

# **Annual Security Report**

Great Bay Community College - Portsmouth 320 Corporate drive Portsmouth, NH 03801

This report was last updated on October 1, 2024



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# 2024 Crime Awareness and Campus Security Information Report Great Bay Community College Portsmouth Campus

This information is provided to meet the requirements of the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act of 1998. Great Bay Community College Campus Safety Department prepared this report using statistical and other information supplied by GBCC Student Affairs, Portsmouth Police Department, Newington Police Department, Exeter Police Department, North Hampton Police Department, Rockingham County Sheriff's Department, Strafford County Sheriff's Department, and the New Hampshire State Police.

Great Bay Community College – Portsmouth is located at 320 Corporate Drive in Portsmouth, NH.

# ANNUAL CAMPUS CRIME REPORT: SAFETY AND SECURITY INFORMATION

Campus Safety coordinates all public safety services with other key College, State, and local officials. Safety Officers do have a regular virtual presence at the Rochester Campus and also are available via phone and email to assist with any issues at the Portsmouth Campus which is staffed at all time the Portsmouth Campus is open. Safety officers are **NOT** sworn law enforcement personnel and do **NOT** have the power of arrest; however, they work very closely with the local police departments and other city departments.

# Notice of Availability of Annual Security Report

Before October 1, an e-mail notification is made to all enrolled students and employees to provide the website URL to access this report. A link to the Annual Security Report is accessible on the Human Resources and Admissions webpages. Paper copies of this report are available by contacting Campus Safety at (603) 427-7697.

The report and crime statistics are updated annually.

# REPORTING CRIMES AND EMERGENCIES

All Emergency calls should be made to 911 from all campus and off-campus telephones. Regular business calls of a non-emergency nature can be made to the Campus Safety at (603) 427-7697 or Portsmouth Police Department (603) 427-1500 at any time.

When notifying Campus Safety or the Portsmouth Police Department of criminal activity, please provide the following information:

- Your name;
- Location of the incident you are reporting;
- A description of the scene, suspects and the nature of the incident;
- A description of any vehicles involved in the incident, especially a license plate number;

The most important thing to remember is that suspicion of a crime does not require proof, if you suspect that a crime is being committed, or has been committed, call **911** or GBCC Campus Safety at 603-427-7697 immediately.

# **On-Campus Reporting**

When members of the College community receive a report of criminal activity on campus, they should immediately notify Campus Safety. They may also contact a designated *Campus Security Authority* (CSA) who will then consult with Campus Safety.

# **Off-Campus Reporting**

If criminal activity takes place at an off-campus location rented, leased, or owned by the College, community members should contact the local police department with jurisdiction. The phone number for the Portsmouth Police Department is 603-427-1500, or by calling 911.

# **Reporting Laws and Policies**

Under NH state law, College officials must report crimes including hazing, child and elder abuse, and treatment given for gunshot wounds. Employees at GBCC should report suspected cases of sexual harassment of students by employees of GBCC to supervisors and, or other appropriate individuals or offices. GBCC officials will also help the victims to report if asked to do so. Crime statistics are gathered annually from GBCC *Campus Security Authorities* via online and campus mail reporting.

Any suspected crime report should be made to a *Campus Security Authority* immediately and communicated to the GBCC Campus Safety. Campus Safety will then contact the Portsmouth Police Department.

Great Bay Community College has no general written policy regarding confidential reporting that allows the victim or witness to remain anonymous. However, there is an anonymous report available on the Great Bay Community College website on the Campus Safety page. There is a Seacoast Crime Stoppers hotline (603) 431-1199, operated 24 hours a day, seven days a week for people to call and confidentially report criminal activity in the City of Portsmouth. Also, HAVEN located on 20 International Drive in Portsmouth NH offers free, confidential, and accessible assistance in reporting sexual or domestic violence. The HAVEN 24-Hour Crisis Hotline is (603) 994-7233.

# **CAMPUS SECURITY AUTHORITIES**

A Campus Security Authority is any individual or individuals who have responsibility for campus security but who do not constitute a campus police department or campus safety department; any official of the College who has significant responsibility for student and campus activities, including, but not limited to, student discipline and campus judicial proceedings. If such an official is a pastoral or professional counselor, the official is not considered a campus security authority when acting in that capacity. Campus Security Authorities are:

# **Campus Safety Department**

Portsmouth Campus – 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Main lobby 603-427-7697

### **Student Affairs**

Director of Student Life Portsmouth Campus – Room 85 603-427-7641

# Coordinator of Student Life & Student Club Advisors

Portsmouth Campus – Room 85 or 83 603-427-7741 or 603-427-7733

# **Coordinator of Athletics & Athletic Coaches**

Portsmouth Campus – Room 83 603-427-7733

# **Title IX Coordinator**

Portsmouth Campus – Room 214E 603-427-7630

### **Judicial Advisor**

Portsmouth Campus – Room 214E 603-427-7630

### BUILDING SECURITY

Academic and administrative offices are secured each day at the end of their operating hours. Portsmouth Campus main doors, front lobby, unlocked/locked based upon stated hours. All other doors lock at 6:00 PM and are exit only.

After-hours entry is only available to faculty, staff, and students accompanied by a faculty/staff member, who is authorized by the College Administration. Building hours during semester breaks, College holidays, and summer may be reduced or modified from the normal operating hours.

The business hours for on-campus in-person services are 7:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday -Thursday, and 7:00 AM to 4:00 PM on Friday. There is no access to the campus by the public after business hours with the exception of previously scheduled events which were authorized by the College

Adminstration. The public is allowed access only for those with business within the college and only during the business hours of the college.

Opening of a marked external emergency exit or security door or deliberately propping open a door that is intended to be locked is prohibited. Great Bay Community College-Portsmouth has a fire detection systems and alarms directly connected to the City of Portsmouth dispatch center. Facilities personnel are present during operating hours and, or are on-call to address the physical needs of the building and any situations or emergencies that may arise.

# **EMERGENCY NOTIFICATIONS**

Great Bay Community College-Portsmouth policies guide emergency response and evacuation procedures, including the use of the College's Emergency Notification System. These policies and procedures require the campus director, or designee, to immediately notify the campus community upon the confirmation of a significant emergency or dangerous situation involving an immediate threat to the health or safety of students or staff occurring on the campus, unless issuing a notification will compromise efforts to mitigate the emergency. Emergency messages will include brief information on what has occurred and instruction on what to do next.

Emergency notification and updates to the campus community are made through the following mechanisms:

- Rave: a free service that automatically sends a brief text message alerting the community regarding an emergency on the Portsmouth campus to email accounts or cell phones. GBCC students, faculty, staff, and affiliates can sign up at <a href="http://www.getrave.com/login/greatbay">http://www.getrave.com/login/greatbay</a>
- **Directed Communications/Blast email**: Using the GBCC email system to alert students, faculty, and staff.
- Fliers: posted on bulletin boards, outdoor boards, and kiosks.
- GBCC website: http://greatbay.edu
- Local area radio and television stations and print media.

Please visit <a href="http://greatbay.edu/campus-life/campus-safety">http://greatbay.edu/campus-life/campus-safety</a> for emergency response and evacuation procedures. Emergency response and evacuation procedures are tested on an annual basis. Notice of the annual test is made through GBCC social media, and email system.

### TIMELY WARNINGS

In compliance with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (Clery Act), the Great Bay Community College Campus Safety will post timely warnings for the College to notify members of the community about serious or continuing crimes that occur on campus. Knowing such crimes will assist community members in making informed decisions about their safety and in preventing similar crimes from occurring. These warnings are posted if a serious crime on campus constitutes an ongoing or continuing threat to the community. These crimes should be reported to the GBCC Campus Safety, a GBCC Campus Security Authority, or the Portsmouth Police Department.

The decision to issue a timely warning will be decided on a case-by-case basis in compliance with the Clery Act. The decision is made by the GBCC Chief of Campus Safety or his/her designee, or by members of the Senior Leadership Team, considering all available facts, whether the crime is considered a serious or continuing threat to students or employees and the possible risk of compromising law enforcement efforts.

# The Great Bay Community College Campus Safety may issue timely warnings for the following incidents:

- Criminal Homicide
- Sex Offenses (Rape, Fondling, Incest, and Statutory Rape)
- Robbery
- Aggravated assault
- Burglary
- Motor Vehicle Theft
- Major incidents of Arson
- Domestic Violence, Dating Violence or Stalking
- Hate Crimes
- Other crimes as determined necessary by the Chief of GBCC Campus Safety, or designee, in the absence of the Supervisor.

# The Great Bay Community College Campus Safety does not issue timely warnings for the above-listed crimes if:

- The subject(s) apprehended and the apprehension has mitigated the threat of imminent danger to the GBCC community.
- If a report was not filed with GBCC Campus Safety or if campus security authorities did not notify GBCC Campus Safety in a manner that would allow the department to post a "timely" warning to the community. Unless there are extenuating circumstances, a report that is filed more than five days after the date of the alleged incident may not allow GBCC Campus Safety to post a "timely" warning to the community. This type of situation will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

A timely warning and updates will be distributed to the campus through any one or more of the following mechanisms:

- Rave: a free service that automatically sends a brief text message alerting the community regarding an emergency on the Portsmouth campus to email accounts or cell phones. GBCC students, faculty, staff, and affiliates can sign up at <a href="http://www.getrave.com/login/greatbay">http://www.getrave.com/login/greatbay</a>
- **Directed Communications/Blast email**: Using the GBCC email system to alert students, faculty, and staff.
- Fliers: posted on bulletin boards, outdoor boards, and kiosks.
- GBCC website: <a href="http://greatbay.edu">http://greatbay.edu</a>
- Local area radio and television stations and print media.

A copy of the timely warning will be filed in the corresponding case file.

Great Bay Community College Campus Safety may also issue "Safety Alerts," when necessary, to appraise the GBCC community of safety issues and concerns. These "safety bulletins" will include safety tips and recommendations to follow so that the GBCC community can make informed decisions about personal safety.

Great Bay Community College Campus Safety also maintains a daily crime log that contains all crimes reported to the department. The daily crime log is available at the Main Security desk on the Portsmouth Campus on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor.

# **Sexual and Gender-Based Misconduct Policy**

# POLICY APPLICABILITY, SCOPE, & JURSIDICTION

This policy applies to all faculty, staff, other employees, students, & organizations receiving Community College System of New Hampshire (CCSNH) funding or use any of the CCSNH school names.

An individual who believes they have experienced conduct that violates this policy are encouraged to file a complaint with the Title IX office. Title IX complaints will operate independently from any additional criminal proceedings. College procedures and sanctions can be implemented regardless of criminal charges that are initiated or substantiated.

This policy applies to all of CCSNH education programs and activities (including locations, events, or circumstances in which the CCSNH exercises substantial control over the respondent and the context of the conduct). A complainant does not have to be a member of the CCSNH community to file a complaint at the discretion of the Title IX Coordinator.

This policy may also be applicable to off campus misconduct that deprives someone of access to CCSNH educational programs or activities. The College may also extend jurisdiction to off campus and/or online conduct if the Title IX Coordinator determines the conduct affects a substantial CCSNH interest. Regardless of where the conduct occurred, the College will review complaints to determine if it occurred in the context of its programs and if there are continuing effects on campus or off campus sponsored programs/activities.

# Substantial College interest includes:

a. Any action that constitutes a criminal offense as defined by law, including but not limited to, single or repeat violations of local, state, or federal law;

- b. Any situation in which it is determined that the Respondent poses an immediate threat to the physical health or safety of any student or other individual;
- c. Any situation that significantly infringes on the rights, property, or achievements of oneself or others or breaches the peace or causes social disorder;
- d. Any situation that is detrimental to the educational interests or mission of CCSNH.

If the Respondent is unknown or not a member of the CCSNH community, the Title IX Coordinator will assist the Complainant in connecting with campus and local resources as well as discuss support options. All vendors serving CCSNH through third party contracts are subject to the policies and procedures of their employers. When a party is participating in dual enrollment or an early college program, the College will coordinate with the party's home institution to determine jurisdiction and coordinate supportive measures.

This policy is only applicable to alleged incidents that occur after August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024. For alleged incidents prior to August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, the policy and procedures in place at the time of the alleged incident will apply. Applicable versions of those polices and procedures can be requested from the Title IX Coordinator.

### POLICY STATEMENT AND PURPOSE

### STATEMENT OF INSTITUTIONAL PHILOSOPHY

CCSNH and its Colleges are committed to creating and maintaining a positive and productive work environment free of sexual and gender-based harassment, discrimination, and other misconduct. CCSNH prohibits sexual and gender-based misconduct as defined in this policy. It is the intention of CCSNH to take prompt action to prevent the reoccurrence of behaviors that violate this policy.

# NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

CCSNH and its Colleges, in compliance with Title IX of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education amendment of 1972, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, age, sex, or physical handicap in any policies, practices, and procedures.

### IMPARTIALITY AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The Title IX Staff shall act with impartiality and free from bias and conflicts of interest. The members of the Title IX team are vetted and trained to ensure they are unbiased towards parties and towards complainants and respondents generally.

To raise any concern regarding perceived bias or conflict of interest by the college Title IX Coordinator, contact the CCSNH Title IX Coordinator or the CCSNH Director of Internal Audit.

Complaints may also be made to:

Office for Civil Rights (OCR) U.S. Department of Education 400 Maryland Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20202-1100

Customer Service Hotline #: (800) 421-3481

Facsimile: (202) 453-6012 TDD#: (877) 521-2172 Email: OCR@ed.gov

Web: <a href="http://www.ed.gov/ocr">http://www.ed.gov/ocr</a>

### **DEFINITIONS**

**Complainant** is an individual who believes they have been subjected to sex discrimination, sex-based harassment, sexual misconduct or retaliation or who is believed by another to have been subjected to such conduct, who was participating or attempting to participate in the Colleges education program or activity at the time of the alleged misconduct. This term will be used throughout the policy whether or not an individual chooses to file a complaint or participate in an investigation or resolution process.

**Days** are considered college business days for the purpose of this policy. Weekends and college holidays are not considered business days. College holidays can be found on the academic calendar.

**Formal Complaint** is a document filed orally, physically, or electronically by a Complainant or signed by the Title IX Coordinator alleging that a Respondent has violated the sexual and gender-based misconduct policy and/or engaged in retaliation for engaging in a protected activity, and requesting the college to investigate the allegations.

**Hearing Facilitator** is a member of the Title IX Team who facilitates hearings under the formal resolutions process. This includes reviewing hearing procedures with parties and their advisors at the beginning of the hearing, managing the Zoom rooms, and otherwise assisting with the logistics/coordination of the hearing.

**Mandatory Reporter** is an employee of CCSNH who is obliged by policy to share knowledge, notice, and/or reports of sex discrimination, sex-based harassment, sexual misconduct or retaliation with the Title IX Coordinator.<sup>1</sup>

**Parties** include the Complainant(s) and Respondent(s), collectively.

**Pregnancy or Related Conditions** includes pregnancy, childbirth, termination of pregnancy, or lactation, medical conditions related thereto, or recovery therefrom.

**Programs and Activities** include a location, event, or circumstances where the College exercises substantial control over both the Respondent and the context in which the conduct occurs or in a building owned or controlled by a student organization recognized by the College.

<sup>1</sup> Not to be confused with those mandated by state law to report child abuse, elder abuse, and/or abuse of persons with disabilities to appropriate officials, though these responsibilities may overlap with those who have mandatory reporter responsibility under this policy.

**Reporter** is an individual who notifies the Title IX office of potential sex discrimination, sexbased harassment, sexual misconduct or retaliation. The reporter does not have to be the affected party or be involved in the incident to file a report.

**Respondent** is an individual alleged to have violated this policy.

**Third Party Report** is when someone who is not a mandatory reporter but who has information regarding someone else who may have experienced sex discrimination, sex-based harassment, sexual misconduct or retaliation reports that information. To make a third party report, the individual should contact a member of the Title IX office or submit a Title IX reporting form. Upon receipt of that information, Title IX staff will make a preliminary inquiry, which may include contacting the alleged victim, to determine whether further action is warranted.

**Title IX Coordinator** is the administrator who is identified and authorized as the College employee with the primary responsibility for coordinating the College's efforts to comply with and carry out its responsibilities under Title IX. The Title IX Coordinator or deputy are available to meet with students and employees regarding these issues as needed. The Title IX Coordinator may delegate duties as necessary or appropriate. Therefore, any reference regarding duties to be performed under this policy should be read to also include the Title IX Coordinators "designee" as appropriate.

Title IX Coordinator Eric Kulberg, Ph.D. (603) 427-7667 ekulberg@ccsnh.edu

**Title IX Team** is comprised of decision makers, appellate decision makers, deputy Title IX Coordinators, and investigators. These members are selected by the Title IX Coordinator in consultation with the CCSNH Title IX Coordinator. The Title IX team is trained annually and the training materials are available upon request.

