

Student Rights when Filing a Report of Sexual Misconduct

Students filing a Report of Sexual Misconduct have the right to:

- Notify the Department of Public Safety of Rensselaer, local police and/or State police.
- Not file a report with the Institute and/or law enforcement.
- Not be retaliated against for filing, testifying or participating in an investigation or hearing regarding the reporting of Sexual Misconduct or Sexual Violence.
- Immediate contact a Title IX Coordinator or other trained staff trained in interviews persons who have experienced sexual violence or sexual assault.
- Receive information about the importance of: preserving evidence in a sexual assault forensic examination; obtaining a forensic assault forensic examination as soon as possible; receiving information about the criminal justice process (including the different standards of proof); receiving information about possible penal law violations; and receiving information regarding the fact that questions about whether a specific incident violates the State Penal Law should be addressed to law enforcement or to the District Attorney.
- Be Notified by the Reporting Person whether the individual receiving the report is authorized to offer strict confidentiality.
- Be provided with other reporting options.
- Disclose the incident confidentially to Institute representatives, who may offer strict confidentiality, pursuant to applicable laws, and receive support in receiving these services.
- Disclose the incident and obtain services from State or Local Government.
- File a report of Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Intimate Partner Violence, and/or Stalking and consult with an Institute Title IX Coordinator or other Institute representative for information and assistance.
- Have the report investigated in accordance with the Student Sexual Misconduct Policy of Rensselaer.
- Participate in an investigation with the opportunity to have the identity of the reporting individual remain private at all times if the reporting individual wishes to maintain privacy.
- Disclose, if the Accused is an employee of the Institute, the incident to the Division of Human Resources and/or Title IX Coordinator or the right to request that a confidential or private employee assist with the reporting to the appropriate Institute representative.
- Receive assistance from the Department of Public Safety in initiating legal proceedings in Family or Civil Court (including applying for an Order of Protection).
- Withdraw a complaint or involvement from the Institute process at any time.
- Receive information about resources, including intervention, mental health counseling and medical services, inside the Institute, or in the community, and be provided with information about whether such resources are available at no cost or for a fee.
- Receive information about sexually transmitted infectious diseases, sexual assault forensic examinations and resources available through the New York State Office of Victim Services.