

Goucher College Rights of Victims of Sexual Assault, Relationship Violence, and Stalking

Sexual assault, relationship violence, and stalking are not tolerated at Goucher College. Reports of such offenses, including acquaintance rape and other types of sexual assault, are taken very seriously. If you have been the victim of a sexual offense, relationship violence, or stalking, you have certain rights under federal law, including Title IX, state law, and Goucher's policies. These rights are listed below for your information.

The complete Goucher College Policy on Sexual Misconduct, Relationship Violence, and Stalking is available online at <http://www.goucher.edu/legal-counsel/all-policies-and-procedures-a-z/sexual-misconduct-policy>.

- 1. You have the right to a prompt, fair and impartial investigation and resolution of your complaint,** including an opportunity equal to that of the accused to present relevant witnesses and other evidence. You may present documents, the names of witnesses, and other evidence to the investigators. The investigators may also interview other witnesses and consider other evidence.
- 2. You have the right to contact a confidential consultant** for support and advice, including about whether to file a complaint under Goucher's policy, and whether to bring criminal charges. You may contact any one of the following individuals to serve as a confidential consultant:

Lauren Greenberg, counselor	410-337-3023
Monica Neel, psychologist	410-337-6562
Shira Concool, counselor	410-337-6054
Doug Girard, psychologist	410-337-6052
Tim Moslener, counselor	410-337-6379
Cynthia Terry, chaplain	410-337-6048
Josh Snyder, Hillel rabbi	410-337-6545

Additional resources for counseling and assistance, both on and off campus, are listed in the policy.

- 3. You have the right to an advisor of your choice to support and accompany you throughout the college's informal or formal procedure.** Advisors may assist a party with understanding the investigation process and preparing for interviews and meetings; attend interviews and meetings with the party; review any written appeals or other statements prepared by the party; provide emotional support; and otherwise assist and support the party as the party moves through the process. Advisors may not speak on behalf of the party at any interviews or meetings or through any written documents. Advisors should consult with the Title IX coordinator on any questions that arise during the process. The Title IX coordinator maintains a list of staff and faculty advisors who have been specifically trained in this policy and process, including available support services related to sexual misconduct, relationship violence, and stalking. This list is available to any party who would prefer to use a trained advisor. Note that employees of the college who administer the college's formal procedure and witnesses are not able to serve as advisors.
- 4. You have the right to notify proper campus and/or law enforcement authorities; to receive assistance in notifying such authorities; and to decline to notify such authorities.** You may make a complaint to college officials for investigation and disciplinary action under procedures outlined in

the policy, or you may report to appropriate off-campus law enforcement authorities (including local police) for criminal prosecution, or both. If you choose to pursue criminal charges, you may request that a Goucher public safety officer and/or your consultant or advisor assist you and accompany you when you notify law enforcement officials. You may also decline to notify any authorities about the incident.

If you are considering criminal prosecution, it is extremely important to preserve all evidence of the sexual assault or other incident. Procedures for preserving evidence are described in the policy, and can be explained to you by a public safety officer. If you feel more comfortable speaking with a male or female officer about evidence preservation and other matters related to an assault, please advise Public Safety.

- 5. You have the right to seek a medical examination and treatment.** The Student Health and Counseling Center provides medical care for all survivors of sexual assault or relationship violence, regardless of gender. The Center can treat students for injuries, test for sexually transmitted diseases, and provide emergency contraception. You may prefer to be taken to a local hospital which can provide all of the above services and can also collect evidence and perform forensic medical exams. If you believe that you may at any time wish to pursue legal remedy related to the assault, please request that the hospital perform a free Sexual Assault Forensic Examination (SAFE). There is no requirement that you report the assault to the police in order to be given the exam—you may remain anonymous and the evidence will be held for a time with no identification. Maryland regulations also provide that the forensic exam be performed free of charge if you are seen within 120 hours of the alleged offense.

Greater Baltimore Medical Center (GBMC) is the closest hospital designated for sexual assault evidence collection and performs SAFE exams. A public safety officer will transport you to the hospital upon request, and on-call college staff will accompany and assist you at the hospital. You may choose to go to a hospital for treatment only, or for treatment and evidence collection.