**Prohibited Conduct** under the purview of this policy includes the following<sup>2</sup>:

**A. Sex Discrimination:** Different treatment with respect to a person's employment or participation in an education program or activity based, in whole or in part, upon the person's actual or perceived sex.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The definitions of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking used in this policy are consistent with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Safety Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (Clery Act). On June 10, 2024, the Department of Education Office for Civil Rights Program Legal Group responded to an inquiry about the inconsistencies between the 2024 Title IX regulatory definitions and the Clery Act regulatory definitions for sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking. The response stated in part "OCR...advises that to prevent unnecessary confusion and for ease of use, recipients that must comply with Title IX and the Clery Act can use the definitions in the Clery Act regulations for these purposes". The College makes decisions regarding responsibility for policy violations through its own procedures and standards of proof (preponderance of evidence standard), not through the definitions, procedures, or standards of proof employed by the criminal justice system.

- **a. Disparate Treatment Discrimination:** Any intentional differential treatment of a person or persons that is based on a persons actual or perceived sex and that:
  - Excludes a person from participation in;
  - Denies a person benefits of; or
- Otherwise adversely affects a term of condition of a person's participation in a College program or activity.
  - **b. Disparate Impact Discrimination:** Disparate impact occurs when policies or practices that appear to be neutral unintentionally result in disproportionate impact on the basis of sex that:
    - Excluded a person from participation in;
    - Denies a person benefits of; or
- Otherwise adversely affects a term of condition of a person's participation in a College program or activity.
  - **B.** Sex-Based Harassment: A form of sex discrimination and sexual harassment and other harassment on the basis of sex<sup>3</sup>, including sex stereotypes, sex characteristics, pregnancy, or related conditions, sexual orientation, and gender identity, sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking.
    - 1. **Quid Pro Quo:** An employee agent or other person authorized by the College to provide an aid, benefit, or service under the College's education program or activity, explicitly or impliedly conditioning the provision of such aid, benefit, or service on a person's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct
    - 2. **Hostile Environment Harassment:** Unwelcome sex-based conduct that, based on the totality of the circumstances, is subjectively and objectively offensive and is so severe or pervasive that it limits or denies a person's ability to participate in or benefit from the College's education program or activity.<sup>4</sup>
    - 3. **Sexual Assault:** Conduct defined as follows by the FBI NIBRS program definitions: a. **Rape**<sup>5</sup>
      - i. The carnal knowledge of a person (i.e. penile-vaginal penetration), without the consent of that person, including instances where the person is incapable of giving consent because of their age or because of their temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity (it should be noted that females or males could be Complainants under this definition);
      - ii. Oral or anal sexual intercourse (i.e. penile penetration) with another person, without the consent of that person, including instances where the person is incapable of giving consent because of their age or

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> "On the basis of sex" means conduct that is sexual in nature or directed at the complainant because of their actual or perceived sex or gender identity.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The College reserves the right to address offensive conduct and/or harassment that does not rise to the level of creating a hostile environment or that is of a generic nature and not prohibited by law. Addressing such conduct will not result in the imposition of discipline under this policy, but may be addressed through educational conversations, remedial actions, education, and/or informal resolution mechanisms.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Both completed rape and attempted rape are prohibited by this policy

because of their temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity;

- iii. To use an object or instrument (i.e. an inanimate object or body part other than a penis) to unlawfully penetrate, however slightly, the genital or anal opening of the body of another person, without the consent of that person, including instances where the person is incapable of giving consent because of their age or because of their temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity;
- b. **Fondling:** The touching of the private body parts of another person for the purposes of sexual gratification, without the consent of that person, including instances where the person is incapable of giving consent because of their age or because of their temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity (for the purpose of this definition, "private body parts" include breasts, buttocks, or genitals whether clothes or unclothed);
- c. **Incest:** Sexual intercourse between persons who are related to each other within the degrees wherein marriage is prohibited by New Hampshire law;
- d. **Statutory Rape:** Sexual intercourse with a person who is under the statutory age of consent (In NH, the age is 16 unless two parties are legally married. A teenager under 13 cannot consent to any sexual contact. Between 13 and 16 may consent when their partner is less than four years older than they are).
- 4. **Dating Violence:** Violence<sup>6</sup> on the basis of sex committed by a person who is in or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the Complainant.
  - i. The existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on the Complainants statement and with consideration of the length/type of relationship and the frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.
    - 1. Dating violence includes, but is not limited to, sexual or physical abuse or threat of such abuse.
    - 2. Dating violence does not include acts covered under the definition of domestic violence.
- 5. **Domestic Violence**<sup>7</sup>: Felony or misdemeanor crimes committed on the basis of sex committed by a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the Complainant, by a person with whom the Complainant shares a child in common, or by a person who is or has been cohabitating with the Complainant as a spouse or intimate partner or by a person similarly situated to a spouse under the domestic or family violence laws of

<sup>7</sup> To categorize an incident as domestic violence, the relationship between the Respondent and Complainant must be more than just two people living together as roommates. The people cohabitating must be current or former spouses or have an intimate relationship.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> For the purposes of this policy, violence is defined as intentionally or recklessly causing physical, emotional, or psychological harm. Legitimate use of violence in self-defense is not chargeable under this policy if the purpose if safety, not harm. Consensual use of violence, such as in kink relationships, would also not meet this definition, in most circumstances.

the state of New Hampshire or by any other person against an adult of youth Complainant who is protected from that person's acts under domestic or family violence laws of the state of New Hampshire.

6. **Stalking**: Engaging in a course of conduct<sup>8</sup> on the basis of sex directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for the person's safety or the safety of others or suffer substantial emotional distress. For the purposes of this definition, course of conduct means two or more acts including but not limited to acts in which the Respondent directly, indirectly, or through third parties by any action, method, device, or other means follows, monitors, observes, surveils, threatens, or communicates to or about a person or interferes with a person's property. Reasonable person means a reasonable person under similar circumstances and with similar identities to the Complainant. Substantial emotional distress means significant mental suffering or anguish that may but does not necessarily require medical or other professional treatment or counseling.

**Sexual Misconduct** is defined under NH RSA 188-H as all forms of sexual harassment under Title IX, Title VII or State law and any other incident of sexual violence, gender-based violence, or violence based on sexual orientation or gender identity or expression.

- A. **Sexual Exploitation** is an individual taking non-consensual or abusive sexual advantage of another for their own benefit or for the benefit of anyone other than the person being exploited that does not constitute sex-based harassment as defined above. Examples of behavior that could constitute sexual exploitation include but are not limited to the following:
  - a. Recording or capturing through any means images (i.e. video, photography) or audio of another person's sexual activity, intimate body parts, or nudity without that person's knowledge and consent;
  - b. Distributing or sharing images (i.e. video, photography) or audio of another person's sexual activity, intimate body parts, or nudity without that person's consent;
  - c. Viewing or allowing others to view another person's sexual activity, intimate body parts, or nudity in a place where that person would have a reasonable expectation of privacy without that persons consent;
  - d. Engaging in sex trafficking and/or prostituting another person;
  - e. Knowingly making an unwelcome disclosure or threatening to disclose an individuals sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression;
  - f. Engaging in sexual behavior with knowledge of an illness or disease (HIV or STI) that could be transmitted by the behavior without disclosing that to the other person prior to sexual relations;
- g. Causing or attempting to cause the incapacitation of another person through alcohol, drugs or other means for the purpose of compromising that person's

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> For the purposes of this definition, a 'course of conduct' requires more than one incident and conduct directed at a specific person. Merely annoying conduct, even if repeated, may be a nuisance but is not typically chargeable as stalking.

ability to give consent to sexual activity or to make that person vulnerable to non- sexual activity;

- h. Misappropriation of another person's identity online or in person in situations designed for dating or sexual connections;
- i. Creating and/or disseminating synthetic images (i.e. video, photography) or audio of an individual's sexual activity, intimate body parts, or nudity without that person's consent.
- B. **Retaliation** is intimidating, threatening, coercing, or discriminating against any individual for the purpose of interfering with any right or privilege secured by Title IX or its implementing regulations, this policy, or because the individual has made a report or complaint, testified, assisted, or participated or refused to participate in any manner in an investigation, informal resolution, proceeding, or hearing regarding prohibited conduct.

  Retaliation is strictly prohibited.

Intimidation, threats, coercion, or discrimination including charges against an individual for code of conduct violations that do not involve sex discrimination or sexual harassment but arise out of the same facts/circumstances as a report/complaint of sex discrimination, report, or formal complaint of sexual harassment for the purpose of interfering with any right or privilege secured by Title IX or its implementing regulations constitutes retaliation. This includes any adverse action taken against a person because they made a good faith report of prohibited conduct or participated in any proceeding under this policy.

Retaliation may include intimidation, threats, coercion, harassment, or adverse employment or educational actions that would discourage a reasonable person from engaging in activities protected under this policy. Charging an individual with a code of conduct violation for making a materially false statement in bad faith in the course of a grievance process under this policy does not constitute prohibited retaliation, provided however, that a determination regarding responsibility is not alone sufficient to establish that any party made a materially false statement in bad faith. The College will not engage in, and will investigate and address, reports of retaliatory conduct. The exercise of rights protected under the First Amendment does not constitute retaliation.

Any person who believed that they have been subjected to such retaliation should report their concerns to the Title IX Coordinator. Such reports will be handled under the process outlined below. Retaliation under this policy may be found whether or not the underlying complaint is ultimately found to have merit.

C. **Unauthorized Disclosure**<sup>9</sup> is distributing or otherwise publicizing materials created or produced during an investigation or resolution process except as required by law or as

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> This does not restrict either party from obtaining and presenting evidence or restrict them from speaking to witnesses (as long as it does not constitute retaliation under this policy), consult with their family members, confidential resources or advisors, or otherwise prepare for or participate in the resolution process.

expressly permitted by the College or publicly disclosing a party's personally identifiable information without authorization or consent.

# Consent<sup>10</sup>

Consent for sexual activity is clear indication, either through verbal or physical actions, that parties are willing and active participants in sexual activity. Such authorization must be made free of force, threat, intimidation or coercion and must be given actively and knowingly in a state of mind that is conscious, rational, and not compromised by alcohol or drug incapacitation. Only a person of legal age can consent.

Consent to one form of sexual contact does not constitute consent to all forms of sexual contact, nor does consent to sexual activity with one person constitute consent to activity with any other person. Each participant in a sexual encounter much consent to each form of sexual contact with each participant. Going beyond boundaries of consent is prohibited. Engaging in activities such as slapping, hitting, hair pulling, strangulations, or other physical roughness without obtaining consent may constitute dating violence or sexual assault<sup>11</sup>.

Incapacitation due to alcohol or drugs is where an individual cannot make an informed and rational decision to engage in sexual activity because they lack conscious knowledge of the nature of the act (understanding the who, what, when, where, why, or how of the sexual interaction) and/or is physically helpless. An individual is incapacitated, and therefore unable to give consent, if they're asleep, unconscious, or otherwise unaware that sexual activity is occurring.

Where alcohol or other drugs are involved, incapacitation is a state beyond drunkenness or intoxication. The impact of alcohol and other drugs varies from person to person, however, warning sings that a person may be approaching incapacitation may include slurred speech, vomiting, unsteady gait, odor of alcohol, combativeness, or emotional volatility.

In evaluating whether a lack of consent due to incapacitation is present in a particular case, the College will use the objective standard of whether the Respondent knew or whether a sober, reasonable person in the Respondent position should have known based of the reasonably apparent indications of incapacitation that the other person was incapacitated.

Coercion is unreasonable pressure for sexual activity when someone makes it clear they do not want to engage in sexual activity, that they want to stop, or that they do not want to go past a certain point of sexual interaction and the continued pressure is sufficiently severe. Coercion is evaluated based on frequency, intensity, isolation, and duration of the pressure involved.

Consent must still be attained even if:

<sup>10</sup> As included for Clery/VAWA Sec. 304 compliance purposes, the NH state definition of consent, which is applicable to criminal prosecutions for sex offenses, may differ from the definition used by the College to address policy violations.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Consent in the context of the relationship is considered. When parties consent to certain forms of kink, non-consent may be shown by the use of a safe word. Resistance, force, violence, or even saying "non" may be apart of the kink and may be consensual. The totality of the circumstances will be evaluated.

- The Respondent is someone known by the Complainant
- Either or both individuals have engaged in consensual sexual activity with each other previously
- Either of both individuals are under the influence of alcohol or drugs
- There was no weapon involved
- There was no evidence of a struggle or resistance
- There are no other witnesses

### Online Sexual Harassment and/or Retaliation

These policies are written and interpreted to include online manifestations of any of the prohibited behaviors listed above when those behaviors occur in or have an effect on the complainants education program and activities or when they use the College's network, technology, or equipment. The College does not and cannot control websites, social media, and other venues through which harassing communication can be made but will respond to such reports and engage in a variety of means to address and mitigate the effects.

Any online posting or other electronic communication by students including cyber-bullying, cyber-stalking, cyber harassment, etc. occurring completely outside of the College's control (not on College network, websites, or between school email accounts) will only be subject to this policy when such online conduct can be shown to cause a substantial in-program disruption. This policy is not intended to infringe upon or limit a person's rights to free speech. Supportive measures for complainants can be provided, but legally protected speech cannot be subjected to discipline.

Off-campus harassing speech by employees, whether online or in person, may be regulated by the College only when such speech is made in an employee's official or work-related capacity.

# **Inclusion Related to Gender Identity/Expression**

CCSNH strives to ensure that all individuals are safe, included, and respected in their work and learning environments regardless of their gender identity or expression. This includes intersex, nonbinary, transgender, agender, two-spirit, and gender-diverse students and employees. Discrimination and harassment on the basis of gender identity or expression is not tolerated by CCSNH. If a member of the community believed they have been subjected to discrimination under this policy, they should follow the reporting steps outlined below.

In upholding the principles of equity and inclusion, CCSNH supports the full integration and healthy development of those who are transgender, transitioning, nonbinary, or gender-diverse and seek to eliminate any stigma related to gender identify any expression. CCSNH is committed to fostering a climate where all identities are valued, which contributes to a more vibrant and diverse community. As our societies understanding of gender evolves, so do CCSNH processes and policies.

Misgendering or mispronouncing is the intentional or unintentional use of pronouns or identifiers that are different from those used by an individual. Unintentional misgendering can often be resolved with an apology if someone clarifies their pronouns. Intentional misgendering is

inconsistent with the type of community CCSNH upholds and may constitute a policy violation if the effect is greater than *de minimis* harm.

Deadnaming can be harmful to a person who is transgender, transitioning nonbinary, or genderdiverse. This is using someone's birth assigned name rather than the name they have chosen for themselves. Unintentional deadnaming can also often be resolved with an apology and an effort to use the persons chosen name. Intentional deadnaming could be a form of harassment.

This policy should be interpreted to be consistent with the goals of maximizing inclusion of students and employees. This includes maintaining the privacy of all individuals consistent with law and ensuring students and employees have equal access to all educational programs, activities, and facilities, including restrooms and locker rooms. When conflicts arise between the rights of those in our community to be free from gender identity discrimination and those exercising their right to religious freedom, the College will try to balance rights and interests to find mutually agreeable outcomes/compromises. When that is not possible, the College will offer solutions or enforce policy as needed.

### **PROCEDURES**

### 1. CONTACT INFORMATION

Anyone may seek advice, information, or guidance on sexual or gender-based misconduct by contacting the Title IX Coordinator:

Title IX Coordinator Eric Kulberg, Ph.D. (603) 427-7667 ekulberg@ccsnh.edu

# 2. IMMIEDIATE RESPONSES TO SEXUAL OR GENDER-BASED MISCONDUCT COVERED BY THIS POLICY

The College recognizes that Complainants can choose whether or not they wish to make a report of misconduct covered by this policy. There may be circumstances where the College decides to proceed with an investigation or disciplinary action where deemed necessary, despite the wishes of the Complainant.

Once an incident or complaint of sexual or gender-based misconduct is reported to the Title IX Coordinator, they will inform the Complainant of the options of criminal prosecution, medical assistance, the use of this policy to file a complaint or report, and other information detailed below.

The Title IX Coordinator, public safety, and/or other College personnel will assist the Complainant with these contacts if requested. In addition, confidential counseling, support services, academic assistance, future security, and alternative housing (for students) can be coordinated as appropriate through the Title IX Coordinator.

