-1-1, the local police department, Nunez Campus Police at 504-278-6332 or the Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs at 504-278-6222.

Reporting a crime is the process of officially documenting what has occurred with the police. Following the report, an investigation may occur. During the investigation police may use discretion in informing survivors regarding the investigation's progress; however, survivors may contact the department for updates. Following an investigation, a charge may be filed and/or the matter forwarded to be prosecuted. An arrest of a suspect may or may not occur at any point in the process. The St. Bernard Parish Sheriff's Office has specialized training in the investigation of sex offenses and shall conduct all investigations of sexual offense incidents reported to Nunez Campus Police.

Reporting to the Office of Human Resources for complaints against employees

Incidents of sexual violence allegedly committed by an employee of the College may be reported to the Office of Human Resources. Incidents may also be reported to Nunez Campus Police or the St. Bernard Parish Sheriff's Office.

The Office of Human Resources may be consulted about situations, take reports/complaints, initiate investigations/proceedings, and make recommendations/ determinations. Depending on the outcome of the investigation/proceedings, if corrective action needs to be imposed, the Office of Human Resources will advise the Chancellor on appropriate action.

These offices take steps to protect the confidential nature of reports and to resolve the matter as discreetly as possible, while remaining attentive to any concerns regarding retaliation during the process.

Annual Crime Reporting

Nunez's Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs is responsible for meeting Clery Act reporting requirements, including reporting and publishing annually the number of sexual assaults reported on each campus/site and the number of sexual assault investigations conducted on each campus/site.

Response Training and Education

Nunez Campus Police, Human Resources Office and Student Affairs ensure annual training and education on sexual violence primary prevention and awareness is provided for the college community. Such training/education includes but is not limited to information on the definition of domestic violence, bystander intervention guidelines, risk reduction, survivor rights and reporting procedures. In addition, the Office of Human Resources ensures the College's employees receive training annually to assist survivors of sexual violence and harassment and to support and carry-out the procedures outlined in the event of such.