- 6. You have the right to receive confidential counseling.** Counseling is provided on campus to students at the Student Health and Counseling Center, 410-337-6050. Alternatively, you may contact the local Towson sexual assault center, *TurnAround*, located at 401 Washington Avenue, Suite 300, for counseling (daytime general information 410-377-8111; 24-hour helpline 443-279-0379). Additional off-campus counseling resources are listed in the policy.
- 7. The Goucher policy makes determinations of responsibility by a preponderance of the evidence,** pursuant to the process described in the policy. A preponderance of evidence has been described as just enough evidence to make it more likely than not that the fact the claimant seeks to prove is true, or in layman's terms – fifty percent plus a feather.
- 8. You have the right to seek legal assistance and victim advocacy services, including, where applicable, a protective order or peace order.** These services are available at *TurnAround* Helpline (443-279-0379) and at *MCASA's Sexual Assault Legal Institute (SALI)* (301-565-2277 or toll-free at 877-496-SALI). The college does not recommend particular private attorneys, but you may wish to use the referral services of the Baltimore County Bar Association Lawyer Referral and Information Service, <http://www.bcba.org/community-resources/lawyer-referral-program/>, which can also provide referrals to attorneys for visa and immigration services.
- 9. You have the right to request a change in housing** (a new room assignment in the residence halls), **a change in class assignment** (a change to a different section of a course), **a campus protective order** (prohibiting contact or access to your residence hall), **or a change in your working environment** (a change in office location or reporting relationship), so that you will be separated from the accused

person to the greatest extent possible. **Academic relief** may also be available. These requests should be made to the Title IX Coordinator, or Deputy Title IX Coordinator (Lucia Perfetti Clark, or Rina Rhyne, located in Human Resources, TitleIXCoordinator@goucher.edu, 410-337-6570, 410-337-6329). Any requested changes will be made as soon as alternative arrangements are reasonably available, and regardless of whether you choose to report the incident to college officials or local law enforcement authorities. The accommodations provided will be maintained confidentially to the extent that maintaining such confidentiality will not impair the ability of the college to provide the accommodations.

- 10. You have the right to amnesty for drug or alcohol use related to the complaint.** You will not be subject to disciplinary action under the college's Code of Conduct for your own personal consumption of alcohol or drugs at or near the time of the incident, provided that any such violations did not place the health or safety of any other person at risk.
- 11. You have the right to know the potential sanctions that may be imposed against the accused if s/he is found responsible for violation of the Sexual Misconduct, Relationship Violence, and Stalking Policy.** These sanctions are described in the policy.
- 12. You have the right to have your name and all information related to the offense kept as confidential as is reasonably possible,** although you should understand that the accused will be provided with a copy of your complaint. Absolute confidentiality may not be maintained in all circumstances, especially when the college needs to act to protect the safety of others. However, as a general matter all persons involved in a complaint of sexual misconduct, sexual assault, relationship violence, or stalking are to respect the privacy of the individuals involved and must keep the matter as confidential as is reasonably possible. This does not prohibit you from disclosing information to persons who need to know it in order to participate in or administer the process, and/or to provide support and assistance to you. Your parent(s) or guardian(s) will not be contacted by the college except at your request or in the case of a health or safety emergency. If the college is required to notify the community of the incident, including recording the assault in the campus crime log, no identifying information about you will be included, to the extent permissible by law.
- 13. You have the right to information regarding the status of your complaint at the college,** including the outcome of the campus investigation. You and the accused will be simultaneously informed in writing of the outcome of the investigation, and, if the accused is a student, you and the accused will be simultaneously advised of a) the decision of the decision panel, b) procedures to appeal the decision, c) any change that occurs to the outcome prior to the time that it becomes final, and d) when the results become final. You have a right to receive a summary of the investigators' report and to view, but not copy, the full report upon request; and, if the accused is a student, to receive a copy of the decision of the decision panel upon request, to the extent permitted by the provisions of FERPA and as required by the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (Clery Act); to appeal the decision to the Appeals Panel, and to receive a copy of the Appeals Panel decision to the extent permitted by the provisions of FERPA and as required by the Clery Act.

Note that different procedures apply when an employee is accused under the policy. These procedures are described in the policy, and the Title IX Coordinator can explain them to you.

- 14. You have the right not to be retaliated against for bringing a complaint of sexual assault, relationship violence, or stalking.** Threats, intimidation, and any form of retaliation for bringing a complaint are prohibited under the policy and may be grounds for disciplinary action. Possible steps the college may take to protect you from retaliation are described in the policy.

You may contact the Title IX coordinator (Lucia Perfetti Clark, located in the Office of Human Resources, 410-337-6570, TitleIXCoordinator@goucher.edu) if you have procedural questions or concerns during any stage of the process.