The College recognizes that making the decision to report often takes time. Nevertheless, pending the decision to report, students are strongly encouraged to take immediate steps to preserve all evidence that might support a future report. Such steps may include:

- Obtaining a forensic sexual assault examination (before 120 hours or as soon as possible)
- Preserving any clothing, sheets, or other materials (items containing bodily fluids should be stored in cardboard boxes or paper bags)
- Preserving any related electronic communications (text messages, emails, Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, TikTok, or other social media posts to the extent that the can be captured/preserved
- Preserving any photographs (including stored on smartphones or other devices)
- Preserving any voicemail messages and other physical, documentary, and/or electronic data that might be helpful or relevant in an investigation

Contact information for immediate response resources include the following:

- PUBLIC SAFETY CONTACT INFO

GBCC Campus Safety (603) 427-7679

- TITLE IX COORDINATOR

Title IX Coordinator Eric Kulberg, Ph.D. (603) 427-7667 <a href="mailto:ekulberg@ccsnh.edu">ekulberg@ccsnh.edu</a>

- LOCAL HOSPITAL CONTACT INFO

Portsmouth Regional Hospital 333 Borthwick Ave Portsmouth, NH 03801 (603) 436-5110

Frisbie Memorial Hospital 11 Whitehall Road Rochester, NH 03867 (603) 332-5211

- LOCAL DV/SV AGENCY CONTACT INFO

HAVEN

20 International Drive #300 Portsmouth, NH 03801

(603) 994-7233

### LOCAL PD CONTACT INFO

Portsmouth Police 3 Junkins Ave Portsmouth, NH 03801 (603) 427-1500

Rochester Police 23 Wakefield Street Rochester, NH 03867 (603) 330-7127

### 3. EMERGNECY REMOVAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE LEAVE

# A. Emergency Removal in Title IX Cases

The College can act to remove a respondent entirely or partially from its educational program or activities (including College employment) on an emergency basis when an individualized violence risk assessment has determined that an immediate threat to the physical health or safety of any student or other individual justifies removal. See violence risk assessment section of policy.

The CCSNH Director of Risk Management will review requests for an emergency removal from the Title IX Coordinator as well as review the violence risk assessment to make a determination under this policy to implement or stay an emergency removal and to determine the conditions and duration of said emergency removal. Violation of an emergency removal under this policy will be grounds for discipline, which may include expulsion or termination.

In all cases in which an emergency removal is imposed, the respondent will be given notice of the action and the option to request to meet (in person or virtually) with the CCSNH Director of Risk Management as soon thereafter as reasonably possible to show why the order of removal should be revoked/modified. This meeting is not a hearing on the merits of the allegations. If this meeting is not requested within 48 hours of an issuance of a decision, objections to the emergency removal will be deemed waived. A respondent can later request a meeting to show why they are no longer an imminent and/or serious threat because conditions have changed. A complainant and their advisor may participate in this meeting if the Title IX Coordinator determines it may be equitable to do so. Either party may provide information, including expert reports, witness statements, or other communications for consideration. The CCSNH Director of Risk Management will communicate a final decision in writing within three (3) business days of either of these meetings.

A respondent may be accompanied by an advisor of their choice when meeting with the CCSNH Director of Risk Management. The respondent will be given access to a written summary of the basis for the emergency removal prior to the meeting to allow for adequate preparation.

At the discretion of the Title IX Coordinator and where deemed appropriate, alternative coursework options may be pursued to promote a respondent's access to College academic programs.

The Title IX Coordinator may determine emergency actions outside of removal, including but not limited to, removing a student from a residence hall, restricting student access to or use of facilities or equipment, allowing a student to withdraw or take an incomplete without financial penalty, dismissing or suspending a student from extracurricular activities, student employment, student organizational leadership, or intercollegiate/intramural athletics.

The Title IX Coordinator may also recommend actions such as temporarily re-assigning an employee and/or restricting employee access to or use of facilities/equipment to the CCSNH Director of Human Resource who will present to the College President and/or CCSNH Chancellor to decide on.

# **B.** Suspension or Administrative Leave in Title IX Cases

The College always maintains the discretion to place an employee Respondent on suspension or administrative leave during the pendency of an investigation and resolution process as outlined below. The Title IX Coordinator may recommend this action to the CCSNH Director of Human resources who will present to the College President and/or CCSNH Chancellor to decide on.

The College may place student-employee Respondents on administrative leave from their employment during the pendency of an investigation and resolution process where deemed appropriate as a supportive measure and under circumstances where it would not unreasonably burden the student-employee Respondent. Any such decision shall be made in compliance with any applicable disability laws, including the Americans with Disabilities Act and the NH Law Against Discrimination.

### 4. REPORTING OPTIONS

CCSNH encourages individuals to report incidents covered under this policy so that they can get the support they need and the College can respond appropriately while maintaining a safe and secure campus. Although strict confidentiality may not be guaranteed, in all cases the College will handle information in a sensitive manner and will endeavor to protect the privacy of individuals to the extent it can do so consistent with its obligations to respond to reports of sexual or gender-based misconduct.

This section is intended to inform students, faculty, staff, and covered third parties of the confidential and non-confidential reporting avenues available so that they can make informed choices about where to go for assistance. On campus, some resources may maintain confidentiality and are not required to report actual or suspected discrimination or harassment. They may offer options and resources without any obligation to inform an outside agency or campus official unless a complainant has requested the information be shared.

If a complainant expects formal action in response to their allegations, reporting to any non-confidential resource can connect them with resources to report crimes and/or policy violations

and these mandatory reporters will promptly pass reports to the Title IX Coordinator (and/or police if desired by complainant), who will take action as provided in this policy.

# A. Confidential Resources and Confidentiality

If an individual would like to confidentially report an alleged violation of this policy, they should contact a confidential resource. A confidential resource is an individual who is legally and ethically bound to keep confidential all information shared with them on the course of providing counsel and support, except under the circumstances noted below.

In general, the law recognizes and protects the confidentiality of communications between a person seeking care and a medical or mental health professional, religious advisor, or trained sexual assault advocate. The medical, mental health, and religious professionals (individuals acting in their religious professional capacity through a College office) at the College respect and protect confidential communications from students faculty, and staff to the extent they are legally able to do so. These professionals may have to breach confidence when they perceive a serious risk of danger or threat to any person or property. In addition, medical and mental health professionals may be required by law to report certain crimes (such as allegations of sexual and/or physical abuse of any person under 18).

An individual who speaks to a confidential resource must understand that if they want to maintain confidentiality, the College will be unable to conduct an investigation into the particular incident or pursue disciplinary action against the alleged perpetrator. However, confidential resources may assist the individual in receiving supportive measures or other forms of protection and support, such as victim advocacy, academic accommodations, disability, health, or metal health services, and changes to living, working, or transportation arrangements.

### LOCAL DV/SV AGENCY CONTACT INFO

HAVEN 20 International Drive #300 Portsmouth, NH 03801 (603) 994-7233

Campus Resource Advisors: New Hampshire State law §188-H:7 permits CCSNH to establish confidential resource advisors. These are privileged individuals designated by the College that are not required to notify the College Title IX Coordinator or a law enforcement agency when they learn about potential incidents of sexual misconduct.

Confidential resource advisors receive training in the awareness and prevention of sexual misconduct and trauma-informed response. The designated confidential resource advisor for GBCC is HAVEN.

April 2024 Title IX regulations contemplate that certain information will generally be treated as confidential except as qualified by statements in those regulations. For

example, the regulations provide that colleges must maintain as confidential any supportive measure provided to complainant or respondent to the extent that maintaining such confidentiality would not impair the ability of the institutions to provide the supportive measures. The regulations also provide that colleges must keep confidential the identify of any individual who has made a report or complaint of sex discrimination, including any individual who has made a report or filed a formal complaint of sex based harassment, any individual who has reported to be the perpetrator of sex discrimination, any complainant, any respondent, and any witness except as may be permitted by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) 20 U.S.C. 1232g, or FERPA regulations 34 CFR part 99, or required by law, or to carry out the purposes of Title IX regulations including conduct of any investigation, hearing or judicial proceeding arising under those regulations.

# B. Reporting and Non-Confidential Resources

Conduct prohibited by this policy may be reported by using any of the following options:

1.) Utilizing the online reporting form which can be found at <a href="https://www.greatbay.edu/incident-report-form/">https://www.greatbay.edu/incident-report-form/</a>. Reporting via this online form allows the College to reach out to the reporter and/or complainant to request further information, offer supportive measures, and information about resolution options.

This does not obligate a complainant to participate in a resolution process. CCSNH strives to respect a complainant's wishes regarding the pursuit of formal resolution procedures unless there appears to be, for example, a compelling threat to their/the community's health and/or safety. The complainant is largely in control and should not fear loss of privacy by making a report that allows the College to discuss the matter with them and/or provide supportive measures. If an online reporting form is completed anonymously with no identifying information for the complainant, the College's ability to offer supportive measures, appropriately investigate the incident, and/or pursue disciplinary action against the alleged may be limited.

2.) Report, give verbal notice of formal complaint, or file a formal complaint with the Title IX Coordinator. Such a report may be made at any time (including non-business hours) by using the telephone number, email address, or mailing address listed for the Title IX Coordinator or any other listed official. Directly contact the Title IX Coordinator at the following contact information:

Eric Kulberg, Ph.D. (603) 427-7667 ekulberg@ccsnh.edu

3.) Reporting to a mandatory reporter: all CCSNH employees are deemed mandatory reporters for purposes of this policy. Mandatory Reporters include any administrator, supervisor, and faculty member who does not have a statutory privilege of confidentiality by law or who has not otherwise been designated as a confidential resource advisor. Mandatory reporters who learn of an incident of sexual or gender-based misconduct involving a student or employee are required to report that

information to the Title IX Coordinator as soon as possible. Mandatory reporters who themselves are a target of discrimination, harassment, or other misconduct under this policy are not required to report their own experience, though encouraged to do so. If a Mandatory Reporter fails to comply/report an incident or interferes with an investigation, that employee may be subject to disciplinary action. General inquires to mandatory reporters about policies and procedures and conversations where the alleged perpetrator is not named or implied from the circumstances would not constitute reports for the purpose of this policy. These types of inquires should nonetheless be directed to the Title IX Coordinator.

**Time Limits on Reporting:** There is no time limitation on reporting or providing notice/complaints to the College. However, if the respondent is no longer subject to the College's jurisdiction or if significant time has passed, the ability to investigate, respond, and/or provide remedies may be limited.

## C. Disclosure to Mandatory Reporters

When a mandatory reporter learns of an incident that could constitute sexual or gender-based misconduct involving a student, faculty, staff, or covered third party, the mandatory reporter must report available information about the incident to the Title IX Coordinator as soon as possible as outlined above. Information reported to a mandatory reporter will be shared with others only to the extent necessary to respond to the situation and support the parties and in accordance with state/federal law.

# D. When a Complainant Does Not Wish to Proceed/Requests Confidentiality

If an individual discloses an incident of sex-based harassment and/or sexual misconduct to a mandatory reporter but does not wish for their information to be shared, does not wish for an investigation, or does not wish for a formal complaint to be pursued, the College will make every effort to respect this request and will evaluate the request against its responsibility to provide a safe, non-discriminatory environment for all students, faculty, and staff, including the complainant. As previously noted, there are times the College may not be able to honor this type of request.

If the College honors a confidentiality request, the College's ability to appropriately investigate the incident and pursue disciplinary action against the alleged may be limited. The College designates its Title IX Coordinator as the individual responsible for evaluating confidentiality requests with the ability to consult as necessary with other College officials such as public safety or other threat assessment officials. The Title IX Coordinators decision could, for example, be based on results of a violence risk assessment that indicates there appears to be a compelling risk to health and/or safety and requires the College to pursue formal action to protect the community. Factors that may be considered in determining whether confidentiality should be maintained may include nut are not limited to:

- The increased risk that the alleged perpetrator will commit additional acts of prohibited conduct or other violence such as:

- 1. Whether there have been other prohibited conduct complaints about the same alleged perpetrator;
- 2. Whether the alleged perpetrator has a history of arrests or records from a prior institution indicating a history of violence;
- 3. Whether the alleged prohibited conduct was allegedly committed by multiple alleged perpetrators;
- 4. Circumstances that suggest there is an increased risk of future acts of prohibited conduct.
- Whether the alleged prohibited conduct was allegedly perpetrated or facilitated with a weapon; and
- Whether the alleged victim is a minor.

The presence of one or more of these factors or other factors as deemed appropriate may prompt an investigation and adjudication under the College's policies and may result in disciplinary action. If none of these factors are present, the College will likely honor the individual's request for confidentiality. The Title IX Coordinator must also consider the effect that non-participation by the Complainant may have on the availability of evidence and the College's ability to pursue a formal grievance process fairly and effectively.

When the Title IX Coordinator signs a formal complaint, they do not become the complainant. The complainant is the individual who is alleged to be the victim of the conduct that would constitute a violation of this policy.

# E. If Confidentiality is Requested but Cannot be Maintained

If the College determines that it cannot maintain an individuals request for confidentiality, the College will inform the reported complainant prior to conducting an investigation (unless extenuating circumstances are present). CCSNH will not require the reported complainant to participate in any investigation or disciplinary proceeding. The complainant may have as much or as little involvement in the process as they wish. The complainant retains all rights of a complainant under this policy irrespective of their level of participation. The College will, however provide certain notices to the complainant regarding the status of the investigation as required by the 2024 Title IX regulations. If the complainant chooses not to participate in a matter covered by the Title IX harassment procedures outlined below, the College will appoint an Advisor to conduct on behalf of the complainant cross-examination of the respondent and any witnesses at any hearing held regarding the matter.

When responding to reports, if the College determines it is obligated to take any action that would involve disclosing a reporting individual and/or complainants identity to the respondent or take an action from which the reporting individual and/or complainant may be easily determined by the respondent, the individual and/or complainant will be informed before the action is taken unless extenuating circumstances are present. If the individual requests that the respondent be informed that they requested that there be no

investigation or disciplinary action, the College will endeavor to honor this request and inform the respondent that the College made the decision to investigate this matter.

The College will offer supportive measures as described below when requested and reasonably available that are designed to prevent and address retaliation against individuals whose requests for confidentiality have not been honored and to respond to their needs for support, services, and accommodations. Note that the College's ability to remedy and respond to a report may be limited if the complainant does not want the College to proceed with an investigation and/or grievance process. The goal is to provide the complainant with as much control over the process as possible while balancing the College's obligation to protect its community.

# F. When Confidentiality Can be Maintained

If the College determines that it can respect the individuals request for confidentiality, the College will offer informal resolution options, supportive measures, and remedies below to the complainant and the community to the extent possible where such measures are requested and reasonably available. If the complainant initially requests that the College take no action, they can change that decision if they decide to pursue a formal complaint at a later date. Upon making a formal complaint, the complainant has the right and can expect to have allegations taken seriously by the College and to have incidents investigated and properly resolved through these procedures.

# G. Disclosure During Internal Investigations and Adjudications and Unauthorized Disclosure of Information

Consistent with 2024 Title IX regulations and required confidentiality provisions described above, the College will handle information related to alleged violations of this policy with sensitivity and discretion. However, the College may need to disclose information relating to an incident (including the identity of parties, witnesses, or others) to the extent necessary to conduct a fair, thorough, and impartial investigation and adjudication process for all involved parties.

Parties and advisors are prohibited from unauthorized disclosure of information obtained by the College through the resolution process to the extent that information is the work product of the College (produced, compiled, or written by the College for the purposes of investigation and resolution of a complaint). It is also a violation of College policy to publicly disclose work product or a party's personally identifiable information without authorization or consent. Violation of this policy is subject to sanction.

# H. Timely Warnings and Disclosure Required by Law and Federal Statistical Reporting Obligations

Parties reporting sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and/or stalking should be aware that under the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (Clery Act), the College must issue timely warnings for

incidents reported to them that pose a serious or ongoing threat to the campus community. The College will ensure that a complainant's name and other identifying information is not disclosed while still providing enough information for community members to make safety decisions in light of any serious or ongoing threat. Additionally, the College will not include the names of complainants, respondents, or other identifying information in publicly available reported that are complied as required by the Clery Act.

Clery officers are also required to report all Violence Against Women Act enacted in 1994 and codified in part at 42 U.S.C. sections 13701 through 14040 crimes, which include sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. All personally identifying information is kept private but statistical information regarding type of incident and general location (on or off campus) must be shared with the campus Clery officer for publication in the annual security report.

### I. Disclosure to Law Enforcement

In certain circumstances, the College may need to report an incident to law enforcement authorities. Such circumstances include, but are not limited to, incidents that warrant the undertaking of safety and security measures for the protection of the individual and/or campus community or situations in which there is a clear and imminent danger and/or a weapon may be involved. Complainants may choose to notify authorities directly with or without the College's assistance or may choose not to notify such authorities.

### 5. SUPPORTIVE MEASURES

Students and employees seeking services and/or accommodations in connect with issues related to potential prohibited conduct (collectively "supportive measures") should direct their requests to a confidential resource or the Title IX Coordinator. Their request will be evaluated and responded to by the Title IX Coordinator or designee after consultation as needed with other College officials. As noted in the confidentiality section above, the College will maintain as confidential any supportive measures to the extent possible while allowing for implementation of such requests.

It is not necessary to file a formal complaint, participate in an adjudication process, or file a criminal complaint in order to request supportive measures from the College. Both complainants and respondents may request and receive supportive measures which are non-disciplinary, non-punitive individualized services offered as appropriate, as available, and without fee or charge. Violations of certain supportive measures may be referred to the conduct office for processing.

Supportive measures may include but are not limited to:

• Educational Conversations which allow the Title IX Coordinator to address allegations with the respondent in a meeting to discuss concerning behavior and institutional policies/expectations. These are non-disciplinary and non-punitive. Respondents are not required to attend such meetings or compelled to provide any information if they attend.

The Title IX Coordinator will update the complainant after the conversation is held and the complainant may be satisfied and chose to not pursue the report further or chose to file a formal complaint to initiate the resolution process. If the complainant is satisfied with the results of the educational conversation but later the alleged behavior persists, they may discuss with the Title IX Coordinator additional options and/or file a formal complaint to initiate the resolution process;

- Mutual no contact orders restricting communications between parties;
- Campus no trespass orders;
- Academic accommodations, including to not limited to, deadline extensions, excused absences, incompletes, course changes/late drops, or other arrangements as appropriate;
- If applicable based on each CCSNH campus, residential accommodations including but not limited to, arranging for temporary housing assignment or new housing assignment as appropriate;
- Changing transportation or work arrangements or providing other employment accommodations as appropriate;
- Public Safety campus escort services (as available) and safety planning steps;
- Assisting the individual in accessing support services including (as available) victim advocacy, academic support, counseling, disability, health or mental health services, visa/immigration assistance, student financial aid services, and legal assistance both on and off campus as applicable;
- Informing the individual of the right to report a crime to local law enforcement and/or seek orders of protection, restraining orders, or relief from abuse orders from courts in the United States or courts outside of the United States as applicable, and providing assistance if the individual wishes to do so. The College will also work with complainants and others as appropriate to respect such orders on premises that it owns or controls, as necessary and appropriate.

Both parties are provided with a timely opportunity to seek modification or reversal of the Title IX Coordinator's decision to provide, deny, modify, or terminate supportive measures applicable to them. These requests must be made in writing to the Title IX Coordinator. The CCSNH Director of Internal Audit or other designee appointed by the Title IX Coordinator will assess the request for if inconsistencies with the definition of supportive measures in § 106.2 of the Title IX Regulations and determine if supportive measures need to be provided, denied, modified, or terminated. The College will also provide the parties the opportunity to seek additional modification or termination of supportive measures applicable to them if circumstances change materially. The College will typically render decisions within seven (7) business days of receiving the written request. The decision will be provided in writing and provided to the impacted parties and Title IX Coordinator.

## 6. PURSUING A CRIMINAL COMPLAINT

In addition to or instead of College processes, any student, employee, or covered third party who wishes to report a complaint of sexual or gender-based misconduct under this policy has the option to pursue criminal charges with local, state, or federal law enforcement agencies. The

College will offer and upon request provide assistance to students, employees, and covered third parties in contacting law enforcement agencies. These options are available regardless of whether an individual chooses to file a complaint with the College. Individuals have the option to notify such agencies with or without the assistance of the College.

In addition, individuals may also have the right to pursue orders of protection, restraining orders, and/or relief from abuse orders from the court system. The College will respect such orders to the extent applicable. In addition, the College can also impose mutual no contact orders on students, employees, and third parties over whom it has some measure of control.

The Title IX Coordinator may agree to a short delay in its launch of a case if requested by the complainant and law enforcement to allow for evidence collection. The College's processes are not otherwise altered by a concurrent criminal/civil investigation as they are separate processes.

### 7. MEDICAL CARE AND EVIDENCE PRESERVATION

Any individual who may be experiencing or has experienced sexual or gender-based misconduct is encouraged to immediately seek any necessary medical care and to seek help from appropriate College law enforcement, and/or medical personnel even if the individual is uncertain about whether to ultimately pursue a complaint, criminal charges, or seek a protective order. It is important for individuals to preserve all possible evidence in case they decide at some point to file a report of any nature. Therefore, if at all possible, as noted above, individuals should refrain from changing clothes, showering or otherwise changing their physical state after an incident until after consulting with medical and/or law enforcement about how to best preserve evidence. Individuals should also preserve any available electronic evidence related in any way to potential prohibited conduct such as text messages, social media postings/messages, and audio/video recordings or photographs.

### 8. OTHER POLICY VIOLATIONS

If the report of misconduct covered by this policy also involves a report of misconduct prohibited by other College policies, the other misconduct will be investigated to the extent that they are related to the allegations of misconduct prohibited by this policy. The College will determine at its discretion whether other policy violations allegedly committed in circumstances related to alleged prohibited conduct will be investigated and resolved in an investigation performed under this policy, which the College reserves the right to do, or will be addressed through separate procedures. Allegations of all misconduct that will be subject to investigation and adjudication in the procedures outlined in this policy will be included in the Notice of Allegations and Investigation sent out to all parties.

### 9. UNETHICAL RELATIONSHIPS

There are inherent risks in any romantic or sexual relationship between persons in unequal positions, such as faculty member-student or supervisor-employee. Even when parties have initially consented to romantic or sexual involvement, the possibility of a later allegation of a relevant policy violation still exists. The College does not wish to interfere with private choices regarding personal relationships when these relationships do not interfere with the College's

goals and policies. However, for the personal protection of members of our community, relationships in which power differentials are inherent are generally discouraged. In instances of these relationships, consultations will be made to Humna Resources to determine if any applicable policy has been violated.

### 10. AMNESTY

The College's primary goal when responding to complaints involving students is safety, addressing the misconduct, and preventing it from recurring. A student should not hesitate to report due to a concern that the investigation process may indicate they was under the influence of alcohol or drugs at the time of the incident. Amnesty for violations of College policies on the personal use of alcohol and drugs will be provided to parties and witnesses engaged in the resolution process as long as they are acting in good faith. However, the College may provide purely educational options with no official disciplinary finding. Amnesty may not apply to more serious allegations such as physical abuse or drug distribution.

The College, at its discretion and in consultation with the CCSNH Director of Human Resources, may also offer employees amnesty from certain policy violations on a case-by-case basis.

Individuals should understand that the use of alcohol or drugs never makes them at fault for sexual misconduct, domestic or dating violence or misconduct, stalking, and/or related retaliation committed against them, nor does it mitigate accountability for committing these prohibited behaviors against another.

# 11. RECORD KEEPING

For a period of at least seven (7) years following the conclusion of a resolution process, the College will maintain records of:

- 1. Each sex discrimination, sex-based harassment, and retaliation resolution process documentation, including any final determination regarding responsibility or appeal, and any audio or audiovisual recordings or transcripts required under federal regulation;
- 2. Any disciplinary sanctions imposed on the respondent;
- Any supportive measures provided to the parties and any remedies
  provided to the complainant or the community designed to restore or
  preserve equal access to the College's education program or activity;
- 4. Any appeal and the result;
- 5. Any informal resolution and the result;
- 6. All materials used to train all members of the Title IX team, which will be available upon request;
- 7. All materials used to train employees consistent with the requirements of the 2024 Title IX regulations.
- 8. All records in compliance with NH:188H

Records all kept private/confidential in accordance with FERPA. All records are stored securely and electronically through Maxient software accessible only by the Title IX Coordinator,

CCSNH Title IX Coordinator, the CCSNH Director of Risk Management, and the CCSNH Director of Internal Audit.

Student parties may request access to their Title IX file in writing to the Title IX Coordinator. The Title IX Coordinator will provide a copy within forty five (45) days of the request with appropriate redactions of personally identifiable information of all other parties/witnesses.

### 12. ACCOMMODATIONS

The College is committed to providing reasonable accommodations and support to qualified students, employees, or others with disabilities to ensure equal access to the resolution process. Anyone needing such accommodations or support should contact the Title IX Coordinator who will work with the accessibility coordinator to review requests and determine which accommodations are appropriate/necessary for full process participation.

The College will also address reasonable requests for language services/interpreters, access assistance for the use of technology throughout the resolution process, and other supports deemed reasonable and necessary to facilitate participation in the resolution process.

### 13. PROVIDING FALSE INFORMATION

Intentionally making a false report or providing false information in connection with a report, investigation, or adjudication of a matter covered by this policy will not be tolerated. A complainant whose factual allegations are truthful to the best of the complainants knowledge but are not found by the College's process to substantiate a violation of this policy is not false information within the meaning of these guidelines. Students found to have intentionally provided false information will be subject to an investigation through the College conduct office.

### A. Counterclaims

The College is obligated to ensure that the grievance process is not abused for retaliatory purposes, thus counterclaims made with retaliatory intent will not be permitted. The college permits the filing of counterclaims but will assess the complaint for good faith. If what is alleged arises from the same set of facts as the original complainant, they may be investigated together at the discretion of the Title IX Coordinator. The counterclaim may also be investigated separately if arising from a different set of fact which can cause additional case delays.

### 14. RIGHT TO AN ADVISOR

All parties are entitled to an advisor of their choosing to guide and accompany them throughout a complaint resolution process. The advisor may be a friend, mentor, family member, attorney, or any other supporter a party chooses to advise them that is available <sup>12</sup>. The College maintains a pool of (non-attorney) advisors who are available to parties. A list of said advisors will be provided during the intake process. No College official is required to serve as an advisor if they

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> "Available" means a party cannot insist on an advisor who doesn't have the inclination, time or availability. The advisor cannot have institutionally inflicting roles. A party who chooses an advisor who is also a witness may anticipate issues of potential bias to be explored by the decision maker.

choose not to do so. Outside advisors can request to be trained by the College. Parties may elect to change advisors during the process by providing timely notification to the Title IX Coordinator. A new release must be submitted and consent to share information with the previous advisor is assumed to be terminated.

The parties may be accompanied by their advisor in all meetings and interviews at which the party is entitled to be present including intake, interviews, hearings, and appeals. The College cannot guarantee equal advisory rights, meaning that if one party selects an advisor who is an attorney but the other party does not or cannot afford an attorney advisor, the College is not obligated to provide one. All advisors are subject to the same requirements whether they are attorneys or not.

Advisors are not permitted to speak for, represent, appear in lieu of anyone, address any other party other than the one they are advising, or otherwise actively participate directly in a meeting, interview, or other proceeding unless given specific permission to do so. Parties are expected to ask and respond to questions on their own behalf throughout the resolution process. If a party requests to be fully represented by their attorney advisor, the College will comply at the discretion of the Title IX Coordinator.

Advisors may communicate with their advisee in a manner that is not disruptive to the meeting or proceeding at hand. For longer or more involved discussions, the party and their advisor should ask for breaks to allow for private conversation. Advisors may request to meet in advance of any interview or hearing with a member of Title IX staff for the purpose of answering general questions the advisor may have about the process.

Advisors are expected to refrain from interference with the investigation and resolution. Any advisor who steps out of their role or causes a disruption during the resolution process will be warned that they are doing so. If the advisor continues to disrupt or otherwise fails to respect the limits of their role, the advisor will be asked to leave the meeting. Subsequently, the Title IX Coordinator will determine whether or not the advisor may be reinstated.

Parties may wish to have the College share documentation and evidence related to the allegations with their advisors. Doing so may help the parties participate more meaningfully in the resolution process. The College provides a consent form that authorizes such sharing of documentation related to the allegations with their advisor of choice. Advisors are expected to maintain the privacy of records shared with them. These records may not be shared with third parties, disclosed publicly, or used for purposes not explicitly authorized by the College.

Additionally, communication regarding any resolution process will be directed towards the involved party and will not be done through the advisor except in circumstances in which the Title IX Coordinator has granted an exception for special circumstances. If a party requests that all communication be made through their attorney advisor instead of the party, the College will comply at the discretion of the Title IX Coordinator.

The College generally expects an advisor to adjust their schedule to allow them to attend meetings when planned, but may change scheduled meetings to accommodate an advisors

inability to attend as long as doing so does not cause an unreasonable delay. The College will make provisions to allow for alternative forms of meeting including telephone, video, & virtual meeting. A party may elect to change advisors during the process.

# 15. INVESTIGATION AND RESOLUTION PROCESS

When information about an incident of sex discrimination, sex-based harassment, and/or sexual misconduct is brought to the attention of Title IX staff, staff will promptly contact the complainant to arrange an intake meeting. At a promptly scheduled meeting and/or through initial communications with the complainant, the Title IX Coordinator will discuss and/or communicate the availability of supportive measures as defined, consider the complainants wishes with respect to supportive measures, and inform the complainant of the availability of supportive measures with or without filing a formal complaint. The Title IX Coordinator may be excused from carrying out their duties under this policy in the event of a conflict of interest or other legitimate reason. In the absence of the Title IX Coordinator, the Deputy Title IX Coordinator or CCSNH Title IX Coordinator will serve as acting Title IX Coordinator for the purposes of the specific case.

**Standard of Proof:** The College operates with the presumption that the respondent is not responsible for the reported misconduct unless and until through the applicable resolution process the respondent is determined to be responsible for a policy violation by a preponderance of the evidence (whether it is more likely than not that the respondent is in violation of the alleged policy violation).

Resolution proceedings are private. All persons present at any time during the resolution process are expected to maintain the privacy of the proceedings in accordance with College policy.

### A. Application to Employees

This policy and below procedures apply only to employee complaints when the allegations fall within the jurisdiction of Title IX. When allegations involving an employee complainant fall outside Title IX jurisdiction, the complaint/report will be sent to the CCSNH Human Resources Director who will consult with the College President and/or CCSNH Chancellor.

When an employee of the College is a party or witness to an investigation and resolution through this policy and its procedures, the employee shall have the right to have a representative who shall act as a consultant present in any and all related meetings. The Title IX Coordinator will coordinate with the CCSNH Director of Human Resources throughout the grievance process to ensure that any obligations under other applicable laws and regulations are met. Employees who are parties in Title IX matters will receive all of (but no more than) the rights that such employees must be provided under the 2024 Title IX regulations, but all other aspects of their relationship with the College and the handling of the matter will be governed by otherwise applicable College employment practices and policies.

If the respondent is a student and an employee, the Title IX Coordinator will determine which procedures apply based upon the facts and circumstances, such as whether the respondent's status as a student or an employee predominates in context of the prohibited conduct. If a student-employee is found to have engaged in prohibited conduct, they may be subject to sanctions both in connection with their employment and in connection with their student status as appropriate under these and other applicable procedures.

## B. Initial Meetings with the Title IX Staff

## i. Complainant

Within seven (7) days of receiving a report or formal complaint, the Title IX Coordinator will contact the complainant to schedule an intake meeting. During the intake meeting, the Title IX Coordinator will to the following as applicable

policy;

- a. Discussing the policy and Complainant's rights under the
- b. Discuss local resources and on campus resource including but not limited to mental health services, health services, and victim advocacy;
- c. Discuss confidentiality standards;
- d. Discuss College policy on retaliation and the potential consequences;
- e. Consider the complainants wishes with respect to supportive measures and determine if any need to be put into place, with or without filing a complaint;
- f. Discuss importance of preserving relevant evidence or documentation;
- g. Discuss potential resolution processes including informal and formal resolutions;
- h. Explain the steps in a formal grievance process;
- i. Explain the right to an advisor;
- j. Learn of the complainants desire for a resolution.

ii. Respondent

If the complainant submits a formal complaint or if the Title IX Coordinator determines that the College must investigate a report<sup>13</sup>, the Title IX Coordinator will send the respondent a notice of allegations and investigation (NOAI).

**NOAI:** Included in the NOAI will be a meeting time with the Title IX Coordinator and the following information:

• Information about the College's formal and

informal resolution processes;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> The Title IX Coordinator may facilitate conversations with the respondent without a formal complaint, such as with educational conversations.

- A statement of the allegations of behavior potentially constituting prohibited conduct including sufficient detail known at the time and with sufficient time to prepare a response before any initial post-intake interview. Sufficient details include the identity of the parties involved in the incident if known, the conduct allegedly constituting prohibited conduct, and the date/location of alleged incident if known;
- A statement that the respondent is presumed not responsible for the alleged conduct and that a determination regarding responsibility is made at the conclusion of the grievance process;
- Notification that parties may have an advisor of their choice who may be but is not required to be an attorney;
- Notification of existing counseling, health, and mental health services available on campus and/or in the community;
- Notification that taking any retaliatory action (directly or through others) against any person because they are involved in the investigation is prohibited and will be considered a separate violation of College policy.

The notice will also notify parties that they may inspect and review evidence during the investigation and resolution process as provided below. If during the course of an investigation the College decides to investigate allegations about any party that are not included in the notice described above, it will provide notice of the additional allegations to the parties whose identities are know and issue an amended NOAI.

At the initial meeting, the Title IX Coordinator will do the following as applicable:

- Discuss details of the complaint filed, including if known the name of the complainant ant the date, location, and nature of the alleged misconduct;
- Discuss respondents rights under the policy;
- Discuss on and off campus resources;
- Discuss the policy and College procedures for resolution of the complaint;
- Explain the steps of a formal Tite IX investigation;

- Explain the right to an advisor;
- Discuss confidentiality standards and concerns;
- Discuss College policy on retaliation and the potential consequences;
- Inform the respondent of any supportive measures that have been put in place with the complainant that directly affect the respondent and determine whether the respondent desires any supportive measures;
- Learn of the respondents willingness to engage in an informal resolution.

## C. Violence Risk Assessment

The Title IX Coordinator may determine that a violence risk assessment should be conducted as part of an initial assessment or otherwise in connection with a report, investigation, or resolution process. A violence risk assessment can aid in several determinations, including but not limited to determinations regarding:

- Emergency removal of a respondent on the basis of an immediate threat to physical health/safety;
- Whether the Title IX Coordinator should pursue/sign a formal complaint even if that is not requested by a complainant;
- Whether reported circumstances may involve a pattern of prohibited conduct and/or climate-related issues;
- Whether it is appropriate to try to resolve a complaint through informal resolution and what modality may be most successful and appropriate;
- Whether a no-trespass order is needed.

The Title IX Coordinator will appoint a member of the College who has been trained to perform this assessment. A violence risk assessment completed by the College is not an evaluation for an involuntary behavioral health hospitalization or a psychological/metal health assessment. A violence risk assessment assesses the risk of actionable violence, often with a focus on targeted predatory escalations. CCSNH typically utilizes the NABITA training model and uses the SIVRA-35 structured interview for violence risk assessments.

## **D.** Formal Complaints

When a complainant requests an investigation, the Title IX Coordinator will promptly upon receipt (verbal or written) of a formal complaint (elements as referenced below):

- 1. Determine whether the conduct as alleged would, if proved, constitute Title IX sex discrimination, sex-based harassment and/or sexual misconduct as defined above;
- 2. Determine whether the conduct allegedly occurred in the College's educational program or activity;
  - 3. Determine whether at the time the formal complaint was made if the complainant was participating or attempting to participate in a College program or activity.

If a formal complaint of conduct that would, if proved, satisfy all of these elements and is filed verbally or signed by a complainant or signed by the Title IX Coordinator, it will be investigated and resolved through the procedures applicable to Title IX. Again, in cases where the complaint does not wish to submit a formal complaint but the Title IX Coordinator decides in their discretion to sign a complaint and initiate an investigation and resolution process, the Title IX Coordinator will not be a complainant or otherwise a party to the matter.

If some but not all of the conduct alleged in the complaint satisfies these elements and a formal complaint is received from a complainant or signed by the Title IX Coordinator, the College will address the entire matter through the procedures applicable to Title IX but may also, to promote efficiency, follow Title IX procedures to address other relevant alleged misconduct in mixed cases so that all related misconduct may be addressed through one investigation and resolution process.

D. Dismissal

The College may dismiss a formal complaint or any allegations if at any time during the investigation or resolution process:

- A complainant notifies the Title IX Coordinator in writing that they would like to withdraw the formal complaint or any allegations;
- The respondent is no longer enrolled at or employed by the College;
- Specific circumstances prevent the College from gathering evidence sufficient to reach a determination as to the formal complaint or allegations;
- The College determines the conduct alleged in the complaint would not constitute a policy violation if proven true.

If a formal complaint is dismissed by the College under the circumstances described above, the College will simultaneously provide to the parties written notice (by electronic or other means) of the dismissal, the reasons for the dismissal, and notice of the parties opportunity to appeal such dismissal as outlined below. A complainant who decides to withdraw a complaint may later request to reinstate or refile their complaint. A decision maker can recommend dismissal to the Title IX Coordinator if they believe the grounds are met.

Complainants may appeal a dismissal of their complaint and respondents may also appeal if dismissal occurs after they have been made aware of the allegations. All dismissal appeals must be filed within three (3) business days of the notification of dismissal. The Title IX Coordinator will notify the parties of any filed appeals. If the complainant appeals but the respondent was not yet notified of the complaint, the Title IX Coordinator must then provide the respondent with a NOAI and then notify the respondent of the appeal with an opportunity to respond. Throughout the dismissal appeal process, the college will:

- Implement dismissal appeal procedures equally for the parties;

- Assign a dismissal appeal decision maker who did not take part in the investigation of allegations or dismissal of the complaint;
- Provide the parties a reasonable and equal opportunity to make a statement in support of or challenging the dismissal; and
- Notify the parties of the result of the appeal and rationale for the result.

## Grounds for dismissal appeals are limited to:

- 1. Procedural irregularity that would change the outcome;
- 2. New evidence that would change the outcome and that was not reasonably available when dismissal was decided;
- 3. The Title IX Coordinator, investigator, or decision maker had a conflict of interest/bias for or against either or both parties that would change the outcome;
- 4. The dismissal was erroneously granted or denied.

Upon receipt of a written dismissal appeal, the Title IX Coordinator will share the petition with the other party and provide three (3) business days for the other party to respond. The appeal should specify at least one of the grounds above and provide reasoning/supporting evidence for why the ground is met. At the conclusion of the response period, the Title IX Coordinator will forward the appeal and responses to the dismissal appeal decision maker. If the request for appeal does not provide information that meets the grounds above, the request will be denied by the dismissal appeal decision maker. The parties, advisors, and Title IX Coordinator will be notified of this in writing with rationale. If the appeal grounds are met, then the dismissal appeal decision maker will notify the parties, advisors, and Title IX Coordinator will be notified of this in writing with rationale. The effect will be to reinstate the complaint.

Appeals will be confined to a review of the written documentation or record of the original determination and pertinent documentation regarding the specific appeal grounds. The dismissal appeal decision maker has seven (7) business days to review and decide. Extensions can be granted at the discretion of the Title IX Coordinator and the parties will be notified. Dismissal Appeal decision makers may consult with the Title IX Coordinator on questions of procedure or rational for clarification if needed. The Title IX Coordinator will document all such consultation.

## E. Withdrawal or Resignation before Complaint Resolution

Should a student respondent decide not to participate in the resolution process, the process will proceed regardless of their participation. If a student respondent withdraws from the College or transfers to another CCSNH campus, the resolution process may continue or the Title IX Coordinator may exercise their discretion to dismiss the complaint. If the complaint is dismissed, the College will still provide reasonable supportive measures as necessary. If the student attempts to return, they may not do so until the compliant is resolved and any sanctions imposed are satisfied. If the student

respondent takes a leave for a specified period of time, the resolution process may continue remotely.

If an employee respondent chooses not to participate in the resolution process, the process will proceed regardless of their participation. If an employee leaves their employment with unresolved allegations, the resolution process may continue or the Title IX Coordinator in consultation with the CCSNH Director of Human Resources and CCSNH Chancellor/College president may exercise their discretion to dismiss the complaint. If the employee attempted to return to CCSNH in any capacity, they may not do so until the compliant is resolved and any sanctions imposed are satisfied. At the discretion of the CCSNH Director of Human Resources and CCSNH Chancellor/College president, a note may ne placed in the employees file that they resigned with pending allegations.

## F. Resolution of Reports Without a Formal Process

Reports that fall within the scope of this policy may be resolved without a formal investigation and resolution process in one of two circumstances:

- 1. When the parties resolve the matter though an alternative resolution mechanism or;
- 2. When the respondent accepts responsibility for violating policy and desires to accept a sanction and end the resolution process

## b. Informal Resolution

Informal resolution is a voluntary and remedies-based resolution that does not involve taking disciplinary action against a respondent. The aim of informal resolution is not to determine whether there was intent to engage in conduct violating this policy, but rather to ensure that the alleged offending behavior ceases and that the matter is resolved promptly at an appropriate level. The College will not require the parties to engage in this type of process. It is not necessary to pursue informal resolution first in order to pursue a formal resolution process. Any party participating in informal resolution can stop the process at any time prior to completion and begin/resume the formal resolution process. Informal resolution is available once a formal complaint has been initiated and an NOAI has been issued.

At the Title IX Coordinators discretion, the parties may agree, as a condition of engaging in informal resolution, on what statements made or evidence shared during the informal resolution process will be/will not be considered if a formal process resumes <sup>14</sup>. Parties do not have the authority to stipulate restrictions or obligations for individuals or groups not involved in the informal resolution

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> The parties may not want discussions from informal resolution to be admissible in a later resolution process, but essential facts must and do transfer. Disclosing something in an informal setting to shield it from formal admissibility is something the Title IX Coordinator will consider & discuss with the parties to ensure an informed decision.

process. The Title IX Coordinator will determine whether additional individual or community remedies are needed to meet compliance obligations.

Informal resolution may involve but is not limited to:

- Agreement to pursue individual or community remedies;
- Targeted or broad-based educational programing or training;
- Supported direct conversation between parties or through shuttled communication and/or technology-facilitated communications; and
- Restorative practices administered by trained facilitators.

The College may facilitate an informal resolution process at any time prior to reaching a determination regarding responsibility. Prior to facilitating informal resolution, the College will provide the parties with an NOAI, the requirements of the informal resolution process including circumstances under which the College precludes the parties from resuming a formal complaint arising from the same allegations (the College generally permits parties to withdraw from the informal resolution process and begin/resume a formal investigation and resolution process at any time before the informal resolution process is complete/any informal resolution is agreed to in writing by the parties), and any consequences resulting from participating in the informal resolution process. This includes information regarding any records that will be maintained or shared by the College. The notice will also state that parties have the right to be accompanied by an advisor.

The College will obtain voluntary, written confirmation that all parties wish to resolve the matter through informal resolution before proceeding and will not pressure the parties to participate in informal resolution. The College will not offer or facilitate informal resolution to resolve allegations for employees. Upon successful resolution of a matter through informal resolution, all parties who have participated will be provided a notice of completion of informal resolution which will state the terms of the resolution and all parties agreement to those terms.

The Title IX Coordinator may look to the following factors to assess whether informal resolution is appropriate or to determine which form of informal resolution may be the most successful for the parties:

- The parties amenability to informal resolution;
- Likelihood of potential resolution taking into account any power dynamics between the parties;
- Party motivation to participate;
- Civility of the parties;
- Any violence risk assessment and/or ongoing risk analysis;
- Disciplinary history;
- Whether an emergency removal is or was needed;
- Complaint complexity;

- Goals of the parties;
- Adequate resources to invest (time, staff, etc.)

If at any point during an informal resolution process either the complainant or the respondent communicates dissatisfaction with the process and the Title IX Coordinator deems it appropriate, the Title IX Coordinator can terminate the informal resolution and begin/resume a formal investigation and resolution process. The Title IX Coordinator has the discretion to make the ultimate determination of whether informal resolution is available or whether a particular proposes solution agreement resolves a matter appropriately.

The Title IX Coordinator maintains records of any resolution that is reached and failure to abide by the resolution agreement may result in appropriate responsive/disciplinary actions (dissolution of the agreement and resumption of the formal resolution process or referral to the conduct office) Once parties have agreed upon and signed a written informal resolution agreement, the formal resolution option is no longer available with respect to the allegations resolved in the agreement. Results of complaints resolved by informal resolution are not appealable.

## c. Respondent Accepts Responsibility

A respondent may, after receiving written notice of the allegations, their rights to request supportive measures, and their right to participate in a formal resolution, accept responsibility for all or part of the alleged policy violations at any point during the resolution process. If the respondent indicates intent to accept responsibility for all or part of the alleged misconduct, the formal process will be pause and the Title IX Coordinator will determine whether an informal resolution can be used to resolve the matter. If so, the matter will proceed to informal resolution and the parties will receive all notices and procedural rights outlined in the informal resolution process above.

The Title IX Coordinator will determine whether all parties and the Title IX Coordinator are able to agree of responsibility, restrictions, sanctions, restorative measures, and/or remedies. No appeal of the finding of responsibility or sanctions will be available in such circumstances. If the parties cannot agree on all terms, the resolution process will continue/resume.

## **G.** Formal Investigations

The College may consolidate formal complaints and allegations against more than one respondent, by more than one complainant against one or more respondents, or by one party against another party where the allegations of such prohibited conduct arise out of the same facts or circumstances. Where a grievance process involves more than one complainant or more than one respondent, references in this section to the singular "party", "complainant", or "respondent" include the plural as applicable.

The Title IX team includes those who serve in roles at the discretion of the Title IX Coordinator that includes facilitating intakes, advisors, informal resolution facilitators, investigators, hearing facilitators, decision makers, appeal decision makers, and other designees in the Title IX process. These team members are trained annually and will be appointed by the Title IX Coordinator.

**Notice of Allegations and Investigation:** Prior to an investigation, the Title IX Coordinator will provide the parties with a detailed written NOAI. Amendments and updates may be made as more information becomes available and a new NOAI will be issued. For climate/culture investigations that do not have an identifiable respondent, the NOAI will be sent to the department/office/program head for the area/program that is being investigated. NOAI's typically include:

- A meaningful summary of all allegations
- The identity of the parties (if known)
- The precise misconduct being alleged
- Date and location of alleged incident(s) (if known)
- Specific policy/offense implicated
- A description of/link to/copy of applicable procedures
- A statement that the parties are entitled to an equal opportunity to access the relevant and not otherwise impermissible evidence
- A statement that the College presumes the respondent not responsible for the reported misconduct unless and until the evidence supports a different determination
- A statement that retaliation is prohibited
- Information about the confidentiality expectations during the process
- Information about advisors and how they may be obtained

Notification will be made in writing and delivered via the parties college-issued email address or in person/by mail to all parties.

The College will make a good faith effort to complete investigations within 90 business days, which may be extended as necessary for appropriate cause. The timeline may also take longer for complex/larger investigations, witness availability, intervening semester breaks, law enforcement involvement, and/or other factors. The College may also undertake short delays when requested by law enforcement or health conditions of either party. The parties will receive regular updates, including for extensions/delays, and can request additional updates from the Title IX Coordinator at any time

Any individual materially involved in the administration of the resolution process may neither have nor demonstrate a conflict of interest or bias for any party. A party may raise concerns of bias/conflicts of interest to the Title IX Coordinator or the CCSNH Title IX Coordinator. The resolution process involved an objective evaluation of all available relevant and not otherwise impermissible evidence. Crefibility determinations may not be

based solely on an individual's status or participation as a complainant, respondent, or witness.

Unless specifically provided otherwise below, the following procedures will apply generally to cases involving allegations of sex discrimination, sex-based harassment, and/or sexual misconduct:

- 1. The Title IX Coordinator will assign or retain an investigator. A notice of investigator appointment letter will be sent to both parties. In this letter, the full name of the investigator will be provided. Each party will have 48 hours to object to the investigators appointment on the grounds that the investigator has a bias for or against complainants or respondents generally or a particular party or has a conflict of interest. Objections must be made in writing and sent to the Title IX Coordinator who will decide whether or not to appoint an alternative investigator. This process will be repeated until an investigator is selected. After this objection timeframe passes, all relevant information to the case will be transferred to the appointed investigator.
- 2. The investigator is authorized to access relevant records, including personnel, grievance, and student records except those deemed confidential or privileged by law. The investigator is authorized to contact any and all individuals without limitation. Both parties will be provided with timely notice of any meeting related to this process that they are invited to or expected to attend. This will include written notice of the date, time, location, participants, and purpose of the meeting with sufficient time for the party to prepare to participate. Meetings will be scheduled in conjunction with the party's academic course schedule to ensure that neither party miss classes due to a meeting related to this process. Additional meeting times will be included in notifications sent by the Title IX Coordinator at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled meeting. If a party is unable to attend, they must notify the Title IX Coordinator with the reason for the conflict and set up a new meeting time.
- 3. The parties will be asked to identify all witnesses with whom they wish the investigator to speak with and what questions they wish the investigators to ask of other parties or witnesses. The investigator will interview those witnesses who are believed by the investigator to have first-hand knowledge of the incident or otherwise relevant information. The investigator is not otherwise required to interview any particular witnesses even if identified by one of the parties. The investigator will include in the investigative report a rationale for why they did not interview a particular witness identified by one of the parties. The investigator will provide the draft investigative report to the Title IX Coordinator for their review/feedback.
- 4. Prior to the conclusion of the investigation, the Title IX Coordinator will provide the parties and their advisors (if so desired by parties) an electronic copy of the draft

investigative report as well as an opportunity to inspect and review all relevant evidence obtained as part of the investigation. This includes evidence the College does not intend to rely on in reaching a determination. The parties will have ten (10) business days to review and comment so that each party may meaningfully respond to the evidence. The parties may elect to waive all or part of the review period. Any responses should be submitted to the Title IX coordinator within this 10-day period.

The Title IX Coordinator will make any party's response available for any other party to review.

- 5. The investigator will consider the parties comments, if any, and incorporate relevant elements of the parties written responses into the final investigative report as deemed appropriate at the investigators discretion. This includes adding any additional relevant evidence, making necessary revisions, and finalizing the report.
- 6. At the conclusion of the investigation, the investigator will send the final investigative report to the Title IX Coordinator.
- 7. The final investigative report created by the investigator will fairly summarize relevant evidence and include as exhibits evidentiary materials as deemed appropriate by the investigator. The investigator will not offer recommendations regarding whether or not the policy was violated. At least 10 calendar days prior to the hearing referenced below, the College will send to each party and applicable advisors the final investigative report and exhibits in an electronic format for their review and written response as detailed below.

## **Recording of Interviews**

No unauthorized audio or video recording of any kind is permitted during investigation meetings. The investigator may utilize audio and/or video record interviews at their discretion. All involved parties must be made aware of audio and/or video recording.

Parties may review the recordings upon request. Transcripts, if used, will be included in the investigative report.

## H. Evidentiary Considerations in the Investigation

Investigators will only consider relevant evidence, which is defined as evidence which may aid in determining whether an allegation occurred or whether the behavior constitutes a violation of policy. Investigators will not consider impermissible evidence, including:

 Questions and evidence about the complainants sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior (unless such questions and evidence are offered to prove that someone other than the respondent committed the conduct alleged or if questions and evidence concern specific incidents of the complainants prior sexual behavior with respect to the respondent and are offered to prove consent);  Information protected under a legal recognized privilege (such as privileged communications between parties and their physician, psychiatrist, psychologist, or other recognized professional or paraprofessional acting in a treatment capacity or privileged communications between a party and their attorney) unless the person holding such privilege waives the privilege.

Previous disciplinary action of any kind involving the respondent may not be considered unless there is an allegation of a pattern of misconduct. This information of pattern can also be considered when determining an appropriate sanction. Investigations and determinations can consider character evidence, if offered, but that type of evidence is unlikely to be relevant unless it is fact evidence or related to a pattern of conduct.

## I. Formal Resolution Procedures

CCSNH utilizes one formal resolution procedure to resolve allegations that fall within the scope of this policy. For allegations that, if true, would constitute a violation of this policy the College utilizes a formal grievance process (known as a formal hearing resolution procedure) that complies with the 2024 Title IX regulations and follows the outline below of a decision maker led live hearing.

## i. Formal Hearing Resolution Procedure

- a. As noted above, upon receipt of the final investigative report, the Title IX Coordinator will send both parties<sup>15</sup> and their advisors<sup>16</sup>, if applicable (may be an attorney), the final investigative report and evidence in an electronic format for their review and written response if the parties so chose to submit one. Any written response a party wishes to provide must be submitted to the Title IX Coordinator within 10 days of receiving the final investigative report and evidence. The final report and party written responses, if any, will be provided to the hearing facilitator in advance of the hearing. Deadlines for party review of information and submission of comments may be extended upon request for good cause and at the discretion of the Title IX Coordinator.
- b. Once the final investigative report is shared with the parties, the Title IX Coordinator will refer the matter for a hearing and appoint a decision maker as well as a hearing facilitator<sup>17</sup>. Each party will have 48 hours to object to the appointment on the grounds that the decision maker and/or hearing facilitator is bias against one or both parties or has a conflict of interest. Objections must be made in writing and sent to the Title IX Coordinator who will decide whether or not to appoint an alternative decision maker. This process will be repeated until a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> In complaints involving more than one complainant and/or respondent, the default procedure will be to hear allegations jointly. The Title IX Coordinator may permit separate hearings if there is a compelling reason to do so

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Advisors may not be called as witnesses to testify to what their advisee has told them during their role as an advisor.

 $<sup>^{17}</sup>$  The Title IX Coordinator will select the appropriate decision-maker depending on whether the respondent is an employee or a student.

decision maker is selected. After the objection timeframe passes, all relevant information to the case will be transferred to the appointed decision maker.

- c. The decision maker may consider arguments from the parties on evidence being relevant or impermissible in the parties written responses and will rule on these arguments pre-hearing and will exchange those ruling between the parties prior to the hearing. The decision maker may consult with the Title IX Coordinator.
- d. The decision maker, after any necessary consultation with the parties/investigator/Title IX Coordinator, will provide the names of persons who will be participating in the hearing <sup>18</sup>, all pertinent documentary evidence, the final investigative report, and a schedule/Zoom link to the parties at least seven (7) business days prior to the hearing in an email notice to all parties. Witnesses will be notified at least five (5) days before the hearing of the time they are asked to attend as pertinent information and any other pertinent information. Witnesses will only be present during their portion of questioning. <sup>19</sup> Hearings will be scheduled into the summer as needed to avoid lengthy delays and may be scheduled over several days depending on witness schedules.
- e. At least two (2) days before the hearing, the parties may submit (this may be done in consultation with their advisor) to the decision maker a written statement that identifies the facts they dispute and questions they believe the decision maker should ask of the parties and/or witnesses so that the decision maker may question the parties about these facts during the hearing. Facts that are undisputed by all parties may be relied upon by the decision maker even if they are not directly discussed at the hearing. The decision maker is not required to ask questions they deem irrelevant and/or impermissible. The decision maker will share with all parties these statements as well as reasoning for not asking irrelevant/impermissible questions. The decision maker may consult with the Title IX Coordinator on questions of admissibility regarding these determinations.
- f. Ordinarily, but subject to the discretion of the decision maker, hearings will open with the hearing facilitator explaining the upcoming process and schedule, followed by an opening statement from the parties (but not their advisors) if they so choose. The decision maker will then ask their questions of the parties. Witnesses will be questioned in this same format. Advisors will not be permitted to make opening/closing statements or participate actively in the hearing, but may request breaks to consult with the party. If parties and/or witnesses do not appear at the hearing, the hearing may continue without the party/witness or an attempt to reschedule may be made at the discretion of the Title IX Coordinator.
- g. After the decision maker asks questions of each party and witness, the hearing facilitator will permit a short recess (most often in the format of a Zoom breakout room) so that the parties may discuss with their advisor if they would like the

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> This may include anyone authorized to provide accommodations, interpretation, and/or assistive services.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> If the decision maker and both parties agree, they may choose that certain witnesses do not need to be present if their testimony can be adequately summarized in the final investigative report and their presence is not essential.

decision maker to ask any follow-up questions. The parties may waive this recess or choose not to participate if the other party does not waive this recess. Advisors will submit these electronically to the decision maker via email and the decision maker will make a relevance/impermissible determination<sup>20</sup>. These will be shared with the parties. The decision maker will ask any follow-up questions they deem relevant/permissible.

- h. Any party or witness may choose not to offer evidence and/or answer questions at the hearing either because they do not attend or because they attend but refuse to participate in some or all of the questioning. The decision maker can only rely on whatever relevant evidence is available through the investigation and hearing in making ultimate determination of responsibility. The decision maker may not draw any inference solely from a party or witness absence or refusal answer questions.
- i. At the end of the hearing, the parties (not their advisors) may consult with their advisors in a recess and make closing statements. The hearing facilitator will then close the hearing.

## Introduction of New Evidence or Witnesses at the Hearing

Any witness scheduled to participate in the hearing must have been first interviewed by the investigator unless all parties and the decision maker agree to the new witness participation in the hearing. The same holds true for any evidence that is first offered in the pre-hearing statement made to the decision maker. If both parties and the decision maker do not assent to the admission newly offered evidence at the hearing, the decision maker has the discretion to delay the hearing to allow parties to review the new evidence or instruct that the investigation be re-opened to include that evidence if deemed relevant and permissible.

## **Recorded Hearings**

All hearings conducted by the Title IX office will be virtual to accommodate the many different schedules and locations of participants and will be recorded for the purpose of review in the event of an appeal. The decision maker and the parties must be able to simultaneously see and hear a party/witness while they are speaking. The parties may not record the proceedings and no other unauthorized recordings are permitted. The decision maker, parties, advisors, hearing facilitator and other administrators will be permitted upon request to listen to the recording in a controlled environments determined by the Title IX Coordinator. No person will be given or be allowed to make a copy of the recording without permission from the Title IX Coordinator.

ii. Notice of Outcome

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> The Decision maker may consult with the Title IX Coordinator in making these determinations

After the hearing, the decision maker will determine whether the respondent<sup>21</sup> is responsible or not responsible for policy violations in question with the preponderance of evidence standard (whether the evidence considered establishes that it is "more likely than not" that the policy was violated).

- j. Within ten (10) business days after the conclusion of the hearing, the decision maker will then prepare and deliver to the Title IX Coordinator a written notice of outcome regarding whether the respondent is or is not responsible for the policy violations in question. The notice of outcome will include:
  - Identification of the sections of the Colleges policy alleged to have been violated:
  - A description & dates of the procedural steps taken from the receipt of the complaints through the determination
  - Specified findings for each alleged policy violation
  - A detailed rationale for the findings of each allegations including determination regarding responsibility;
  - All applicable sanctions
  - Identification of the College's procedures and permissible bases for the parties to appeal (as outlined below). The determination regarding responsibility becomes final if an appeal is filed on the date the College provides the parties with the written determination of an appeal. If an appeal is not filed, the determination regarding responsibility becomes final on the date on which the appeal would no longer be considered timely;
  - The determination will also notify parties whether remedies designed to restore or preserve equal access to the College's education program or activity will be provided to the complainant but will not provide details about such remedies.
- k. In cases where the decision maker determines the respondent is responsible for a policy violations, the Title IX Coordinator will share the decision maker's determination with the appropriate personnel who will assign sanctions<sup>22</sup>.
- 1. The Title IX Coordinator will share the notice of outcome with the parties simultaneously via email, mail, or in person.

The time periods prescribed in this procedure for actions by the Title IX Coordinator or investigator are intended not as rigid rules, but rather as guidelines to which all are expected to adhere in good faith to the extent practicable. The Title IX Coordinator may exercise reasonable discretion to extend deadlines when they consider necessary

 $<sup>^{21}</sup>$  In cases where there are more than one respondent, a separate notice of outcome will be written for each respondent.

For employee respondents, this is the College President and/or CCSNH Chancellor in consultation with the CCSNH Director of Human Resources. Student respondent cases may include student conduct, registrar's office, and other appropriate offices that will carry out assigned sanctions.

or appropriate and will provide notice to the parties if that occurs. Parties may request investigative updates at any time throughout the process.

## J. Appeal Process

Appeals must be submitted in writing to the Title IX Coordinator within 5 business days of receipt of the notice of outcome. An appeal will not be considered if submitted after the allotted five (5) days have elapsed. The other party will be notified of the appeal and the grounds the appeal was filed under. Any sanctions imposed in the notice of outcome are paused during the appeal process. The appeals decision maker may consult with individuals as deemed necessary in order to reach their decision. They will communicate their decision to the parties in writing within five (5) days of the date of the appeal with a copy to the Title IX Coordinator. Appeals are limited to the following grounds:

- A procedural irregularity that would change the outcome;
- New evidence that would change the outcome and that was not reasonably available at the time of determination
- A member of the Resolution Process Title IX team had a conflict of interest or bias that would change the outcome;
- The sanctions are not appropriate for the level of the policy violation and/or cumulative disciplinary record.

## i. Appeal Procedure

Any party may appeal a determination regarding responsibility under the grounds set forth in this policy. Supportive measures may be continued or reinstated by the Title IX Coordinator during the appeals process. If no appeal is filed or an appeal is not timely, the original finding will stand effective on the date the appeal period ends. The appeal procedures are implemented equally for all parties.

- 1. Upon delivery of the notice of outcome, both parties may submit an appeal to the Title IX Coordinator within 5 business days. Following receipt of a notice of dismissal for the purposes of Title IX, the parties may submit an appeal to the Title IX Coordinator within 5 business days. An appeal must articulate the specific grounds for the appeal and provide a statement and/or evidence.
- 2. The Title IX Coordinator will appoint an appeal decision maker to determine if the request meets the grounds for an appeal. This will be an independent person of the previous process including from any dismissal appeal that may have been heard earlier in the process. The parties will have 24 hours to object to the appointment of the appeal decision maker, in writing, on the basis of perceived bias or conflict of interest. The Title IX Coordinator has the sole authority to determine whether or not to replace an appeals decision maker and that decision is final.
  - a. If the request does not meet the grounds for appeal, the request will be denied and the appeal decision maker

will notify the parties and their advisors in writing of the denial and rationale.

- b. If the request does meet the grounds for appeal, the appeal decision maker will notify the parties and their advisors in writing as well as investigators/original decision maker when appropriate.
- c. If both parties submit appeals (cross-appeals or counter appeals), the same appeal decision maker will decide both appeals individually but at the same time. The same appeal decision maker will decide any appeals arising from the same facts and circumstances.
- 3. Following this notification, the non-appealing party has five (5) business days to submit a written response to the appeal which will be provided to the appealing party.
  - a. No party may submit any new requests for appeal after this time period.
  - 4. An appeal is typically confined to a review of the written documentation or record of the original determination and pertinent documentation regarding the specific appeal grounds. The appeal decision maker will defer to the original findings and determination, remanding only when there is clear reason to do so or modifying the outcome/sanctions only when there is a compelling justification to do so. An appeal is not an opportunity for the appeal decision maker to substitute judgement because they disagree with the original decision maker. The appeal decisionmaker may consult with the Title IX Coordinator on questions of procedure, rationale or additional clarification.
- 5. The appeal decision maker may take one of three possible actions on appeal:
  - 1. Dismiss the appeal for failure to meet the grounds of appeal, therefore upholding the initial outcome and sanctions (if applicable)
  - 2. Remand to the investigator or decision maker with specific instructions on the remanded issue(s)
    - a. In rare circumstances where an error cannot be cured by the original investigator, decision maker and/or Title IX Coordinator (in cases of bias), the appeal decision maker may order a new investigation and/or determination with new members serving in the roles.

- 3. Modify the outcome and/or sanction with a rationale supporting the modification.
- 6. Within five (5) business days of the date of appeal, a notice of appeal outcome will be sent to all parties and the Title IX Coordinator simultaneously via email or mail which includes the decision on each ground cited and rationale for each decision. The notice of appeal outcome will provide specific instructions for remand or reconsideration, any sanctions, and the rationale supporting the essential findings.
  - 7. The appeal decision maker's decision is final and there are no further appeal options (except in the case of a new determination or new sanction, which can be appealed one final time).
    - 8. If a sanction is imposed, the Title IX Coordinator will coordinate the implementation of the sanction. They will also coordinate and implement remedies owed to the complainant and implement any other long-term supportive measures as necessary.

## K. Sanctions

If it is determined that this policy has been violated, sanctions will be reasonably calculated to attempt to prevent reoccurrence and promote/restore the complainants equal access to the College's education programs and activities. Factors taken into consideration include prior violations of College policy and sanctions, impact on parties, and the circumstances/nature/severity of the violation. Violations of this policy sanctions range from reprimand to expulsion/termination.

Sanctions against employee respondents, who are found to have committed the alleged conduct and thereby violated this policy, will be based on the circumstances and seriousness of the offense and decided by the College President and/or CCSNH Chancellor. Sanctions against CCSNH faculty and staff will be handled in accordance with employment policies or collective bargaining agreements governing discipline and dismissal. Sanctions may include, but are not limited to, mandated training, position reassignment, imposed workplace conditions, written warning, disciplinary suspension without pay, demotion, or dismissal.

Sanctions may include but are not limited to:

- Change of job or class assignment (removing a person from being in a position to retaliate or further affect the complainant);
- Writing a letter of apology to the complainant;
- Mandatory attendance at an appropriate educational class, program, or training;
- Written reprimand of other form of disciplinary documentation;
- Relevant community service;

- Prohibiting a student form holding officer or participating in student activities (including sports for a specified time period);
- Restriction from other relevant activities or locations, such as a gym or recreational space;
- Transferring a student to different housing or banning them from College housing facilities (if applicable based on the College);
- Student group or organization warnings, loss of privileges, probation, suspension, or termination;
- Disciplinary probation, which would provide for more severe disciplinary sanctions in the event the student is found in violation of any other institutional policy within a specified period of time;
- Suspension, typically not to exceed two (2) years, from CCSNH colleges;
- Termination or dismissal from CCSNH colleges.

In addition to the above listed potential sanctions, a respondent or any other party may at any time be referred to another College disciplinary process because of information obtained for the complaint resolution process. Non-disciplinary measures as deemed appropriate in the discretion of the College (including but not limited to no contact orders or housing relocation) may be implemented even in cases where a policy violation was not found.

Sanctions will be implemented as soon as possible once a determination is final, either upon outcome of an appeal or the expiration if the window to appeal.

#### L. Remedies

Following the conclusion of the resolution process and in addition to any sanctions implemented, the Title IX Coordinator may implement additional long-term remedies or actions with respect to the parties and/or campus community that are intended to stop harassment, discrimination, and/or retaliation, remedy the effects, prevent reoccurrence, and promote or restore the complainants equal access to College programs and activities. These remedies/actions may include but are not limited to:

- Referral to counseling and health services
- Referral to the employee assistance program
- Education to the individual and/or community
- Permanent alteration of housing assignments (if applicable)
- Alteration of work arrangements for employees
- Provision of campus safety escorts
- Policy modification and/or training
- Implementation of long-term contact limitations between the parties
- Implementation of adjustments to academic deadlines, course schedules, retroactive withdrawals, etc.

At the discretion of the Title IX Coordinator, certain long-term supportive measures may also be provided to the parties even if no policy violation is found. When no policy

violation is found, the Title IX Coordinator will address any remedies owed by the College to the respondent to ensure no effective denial of educational access. The College will maintain the privacy of any long-term remedies/actions/measures provided privacy does not impair the College's ability to provide these services.

Failure to abide by sanctions/actions imposed by the date specified, whether by refusal, neglect, or for any other reason may result in additional sanctions/actions including suspension, expulsion, or termination.

## 16. PREGNANCY, RELATED CONDITIONS, AND PARENTING INDIVIDUALS

CCSNH does not discriminate in its education program or activity against any applicant for admission, student, applicant for employment, or employee on the basis of current, potential, or past pregnancy or related conditions as mandated by the Title IX of Education Amendments of 1972. The College prohibits members of the College community from adopting or implementing any policy, practice, or procedure which treats individuals differently on the basis of current, potential, or past pregnancy, related conditions, or parental status. This policy applies to all pregnant persons, regardless of gender identity or expression.

#### 1. Relevant Definitions

- Familial Status is the configuration of one's family or one's role in a family.
- **Parental Status** is the status of a person who, with respect to another person who is under the age of 18<sup>23</sup>, is a biological, adoptive, foster, stepparent, legal custodian or guardian, in loco parentis with respect to such person, or actively seeking legal custody, guardianship, visitation, or adoption of such a person.
- **Pregnancy and Related Conditions** are the full spectrum of processes and events connected to pregnancy, including pregnancy, childbirth, termination of pregnancy<sup>24</sup>, lactation, related medical conditions, and recovery therefrom.
- **Reasonable Modifications** are individualized modifications to the policies practices, or procedures that do not fundamentally alter the College education program or activity.

## 2. Information Sharing Requirements

Any CCSNH employee who becomes aware of a student's pregnancy or related condition is required to provide the student with the Title IX Coordinators contact information and communicate that the Title IX Coordinator can help take specific actions to prevent discrimination and ensure equal access to the College's education program and activity. If the employee has a reasonable belief that the Title IX Coordinator is already aware of the pregnancy or related condition, the employee is not required to provide the Title IX Coordinator's contact information to the student.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> Or a person who is 18 or older but is incapable of self-care because of mental or physical disability.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> The Department of education interprets 'termination of pregnancy' to include miscarriage, stillbirth, or abortion. 89 F.R. 33474 April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024 codified at 34 C.F.R. 106.

Upon notification of a student's pregnancy or relate condition, the Title IX Coordinator will contact the student and inform them of the College's obligations to:

- Prohibit sex discrimination;
- Provide reasonable accommodations;
- Allow access, on a voluntary basis, to any separate or comparable portion of the institutions education program or activity;
- Allow a voluntary leave of absence;
- Ensure lactation space availability;
- Maintain a resolution process for alleged discrimination;
- Treat pregnancy as comparable to other temporary medical conditions for medical benefit, service, plan, or policy purpose.

The Title IX Coordinator will also notify the student of the process to fil a complaint for alleged discrimination, harassment, or retaliation.

#### 3. Reasonable Modifications for Students

Students who are pregnant or are experiencing related conditions are entitles to reasonable modifications to prevent sex discrimination and ensure equal access to the College's education program and activity. Any student seeking reasonable modifications must contact the Title IX Coordinator to discuss appropriate and available reasonable modifications based on their individual needs. Students are encouraged to request these as promptly as possible, though retroactive modifications may be available in some circumstances. Reasonable modifications are voluntary and a student can accept or decline the offer. These may include (and may not be appropriate in all contexts):

- Breaks during class to express breast milk, breastfeed, or attend to health needs associated with pregnancy or related conditions, including eating, drinking, or using the restroom
- Intermittent absences to attend medical appointments
- Access to online education
- Changes in class schedules
- Time extensions for coursework and rescheduling of tests
- Allowing a student to sit or stand and carry/keep water nearby
- Changes in physical space or supplies (such as a larger desk)
- Elevator access if applicable
- A larger uniform or other required clothing/equipment
- Other changes as determined by the Title IX Coordinator

In situations such as clinical rotations, performances, labs, and group work, the College will work with the student to devise an alternative path to completion if possible. In progressive curricular and/or cohort-model programs, medically necessary leaves are sufficient cause to permit the student to shift course order, substitute similar courses, or join a subsequent cohort when returning from leave. Students are encouraged to work with their faculty members and the

College Accessibility Coordinator to devise a plan for how to best address the conditions as pregnancy progresses, anticipate the need for leaves, minimize academic impact, and get back on track as efficiently as possible. The Title IX Coordinator will assist with plan development/implementation as needed.

Supportive documentation for reasonable modifications will only be required when it is necessary and reasonable under the circumstances to determine which reasonable modifications to offer to ensure equal access. Information about pregnant student's requests for modifications will be shared with faculty and staff only to the extent necessary to provide the reasonable modification.

Students experiencing pregnancy-related conditions that manifest as a temporary disability under the ADA or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act are eligible for reasonable accommodations just like other students with a temporary disability. The Title IX Coordinator will consult with the College ADA Coordinator to ensure the student receives reasonable accommodations for their disability as required by law.

## 4. Certification to Participate

All students should be informed of health and safety risks related to participation in academic and co-curricular activities, regardless of pregnancy status. A student may not be required to provide health care provider or other certification that the student is physical able to participate in the program or activity unless:

- The certified level of physical ability or health is necessary for participation;
- The institutions requires such certification of all students participating; and
- The information obtained is not used as a basis for pregnancy-related discrimination.

## 5. Lactation Space Access

The College provides students and employees with access to lactation spaces that are functional, appropriate, and safe. Such spaces are regularly cleaned, shielded from view, and free from the intrusion of other. Lactation spaces are located in the following locations:

The lactation space is located in room #315.

## 6. Leave of Absence

## A. Students

Students are permitted to take a voluntary leave of absence for a reasonable time as deemed medically necessary by their healthcare provider because of pregnancy and/or the birth, adoption, or placement of a child. The leave term may be extended in the case of extenuating circumstances or medical necessity. In order to initiate a leave of absence, the student must contact the Title IX Coordinator at least thirty (30) days prior to the initiation of the leave or as soon as practical. The Title IX Coordinator will work with the Registrar and any other necessary employees to ensure the student fills out the correct paperwork. Students may register as "on leave/inactive" to continue their eligibility for

certain benefits (including health insurance or residing in College housing if applicable and subject to the payment of applicable fees).

To the extent possible, the College will take reasonable steps to ensure that students who take a leave of absence or medical leave return to the same position of academic progress that they were in when they left. Continuation of the students scholarships, fellowships, or similar College-sponsored funding during their leave term will depend on registration status and the policies of the funding program regarding registration status. Students will not be negatively impacted by or forfeit their future eligibility by exercising their rights under this policy. When requested, the College will provide any necessary documentation for financial aid agencies and external scholarship providers.

## **B.** Employees

Employees should work with Human Resources to determine their eligibility for leave. If an employee, including a student-employee, is not eligible for leave because they do not have enough leave time available or have not been employed long enough to qualify for leave, they are eligible to qualify for pregnancy or related conditions leave under Title IX without pay for a reasonable period of time. Employees who take leave under Title IX must be reinstated to the status held when leave began or a comparable position without negative effect on employment privilege or right.

## 7. Student Parents

Students with child caretaking/parenting responsibilities who wish to remain engaged in their coursework while adjusting their academic responsibilities because of the birth or adoption of a child or placement of a foster child may request an academic modification period from the Title IX Coordinator during the first six months from the time the child entered the home. Extensions may be granted when additional time is required by medical necessity or extraordinary responsibility. During this academic modification period, the students academic requirements will be adjusted/postponed as appropriate in collaboration with the appropriate staff, the students academic advisor, and appropriate academic departments.

The student is encouraged to work with their advisors and faculty members directly to reschedule course assignments, lab hours exams, or other requirements as appropriate once authorization is received from the Title IX Coordinator. If the student is unable to work with these staff to obtain the appropriate modifications, the student should alert the Title IX Coordinator as soon as possible, and they will help facilitate.

In timed degree, certification, or credentialing programs, students seeking modifications upon birth or placement of their child will be allowed an extension of up to 12 months to prepare for and take preliminary and qualifying examinations and an extension of up to 12 months toward normative time to degree while in candidacy to the extent those deadline are controlled by the College. Longer extensions may be granted in extenuating circumstances. Students can request modified academic responsibilities under this policy regardless of whether the elect to take a

leave of absence. While receiving academic modifications, students will remain registered and retain benefits accordingly.

## 8. Policy Dissemination and Training

A copy of this policy will be made available to faculty and employees in annually required training and posted on the College's website. The College will alert all new students about this policy in new student training. The Title IX office will make educational materials available to all members of the College community to promote compliance with this policy and familiarity with its procedures.

## 17. EDUCATION, COMMUNCATION, AND TRAINING

All students and employees within our campus community deserve to feel safe and supported. The Community College System of New Hampshire works year-round to provide education, tools, and resources to recognize concerning or harmful behavior and strategies for intervening or to help others get the support they need. As part of these efforts, CCSNH provides primary prevention and awareness campaigns for all incoming students and new employees as well as ongoing prevention and awareness campaigns for all students and employees in compliance with the 2024 Title IX regulations, VAWA, and NH RSA 188:H. These programs are comprehensive, intentional, and integrated initiatives, strategies, and campaigns intended to combat relevant Title IX issues. CCSNH considers each individual campus unique and designs its programs to fit each community to ensure they are culturally relevant, inclusive of diverse communities/identities, sustainable, responsive, and informed by research.

CCSNH also considers environmental risk and protective factors as they occur on the individual, relationship, institutional, community, and societal level so that we can address actual issues that may influence how/if violence is occurring within our own community and how these programs can meet our collective need. All of these programs will reinforce that dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and sexual misconduct are unacceptable and prohibited within our campus communities.

## A. Primary Prevention and Awareness

Primary Prevention programs are those that are intended to stop dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking before they occur through the promotion of positive and healthy behaviors that foster healthy, mutually respectful relationships/sexuality, encourage safe bystander intervention, and seek to change behavior and social norms in healthy/safe directions. Awareness programs are programs that are community-wide or audience specific that increase knowledge and share information/resources to prevent violence, promote safety, and reduce perpetration.

## **B.** Bystander Intervention

Bystander intervention involves safe and positive options that might be carried out by an individual or individuals to prevent harm or intervene when there is a risk of dating violence, domestic violence sexual assault, or stalking. This can include:

- Recognizing situations or potential harm;
- Understanding institutional structures and cultural conditions that facilitate violence;
- Overcoming barriers to intervening;
- Identifying safe and effective intervention options; and
- Taking action to intervene.

Safety is your top priority when intervening. Before jumping into a potentially dangerous situation, be smart and think about your own safety. Ask how can I keep myself safe? What are all options available? Who else might be able to assist me? Aside from safety in numbers, you may have more influence on the situation when you work together with someone else or even several people.

Remember the 3"D"'s of bystander intervention:

**DIRECT**: Directly confront the inappropriate behavior

Point out threatening or inappropriate behavior in a safe, respectful manner.

**DISTRACT**: Draw away or divert attention

Make up an excuse to help a friend get away from someone who might pose danger (Let's go dance! Can you come to the bathroom with me?).

**DELEGATE**: Reach out to someone else for help, like public safety or the police. Alert a

bartender or party host that someone has had too much to drink

## C. Risk Reduction

Risk reduction refers to tools/strategies/behaviors/options that decrease perpetration, bystander inaction, and promote victim empowerment. This definition includes giving bystanders tools to overcome barriers that might lead them not to intervene, so all tips provided above can generally be used for risk reduction as well. It is up to the CCSNH community to look out for one another and create the safe environment that our students and employees deserve.

Below are some suggestions that can help individuals reduce their risk for being victimized and reduce the risk of being accused on sexual misconduct. CCSNH does not condone victimblaming and acknowledges that only those who commit violence are responsible for their actions.

Reducing the Risk of Victimization

- Make any limits/boundaries you have known to your partner as early as possible.
- Clearly and firmly articulate consent or lack of consent.
- Remove yourself, if possible, from an aggressor's physical presence.
- Reach out for help, either from a person who is physically nearby or by calling someone. People around you may be waiting for a signal that you need help.

- Take affirmative responsibility for your alcohol and/or drug consumption. Alcohol and drugs can increase your vulnerability for sexual victimization.
- Look out for friends and ask them to look out for you. Respect them and ask them to respect you, but be willing to challenge each other about high risk choices.

Reducing the Risk of Being Accused of Sexual Misconduct

- Show your potential partner respect if you are in the position of initiating sexual behavior.
- If a potential partner says "no", accept it and don't push. Do not proceed without clear permission.
- Clearly communicate your intentions to your potential sexual partner and give them a chance to share their intentions/boundaries with you.
- Respect personal boundaries. If you are unsure what is OK in any interaction, ask.
- Avoid ambiguity. Don't make assumptions about consent, whether someone is attracted to you, how far you can go with someone, or if the individual is physically/mentally able to consent. If you have questions or are unclear, you don't have consent.
- Don't take advantage of the fact that someone may be under the influence of alcohol or drugs, even if the person chose to become that way. Other's loss of control does not put you in control.
- Be on the lookout for mixed messages. That will be a clear indication to stop and talk about what your potential partner wants or doesn't want to happen.
  - Respect timelines for sexual behaviors with which others are comfortable and understand they are entitled to change their minds at any time.
  - Recognize that even if you don't think you are intimidating, our potential partner may be intimidated by or fearful of you because of sex, size, social capital, or position of power/authority.
  - Don't assume that someone's silence or passivity is an indication of consent. Pay attention to verbal and non-verbal signals to avoid misreading intentions.
  - Understand that consent to one type of sexual behavior does not automatically grant consent to other types of sexual behavior. If you are unsure, stop and ask.
  - Understand that exerting power and control over another through sex is unacceptable conduct.

## D. Programs Offered

Below is information for GBCC program offerings. For more information or to request a program/training, contact the Title IX Coordinator at Eric Kulberg, Ph.D. (603) 427-7667 <a href="mailto:ekulberg@ccsnh.edu">ekulberg@ccsnh.edu</a>

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Title IX New Student Training – Mandatory training completed online or in person at the start of every academic year that reviews College policy and procedures, definitions, jurisdiction, reporting options, resolution options, and risk reduction.

Title IX Employee Training – Mandatory training completed online or in person at the start of every academic year that reviews mandatory reporter expectations, how to take/submit reports to the Title IX office, College policy and procedures, definitions, jurisdiction, reporting options, resolution options, and risk reduction.

- Also completed for all new employees upon hire

*USafeUS App* – A free and confidential 24/7 online safety and prevention tool in response to Title IX related offenses that includes fake text/call features, GPS tool alerts with friends, drink recipes to alert bartenders for help, contact information for campus reporting and local resources, College policy overview, and nationally available resources.

- Download the app in the App store or Google Play & select your College campus

*Title IX Refresher* – Training offered upon request that can be done for campus clubs, student groups, classes, employees, etc. Material can be tailored to individual needs and can generally include College policy and procedures, definitions, jurisdiction, reporting options, resolution options, and risk reduction.

Stalking Awareness Training – Training offered upon request that focuses on the Title IX offense of stalking, general awareness, case discussion online safety measures, safety planning, bystander awareness/intervention, and reporting options.

In addition to the above programming/training that is offered every year, the College also hosts local domestic and sexual violence agencies on campus to engage in a variety of prevention and awareness programming each academic year. These change year to year to best address the needs of the community.

## E. Title IX Team Training

All members of the Title IX team will receive training related to their duties under Title IX promptly upon hiring or change of position that alters their duties under Title IX, and annually thereafter. Materials will not rely on sex stereotypes. Training topics include, but are not limited to:

- The role of the Title IX Coordinator scope of the policy;
- The Resolution Process and how to conduct a sex discrimination resolution process consistently, including issues of disparate treatment, disparate impact, sex-based harassment, quid pro quo, hostile environment harassment, and retaliation;
- How to conduct/coordinate investigations and hearings that protect the safety of Complainants and Respondents, and promote accountability;
- Implicit bias, confirmation bias, and treating parties equitably;
- Reporting, confidentiality, and privacy requirements;

- Applicable laws, regulations, and federal regulatory guidance;
- How to implement appropriate and situation-specific remedies;
- How to investigate/coordinate investigations in a thorough, reliable, timely, and impartial manner;
- Trauma-informed practices pertaining to investigations and resolution processes
- How to uphold fairness, equity, and due process as well as how to weigh evidence;
- How to conduct questioning, assess credibility, and use impartiality and objectivity;
- How to render findings and generate clear, concise, evidence-based rationales;
- The definitions of all prohibited conduct;
- How to conduct a grievance process, including administrative resolutions, hearings, appeals, and Informal Resolution Processes;
- How to serve impartially by avoiding prejudgment of the facts at issue, conflicts of interest, and bias against respondents and/or for complainants;
- Technology to be used at a live hearing
- The meaning and application of the term "relevant" in relation to questions and evidence, and the types of evidence that are impermissible regardless of relevance under the Title IX Regulations;
- Issues of relevance and creating/coordinating an investigation report that fairly summarizes relevant and not impermissible evidence;
- How to determine appropriate sanctions in reference to all forms of harassment, discrimination, and/or retaliation allegations;
- Recordkeeping, Clery Act/VAWA requirements applicable to Title IX, and obligations under Title IX;
- Training for informal resolution facilitators on the rules and practices associated with the Informal Resolution process;
- Supportive Measures and reasonable modifications and specific actions to prevent discrimination and ensure equal access for pregnancy or related conditions;
- How to apply definitions with respect to consent (or the absence or negation of consent) consistently, impartially, and in accordance with Policy; and
- Any other training deemed necessary to comply with Title IX.

## 18. QUESTIONS, NOTICE, AND SUPERSEDING OF PRIOR POLICIES

This policy is effective August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024. Complaints or notice of alleged policy violations, inquiries, or concerns regarding this policy and procedure may be made to the Title IX Coordinator. This policy is subject to change to comply with changes in relevant laws or College operating procedures. If government laws, regulations, or court decisions change in ways that impact this document, this document will be construed to comply with the most recent government regulations or holdings. This policy supersedes all previous College policies and procedures that covered some or all of the areas addresses in this policy.

## SAFETY TIPS, RESOURCES, SERVICES AND OTHER ASSISTANCE

The Great Bay Community College provides direct service programs to the members of the College community. Groups in the Portsmouth area also provide programs and services to the members of the College community programs which are dedicated to the prevention of crime on campus; they vary in scope and content, with the emphasis on community involvement. Specific programs dealing with campus safety issues include the following:

## City (Portsmouth)

Seacoast Mental Health Center	603 668-4111
NH Area Assembly of Alcoholics Anonymous	(800) 593-3330
HAVEN (domestic and sexual violence)	603 994-7233
National Suicide Hotline	988

## **GBCC Campus Safety (603-427-7697)**

Campus Safety provides and facilitates various lectures, discussions, and training throughout the academic year on safety and security-related topics. The key to crime is awareness is best achieved through education. At GBCC, security, faculty, staff, students, and others help one another to take responsibility for their respective safety and security.

## **General Safety Tips**

Here are some easy ways to help prevent thefts and other crimes to yourself and your property while on campus:

## When you park:

Lock ignition and remove keys. Close and lock windows and doors.

Keep all valuables out of sight; use the trunk whenever possible. Choose a well-lit area to park at night. When returning to your vehicle, have your keys ready and check interior of your vehicle before entering. Be aware of the surrounding as you enter the parking area and near your vehicle.

## When you walk:

## **AVOID WALKING ALONE**, especially at night.

Do not take shortcuts thru unlit or unfamiliar isolated areas, travel well-lit busy routes.

If you feel like you're being followed, change directions and head for an area with lights and people. Use your cellphone if you have one and call the Police. If you're in trouble, **SCREAM!!!** It's your number one defense.

## When you report suspicious persons or incidents:

Call 911 or 603-427-7697 and stay on the phone where it is safe or until told otherwise. Supply the address of the incident.

Give the number of individuals who are involved.

Describe what is happening.

Obtain a description of suspects (approximate age, height, weight, complexion, and clothing) Notice if any weapons are involved.

## When you drive:

Do not pick up unfamiliar people.

Keep your doors locked; be alert when traffic slows or stops.

Do not lower windows for unfamiliar people, demand credentials.

If your vehicle is disabled, ask for aid through a cracked window if someone stops to offer help, remain in your vehicle; travel on well-lit streets.

## Tips on Being an Effective Bystander

Sexual assault and relationship abuse impact many people on college campuses and in our communities. Nationally, it's estimated that one in five women will be sexually assaulted in their lifetimes and that they are most vulnerable between the ages of 16 and 24. College aged men and women also experience relationship abuse at high rates. As a bystander, you may wonder what you can do to help. If you know someone who is in a dangerous or abusive relationship, say something to someone. Offer to assist them in getting help.

## Herons are Active Bystanders

Most people don't commit sexual assault or hurt their partners. However, learning to recognize the signs when someone is in danger, and stepping in to aid in trying to lessen the danger is important, this is called being an active bystander. Active bystanders learn how to recognize and safely intervene in potentially dangerous situations. Sometimes this might mean distracting someone who appears to be targeting someone too drunk to consent. Other times, it means reaching out to GBCC staff or the police for help.

Some simple steps to becoming an Active Bystander:

**Notice the situation:** Be aware of your surroundings.

- Interpret it as a problem: Do I recognize that someone needs help?
- Feel responsible to act: See yourself as being part of the solution to help.
- **Know what to do:** Educate yourself on what to do.
- Intervene safely: Take action but be sure to keep yourself safe.

## How to Intervene Safely:

- **Tell another person.** Being with others is a good idea when a situation looks dangerous.
- Ask a victim if he/she is okay. Provide options and a listening ear.
- Ask the person if he/she wants to leave. Make sure that he/she gets home safely.
- Call the police (911) or someone else in authority or yell for help.
- Or call the National Sexual Assault Hotline at 1.800.656.HOPE.
- If you see something, say something!!

# Acting as a community helps GBCC be a safer place. Remember these tips when you are out What can my friends and I do to be safe?

## Have a plan.

Talk with your friends about your plans for the night **BEFORE** you go out. Do you feel like *drinking*? Are you interested in *hooking up*? Where do you want to go? Having a clear plan ahead of time helps friends look after one another.

## Go out together.

Go out as a group and come home as a group; never separate and never leave your friend(s) behind.

#### Watch out for others.

If you are walking at night with friends and notice someone walking alone in the same direction, maye ask if they would like to join you, so they are not walking alone.

## Diffuse situations.

If you see a friend coming on too strong to someone who may be too drunk to make a consensual decision, interrupt, distract, or redirect the situation. If you are too embarrassed or shy to speak out, get someone else to step in.

## Trust your instincts.

If a situation or person doesn't seem "right" to you, trust your gut and remove yourself, if possible, from the situation.

## **ONLINE RESOURCES**

Rape and Incest National Network (RAINN) V- Day http://www.vday.org/index.html The Joyful

**Heart Foundation** 

No More

After the Silence

New Hampshire Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence National

Network to End Domestic Violence

National Center on Domestic and Sexual Violence The

National Online Resource Center on Violence Against Women (VAWnet) National

Resource Center for Young Adult/Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month

Red Flags for Abusive Relationships The

National Violence Against Women Prevention Research Center

https://www.nhcadsv.org/

https://www.domesticshelters.org/help/nh

https://www.domesticshelters.org/articles/escaping-violence/when-it-s-time-to-go-part-i

https://www.domesticshelters.org/articles/identifying-abuse/signs-of-a-violent-relationship

https://nhlegalaid.org/self-help-guides/domestic-violence

https://havennh.org/get-informed/lgbt/

## Campus focused

<u>Clery Center for Security on Campus, Inc.</u> Campus Outreach Services

#### Male focused

Male Survivor The
White Ribbon Campaign Men
Stopping Rape Welcome to
1in6
Men Can Stop Rape

My Strength is not For Hurting

Men Stopping Violence

## LBGTQ+

http://www.glbthotline.org The
Violence Recovery Program (VRP) at Fenway Health Gay
Men's Domestic Violence Project
New Hampshire Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence.

## CRIME STATISTICS REPORT DEFINITIONS

The statistical report for calendar years, 2021, 2022 and 2023 are shown below. The following is a list of crime definitions provided for a better understanding of how statistics are counted and categorized:

## **Definitions**

In addition to the statistical profile presented at the web address and in this document, a list of definitions is included and provides basic information about each crime category.

**Murder/Non-Negligent Manslaughter** is the willful (non-negligent) killing of one human being by another. NOTE: Deaths caused by negligence, attempts to kill, assaults to kill, suicides, accidental deaths, and justifiable homicides are excluded.

Manslaughter by negligence is the killing of another person through gross negligence.

**Robbery** *is* the taking or attempting to take anything of value from the care, custody or control of a person or persons by force or threat of force or violence and, or by putting the victim in fear.

**Aggravated Assault** *is* an unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury. This type of assault usually is accompanied by the use of a weapon or by means likely to produce death or great bodily harm. It is not necessary that injury results from an

aggravated assault when a gun, knife, or other weapon is used which could or probably would result in a serious potential injury if the crime were successfully completed.

**Burglary** *is* the unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or a theft. For reporting purposes, this definition includes an unlawful entry with intent to commit a larceny or a felony; breaking and entering with intent to commit a larceny; housebreaking; safecracking; and all attempts to commit any of the aforementioned. An incident must meet three conditions: a) evidence of unlawful entry (trespass), b) unlawful entry must occur within a structure that has four walls, roof, and door; c) the structure was unlawfully entered to commit a felony or theft.

**Motor Vehicle Theft** *is* the theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle. (Classify as motor vehicle theft all cases where automobiles are taken by persons not having lawful access, even though the vehicles are later abandoned - including joyriding)

**Arson** is any willful or malicious burning or attempt to burn, with or without intent to defraud, a dwelling house, public building, motor vehicle or aircraft, or personal property of another.

Weapon Law Violations *are* violations of laws or ordinances prohibiting the manufacture, sale, purchase, transportation, possession, concealment, or use of firearms, cutting instruments, explosives, incendiary devices or other deadly weapons. This classification encompasses weapons offenses that are regulatory in nature. Manufacture, sale, or possession of deadly weapons, carrying deadly weapons, concealed or openly, using, manufacturing, etc. silencers, furnishing deadly weapons to minors, aliens possession deadly weapons. This type of violation also applies to weapons used in a deadly manner.

**Drug Abuse Violations** *are* violations of laws prohibiting the production, distribution, and, or use of certain controlled substances and the equipment or devices utilized in their preparation and, or use. The unlawful cultivation, manufacture, distribution, sale, purchase, use, possession, transportation or importation of any controlled drug or narcotic substance. Arrests for violations of state and local laws, specifically those relating to the unlawful possession, sale, use, growing, manufacturing and making of narcotic drugs.

**Liquor Law Violations** *are* the violation of state or local laws or ordinances prohibiting: the manufacture, sale, transporting, furnishing, possessing of intoxicating liquor; underage possession, maintaining unlawful drinking places; bootlegging; operating a still; furnishing liquor to minor or intemperate person; using a vehicle for illegal transportation of liquor; drinking on a train or public conveyance; all attempts to commit any of the aforementioned. (Drunkenness and driving under the influence are not included in this definition.)

**Sex Offenses** are any sexual act directed against another person, forcibly and, or against that person's will; or not forcibly or against the person's will where the victim is incapable of giving consent.

**A. Rape is the** penetration, no matter how slight, of the vagina, or anus, with any body part or object, or oral penetration by a sex organ of another person without the consent of the victim. This definition includes any gender of victim or perpetrator.

- **B.** Fondling is the touching of the private body parts of another person for the purpose of sexual gratification, without consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her age or temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.
- **C. Inces**t is non-forcible sexual intercourse between persons who are related to each other within the degrees wherein marriage is prohibited by law.
- **D. Statutory Rape** is non-forcible sexual intercourse with a person who is under the statutory age of consent.

Age of consent in NH (under the age of 16, unless that person is the other person's legal spouse – NH RSA 632- A:3). Relationships which constitute incest (ancestor, descendant, brother or sister, of the whole or half-blood, or an uncle, aunt, nephew or niece; The relationships referred to herein include blood relationships without regard to legitimacy, stepchildren, and relationships of parent and child by adoption NH RSA 639-A:2.).

**Domestic violence** is a felony or misdemeanor crimes of violence committed by a current or former spouse of the victim or intimate partner, a person with whom the victim shares a child in common, a person who is cohabitating with or has cohabitated with the victim as a spouse or intimate partner, a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction receiving grant monies (under VAWA), or any other person against an adult or youth victim who is protected from that person's acts under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction.

**Dating violence** is violence committed by a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim, and where the existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on the reporting party's statement and with consideration of the following factors: length of the relationship, type of relationship, frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship. (NH State does not have a dating violence law; it all falls under domestic violence.)

**Stalking** is to engage 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.

Hate Crime is a criminal offense committed against a person or property which is motivated, in whole or in part, by the offender's bias. Bias is a preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a group of persons based on their race, gender, religion, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, ethnicity, or national origin. Hate crimes include any offense that is motivated by bias: murder/non- negligent manslaughter, manslaughter by negligence, sex offenses (rape, incest, statutory rape, and fondling), robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, motor vehicle theft, arson, larceny-theft, destruction/damage/vandalism of property, intimidation, and simple assault.

If a hate crime occurs where there is an incident involving intimidation, vandalism, larceny, simple assault or other bodily injury, the law requires that the statistic be reported as a hate crime even though there is no requirement to report the crime classification in any other area of the compliance document.

A bias-related (hate) crime is not a separate, distinct crime, but it is the commission of a criminal offense which was motivated by the offender's bias. For example, a person assaults another person, which is a crime. If the facts of the case indicate that the **offender** was motivated to commit the offense because of his/her bias against the victim's race, sexual orientation, the assault is then classified as a hate crime.

**Larceny-Theft** is the unlawful taking, carrying, leading, or riding away of property from the possession to constructive possession of another.

**Destruction/Damage/Vandalism** of property is to willfully or maliciously destroy, injure, disfigure, or deface any public or private property, real or personal, without the consent of the owner or person having custody or control by cutting, tearing, breaking, marking, painting, drawing, covering with filth, or any other such means as may be specified by local law.

**Intimidation** is to unlawfully place another person in reasonable fear of bodily harm through the use of threatening words and, or other conduct, but without displaying a weapon or subjecting the victim to actual physical attack.

**Simple Assault:** An unlawful physical attack by one person upon another where neither the offender displays a weapon, not the victim suffers obvious severe or aggravated bodily injury involving apparent broken bones, loss of teeth, possible internal injury, severe laceration or loss of consciousness.

## CRIME STATISTICS REPORT

The statistical report for the last three calendar years is shown below. The following is a list of location definitions provided for better understanding of how statistics are counted and categorized:

**On-Campus** - Any building or property owned or controlled by an institution within the same reasonably contiguous geographic area and used by the institution in direct support of, or in a manner related to, the institution's educational purposes, including residence halls; and

Any building or property that is within or reasonably contiguous to paragraph (1) of this definition, that is owned by the institution and controlled by another person, is frequently used by students and supports institutional purposes (such as food or other retail vendors).

**A Non-Campus Building or Property -** Any building or property owned or controlled by a student organization that is officially recognized by the institution; or

Any building or property owned or controlled by an institution that is used in direct support of, or in relation to, the institution's educational purposes, is frequently used by students and is not within the same reasonably contiguous geographic area of the institution.

**Public Property** - All public property, including thoroughfares, streets, sidewalks, and parking facilities, that is within the campus, or immediately adjacent to and accessible from the campus.

## **Reported GBCC-Portsmouth Crime Statistics for the Last Three Years**

Offense	Year	Location		
		On Campus Properties	Public Property	Unfounded crimes
Murder, Non-negligent				
Manslaughter				
	2021	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0
Manslaughter by Negligence				
	2021	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0
Rape				
•	2021	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0
Fondling				
	2021	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0
Incest	2025	Ů	Ů	
	2021	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0
Statutory Rape	2023		· ·	V
- may	2021	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0
Robbery	2023			
100001 y	2021	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0
A garayatad A gasylt	2023	U	U	U
Aggravated Assault	2021	0	0	Λ
	2021	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0

	1		T	1
	2023	0	0	0
Burglary				
	2021	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0
Motor Vehicle Theft				
	2021	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0
Arson				
	2021	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0
	2025	Ü		Ŭ
Stalking				
	2021	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0
Domestic Violence	2023	0	0	0
Domestic violence	2021	0	0	0
	-			
	2022	0	0	0
- · · · · · ·	2023	0	0	0
Dating Violence		_	_	_
	2021	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0
Liquor Law Arrests				
	2021	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0
Liquor Law Violations Referred for				
Disciplinary Action				
	2021	1	0	0
	2022	1	0	0
	2023	0	0	0
Drug Law Arrests				
	2021	0	0	0
				ı

2022	0	0	0
2023	0	0	0
2021	0	0	0
2022	0	0	0
2023	0	0	0
2021	0	0	0
2022	0	0	0
2023	0	0	0
2021	0	0	0
2022	0	0	0
2023	0	0	0
	2023 2021 2022 2023 2021 2022 2023 2021 2022	2023 0  2021 0  2022 0  2023 0  2021 0  2022 0  2023 0  2022 0  2023 0	2023     0       2021     0       2022     0       2023     0       2021     0       2022     0       2023     0       2021     0       2023     0       2021     0       2022     0       2023     0       2021     0       2022     0       0     0       2021     0       2022     0       0     0

There were no reported hate crimes during calendar years 2021, 2022 or 2023.

A hard copy of this report can be obtained by contacting Campus Safety at the Safety Desk on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the Portsmouth building (603) 427-7697, GBCC Human Resources (603) 427-7603, and GBCC Office of Admissions (603) 427-7632.

There were no crimes that were unfounded by GBCC during the past three years.